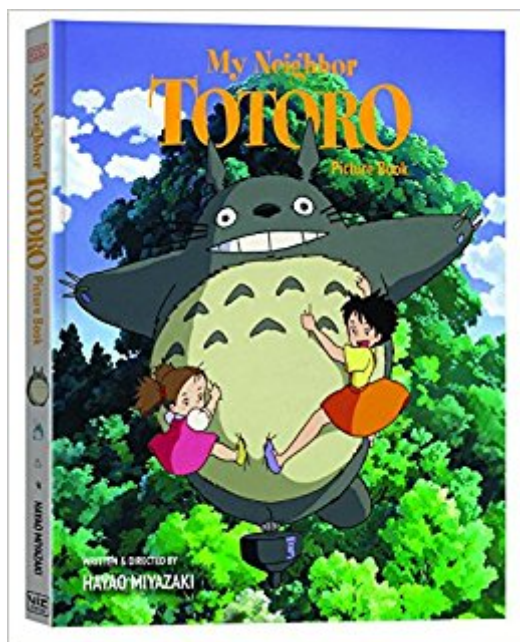


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# My Neighbor Totoro Picture Book (New Edition)



## Synopsis

One of Studio Ghibli's most beloved classics, Totoro celebrates its 25th anniversary! The companion book to the beloved animation classic *My Neighbor Totoro*, by legendary Studio Ghibli director Hayao Miyazaki. Featuring artwork taken directly from the movie, this updated edition will allow parents and children to relive Totoro's magical adventures with scene-by-scene illustrations and character dialogue. Eleven-year-old Satsuki and her sassy little sister Mei have moved to the country to be closer to their ailing mother. While their father is working, the girls explore their sprawling old house and the forest and fields that surround it. Soon, Satsuki and Mei discover Totoro, a magical forest spirit who takes them on fantastic adventures through the trees and the clouds--and teaches them a lesson about trusting one another.

## Book Information

Series: *My Neighbor Totoro*

Hardcover: 112 pages

Publisher: VIZ Media LLC; New edition (October 1, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1421561220

ISBN-13: 978-1421561226

Product Dimensions: 10.4 x 0.5 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 130 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #72,377 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 in Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga #73 in Books > Children's Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Media Tie-In #2056 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Hayao Miyazaki is one of Japan's most beloved animation directors. In 2005 he was awarded the Venice International Film Festival's Golden Lion Award for Lifetime Achievement, and his Studio Ghibli received the festival's Osella Award for overall achievement in 2004. Miyazaki's films include *Spirited Away*, winner of the 2002 Academy Award® for Best Animated Feature Film, as well as *Castle in the Sky*, *My Neighbor Totoro*, *Kiki's Delivery Service*, *Princess Mononoke*, *Howl's*

Moving Castle, and Ponyo, all of which have received great acclaim in the U.S. Miyazaki's other achievements include the highly regarded manga series *Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind* and *Starting Point: 1979-1996*, a collection of essays, interviews, and memoirs that chronicle his early career and the development of his theories of animation. Both are published in English by VIZ Media.

Okay, so the movie is WAY better than the book. However, upon my 4 year old daughter's request we read it EVERY night. She can nearly recite the entire book and is learning how to read from such a fabulous story of two sisters and the bond of a family and magic of the natural world.

I actually have the book from the movie! And I do read this to my daughter too who's not even a year and a half yet! I can't recommend this book any more than saying it's the best book ever, it's absolutely my daughter's favorite movie and book what else can I say? Thank you Hayao Miyazaki!!!! Totoro and friends is magical and all children should get a chance to meet him!

My seven-year-old and I have been ardent fans of Studio Ghibli movies, and have gradually amassed quite a collection of the animated features. I've also been building up a library of the picture books as they contain many of the beautiful, vivid artwork found in the feature films and the text in each book capture the essence of each movie. The story of "My Neighbor Totoro" is simple and sweet without being overly cloying. A father and his two daughters, Satsuki and Mei, move to the countryside whilst their mother recovers from an illness in the hospital. There, the sisters discover that their home is haunted by benign spirits and the younger sister Mei discovers a creature named Totoro which is a forest spirit (he looks like an oversized bunny). Totoro is a sight to behold - his large appearance and loud growls belie a gentle nature, one which is in harmony with Mother Nature. One night, as the sisters wait for their father at the bus-stop, older sister Satsuki finds Totoro standing beside her in the rain. The sisters then witness an unusual sight - a cat which is also a bus, which looks like it was inspired by Lewis Carroll's Cheshire cat! There are no villains in this charming and engaging story, and I found that quite refreshing. Even the mother's illness is vague and not a real cause for concern except perhaps in the later part of the story when Mei goes missing trying to find the hospital her mother is in. My daughter could not get enough of Totoro and begged for repeated viewings. She loves the giant, endearing creature and would watch with rapt fascination each time Totoro appeared on screen. She first watched Totoro when she was five and is still a great fan two years later. There is a magical quality about Studio Ghibli movies that make

them classics one will want to watch over and over. I loved the gentle ecological message of being in harmony with nature - Totoro bequeaths a gift of seeds to the sisters which they plant in their garden. This is a sweet story perfect for any age, and the book makes an excellent companion to the movie.

This book is adorable. I bought it to read to my son, and the pictures are just beautiful. It is a little bit long, but has short "chapter" sections, so it's easy to stop and start again later if needed. It also has a nice little introduction to the characters in the beginning and a map of the locations at the end.

A little more effort could have been put into the layout. But, it's a good transference of the movie into book format. Great for bedtime!

This book is beautiful! The pictures are awesome, and although it's a bit long for a 2 and a half year old, she gets through about 2/3 of it before losing interest. We have the movie, which she loved at first, but then decided was, "too scary." I bought the book hoping that would take that fear away, and it did! I plan to buy another copy for myself, because although my granddaughter is very gentle with books, accidents happen, and I love this book!

A beautiful addition to our growing Studio Ghibli library! Stills from the movie accompany simple text to tell the story of the Kusakabe sisters' move to a country village in 1950s-era Japan and their friendship with the forest spirits, the Totoros. As always, the dreamy, magical quality of Hayao Miyazaki's world is beautifully rendered. We have the books for Spirited Away, Ponyo, Kiki's Delivery Service, and The Secret World of Arrietty, and all are formatted the same, all exceptional.

My granddaughters love Totoro. Just writing now to have enough words to be able to make a post to the website!!!!!!!!!!!!

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