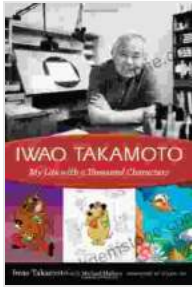


# Iwao Takamoto: My Life with Thousand Characters



Iwao Takamoto was a legendary animator and character designer at Walt Disney Animation Studios. He was responsible for creating some of the most iconic characters in animation history, including Baloo from The

Jungle Book, Shere Khan from The Jungle Book, and Merlin from The Sword in the Stone. Takamoto's work was characterized by its wit, charm, and attention to detail. He was a master of caricature and his characters were always full of life and personality.



## Iwao Takamoto: My Life with a Thousand Characters

by Iwao Takamoto

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 2995 KB

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 240 pages



### Early Life and Career

Takamoto was born in Los Angeles, California, on April 29, 1925. His parents were Japanese immigrants and he grew up in a traditional Japanese household. Takamoto began drawing at an early age and he was encouraged by his parents to pursue his artistic talents. After graduating from high school, Takamoto studied art at the Chouinard Art Institute in Los Angeles.

In 1948, Takamoto joined Walt Disney Animation Studios as an animator. He quickly rose through the ranks and soon became one of the studio's top animators. Takamoto worked on a variety of Disney films, including Cinderella, Peter Pan, and Lady and the Tramp.

### Creating Iconic Characters

In the 1960s, Takamoto began to focus on character design. He created some of the most memorable characters in animation history, including Baloo from *The Jungle Book*, Shere Khan from *The Jungle Book*, and Merlin from *The Sword in the Stone*. Takamoto's characters were always full of life and personality and they quickly became favorites of audiences around the world.

Takamoto's work on *The Jungle Book* earned him an Academy Award for Best Animated Feature Film in 1968. He also received an Emmy Award for his work on the television series *Winnie the Pooh* in 1977.

## Later Career and Legacy

Takamoto continued to work at Disney Animation Studios until his retirement in 1997. He remained active in the animation community after his retirement and he often gave lectures and workshops on character design. Takamoto died in 2007 at the age of 81.

Takamoto's legacy is vast and his work has inspired generations of animators. He is considered one of the greatest character designers of all time and his characters continue to entertain audiences around the world.

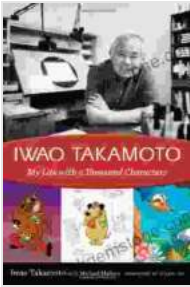
Iwao Takamoto was a true master of animation. His work was characterized by its wit, charm, and attention to detail. He created some of the most iconic characters in animation history and his legacy will continue to inspire animators for years to come.

### **Iwao Takamoto: My Life with a Thousand Characters**

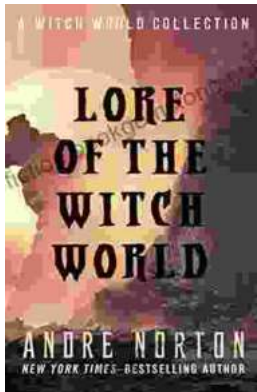
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