

## The Key Junichiro Tanizaki

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[Reading Tanizaki, Feminist Theory, and Freud](#) Vintage

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.

*Two Novellas* New Directions Publishing Corporation

The KeyVintage

[The Grand Old Man and the Great Tradition](#) Vintage

The prize-winning debut mystery from one of Japan's best-loved crime writers The K Apartments for Ladies are occupied by over one hundred unmarried women, once young and lively, now grown and old—and in some cases, evil. Their residence conceals a secret connecting the unsolved 1951 kidnapping of four-year-old George Kraft to the clandestine burial of a child's body in the basement bath-house. So, when news comes that the building must be moved to make way for a road-building project, more than one tenant waits with apprehension for the grisly revelation that will follow. Then the master key is lost, stolen and re-stolen—and suddenly no-one feels safe. Fiendish intrigue, double identity and an ingenious plot make this a thriller worthy of comparison with the work of P.D. James.

*Behind the Lies* Vintage

Jun'ichir? 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 Key Stanford University Press

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.

[The Sailor who Fell from Grace with the Sea](#) Vintage

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

*Eat Me* University of Michigan Press

Finally back in print, a frighteningly lucid feminist horror story about marriage *The Dry Heart* begins and ends with the matter-of-fact pronouncement, " I shot him between the eyes. " Everything in between is a plunge into the chilly waters of loneliness, desperation, and bitterness—and as the tale proceeds, the narrator ' s murder of her flighty husband takes on a certain logical inevitability. In this powerful novella, Natalia Ginzburg ' s writing is white-hot, fueled by rage, stripped of any preciousness or sentimentality; she transforms an ordinary dull marriage into a rich psychological thriller that might pose the question: why don ' t more wives kill their husbands?

*Longing and Other Stories* New Directions

A band of savage thirteen-year-old boys reject the adult world as 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 Cat, a Man, and Two Women](#) Vintage

'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 Fortright 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-

The Ghost Clause Columbia University Press

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

*Masks* Vintage

No Japanese writer was more obsessed with desire than Tanizaki Jun'ichiro (1886 – 1965). Over a career that spanned half a century, he explored, with both joyful fascination and ruthless insight, the dazzling varieties of sexuality, the complementary attractions of exoticism and nostalgia, the human yearning for mastery over others, and the tense relationship between fantasy and the exterior world. His fiction is filled with portrayals of desire in all its violence, irony, pathos, and comedy. In one of Tanizaki's novels, a young engineer fascinated with the West sets out to transform a Japanese bar girl into his very own version of Mary Pickford. He succeeds to such an extent that the girl, growing tired of his immutable Japaneseness, begins to take foreign lovers. Cuckolded and humiliated though his is, the engineer is unable to leave his fantasy-come-to-life and resigns himself to enslavement. In another novel, a Westernized Japanese finds himself gradually drawn to the past. Specifically, he is attracted to his father-in-law's companion, a young woman who has been trained and costumed to play the part of an old-fashioned mistress. Though this woman is no more a flesh-and-blood embodiment of tradition than a bunraku doll, the protagonist contemplates a life with someone like her, a life defined by the pursuit of abstract, dehumanized cultural ideals. *Visions of Desire* locates such novels in the shifting discourse on cultural identity and cultural aspiration that permeates Japanese life. Ito argues that Tanizaki's novels do not merely end in the reification and contemplation of cultural ideals but rather problematize the desire behind such ideals. He finds in the writer's fiction a subtle understanding of cultural aspiration as a process riddled with subversions, influenced by patterns of mediation, and circumscribed by the lonely efforts of individual subjectivity. He discovers in Tanizaki's fables about the male effort to transform women into cultural icons a clear awareness of the sexual and class hierarchies that make such transformation possible. *Visions of Desire* is the first book in English on a writer who is possibly modern Japan's greatest novelist. Ito has written for both the specialist and the general reader, setting his argument in a discussion both of Tanizaki's times and of the life of a writer who believed in living out the fantasies that fueled his fictions.

*A Memoir* Random House LLC

*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*.

*The Dry Heart* University of Michigan Press

Transgender indie electronica singer-songwriter Rae Spoon has six albums to their credit, including 2012 ' s I Can ' t Keep All of Our Secrets. This first book by Rae (who uses "they" as a pronoun) is a candid, powerful story about a young person growing up queer in a strict Pentecostal family in rural Canada. The narrator attends church events and Billy Graham rallies faithfully with their family before discovering the music that becomes their salvation and means of escape. As their father's schizophrenia causes their parents' marriage to unravel, the narrator finds solace and safety in the company of their siblings, in their nascent feelings for a girl at school, and in their growing awareness that they are not the person their parents think they are. With a heart as big as the prairie sky, this is a quietly devastating, heart-wrenching coming-of-age book about escaping dogma, surviving abuse, finding love, and risking everything for acceptance. Rae Spoon lives in Montreal, Quebec.

*The Distance Between Us* Random House

This volume presents 18 eighteen essays, written by scholars from six countries, on Tanizaki Jun ' ichiro (1886 – 1965), one of the great writers of the 20th century. The essays were originally prepared for a landmark international symposium in Venice in 1995, at which 22 speakers addressed an audience of about two hundred students and scholars in the Aula Magna of the University of Venice. Topics include Tanizaki ' s fiction, plays, and film scenarios; his aesthetics; his place in Japanese intellectual history; his depiction of the West; his use of humor; and film adaptations of his works. In 1964 Tanizaki was elected to honorary membership in the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, the first Japanese to be so honored; and it is widely believed that he was being considered for the Nobel Prize in Literature.

*Devils in Daylight* Stanford University Press

A son looks back on the family history that shaped him and led to his father's leading role in a brutal dictatorship. *Visions of Desire* Vintage

In 1995, on the thirtieth anniversary of Tanizaki Jun ' ichiro ' s death, Adriana Boscaro organized an international conference in Venice that had an unusually lasting effect on the study of this major Japanese novelist. Thanks to Boscaro ' s energetic commitment, Venice became a center for Tanizaki studies that produced two volumes of conference proceedings now considered foundational for all scholarly works on Tanizaki. In the years before and after the Venice Conference, Boscaro and her students published an abundance of works on Tanizaki and translations of his writings, contributing to his literary success in Italy and internationally. *The Grand Old Man and the Great Tradition* honors Boscaro ' s work by collecting nine essays on Tanizaki ' s position in relation to the " great tradition " of Japanese classical literature. To open the collection, Edward Seidensticker contributes a provocative essay on literary styles and the task of translating *Genji* into a modern language. Gaye Rowley and Ibuki Kazuko also consider Tanizaki ' s *Genji* translations, from a completely different point of view, documenting the author ' s three separate translation efforts. Aileen Gatten turns to the influence of Heian narrative methods on Tanizaki ' s fiction, arguing that his classicism, far from being superficial, " reflects a deep sensitivity to Heian narrative. " Tzevetana Kristeva holds a different perspective on Tanizaki ' s classicism, singling out specific aspects of Tanizaki ' s eroticism as the basis of comparison. The next two essays emphasize Tanizaki ' s experimental engagement with the classical literary genres—Amy V. Heinrich treats the understudied poetry, and Bonaventura Ruperti considers a 1933 essay on performance arts. Taking up cinema, Roberta Novelli focuses on the novel *Manji*, exploring how it was recast for the screen by Masumura Yasuzo. The volume concludes with two contributions interpreting Tanizaki ' s works in the light of Western and Meiji literary traditions: Paul McCarthy considers Nabokov's a point of comparison, and Jacqueline Pigeot conducts a groundbreaking comparison with a novel by Natsume Soseki.

*The Secret History of the Lord of Musashi* Houghton Mifflin

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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.

Essays on Tanizaki Jun'ichiro in Honor of Adriana Boscaro Random House

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.

[The Reed Cutter and Captain Shigemoto's Mother](#) New Directions Publishing Corporation

Four daughters of an old merchant family unknowingly face the end of a gentler way of life in Osaka, Japan in 1938.

[A Japanese Novel](#) arsenal pulp press

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.