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JAPANESE LITERATURE (#728)

by **Alan Tansman** (University of California, Berkeley)

With a history stretching back nearly 1,500 years, written works originating from Japan encompass a vast range of forms and genres. From poetry and the lyric voice, to the art of the narrative, diary, and literary treatise, Japan boasts a powerful literary culture. This book traverses the colorful canon of Japanese literature, a tradition that produced not only the world's first novel, *The Tale of Genji*, but also the poetry of the *Man'yōshū*, erotic writing of Ihara Saikaku, and magical realism of Haruki Murakami.

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- ***Samurai*** (VSI #675)
- ***Modern Japan*** (VSI #202)
- ***The Oxford Book of Japanese Short Stories***
(ISBN: 9780199583195)

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悠久の歴史を持つ日本文学は、外国からの影響を受け容れながら独自の発展を遂げ、和歌や抒情詩、物語、日記、文学論など、さまざまなジャンルを生み出してきました。

しばしば世界最古の長篇小説と位置づけられる『源氏物語』、歌集『万葉集』、井原西鶴の浮世草子、近代の漱石や谷崎、ノーベル文学賞を受賞した川端康成や大江健三郎、村上春樹の魔術的リアリズム…日本文学の多彩な伝統を横断的に取り上げ概観します。

関連書のご紹介:

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