
Snow Country Yasunari Kawabata

The Penguin Modern Classics Book

Geisha

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GOODMAN FULLER

The Penguin Modern Classics Book National Geographic Books
With the brushstroke suggestiveness and astonishing grasp of motive that won him the Nobel Prize for Literature, Yasunari Kawabata tells a story of wasted love set amid the desolate beauty of western Japan, the snowiest region on earth. It is there, at an isolated mountain hotspring, that the wealthy sophisticate Shimamura meets the geisha Komako, who gives herself to him without regrets, knowing that their passion cannot last. Shimamura is a dilettante of the feelings; Komako has staked her life on them. Their affair can have only one outcome. Yet, in

chronicling its doomed course, one of Japan's greatest modern writers creates a novel dense in implication and exalting in its sadness.

Geisha Vintage

An Open Swimmer, winner of the Australian Vogel Award, is the remarkable first novel by Tim Winton, one of Australia's most loved and respected writers. Jerra and his best mate Sean set off in a beaten-up old VW to go camping on the coast. Jerra's friends and family want to know when he will finish university, when he will find a girl. But they don't understand about Sean's mother, Jewel, or the bush or the fish with the pearl. They think he needs a job, but what Jerra is searching for is more elusive. Only the sea, and perhaps the old man who lives in a shack beside it, can help.

Facing the Bridge Penguin UK

This Japanese literature collection contains four translated stories from two of Japan's most beloved and acclaimed fiction writers. The Izu Dancer, Yasunari Kawabata's first work to bring him recognition as a writer, is a novella about six Izu Peninsula travelers. As the six travelers journey together, intimacy develops and friendship overcomes class differences. Capturing the shy eroticism of adolescence, *The Izu Dancer* is a charming picture of the times. Yasushi Inoue's *The Counterfeiter*, although set in modern times, poses universal questions that transcend culture an era. *Abasute* and *The Full Moon* both explore themes of separation, loneliness, and isolation. Through the gloomy tales, Inoue's compassion shines, revealing yet another aspect of an author known for his vivid precision and economy of words. Inoue's stories are at least partially autobiographical, and Inoue's attitudes toward human destiny and fatalism are strongly influenced by his separation from his parents at an early age—yet all of his stories reveal his great compassion for his fellow human being.

Exploring Japanese Literature Penguin

A New York Times bestselling author—and “a mythmaker for the millennium, a wiseacre wiseman” (New York Times Book Review)—delivers a surreal and elaborate quest that takes readers from Tokyo to the remote mountains of northern Japan, where the unnamed protagonist has a surprising confrontation with his demons. An advertising executive receives a postcard from a friend and casually appropriates the image for an advertisement. What he doesn't realize is that included in the scene is a mutant sheep with a star on its back, and in using this

photo he has unwittingly captured the attention of a man who offers a menacing ultimatum: find the sheep or face dire consequences.

Territory of Light Laurel Leaf

A collection of twenty-three stories from one of the most influential figures in modern Japanese literature. Yasunari Kawabata is widely known for his innovative short stories, some called “palm-of-the-hand” stories short enough to fit into ones palm. This collection reflects Kawabata's keen perception, deceptive simplicity, and the deep melancholy that characterizes much of his work. The stories were written between 1923 and 1929, and many feature autobiographical events and themes that reflect the painful losses he experienced early in his life.

Tales of Falling and Flying Open Road + Grove/Atlantic

From one of the most significant contemporary Japanese writers, a haunting, dazzling novel of loss and rebirth “Yuko Tsushima is one of the most important Japanese writers of her generation.” —Foumiko Kometani, *The New York Times* I was puzzled by how I had changed. But I could no longer go back . . . It is spring. A young woman, left by her husband, starts a new life in a Tokyo apartment. *Territory of Light* follows her over the course of a year, as she struggles to bring up her two-year-old daughter alone. Her new home is filled with light streaming through the windows, so bright she has to squint, but she finds herself plummeting deeper into darkness, becoming unstable, untethered. As the months come and go and the seasons turn, she must confront what she has lost and what she will become. At once tender and lacerating, luminous and unsettling, Yuko Tsushima's *Territory of Light* is a novel of abandonment, desire,

and transformation. It was originally published in twelve parts in the Japanese literary monthly *Gunzo*, between 1978 and 1979, each chapter marking the months in real time. It won the inaugural Noma Literary Prize.

NOVELS FOR STUDENTS ReadHowYouWant.com

From the Nobel Prize-winning writer and acclaimed author of *Snow Country* comes a beautiful rendering of the predicament of old age—about an elderly Tokyo businessman who must face the failures of his memory and the sudden upsurges of passion that illuminate the end of a life. “A rich, complicated novel.... Of all modern Japanese fiction, Kawabata’s is the closest to poetry.”

—The New York Times Book Review By day Ogata Shingo, an elderly Tokyo businessman, is troubled by small failures of memory. At night he associates the distant rumble he hears from the nearby mountain with the sounds of death. In between are the complex relationships that were once the foundations of Shingo’s life: his trying wife; his philandering son; and his beautiful daughter-in-law, who inspires in him both pity and the stirrings of desire. Out of this translucent web of attachments, Kawabata has crafted a novel that is a powerful, serenely observed meditation on the relentless march of time. Translated from the Japanese by Edward G. Seidensticker

Snow Country Tales Penguin

Lily is the daughter of a humble farmer, and to her family she is just another expensive mouth to feed. Then the local matchmaker delivers startling news: if Lily’s feet are bound properly, they will be flawless. In nineteenth-century China, where a woman’s eligibility is judged by the shape and size of her feet, this is extraordinary good luck. Lily now has the power to

make a good marriage and change the fortunes of her family. To prepare for her new life, she must undergo the agonies of footbinding, learn *nu shu*, the famed secret women’s writing, and make a very special friend, Snow Flower. But a bitter reversal of fortune is about to change everything.

Am I Alone Here? Routledge

The Nobel Prize-winning “master of the bizarre plunges the reader into a world of tortured imagination” in this four-novella collection (*Library Journal*). In this startling quartet of his most provocative stories, the multiple prize-winning author of *A Personal Matter* reaffirms his reputation as “a supremely gifted writer” (*The Washington Post*). In *The Day He Himself Shall Wipe My Tears Away*, a self-absorbed narrator on his deathbed drifts off to the comforting strains of a cantata as he recalls a blistering childhood of militarism, sacrifice, humiliation, and revenge—a tale that is questioned by everyone who knew him. In *Prize Stock*, winner of the Akutagawa Prize, a black American pilot is downed in a Japanese village during World War II, where the local children see him as some rare find—exotic and forbidden. In *Aghwee The Sky Monster*, the floating ghost of a baby inexplicably haunts a young man on the first day of his first job. And in the title story, a devoted father believes he is the only link between his mentally challenged son and reality. “[A] remarkable book.” —*The Washington Post* “Ōe is definitely one of the Modern Masters.” —*Seattlepi.com*

A Book of Luminous Things Vintage

The successful writer Oki has reached middle age and is filled with regrets. He returns to Kyoto to find Otoko, a young woman with whom he had a terrible affair many years before, and

discovers that she is now a painter, living with a younger woman as her lover. Otoko has continued to love Oki and has never forgotten him, but his return unsettles not only her but also her young lover. This is a work of strange beauty, with a tender touch of nostalgia and a heartbreaking sensitivity to those things lost forever.

The Cross of Redemption Vintage

The classic Japanese novel of alienation and the search for meaning and connection in the modern world, in a brilliant new translation—for fans of Salinger, Camus, Sartre, Hesse, and the hit anime series *Bungo Stray Dogs*, which features a character based on *No Longer Human's* author, Osamu Dazai. A Penguin Classics Graphic Deluxe Edition. Portraying himself as a failure, the protagonist of Osamu Dazai's *No Longer Human* narrates a seemingly normal life even while he feels himself incapable of understanding human beings. Oba Yozo's attempts to reconcile himself to the world around him begin in early childhood, continue through high school, where he becomes a "clown" to mask his alienation, and eventually lead to a failed suicide attempt as an adult. Without sentimentality, he records the casual cruelties of life and its fleeting moments of human connection and tenderness. Semi-autobiographical, *No Longer Human* is the final completed work of one of Japan's most important writers. It has come to "echo the sentiments of youth" (*The Mainichi Daily News*) from post-war Japan to the postmodern society of technology. Still one of the ten bestselling books in Japan, *No Longer Human* is a powerful exploration of an individual's alienation from society.

A Wild Sheep Chase Macmillan

Three surreal, erotically charged stories from Nobel Prize winner Yasunari Kawabata. In the three long tales in this collection, Yasunari Kawabata examines the boundaries between fantasy and reality in the minds of three lonely men. Piercing examinations of sexuality and human psychology—and works of remarkable subtlety and beauty—these stories showcase one of the twentieth century's great writers—in any language—at his very best.

Dandelions Vintage

The power of love and illusion shape the lives of a young geisha and a rich Tokyo dilettante

Snow Country Vintage

Nobel Prize winner Yasunari Kawabata's *Thousand Cranes* is a luminous story of desire, regret, and the almost sensual nostalgia that binds the living to the dead. While attending a traditional tea ceremony in the aftermath of his parents' deaths, Kikuji encounters his father's former mistress, Mrs. Ota. At first Kikuji is appalled by her indelicate nature, but it is not long before he succumbs to passion—a passion with tragic and unforeseen consequences, not just for the two lovers, but also for Mrs. Ota's daughter, to whom Kikuji's attachments soon extend. Death, jealousy, and attraction convene around the delicate art of the tea ceremony, where every gesture is imbued with profound meaning.

Thousand Cranes Univ of California Press

A new translation of the only work not currently available in English by a Nobel-Prize winning author and the best known Japanese writer outside of Japan.

No Longer Human Tuttle Publishing

Sixteen-year-old Jacques Rebière is living a humble life in rural France, studying butterflies and frogs by candlelight in his bedroom. Across the Channel, in England, the playful Thomas Midwinter, also sixteen, is enjoying a life of ease—and is resigned to follow his father's wishes and pursue a career in medicine. A fateful seaside meeting four years later sets the two young men on a profound course of friendship and discovery; they will become pioneers in the burgeoning field of psychiatry. But when a female patient at the doctors' Austrian sanatorium becomes dangerously ill, the two men's conflicting diagnosis threatens to divide them—and to undermine all their professional achievements. From the bestselling author of *Birdsong* comes this masterful novel that ventures to answer challenging questions of consciousness and science, and what it means to be human.

Roads of Oku A&C Black

From Japan to Vietnam to Amsterdam to the Canary Islands, these three new tales by master storyteller Yoko Tawada float between cultures, identities, and the dreamwork of the imagination

Rashomon and Seventeen Other Stories Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Yasunari Kawabata, Yukio Mishima and Junichiro Tanizaki are all giants of world literature. It stands to reason that students of Japanese would long to read them in their original language. *Exploring Japanese Literature* enables them to do just that. Featuring one each of these writers' most characteristic stories—plus linguistic support in the form of a built-in dictionary—the book picks up where the author's previous

bestselling text, *Breaking into Japanese Literature*, left off. The poignancy of romance between a wealthy Tokyoite and a provincial geisha in Yasunari Kawabata's "Snow Country"; the ecstatic frenzy of a couple committing ritual suicide in Mishima's "Patriotism"; the amoral antics of a playboy aesthete trying to fire up his flagging zest for life in Tanizaki's "The Secret" — *Exploring Japanese Literature* is a reader's entrée into the uniquely rich and exotic world of modern Japanese fiction. On each two-page spread, the original Japanese is printed in large type on the left-hand page, with the corresponding English translation on the right and the dictionary running along the bottoms of both. Everything the student needs to read the stories and understand them is right there. To enrich students' experience even further, *Exploring Japanese Literature* also features biographies of the three novelists, mini-prefaces that set the scene for the individual stories, and evocative illustrations. In addition, there is a dedicated website at www.speaking-japanese.com where learners have the chance to put forward their own interpretations of the Japanese and engage in debate with the author, the editor and, of course, other readers of the book. *Exploring Japanese Literature* is recommended for upper-intermediate and advanced level students.

Snow Country and Thousand Cranes Penguin Group Australia
Gary Soto writes that when he was five "what I knew best was at ground level." In this lively collection of short essays, Soto takes his reader to a ground-level perspective, resreating in vivid detail the sights, sounds, smells, and textures he knew growing up in his Fresno, California, neighborhood. The "things" of his boyhood tie it all together: his Buddha "spotched with gold," the taps of

his shoes and the "engines of sparks that lived beneath my soles," his worn tennies smelling of "summer grass, asphalt, the moist sock breathing the defeat of baseball." The child's world is made up of small things--small, very important things.

The Scarlet Gang of Asakusa Penguin

From one of the most brilliant and provocative literary figures of the past century—a collection of essays, articles, reviews, and interviews that have never before been gathered in a single volume. "An absorbing portrait of Baldwin's time—and of him." —New York Review of Books James Baldwin was an American literary master, renowned for his fierce engagement with issues haunting our common history. In *The Cross of Redemption* we

have Baldwin discoursing on, among other subjects, the possibility of an African-American president and what it might mean; the hypocrisy of American religious fundamentalism; the black church in America; the trials and tribulations of black nationalism; anti-Semitism; the blues and boxing; Russian literary masters; and the role of the writer in our society. Prophetic and bracing, *The Cross of Redemption* is a welcome and important addition to the works of a cosmopolitan and canonical American writer who still has much to teach us about race, democracy, and personal and national identity. As Michael Ondaatje has remarked, "If van Gogh was our nineteenth-century artist-saint, Baldwin [was] our twentieth-century one."

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