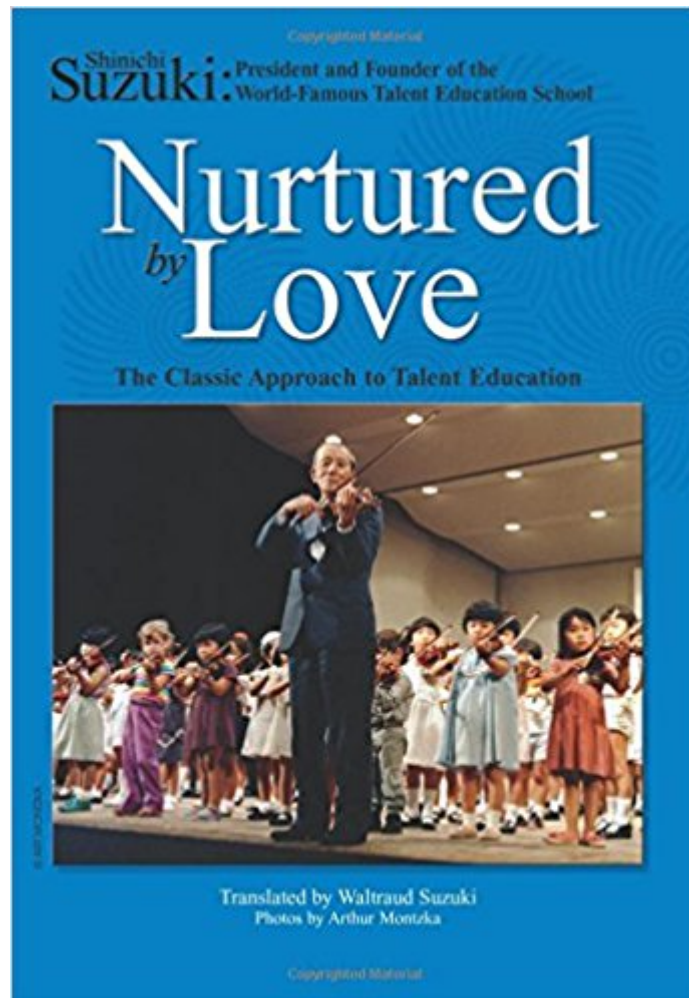




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# Nurtured By Love: The Classic Approach To Talent Education



## 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

Text: English (translation) Original Language: Japanese

This isn't about Suzuki's pedagogy, it's about his philosophical principles, and his ideas about music education making people into better human beings ring true. It's a great reminder for any of us teaching those kids who are forced into it by their parents, that they will be fundamentally changed for the better, by experiencing the culture of learning to play an instrument. There are several truly inspirational anecdotes, such as the story of a young girl whose right side was near paralysed, and who overcame the neurological disorder and subsequently became a professional. Whether you're just starting your own studio or thinking about retirement, this book really helps to reaffirm why we teach music, why we're musicians, and just how much we can contribute to society in this role.

As a new "Suzuki" parent, I was so delighted to discover Dr. Suzuki's book and philosophy - that anything can be learned. The Suzuki method is not so much about training violin prodigies as it is

about developing what he calls "noble feelings" basically character: discipline, concentration, work ethic, values etc. What more can parents want for their child? This is not a scientific book -- it's obviously his opinion that "nurture" is more important than "nature" (i.e. talent is learned not something that you are born with) and there are some things he says that time has proven wrong (the part about the wolf-children for instance which later was revealed as a hoax.) However, I found his story and philosophy very inspiring and with many elements that made a lot of sense. I highly recommend this book for (and his attitude) for parents (and teachers) whether their kids are taking violin lessons or not.

Suzuki had a big idea. My children's violin teacher recommended this book to me. Mr. Suzuki's desire to bring out the best in all children impressed me. I enjoyed reading how thoughtful he was when he was approached by the parents of a blind child and later the parents of a child who had suffered a stroke and struggled to hold onto the bow. It inspired me to think about my children's music education in a broader way.

This must read book for any new Suzuki Parents, unveils the founding principals of the Suzuki Movement. Here you will find the words of Dr. Suzuki and understand how the educational movement which he sparked was formed historically. It is an easy-read in that it is divided into fairly short topics, and due to the fact that Dr. Suzuki was certainly one to emphasize what he felt was important by re-stating it repeatedly throughout the book. His words were translated from Japanese into English by his native German wife, Waltraud, so the text at times doesn't seem to flow smoothly. This book has been quoted in numerous other Suzuki books and publications. I have found myself coming back to it and finding new snippets of wisdom. The encouraging words and loving, child-centered approach to raising our future generations, that Dr. Suzuki speaks of are still very relevant today.

I had heard so much about the Suzuki Method for learning music that I wanted to learn more about the man who started it all. Master Suzuki discovered a powerful truth: All Japanese children speak perfectly their language! He sought out to understand how this was achieved and then he designed a method by which the children could learn a second language (music) in the same way and with the same ease. The result is the Suzuki Method for learning music. I consider that all music teachers should study this method to be able to achieve more from their students. I highly recommend this book to all music teachers at all levels.

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.

This book is essential reading for those who would like to teach their young child to play violin using the Suzuki Method. I was skeptical having assisted my own son with practicing his violin from age 4 - 18. He plays beautifully now but it would have been EASIER for both of us had I read this book when he first began Suzuki violin. In life we rarely get "do overs" but I got a chance to read the book so that my granddaughter could take the Suzuki class at Delta College Kids College and what a difference it makes. Plus it is an interesting read just for history's sake. Get it!

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