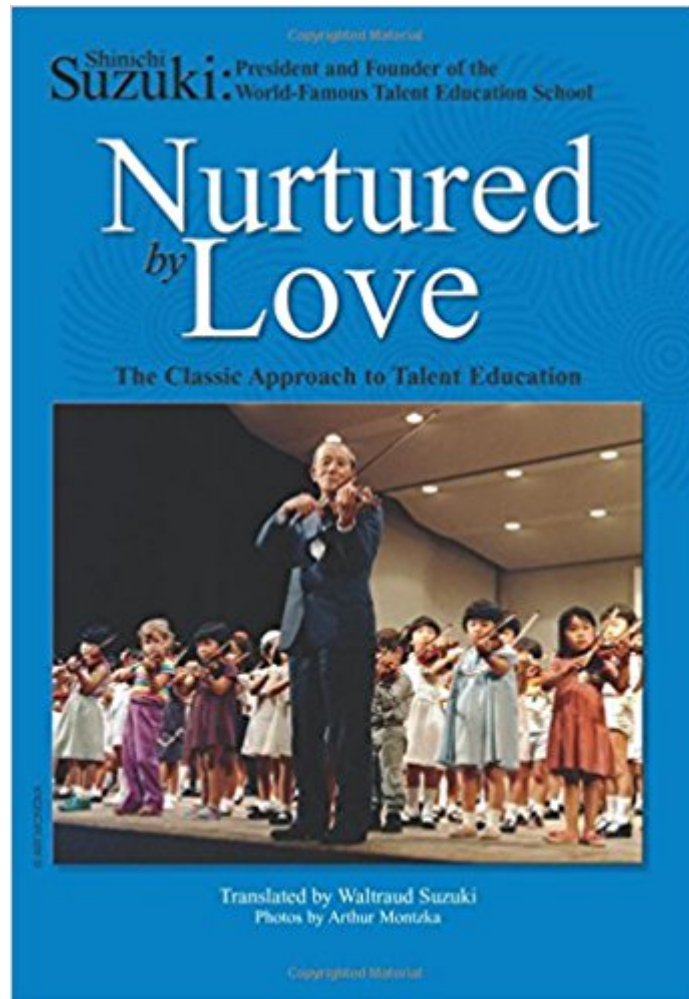


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Nurtured By Love: The Classic Approach To Talent Education



Synopsis

This book is the cornerstone upon which to build any Suzuki library. In it, the author presents the philosophy and principles of Suzuki's teaching methods. Through the examples from his own life and teaching, Suzuki establishes his case for early childhood education and the high potential of every human being---not just those seemingly gifted.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book by Shinichi Suzuki is part-description of the principles of his Talent Education method, part-snapshots of personal history, part-statements on his philosophy of life. It is written with great optimism and love for humane development of children into noble people. Based on his observation that all children speak their mother tongue fluently (and are thus highly capable to be educated in many disciplines) and on his belief that talent is not inherited but learned, Suzuki's method concentrates on creating the best environment for child development. His famous violin teaching method incorporates parent involvement, listening to the same piece many times and extensive practice, among others. Importance of memory training and good mentors (Einstein was one of Suzuki's) is stressed. Many real-life stories illustrate his points. By way of criticism, while themes of compassion and developing a noble character recur throughout the book, it takes some effort to piece it all together. The book reads like a series of short improvisations on the themes of love and rearing of children. The parts of personal history, for example, with the description of illness, war and Suzuki's father's starting violin manufacturing business, while interesting, do not blend with the rest of the book. A chapter entitled "If you think of something do it" has nothing to do with its title

(there is a chapter that talks about people of action in his other book, "Ability development from age zero", which repeats many of the stories verbatim). Some bits of Suzuki's take on life's truths, such as "an unfair advantage leads to evil" sound out of place. In spite of some shortcomings, I would recommend this book. Not as a practical guide, but as an inspirational material for parents.

I thought this would be a book about the Suzuki method of converting toddlers into musicians -- revealing some of the secrets about what makes the Suzuki method unique & what makes it effective. It was that, but much more. What I knew as the "Suzuki method," Shinichi Suzuki calls "Talent Education," based on the underlying philosophy that all children can be well-educated and all talent can be nurtured. Suzuki believes that talent is developed, not inherited; he believes in nurturing the talent in each child, in creating a culturally-supportive environment and coupling it with training to develop mediocrity into excellence. Suzuki explains how & why he developed "Talent Education," drawing on his own experiences as a musician and during WWII. His text is filled with anecdotes about students, many of whom became quite successful as musicians, many of whom teach at conservatories around the world. Suzuki's "method" includes focus not only on music, but also on character development -- on awareness, joy, integrity, courage. He believes that "However little talent one thinks he/she has, one should at least try". This book is easy to read, filled with stories & philosophy and bolstered by photographs here & there, inspiring joy in the reader.

As a child who grew up in the Suzuki Method of music education, and just in music education in general, (both of my parents are music teachers.) this book was wonderfully enlightening to read. It made me appreciate so much how fortunate I was to have been brought up in the wonderful world of music and Suzuki. But the book goes far beyond just being a book about music education; it applies to all of life. It really is a must-read for anyone with children, and especially those planning on having children. It is a very easy read; and will change your life.

I am new to Suzuki Violin and when my instructor assigned this book I thought I was going to read a book about music, but instead I read a book about how to live a beautiful life! What a great gift Suzuki was to the world -- I wish everyone could read his books -- it truly would be a better world as a result!

I recommend this book to anyone raising children!! This is not only a book about talent education and music learning, but a book about life and faith in humanity and children. What Mr. Shinichi Suzuki

contributed to the world with his findings is far beyond our comprehension, if every parent out there were to follow Mr. Suzuki's philosophy the world might be a very different place! Please do read this book, is life changing.

It's hard to imagine a relatively unknown, mild mannered, modest man, Shinichi Suzuki, could have such an impact. The book appearance is unimpressive and the copy not quite up to normal literary standards (roughly translated from Japanese), however, this all the more speaks to it's profound underlying message that somehow touched the untouchable core of my conscience. Not since my first exposure to classics such as "Utopia" or "Sidhartha" do I recall written word having this affect on me. I want more. I intend to read everything I can find that this man has written. This book shows how a simple man combines the love of children and love of art to formulate a philosophy to grow "beautiful people with high integrity regardless of their so-called innate abilities." A must read for any parent interested in the Suzuki Method of music instruction or any parent interested in getting back to the fundamentals of instilling good character into their children. I'm content in knowing that my four children will be raised under the influence of the principles imparted by Dr. Suzuki in this book. And I am confident that this influence will continue for generations to come long after he and I are gone

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