スタジオジブリ作品

STUDIO GHIBLI

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Printed in the United States

Printing 2020

ISBN D-00000000000000-00

Publishing Company
200 Northeastern Street,
Boston MA, 02115

Contents

Grave of the Fireflies 6

My Neighbor Totoro 12

Kiki’s Delivery Service 18

Princess Mononoke 22

Spirited Away 30

Ponyo 36

When Marnie Was There 42

The Red Turtle 47

1988

Grave of the Fireflies

Plot

On 21 September 1945, shortly after the end of World War II, a teenage boy, Seita, dies of starvation in a Kobe train station. A janitor sorts through his possessions and finds a candy tin, which he throws into a field. The burnt remains of several small bones spill out, and the spirit of Seita's younger sister, Setsuko, springs from the tin and is joined by Seita's spirit and a cloud of fireflies. They board a train.

Months earlier, Seita and Setsuko's house is destroyed in a firebombing along with most of Kobe. They escape unharmed, but their mother dies from severe burns. Seita and Setsuko move in with a distant aunt, who convinces Seita to sell his mother's silk kimonos for rice. Seita retrieves supplies he buried before the bombing and gives everything to his aunt, save for a tin of Sakuma drops. As rations shrink and the number of refugees in the house grows, the aunt becomes resentful of the children, saying they do nothing to earn the food she prepares.

Seita and Setsuko leave the aunt's home and move into an abandoned bomb shelter. They release fireflies into the shelter for light. The next day, Setsuko is horrified to find that the insects have died. She buries them in a grave, asking why they and her mother had to die. As they run out of rice, Seita steals from farmers and loots homes during air raids, for which he is beaten. When Setsuko falls ill, Seita takes her to a doctor, who explains that she is suffering from malnutrition.

Seita and Setsuko's deceased spirits arrive at their destination, healthy and happy. Surrounded by fireflies, they rest on a hilltop bench overlooking present-day Kobe.

Desperate, Seita withdraws all the money in their mother's bank account. As he leaves the bank, he becomes distraught when he learns that Japan has surrendered. He also learns that his father, a captain in the Imperial Japanese Navy, is most likely dead, as most of Japan's navy has been sunk.

Seita returns to the shelter with food, but finds Setsuko hallucinating. Seita hurries to feed her, but she dies as he finishes preparing the food. Seita cremates Setsuko's body and her stuffed doll in a straw casket. He carries her ashes in the candy tin along with his father's photograph.

Seita and Setsuko's deceased spirits arrive at their destination, healthy and happy. Surrounded by fireflies, they rest on a hilltop bench overlooking present-day Kobe.

Seita

Setsuko

Seita Yokokawa

Seita Yokokawa is the fourteen-year-old protagonist of Grave of the Fireflies. After he and Setsuko Yokokawa (Seita's younger sister) lost their mother in the Kobe firebombing of World War II, their lives becomes a constant struggle for survival.

Seita has dark brown hair cut short and dark brown eyes. He wears an off white Captain's cap or school uniform cap with a black viser and a beige Kokumin-fuku jacket with a name tag, white tank top underneath and beige pants with leg wrapping on his shins and black ankle lace boots.

Seita and Setsuko admiring the fireflies

Setsuko Yokokawa

Setsuko Yokokawa is a preschool student and the younger sister of Seita Yokokawa in the Studio Ghibli movie Grave of the Fireflies. She was born in 1941, but she later dies in 1945 towards the end of the film.

At the beginning of the film, Setsuko is shown to have the average toddler body. As the film progresses, however, she is shown to have lost a considerable amount of weight. She wears an off-white polo shirt and blue monpe, and a hooded cape of the same color and pattern and off-white bloomers along with tabi socks and geta's (clogs). She also wears a red dress, and a white seifuku with black shoes and short socks in various flashback scenes.

“Why must firefires die so young?”

-Setsuko

Seita and Setsuko

Kobe, Japan

1988

My Neighbor Totoro

Plot

In 1958 Japan, university professor Tatsuo Kusakabe and his two daughters, Satsuki and Mei, move into an old house to be closer to the hospital where the girls' mother, Yasuko, is recovering from a long-term illness. The house is inhabited by tiny creatures called susuwatari—small, dark, dust-like house spirits seen when moving from light to dark places. When the girls become comfortable in their new house, the soot spirits leave to find another empty house.

One day, Mei discovers two small spirits who lead her into the hollow of a large camphor tree. She befriends a larger spirit, which identifies itself by a series of roars that she interprets as "Totoro". She falls asleep atop Totoro, but when Satsuki finds her, she is on the ground. Despite many attempts, Mei is unable to show her family Totoro's tree. Tatsuo comforts her by telling her that Totoro will reveal himself when he wants to.

One rainy night, the girls are waiting for Tatsuo's bus, which is late. Mei falls asleep on Satsuki's back, and Totoro appears beside them, allowing Satsuki to see him for the first time. Totoro has only a leaf on his head for protection against the rain, so Satsuki offers him the umbrella she had taken for her father. Totoro is delighted and gives her a bundle of nuts and seeds in return. A giant, bus-shaped cat halts at the stop, and Totoro boards it and leaves. Shortly after, Tatsuo's bus arrives.

The girls plant the seeds. A few days later, they awaken at midnight to find Totoro and his colleagues engaged in a ceremonial dance around the planted seeds. The girls join in and the seeds grow into an enormous tree. Totoro takes the girls for a ride on a magical flying top. In the morning, the tree is gone but the seeds have indeed sprouted; it is left unclear whether the girls were dreaming.

Delighted to help, he summons the Catbus, which carries her to where the lost Mei sits. The bus then whisks them over the countryside to see Yasuko in the hospital. The girls overhear a conversation between their parents and discover that she has been kept in hospital by a minor cold but is otherwise doing well. They secretly leave the ear of corn on the windowsill, where it is discovered by their parents, and return home.

The girls find out that a planned visit by Yasuko has to be postponed because of a setback in her treatment. Mei does not take this well and argues with Satsuki, later leaving for the hospital to bring fresh corn to Yasuko. Her disappearance prompts Satsuki and the neighbors to search for her. In desperation, Satsuki returns to the camphor tree and pleads for Totoro's help. Eventually, Mei and Satsuki's mother returns home, and the sisters play with other children, while Totoro and his friends watch them from afar.

Mei Kusakabe

Mei is the four-year-old protagonist little sister of Satsuki in My Neighbor Totoro and daughter of Tatsuo Kusakabe and Yasuko Kusakabe. She is incredibly lively and active as well as rather curious.

Mei Kusakabe is four years old. In the Steamline dub, she is five. She has sandy brown hair and chocolate brown eyes. She wears a white puffy blouse with a bright pink dress (as present in her birthday and buyed from a shop) and sunshine yellow shoes and white bloomers, and carries a yellow bag. At the end of the film, she wears a carnation pink dress. Mei also wears a sunshine yellow night-dress at night and a sky blue night-dress at night in the sequel.

Mei

Mei in Satsuki's classroom

Mei

Satsuki

Satsuki

Setsuki Kusakabe

Satsuki is a bright and cheerful fourth grader. She generally tries to be someone to look up to, most likely for her sister. She seems to idolize her mother's peaceful demeanor, and she even says that she wants her hair to cooperate to look like her mother's hair. Satsuki is hard working and intelligent, as shown when she is studying at school or helping out around her new home. She is also very open minded and pleasant towards people like Granny and even Kanta after getting to know his friendly side.

Most of Satsuki's anger stems from Mei's contrasting irresponsibility. She gets easily frustrated, but is still a lovable character with good intentions.

"To-to-ro? You're Totoro!…
I bet you're Totoro…"

– Mei Kusakabe

Totoro, Oh-Totoro, Mei, Satsuki, Catbus, Chibi Totoro

1989

Kiki's Delivery Service

Plot

As is traditional for trainee witches, thirteen-year-old Kiki leaves home with her black cat named Jiji, with whom she talks. She flies on her broomstick to the port city of Koriko. While searching for somewhere to live, Kiki is pursued by Tombo, a geeky boy obsessed with aviation who admires her flying ability.

In exchange for accommodation, Kiki helps Osono, the kindly and heavily pregnant owner of a bakery. She opens a "Witch Delivery Business", delivering goods by broomstick. Her first delivery goes badly; she is caught in a gust of wind and drops the black cat toy she is supposed to deliver. Jiji pretends to be the toy at the recipient's house while Kiki searches for the toy. She finds it in the home of a young painter, Ursula, who mends and returns it to Kiki so she can complete the delivery and rescue Jiji.

Kiki accepts a party invitation from Tombo, but is delayed by her work and, exhausted, falls ill. When she recovers, Osono clandestinely arranges for Kiki to see Tombo again by assigning her a delivery addressed to him. After Kiki apologizes for missing the party, Tombo takes her for a test ride on the flying machine he is working on, fashioned from a bicycle. Kiki warms to Tombo but is put off by his friends' teasing and walks home. After seeing a recipient's negative reaction to a delivered gift, Kiki becomes depressed and discovers she can no longer understand Jiji, who now spends more time with a pretty white cat.

She has also lost her flying ability and is forced to suspend her delivery business. Ursula visits her and suggests that Kiki's crisis is a form of artist's block and that if Kiki finds a new purpose, she will regain her powers.

While visiting a customer, Kiki sees a live news report on television of an airship accident. Tombo is hanging precariously from one of the drifting vessel's mooring lines. Kiki rushes to the scene and rescues him by flying a borrowed broom, regaining her powers and her confidence. She resumes her delivery service and writes home to say she and Jiji are fine, but that there are still times when she feels sad.

Tombo

Tombo Kopoli is a character in Kiki's Delivery Service. He is a 13-year old aviation fanatic and hangs out with his friends. After she enters the city, he is automatically fascinated with Kiki, and develops a crush. At first, Kiki thinks of him as "such a clown" and a nerd and acts very aloof toward him, but in time, they become good friends. He constantly hounds Kiki but soon she opens up to him.

Tombo and Kiki have a conversation at the beach

Kiki

Kiki also known as Kiki the Witch is a fictional 13-year-old child female witch and the titular main protagonist of Kiki's Delivery Service. Kiki was born in the summer of 1947. She lives with her parents and pet cat, Okino, Kokiri, and Jiji, until the night she decides to leave. Kiki is strong-willed, leaving her home in Karikiya for a year in order to train as a witch. She is very friendly, sweet, and upbeat, however is rather stubborn at times and proud, which is sometimes to her disadvantage. She is very attached to her pet black cat, Jiji, and introduces him as her best friend. Kiki is not ever so popular after her first arrival as she is viewed as a bit of a show off, but gradually makes new friends with her customers and is the heroine of the film at the end.

Kiki learns her role as a witch on her journeys

"I think something's wrong with me. I make friends, then suddenly I can't bear to be with any of them. Seems like that other me, the cheerful and honest one, went away somewhere." – Kiki

Kiki on a delivery, talking to Jiji, Lily, and kittens

1997

Princess Mononoke

Plot

In Muromachi Japan, an Emishi village is attacked by a demon. The last Emishi prince, Ashitaka, kills it before it reaches the village, but its corruption curses his right arm. The curse gives him superhuman strength, but will eventually spread through his body and kill him. The villagers discover that the demon was a boar god, Nago, corrupted by an iron ball lodged in his body. The village's wise woman tells Ashitaka that he may find a cure in the western lands Nago came from, but he cannot return to his homeland.

Heading west, Ashitaka meets Jigo, an opportunist posing as a monk, who tells Ashitaka he may find help from the Great Forest Spirit, a deer-like animal god by day and a giant "nightwalker" by night. Nearby, men herd oxen to Irontown , led by Lady Eboshi, and repel an attack by a wolf pack led by the wolf goddess Moro. Riding one of the wolves is San, a human girl. Ashitaka discovers two injured Irontown men and carries them through the forest, where he encounters many kodama and glimpses the Forest Spirit. In Irontown, Ashitaka learns that Eboshi built the town by clearcutting forests to claim ironsand and produce iron, leading to conflicts with the forest gods and Asano, a local daimyō. Eboshi also explains that San was raised by the wolves as one of their own and resents humankind. San infiltrates Irontown to kill Eboshi, but Ashitaka intervenes, revealing the curse to the town's people and knocks Eboshi and San out cold.

San infiltrates Irontown to kill Eboshi, but Ashitaka intervenes, revealing the curse to the town's people and knocks Eboshi and San out cold. As Ashitaka leaves, he is shot by a villager, but the curse gives him the strength to carry San out of the village. San awakens and prepares to kill the weakened Ashitaka, but hesitates when he tells her that she is beautiful. She takes him to the forest, and decides to trust him after the Forest Spirit saves his life. A boar clan, led by the blind boar god Okkoto, plans to attack Irontown to save the forest.

Ashitaka recovers from his wound but remains cursed; he returns to Irontown to find it besieged by Asano's samurai, and heads out to warn Eboshi. The boar clan is annihilated in battle, and Okkoto is corrupted by his wounds. Jigo's men disguise themselves in boar skins and trick the rampaging Okkoto into leading them to the Forest Spirit. San tries to stop Okkoto, but is swept up in his demonic corruption.

Moro intervenes and Ashitaka dives into the corruption, saving San. The Forest Spirit euthanizes Okkoto and Moro. As it transforms into the nightwalker, Eboshi decapitates it. It bleeds ooze which spreads over the land, killing anything it touches as the nightwalker searches for its head, which Jigo steals. The forest and kodama begin to die; Moro's head comes alive and bites off Eboshi's right arm, but she survives.

Princess Mononoke/San

San, otherwise known as Princess Mononoke or the "Wolf Girl," is the main character, along with Ashitaka, in Princess Mononoke. She acts, behaves, and resembles a wolf due to the fact that she was raised by wolves themselves. San is the Princess of the Wolf Gods. San is a beautiful young woman of average build who wears ragged clothing and a cape made of a wolf's fur, and has what appears to be amaranth red war paint on her face. She wears a head necklace with a single small gem in her front. She also bears short, straight, earthy brown hair and has dark blue eyes with bangs slightly parted in the middle. She has a medium necklace with three fangs tied across her neck. She wears long, dangling, oval shaped earrings during the whole film. She is also very agile, fast, fairly strong and appears to be really good at using daggers and spears. She wears a mask which is her iconic feature. The mask is red with ears and white wavy lines and three sunshine yellow holes for a mouth and eyes.

San

San and Lady Eboshi's Fight

Eboshi

Lady Eboshi

Lady Eboshi is the main antagonist of Princess Mononoke. Eboshi is a tough and arrogant woman who wants to positively influence the world. As the leader of Iron Town, the townspeople love her, giving her the highest influence as she was the one who freed them from their oppressive environments by bringing them all to Irontown. She has the girls work the forge and the lepers make guns for her, making her a grey character. In pressing situations, she's shown as calm and collected, attributing to her status as a leader. She has a definite authoritative air about her, which Ashitaka inevitably sees and provokes. She's also a very strong female who understands the injustice of a woman's position in society. Despite her ambitious agenda, in the end when Irontown is destroyed, she is shown to be remorseful. She has black hair that she ties up in some sort of traditional style, finishing off with a pink ribbon.

Ashitaka wants Sen to understand the humans intentions

Look, everyone! This is what hatred looks like! This is what it does when it catches hold of you! It's eating me alive, and very soon now it will kill me! Fear and anger only make it grow faster!"

– Prince Ashitaka

Prince Ashitaka and San part ways

2001

Spirited Away

Plot

Ten-year-old Chihiro and her parents are traveling to their new home. They make a wrong turn and stop in front of a tunnel leading to what appears to be an abandoned amusement park, which Chihiro's father insists on exploring despite his daughter's misgivings. They find a seemingly empty restaurant still stocked with food, which Chihiro's parents immediately begin to eat. While exploring further, Chihiro finds an exquisite bathhouse and meets a boy named Haku, who warns her to return across the riverbed before sunset. However, Chihiro discovers too late that her parents have metamorphosed into pigs, and she is unable to cross the now-flooded river.

Haku finds Chihiro and advises her to ask for a job from the bathhouse's boiler-man, Kamaji. Kamaji asks Lin, a bathhouse worker, to send Chihiro to Yubaba, the witch who runs the bathhouse. Yubaba tries to frighten Chihiro away, but Chihiro persists, and Yubaba hires her. Yubaba takes away the second kanji of her name, Chihiro, renaming her Sen. Haku later warns her that if she forgets her name like he has forgotten his, she will not be able to leave the spirit world.

Sen is treated poorly by the other bathhouse workers; only Kamaji and Lin show sympathy for her. While working, she invites a silent creature named No-Face inside, believing him to be a customer. A "stink spirit" arrives as Sen's first customer, and she discovers he is the spirit of a polluted river. In gratitude for cleaning him, he gives Sen a magic emetic dumpling. Meanwhile, No-Face, imitating the gold left behind by the stink spirit, tempts a worker with gold and then swallows him. He demands food and begins tipping expensively. He swallows two more workers when they interfere with his conversation with Sen.

Chihiro

Sen and her friend, Haku, in the flower garden

Sen

Chihiro Ogino / Sen

Chihiro Ogino, referred throughout most of the film by her nickname Sen, is the ten-year-old core protagonist of the Japanese animated film Spirited Away. Chihiro first appears as she and her parents are moving to a new town. Annoyed by them moving, Chihiro complains to her parents until her father takes a wrong turn down a path thinking it was the way to their house. After nearly crashing into a statue, Chihiro and her parents find a path that leads to a large tunnel. After her parents decide to venture into the tunnel Chihiro is very resistant and does not decide to go with them until she decides to follow them out of fear of the statue in front of their car.

Sen desperately wants to save her parents from their fates by not forgetting herself

Sen meeting No Face at the bathhouse

“Once You've Met Someone You Never Really Forget Them. It Just Takes A While For Your Memories To Return.”

- Sen

2008

Ponyo

Plot

Fujimoto, a once-human wizard/scientist, lives underwater along with his daughter, Brunhilde, and her numerous smaller sisters. While she and her siblings are on an outing with their father in his four-flippered submarine, Brunhilde sneaks off and floats away on the back of a jellyfish. After an encounter with a fishing trawler, she becomes trapped in a glass jar and drifts to the shore of a small fishing town where she is rescued by a five-year-old boy named Sōsuke. Shattering the jar with a rock, Sōsuke cuts his finger in the process. Brunhilde licks his wound causing it to heal almost instantly. Sōsuke names her Ponyo and promises to protect her. Meanwhile, a distraught Fujimoto searches frantically for his lost daughter whom he believes to have been kidnapped. He calls his wave spirits to recover her, leaving Sōsuke heartbroken and confused by what happened.

Ponyo and Fujimoto have an argument, during which Ponyo refuses to let her father call her by her birth name. She declares her desire to be known as 'Ponyo' and to become human. Using her magic, she forces herself to grow leg- and arm-like appendages and start changing into a human, a power granted to her by the human blood she ingested when she licked Sōsuke's finger. Her alarmed father forces her to change back into her true form and leaves to summon Ponyo's mother, Gran Mamare. Meanwhile, Ponyo, with the help of her sisters, breaks away from her father and inadvertently uses his magic to make herself fully human.

The huge amount of magic that she releases into the ocean causes an imbalance in the world, resulting in a tsunami, leaving ships stranded at sea. Ponyo goes back to Sōsuke, who is amazed and overjoyed to see her. He tells his mother, Lisa, that Ponyo has returned as a little girl. Lisa allows Ponyo to stay at their house for the time being, and they wait out the storm together at Sōsuke's house.

Gran Mamare arrives at Fujimoto's submarine. Sōsuke's father, Kōichi, sees her traveling and recognizes her as the Goddess of Mercy. Fujimoto notices the moon appears to be falling out of its orbit and satellites are falling like shooting stars, symptoms of the dangerous imbalance of nature that now exists. Gran Mamare declares that if Sōsuke can pass a test, Ponyo can live as a human and that the order of the world will be restored. A still-worried Fujimoto reminds her that if Sōsuke fails the test, Ponyo will turn into sea foam.

Sōsuke and Ponyo wake up to find that most of the land around the house has been covered by the ocean. Since it is impossible for Lisa to come home, the two children decide to find her. With the help of Ponyo's magic, they make Sōsuke's toy pop pop boat life-size and set out across the swollen ocean.

Ponyo / Brunhilde

Ponyo has two forms: her fish form and her human form. As a fish, she is cute, but as a little girl, she is magical. She behaves just like a regular five-year-old child, intelligent, adorable and mischievous.

Sosuke

Sosuke is intelligent, smart, loyal, cute and heroic. He is willing to protect his friends, even if doing so gets him in trouble with his mother or Ponyo's father. He is interested in the sea, especially since his father, Koichi, is the captain of a ship.

Lisa

Lisa is around 25 years old. Her outfit usually consists of an indigo blue shirt, beige jeans and carnation pink slippers.

Ponyo

Sosuke

Fujimoto

Fujimoto is a father to Ponyo and to Ponyo's Sisters and husband to Granmamare in Ponyo on the Cliff by the Sea. He served as the main antagonist of said movie. Fujimoto acts like a villain, because he is strict to his daughter Ponyo.

Granmammare

Granmammare is enormous, possibly as big, if not bigger than, as a Blue Whale. She is able to change shape and size, and also appears to glow with a warm, golden light. She resembles a very beautiful woman with impossibly-long, red hair, brown eyes, and a kindly face.

Ponyo wants to co-exist with humans

Ponyo and her sisters

Sosuke, Ponyo disrupted the balance of nature to be with you.To set everything right again, she'll need someone willing to understand and accept her. You know she really is a fish, don't you?

- Granmamare

2014

When Marnie Was There

Plot

Anna Sasaki is an introverted 12-year-old girl with low self-esteem living in Sapporo with foster parents, Yoriko and her husband. One day, she suffers an asthma attack at school. The doctor insists that her asthma is being triggered by stress. At the doctor's recommendation to send Anna to a place where the air is clean, her parents decide to have her spend summer break with Yoriko's relatives, Setsu and Kiyomasa Oiwa, who live in a rural seaside town called Kissakibetsu, located between Kushiro and Nemuro.

Anna investigates an abandoned mansion across a salt marsh. She finds it familiar but gets trapped by the rising tide until she is found by Toichi, an old fisherman. Setsu tells her that the mansion used to be a vacation home for wealthy foreigners, but has been empty for a long time. Anna starts dreaming of a blonde girl in the mansion. On the night of the Tanabata festival, she meets the blonde girl, Marnie, at the mansion. The two agree to keep their meetings secret. Marnie asks about how Anna likes living with the Oiwas but disappears. Anna has visions of being back in the Oiwa house, implying that Anna is dreaming. Marnie invites Anna to a party at the mansion, where she sees Marnie dancing with a boy named Kazuhiko. Locals find Anna asleep outside, suggesting that the party may also have been a dream. The mansion also appears abandoned and dilapidated again.

Anna Sasaki

Anna has short, wavy brown hair and blue eyes. She typically dresses in red shorts, blue sneakers, and a two-shades of blue t-shirt. At the Tanabata festival, she wears a pink yukata that belonged to Setsu Oiwa's daughter. Anna is a caring, curious, and introspective person. She is an artist, and is often carrying around her sketchbook although at first she believed that she wasn't good at drawing when in fact she is great at it. She suppresses her emotions, usually donning on a neutral expression, and is also very prone to emotional outbursts, suddenly changing moods.

Anna

Marnie

Marnie

Marnie has long, blonde hair that falls over her back, ending is smooth ringlets. She wears her hair loose for most of her screen time, wearing a blue dress with white frills and a blue ribbon tied at her collar and also wears a green dress with a yellow bow on her collar. She wears at one point a white nightgown with a blue ribbon on her collar and goes barefoot.

The bond between Anna and Marnie is deeper than someone would think

Something/someone attracts Anna to this house

"You can write books, but there's only ever one book that's really you."

- Marnie

2016

The Red Turtle

Plot

A man set adrift by a storm wakes up on a beach. He discovers that he is on a deserted island with plenty of fresh water, fruit and a dense bamboo forest. He builds a raft from bamboo and attempts to sail away, but his raft is destroyed by an unseen monster in the sea, forcing him back to the island. He tries again with another, larger raft, but is again foiled by the creature. A third attempt again ends with the raft destroyed, but this time he is confronted by a giant red turtle, which stares at him, and forces him back to the island.

That evening, the man sees the red turtle crawling up the beach. In anger, he hits it on the head with a bamboo stick, then flips it over onto its back, stranding it. While working on another raft, he feels remorse and returns to turtle but it is too heavy for him to flip over. He fetches water for it, but when he returns it is dead. He collapses on the sand next to it and falls asleep. In the morning, the man is surprised to find a woman lying unconscious inside the shell, which has split. He fetches water for her and builds a shelter to protect her from the sun. When rain hits the island, the woman wakes up and goes swimming in the sea. The man searches the island for her, and when he spots her in the sea, gives her his shirt. The woman casts the shell adrift on the sea, the man does the same to his partially-built raft. The two swim together and form a bond. They sleep in the dunes.

Production

The film was co-produced by Wild Bunch and Studio Ghibli in association with Why Not Productions. According to Vincent Maraval, head of Wild Bunch, he visited Studio Ghibli in Japan in 2008 and met with Hayao Miyazaki. Miyazaki showed him the short film Father and Daughter and asked him to find its director, Michaël Dudok de Wit, with the prospect of co-producing a feature film. Wild Bunch approached Dudok de Wit in London and convinced him to take on the project. The screenplay was written by Dudok de Wit and Pascale Ferran.

Father and son at the beach

Reception

The Red Turtle received critical acclaim. On review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, the film has a 94% score based on 108 reviews, with an average of 8.2/10. The site's critical consensus reads, "The Red Turtle adds to Studio Ghibli's estimable legacy with a beautifully animated effort whose deceptively simple story boasts narrative layers as richly absorbing as its lovely visuals." Metacritic reports an 86 out of 100 rating, based on 30 reviews, indicating "universal acclaim". In Japan it was released in theaters on September 17 and grossed a total of $328,750 during its first weekend.

The father learns more about turtles after meeting the red turtle

‘Hey!”

- The Son
(Young Adult)

Father swimming with two turtles in the ocean