

Haruki Murakami De Opwindvogelkronieken

A beautifully designed hardback diary for 2020, featuring unique artwork inspired by Haruki Murakami's works along with quotations and significant dates. Murakami's distinctive blend of the mysterious and the everyday, of melancholy and humour, continues to enchant readers, ensuring his place as one of the world's most acclaimed and well-loved writers. This diary includes visual and textual references to his works, from *Wind/Pinball*, *A Wild Sheep Chase* and *Norwegian Wood* to *Killing Commendatore* and *Novelist as a Vocation*. Contents include: Yearly Planner Selection of Japanese Holidays and Festivals Dates of cycles of the moon Seasonal quotations and extracts from Murakami's books Significant dates from the books marked Images of jackets in progress as well as the finished versions Visual content from *The Strange Library* Specially designed artwork to match the seasons Notes section at the back Image or text on every recto, and weekly planner on verso.

Boek drie is het derde deel uit de trilogie 1q84 ' Aomame kan niet weg uit de flat waar ze zich schuilhoudt, Tengo kan niet weg bij zijn stervende vader, en Ushikawa kan niet weg achter de verborgen camera waarmee hij op ze loert. Ieder bezint zich op zichzelf. Wat kunnen ze anders doen? Maar wie zal de eerste zijn die deze patstelling verbreekt? Wat is de werkelijke reden dat de sekte Aomame ten koste van alles levend in handen wil krijgen? En wie is de mysterieuze NHK-collecteur die bij alle drie op de voordeur bonst? In deze zinderende roman brengt Haruki Murakami zijn meesterlijke trilogie tot haar onverbiddelijke, ontroerende ontknoping. Boek drie is het derde deel uit de trilogie 1q84 Haruki Murakami (Kyoto, 1949) studeerde aan de Waseda-universiteit in Tokyo. Na zijn studie was Murakami zeven jaar eigenaar van een kleine jazzbar, Peter Cat, in Tokyo. Met zijn eerste roman *Hear the wind sing* (1979) won hij de Gunzou Literatuurprijs voor beginnende schrijvers. Deze roman vormt, samen met *Pinball 1973* (1980) en *De jacht op het verloren schaap* de Trilogie van de Rat. *Hear the wind sing* en *Pinball 1973* mochten niet buiten Japan worden verkocht, Murakami vond ze te zwak. Daarna schreef hij *Hard-boiled Wonderland* en *het einde van de wereld*, *Norwegian Wood*, *Dans dans dans*, *Ten zuiden van de grens* en *De olifant verdwijnt*. Vanaf 1991 woonde Murakami vier jaar met zijn vrouw in de Verenigde Staten, waar hij in Princeton (New Jersey) les gaf en *De opwindvogelkronieken* schreef. Na de Hanshin-aardbeving in Kobe en de gasexplosie in de metro van Tokyo in 1995 keerde Murakami terug naar Japan, waar hij de slachtoffers van de gasexplosie en de leden van de religieuze sekte Aum Shinrikyo interviewde. Hij schreef vervolgens twee non-fictieboeken, die in 2000 zijn gebundeld in de Amerikaanse editie *Underground*. Sindsdien heeft Murakami *Spoetnikliefde*, *Na de aardbeving* en *Kafka op het strand* geschreven. De meest recente boeken zijn *After Dark*, *Waarover ik praat als ik over hardlopen praat*, de verhalenbundel *Blinde wilg*, *slapende vrouw* en *1q84* Boek een

en Boek twee. Over 1q84 Boek een en Boek twee: Ik verwed er een parallel universum om dat u deze zomer geen vakantieboek zo briljant vinden zal. Bart Vanegeren, Humo **** Superieure spelerei in de nieuwe Murakami. [...] 1q84 is een fantasievol en spannend verhaal over een futuristisch Japans wonderland. De inhoud is mystiek, de vorm een superieur spel van stijlen. Elsevier Literaire sensatie van het jaar. Marnix Verplancke, De Morgen Murakami schreef het boek van het jaar [] Voor wie vandaag nog verlegen zit om een vakantieboek waar je echt je tanden in kunt zetten, is 1q84 een absolute aanrader: spannend maar ook diepzinnig, meeslepend maar toch soms dromerig, makkelijk verteld maar o zo zinderend en intens. Kortom, een weergaloze ode aan het geconcentreerde, zinnelijke leven. Knack Een meesterwerk. [...] Wachten met lezen van 1q84 tot deel 3 verschijnt wordt ten strengste afgeraden en zal leiden tot grote spijt. Het Parool 1q84 is beslist een Murakamiklassieker. [...] Lang na lezing blijft deze donkere droomwereld je bij en dat heeft absurd genoeg iets prettigs. Fleur Speet, Het Financieele Dagblad '

The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle is a tour de force—and one of Haruki Murakami's most acclaimed and beloved novels. In a Tokyo suburb, a young man named Toru Okada searches for his wife's missing cat—and then for his wife as well—in a netherworld beneath the city's placid surface. As these searches intersect, he encounters a bizarre group of allies and antagonists. Gripping, prophetic, and suffused with comedy and menace, this is an astonishingly imaginative detective story, an account of a disintegrating marriage, and an excavation of the buried secrets from Japan's forgotten campaign in Manchuria during World War II.

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From the NEW YORK TIMES Bestselling author, a gripping murder mystery about a serial killer on the loose in San Francisco. Indiana Jackson is 33 years old and works in an alternative medicine clinic in San Francisco that attracts all sorts of characters, some of them skeptics, who fall for her candor and humility. Her teenage daughter, Amanda likes noir literature and hopes to attend MIT, where she will be with Bradley, an old friend that she plans to marry, with or without his consent. In her free time, she plays Ripper, an online role playing game that involves solving real-life mysteries and crimes using information collected by Amanda's father, the Chief Inspector of the San Francisco police. Amanda plays the game via Skype with adolescents from all over the world and with her best friend, her grandfather Blake. Each player in the game has a virtual personality: Amanda is the game master, and Blake is her henchman; the others are Sherlock Holmes, Colonel Paddington, Esmeralda, and the psychic Abatha. When Ripper's latest murder mystery—"the case of the misplaced bat"—begins to touch their real-world lives, Amanda and her friends know they must solve the case and find the murderer before he can strike again. RIPPER is a true thriller, with the twists, surprises, well-placed clues, and revelations that lead to a climatic finale. A rich and generous novel, filled with humor but increasingly dark, it's a fast-

paced read that grabs you right from the start and keeps you glued to the page.

Wind/Pinball includes Haruki Murakami's first two novels, published back-to-back, available for the first time in English outside Japan. With a new introduction by the author. Published as a reversible hardback 'If you're the sort of guy who raids the refrigerators of silent kitchens at three o'clock in the morning, you can only write accordingly. That's who I am.' Hear the Wind Sing and Pinball, 1973 are Haruki Murakami's earliest novels. They follow the fortunes of the narrator and his friend, known only by his nickname, the Rat. In Hear the Wind Sing the narrator is home from college on his summer break. He spends his time drinking beer and smoking in J's Bar with the Rat, listening to the radio, thinking about writing and the women he has slept with, and pursuing a relationship with a girl with nine fingers. Three years later, in Pinball, 1973, he has moved to Tokyo to work as a translator and live with indistinguishable twin girls, but the Rat has remained behind, despite his efforts to leave both the town and his girlfriend. The narrator finds himself haunted by memories of his own doomed relationship but also, more bizarrely, by his short-lived obsession with playing pinball in J's Bar. This sends him on a quest to find the exact model of pinball machine he had enjoyed playing years earlier: the three-flipper Spaceship.

A science writer and recreational runner explores the science behind popularly held beliefs about shoes, injuries, nutrition, "runner's high," and more. Conventional wisdom about running is passed down like folklore (and sometimes contradicts itself): the right kind of shoe prevents injury--or running barefoot, like our prehistoric ancestors, is best; eat a high-fat diet--and also carbo load before a race; running cures depression--but it might be addictive; running can save your life--although it can also destroy your knee cartilage. Often it's hard to know what to believe. In Running Smart, Mariska van Sprundel, a science journalist and recreational runner who has had her fair share of injuries, sets out to explore the science behind such claims. In her quest, van Sprundel reviews the latest developments in sports science, consults with a variety of experts, and visits a sports lab to have her running technique analyzed. She learns, among other things, that according to evolutionary biology, humans are perfectly adapted to running long distances (even if our hunter-gatherer forebears suffered plenty of injuries); that running sets off a shockwave that spreads from foot to head, which may or may not be absorbed by cushioned shoes; and that a good sports bra controls the ping pong-like movements of a female runner's breasts. She explains how the body burns fuel, the best foods to eat before and after running, and what might cause "runner's high." More than fifty million Americans are runners (and a slight majority of them are women). This engaging and enlightening book will help both novice and seasoned runners run their smartest. In the context of Haruki Murakami's real-life activities that are conducive to his writing, this book sheds light on three of his early short stories. Comparable to his acclaimed novels in complexity and covert meaning, they reveal upon close

analysis his distinctive literary creativity and enduring concerns with society.

The twenty-four stories that make up *Blind Willow, Sleeping Woman* generously express the incomparable Haruki Murakami's mastery of the form. Here are animated crows, a criminal monkey, and an ice man, as well as the dreams that shape us and the things we might wish for. From the surreal to the mundane, these stories exhibit Murakami's ability to transform the full range of human experience in ways that are instructive, surprising, and entertaining.

In the tales that make up *The Elephant Vanishes*, the imaginative genius that has made Haruki Murakami an international superstar is on full display. In these stories, a man sees his favorite elephant vanish into thin air; a newlywed couple suffers attacks of hunger that drive them to hold up a McDonald's in the middle of the night; and a young woman discovers that she has become irresistible to a little green monster who burrows up through her backyard. By turns haunting and hilarious, in *The Elephant Vanishes* Murakami crosses the border between separate realities—and comes back bearing remarkable treasures. Includes the story "Barn Burning," which is the basis for the major motion picture *Burning*.

This fantastically varied and exciting collection celebrates the great Japanese short story, from its modern origins in the nineteenth century to the remarkable works being written today. Short story writers already well-known to English-language readers are all included here - Tanizaki, Akutagawa, Murakami, Mishima, Kawabata - but also many surprising new finds. From Yuko Tsushima's 'Flames' to Yuten Sawanishi's 'Filling Up with Sugar', from Shin'ichi Hoshi's 'Shoulder-Top Secretary' to Banana Yoshimoto's 'Bee Honey', *The Penguin Book of Japanese Short Stories* is filled with fear, charm, beauty and comedy. Curated by Jay Rubin, who has himself freshly translated several of the stories, and introduced by Haruki Murakami, this book will be a revelation to its readers.

Part romance, part detective story, *Sputnik Sweetheart* tells the story of a tangled triangle of uniquely unrequited love. K is madly in love with his best friend, Sumire, but her devotion to a writerly life precludes her from any personal commitments. At least, that is, until she meets an older woman to whom she finds herself irresistibly drawn. When Sumire disappears from an island off the coast of Greece, K is solicited to join the search party—and finds himself drawn back into her world and beset by ominous visions. Subtle and haunting, *Sputnik Sweetheart* is a profound meditation on human longing.

A selection of deliciously spooky short stories from the Japanese master of suspense, the acclaimed author of *RING*. The film *DARK WATER* is based on the first story in the collection.

Vintage Readers are a perfect introduction to some of the greatest modern writers presented in attractive, accessible paperback editions. "Murakami's bold willingness to go straight over the top is a signal indication of his genius. . . . A

world-class writer who has both eyes open and takes big risks.” —The Washington Post Book World Not since Yukio Mishima and Yasunari Kawabata has a Japanese writer won the international acclaim enjoyed by Haruki Murakami. His genre-busting novels, short stories and reportage, which have been translated into 35 languages, meld the surreal and the hard-boiled, deadpan comedy and delicate introspection. Vintage Murakami includes the opening chapter of the international bestseller *Norwegian Wood*; “Lieutenant Mamiya’s Long Story: Parts I and II” from his monumental novel *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle*; “Shizuko Akashi” from *Underground*, his non-fiction book on the Toyko subway attack of 1995; and the short stories “Barn Burning,” “Honeypie.” Also included, for the first time in book form, the short story, “Ice Man.”

A memoir of race, inequality and the power of literature told through the life-changing friendship between an idealistic young teacher and her gifted student who was jailed for murder in the Mississippi Delta. As a young English teacher keen to make a difference in the world, Michelle Kuo took a job at a tough school in the Mississippi Delta, sharing books and poetry with a young African-American teenager named Patrick and his classmates. For the first time, these kids began to engage with ideas and dreams beyond their small town, and to gain an insight into themselves that they had never had before. Two years later, Michelle left to go to law school; but Patrick began to lose his way, killing a man and facing a lengthy jail sentence. And that’s when Michelle decided that her work was not done, and began to visit Patrick once a week, and soon every day, to read with him again. Finely written in the very best tradition of American long-form narrative, *Reading with Patrick* is a story of hope, redemption and the power of books to transform – and even to save – a life.

An extraordinary debut novel of love that survives the fires of hell and transcends the boundaries of time. On a burn ward, a man lies between living and dying, so disfigured that no one from his past life would even recognize him. His only comfort comes from imagining various inventive ways to end his misery. Then a woman named Marianne Engel walks into his hospital room, a wild-haired, schizophrenic sculptress on the lam from the psych ward upstairs, who insists that she knows him – that she has known him, in fact, for seven hundred years. She remembers vividly when they met, in another hospital ward at a convent in medieval Germany, when she was a nun and he was a wounded mercenary left to die. If he has forgotten this, he is not to worry: she will prove it to him. And so Marianne Engel begins to tell him their story, carving away his disbelief and slowly drawing him into the orbit and power of a word he'd never uttered: love.

For fans of Grace Helbig and Alexa Chung comes a fresh, hilarious guide to growing up your way from social media influencer and lifestyle vlogger Arden Rose. In *Almost Adulthood*—perfect for budding adults, failing adults, and eaters of microwave mug brownies—Arden tells you how to survive your future adulthood. Topics include: Making internet friends who are cool and not murderers Flirting with someone in a way to

make them think you are cool and not a murderer Being in an actual relationship where you talk about your feelings in a healthy manner??? To the other person??????? Eating enough protein Assembling a somewhat acceptable adult wardrobe when you have zero dollars Going on adventures without starting to smell How sex is supposed to feel, but, like, actually though By the end of the book—a mash-up of essays, lists, and artwork—you'll have learned not only how to dress yourself, how to travel alone, how to talk to strangers online, and how to date strangers (in PERSON!), but also how to pass as a real, functioning, appropriately socialized adult.

This book is a timely and expansive volume on Murakami Haruki, arguably Japan's most high profile contemporary writer. With contributions from prominent Murakami scholars, this book approaches the works of Murakami Haruki through interdisciplinary perspectives, discussing their significance and value through the lenses of history; geography; politics; gender and sexuality; translation; literary influence and circulation. Chapters together provide a multi-faceted assessment on Murakami's literary oeuvre in the last four decades, vouching for its continuous importance in understanding the world and Japan in contemporary times. The book also features exclusive material that includes the cultural critic Kat? Norihiro's final work on Murakami - his chapter here one of the few works ever translated into English - to interviews with Murakami and discussions from his translators and editors, shedding light not only on Murakami's work as literature but as products of cross-cultural exchanges. Murakami Haruki and Our Years of Pilgrimage will prove a valuable resource for students and scholars of Japanese studies, comparative and world literature, cultural studies, and beyond.

For ten-year-old Christine, home is a hostile, troubling place. Her mother reserves her affection for her younger, live-in-lover, and for Waldo, Christine's teenage brother. Christine viciously takes out her angry feelings on her Barbies and on a weaker girl in her class. Then on a family holiday in Scotland, a tragic accident occurs for which Christine blames herself, and panic-stricken, she runs away with her four-year-old brother, and hides in the back of a stranger's car. Agnes Stam is an elderly Dutch spinster, making her annual summer pilgrimage to her family's holiday cottage on Mull. When she discover the little stowaways in her car, she fails to report the missing children and allows them to stay. And so a little girl with a big, guilty secret becomes a lonely old woman's salvation - and also her nemesis.

Quirky and utterly captivating, *A Wild Sheep Chase* is Murakami at his astounding best. 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. Thus begins 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.

Fans of dark fairy-tales like *The Hazel Wood* and *The Cruel Prince* will relish this atmospheric and absorbing book based on Guillermo del Toro's critically acclaimed movie. Oscar winning writer-director Guillermo del Toro and New York Times bestselling author Cornelia Funke have come together to transform del Toro's hit movie *Pan's Labyrinth* into an epic and dark fantasy novel for readers of all ages, complete with haunting illustrations and enchanting short stories that flesh out the folklore of this fascinating world. This spellbinding tale takes readers to a sinister, magical, and war-torn world filled with richly drawn characters like trickster fauns, murderous soldiers, child-eating monsters, courageous rebels, and a long-lost princess hoping to be reunited with her family. A brilliant collaboration between masterful storytellers that's not to be missed. "Perfectly unsettling and deeply felt, this reminded me of the best kind of fairytales wherein each chapter is a jewel that, when held up to the light, reframes how we see the world around us." —Roshani Chokshi, New York Times bestselling author of *The Star-Touched Queen* and *Aru Shah and the End of Time* "A fearless and moving adaption of the film, and a gorgeously written, emotional,

frightening parable about the courage of young women amid the brutality of war.” —Michael Grant, New York Times bestselling author of *Gone*

From the best-selling author of *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle* and *After Dark*, a rich and revelatory memoir about writing and running, and the integral impact both have made on his life. In 1982, having sold his jazz bar to devote himself to writing, Haruki Murakami began running to keep fit. A year later, he'd completed a solo course from Athens to Marathon, and now, after dozens of such races, not to mention triathlons and a slew of critically acclaimed books, he reflects upon the influence the sport has had on his life and—even more important—on his writing. Equal parts training log, travelogue, and reminiscence, this revealing memoir covers his four-month preparation for the 2005 New York City Marathon and includes settings ranging from Tokyo's Jingu Gaien gardens, where he once shared the course with an Olympian, to the Charles River in Boston among young women who outpace him. Through this marvellous lens of sport emerges a cornucopia of memories and insights: the eureka moment when he decided to become a writer, his greatest triumphs and disappointments, his passion for vintage LPs, and the experience, after the age of fifty, of seeing his race times improve and then fall back. By turns funny and sobering, playful and philosophical, *What I Talk About When I Talk About Running* is both for fans of this masterful yet guardedly private writer and for the exploding population of athletes who find similar satisfaction in distance running.

My Fellow Skin is a beautiful, affectionate novel told from the point of view of an impressionable young boy. The novel opens before the boy can talk, and we follow Anton's first, tentative steps on the path to adulthood. He gradually begins to grasp an understanding of time and death, and when he goes to school he falls in love for the first time – not with the schoolgirls his peers are interested in, but with his classmate, Willem. A gentle, protective relationship develops between them, and this gives Anton his own, new identity, his 'fellow skin'. But their love ends tragically, and Anton ultimately loses not only his love, but also his youth, the protection of his parents, and the old house in the village. He is left desolate.

An instant #1 New York Times Bestseller One of the most revered voices in literature today gives us a story of love, friendship, and heartbreak for the ages. *Colorless Tsukuru Tazaki and His Years of Pilgrimage* is the remarkable story of a young man haunted by a great loss; of dreams and nightmares that have unintended consequences for the world around us; and of a journey into the past that is necessary to mend the present. A New York Times and Washington Post notable book, and one of the Financial Times, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Slate, Mother Jones, The Daily Beast, and BookPage's best books of the year

Haruki Murakami, Andy Warhol, Annie M.G. Schmidt, Albert Einstein, Stephen King, Franz Kafka, Harry Mulisch, Jane Austen, Vincent van Gogh, Ludwig van Beethoven, Maya Angelou, Woody Allen en 141 andere creatieven over de rituelen, routines, gewoonten en obsessies waarmee ze hun dagelijkse inspiratie vinden. Het geheime ingrediënt van bijna elk meesterwerk is routine. Soms is dit een kop koffie gemaakt van precies 60 bonen (Beethoven), soms de gewoonte om om de zoveel uur onder de douche te springen (Woody Allen). Deze routines zijn er niet voor niets: wie creatief wil zijn moet elke dag weer in 'de flow' zien te komen. In 'Dagelijkse rituelen' zijn daarom alle routines, gewoonten en obsessies van bekende creatieven verzameld die hen door het scheppingsproces hebben geholpen. Ter troost én inspiratie voor alle mede-ploeters. Zo kun je de kunst afkijken bij onder anderen Maya Angelou (werk in een aftandse motelkamer want een mooie omgeving leidt alleen maar af), Freud (bestede mondaine dagelijkse taken zoals tandpasta op je tandenborstel doen uit aan je vrouw) of bij Annie M.G. Schmidt (stel het werken

gewoon uit totdat de opdrachtgever verontrust belt waar het blijft). Zoals Eva Hoeke stelt, die de bijdragen over bekende Nederlanders schreef, is er in Dagelijkse rituelen sprake van 'zowel ontluistering als mythologisering, maar in beide gevallen zult u zich net als ik getroost voelen: u bent niet alleen.' - Het ultieme kijkje in de creatieve keuken

Haruki Murakami heeft de wereld betoverd met zijn indringende literatuur. Hoe komt het dat zijn verhalen zoveel mensen raken? Alleen omdat ze spannend en goed geschreven zijn, of spreekt de Japanner ook op een dieper niveau aan? Ype de Boer laat zien dat Murakami's verhalen ons iets kunnen leren over een fundamentele gespletenheid in het menselijk bestaan. Deze originele bespreking van Murakami's alledaagse helden, magische figuren en droomachtige sferen nodigt uit om Murakami's fictie op het eigen leven te betrekken, en werpt nieuw licht op thema's als identiteit, verantwoordelijkheid, zelfkennis, verbeelding, liefde, vrijheid en lot. Ype de Boer heeft de taak op zich genomen uit het labyrintische oeuvre van de Japanner een ware levenskunstfilosofie te halen. Verplichte kost voor wie denkt dat het leven om harmonie, gemoedsrust en innerlijke stabiliteit draait. Murakami en vooral De Boer laten zien dat het om iets heel anders gaat: de bereidheid je gespletenheid en veranderbaarheid te accepteren.' - René ten Bos, Denker des Vaderlands. Dit diepgravende maar toegankelijke boek dringt door tot in de kern van Haruki Murakami's oeuvre: de existentiële worsteling van de moderne, gespleten mens. Het wakkert de zin aan het werk van de Japanse grootmeester te herlezen en nieuwe dieptes te peilen.' - Auke Hulst, schrijver en boekrecensent voor de NRC

A comprehensive and interpretative biography of Franz Kafka that is both a monumental work of scholarship and a vivid, lively evocation of Kafka's world.

Stunning and elegiac, Norwegian Wood first propelled Haruki Murakami into the forefront of the literary scene. Toru, a serious young college student in Tokyo, is devoted to Naoko, a beautiful and introspective young woman, but their mutual passion is marked by the tragic death of their best friend years before. As Naoko retreats further into her own world, Toru finds himself drawn to a fiercely independent and sexually liberated young woman. A magnificent coming-of-age story steeped in nostalgia, Norwegian Wood blends the music, the mood, and the ethos that were the sixties with a young man's hopeless and heroic first love.

"Haruki Murakami's *Men Without Women* examines what happens to characters without important women in their lives; it'll move you and confuse you and sometimes leave you with more questions than answers." —Barack Obama

Across seven tales, Haruki Murakami brings his powers of observation to bear on the lives of men who, in their own ways, find themselves alone. Here are lovesick doctors, students, ex-boyfriends, actors, bartenders, and even Kafka's Gregor Samsa, brought together to tell stories that speak to us all. In *Men Without Women* Murakami has crafted another contemporary classic, marked by the same wry humor and pathos that have defined his entire body of work.

Every girl has her price . . . To Steph, working as a bar hostess in Japan sounds too good to be true. Friends say she can earn a fortune simply by flirting with drunk businessmen, and there's no sex involved - honest. Old friends, Julia and Annabel, are earning piles of cash in Tokyo and say hostessing is perfectly safe. But once in Japan, Steph realises Julia is a shadow of her former self and Annabel has disappeared. No one cares that Annabel's gone - least of all a troubled and secretive Julia. As Steph searches

for her missing friend, she is lured into gritty, glamorous Roppongi - an exotic world of sex, modern-day geishas and easy money. There she meets Mama San, a charismatic and powerful hostess club owner, who has worked in the shadowy Japanese sex industry all her life and knows everything about pleasing men. But the longer Steph stays in Tokyo's sex district, the less finding Annabel seems to matter. Steph soon realises she must discover what's happened to Annabel, or risk selling a part of herself she'll never get back.

You've just passed someone on the street who could be the love of your life, the person you're destined for – what do you do? In Murakami's world, you tell them a story. The five weird and wonderful tales collected here each unlock the many-tongued language of desire, whether it takes the form of hunger, lust, sudden infatuation or the secret longings of the heart. Selected from Haruki's Murakami's short story collections *The Elephant Vanishes*, *Blind Willow Sleeping Woman*, *Men Without Women* VINTAGE MINIS: GREAT MINDS. BIG IDEAS. LITTLE BOOKS. A series of short books by the world's greatest writers on the experiences that make us human Also in the Vintage Minis series: *Love* by Jeanette Winterson *Psychedelics* by Aldous Huxley *Eating* by Nigella Lawson *Summer* by Laurie Lee

Een werkloze dertiger in Tokio raakt een kater kwijt, kort daarop zijn vrouw en misschien nog veel meer.

From the award-winning and bestselling author of *Into the Darkest Corner* comes a delicious Victorian crime novel based on a true story that shocked and fascinated the nation. On 7th November 1843, Harriet Monckton, 23 years old and a woman of respectable parentage and religious habits, is found murdered in the privy behind the chapel she regularly attended in Bromley, Kent. The community is appalled by her death, apparently as a result of swallowing a fatal dose of prussic acid, and even more so when the surgeon reports that Harriet was around six months pregnant. Drawing on the coroner's reports and witness testimonies, Elizabeth Haynes builds a compelling picture of Harriet's final hours through the eyes of those closest to her and the last people to see her alive. Her fellow teacher and companion, her would-be fiancé, her seducer, her former lover—all are suspects; each has a reason to want her dead. Brimming with lust, mistrust and guilt, *The Murder of Harriet Monckton* is a masterclass of suspense from one of our greatest crime writers.

Kafka on the Shore displays one of the world's great storytellers at the peak of his powers. Here we meet a teenage boy, Kafka Tamura, who is on the run, and Nakata, an aging simpleton who is drawn to Kafka for reasons that he cannot fathom. As their paths converge, acclaimed author Haruki Murakami enfolds readers in a world where cats talk, fish fall from the sky, and spirits slip out of their bodies to make love or commit murder, in what is a truly remarkable journey. Set in Tehran in 1973, seventeen-year-old Pasha Shahed spends his summer with his best friend planning his future and falls in love with his neighbor Zari, who has been betrothed since birth to another man.

The stories included in this anthology take us back to feudal Japan, a country ravaged by wars, hunger and social injustice, forming a tormented scenario in which the painful contradictions of human existence are shown to the reader

with a brutality not exempt of lyrical beauty.

A short, sleek novel of encounters set in the witching hours of Tokyo between midnight and dawn, and every bit as gripping as Haruki Murakami's masterworks *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle* and *Kafka on the Shore*. At its center are two sisters: Yuri, a fashion model sleeping her way into oblivion; and Mari, a young student soon led from solitary reading at an anonymous Denny's into lives radically alien to her own: those of a jazz trombonist who claims they've met before; a burly female "love hotel" manager and her maidstaff; and a Chinese prostitute savagely brutalized by a businessman. These "night people" are haunted by secrets and needs that draw them together more powerfully than the differing circumstances that might keep them apart, and it soon becomes clear that Yuri's slumber—mysteriously tied to the businessman plagued by the mark of his crime—will either restore or annihilate her. After *Dark* moves from mesmerizing drama to metaphysical speculation, interweaving time and space as well as memory and perspective into a seamless exploration of human agency—the interplay between self-expression and understanding, between the power of observation and the scope of compassion and love. Murakami's trademark humor, psychological insight, and grasp of spirit and morality are here distilled with an extraordinary, harmonious mastery. "Eyes mark the shape of the city. Through the eyes of a high-flying night bird, we take in the scene from midair. In our broad sweep, the city looks like a single gigantic creature—or more, like a single collective entity created by many intertwining organisms. Countless arteries stretch to the ends of its elusive body, circulating a continuous supply of fresh blood cells, sending out new data and collecting the old, sending out new consumables and collecting the old, sending out new contradictions and collecting the old. To the rhythm of its pulsing, all parts of the body flicker and flare up and squirm. Midnight is approaching, and while the peak of activity has indeed passed, the basal metabolism that maintains life continues undiminished, producing the basso continuo of the city's moan, a monotonous sound that neither rises nor falls but is pregnant with foreboding."

—from *After Dark*

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