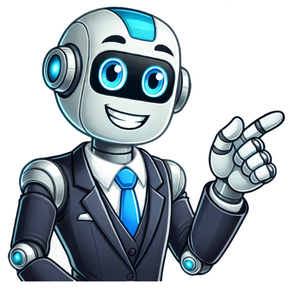
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Now available on disc and digitalAugust 6, 1999Action/Adventure, Animation, Sci-Fi/Fantasy Synopsis In this animated adaptation of Ted Hughes' Cold War fable, a giant alien robot (Vin Diesel) crash-lands near the small town of Rockwell, Maine, in 1957. Exploring the area, a local 9-year-old boy, Hogarth, discovers the robot, and soon forms an unlikely friendship with him. When a paranoid government agent, Kent Mansley, becomes determined to destroy the robot, Hogarth and beatnik Dean McCoppin (Harry Connick Jr.) must do what they can to save the misunderstood machine. Director Brad Bird Producer Des McAnuff, Allison Abbate Screenwriter Ted Hughes, Brad Bird, Tim McCanlies Distributor Warner Bros. Pictures Production Co Warner Brothers, Warner Bros. Animation Rating PG (Mild Language|Fantasy Action) Genre Kids & Family, Adventure, Fantasy, Action, Animation Original Language English Release Date (Theaters) Aug 4, 1999, Wide Release Date (Streaming) Apr 3, 2008 Runtime 1h 26m Sound Mix Surround A visually appealing, well-crafted film, “The Iron Giant” is an unalloyed success that works on several levels. Equally potent as political allegory and as animated family entertainment, Brad Bird’s ambitious, intelligent freshman feature, cleverly set in 1950s small-town America, effectively references everything from Cold War ideology to B-movie conventions, but it never loses sight of its central narrative hook, the friendship of a boy and a giant robot. Pic should expect to do healthy domestic B.O. as it crosses demographic lines, though it should find particular resonance among young boys. If “The Iron Giant” sounds familiar, it’s because the story has previously had literary, musical and theatrical incarnations. Originally published in England as “The Iron Man” (and later Americanized as “The Iron Giant,”) Ted Hughes’ 1968 children’s book inspired a 1989 album by the Who’s Pete Townshend. Four years later the album gave rise to a stage version at London’s Old Vic. After theatrical producer Des McAnuff, who had worked with Townshend to bring “Tommy” to the stage, began developing a screen adaptation, the rights ultimately went to Warner Bros. Home to the Superman copyright (which it refers to in the new pic), Warners aims to couch the Iron Giant as a sort of fellow superhero and might well have its eye on a franchise. Pic is set in the fictional town of Rockwell, Maine, a place so peaceful and picturesque that its inhabitants might have leaped off the cover of the Saturday Evening Post. There, in a local diner, single mom Annie Hughes (voiced by Jennifer Aniston) works as a waitress, often staying late, to the disappointment of her 9-year-old son, Hogarth. A spirited outsider who’s shunned by his peers, Hogarth (energetically voiced by Eli Marienthal) has a mind for mischief and adventure, whether he’s spinning stories of attempted takeovers by aliens or watching terrifying films on TV (fittingly rendered in black-and-white). When his TV reception suddenly goes awry, Hogarth climbs up on the roof, only to discover that the antenna is gone. He soon spots a massive steel creature with an appetite for metal that leads him through the woods and to a local power plant. Pumped up with an eerie, evocative musical score, this sequence makes a smooth transition from the televised horror film that preceded it. Though frightened, the daring Hogarth is undeterred. When the Iron Giant becomes entangled in the power lines, the boy saves the creature from certain electrocution by hitting the emergency shutdown switch. Apparently capable of feelings, the gentle gray behemoth thanks the boy by becoming his protector and friend. Hogarth teaches him rudimentary speech (voiced in low, mechanically enhanced tones by Vin Diesel) and takes him to a scrap metal yard run by a friendly local beatnik named Dean (Harry Connick Jr.), where the giant can find plenty to eat. It soon becomes difficult to conceal the Iron Giant, and when word gets out that a mammoth creature of unknown origin may be in their midst, Rockwell officials notify the government. Tall, angular, trigger-happy fed Kent Mansley (Christopher McDonald) arrives and soon proves himself the film’s irrepressible bad guy. This being the McCarthy era, the deeply suspicious Mansley has people believing the creature may be a Russian secret weapon, and he mobilizes government forces to destroy it. However, the giant, whose origins are never explained, is not an offensive weapon but is programmed to strike defensively only; when attacked, it can unleash a cannonball of fire. But Hogarth gives the giant a lesson in arms control that seems directly targeted at the NRA: “Guns kill,” the boy tells his friend sternly. With Mansley and the armed forces pursuing the giant and ready to fire, pic sets up a final, suspenseful confrontation that forces the giant into a difficult and heart-tugging decision. Making expert use of 1950s ideology, with the atom bomb looming over everything, helmer and co-scripter Bird has done a deft job transposing Hughes’ story into an effective Cold War context. Still, despite its p.c., humanistic overtones, the film manages to integrate the humor and action of a kid’s adventure tale and the message of a political allegory without beingheavy-handed. Voicing, animation (blending CGI and traditional techniques) and tech elements are fine throughout, with the only real flaw being that characters’ faces are sometimes less expressive and intricately rendered than their Disney counterparts. Reddit and its partners use cookies and similar technologies to provide you with a better experience. By accepting all cookies, you agree to our use of cookies to deliver and maintain our services and site, improve the quality of Reddit, personalize Reddit content and advertising, and measure the effectiveness of advertising. By rejecting non-essential cookies, Reddit may still use certain cookies to ensure the proper functionality of our platform. For more information, please see our Cookie Notice and our Privacy Policy. View source Welcome to the Warner Bros. Wiki! Warner Bros. Entertainment Wiki is a free, public and collaborative encyclopedia for everything related to Warner Bros. and Time Warner: film companies, television networks, films, characters, and more. The wiki format allows anyone to create or edit any article, so we can all work together to create a comprehensive database for all the Warner Bros. fans. You can always check out the Help pages as the first step to get started! Explore the Wiki Castle Rock Entertainment Dedication The wiki is dedicated to the Warner Bros./WarnerMedia related films, characters, TV series, and more... The Warner Bros. Entertainment Wiki is a fan site and is in no way affiliated with the full credentials of the Warner Bros. company and / or its subsidiaries or affiliates. Discord Group Wanted We are in need of a Discord Group based on this wiki. If you have the skills to make one, let us know. We'll be admins in that Discord Group, too. (Link Expired, Server Lost) Before editing, please read our Warner Bros. Entertainment's Rules page for what is can do on here and what is prohibited. We are in the progress of turning stubs into complete articles, any help on these stubs would be greatly appreciated. Also, we need a Discord Server for this wiki. If you know how to make an official Discord Server for this wiki, please let us know. Contact one of the admins if you're interested. Affiliates Jump to ratings and reviewsAn iron giant saves the world in this contemporary classic.A mysterious creature stalks the land, eating barbed wire and devouring tractors and plows. The farmers are mystified—and terrified. And then they glimpse him in the night: the Iron Giant, taller than a house, with glowing headlight eyes and an insatiable taste for metal. The hungry giant must be stopped at any cost.Only a young boy named Hogarth is brave enough to lead the Iron Giant to a safe home. And only Hogarth knows where to turn when a space-bat as big as Australia, hungry for every living thing on Earth, darkens the sky.First published in 1968, Ted Hughes's classic tale is a powerful tribute to peace on earth—and in all the universe. Of it Madeleine L'Engle wrote, "How grateful we should be for Ted Hughes's brilliant The Iron Giant. It speaks to all ages, and we need its message even more now." Philip Pullman called it "so gripping that when you begin to read it aloud, everyone stops to listen, young children and old people alike." Whether you think of it as a science fiction fantasy or a modern fairy tale or a tall-tale parable for today, you will never forget it. 300 people are currently readingEdward James Hughes was an English poet, translator, and children's writer. Critics frequently rank him as one of the best poets of his generation and one of the twentieth century's greatest writers. He was appointed Poet Laureate in 1984 and held the office until his death. In 2008, The Times ranked Hughes fourth on its list of "The 50 greatest British writers since 1945".He married fellow poet Sylvia Plath in 1956, and they lived together in the United States and then in England, in a tumultuous relationship. They had two children before separating in 1962 and Plath ended her own life in 1963.Displaying 1 - 30 of 1,093 reviewsDecember 27, 2014When you write a review of a kid's book, there really should be a way to give it two different star ratings. One for you, and one for the kids you've read it to. For me, this book might be a three star book. Four if I was feeling generous. I find it wordy and ponderous. Overwrought. The plot is pretty clunky and meh. I don't hate the book or anything, it's just doesn't do much for me. But my boy loves it. He wants me to read it to him over and over again. And again. I think this might be slightly because my boy loves the movie The Iron Giant a lot. But that can't be too much of the reason, as the book has only a glancing similarity to the movie.(The movie is A+ excellent, by the way. One of my favorite movies ever.)December 19, 2019My kid picked this out in a bookstore because of the beautiful artwork. The illustrations in this edition are gorgeous.The story is a bit meandering, and there's some equally dated language. But the existential threats presented are great and scary, and the Iron Man is an awesome character. My kid wanted to read it again right after we finished it.Ivana - Diary of DifferenceJanuary 19, 2022Wishlist | Blog | Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | Pinterest I chose to read The Iron Man by Ted Hughes as part of my Potions prompt for my OWLs Readathon in April. I am very glad I picked it up, because it was such a pleasant short read. This is a Children's book about a little boy an an iron man. The Iron Man starts eating all the metal in the town, and the concerned town members capture him. But when a bigger danger comes around, the might need the help of the Iron Man after all. The book was beautifully written and it had many illustrations that supported the story. Illustrations are always something I truly admire. These may have been a bit too grim for me though. The writing is very smooth and easy to digest. I believe that it is able to spark a child's imagination and curiosity. The book is entangled in bravery, friendships and adventure, and I am certain that it will be a child's dear friend forever, should they read it once. I recommend watching the 1999 animated movie The Iron Giant after reading the book, for better enjoyment. Wishlist | Blog | Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | Pinterestgenre-childrens read-in-2020 stars-4August 28, 2019Probably best known for the 1999 animated movie The Iron Giant, this enjoyable children’s book is a quick fun read.Fans of Brad Bird’s movie might be slightly disappointed that the original story is so different, but the basics are still very much in place.I personally think shorter stories make for better adaptations as there’s plenty of scope to expand a great story.Offered the choice I would likely re-watch the film again, but I could see this being a firm favourite amongst children.October 5, 2019 "Sit up", he roared. "Sit up and take notice, you great space-lizard!" 😂trigger warnings: fatphobia, fireThis is a classic story repackaged with new artwork from Chris Mould and let me tell you, I ADORED the illustrations. They really made this story for me. Without them, the story would probably be a 2 stars honestly. I've heard the movie adaptation of this is phenomenal so I will definitely have to check it out!Thank you so much to the publisher for sending a copy of this my way!June 15, 2019The Iron Giant is one of our favorite movies, and I remembered from the special features about it that it was inspired by a book by Ted Hughes. For some reason I hadn't ever sought that book out, but in the library the other day we happened to notice this copy of it on the shelf, and I grabbed it immediately.It's clear where Brad Bird got some of the basic ideas for the film version, but the book and film are different enough that they can be regarded as independent entities. As I read the book, I wasn't distracted by thinking only about the movie.The book has the slow, unusual pace that often appeals to me in children's literature. It's meandering, thoughtful, and unexpected. Its conclusion is surprisingly poignant and beautiful.This edition is illustrated by Laura Carlin, and I love the varied illustrations that interact with the text, and the construction of the book itself, that features some cut-outs and some larger, fold-out spreads. I particularly enjoyed the two-page spread on pages 72–73, showing the disassembled pieces of the Iron Giant, en route to Australia for the final confrontation with the space-bat-angel-dragon. (I told you it's different from the movie.)This is a really wonderful book to just sit with and savor. I wish we'd discovered it much earlier.December 7, 2022(Read for book club - 13/07/2013)“Haven’t you heard of the music of the spheres?” asked the dragon. “It’s the music that space makes to itself. All the spirits inside all the stars are singing. I’m a star spirit. I sing too. The music of the spheres is what makes space so peaceful.” I suppose the only way I could start this review would be by saying that approximately thirteen years ago a small, likely annoying girl of four's heart was torn apart by the ending scene of Brad Bird's The Iron Giant. Never before has the phrase 'You are who you choose to be' and the robotic 'Superman' evoked such a pitiful flurry of tears in that of a hard-faced infant who, as I'm rightfully reminded of by my Dad, refused to see another film for months afterwards due to the sheer trauma (and, ironically, missed the concluding scene because she was too upset to continue watching it). Because The Iron Giant is quite possibly one of my favourite films in the whole world, it was to be expected that I'd experience some powerful waves of nostalgia as I sifted through Hughes' work. I wasn't wrong! Charmingly illustrated, beautifully told and captivating in its own way, I truly loved every page. It shares the delicacy conveyed in the beginning scene, when we find the Iron Giant about to topple down the cliff into the sea, wrapped in the silence of the world. I toyed with giving this a five star rating but decided against it just because it wasn't blown away territory and I'm generally quite picky about awarding a book the full amount of stars. Still, it misses only by an inch, as it really is lovely. A rusty fairy tale of sorts; remarkable in vision, gorgeous in words. A new favourite.April 9, 2020The Iron Man is the inspiration for the animated movie The Iron Giant. The movie adds tons of details and depths to the characters and is definitely superior to the book, but the book is fun and pretty good in its own right. It has got a certain quality that will make almost every child fall in love with the book.childrens-s sci-fi short-storiesJanuary 19, 2020Doesn't have a whole lot to do with the animated movie - which I love, and if you haven't seen it then you should check it out right now - but it's a pretty entertaining read on its own.July 30, 2011Pa: So you finished your first big book. How are you feeling?Miloš: Proud of myself.Pa: You should be. I'm proud of you too.Miloš: Thanks, Pa.Pa: Sure, so did you ... what did you think of it?Miloš: There was a great author.Pa: Who's that?Miloš: Ted Hughes.Pa: Why's he so great?Miloš: Because I liked the space-bat-angel-dragon.Pa: The what?!Miloš: The space-bat-angel-dragon is what I said, Monsieur.Pa: I thought it was the Iron Giant.Miloš: And the Iron Giant.Pa: So what did the space-bat-angel-dragon there for? What did it do?Miloš: It was supposed to be the Iron Giant's challenge.Pa: Like his nemesis?Miloš: Yeah.Pa: So it was kind of King Kong vs. Godzilla, sort of.Miloš: Yeah, sort of. It was more like the Iron Giant was King Kong, but like I said he isn't that big, and the space-bat-angel-dragon is huge compared to the Iron Giant.Pa: Umm, so did the Iron Giant beat the dragon?Miloš: Yeah, only the dragon's job was just to fly around the world all night, every night, singing, cause all it could do up there was fly and sing. Pa: Was the dragon actually the moon?Miloš: No. Pa: No? It was a dragon.Miloš: No. It was a dragon.Pa: That's kooky.Miloš: It was more like a bat an angel and a dragon; that's why it's called the space-bat-angel-dragon. But anyway, I liked it. It was amazing. Yeah.Pa: So what about Hogarth, from the movie, was he different?Miloš: Yeah, a lot different. When we first see him in the movie he's riding his bike to where his mother is working, but in the book he is fishing and he keeps missing the fish in the book, but he hits a rock so he goes home. Pa: And how does he bump into the Iron Giant?Miloš: He sees him on his way home, coming out of the water, then he goes and tells his parents.Pa: So are they friends, like in the movie.Miloš: Yeah, but unlike the movie, everyone loves the Iron Giant ... as soon as the space-bat-angel-dragon falls down. Pa: So the space-bat-angel-dragon is the bad guy rather than the US Army?Miloš: Yeah. There is no US Army. No police. Only farmers. It's really only tyhe space guy. They super changed it in the movie.Pa: So which did you like better? The movie or the book?Miloš: The book.Pa: Very cool. What are you reading next?Miloš: I will read My Dead Girlfriend.Pa: Good choice.Miloš: Then I will win James and the Giant Peach, then I will read the Tiger book (a.k.a. The Essential Calvin and Hobbes).Pa: Well, congratulations on your big finish.Miloš: Thank you.Pa: You are welcome. Miloš: And ... Ted Hughes, this is a great book!Pa: I am sure Sylvia Plath will be glad to hear it?Miloš: Who's that?Pa: Ted's dead girlfriend.Miloš: Oh, I see. Thanks, Pa.Pa: You I love.Miloš: You me too.adventure at-seven classic May 3, 2015I was thrilled when I got this copy of The Iron Man from my husband. I've always loved the movie The Iron Giant, and have it almost memorized in its entirety! I never knew that it was based on a book, nor that it was a book written by Ted Hughes! I shamefully admit that this was my first Ted Hughes book, and although I enjoyed it, it was close to nothing like the movie. That put me off for many reasons, but the biggest being that I was reading it with the movie playing in my head, which was probably my mistake. The Iron Man was more of a victim-turned-hero in this book than he was made to be in the movie, and the fighting scene at the end against the big black dragon from space was insanely brilliant. I thoroughly enjoyed it and the cleverness behind it.I would recommend to all who decide to read this book and have watched the film adaptation beforehand to think of it as completely independent from the movie. Otherwise, you will find yourself disappointed, as did I.August 19, 2011I bought this book based purely on how much I loved Brad Bird's movie adaptation, The Iron Giant. And I think the excellence of the film completely overshadowed this book in my readings.Hughes has a simple, lyrical style that works for younger readers. And he divides the chapters into episodes to make it easily digestible. However, the story itself has no real depth of character, and prefers to stay detached in describing the realm of the fantastic. We never really see Hogarth and the Giant become friends. And the appearance of the space dragon is an interesting trickster fairytale spin, but it doesn't fit organically with the previous episodes of the Iron Giant on Earth. If I hadn't watched the movie I would probably be more forgiving, because the story has its charms. But when compared to the animated classic, The Iron Giant seems smaller in comparison,January 16, 2016The book was as liquid as its animated movie. Kinda reminded me of Bridge to Terabithia. Though the two couldn't be more further apart.The book was a little different from the movie, by little I mean completely. But what a message at the end, wow. What a message. So amazing. Alas if only. Funny thing. It was corrupted by them and yet it ended up curing them all.Oh yeah, if Only. Sigh. But humanity. Sigh. I'd give this one ten stars rating. September 24, 20233.5 stars. This is an odd short story. It’s as if Ted Hughes had a very vivid dream one night and then wrote this book about it. I liked the way it started, and the writing feels poetic (as you might expect), but the final section with the space lizard is an odd detour and it felt unkind. I was trying to work out if this story is a metaphor. Well, if it is, I don’t know what for. It’s just quirky. Interesting, but I didn’t love it. Apparently, the film, ‘The Iron Giant’ is based on this book and many people love it, so I might watch that if I see it listed.April 18, 2021A modern day fairy tale.This book is special to me-It was a birthday gift from someone special and it gives me hope, its really short and sweet.May 1, 2012The Iron Man by Ted HughesThe Iron Man: A Children’s Story In Five nights by Ted Hughes does indeed consist of five chapters; designed to be read a chapter per day, although some children may find it difficult to wait a whole day to hear more of this exciting story.Set in a rural town, a town where a small boy called Hogarth goes fishing in the local stream only to come across an Iron Man. He forms a relationship with the Iron Man and he must save him from the adults. The fact that when he does tell the grown-ups that they believe him and are unsure what to do really makes this story thrilling for children as they realise they are on an even footing with the adults. It is Hogarth that helps when the adults wants to trap it and when the Earth is in it’s hour of need; prey to an enormous bat-angel creature from space that threatens to devour every living thing on the planet, it is again Hogarth, the child, that sees the only one that can help is the Iron Man. Children love this book as it has adventure, mystery and explores different relationships.I think it is an excellent book to use as a stimulus in science or to create cross curricular links when reading it in literacy.You can look at the properties of different materials. What might have happened if the ‘Iron Man’ was made of wood, plastic, fabric or jelly? Plan an experiment to test the strength of different materials. A lot of silhouette illustrations are used in the book so you can cross over with light and shadows in science and get the children to make their own shadow robot puppets. For ICT you could make a stop motion animation based on the story. The book is also an excellent basis for looking at harmony within the world and how peace is created. The Iron Man wants to bring peace to the world and so possibly in Year 6, you can look at what war does and how to create peace in the world. It could be the basis in a debate possibly for PHSE or even a philosophy lesson where the answer may not be possible to find. September 23, 20233.5*I have always remembered reading a book about an "Iron Man" when I was a kid but could never remember the title of the book.Then I seen this on Amazon and it seemed so obvious.A fun little story.June 17, 2021I suspect few come to this book without having first seen the film adaptation called The Iron Giant, the 1999 Warner Brothers animation directed by Brad Bird and co-written by him.The film is a masterpiece and is also one of my *favourite films, to watch again and again whenever it comes on. The book is wonderful but perhaps not a masterpiece. Let us deal first with the book, because I think it is necessary and pleasurable to return to the film.The charm of the book stems from the central idea of the impact caused by the arrival on Earth of a giant mechanical man. He can deconstruct then reconstruct himself by way of his component parts being handily equipped with homing devices so that they can link up with each other. Simply, the metal man falls down a cliff into the sea, the local famers relax until he returns and starts eating their tractors, so they build a big pit to trap him. When the giant falls in they fill it with earth. Before too long the metal man resurfaces, and is befriended by a small boy called Hogarth, who comes up with the idea of accommodating the visitor’s special needs by putting him in a scrap metal yard. When a space dragon comes to Earth (Australia, wouldn’t you know it), the iron man devises a challenge to outwit the monster and turn him from foe to the beneficiary of all the peoples of the Earth. The story is in five parts. Or to give the story its proper subtitle: A Children’s Story in Five Nights. This is the other important element of the charm of The Iron Man. The story reads like it is being told to wide-eyed children, sitting enthralled. A child as we know does not always require complete logic and the story of a big metal man from space is a gripping one. So is his developing friendship with Hogarth. The whole dragon sequence is, of course, fantastic in the literal sense but also, very appealing to small children. While remaining true to the spirit of the book, the animated film The Iron Giant improves the story by giving it a better narrative arc and locating the tale very specifically in a 1950s cold war environment, when the organs of authority (government, security agencies, the army) were perhaps more respected than they are now, certainly powerful, but nevertheless susceptible to paranoia and suspicion. A big metal machine is just the thing to disturb their shaky equilibrium. The threat to the iron giant does not come externally but arises from the paranoia of the time - where does the creature come from? Is it made by the Russians? The Chinese? It represents an unknown danger: it must be destroyed. This is in stark contrast to Hogarth’s thinking and those close to him. Hogarth understands the nature of the giant and that he is friendly: their relationship is wonderful, witness doing water bombs into the forest pool. In the film Hogarth, has a single mother and he is befriended by the beatnik sculptor who runs the scrap yard, both uncomfortable types in the 1950s. The sculptor in particular with his art, coffee and penchant for jazz represents a disturbing anti-establishment perspective. The soundtrack is superb too. In this way the story remains integrated and coherent, while maintaining faith with the source material: the ultimate threat comes from the sky, but this time is of their own making. Read the book and see the film!*To provide some context, current favourites include: Pleasantville, Blast from the Past, Cars and Ben Stiller’s remake of The Secret Life of Walter Mitty.childrens english-author favourite-cover February 7, 2017Whilst The Iron Man is a wonderfully descriptive and poetic story (there is a real sense of rhythm to Hughes' words which is lovely) the story itself seems to be composed of two separate halves. In the first half, we are introduced to the Iron Man, his fondness for eating anything steel and disrupting the farmers, etc. whilst the second half focuses on him during a test of strength with the space-bat-angel-dragon which has terrified residents and so the Iron Man seeks to make this dragon his slave if the creature loses the battle. I feel Hughes could have really branched out his story after chapter three but instead he creates an entirely unrelated scenario which doesn't really add anything to the book. I didn't invest emotionally with the Iron Man but I think the main reason for this is the length of the story and left me feeling 'meh'. It's a nice easy read to while away an hour but lacks any emotional punch to become a favourite. September 27, 2017First let me say that I will not accept this as SF. It's a great story, a parable, a fable, a fantasy... but SF would keep track of relative sizes at the very least! And what about all that consumption; where is the matter going?Second, I coulda sworn that I read it before. I know I enjoyed the movie. And of course the movie is very different (though also quite good). But I thought I read the story, and yet almost nothing rings a bell. In any case, this oversized, artistically designed edition gives the story great metaphysical & poetic weight & import, as one would expect from the poet Hughes even in his prose. I don't particularly care for this kind of art, speaking for myself, but here it's both effective and appropriate. Highly recommended.more-wi okc to-enjoy-againJune 8, 2016For a children's book (which isn't my favourite genre to read as an adult) this was pretty good. The prose is quite poetic and the story is engaging, both on the surface and at a deeper level. One to read with children, while still getting enjoyment yourself. January 15, 2021اقتباس انیمیشنش خیلی بهتره‌June 10, 2012I am about to start reading the Iron man with my year three class, and I cannot wait. Having had the pleasure and vivid memories of being read this story by one of my own teachers when I was at school. I was a little apprehensive as to whether I would enjoy reading this book again, now that i am an adult. I need r Ted Hughes' writing is magical and this story was made to be read aloud. In fact I have enjoyed reading it so much, that over the half term holiday I read the story aloud to my partner on a long car journey to Wales. The suspense and the visual imagery that builds as you read, really is spectacular.Having done my research, I am now aware of how Hughes came to write the Iron Man and it did not surprise me that the Iron Man was a story that Hughes made up over the course of five nights of storytelling to his children. After every part of the story he would go to his study and write it up just as he had told it. With this in mind it makes complete sense that the story reads aloud with such great ease and expression.From this story I will be doing a series of 3 lessons this week. My first lesson will be about forming opinions based upon the theme of recycling. On Tuesday we will be building character portraits, based upon the first chapter we will observe how our visualisations of the Iron Man progress as the story unfolds. Wednesday will see us doing a picture the author activity where we find out about Ted Hughes and make links between our knowledge of how and why he wrote the story and his use of pace and language. Next week we will be looking at character empathy and comparing characters from different stories as we are currently reading the BFG as our shared reading book.I would recommend this story as both a great book for reading for pleasure and also as a book to base a series of lessons on.January 7, 2013The Iron Man by Ted Hughes is a book that I came across due to the year four class I was placed in using the book for the basis of their Autumn terms literacy lessons. The Iron Man is a third person account of a metal eating iron giant who falls from space to impact on Hogarth's and the rest of the village's lives. The book was used successfully as the basis for a combination of literacy lessons due to the authors use of many literary devices which the class were required to learn that term. It allowed the children to see how using devices such as metaphors, similes, climax and onomatopoeia could be used in their writing to make it more interesting to the reader. As well its use as being an example of creative writing, the Iron Man was used to teach other forms of writing such as newspaper reports, letter writing and persuasive argument. As the Iron Man is a short novel, the children were able to unpick the various themes within the book. The chapters are relatively short and all end with a climax, making the reader want to read on and the children begging for more. I would recommend all primary teachers read the Iron Man as it can be very useful in the classroom. It is suitable for KS1 and KS2 with different themes having greater relevance for difference age groups. January 13, 2016I had never read this story, published initially by the poet Ted Hughes in 1968, now republished illustrated colorfully and with plenty of fold outs and cutouts and every page almost jarringly different. A book that has a pretty surprising conclusion! It's not a warm story, or particularly inviting, initially, via its illustrations or story, but its pretty impressive, finally. I understand it is very popular in England, Hughes' home country. Here in the U.S., not so much, I believe. But I liked this version very much.April 8, 2021I really enjoyed reading Iron man by Ted Hughes. My favourite part was the ending because it made me happy and relieved for the Iron Man. At first some of the characters were scared but towards the ending they became happy. The characters in the book took the Iron man somewhere special. All this adventure made me want to keep on reading. There are a few illustrations in the book, which I thought were very good. This book made me feel excited when reading it because I couldn't wait to see what was going to happen next.May 21, 20222.5 stars, rounded upThose last two chapters were, ummm... something. This story was not what I expected. It was interesting, and would be great for kids just getting into chapter books, but there were aspects to it which didn't make a whole lot of sense.P.S. I've never watched the movie, but from the clips I've seen this is QUITE a different story. July 6, 2024I didn't expect to like it so much but here I am. Still, the animated movie has a bigger hold on me.Displaying 1 - 30 of 1,093 reviewsGet help and learn more about the design. The Iron Giant is a 1999 American animated science fiction action film produced by Warner Bros. Feature Animation and directed by Brad Bird in his directorial debut. It is based on the 1968 novel The Iron Man by Ted Hughes (which was published in the United States as The Iron Giant) and was scripted by Tim McCanlies from a story treatment by Bird. The film stars the voices of Vin Diesel (voicing the titular character), Eli Marienthal, Jennifer Aniston, Harry Connick Jr., Christopher McDonald and John Mahoney. Set during the Cold War in 1957, the film centers on a young boy named Hogarth Hughes, who discovers and befriends a gigantic metallic robot who fell from outer space. With the help of a beatnik artist named Dean McCoppin, Hogarth attempts to prevent the U.S. military and Kent Mansley, a paranoid federal agent, from finding and destroying the Giant. The film's development began in 1994 as a musical with the involvement of The Who's Pete Townshend, though the project took root once Bird signed on as director and hired McCanlies to write the screenplay in 1996. The film was animated using traditional animation, with computer-generated imagery used to animate the titular character and other effects. The understaffed crew of the film completed it with half of the time and budget of other animated features. Michael Kamen composed the film's score, which was performed by the Czech Philharmonic. The Iron Giant premiered at Mann's Chinese Theater in Los Angeles on July 31, 1999, and was released worldwide on August 6. The film significantly under-performed at the box office, grossing $31.3 million worldwide against a production budget of $50 million, which was blamed on Warner Bros.' unusually poor marketing campaign and skepticism towards animated film production following the mixed critical reception and box office failure of Quest for Camelot in the preceding year. Despite this, the film was praised for its story, animation, characters, the portrayal of the title character and the voice performances of Aniston, Connick Jr., Diesel, Mahoney, Marienthal and McDonald. The film was nominated for several awards, winning nine Annie Awards out of 15 nominations. Through home video releases and television syndication, the film gathered a cult following and is widely regarded as a modern animated classic. In 2015, an extended, remastered version of the film was rereleased theatrically, and on home video the following year. Plot During the Cold War, shortly after the Soviet Union launched Sputnik 1 in October 1957, an object from space crashes in the ocean just off the coast of Maine and then enters the forest near the town of Rockwell. The following night, nine-year-old Hogarth Hughes investigates and finds the object, a 50-foot tall alien robot attempting to eat the transmission lines of an electrical substation. Hogarth eventually befriends the Giant, finding him docile and curious. When he eats railroad tracks in the path of an oncoming train, the train collides with him and derails; Hogarth leads the Giant away from the area, discovering that he can self-repair. While there, Hogarth shows the Giant comic books chronicling the adventures of Superman. The incidents lead a xenophobic U.S. government agent named Kent Mansley to Rockwell. He suspects Hogarth's involvement after talking with him and his widowed mother Annie (Hogarth's father was a U.S. Air Force pilot who died during the Korean War), and rents a room in their house to keep an eye on him. Hogarth evades Mansley and leads the Giant to a junkyard owned by beatnik artist Dean McCoppin, who reluctantly agrees to keep him. Hogarth enjoys his time with the Giant, but is compelled to explain "death" to the Giant after he witnesses hunters killing a deer. That night, Hogarth is interrogated by Mansley when he discovers evidence of the Giant after finding a photo of him next to Hogarth and brings a U.S. Army contingent led by General Shannon Rogard to the scrapyard to prove the Giant's existence, but Dean (having been warned by Hogarth earlier) tricks them by pretending that the Giant is one of his art pieces. Upset by the apparent false alarm, Rogard prepares to leave with his forces after berating Mansley for his actions. Hogarth then continues to have fun with the Giant by playing with a toy gun, but inadvertently activates the Giant's defensive system; Dean yells at him for nearly killing Hogarth, and the saddened Giant runs away with Hogarth giving chase. Dean quickly realizes that the Giant was only acting in self-defense and catches up to Hogarth as they follow the Giant. The Giant saves two boys falling from a roof when he arrives, winning over the townspeople. Mansley spots the Giant in the town while leaving Rockwell, and stops the Army, sending them to attack the Giant after he has picked up Hogarth, forcing the two to flee together. They initially evade the military by using the Giant's flight system, but the Giant is then shot down and crashes to the ground. Hogarth is knocked unconscious, but the Giant, thinking that Hogarth is dead, completely gives in to his defensive system in a fit of rage and grief and attacks the military in retaliation, transforming into a war machine and making its way back to Rockwell. Mansley convinces Rogard to prepare a nuclear missile launch from the USS Nautilus, as conventional weapons prove to be ineffective. Hogarth awakens and returns in time to calm the Giant while Dean clarifies the situation to Rogard. The General is ready to stand down when Mansley impulsively orders the missile launch, causing the missile to head towards Rockwell, where it will destroy the town and its population upon impact. Mansley attempts to escape, but the Giant stops him, and Rogard has him arrested. In order to save the town, the Giant bids farewell to Hogarth and flies off to intercept the missile. As he soars directly into the path of the missile, the Giant remembers Hogarth's words "You are who you choose to be", smiles contentedly and says "Superman" as he collides with the weapon. The missile explodes in the atmosphere, saving Rockwell, its population, and the military forces nearby, but seemingly at the cost of the Giant himself, leaving Hogarth devastated. Months later, a memorial of the Giant stands in Rockwell. Dean and Annie begin a relationship. Hogarth is given a package from Rogard, containing a screw from the Giant which is the only remnant found. That night, Hogarth finds the screw trying to move on its own and, remembering the Giant's ability to self-repair, happily allows the screw to leave. The screw joins many other parts as they converge on the Giant's head on the Langjökull glacier in Iceland, and the Giant smiles as he begins reassembling himself. Voice cast Eli Marienthal as Hogarth Hughes, an intelligent, energetic and curious 9-year-old boy with an active imagination. Marienthal's performances were videotaped and given to animators to work with, which helped develop expressions and acting for the character. Jennifer Aniston as Annie Hughes, Hogarth's mother, the widow of a military pilot, and a diner waitress. Harry Connick Jr. as Dean McCoppin, a beatnik artist and junkyard owner. Bird felt it appropriate to make the character a member of the beat generation, as they were viewed as mildly threatening to small-town values during that time. An outsider himself, he is among the first to recognize the Giant as no threat. Vin Diesel as The Iron Giant, a 50-foot, metal-eating robot. Of unknown origin and created for an unknown purpose, the Giant involuntarily reacts defensively if he recognizes anything as a weapon, immediately attempting to destroy it. The Giant's voice was originally going to be electronically modulated but the filmmakers decided they "needed a deep, resonant and expressive voice to start with," so they hired Diesel. James Gammon as Foreman Marv Loach, a power station employee who follows the robot's trail after it destroys the station. Gammon also voices Floyd Toubeaux. Cloris Leachman as Mrs. Karen Tensedge, Hogarth's schoolteacher. Christopher McDonald as Kent Mansley, a paranoid federal government agent sent to investigate sightings of the Iron Giant. The logo on his official government car says he is from the "Bureau of Unexplained Phenomena". He is also the film's main antagonist. John Mahoney as General Shannon Rogard, an experienced and level-headed military leader in Washington, D.C. who strongly dislikes Mansley. M. Emmet Walsh as Earl Stutz, a sailor and the first man to see the robot. In addition, Ollie Johnston and Frank Thomas voice the train's engineer and fireman, briefly seen near the start of the film. Johnston and Thomas, who were animators and members of Disney's Nine Old Men, were cited by Bird as inspirations for his career, which he honored by incorporating their voices and likenesses (and perhaps even their first names, due to fact that the engineer, who resembles Johnson, said to the other one, who resembles Thomas, his first name Frank) into the film. See also In Spanish: El gigante de hierro para niños The film was released in 1999 and has since become a beloved animated classic. The movie was directed by Brad Bird Brad Bird, known for his work on The Incredibles and Ratatouille, directed The Iron Giant. The Iron Giant is based on a book The movie is based on the 1968 novel “The Iron Man” by Ted Hughes. The film is set during the Cold War The Iron Giant takes place in the 1950s, during the height of the Cold War tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union. The Iron Giant is voiced by Vin Diesel Vin Diesel is the voice actor behind the iconic character of the Iron Giant. His deep and powerful voice brings the character to life. The film has a strong anti-war message The Iron Giant explores themes of peace and disarmament, emphasizing the importance of understanding and compassion over violence. The Iron Giant stands over 50 feet tall The Iron Giant is an enormous robot, standing at over 50 feet tall. His size adds to his awe-inspiring presence. The movie received critical acclaim The Iron Giant was praised by critics for its storytelling, animation, and emotional depth. It holds an impressive 96% rating on Rotten Tomatoes. The Iron Giant was not a box office success Despite its critical acclaim, The Iron Giant didn’t perform well at the box office initially. However, it has gained a cult following over the years. The Iron Giant has a friendship with a young boy named Hogarth The heartwarming bond between the Iron Giant and Hogarth Hughes is at the core of the film. They develop a strong friendship throughout the story. The Iron Giant has special abilities The Iron Giant possesses incredible strength and the ability to repair himself. He also has the power to shoot energy beams from his eyes. The movie features themes of sacrifice The Iron Giant is willing to sacrifice himself to protect others, showcasing an important message about selflessness and heroism. The Iron Giant is misunderstood by the military The military misunderstands the Iron Giant’s intentions and sees him as a threat, leading to conflicts throughout the film. The Iron Giant has a memorable catchphrase The Iron Giant’s iconic catchphrase is “I am not a gun,” emphasizing his desire to be seen as more than a weapon. The movie has a touching ending Without giving away spoilers, The Iron Giant has a heartwarming and emotional ending that resonates with viewers. The Iron Giant is considered a hidden gem Though initially overlooked, The Iron Giant is now regarded as a hidden gem of animation, appreciated for its artistry and storytelling. The film’s animation style is reminiscent of classic cartoons The animation in The Iron Giant pays homage to the golden age of animation, with a style that is reminiscent of classic cartoons. The voice cast includes Jennifer Aniston Jennifer Aniston provides the voice for Hogarth’s mother, Annie Hughes, in The Iron Giant. The Iron Giant has been compared to E.T. The Iron Giant has been compared to Steven Spielberg’s E.T. due to its heartwarming story and the friendship between a human and a supernatural being. The movie tackles themes of fear and prejudice The Iron Giant addresses the dangers of fear and prejudice, highlighting the importance of acceptance and understanding. The Iron Giant loves junkyard art The Iron Giant discovers his love for creating art from junk and transforms scrap metal into beautiful sculptures. The film’s soundtrack is composed by Michael Kamen Michael Kamen composed the score for The Iron Giant, adding to the film’s emotional imp