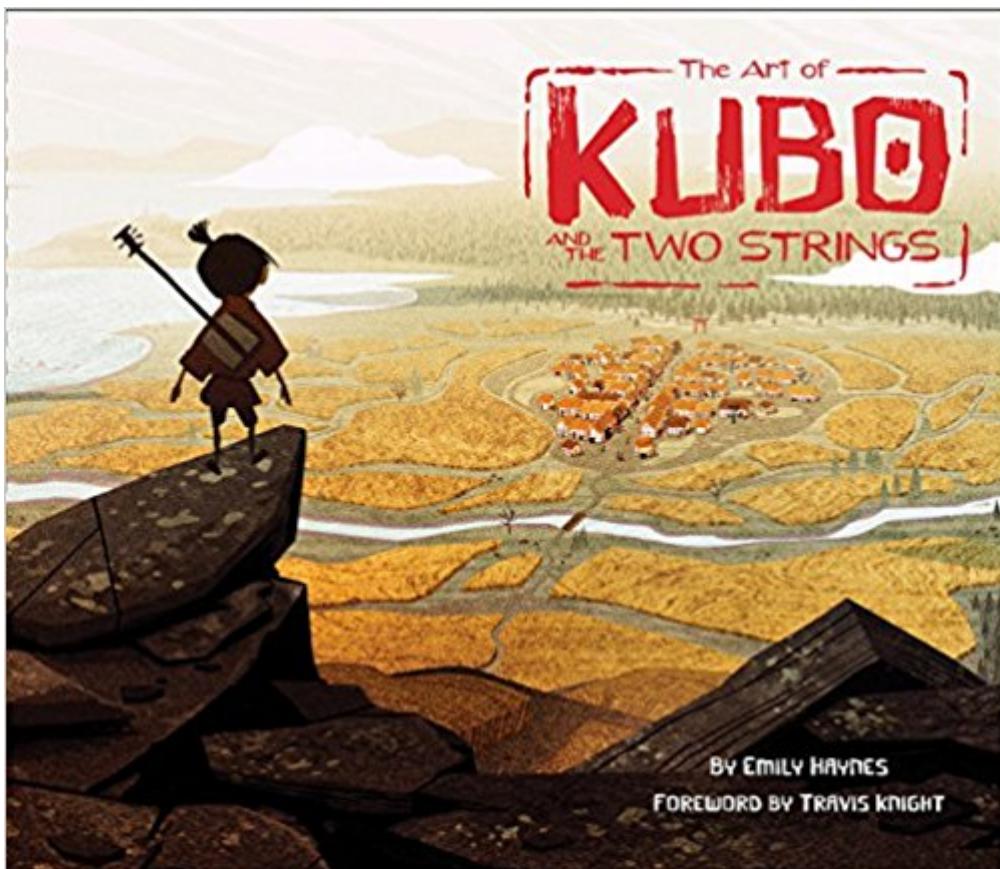


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# The Art Of Kubo And The Two Strings



## Synopsis

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.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Holiday Gift Guide Pick --Nerdist"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

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.

A 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.

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.

In 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.

Awfully terrible. Agree with another reviewer that there was barely any text. NO insight into anything, nothing about the creative process. Paranorman is the best art of book, this Kubo one is just stills

and some concept art. No interviews. Awful, awful.

Great book as usual, but I'm kind of disappointed that there aren't more puppet photographs included. It's mostly concept art which is great, but I'd like to see the workmanship and detail of the final puppets themselves. Also more about the mechanical functioning of some of the more complicated characters would have been nice.

Another disappointing book about the work of Laika. Seems to be page after page of digital art etc with minimal pictures of the process and puppets which are done so beautifully in all Laika stop motion films. I had the great privilege of touring the Laika Studios last summer when they were shooting Kubo and this book in no way shows "The Art" of what all the amazing artists do to bring these films to life. There is so much more then all the flat art work that is shown in this volume. The BoxTrolls book was disappointing for many of the same reasons but this one might be worse.

Kubo is my favorite movie, I loved seeing what went into all the character designs. I would have liked to see more detailed views of the final character models (I'm a cosplayer, so the little hard to catch details are my bread and butter).

Got the Kindle version so I'm sure there's a difference in quality. I would just recommend getting the physical copy if you're going to get the book at all. Overall it was ok but didn't show as much production work/ maquette work as I would have liked. As others have stated there is more 2d/ vis dev work which was nice but Laika being one of the only major stop motion studios I want to know more of the actual production! The pictures in the Kindle version are also so-so and when expanding certain images they'd stay blurry and pixelated. I like Kubo a lot but I was a little disappointed with the art book.

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