

# The Key Junichiro Tanizaki

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**Lord of Dark Places** - Hal Bennett 1997

A detective story, a black comedy, a tragedy, and out of print for over 25 years, this monumental tour-de-force is a dissertation on the histories and stereotypes that conspire to man and to unman black Americans by a Faulkner Award-winning writer.

**In Black and White** - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 2018-01-09

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 Distance Between Us** - Renato Cisneros 2018-08-09

'This is an impressive book. In writing it the author demonstrates great talent, as well as great courage.'

—Mario Vargas Llosa If I succeed in understanding who he was before I was born, perhaps I will be able to understand who I am now that he is dead...In this sprawling family saga stretching across Latin America, a son embarks on a journey to understand his complex relationship with his father and how it shaped the man he is today. Recalling Gabriel García Márquez's **One Hundred Years of Solitude** and Isabel Allende's **House of the Spirits**, the renowned journalist and writer Renato Cisneros probes deep into his own family history to try to come to terms with his father, General Luis Federico 'The Gaucho' Cisneros, a leading, controversial figure in the oppressive military regime that held power in Peru during the 1970s and 1980s, a tortuous period marked by state-sanctioned terrorism and the rise of the Shining Path. Selling over 35,000 copies in Peru alone, **The Distance Between Us** is at once excruciating in its honesty and deeply moving in its universal relevance. Selected for a slew of international prizes, it is now available in English for the first time.

**A Cat, a Man, and Two Women** - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 2015

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

**Key** - 2010

**Longing and Other Stories** - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 2022-01-04

Jun'ichirō Tanizaki is one of the most eminent Japanese writers of the twentieth century, renowned for his investigations of family dynamics, eroticism, and cultural identity. Most acclaimed for his postwar novels such as **The Makioka Sisters** and **The Key**, Tanizaki made his literary debut in 1910. This book presents three powerful stories of family life from the first decade of Tanizaki's career that foreshadow the themes the great writer would go on to explore. "Longing" recounts the fantastic journey of a precocious young boy through an eerie nighttime landscape. Replete with striking natural images and uncanny human encounters, it ends with a

striking revelation. “Sorrows of a Heretic” follows a university student and aspiring novelist who lives in degrading poverty in a Tokyo tenement. Ambitious and tormented, the young man rebels against his family against a backdrop of sickness and death. “The Story of an Unhappy Mother” describes a vivacious but self-centered woman’s drastic transformation after a freak accident involving her son and daughter-in-law. Written in different genres, the three stories are united by a focus on mothers and sons and a concern for Japan’s traditional culture in the face of Westernization. The longtime Tanizaki translators Anthony H. Chambers and Paul McCarthy masterfully bring these important works to an Anglophone audience.

The Secret History of the Lord of Musashi and Arrowroot - Junichiro Tanizaki 2003-03-11

From a Japanese master of romantic and sexual obsession come two novels that treat traditional themes with sly wit and startling psychological sophistication. In *The Secret History of the Lord of Musashi*, Junichir Tanizaki reimagines the exploits of a legendary samurai as a sadomasochistic dance between the hero and the wife of his enemy. *Arrowroot*, though set in the twentieth century, views an adult orphan’s search for his mother’s past through the translucent shoji screen of ancient literature and myth. Both works are replete with shocking juxtapositions. Severed heads become objects of erotic fixation. Foxes take on human shape. An aristocratic lady loves and pities the man she is conspiring to destroy. This supple translation reveals the full scope of Tanizaki’s gift: his confident storytelling, luminous detail, and astonishingly vital female characters.

**A Feast of Snakes** - Harry Crews 1998-01-07

From the acclaimed author of such novels as "Blood and Grits" and "Childhood" comes a wildly weird and breathtakingly original visit to the rural South that reveals the exotic subculture that erupts in all its glory at the Rattlesnake Roundup in Mystic, Georgia. "No number of adjectives in the thesaurus can do full justice to the dazzlingly bizarre nature of Crews' creations".--"Washington Post Book World".

The Makioka Sisters - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 2024-03-27

The novel primarily focuses on the intricacies of the sisters' relationships, their struggles with tradition, modernity, and familial obligations, and their attempts to find suitable husbands for Yukiko, the third sister, who remains unmarried. Yukiko's marriage prospects become a central concern for the family, and much of the plot revolves around their efforts to arrange a suitable match for her despite the challenges posed by societal changes and the family's declining fortunes. Through the lens of the Makioka sisters' lives, Tanizaki explores themes such as tradition versus modernity, family dynamics, gender roles, and the impact of historical events on individual lives. The novel is celebrated for its rich portrayal of Japanese culture and society during the pre-war era, as well as its detailed character development and nuanced depiction of interpersonal relationships.

**Devils in Daylight** - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 2024-03-16

One morning, Takahashi, a writer who has just stayed up all night working, is interrupted by a phone call from his old friend Sonomura: barely able to contain his excitement, Sonomura claims that he has cracked a secret cryptographic code based on Edgar Allan Poe’s *The Gold-Bug* and now knows exactly when and where a murder will take place—and they must hurry if they want to witness the murder, because it’s later that very night! Sonomura has a history of lunacy and playing the amateur detective, so Takahashi is of course reluctant to believe him. Nevertheless, they stake out the secret location, and through tiny peepholes in the knotted wood, become voyeurs at the scene of a shocking crime... Atmospheric, erotic, and tense, *Devils in Daylight* is an early work by the master storyteller who “created a lifelong series of ingenious variations on a dominant theme: the power of love to energize and destroy” (Chicago Tribune).

**Mrs. Murakami's Garden** - Mario Bellatin 2020-10-06

From the groundbreaking author of *Beauty Salon*, *The Large Glass*, *Jacob the Mutant*, Mario Bellatin delivers a rousing, allegorical novel following the widowed keeper of a mysterious garden. When art student Izu’s teacher asks her to visit the famous collection of Mr. Murakami, she publishes a firm rebuttal to his curation. Instead of responding with fury, the rich man pursues her hand in marriage. When we meet her in the opening pages, Mrs. Murakami is watching the demolition of her now-dead husband’s most prized part of the estate: his garden. The novel that follows takes place in a strange, not-quite-real Japan of the author’s imagination. But who, in fact, holds the role of author? As Mr. Murakami’s garden is demolished, so too is the narrative’s authenticity, leaving the reader to wonder: did this book’s creator exist at all? Mario Bellatin has revolutionized the state of Latin American literature with his experimental, shocking novels. With this brand-new, highly anticipated edition of *Mrs. Murakami's Garden* from lauded translator Heather Cleary, readers have access to a playful modern classic that transcends reality.

**The Key** - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 1985

*Naomi* - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 2024-03-16

A hilarious story of one man’s obsession and a brilliant reckoning of a nation’s cultural confusion—from a master Japanese novelist. When twenty-eight-year-old Joji first lays eyes upon the teenage waitress Naomi, he is instantly smitten by her exotic, almost Western appearance. Determined to transform her into the perfect wife and to whisk her away from the seamy underbelly of post-World War I Tokyo, Joji adopts and ultimately marries Naomi, paying for English and music lessons that promise to mold her into his ideal companion. But as she grows older, Joji discovers that Naomi is far from the naïve girl of his fantasies. And, in Tanizaki’s

masterpiece of lurid obsession, passion quickly descends into comically helpless masochism.

**Salmonella Men on Planet Porno** - Yasutaka Tsutsui 2010-01-12

An irresistible mix of imagination, satire, and humor, these stories by acclaimed Japanese author Yasutaka Tsutsui imagine the consequences of a world where the fantastic and the mundane collide. The opening story, "The Dabba Dabba Tree," details the hilarious side effects of a small conical tree that, when placed at the foot of one's bed, creates erotic dreams. In "Commuter Army," a sly commentary on the ludicrousness of war, a weapons supplier becomes an unwilling conscript in a war zone. "The World is Tilting" imagines a floating city that slowly begins to sink on one side, causing its citizens to reorient their daily lives to preserve a semblance of normality. And in the title story, we see how obscenely absurd the environment on Planet Porno appears to a group of scientists. The stories in *Salmonella Men on Planet Porno* winningly combine madcap hilarity and a sharp eye toward the insanities of contemporary life.

**Some Prefer Nettles** - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 1955

The conflict between traditional and modern Japanese culture is at the heart of this novel. Kaname is a smug, modern man living in a modern marriage. He gamely allows his wife to become the lover of another man, an act that does not cure the profound sadness at the heart of their relationship. So Kaname gradually retreats into the protection of traditional rituals, attitudes and tastes, eventually making love to Ohisa, his father-in-law's old-fashioned mistress, as he abandons the modern world entirely.

**Some Prefer Nettles** - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 1981

Kaname's father-in-law plans to save Kaname's marriage by involving the couple in the classic traditions of Japan, especially the puppet theater

**This Perversion Called Love** - Margherita Long 2009-10-08

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.

**Childhood Years** - Jun'ichiro Tanizaki 2017-08-21

Set against the modernization of Japan, this memoir offers a moving look at famed novelist Tanizaki's early years

**Seven Japanese tales** - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 1975

**The Maids** - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 2017

A major discovery: Tanizaki's wonderful final novel--now in English

**Translucent Tree** - Nobuko Takagi 2008-05-06

When divorced single mother Chigiri Yamazaki is called on to care for her dying father, the last thing she expects to find is true love with someone from her past.

**The Key** - 2004-12-31

**People Might Hear You** - 1997

YA. Psychological thriller. When Francis' aunt marries the forbidding Mr Tyrell, she must join the temple. 11 yrs+

**The Key. Tanizaki** - Jun'ichir Tanizaki 1977

**Ruth and Naomi** - Jean Marzollo 2005

Retells the Old Testament story of the faithful Ruth, who gave up her country and everything familiar to her in order to accompany her mother-in-law Naomi to Bethlehem.

**The Gaze** - Elif Shafak 2012-10-25

A beautiful and compelling novel, Elif Shafak's *The Gaze* considers the damage which can be inflicted by our simple desire to look at others "I didn't say anything. I didn't return his smiles. I looked at him in the wide mirror in front of where I was sitting. He grew uncomfortable and avoided my eyes. I hate those who think fat people are stupid." An obese woman and her lover, a dwarf, are sick of being stared at wherever they go, and so decide to reverse roles. The man goes out wearing make up and the woman draws a moustache on her face. But while the woman wants to hide away from the world, the man meets the stares from passers-by head on, compiling his 'Dictionary of Gazes' to explore the boundaries between appearance and reality. Intertwined with the story of a bizarre freak-show organised in Istanbul in the 1880s, *The Gaze* considers the damage which can be inflicted by our simple desire to look at others. "Beautifully evoked" - *The Times*

"Original and Compelling" - TLS "Plays with ideas of beauty and ugliness like they're Rubik's cubes" - Helen Oyeyemi "Entertaining and affecting" - Publishers' Weekly Elif Shafak is the acclaimed author of *The Bastard of Istanbul* and *The Forty Rules of Love* and is the most widely read female novelist in Turkey. Her work has been translated into more than thirty languages. She is a contributor for *The Telegraph*, *Guardian* and the *New York Times* and her TED talk on the politics of fiction has received 500 000 viewers since July 2010. She is married with two children and divides her time between Istanbul and London.

*Sombrero Fallout* - Richard Brautigan 2012-08-02

A heartbroken American writer starts a story about an ice-cold sombrero that falls inexplicably from the sky and lands in the centre of a small Southwest town. Devastated by the departure of his gorgeous Japanese girlfriend, he cannot concentrate on his writing and in frustration he throws away his beginning. But as the man searches through his apartment for strands of his lost love's hair, the discarded story in the wastepaper basket - through some kind of elaborate origami - carries on without him. Arguments over the sombrero begin, one thing leads to another and before long all hell breaks loose in the normally sleep town. Brautigan's fertile imagination twists and pulls at the ensuing chaos to come up with a tender, moving, surreal and incredibly funny tale that is told by a writer at the very peak of his creative powers.

*Quicksand* - Junichiro Tanizaki 1995-06-24

*Quicksand* is a silkily nuanced novel of erotic gamesmanship and obsession. Sonoko Kakiuchi, an Osaka lady of a good family, married to a dully respected lawyer, tells a story of temptation and betrayal. Sonoko is infatuated with the beautiful art student and femme fatale Mitsuko, a woman so seductive and heartless she can even turn Sonoko's husband into her own accomplice. Filled with intrigue and treacherous romance, readers will be entranced by Tanizaki's seminal novel. At once savagely funny and timorously exact in its portrayal of sexual enthrallment, *Quicksand* is "beautifully and mysteriously contrived."—*Newsday*

*What Color Is Night?* - Grant Snider 2019-11-05

Look closer. Grant Snider's beautiful debut picture book explores the wonders—and colors—of nighttime. For night is not just black and white. Ending in colors yet unseen, and a night of sweet dreams, this lilting lullaby is sure to comfort those drifting off to sleep. With luminous art as spare and glowing as the moon, and lyrical text that reads like a friend leading the way through the wilderness, *What Color Is Night?* is a rich and timeless look at a topic of endless fascination, and a perfect bedtime read-aloud.

*Diary of a Mad Old Man* - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 2000

Tanizaki's last novel - written during his final illness, echoes his own life. Moving and powerful, it takes the form of an old man's diary, where he records his struggle with his self-image, and the manifestations of age,

and his growing desire for his b

*The Reed Cutter and Captain Shigemoto's Mother* - Junichiro Tanizaki 1995-06-24

Reprint. Originally published: New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1994.

*In Praise of Shadows* - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 2024-03-21

"In Praise of Shadows" (影の礼賛, "In'ei Risan" in Japanese) is an essay written by the renowned Japanese author Jun'ichirō Tanizaki. It was first published in 1933. The essay explores Tanizaki's aesthetic philosophy, particularly his appreciation for traditional Japanese culture and the beauty of shadows, darkness, and subtlety. Tanizaki reflects on the contrast between Western and Japanese aesthetics, emphasizing the preference for darkness and shadows in traditional Japanese architecture, interior design, and cultural practices. He celebrates the aesthetic qualities of dimly lit spaces, muted colors, and natural materials, arguing that they evoke a sense of mystery, depth, and tranquility that is lacking in the bright, artificial illumination favored in the West. Throughout the essay, Tanizaki discusses various aspects of Japanese culture, such as the tea ceremony, lacquerware, architecture, and literature, to illustrate his points about the beauty of shadows and the importance of preserving traditional craftsmanship and sensibilities in the face of modernization. "In Praise of Shadows" is not only a meditation on aesthetics but also a reflection on the cultural identity and values of Japan. It has been widely praised for its eloquent prose, thought-provoking ideas, and insightful observations about the interplay between light and shadow in shaping human perception and experience. The essay continues to be studied and admired for its enduring relevance and its exploration of the timeless qualities of beauty and elegance.

*The Key* - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 1991

The story of a dying marriage, told in the form of parallel diaries. After nearly 30 years of marriage, a dried-up, middle-aged professor frenziedly strives for new heights of carnal pleasure with his repressed, dissatisfied wife, resorting to stimulants galore for her. During the day, they record their adventures of the previous night.

*The Sailor who Fell from Grace with the Sea* - Yukio Mishima 2010-01-26

A tale of youth and warped masculinity, this is the suspenseful, lyrical and page-turning Japanese classic. A band of thirteen-year-old boys reject the stupidity of the adult world. They decide it is illusory, hypocritical and sentimental, and train themselves in a brutal callousness they call 'objectivity'. When the mother of one of them begins an affair with a ship's officer, he and his friends idealise the man at first, but it is not long before they conclude that he is, in fact, soft and romantic. They regard this disillusionment as an act of betrayal on his part – and the retribution is deliberate and horrifying. 'A page turning novel... A timeless classic'

Independent 'Mishima's greatest novel, and one of the greatest of the past century' *The Times* TRANSLATED

BY JOHN NATHAN

The Cambridge History of Japanese Literature - Haruo Shirane 2015-12-31

The Cambridge History of Japanese Literature provides, for the first time, a history of Japanese literature with comprehensive coverage of the premodern and modern eras in a single volume. The book is arranged topically in a series of short, accessible chapters for easy access and reference, giving insight into both canonical texts and many lesser known, popular genres, from centuries-old folk literature to the detective fiction of modern times. The various period introductions provide an overview of recurrent issues that span many decades, if not centuries. The book also places Japanese literature in a wider East Asian tradition of Sinitic writing and provides comprehensive coverage of women's literature as well as new popular literary forms, including manga (comic books). An extensive bibliography of works in English enables readers to continue to explore this rich tradition through translations and secondary reading.

**The Key & Diary of a Mad Old Man** - Junichiro Tanizaki 2004-09-14

These two modern classics by the great Japanese novelist Junichiro Tanizaki, both utilize the diary form to explore the authority that love and sex have over all. In *The Key*, a middle-aged professor plies his wife of thirty years with any number of stimulants, from brandy to a handsome young lover, in order to reach new heights of pleasure. Their alternating diaries record their separate adventures, but whether for themselves or each other becomes the question. *Diary of a Mad Old Man* records, with alternating humor and sadness, seventy-seven-year-old Utsugi's discovery that even his stroke-ravaged body still contains a raging libido, especially in the unwitting presence of his chic, mysterious daughter-in-law.

**The Key** - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 1968

*Proud Beggars* - Albert Cossery 2011-12-27

Early in *Proud Beggars*, a brutal and motiveless murder is committed in a Cairo brothel. But the real mystery at the heart of Albert Cossery's wry black comedy is not the cause of this death but the paradoxical richness

to be found in even the most materially impoverished life. Chief among Cossery's proud beggars is Gohar, a former professor turned warehouse accountant, hashish aficionado, and street philosopher. Such is his native charm that he has accumulated a small coterie that includes Yeghen, a rhapsodic poet and drug dealer, and El Kordi, an ineffectual clerk and would-be revolutionary who dreams of rescuing a consumptive prostitute. The police investigator Nour El Dine, harboring a dark secret of his own, suspects all three of the murder but finds himself captivated by their warm good humor. How is it that they live amid degrading poverty, yet possess a *joie de vivre* that even the most assiduous forces of state cannot suppress? Do they, despite their rejection of social norms and all ambition, hold the secret of contentment? And so this short novel, considered one of Cossery's masterpieces, is at once biting social commentary, police procedural, and a mischievous delight in its own right.

**His Name was Death** - Rafael Bernal 2021-11-02

Never before in English, this legendary precursor to eco-fiction turns the coming insect apocalypse on its head. A *Wall Street Journal* Best Science Fiction Book of 2021, a bitter drunk forsakes civilization and takes to the Mexican jungle, trapping animals, selling their pelts to buy liquor for colossal benders, and slowly rotting away in his fetid hut. His neighbors, a clan of the Lacodón tribe of Chiapas, however, see something more in him than he does himself (dubbing him *Wise Owl*): when he falls deathly ill, a shaman named Black Ant saves his life—and, almost by chance, in driving out his fever, she exorcises the demon of alcoholism as well. Slowly recovering, weak in his hammock, our antihero discovers a curious thing about the mosquitoes' buzzing, "which to human ears seemed so irritating and pointless." Perhaps, in fact, it constituted a language he might learn—and with the help of a flute and a homemade dictionary—even speak. Slowly, he masters *Mosquil*, with astonishing consequences... Will he harness the mosquitoes' global might? And will his new powers enable him to take over the world that's rejected him? A book far ahead of its time, *His Name Was Death* looks down the double-barreled shotgun of ecological disaster and colonial exploitation—and cackles a graveyard laugh.

*The Key* - Jun'ichirō Tanizaki 1961