

I was born in 1974.

The movie E.T. was very popular during my elementary school years.

However, my interest in films began with Sylvester Stallone's "Rambo." (Since I wasn't allowed to go to the cinema as an elementary school student, I read the Japanese translation of the novel.)

In 1987, a video recorder (VHS!) finally arrived at our house, and a video store opened in our neighborhood.

Until then, I could only watch movies on television (back then, Hollywood movies were shown in Japan from Thursday to Sunday starting at 9 p.m.).

We only had one television in the living room, and of course, there was also a video recorder. This meant that my parents and my sister watched the videos I rented. I rented videos for the whole family.

I could never have watched TOROMA with my family...

I could never have watched John Waters with my family...

Ultimately, back then I only rented and watched classics: John Wayne, Chaplin, Audrey Hepburn, GONE WITH THE WIND, Hitchcock... I watched these so-called masterpieces and the films that were very popular at the time.

When I finally turned 15 and my parents allowed me to watch videos after the family was asleep, I finally started watching the films that interested me. These were Romero, The Exterminator, Mad Max, Cronenberg, Freddy, Jason, Michael Myers, DEATH WISH, EL TOPO, John Woo... It would never end, so I'll stop now.

And so I've grown old to this day without ever really becoming an adult.

Looking back, I'm really glad I watched the classics before. It helped me understand what constitutes good quality. That was incredibly important for me to navigate life.