

Japanese Tales of Mystery & Imagination

By Edogawa Rampo

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Japanese Tales of Mystery & Imagination By Edogawa Rampo

This collection of mystery and horror stories is regarded as Japan's answer to Edgar Allan Poe.

Japanese Tales of Mystery & Imagination, the first volume of its kind translated into English, is written with the quick tempo of the West but rich with the fantasy of the East. These nine bloodcurdling, chilling tales present a genre of literature largely unknown to readers outside Japan, including the strange story of a quadruple amputee and his perverse wife; the record of a man who creates a mysterious chamber of mirrors and discovers hidden pleasures within; the morbid confession of a maniac who envisions a career of foolproof "psychological" murders; and the bizarre tale of a chair-maker who buries himself inside an armchair and enjoys the sordid "loves" of the women who sit on his handiwork.

Lucid and packed with suspense, Edogawa Rampo's stories found in *Japanese Tales of Mystery & Imagination* have enthralled Japanese readers for over half a century.

Mystery stories include:

- The Human Chair
- The Caterpillar
- Two Crippled Men
- The Traveler with the Pasted Rag Picture

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Editorial Review

Review
"Rampo is Japan's foremost writer of mystery and tales of suspense." —***The Journal of Asian Studies***

"Japan's most famous mystery story writer is named Edogawa Rampo. Rampo took this name because he is a great admirer of Poe. When a visiting American asked [a noted Japanese psychologist] if the Japanese reading public didn't confuse Rampo with the real Edgar Allan Poe, he replied, 'Oh, no … Edogawa Rampo is much more famous.'" —***New York Times Book Review***

About the Author

Hirai Taro (1894 – 1965), much more familiar as **Edogawa Rampo**, was the first modern writer of mysteries in Japan. The author's pen name is derived from the Japanese pronunciation of Edgar Allen Poe. He was the author of novels, short stories, and studies of the mystery genre.

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