



Tale as Old as Time: The Art and Making of Beauty and the Beast

Charles Solomon

[Download now](#)

[Read Online ➔](#)

Tale as Old as Time: The Art and Making of Beauty and the Beast

Charles Solomon

Tale as Old as Time: The Art and Making of Beauty and the Beast Charles Solomon

The Beauty and the Beast legend has a universal appeal; the fairy tale exists in numerous versions throughout the world. During the process of being translated into a Disney film, Beauty and the Beast had several false starts. It was originally conceived as an eighteenth-century period piece, directed by the British husband-and-wife team of Richard and Jill Purdum. After some changes, two new directors, Kirk Wise and Gary Trousdale, were put in charge of the project. Although he was initially reluctant to do another animated film after *The Little Mermaid*, the late Howard Ashman came on board shortly after the new directors did. Over many months, the characters and story evolved further, but there were many changes, and wrong turns. Sequences were created, reworked, cut, and added as the film gradually emerged, like a statue from a block of marble.

After all of the ups and downs, *Beauty and the Beast* was released in 1991 to rave reviews and record-breaking box-office business. The film was widely hailed as a technical and aesthetic breakthrough and remains the only animated feature ever to be nominated for an Oscar for best picture. This authoritative book features interviews with artists, voice-over actors, and executives, and transcripts of meetings and story sessions. Illustrations abound throughout, including sketches, caricatures, sequences of animation drawings, and preliminary artwork from discarded scenes. This book will be a must-have for any fan of the "Tale as Old as Time."

Tale as Old as Time: The Art and Making of Beauty and the Beast Details

Date : Published August 31st 2010 by Disney Editions

ISBN : 9781423124818

Author : Charles Solomon

Format : Hardcover 176 pages

Genre : Art, Nonfiction



[Download Tale as Old as Time: The Art and Making of Beauty and t ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Tale as Old as Time: The Art and Making of Beauty and ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Tale as Old as Time: The Art and Making of Beauty and the Beast Charles Solomon

From Reader Review Tale as Old as Time: The Art and Making of Beauty and the Beast for online ebook

Elevetha says

Things I learned:

1. They argued a lot over this film. Tensions were very high. Much yelling. I don't know that I would have liked to be a part of it.
2. Don Bluth's idea for the retelling sounded so good. He was going off of G.K.'s quote, "A thing must be loved before it is lovable."
3. Making a movie is hard.
4. They trick you by putting the best concept art on page one.
5. I want more concept art. The text was good, but make the book twice as long and INCLUDE MORE CONCEPT ART PLEASE.
6. This was a *Art and Making of* Book.

Parka says

(More pictures at parkablogs.com)

This book reminded me of the oversized art books Disney used to publish for Mulan, Pocahontas, Hercules, etc. Although not as large as those predecessors, the feeling of familiarity really comes from the content. This is a Disney book after all.

There are plenty of beautiful art to be seen. The pages are filled with sketches, storyboards, animation drawings, production drawings, background art, photos of Disney artists at work. The print quality is nice.

A lot of names are mentioned and there's no doubt Disney has some of the most talented artists around. Story artist Brenda Chapman is amazing at capturing the nuances, expressions and feelings of the characters with her storyboards. There are also production paintings from Hans Bacher that set the visual style for the film. The animation line drawings from the animators are wonderful as well. Glen Keane designed the Beast, inspired by a buffalo head he bought from a taxidermist shop.

The commentary follows the production of the film, from the history to the reception after it was screened. It even covers the updated edition for IMAX and the additional footage added. The stories and interviews are interesting and as with every movie, you'll be able to read all about the challenges of making an animated film. There's also a chapter on the Broadway adaption.

This is a great book that I can easily recommend to animation art lovers.

Kelsie Gish says

This is my favorite Disney movie. I have watched the Behind-the-scenes features for "Beauty and the Beast" countless times as a child, and I STILL found so many things I didn't know by reading this book. The chapters are quick, but they're chalked full of wonderful little tid-bits on the people behind the movie, the technology used, and the changes made even after the release of the film.

It covers everything; storyboards, animating, composing, the broadway musical, and the live action. Whether you're a fan of the live action film or not (or you have a love hate relationship with it like I do) reading the creators' ideals to remake it with the best intentions is heartwarming.

The entire book is littered with gorgeous illustrations of storyboards, backgrounds, artists, and frames from the film. And of course, Howard Ashman gets the credit he deserves.

Ellen says

Aside from a few typos here and there, this was a beautiful, well-researched book.

Kelly K says

I love how this incorporated the making of the animated film, land in Walt Disney World, and the live action film adaptation. There was so much information on what was going on during its production as well as inspiration from the stories of the past.

Becca Kirkman says

If you LOVE the animated tale- this book provides an excellent non-fiction account of how the Disney's Beauty and the Beast came to be. There is so much packed into this book! I love the pictures of concept art, animation. This book is great because it includes the animated version, Broadway and the new live action. If you are a passionate Beauty and the Beast fan- this book is a must!

Emily says

I'm an expert on all things Beauty and the Beast but this had plenty of information about its creation to refresh my memory. Absolutely gorgeous artwork and pictures are paired with a comprehensive guide to the film's creation. I want this for my personal collection.

Nhi Nguy?n says

Là m?t fan cu?ng c?a câu chuy?n c? tích "Beauty and the Beast" c?ng nh? b? phim ho?t hình và b?n phim live-action c?a Disney, nên khi bi?t ??n cu?n sách này, tôi mua ngay không ch?n ch?. Cu?n sách không dày nh?ng có s?c n?ng l?n, khi nó tóm t?t l?i m?t cách chi ti?t cách mà nh?ng nhà làm phim Disney ?ã làm nên b? phim ho?t hình "Beauty and the Beast" n?i ti?ng c?a h? c?ng nh? b?n phim ng??i ?óng nh? th? nào, khi mà c?t truy?n Giai nhân yêu Quái v?t ?ã xu?t hi?n và ???c d?ng thành r?t nhi?u s?n ph?m ?i?n ?nh ? nhi?u qu?c gia khác nhau trên th? gi?i.

Câu chuy?n "Beauty and the Beast" ?ã có m?t trong nhi?u n?n v?n hóa d??i nh?ng d? b?n khác nhau, và l?n ??u tiên nó ???c xu?t b?n d??i d?ng sách là thông qua truy?n ng?n "Beauty and the Beast" c?a tác gi? ng??i Pháp Gabrielle-Suzanne Barbot de Villeneuve. Sau ?ó, b?n ti?u thuy?t ???c ch?p bút b?i Jeanne-Marie Leprince de Beaumont ?ã giúp câu chuy?n "Beauty and the Beast" tr?n n?i ti?ng toàn th? gi?i. N?m 1947, ??o di?n Jean Cocteau ng??i Pháp cho ra ??i m?t trong nh?ng b?n phim n?i ti?ng nh?t c?a câu chuy?n này, và t? ?ó, c?t truy?n "Beauty and the Beast" ?ã ???c Disney l?u t?m ??n. Qua nhi?u l?n h?p hành, l?a ch?n ??o di?n, ch?nh s?a k?ch b?n, “??p ?i làm l?i”, th? và sai, mãi t?i n?m 1991, Disney m?i có th? cho xu?t x??ng b?n phim ho?t hình c?a "Beauty and the Beast" do chính h? làm. ?ó là k?t tinh công s?c c?a hàng tr?m h?a s? cùng r?t nhi?u cái ??u t? duy khác, mong mu?n ?em l?i cái nh?n m?i m? cho m?t c?t truy?n ?ã quá ph? bi?n, nh?ng v?n l?u gi? ???c tinh th?n và th??ng hi?u c?a phim ho?t hình Disney, c?ng nh? nh?ng tinh hoa và ý ngh?a tuy?t v?i c?a câu chuy?n g?c: ??ng có tr?ng m?t mà b?t hình dong, và tình yêu có th? ch?a lành t?t c?, k? c? m?t t?m h?n x?u xí nh?ng bi?t h?i c?i và thay ??i ?? ???c y?u th??ng.

??c cu?n sách này, tôi m?i th?m th?a ???c s? công phu c?a quá trình làm n?n m?t b? phim ho?t hình ch?n chu, khi mà m?i nh?n v?t ??u ph?i ???c t?o hình riêng, có h?a s? chuy?n ??ng chuy?n v? chuy?n ??ng cho nh?n v?t, và c? m?t ??i ng? h?a s? chuy?n lo ph?n khung c?nh cho b? phim. ??i ng? làm phim ho?t hình "Beauty and the Beast" c?a Disney ?ã ph?i c?i nhau r?t nhi?u, th?m chí có l?c ý t??ng h? ??a ra kh?ng ???c ch?p nh?n, ?i vào ngõ c?t, và h? bu?c ph?i ??n Pháp th?c ??a ?? l?y ý t??ng m?i. Và t? ?ó, r?t nhi?u th? c?a b? phim ho?t hình, r?t nhi?u quy?t ??nh li?n quan ??n t?o hình và t?nh cách nh?n v?t ?ã ???c hé l?. Cu?n sách nói v? vi?c các nh? làm phim quy?t ??nh t?o ?i?m th?m t?nh cách cho nh?n v?t Belle nh? th? nào, ?? bi?n n?ng tr? thành m?t phi?n b?n n? chính th? v? h?n, ph? h?p h?n v?i th?i ??i m?i.

Không c?n là m?t c?o g?i ch? bi?t nhu mì, hi?n th?c nh? trong b?n truy?n g?c, Belle c?a Disney c?a t?nh h?n, bi?t kh?ng ??nh c?i t?i h?n. N?ng là m?t c?o g?i ?am m?e sách v?, kh?t khao m? m?ng v? m?t cu?c s?ng kh?c b?n ngo?i ng?i l?ng Villeneuve t?nh l?, nh?ng v?n l?u n?n là m?t n?ng Giai nh?n xinh ??p ?óng theo t?nh th?n c?a b?n truy?n g?c. Cu?n sách c?n d?nh ra nguy?n m?t ch??ng ?? nói v? ý t??ng t?o hình c?ng nh? vi?c x?y d?ng th?n th?i, t?nh cách cho nh?n v?t Beast. Trong ???ng h??ng làm phim c?a Disney, Beast ch?nh là linh h?n c?a câu chuy?n, là k? l?u b? gi?ng x?e gi?a ph?n th? và ph?n ng??i. B? phim ho?t hình "Beauty and the Beast" tr??c h?t l? b? phim v? m?t câu chuy?n t?nh yêu, nh?ng n? c?ng l? b? phim v? c?i cách mà Beast, d?n d?n, t?ng qua t?nh yêu d?nh cho Belle, ?ã thay ??i b?n th?n và ?ánh b?i c?i m?c “quái v?t” ???c g?n cho m?n nh? th? nào.

V?i mong mu?n bi?n phim ho?t hình "Beauty and the Beast" tr?n th? thành m?t b? phim ?m nh?c, m?t vi?n ng?c ch?i s?ng n?a trên chi?c v??ng mi?n cao quý c?a Disney, h?ng ?ã m?i Alan Menken vi?t nh?c và Howard Ashman vi?t l?i cho các ca kh?c trong phim. Trong ?ó, n?i ti?ng nh?t ph?i nói ??n bài hát "Beauty and the Beast" t?ng tên v?i b? phim, m?t kh?c ca gi?n d?, ch?n th?c mà tuy?t ??p, miêu t? ch?nh xác nh?ng g?i ?ã và ?ang di?n ra b?n trong m?i quan h? gi?a Belle và Beast c?nh c? hai khi?u v? trong t?o l?u ?ài (???c xem l? c?nh ??p nh?t c?a c? b? phim, l? c?nh “n ti?n” khi c? kh?n gi? có th? th?y ???c, Belle và Beast ?ã y?u nhau sau c?i thu? ban ??u ??y nh?ng hi?u l?m). Th? nh?ng th?t ?óng ti?c, ??i th?c kh?ng nh? l? truy?n c? t?ch, Howard Ashman ?ã qua ??i do bi?n ch?ng c?a c?n b?nh HIV/AIDS ? tu?i 40 tr??c khi có th? ???c t?n m?t nh?n th?y th?n qu? c?a m?n ??c xu?t x??ng và tung h? b?i c?i nh? ph? b?n l?n kh?n gi?.

"Beauty and the Beast" có l? c?ng s? ch? là m?t b? phim ho?t hình hay n?a c?a Disney, n?u nh? không nh? vào tài n?ng vi?t nh?c c?a Alan Menken và ??c bi?t là c?a Howard Ashmen, ng??i ?ã th?i h?n vào m?t câu chuy?n ?ã quá ph? bi?n ?? nâng t?m nó tr? thành m?t tác ph?m ??c nh?t vô nh?, cu?n hút lòng ng??i, m?t tuy?t tác ho?t hình c?a nhân lo?i. Bài hát "Beauty and the Beast" ?ã tr? thành bi?u t??ng m?i khi nh?c ??n b? phim cùng tên c?a Disney. Và bài hát ?y ?ã mang v? cho Alan Menken và Howard Ashman gi?i Oscars ? h?ng m?c Best Original Song n?m 1992 (n?m ?ó "Beauty and the Beast" có ??n t?n 3 bài hát ???c ?? c? ? h?ng m?c này). Th?t ?au lòng khi Howard Ashman không th? b??c l?n s?n kh?u nh?n gi?i th??ng vì ông ?ã qua ??i, và ng??i b?n ??i c?a ông, Bill Lauch (t?i d?ng t? b?n ??i vì theo ti?ng Anh là ch? "partner", ch? th?i ?ó th? M? ch?a h?p th?c hóa h?n nh?n ??ng t?nh), ?ã l?n b?c nh?n thay (xem video trao gi?i ? ?ây: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bntiz...>).

Tr??c ?ây, m?i l?n nghe bài hát "Beauty and the Beast", t?i luôn r?ng r?ng n??c m?t v? s? ??p ?? và hoàn h?o c?a nó, m?t b?n t?ng ca d?nh cho m?t t?nh yêu v?t l?n t?n nh?ng ??nh ki?n và ?ánh giá v? v? b? ngoài. Gi? ?ây, t?i c?ng v?n r?ng r?ng n??c m?t khi nghe bài hát, nh?ng kh?ng ch? là v? nét ??p trong ca t?, mà c?n l? v? s? ph?n oan nghi?t c?a tài n?ng ??ng ??ng sau bài hát, m?t con ng??i ?ã c?ng hi?n t?m huy?t c?a m?nh cho ?i?n ?nh c?a nhân lo?i, nh?ng r?t cu?c ?ã kh?ng th? s?ng n?i ??n ng?y t?n h??ng th?n qu? do m?nh t?o ra. Disney và c? th? gi?i ch?c ch?n s? m?nh? n m?t Howard Ashman ?ã t?n t?i tr?n ??i, ?ã theo ?u?i ?am m?e, ?ã l?m vi?c và s?ng t?c, ?? ch?ng ta c? ???c m?t "Beauty and the Beast" nh? ng?y h?m nay, m?t câu chuy?n ??c k? b?ng l?i ca dung d? mà s?u s?c, th?m ??m gi? tr? nhân v?n c?ng nh?ng bài h?c kh?ng bao gi? c?.

Thành công c?a b? phim ho?t hình "Beauty and the Beast" l? k?t qu? hoàn toàn x?ng ?áng cho nh?ng g?i mà ??i ng? l?m phim ?ã b? ra ?? hoàn th?n t?c ph?m này. Nh?ng khung h?m trau chu?t, nh?ng chuy?n ??ng m?m m?i, h?i h?o, k?t h?p gi?a nét v? tay c?ng vi?c s? d?ng nh?ng công ngh? m?i nh?t trong l?nh v?c l?m phim ho?t hình và m?t chi?n l??c marketing v?c t?ng th?nh minh ?ã khi?n cho kh?ng ch? nh?ng nh?nh ph? b?nh ?i?n ?nh m?nh c?n kh?n gi? ph?i nh?n nh?n l?i gi? tr? c?a phim ho?t hình tr?n b?n ?? ?i?n ?nh th? gi?i. Phim ho?t hình t? tr??c ?ó t?i khi "Beauty and the Beast" ra m?t ?ã l?n b? xem l?n t? th? lo?i "v? va v? v?n cho con n?t xem", ch?a bao gi? ???c coi tr?ng nh? l?n t? th? lo?i phim c?ng ?y ngh?a, s?c n?ng v?c t?nh ngh? thu?t, x?ng ?áng ??c ?? c? chung v?i nh?ng b? phim ng??i ?óng. ?y v?y mà "Beauty and the Beast" ?ã l?m ???c ?i?u ?ó, ?ã tr? th?n b? phim ho?t hình ??u t?n ??c ?? c? ? h?ng m?c Best Picture - h?ng m?c danh gi? nh?t - t?i Oscars n?m 1992. V? d?u b? phim kh?ng th? chi?n th?ng (?i?u ?ã ???c d? b?o t? tr??c), th? "Beauty and the Beast" v?n l? m?t b? phim mang t?nh ??t ph? quan tr?ng c?a ?i?n ?nh th? gi?i, ?ánh d?u s? ph? v? c?c ??nh ki?n v?n ?ã t?n t?i r?t l?u d?nh cho phim ho?t hình.

V? b?n live-action th? kh?i ph?i n?i, t?i ?ã th?ch m?nh ngay t? l?n xem ??u t?n, v? ?ã xem l?i th?m hai l?n n?a. D? n?i nh?n, kh?ng c? g?i c? th? s?nh ??c v?i b?n phim ho?t hình v?n ?ã tr? th?n huy?n tho?i, v? gi?ng h?t c?a Emma Thompson, d?u c? ng?t ng?o v?c dung d? ??n ?âu, v?n kh?ng th? n?o s?nh ??c v?i Angela Lansbury, ng??i ?ã th? hi?n qu? s?c th?n công bài hát "Beauty and the Beast" trong vai Bà Potts ? b?n phim ho?t hình. Th? nh?ng, v?n c? nh?i?u ?i?u th? v? v?c m?i m? ?? n?i v? "Beauty and the Beast" b?n live-action, nh?t l? quy?t ??nh th?m th?t v?i chi ti?t kh?c ?? ?ào s?u th?m h?m t??ng nh?n v?t m? Disney ?ã x?y d?ng ? b?n phim ??u t?n. B?n live-action kh?m phá nh?i?u h?n m?i quan h? gi?a Belle v?c cha m?nh - ông Maurice, c? th?m c?nh Belle ???c tr? v? l?i m?i nh?n x?a ? Paris, khi b?nh d?ch h?ch ?ang ho?n h?nh v?c cu?i c?ng c??p ?i m?ng s?ng c?a m? c?c. Ngoài ra, ? b?n live-action, kh?n gi? c?n ???c bi?t th?m v? v? Ho?n t? thu? b?, ng??i sau n?y b? tr?ng ph?t b?ng l?i nguy?n bi?n anh th?n Quái V?t. B?n live-action c? b? sung th?m 2 bài hát m?i so v?i b?n ho?t hình g?c, ?ó l? "Days in the sun" v? "Evermore" cho ph? h?p v?i nh?ng chi ti?t ???c th?m th?t v?c m? r?ng.

Th?ng tin v? b?n live-action ch? ???c th? hi?n ? m?t ch??ng, nh?ng kh?ng v?i th? m? t??ng v? b? phim c? ph?n n?o l?p v? so v?i b?n ho?t hình. Ng??c l?i, ch? v?i v?c tr?ng s?ch, t?c gi? Charles Solomon ?ã cung c?p cho ng??i ??c c?i nh?n v?c t?ng chi ti?t v? nh?ng di?n bi?n quan tr?ng trong su?t qu? tr?nh l?m b?n live-

action, thông qua nh?ng chia s? c?a các di?n viên và ??o di?n. Tôi bi?t ???c cái cách anh Dan Stevens ?ã hóa thân thành Beast nh? th? nào, c? nh?ng khó kh?n anh ph?i tr?i qua khi vào vai m?t nhân v?t mà ph?n l?n th?i l??ng phim ???c t?o hình thông qua CGI (Computer Generated Imagery).

Dan Stevens ?ã ph?i ?i cà kheo trong ?a s? các c?nh quay c?a mình, ??c bi?t ? c?nh khiêu v? trong tòa lâu ?ài - c?nh “n ti?n” ? c? b?n phim g?c l?n b?n live-action - anh c?ng ph?i khiêu v? cùng Emma Watson trên cà kheo. Nh?ng ?ó ch? m?i là ph?n quay các chuy?n ??ng c?a nhân v?t thôi nh?_. 2 tu?n sau, anh ph?i quay l?i c?nh này, nh?ng là quay c? ??ng c?a khu?n m?t, bu?c anh ph?i ??ng yên m?t ch?, nh?ng v? m?t ph?i toát l?n ???c n?i t?m, c?m nh?n c?a nhân v?t Beast ? c?nh ?ang khiêu v?. Quá là công phu lu?n! G?p tôi ch?c tôi là bó tay r?i :D Ch?a k? nh?ng d?ng c?, trang ph?c anh khoác l?n mình khi ?óng vai Beast lu?n là nh?ng th? c?ng k?nh và g?y ?au ch?n r?t nhi?u, trong khi anh Dan Stevens th? có ph?i là d?ng ?àn ông vai u th?t b?p g?i ?âu c? ch?. Th? m?i bi?t, ?? làm ???c thành công m?t b? phim nh? th? này ph?i t?n bi?t bao công s?c c?a c? ??i ng? s?n xu?t l?n di?n viên...

?ây là m?t cu?n sách ??p và tràn ng?p thông tin dành cho nh?ng ai mu?n t?m hi?u và tr?i nghi?m quá trình làm phim *“Beauty and the Beast”* v?c cùng công phu. 180 trang v?a ch? v?a hình, in trên gi?y couché bóng lo?ng, l?ng o, ??p kh?ng th? t? ???c. ??c bi?t, ??c gi? s? ??c nhìn th?y hàng ch?c b?c phác h?a các nhân v?t, khung c?nh trong phim c?ng nh? di?n bi?n câu chuy?n, c? nh? th? mình ?ang l?t vào trong th? gi?i c? tích nhi?m màu c?ng v?i Belle và Beast, hay là c?ng ?ang tham gia vào quá trình làm phim ?y, th?c vô c?ng!!! Tên c?a các ch??ng là nh?ng câu trong l?i bài hát *“Beauty and the Beast”* n?a ch? ahhh!!! Ai là fan ru?t c?a *“Beauty and the Beast”* th? nh?t ??nh ph?i ??c cu?n này ?ó!!! :D

Molly says

Not the best as Disney art-books go, but still... pretty great.

Jesten says

Very informative, journalistic and interesting. I loved every second of reading this book.

Kate says

If your looking for an amazing art book, then DON'T buy this book. This book has very little art of the film 'Beauty and the Beast'. I purchased this book because I though it would follow a similar format of the Studio Ghibli art books, but I was wrong. This book explains in detail the entire history and making of the Disney film production of 'Beauty and the Beast', from the deveoplement of the morderen day version of the fairy tale from the earliest original copy, to the progression of 'Beauty and the Beast' as a Broadway production. This book reveals the uncertain and caotic atmosphere that surrounded Disney at the time of this films making. This book even goes as far as to go into detail about the Disney Take over in the 80's and the era of Disney animation that is not remembered very fondly. Even though I found most of the information interesting and by the end I had really settled in to the idea of having to 'read' this book, this book is NOT an art book, and I dont believe it should have been marketed as one.

Jenan says

A good book for the fans of Beauty and the Beast. It tells how all of it started and how they created the movies.

Stefanie says

Loved this; after all beauty and the beast (animated) is my all time favourite movie.

Mireille Duval says

What a truly stunning, magnificent, wonderful book. I'm a fan of the series of books "The Art Of...", but this is much, much more than that. An honest tale of the creation of this classic movie, with all the stops and stalls, the problems, the fighting, and the moments of glory. It's filled with wonderful images, but even more wonderful text (I'm not that visual a person!). The fact that it was written twenty years after the release allows for more distance, more honesty, plus talk of the Broadway show, the 3D rerelease, etc. I feel like I already knew much of the story, thanks to DVD/Blu-ray releases that are also tremendously filled with bonus features, but it was a pleasure to read / look at all the same. One of my favorite tidbits was Brenda Chapman's involvement in it - with few ladies on a team creating a romance, it was nice to see her influence, particularly now that we know she went on to direct *Brave*. It's also pretty funny to know that the boys sneaked the snow fight in "Something There" on a day she was out sick!

I'm so glad that such a book exists for my favorite Disney movie. If you like Disney animation at all, getting this is a no-brainer.

Bonnie (A Backwards Story) says

I've always been a Disney girl. Growing up, Belle was one of my favorite princesses. As a kid, I had a prop box full of things like a fake rose in a vase, my old Dorothy Halloween costume (it looked enough like Belle's blue dress to me), and a stuffed My Little Pony tied to a stick that I would pull out whenever I wanted to play. I had recorded Beauty and the Beast off the TV onto a cassette tape and written out every line of Belle's (and the prompt beforehand) with my pink, purple, and blue Lisa Frank pens (the third color for the song lyrics, the others for the aforementioned two line types). I recently found that notebook, too, and can't bring myself to throw it away! I would become Belle in my room back before I even knew what "acting" or "stage theatre" was. Belle had brown hair like me and read a lot the way I did and her name also started with a "B." I loved Belle. I wanted to be her when I grew up.

Today, I still hold a soft spot for the character; several figurines of her (and Ariel, my other favorite) adorn my dresser. The moment I laid eyes on *Tale as Old as Time: The Art and Making of Beauty and the Beast* at my local B&N, I knew I had to have it. Its looks alone drew me over to it. The cover is purple--my favorite color--and has the scene of Belle and Beast dancing. The rose is etched in gold on the back cover. Not only

that, the movie just re-released on Blu-Ray, meaning interest in the movie is once again at an all-time high. Disney knew I would want this gorgeous tome. The only drawback is the fact that the retail price is \$40, which is pretty steep if a good sale isn't going on. The money is worth it, though, because every page is high-quality and the photographs are vivid and full.

This book is like looking into a little piece of history. If you like documentaries like *A Pixar Story* (on the *Wall-E* DVD and on TV sometimes) or *Waking Sleeping Beauty* (on DVD Nov. 30), you'll love this book. It's a written documentary. Every chapter uses a line from one of the song's many songs, which is genius in and of itself. The book begins by talking about the legend of *Beauty and the Beast* and quickly moves into preliminary work on how Disney began creating its own version. There are sketches of early versions that reveal a very different look at the world we've come to know and love. If these plans had gone ahead, the movie wouldn't be what it is today.

Looking at early artwork made me feel privileged. How often do we get to see everything a studio scraps before coming up with the final, polished version? I especially loved the close-up of what went into creating the beast. He was re-tooled so many times, and I never really thought about **WHAT** kind of creature he was before. *Beast* is a true hybrid; he borrows his body parts from so many different animals. (A preview of early *Beast* concepts and a look into character artist Glen Keane's thought-process is available in the Fall issue of *Disney 23* magazine [the one with *Tangled* on the cover], which may still be at your local magazine stand.)

The book is also full of fun, little-known facts about our beloved movie. For example, if you didn't watch all of the bonuses that came with your *Enchanted* DVD, you may not know that the Disney Studios ran out of time and money when they were making *Beauty and the Beast*. Rather than turn in something bad or rushed that was obvious to the audience, they recycled artwork from earlier movies such as *Sleeping Beauty* and *Bambi*. The famous waltz scene at the end of both movies is an exact duplicate. The original cells from *SB* were copied and the images were adjusted to feature *Belle* and *Beast* (In fact, you can see a really good side-by-side comparison [here](#)). The deer at the beginning of the movie are from *Bambi* (as are the deer from *The Fox and the Hound*).

There is so much wonderful information in this art book. It's a true treasure for all Disney connoisseurs and a rare look at the inner workings that led to one of the all-time greatest animated movies ever made.
