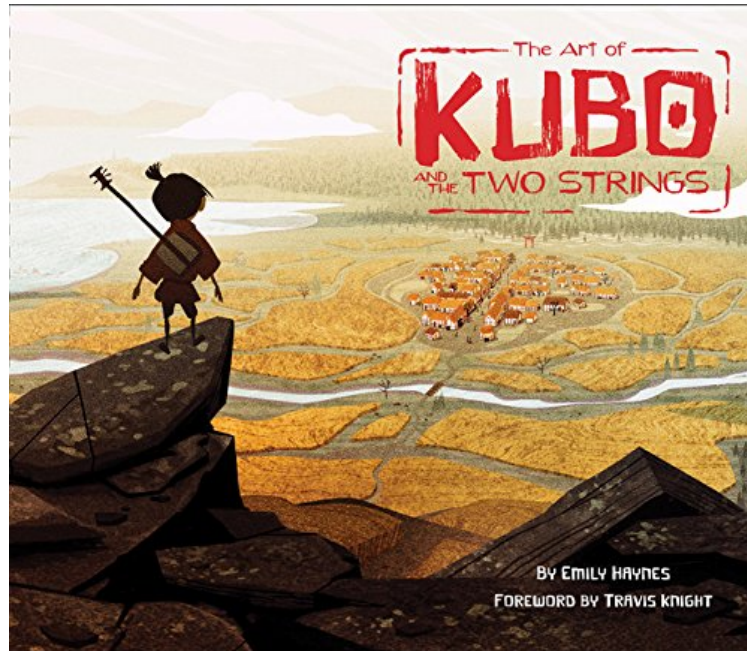


The Art of Kubo and the Two Strings

Emily Haynes

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#44132 in Books Haynes Emily 2016-07-19 2016-07-19 Original language: English 9.75 x .75 x 11.501, .92
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Emily Haynes : The Art of Kubo and the Two Strings before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Art of Kubo and the Two Strings:

56 of 57 people found the following review helpful. A good book of artBy Pedro GarreA good book of art , in the tradition of publishing books by chronicle . Much conceptual artl, but unlike the other making of laika films, this book not include images of the puppets and the sets of the film.38 of 43 people found the following review helpful. WORST book for one of LAIKA's best films.By Chris W.I have all the LAIKA Art Of books that Knopff have put out (I still wish there was one for Coraline). The Paranorman book is one of my absolute favorite books I own, and even The Boxtrolls one is great. However, this one looks like it was just thrown together. There are plenty of digital paintings, but it's missing all the other conceptual art that rounds out the experience. At that, This book has maybe 1/16th the amount of writing that was in the prior books, which is disappointing. I don't understand why this book feels so last minute and thrown together, considering the Paranorman and Boxtrolls books are among the best produced I've seen. The actual art in the book is heavily weighted towards what look like concept paintings for various scenes or color scripts... with almost no emphasis on character, environment, or prop design, and no photos of the actual puppets or set constuctions (which might actually be the most interesting part of the whole process of these films!). Add to that the fact that there is almost no explanation or behind-the-scenes info or photography, and this book is a HUGE letdown for what was a beautiful and super creative film.8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. I have bought and do enjoy other books where the focus on the concept art ...By CustomerIn the end, puppetry is what makes Laika studios so unique in the art scene. I have bought and do enjoy other books where the focus on the concept art and character designs, so in the end, I did actually enjoy The Art of Kubo and the Two Strings. But it just... Didn't hit the notes I wanted it to hit. I was particularly interested in seeing more of the armatures, especially the Sister's capes

(GORGEOUS!), and this book really didn't go beyond what other non-laika studios books have gone. Concept art, character design, storyboarding But nothing on the stop motion aspect of the film. I had more fun actually watching some of the videos from Laika's youtube channel where they go into the effects and how they pulled them off in the film. There was no visuals of the bowling-ball puppetry for the underwater eyes, no photos of how they pulled off the ocean waves, and god knows everything else they put into the film that I would've loved to know how they pulled it off. I wanted more from this book than I got; it wasn't strictly a complete disappointment, though. It is still gorgeous, the art is still beautiful, but if you're for a better insight into this film, this book will not deliver.

From LAIKA, the Academy Award-nominated studio behind *Coraline*, *ParaNorman*, and *The Boxtrolls*, comes a new adventure set in a mythical ancient Japan. In *Kubo and the Two Strings*, scruffy, kind-hearted Kubo cares devotedly for his mother while eking out a humble living in their sleepy shoreside village. But when a spirit from the past appears, Kubo suddenly finds himself entwined in a violent struggle against gods and monsters. This fully illustrated book offers a behind-the-scenes view of the amazingly detailed artwork and unique stop-motion animation style involved in the film's creation.

"This book is filled with gorgeous artwork, character designs, and storyboards. There are a few film stills, as well as a few examples of Kiyoshi Saito's woodblock prints, which had a huge influence on the look of the film...if you're a fan of the movie, you'll love perusing this book, too." -GeekDad Holiday Gift Guide Pick --Nerdist
About the Author
Emily Haynes is the co-founder of BluePen, an editorial development agency. She is the author of numerous books, including *Ganesha's Sweet Tooth* and *Designing With Pixar*. She lives and works in Oakland, California.
Travis Knight is LAIKA's president and CEO. He was lead animator of LAIKA's first feature, *Coraline*, as well as producer and lead animator of both *ParaNorman* and *The Boxtrolls*. He lives in Portland, Oregon.