

Strange Weather in Tokyo

Von Hiromi Kawakami

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Von Hiromi Kawakami : Strange Weather in Tokyo before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Strange Weather in Tokyo:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. nicht schlecht, aberVon kalibrimir gefällt der kurze roman nicht schlecht - andererseits verblissen er und seine zwei hauptcharaktere sofort nach schlieen des (virtuellen) buchdeckels!es finden sich immer wieder sensibel und gekonnt formulierte passagen, von der *psychologischen* personenfhrgung htte ich aber mehr erwartet - oder ist es unsere

unkenntnis japanischen lebensalltags, die mich hier streng urteilen lsst?es geht nmlich zuallererst, man mchte fast sagen: ausschlielich, um situationen, in den in diversen bars *getrunken* wird - und zwar um das, was getrunken wird, wieviel getrunken wird, wer wem einschenken darf und wie gut die personen dieses einschenken beherrschen das provozierte zumindest bei mir nicht anderes als langeweile ...

Kurzbeschreibung Tsukiko is in her late 30s and living alone when one night she happens to meet one of her former high school teachers, 'Sensei', in a bar. He is at least thirty years her senior, retired and, she presumes, a widower. After this initial encounter, the pair continue to meet occasionally to share food and drink sake, and as the seasons pass - from spring cherry blossom to autumnal mushrooms - Tsukiko and Sensei come to develop a hesitant intimacy which tilts awkwardly and poignantly into love. Perfectly constructed, funny, and moving, *Strange Weather in Tokyo* is a tale of modern Japan and old-fashioned romance. *Pressestimmen* Praise for *Strange Weather in Tokyo* (previously published as *The Briefcase*) "I'm hooked on [this] sentimental novel about the friendship, formed over late nights at a sake bar, between a Tokyo woman in her late thirties and her old high school teacher... I can only imagine what wizardry must have gone into Allison Markin Powell's translation." --Lorin Stein, *The Paris Daily* "In quiet, nature-infused prose that stresses both characters' solitude, Kawakami subtly captures the cyclic patterns of loneliness while weighing the definition of love." --Booklist "In its love of the physical, sensual details of living, its emotional directness, and above all in the passion for food, this is somewhat reminiscent of Banana Yoshimoto's *Kitchen*." --INDEPENDENT, (UK) "Each chapter of the book is like a haiku, incorporating seasonal references to the moon, mushroom picking and cherry blossoms. The chapters are whimsical and often melancholy, but humor is never far away.... It is a celebration of friendship, the ordinary and individuality and a rumination on intimacy, love and loneliness. I cannot recommend *Strange Weather in Tokyo* enough, which is also a testament to the translator who has skillfully retained the poetry and beauty of the original." --The Japan Society "Strange Weather in Tokyo is a tender love story that drifts with the lightness of a leaf on a stream. Subtle and touching, this is a novel about loneliness, assuaged by an unlikely romance, and brought to life by one of Japan's most engaging contemporary writers." --Readings (Australia) "A dream-like spell of a novel, full of humor, sadness, warmth and tremendous subtlety. I read this in one sitting and I think it will haunt me for a long time." --Amy Sackville Praise for *Manazuru* "In Kawakami's first novel to be translated into English, a woman fades in and out of the present as she visits the beach town of Manazuru, in the shadow of Mt. Fuji. Kei's husband disappeared when their daughter, Momo, was three. Momo is now 12 and lives with Kei and Kei's mother in Tokyo. Moments shared among the women are pleasant but awkward, due to three generations of unspoken resentment. Some jarring transitions aside, Kawakami's handling of temporal space feels authentic: as Kei kisses her lover in one time and place, the wetness leaves her lips in another; she sits alone on a bench in Tokyo. The real and the fantastical meld as Kei narrowly avoids disaster (she escapes the typhoon that destroys the restaurant where she was dining). Her memories are startlingly vivid, yet their veracity remains uncertain; are the visions she has of her husband with another woman real or imagined? Kawakami has a remarkable ability to obscure reality, fantasy, and memory, making the desire for love feel hauntingly real." --Publishers Weekly "The *Manazuru* of Kawakami's is a dream state as much as a place, a seaside town visited often by the restless narrator, Kei. Kei's husband vanished more than a decade ago, and only now, living in Tokyo with her mother and sullen 16-year-old daughter, is she compelled to put his memory to rest. Kei is haunted not only by her husband but also inexplicably by other shadow-like entities. She is drawn again and again to Manazuru, where she enters a world where time stops, sound evaporates, women hang from trees, boats spark into flame and disappear, and ghosts come and go like smoke. Yet the fantasy has purpose as a manifestation of Kei's sense of displacement, and of her estrangement from her daughter and mother. The action convincingly moves in waves between Kei's past and present, the surreal and the everyday. Part ghost story, part meditation on life and death, family and self, this slim novel is captivating and suspenseful, and sure to satisfy not only fans of ghost fiction but all readers." --Booklist "It's one of those unexpected titles that wear better with time; it needs to sort of 'sit' after reading to fully appreciate." --Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center Praise for *Record of a Night Too Brief* "Baffling, unsettling and haunting, these tales have a dreamlike atmosphere, rather like Salvador Dali's pictures--anything can happen." --The Lady, (UK) Praise for *The Nakano Thrift Shop* "Subtle, graceful, wise and threaded on a quirky humor, this exploration of the connections and disconnections between people kept me smiling long after the last page." --Julia Rochester, author of *The House at the End of the World* "The *Nakano Thrift Shop* is really a love story, albeit a very offbeat one... A gentle book, full of charm [and] radiating leftfield charisma." --Emerald Street "Kawakami has an extraordinarily way of drawing you into her ethereal world where, although nothing really happens, when they do, little transgressions or events cause ripples that spread seamlessly throughout the whole book and stay with you long after the story has finished." --The Reprobate Magazine, (UK) Kurzbeschreibung Tsukiko is in her late 30s and living alone when one night she happens to meet one of her former high school teachers, 'Sensei', in a bar. He is at least thirty years her senior, retired and, she presumes, a widower. After this initial encounter, the pair continue to meet occasionally to share food and drink sake,

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