

JAPN 410

I chose this piece because I felt that it really captures how chaotic a tsunami can be. When I first saw this ukiyoe, it took me a bit of time to fully capture and take in what was happening, which makes me think of how much worse it was for the people that actually went through it. The description states that this was a depiction of a tsunami that hit Iwate, Aomori, Miyagi prefecture in June 15, 1896. After further research, this tsunami was known to be The Great Meiji Sanriku Tsunami that was caused by an 8.5M Earthquake off of the Sanriku coast. The highest wave had reached just under 40 meters. I think that this image captures exactly what it's trying to portray which is to showcase the destruction and suffering these people went through. The outcome was devastating, killing about 20,000 people and destroyed around 10,000 homes. The description mentions how a woman got swept away while taking a bath in a wooden tub, and was unharmed. So I thought that was pretty interesting

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Title: [Tsunami Disaster in Meiji Era](#)

