

(Free) The Soul of a Tree: A Woodworker's Reflections

The Soul of a Tree: A Woodworker's Reflections

George Nakashima

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#1152974 in Books Kodansha America 1981-10-01Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal
language:EnglishPDF # 1 #File Name: 0870114824221 pageshard cover with dust jacketwoodworker's
reflections | File size: 32.Mb

George Nakashima : The Soul of a Tree: A Woodworker's Reflections before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Soul of a Tree: A Woodworker's Reflections:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The Soul of Woodworking contained within - Breath taking.By Jake BurroughsFox's "Strange Inheritance" was the inspiration for getting this book. Wow, makes me seriously take up wood working. What great great man George was and his work will live long in our found memories of beautiful functional furniture. Thank you.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Tree HuggerBy Honest ReviewerWow! What a phenominal book!!I think this book (or at least the Introduction) should be required reading for every woodworker, professional or amateur. "There are trees... which in their single lives have spanned the entire history of civilized man. We woodworkers have the audacity to shape timber from these noble trees." When I read this, I knew that George Nakashima had indeed touched (and been touched by) the Soul of a Tree.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great read!By J. BrownI'm a part-time woodworker, of course dreaming (as many do) of becoming full-time. The past couple years I've been getting more into live-edge furniture and found myself constantly looking at examples of George Nakashima. It was too long after I started down that road, that I discovered his "The Soul of a Tree" book, and quickly ordered it. The book is amazing. Not only insightful of George's life growing up, and world adventures, but his philosophies of what he believed furniture should be. I learned a lot from his knowledge and this book. I highly recommend it to anyone who enjoys reading about an interesting man, as well as learning about

his ideas on furniture.

On a farmlike compound near New Hope, Pennsylvania, George Nakashima, his family, and fellow wood-workers create exquisite furniture from richly grained, rare timber. Tables, desks, chairs, and cabinets from this simple workshop grace the homes and mansions and executive boardrooms of people who prize such excellence. In this lavishly illustrated volume, George Nakashima allows us in intimate look at his artistry, his philosophy, his life. It is the portrait of an artisan who strives to find the ideal use for each plank in order to "create an object of utility to man and, if nature smiles, an object of lasting beauty." The author's search for the meaning of life took him as a young man to Paris, Tokyo, and Pondicherry, India. In India, he found the inner peace for which he had been searching and began to find ways to work with timber. He writes movingly about the grandeur of ancient trees and stunning figured woods and explains how he selects and prepares his materials. Above all, he impresses us with his devotion to discovering the inherent beauty of wood so that noble trees might have a second life as furniture. *The Soul of a Tree* looks at the world through the eyes of an artist and evokes the joy of living in harmony with nature.