

**Miyori in the Sacred Forest** Screening on Feb 18  
*(Miyori no mori)*

*Color animation / Vista / 2007 / 116 min / Fuji Television Network, Nippon Animation*

Director: Yamamoto Nizo

Script: Okudera Satoko

Based on the manga by: Oda Hideji

**Cast (voices):**

Aoi Yu (Miyori), Ichihara Etsuko (Grandmother) and others

**Synopsis:**

Miyori and her parents go to the country to visit her grandparents, but her father and mother bicker the entire time. Miyori's mother shows no interest in the countryside, while her father is preoccupied with his job in advertising. They don't notice when Miyori goes missing, but the grandparents' dog Kuro goes in search of her. She is playing with a tiny bear in front of a giant cherry-blossom tree; the bear grows in size until it towers over Kuro, whose fur turns white in fear. A female spirit in the tree tells Miyori that the forest will be hers.

Ten years later, Miyori's parents have split and Miyori's preoccupied father is bringing her to live with her grandparents. Miyori is angry about being sent to the countryside when she would rather stay in Tokyo. That night, as she sleeps, a river spirit slips up to the veranda of the house. She follows it into the woods and meets a group of spirits who greet her as a long-lost friend. She is dismissive of them, and Kanoko is amazed that she is to be the guardian of the forest, succeeding her grandmother.

One day, by chance, Miyori goes down a forbidden path to a pond where a ghostly woman in white befriends her. From her, Miyori learns that the entire region will be flooded by a dam project. When researchers arrive to determine the feasibility of the dam project, Miyori and her friends hatch a plot: if they can find a golden eagle, an endangered species, the dam project will have to be halted.