

## Seven Japanese Tales Junichiro Tanizaki

QuicksandThe Key and Diary of a Mad Old ManChildhood YearsThe Secret History of the Lord of MusashiThe Paper Door and Other StoriesThe KeyThe Violent Bear It AwaySeven Japanese TalesContemporary Japanese LiteratureCulture and Customs of AfghanistanNaomiThe Reed Cutter and Captain Shigemoto's MotherTales of Times Now PastMasterworks of Asian Literature in Comparative Perspective: A Guide for TeachingTokyo Seven RosesFive Women Who Loved LovePoe AbroadDevils in DaylightSeven Japanese TalesThe MaidsThe Story Of "Me"Red Roofs and Other StoriesA Cat, a Man, and Two WomenSeven Japanese TalesThe Gourmet ClubIn Black and WhiteJapanese Short StoriesSeven Japanese TalesRashomon and Seventeen Other StoriesNip the Buds, Shoot the KidsSome Prefer NettlesDiary of a Mad Old ManOnce and ForeverThe Longing for LessSeven Japanese TalesPicnic in the StormThis Perversion Called Love

### Quicksand

In these seven Japanese short stories, Tanizaki, the author of *The Makioka Sisters* explores the territory where love becomes self-annihilation, where the contemplation of beauty gives way to fetishism, and where tradition becomes an instrument of refined cruelty. A young man is erotically imprisoned by the memory of his mother. A tattoo artist transforms the body of an exquisite woman into teeming canvas of her inner nature. A beautiful blind musician exacts the ultimate sacrifice from the man who both her lover and her disciple. These and other gripping scenarios of possession are told with such poise that *Seven Japanese Tales* is guaranteed to fascinate from beginning to end, leaving a haunting impression on the reader.

### The Key and Diary of a Mad Old Man

*Tokyo Seven Roses* is set in Japan during the waning months of WWII and the beginning of the Occupation. It is written as a diary kept from April 1945 to April 1946 by Shinsuke Yamanaka, a fifty-three-year-old fan-maker living in Nezu, part of Tokyo's shitamachi (old-town) district. After the war, Shinsuke learns by chance that the Occupation forces are plotting a nefarious scheme: in order to cut Japan off from its dreadful past, they intend to see that the language is written henceforth using the alphabet. To fight off this unheard-of threat to the integrity of Japanese culture, seven beautiful women – the Seven Roses – take a stand.

### Childhood Years

### The Secret History of the Lord of Musashi

In "The Reed Cutter", the narrator meets a strange man who tells him a story of obsession; and a tenth-century Kyoto minister demands and receives his rival's wife during a drunken party in "Captain Shigemoto's Mother"

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Jun'ichirō Tanizaki's *In Black and White* is a literary murder mystery in which the lines between fiction and reality are blurred. The writer Mizuno has penned a story about the perfect murder. His fictional victim is modeled on an acquaintance, a fellow writer. When Mizuno notices just before the story is about to be published that this man's real name has crept into his manuscript, he attempts to correct the mistake, but it is too late. He then becomes terrified that an actual murder will take place—and that he will be the main suspect. Mizuno goes to great lengths to establish an alibi, venturing into the city's underworld. But he finds himself only more entangled as his paranoid fantasies, including a mysterious "Shadow Man" out to entrap him, intrude into real life. A sophisticated psychological and metafictional mystery, *In Black and White* is a masterful yet little-known novel from a great writer at the height of his powers. The year 1928 was a remarkable one for Tanizaki. He wrote three exquisite novels, but while two of them—*Some Prefer Nettles* and *Quicksand*—became famous, *In Black and White* disappeared from view. All three were serialized in Osaka and Tokyo newspapers and magazines, but *In Black and White* was never published as an independent volume. This translation restores it to its rightful place among Tanizaki's works and offers a window into the author's life at a crucial point in his career. A critical afterword explains the novel's context and importance for Tanizaki and Japan's literary and cultural scene in the 1920s, connecting autobiographical elements with the novel's key concerns, including Tanizaki's critique of Japanese literary culture and fiction itself.

## **The Paper Door and Other Stories**

This important volume is the first to provide an in-depth overview of the resilient people and their ways of life as they emerge from decades of war and civil strife.

### **The Key**

Tanizaki Jun'ichiro (1886–1965), the author of *Naomi*; *A Cat, a Man, and Two Women*; and *The Makioka Sisters*, was one of the great writers of the twentieth century. The four stories in this volume date from the first and second decades of Tanizaki's long career and reflect themes that appear throughout his work: exoticism, sexuality, sadomasochism, contrasts between traditional and modern societies, disparities between appearance and reality, the power of dreams, amorality, an interest in cinema, and a fascination with the techniques of storytelling. The stories—translated into English here for the first time—are: "The Strange Case of Tomoda and Matsunaga" ("Tomoda to Matsunaga no hanashi," 1926), "A Night in Qinhuai" ("Shinwai no yo," 1919), "The Magician" ("Majutsushi," 1917), and "Red Roofs" ("Akai yane," 1925).

### **The Violent Bear It Away**

A novella and two short stories reveal Tanizaki at his best and most bizarre

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"Classic tales of ritual suicide, decadence and geisha romance by Japan's greatest 20th-century novelists"--Jacket.

## **Seven Japanese Tales**

'This Year I Intend To Begin Writing Freely About A Topic Which, In The Past, I Have Hesitated To Mention Even Here. I Have Always Avoided Commenting On My Sexual Relations With Ikuko, For Fear That She Might Surreptitiously Read My Diary And Be Offended-'So Begins The Key - A Forthright And Moving Tale Of A Middle-Aged Man Deeply In Love With His Younger Wife. In Spite Of That Love, They Have Grown Physically Apart, Each Unsure Of The Other'S Thoughts And Desires-Until The Day Ikuko Discovers The Key To Her Husband'S Diary With Its Desperate Hints Of Jealousy And Voyeurism. The Key, She Realises, To His Very Soul-

## **Contemporary Japanese Literature**

"A back country orphan struggles to defy his uncle's prophesy that he will become a baptist prophet"--NoveList.

## **Culture and Customs of Afghanistan**

A housewife takes up bodybuilding and sees radical changes to her physique - which her workaholic husband fails to notice. A boy waits at a bus stop, mocking businessmen struggling to keep their umbrellas open in a typhoon - until an old man shows him that they hold the secret to flying. A woman working in a clothing boutique waits endlessly on a customer who won't come out of the fitting room - and who may or may not be human. A newlywed notices that her husband's features are beginning to slide around his face - to match her own. In these eleven stories, the individuals who lift the curtains of their orderly homes and workplaces are confronted with the bizarre, the grotesque, the fantastic, the alien - and, through it, find a way to liberation. Winner of the Kenzaburo Oe Prize, Picnic in the Storm is the English-language debut of one of Japan's most fearless young writers.

## **Naomi**

Six short stories by Tanizaki Jun'ichiro (1886-1965), capturing the breadth of his literary oeuvre

## **The Reed Cutter and Captain Shigemoto's Mother**

A group of delinquent boys are abandoned in a remote village during the Korean war and manage to survive by stealing food and hunting, only to face the possibility of death when the villagers return

## **Tales of Times Now Past**

## **Masterworks of Asian Literature in Comparative Perspective: A**

## Guide for Teaching

The little girl and the rapeseed flower -- As far as Abashiri -- The razor -- The paper door -- Seibei and his gourds -- An incident -- Han's crime -- At Kinosaki -- Akanishi Kakita -- Incident on the afternoon of November third -- The shopboy's god -- Rain frogs -- The house by the moat -- A memory of Yamashina -- Infatuation -- Kuniko -- A gray moon

## Tokyo Seven Roses

Perhaps no one would be more shocked at the steady rise of his literary reputation—on a truly global scale—than Edgar Allan Poe himself. Poe's literary reputation has climbed steadily since his death in 1849. In *Poe Abroad*, Lois Vines has brought together a collection of essays that document the American writer's influence on the diverse literatures—and writers—of the world. Over twenty scholars demonstrate how and why Poe has significantly influenced many of the major literary figures of the last 150 years. Part One includes studies of Poe's popularity among general readers, his influence on literary movements, and his reputation as a poet, fiction writer, and literary critic. Part Two presents analyses of the role Poe played in the literary development of specific writers representing many different cultures. *Poe Abroad* commemorates the 150th anniversary of Poe's death and celebrates his worldwide impact, beginning with the first literal translation of Poe into a foreign language, “The Gold-Bug” into French in 1845. Charles Baudelaire translated another Poe tale in 1848 and four years later wrote an essay that would make Poe a well-known author in Europe even before he achieved recognition in America. Poe died knowing only that some of his stories had been translated into French. He probably never would have imagined that his work would be admired and imitated as far away as Japan, China, and India or would have a lasting influence on writers such as Baudelaire, August Strindberg, Franz Kafka, Jorge Luis Borges, Julio Cortázar, and Tanizaki Junichiro. As we approach the sesquicentennial of his death, *Poe Abroad* brings together a timely one-volume assessment of Poe's influence throughout the world.

## Five Women Who Loved Love

*The Maids* concerns all the young women who work—before, during, and after WWII—in the pampered, elegant household of the famous author Chikura Raikichi. Though quite well-to-do, Raikichi has a small house: the family and the maids (usually a few, sharing a little room next to the kitchen) are on top of one another. This proximity allows Raikichi to observe the maids and their daily lives extremely closely, and while the house may be straight from *The Makioka Sisters*, his interest carries with it more than a dash of the erotic, calling to mind Tanizaki's raciest books, such as *Diary of a Mad Old Man* and *The Key*.

## Poe Abroad

The diaries of a husband and wife detail their feelings about the sexuality, love, and strength of their relationship, in *The Key*, while in *Diary of a Mad Old Man*, after suffering a stroke, an aging Japanese man records his sensual and

philosophical experiences, thoughts, and desires, in two novels from the acclaimed Japanese novelist. Original.

## **Devils in Daylight**

A young, well-born Osaka widow, Sonoko Kakiuchi, describes her husband's humiliation and the influence of a beautiful and totally corrupt art student on their lives, in a novel set in the 1920s

## **Seven Japanese Tales**

Kenji Miyazawa is one of modern Japan's most beloved writers, a great poet and a strange and marvelous spinner of tales, whose sly, humorous, enchanting, and enigmatic stories bear a certain resemblance to those of his contemporary Robert Walser. John Bester's selection and expert translation of Miyazawa's short fiction reflects its full range from the joyful, innocent "Wildcat and the Acorns," to the cautionary tale "The Restaurant of Many Orders," to "The Earthgod and the Fox," which starts out whimsically before taking a tragic turn. Miyazawa also had a deep connection to Japanese folklore and an intense love of the natural world. In "The Wild Pear," what seem to be two slight nature sketches succeed in encapsulating some of the cruelty and compensations of life itself.

## **The Maids**

## **The Story Of "Me"**

Autofiction, or works in which the eponymous author appears as a fictionalized character, represents a significant trend in postwar American literature, when it proliferated to become a kind of postmodern cliché. *The Story of "Me"* charts the history and development of this genre, analyzing its narratological effects and discussing its cultural implications. By tracing autofiction's conceptual issues through case studies and an array of texts, Marjorie Worthington sheds light on a number of issues for postwar American writing: the maleness of the postmodern canon--and anxieties created by the supposed waning of male privilege--the relationship between celebrity and authorship, the influence of theory, the angst stemming from claims of the "death of the author," and the rise of memoir culture. Worthington constructs and contextualizes a bridge between the French literary context, from which the term originated, and the rise of autofiction among various American literary movements, from modernism to New Criticism to New Journalism. *The Story of "Me"* demonstrates that the burgeoning of autofiction serves as a barometer of American literature, from modernist authorial effacement to postmodern literary self-consciousness.

## **Red Roofs and Other Stories**

A pair of sophisticated novels by one of Japan's most important novelists of the twentieth century tells the stories of an ancient Japanese warrior obsessed with severed heads, and of two friends who journey into a mountain region cloaked in

legends. Reprint. 12,500 first printing.

## **A Cat, a Man, and Two Women**

### **Seven Japanese Tales**

Lovers of Japanese and Asian literature, rejoice! This superb survey of one of the most active and interesting literary scenes of the twentieth century is back in print.

### **The Gourmet Club**

This Perversion Called Love positions one of Japan's most canonical and best translated 20th century authors at the center of contemporary debates in feminism. Examining sexual perversion in Tanizaki's aesthetic essays, cultural criticism, cinema writings and short novels from the 1930s, it argues that Tanizaki understands human subjectivity in remarkably Freudian terms, but that he is much more critical than Freud about what it means for the possibility of love. According to Tanizaki, perversion involves not the proliferation of interesting gender positions, but rather the tragic absence of even two sexes, since femininity is only defined as man's absence, supplement, or complement. In this fascinating work, author Margherita Long reads Tanizaki with a theoretical complexity he demands but has seldom received. As a critique of the historicist and gender-focused paradigms that inform much recent work in Japanese literary and cultural studies, This Perversion Called Love offers exciting new interpretations that should spark controversy in the fields of feminist theory and critical Asian studies.

### **In Black and White**

Brings together stories concerning people with serious psychological and physical defects

### **Japanese Short Stories**

While recovering from a stroke, seventy-seven-year-old Utsugi turns to his diary to wryly record his struggle with his ageing body and his growing desire for his beautiful daughter-in-law Satsuko, a chic, Westernised dancer with a shady past. Shining with a self-effacing humour, Tanizaki's last novel is a tragicomedy about desire and the will to survive.

### **Seven Japanese Tales**

### **Rashomon and Seventeen Other Stories**

This is a collection of 46 essays by specialists in Asian literature, who offer a wide range of possibilities for introducing Asian literature to English-speaking students. It is intended to help in promoting multicultural education.

## **Nip the Buds, Shoot the Kids**

Junichiro Tanizaki's *Seven Japanese Tales* collects stories that explore the boundary at which love becomes self-annihilation, where the contemplation of beauty gives way to fetishism, and where tradition becomes an instrument of voluptuous cruelty. A beautiful blind musician exacts the ultimate sacrifice from the man who is both her disciple and her lover. A tattooist turns the body of an exquisite young girl into a reflection of her predatory inner nature. A young man is erotically imprisoned by memories of his absent mother. Shocking in its content and lyrical in its beauty, these stories represent some of the finest work of one of Japan's greatest modern writers.

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Chronicles the obsessive love of Joji, an engineer in his thirties, for a fifteen-year-old bar hostess who reminds him of Mary Pickford.

## **Some Prefer Nettles**

In *Childhood Years*, originally published serially in a literary magazine between 1955 and 1956, Tanizaki Jun'ichiro (1886–1965) takes a meandering look back on his early life in Tokyo. He reflects on his upbringing, family, and the capital city with a conversational—and not necessarily honest—eye, offering insights into his later life and his writing.

## **Diary of a Mad Old Man**

## **Once and Forever**

Now in paperback, a suspenseful early novella from "the outstanding Japanese novelist of this century" (Edmund White).

## **The Longing for Less**

New York Times Book Review Editor's Choice "More than just a story of an abiding cultural preoccupation, *The Longing For Less* peels back the commodified husk of minimalism to reveal something surprising and thoroughly alive." -Jenny Odell, author of *How to Do Nothing* "Less is more": Everywhere we hear the mantra. Marie Kondo and other decluttering gurus promise that shedding our stuff will solve our problems. We commit to cleanse diets and strive for inbox zero. Amid the frantic pace and distraction of everyday life, we covet silence-and airy, Instagrammable spaces in which to enjoy it. The popular term for this brand of upscale austerity, "minimalism," has mostly come to stand for things to buy and consume. But minimalism has richer, deeper, and altogether more valuable gifts to offer. Kyle Chayka is one of our sharpest cultural observers. After spending years covering minimalist trends for leading publications, he now delves beneath this lifestyle's glossy surface, seeking better ways to claim the time and space we crave. He shows that our longing for less goes back further than we realize. His

search leads him to the philosophical and spiritual origins of minimalism, and to the stories of artists such as Agnes Martin and Donald Judd; composers such as John Cage and Julius Eastman; architects and designers; visionaries and misfits. As Chayka looks anew at their extraordinary lives and explores the places where they worked-from Manhattan lofts to the Texas high desert and the back alleys of Kyoto-he reminds us that what we most require is presence, not absence. The result is an elegant new synthesis of our minimalist desires and our profound emotional needs.

## **Seven Japanese Tales**

First published in 1686, this collection of five novellas was an immediate bestseller in the bawdy world that was Genroku Japan, and the book's popularity has increased with age, making it today a literary classic like Boccaccio's Decameron, or the works of Rabelais.

## **Picnic in the Storm**

Ryūnosuke Akutagawa (1892-1927) is one of Japan's foremost stylists - a modernist master whose short stories are marked by highly original imagery, cynicism, beauty and wild humour. 'Rashōmon' and 'In a Bamboo Grove' inspired Kurosawa's magnificent film and depict a past in which morality is turned upside down, while tales such as 'The Nose', 'O-Gin' and 'Loyalty' paint a rich and imaginative picture of a medieval Japan peopled by Shoguns and priests, vagrants and peasants. And in later works such as 'Death Register', 'The Life of a Stupid Man' and 'Spinning Gears', Akutagawa drew from his own life to devastating effect, revealing his intense melancholy and terror of madness in exquisitely moving impressionistic stories.

## **This Perversion Called Love**

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