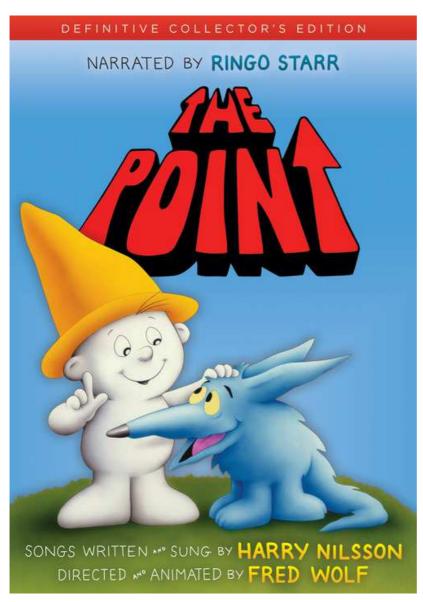
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The Point starring Harry Nilsson and Ringo Starr



The Point [directed by Fred Wolf; featuring Harry Nilsson] (MVD Visual)

Oh wow, oh wow! How cool is it to have - finally! - my very own copy of the 'The Point' on DVD that I can watch over and over again, anytime I want? The answer: none more cool. 'The Point' is the Holy Grail of animated films in many ways, a long-lost feature from the early 1970s that played a huge role in my personal development as a child. Legendary singer/songwriter Harry Nilsson conceived of 'The Point' and crafted an almost impossibly good soundtrack seriously, any all-time Top Ten lists that omit 'Me And My Arrow' should be dismissed immediately - while animation superstar Fred Wolf ('Puff The Magic Dragon', 'Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles') both directed the film and oversaw an immensely talented crew that brought the film to life. Now, thanks to the good folks at MVD Visual, 'The Point' is available as a 'definitive collector's edition', with both the visual and audio aspects restored and remastered to perfection, for a whole new generation of kids to discover. The film itself is a story within a story, whereby a caring father (voiced by Ringo Starr of The Beatles) reads to his young son (voiced by Mike Lookinland, aka Bobby on TV's 'The Brady Bunch') the tale of a young boy named Oblio (also voiced by Lookinland) who is the first person born without a point on his head in a village centered around the fact that everything has - literally - a point. Oblio is discharged from the village after an altercation with the son of an important (and evil) figure in the local government, and makes his way with his trusty, and pointy, dog, Arrow - through the Pointless Forest, where he encounters all sorts of things and people and creatures that are strange and new to him. The journey, naturally, has a point. And that is the point of the film: that



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everything has a point. The beauty of 'The Point' is the double-meaning of 'having a point', and the lessons taught herein are as timeless as they are important. With Nilsson's stirring, evocative songs lighting the path, Oblio makes his journey and shares his wisdom with his community. As an animated film ostensibly designed for children, 'The Point' is cute, fun, and educational. As an animated film that can – and should – be not just viewed but flat-out devoured by adults, 'The Point' serves to remind us all of an unfettered morality that is more important than any dogma or other construct – wrapped in the candy-coated shell of a captivating, and somewhat psychedelic (in the fashion of the times), piece of animation that must be seen to be believed. The DVD serves up some amazing bonus features, including one centered on Nilsson and three focusing on the film, as an extra incentive – as if anyone should need such a thing! – to check out 'The Point'. Final thoughts? Oh wow, oh wow, oh wow! The Impaler @impalerspeaks

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