

Tokyo A Certain Style

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Regimes of Desire - Thomas Baudinette
2021-11-17

Explores the limitations of sexual expression in Tokyo's "safe" nightlife district and in Japanese media

A Tokyo Romance - Ian Buruma 2018-03-06

A classic memoir of self-invention in a strange land: Ian Buruma's unflinching account of his amazing journey into the heart of Tokyo's underground culture as a young man in the 1970's When Ian Buruma arrived in Tokyo in 1975, Japan was little more than an idea in his mind, a fantasy of a distant land. A sensitive misfit in the world of his upper middleclass youth, what he longed for wasn't so much the exotic as the raw, unfiltered humanity he had experienced in Japanese theater performances and films, witnessed in Amsterdam and Paris. One particular theater troupe, directed by a poet of runaways, outsiders, and eccentrics, was especially alluring, more than a little frightening, and completely unforgettable. If Tokyo was anything like his plays, Buruma knew that he had to join the circus as soon as possible. Tokyo was an astonishment. Buruma found a feverish and surreal metropolis where nothing was understated—neon lights, crimson lanterns, Japanese pop, advertising jingles, and cabarets. He encountered a city in the midst of an economic boom where everything seemed new, aside from the isolated temple or shrine that had survived the firestorms and earthquakes that had levelled the city during the past century. History remained in fragments: the shapes of wounded World War II veterans in white kimonos, murky old bars that Mishima had cruised in, and the narrow alleys where street

girls had once flitted. Buruma's Tokyo, though, was a city engaged in a radical transformation. And through his adventures in the world of avant garde theater, his encounters with carnival acts, fashion photographers, and moments on-set with Akira Kurosawa, Buruma underwent a radical transformation of his own. For an outsider, unattached to the cultural burdens placed on the Japanese, this was a place to be truly free. A Tokyo Romance is a portrait of a young artist and the fantastical city that shaped him. With his signature acuity, Ian Buruma brilliantly captures the historical tensions between east and west, the cultural excitement of 1970s Tokyo, and the dilemma of the gaijin in Japanese society, free, yet always on the outside. The result is a timeless story about the desire to transgress boundaries: cultural, artistic, and sexual.

Tokyo Year Zero - David Peace 2008-09-04
'Brilliant.' New York Times 'Remarkable.' Irish Times August 1946. One year on from surrender and Tokyo lies broken and bleeding at the feet of its American victors. Against this extraordinary historical backdrop, Tokyo Year Zero opens with the discovery of the bodies of two young women in Shiba Park. Against his wishes, Detective Minami is assigned to the case; as he gets drawn ever deeper into these complex and horrific murders, he realises that his own past and secrets are indelibly linked to those of the dead women and their killer. 'A feat of prodigious and intense imagination.' The Times 'A chilling tale of murder, corruption and post-war devastation.' Observer Books of the Year 'Part historical stunner, part Kurosawa crime film, an original all the way.' James Ellroy

Tokyo Zero- Marc Horne 2007-09-26

It's the turn of the millennium and a young westerner arrives in Tokyo to join a cult and bring on the end of the world. But whose world? Visit the Tokyo that lies beneath the surface: the city of petty gangsters, slumming millionaires, drunkards, fanatics and bizarre messiahs.

No Longer Human - 1958

A young man describes his torment as he struggles to reconcile the diverse influences of Western culture and the traditions of his own Japanese heritage

Men in This Town - Giuseppe Santamaria
2014-07-01

From five distinct cities around the world - Sydney, Tokyo, Milan, London and New York - photographer, art director and blogger Giuseppe Santamaria brings together a unique photographic collection showcasing the styles of the modern man. Giuseppe seeks out the everyday man in each city whose dress sense speaks out about who they are. Alongside striking images captured from the streets, Giuseppe has chosen a handful of men from each city with a particular, distinct style and photographed them in their various attire, as well as profiled them about their particular approach to fashion and their sense of the menswear scene today.

A Certain Woman - 1978

The main theme of the novel is the changing place of women in Japanese society at the end of the Meiji period and Taishō period.

Empire of Signs - Roland Barthes 1982

An analysis of the culture of Japan includes discussions of haiku, cooking, Zen Buddhism, the custom of bowing, and the layout of cities

Tokyo Traffic - Michael Pronko 2020-06-24

Running from a life she didn't choose, in a city she doesn't know, Sukanya, a young Thai girl, loses herself in Tokyo. With her Bangkok street smarts, and some stolen money, she stays ahead of her former captors willing to do anything to recover the computer she took. After befriending Chiho, a Japanese girl living in an internet café, Sukanya makes plans to rid herself of her pursuers, and her past, forever. Detective Hiroshi Shimizu leaves the safe confines of his office to investigate a porn studio where a brutal triple murder took place. The studio's accounts point him in multiple directions at once.

Together with ex-sumo wrestler Sakaguchi and old-school Takamatsu, Hiroshi tracks the killers through Tokyo's teen hangouts, bayside docks and crowded squares, straight into the underbelly of the global economy. As bodies wash up from Tokyo Bay, Hiroshi tries to find the Thai girl at the center of it all, whose name he doesn't even know. He uncovers a human trafficking ring and cryptocurrency scammers whose connections extend to the highest levels of Tokyo's power elite.

Before the Coffee Gets Cold - Toshikazu Kawaguchi 2020-11-17

OVER ONE MILLION COPIES SOLD *NOW AN INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER* If you could go back, who would you want to meet? In a small back alley of Tokyo, there is a café that has been serving carefully brewed coffee for more than one hundred years. Local legend says that this shop offers something else besides coffee—the chance to travel back in time. Over the course of one summer, four customers visit the café in the hopes of making that journey. But time travel isn't so simple, and there are rules that must be followed. Most important, the trip can last only as long as it takes for the coffee to get cold. Heartwarming, wistful, mysterious and delightfully quirky, Toshikazu Kawaguchi's internationally bestselling novel explores the age-old question: What would you change if you could travel back in time?

Tokyo Mew Mew Omnibus - Reiko Yoshida
2014-04

MEW MEW! SPLASH SPLASH! On a quest to discover the Mew Aqua, a powerful element that can purify anything contaminated, our favorite female fighting force - Tokyo Mew Mew - discover much more than they bargained for! Will they be able to retrieve Mew Aqua - or will they end up all wet? New adventures and romances are just around the corner in this stunning collection of stories from Tokyo Mew Mew volumes 3 & 4! Includes special extras after the story!

This Guy - Jamie Ferguson 2019-10-22

This beautiful photographic collection is a celebration of modern menswear. In it, photographer Jamie Ferguson profiles men from the fashion industry, covering a range of ages, geographical locations and personal styles. Each of the men profiled works in menswear, but

enjoys passions of his own. Tommaso Capozzoli (Sales Director) is also a rower who belongs to an exclusive club whose headquarters sit below the Ponte Vecchio in Florence; Hooman Majd is a world renowned Iranian-American journalist and author; Michael Hill is the founder and creative genius behind Drake's haberdashery in London, New York, Seoul and Tokyo, Simon Crompton is a keen cyclist, and Antonio Ciongoli a gifted skateboarder. This Guy captures not only their impeccable style from London, Paris, New York, Stockholm, Tokyo and Rome but also the lives that made them. Full of aspirational life stories, beautiful photography, and cutting-edge fashion, This Guy is the perfect luxury coffee-table book for anyone who appreciates the finer things in life.

Tokyo Fi ancée - Amélie Nothomb 2009

Ex.: 2nd print.

Tokyo Decadence - R. Murakami 2016-03-15

A cream-of-the-crop selection of Murakami's brilliance and piercing wit. This collection shows sides of Ryu Murakami that even avid fans may not be expecting. The intriguing, somewhat disturbing stories that Topaz was based on are included here, as are three entertaining and revealing portraits of the artist as a young man back in the Transparent Blue period of the late sixties and early seventies. We hear tales told by four very different individuals living in eighties Tokyo, each with his or her own problems but all with a thing about a certain pro baseball player, and we meet a brokenhearted young woman who finds an unexpected moment of love in the nineties and a single mother who stumbles on a ray of hope in the hard times of the noughties. Mixed in there somewhere are three linked stories about desire and obsession, with the timeless, seductive rhythms of Cuban music in the background. This book contains explicit content and is not suitable for minors. About the author: Ryu Murakami was not yet 24 when he won the prestigious Akutagawa Prize for his debut novel, *Almost Transparent Blue*. He has now published some forty best-selling novels, a dozen short-story collections, an armful of picture books, and a small mountain of essays. In his spare time, Ryu hosts a popular and long-running weekly TV show focusing on business and economic topics, and has for many years promoted tours and produced records for Cuban

musicians. He has written and directed five feature films, of which *Topaz* a.k.a. *Tokyo Decadence* (1992) is probably the best known, and many of his novels have been made into films by other directors (notably Takashi Miike's *Audition*). Translated novels include *Coin Locker Babies* (Noma Prize for New Writers), *Sixty-Nine*, *Popular Hits of the Showa Era*, *Audition*, *In the Miso Soup* (Yomiuri Prize for Literature), *Piercing*, and *From the Fatherland, with Love* (Noma Prize for Literature and Mainichi Publishing Culture Award).

N ight Rai n, Tokyo John W Feist 2018-05-11

Diplomacy, danger, and desire collide when Brad Oaks pursues an ingenious international trade proposal that would rescue a family steel business and secure a scarce natural resource for the US. Is it a powerful idea or just a pipedream? New to the Washington, D.C. lobbying scene, Brad's pursuit of a solution to this political issue takes him from D.C to California to Tokyo as he seeks to thwart an international plot to sabotage America's infrastructure. Brad has a plan to ease the bureaucratic red tape that's derailing the Wishbone Pipeline project that's so crucial to his client, Elgar Steel. After a close call with a bullet from a sniper's rifle, and the death of the owner of Elgar Steel, Brad is thrown into a tumultuous power struggle that finds him flying off to Tokyo to meet Amaya Mori, a previously-unknown heir to the family business. Brad is powerless to resist this Japanese woman's sophistication, intellect, and beauty. Just as Brad and Amaya have found each other, the pair find that they are targets of yakuza criminals who are in league with Iran. This faction is determined to claim the Elgar Steel inheritance and unleash their evil plan against the US. Will Brad be able to save the woman he loves and secure the future of the family business?

Tokyo - 1999-09

A fascinating tour of the urban landscape and interiors of Tokyo, Japan, captures in hundreds of full-color photographs the tiny crowded apartments of one of the world's most densely populated metropolises. Original.

Tokyo Hei st - Diana Renn 2013-06-13

The perfect mystery for fans of Ally Carter's Heist Society When sixteen-year-old Violet agrees to spend the summer with her father, an

up-and-coming artist in Seattle, she has no idea what she's walking into. Her father's newest clients, the Yamada family, are the victims of a high-profile art robbery: van Gogh sketches have been stolen from their home, and, until they can produce the corresponding painting, everyone's lives are in danger--including Violet's and her father's. Violet's search for the missing van Gogh takes her from the Seattle Art Museum, to the yakuza-infested streets of Tokyo, to a secluded inn in Kyoto. As the mystery thickens, Violet's not sure whom she can trust. But she knows one thing: she has to solve the mystery--before it's too late.

Super Tokyoland - Benjamin Reiss 2017-10-25

In August 2002, artist Benjamin Reiss flies to Tokyo to spend a year with Kayoko, the Japanese girl he met in France a year earlier. What he finds upon landing is a vast and complex culture, steeped in tradition but full of surprises. As one year stretches into six, Benjamin becomes immersed in the world of sento baths, taiko drums, and bento boxes, while studying cartooning under several masters of manga

Shadows of Tokyo - Matthew Legare 2018-05-21

Tokyo, December 1931 As Japan expands its empire in China and unemployment ravages the economy, Police Inspector Kenji Aizawa receives an anonymous call about the imminent assassination of a leading statesman. The secret informant is Reiko Watanabe, geisha mistress to the plot's mastermind. Reiko, headstrong and outspoken, prefers a "modern" life to being a geisha and is horrified that her lover, the American-educated descendant of samurai, Masaru Ryusaki, has become a fascist firebrand. Together with his allies in the Imperial Army, Ryusaki plans to overthrow the civilian government and establish a military dictatorship. Torn between honor and duty, Reiko and Inspector Aizawa must forge an unlikely alliance in order to stay one step ahead of Ryusaki and a fanatical Army officer. All the while, they uncover a shadowy conspiracy that reaches into the upper echelons of government, international finance, and even around the Imperial Throne itself. Set during the intersection of the Japanese invasion of Manchuria and the Great Depression, *Shadows of Tokyo* brings the turbulent and dangerous world of prewar Japan to vivid life. *Shadows of*

Tokyo is the first book in a noir historical thriller series set in pre-World War II Japan. "'Shadows of Tokyo' portrays the somber zeitgeist of Japan's capital in 1931, where rightist assassins armed with swords, handguns and bombs stalk key political and business figures." --The Japan Times "Legare's story reflects conscientious research into historic detail." --The Japan Times "Five Star Reviewers Have It Right: This Series Sizzles" --Amazon Review "Unique premise, memorable characters." --Amazon Review

Neighborhood Tokyo - Theodore C. Bestor 1989

In the vastness of Tokyo these are tiny social units, and by the standards that most Americans would apply, they are perhaps far too small, geographically and demographically, to be considered "neighborhoods." Still, to residents of Tokyo and particularly to the residents of any given subsection of the city, they are socially significant and geographically distinguishable divisions of the urban landscape. In neighborhoods such as these, overlapping and intertwining associations and institutions provide an elaborate and enduring framework for local social life, within which residents are linked to one another not only through their participation in local organizations, but also through webs of informal social, economic, and political ties. This book is an ethnographic analysis of the social fabric and internal dynamics of one such neighborhood: Miyamoto-cho, a pseudonym for a residential and commercial district in Tokyo where the author carried out fieldwork from June 1979 to May 1981, and during several summers since. It is a study of the social construction and maintenance of a neighborhood in a society where such communities are said to be outmoded, even antithetical to the major trends of modernization and social change that have transformed Japan in the last hundred years. It is a study not of tradition as an aspect of historical continuity, but of traditionalism: the manipulation, invention, and recombination of cultural patterns, symbols, and motifs so as to legitimate contemporary social realities by imbuing them with a patina of venerable historicity. It is a study of often subtle and muted struggles between insiders and outsiders over those most ephemeral of the community's resources, its

simple pleasure of other people's company. As one character puts it, 'The world is full of delicious things, you know.'

[Ametora](#) - W. David Marx 2015-12-01

Look closely at any typically "American" article of clothing these days, and you may be surprised to see a Japanese label inside. From high-end denim to oxford button-downs, Japanese designers have taken the classic American look—known as ametora, or "American traditional"—and turned it into a huge business for companies like Uniqlo, Kamakura Shirts, Evisu, and Kapital. This phenomenon is part of a long dialogue between Japanese and American fashion; in fact, many of the basic items and traditions of the modern American wardrobe are alive and well today thanks to the stewardship of Japanese consumers and fashion cognoscenti, who ritualized and preserved these American styles during periods when they were out of vogue in their native land. In *Ametora*, cultural historian W. David Marx traces the Japanese assimilation of American fashion over the past hundred and fifty years, showing how Japanese trendsetters and entrepreneurs mimicked, adapted, imported, and ultimately perfected American style, dramatically reshaping not only Japan's culture but also our own in the process.

Target Tokyo: Jimmy Doolittle and the Raid That Avenged Pearl Harbor - James M. Scott 2015-04-13

Finalist for the 2016 Pulitzer Prize in History "Like Lauren Hillebrand's *Unbroken*...Target Tokyo brings to life an indelible era." —Ben Cosgrove, *The Daily Beast* On April 18, 1942, sixteen U.S. Army bombers under the command of daredevil pilot Jimmy Doolittle lifted off from the deck of the USS *Hornet* on a one-way mission to pummel Japan's factories, refineries, and dockyards in retaliation for their attack on Pearl Harbor. The raid buoyed America's morale, and prompted an ill-fated Japanese attempt to seize Midway that turned the tide of the war. But it came at a horrific cost: an estimated 250,000 Chinese died in retaliation by the Japanese. Deeply researched and brilliantly written, *Target Tokyo* has been hailed as the definitive account of one of America's most daring military operations.

Cool Japan - Sumiko Kajiyama 2013-11-01

Written by local expert Sumiko Kajiyama, *Cool*

Japan is a three-part travel guide that explores the heart of Japanese culture and must-see places from a uniquely Japanese perspective. First, visit Kyoto, where you will discover 1,000 years of history from the ancient love story the *Tale of Genji* to the traditional tea ceremony. Then head to Tokyo to experience Japan's cutting-edge capital, where the 21st-century kawaii culture collides with landmarks like the Kabuki-za Theater and the Imperial Palace. For a different perspective, venture outside the city to the serene towns of Tohoku, the region largely affected by the 2011 tsunami disaster. Informative, entertaining, and useful, this book is an ideal introduction for any traveler looking for a deeper understanding of Japanese culture, past and present.

Tune in Tokyo - Tim Anderson 2010-06

Everyone wants to escape their boring, stagnant lives full of inertia and regret. But so few people actually have the bravery to run, run away from everything and selflessly seek out personal fulfillment in another part of the world where they don't understand anything and won't be expected to. The world is full of cowards. *Tune in Tokyo: The Gaijin Diaries*, an irresistible new gay, left-handed, diabetic travel memoir by North Carolina native Tim Anderson, takes a heady ride through the great Japanese megalopolis, bobbing, weaving, and karate kicking its way through the shadowy, dangerous underworld of a Harajuku girl-phobic, viola-playing, kabuki-tastic English conversation instructor on a mission to blast himself out of the creative and professional rut he's in and also do some record shopping. *Tune in Tokyo* illuminates the colorful gaijin life of a young-ish American gaywad who, stuck in EnnuiVille with no good employment opportunities in his home city of Raleigh, NC, decides to jet across the world and magically make himself more marketable. He leaves behind his boyfriend, his cat, his CDs, and an increasingly misanthropic existential lifelessness and heads off to a city where the year is 2119 and the future is now. Or maybe tomorrow. *Tune in Tokyo: The Gaijin Diaries* is a collection of fish-out-of-water stories in which the fish flopping around gasping for breath (and English-language magazines) in the open air of planet Tokyo must slowly but surely learn to breathe, gain his footing, and walk on his own

two legs. How else is he going to take himself to the new Uniqlo, use one of those beer vending machines, or buy a Hello Kitty dildo?

[Fault Lines](#) - Anne Rivers Siddons 1996-05-23
Approaching exhaustion after years of caring for her family, Merrit Fowler joins her daughter and sister in California, where an earthquake brings them closer together

Strange Weather in Tokyo - Hiromi Kawakami 2017-11-01

Shortlisted for the 2013 Man Asian Literary Prize, *Strange Weather in Tokyo* is a story of loneliness and love that defies age. Tsukiko, thirty-eight, works in an office and lives alone. One night, she happens to meet one of her former high school teachers, "Sensei," in a local bar. Tsukiko had only ever called him "Sensei" ("Teacher"). He is thirty years her senior, retired, and presumably a widower. Their relationship develops from a perfunctory acknowledgment of each other as they eat and drink alone at the bar, to a hesitant intimacy which tilts awkwardly and poignantly into love. As Tsukiko and Sensei grow to know and love one another, time's passing is marked by Kawakami's gentle hints at the changing seasons: from warm sake to chilled beer, from the buds on the trees to the blooming of the cherry blossoms. *Strange Weather in Tokyo* is a moving, funny, and immersive tale of modern Japan and old-fashioned romance.

[Tokyo on Foot](#)- Florent Chavouet 2012-10-23
This prize-winning book is both an illustrated tour of a Tokyo rarely seen in Japan travel guides and an artist's warm, funny, visually rich, and always entertaining graphic memoir. Florent Chavouet, a young graphic artist, spent six months exploring Tokyo while his girlfriend interned at a company there. Each day he would set forth with a pouch full of color pencils and a sketchpad, and visit different neighborhoods. This stunning book records the city that he got to know during his adventures. It isn't the Tokyo of packaged tours and glossy guidebooks, but a grittier, vibrant place, full of ordinary people going about their daily lives and the scenes and activities that unfold on the streets of a bustling metropolis. Here you find businessmen and women, hipsters, students, grandmothers, shopkeepers, policemen, and other urban types and tribes in all manner of dress and hairstyles.

A temple nestles among skyscrapers; the corner grocery anchors a diverse assortment of dwellings, cafes, and shops--often tangled in electric lines. The artist mixes styles and tags his pictures with wry comments and observations. Realistically rendered advertisements or posters of pop stars contrast with cartoon sketches of iconic objects or droll vignettes, like a housewife walking her pet pig, a Godzilla statue in a local park, and an urban fishing pond that charges 400 yen per half hour. This very personal guide to Tokyo is organized by neighborhood with hand-drawn maps that provide an overview of each neighborhood, but what really defines them is what caught the artist's eye and attracted his formidable drawing talent. Florent Chavouet begins his introduction by observing that, "Tokyo is said to be the most beautiful of ugly cities." With wit, a playful sense of humor, and the multicolor pencils of his kit, he sets aside the question of urban ugliness or beauty and captures the Japanese essence of a great city in this truly vital portrait.

Gothic and Lolita - Katsuhiko Ishikawa 2007-05

A photographic collection features portraits of Japanese Goths and Lolitas in their eclectic, flamboyant, and original fashions representing a movement in Japanese youth culture which can be traced back to its start in Osaka in the mid-1990s.

Tokyo Style Guide - Jane Lawson 2016-11-23
One of the most exhilarating and inspiring cities in the world, Tokyo is vast, complex and ever-changing, pulsating with youthful energy. Author Jane Lawson has been travelling to Japan for more than thirty years, and has led many group and private tours to various parts of the country. In *Tokyo Style Guide* she offers a unique insight into Japan's culture and aesthetic with her expert guided walks through 21 of the most intriguing and stylish Tokyo neighbourhoods and the best of what they have to offer. Jane shares information on how to get the most from your trip-what to see and how best to experience it. *Tokyo Style Guide* is packed with places where you can shop, relax, be inspired, eat and sleep, as well as practical tips to help you prepare for your trip, navigate the city with confidence and make the most of your visit.

[MONUMENT FOR NOTHING](#) - □□□ 2007-06-25

A mid-career retrospective of the artist's work covering the last twenty years, this publication takes on the difficult task of reconciling an oeuvre that is defined by seemingly contradictory impulses. Where some of his work displays a profound cynicism, evidenced by scenes of brutal violence and sexual sadism, others are rife with comedic irony and sarcastic wit that makes fun of even the most serious of topics. This jarring combination of the erotic and the grotesque, of a practice marked by light and dark impulses finds outlet through endless approaches, from painting, to sculpture, video and performance art so that it is the examination of Aida's contradictory nature that is key to understanding his work. For Aida, art itself is the only authority, and it is the artist's mission to challenge conventional morality in depicting history and culture and its attendant violence and complexity. This beautifully designed bilingual monograph proclaims Aida a conflicted, complex and singular figure of contemporary Japanese art.

Tokyo Graffiti - Lord 2018

"Does street art exist in spotless Tokyo? Yes! But strict vandalism laws and conservative Japanese culture have suppressed the graffiti scene in Tokyo. This stunning survey by photographer and graffiti artist Lord K2 takes you into the Tokyo neighborhoods exhibiting a colorful array of urban art created on the fly and as low-key as possible. Here is a look at vibrant stickers, tags, highly elaborate murals by both local and international artists, and a gallery of work by the artist network Pow! Wow! Worldwide. The images are accompanied by well-researched commentary and a history of Tokyo graffiti by Little Pink Pills (Mika Revell), positioning this book as a comprehensive introduction to the best kept secrets Tokyo's graffiti scene has to offer." --lordK2.com.

A Tale for the Time Being - Ruth Ozeki
2013-03-12

A brilliant, unforgettable novel from bestselling author Ruth Ozeki, author of *The Book of Form and Emptiness* Finalist for the Booker Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award "A time being is someone who lives in time, and that means you, and me, and every one of us who is, or was, or ever will be." In Tokyo, sixteen-year-old Nao has decided there's only one escape

from her aching loneliness and her classmates' bullying. But before she ends it all, Nao first plans to document the life of her great grandmother, a Buddhist nun who's lived more than a century. A diary is Nao's only solace—and will touch lives in ways she can scarcely imagine. Across the Pacific, we meet Ruth, a novelist living on a remote island who discovers a collection of artifacts washed ashore in a Hello Kitty lunchbox—possibly debris from the devastating 2011 tsunami. As the mystery of its contents unfolds, Ruth is pulled into the past, into Nao's drama and her unknown fate, and forward into her own future. Full of Ozeki's signature humor and deeply engaged with the relationship between writer and reader, past and present, fact and fiction, quantum physics, history, and myth, *A Tale for the Time Being* is a brilliantly inventive, beguiling story of our shared humanity and the search for home.

Tokyo Ueno Station - Yu Miri 2021-06-22
WINNER OF THE 2020 NATIONAL BOOK AWARD IN TRANSLATED LITERATURE A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF THE YEAR A surreal, devastating story of a homeless ghost who haunts one of Tokyo's busiest train stations. Kazu is dead. Born in Fukushima in 1933, the same year as the Japanese Emperor, his life is tied by a series of coincidences to the Imperial family and has been shaped at every turn by modern Japanese history. But his life story is also marked by bad luck, and now, in death, he is unable to rest, doomed to haunt the park near Ueno Station in Tokyo. Kazu's life in the city began and ended in that park; he arrived there to work as a laborer in the preparations for the 1964 Tokyo Olympics and ended his days living in the vast homeless village in the park, traumatized by the destruction of the 2011 tsunami and shattered by the announcement of the 2020 Olympics. Through Kazu's eyes, we see daily life in Tokyo buzz around him and learn the intimate details of his personal story, how loss and society's inequalities and constrictions spiraled towards this ghostly fate, with moments of beauty and grace just out of reach. A powerful masterwork from one of Japan's most brilliant outsider writers, *Tokyo Ueno Station* is a book for our times and a look into a marginalized existence in a shiny global megapolis.

The Lost Gutenberg - Margaret Leslie Davis

2021-06-01

"A lively tale of historical innovation, the thrill of the bibliophile's hunt, greed and betrayal." - The New York Times Book Review "An addictive and engaging look at the 'competitive, catty and slightly angst-ridden' heart of the world of book collecting." - The Houston Chronicle The never-before-told story of one extremely rare copy of the Gutenberg Bible, and its impact on the lives of the fanatical few who were lucky enough to own it. For rare-book collectors, an original copy of the Gutenberg Bible--of which there are fewer than 50 in existence--represents the ultimate prize. Here, Margaret Leslie Davis recounts five centuries in the life of one copy, from its creation by Johannes Gutenberg, through the hands of monks, an earl, the Worcestershire sauce king, and a nuclear physicist to its ultimate resting place, in a steel vault in Tokyo. Estelle Doheny, the first woman collector to add the book to her library and its last private owner, tipped the Bible onto a trajectory that forever changed our understanding of the first mechanically printed book. The Lost Gutenberg draws readers into this incredible saga, immersing them in the lust for beauty, prestige, and knowledge that this rarest of books sparked in its owners. Exploring books as objects of obsession across centuries, this is a must-read for history buffs, book collectors, seekers of hidden treasures, and anyone who has ever craved a remarkable book--and its untold stories.

Tokyo Travel Sketchbook - Amaia Arrazola

2020-03-03

Tokyo Travel Sketchbook traces the journey of illustrator and graphic designer Amaia Arrazola on a four-week trip through the beating heart of Tokyo. When Arrazola accepts a month long

artist's residency in the Japanese capital, she has little idea of what to expect but gamely packs her paints and pencils and seizes the opportunity to create an illustrated diary of her time there, filling the pages of her sketchbooks with curious images of life in the world's largest city. This book provides readers with a unique vision of Japan's capital, as seen through the eyes of an artist. Arrazola immerses herself in the cult of Hello Kitty and the pop-eyed charms of "Kawaii" cute culture, while conveying the collision of traditional and modern Japanese culture in the female Samurais she meets and draws. The city's cultural curiosities come alive in a metropolis that is ever on the go, as she browses sex shops, drinks pink coffee, eats spaghetti sandwiches and photographs subway sleepers. Throughout her explorations, Arrazola uses the concept of wabi sabi as a guiding principle—coming to see her own life and artworks as examples of "flawed beauty" and imperfectly perfect Zen design. The result is a fresh, often funny, one-of-a-kind look at a city that works hard and plays hard—in many surprising ways. At the heart of Tokyo Travel Sketchbook are two contradictory Japans—the glittering neon world of a high-tech ultramodern society existing side-by-side with a nation where ancient tradition holds sway and where the unadorned, the simple and the silent are prized and celebrated as much as the new, the fashionable and the trendy. These competing realities make for a memorable visual journey and a stunning souvenir of a stranger's brief stay in a strange land. From smoking laws to high-tech toilets, Arrazola finds beauty in the weirdness and imperfection of this modern metropolis. *Recommended for readers ages 14 & up*