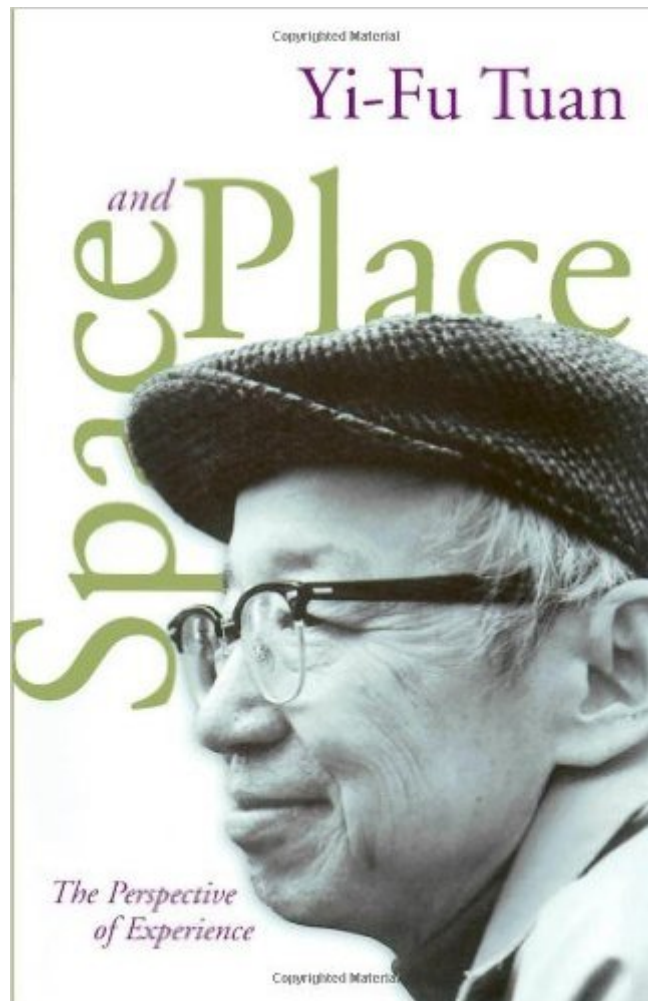


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# Space And Place: The Perspective Of Experience



## Synopsis

A study of the ways in which people feel and think about space, how they form attachments to home, neighborhood, and nation, and how feelings about space and place are affected by the sense of time. Since it is the breadth and universality of his argument that concerns Yi-Fu Tuan, experience is defined as "all the modes by which a person knows and constructs reality," and examples are taken with equal ease from non-literate cultures, from ancient and modern oriental and western civilizations, from novels, poetry, anthropology, psychology, and theology. The result is a remarkable synthesis, which reflects well the subtleties of experience and yet avoids the pitfalls of arbitrary classification and facile generalization. For these reasons, and for its general tone and erudition and humanism, this book will surely be one that will endure when the current flurry of academic interest in environmental experience abates. • Canadian Geographer

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book was one of several books I studied to better understand the role of place in architecture and interior design. It helped me understand the importance of working with clients to understand the meanings they infer from the environment around them. In the book, Tuan highlights the importance of meaning and an insider's view. He describes place as humanized space. The contrast of open space with enclosed, comforting areas enhances both. As a person's emotional bond to a space increases, so do familiarity, comfort, and the sense of insiderness. Without personal control over space, this emotional bond is slow to develop. To create place, Tuan suggests that

memorable architecture should strengthen our memories, enhance the self, and provide layers of meaning to a space.

This is a seminal text which offers insight into how we are awakened as children to the complex world which exists around, how we navigate, read and attribute meaning to the abstract spaces and places within which we exist. It opens a door to the genetic knowledge which is embedded in everything which exists around and how through our senses even the perception of time and space can be warped by experience. "The aspects of things that are most important for us are hidden because of their simplicity and familiarity" L. Wittgenstein. As a thesis [here I stand] it is a delight, fundamental and engaging. It illuminates a wide and fertile field critical to an understanding how we are rooted to place and space. There are books you read, then there are those which - live with you - you keep them close and consult them often.

In "Space and Place: The Perspective of Experience," Tuan provides a descriptive account of the concepts "space" and "place," drawing on the work of phenomenologists, anthropologists, psychologists, geographers, and others. He grounds his analysis in a structuralist framework, using anthropological research to illustrate how our experiences of space and place can "transcend cultural particularities" (Tuan 1977, p. 5). Tuan provides an original and intriguing discussion of a wide range of topics, such as the relationship between space and place, on the one hand, and myths, architecture, time, religion, and cognition, on the other. I would highly recommend this work to anyone interested in human geography, cultural geography, urban geography, urban studies, and to anyone interested in gaining a better understanding of the importance of space and place for our lives.

This is an important book. If you're here, then you probably know why. However, my review will focus on the kindle edition format, not the content itself. It is for this reason I gave it four stars. I have an old black n white kindle, which handles the text fine. However, there are more than a few spelling errors. Words like, "Value" become "Vaiue," and so on. I suspect it was converted using software and the publisher never bothered to proofread it. I want an update, free of course, because the errors are annoying.

This book is an excellent resource. Some really great reflections on space and place coming from numerous perspectives. I liked it enough to loan it to someone and subsequently buy myself

another copy when the person i "loaned" it to couldn't part with it!

Excellent book for architects, students in that area of study. It was a gift for my architect son in law- he really enjoyed it.

Amazing to see clearly the importance of place. Eye opening and well written.

I like it very much. Very insightful ideas on the relationship between people and place. Strongly recommend!!! Not just for reseachers. It is good to read for everyone in the modern society.

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