

Kubo and the Two Strings



Kubo and the Two Strings is one of those rare perfect films that bring myth to life in breathtaking animation. This is an original fable told as a Japanese Samurai warrior adventure. Kubo is a boy who is on a quest to find the pieces of his heritage along with the parts of his heart. Kubo is also looking for answers and working through his own loss and grief. Kubo has lost an eye and his father. As he watches his mother's memory slip away, he uses his magical powers to create living images from mere slips of origami paper. This is how he survives.

Metaphors and images for personal growth abound. The tales Kubo tells in the city courtyard are brilliantly brought to life and acted out before the eyes of an enthralled crowd. There are battles and rebellions and throughout you are completely captivated by the beauty and the story. Don't blink; you won't want to miss a second of it. Being raised by a single mother, Kubo begins to look outside his isolation and to test the limits of his world. When he fails to follow his mother's instructions, the stage is set for an epic drama and adventure.



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This is a story of resilience and of becoming who you are meant to be and navigating a world full of uncertainty. It is about friendship and family and loyalty. Ultimately, it is about the choice to live in the world and risk being hurt by feeling love for others or choosing to be blind to all the emotions of being alive and existing apart from those we love.

Kubo faces many obstacles and dangers but he finds all of the treasures of his heart in the objects he searches for. These objects, an unbreakable sword, impenetrable armor and an invulnerable helmet are simply reflections of a brave boy's tenacious spirit in the face of existential danger. There are villains and sidekicks and things are not always as they appear, so pay attention. Charlize Theron, Matthew McConaughey, Ralph Fiennes, Rooney Mara and Art Parkinson lend their voices to these unforgettable characters.

Who we are in the world is a direct product of the people who we call our mother and father. The myths we believe about them and who they actually are determine who we might become. When we lose them too soon or they are taken from us, we create a story to fill in the gap of not having them there. The story may or may not be true, but it is ours until we discover otherwise.

Kubo and the Two Strings is an extraordinary film. It pulls at the heart strings and those strings are universal and eternal. Don't miss it. I give it 5 golden tickets.

