In the Miso Soup Bonding A BBC Radio 2 Book Club Pick 'Ingenious touching, surprising and sometimes heartbreaking.' Guardian 'If you're itching to read a new novel by David M itchell try this.' The Times In Tokyo - one of the world's largest megacities - a stray cat is wending her way through the back alleys. And, with each detour, she brushes up against the seemingly disparate lives of the city-dwellers, connecting them in unexpected ways. But the city is changing. As it does, it pushes her to the margins where she chances upon a series of apparent strangers - from a homeless man squatting in an abandoned hotel, to a shut-in hermit afraid to leave his house, to a convenience store worker searching for love. The cat orbits Tokyo's denizens, drawing them ever closer. 'Masterfully weaves together seemingly disparate threads to conjure up a vivid tapestry of Tokyo: its glory, its shame, its characters, and a calico cat.' David Peace, author of THE TOKYO TRILOGY One of the Independent's best debuts

A Most Transparent Blue This controversial novel touched the raw nerves of the Japanese and became a million seller within six months of publication. It is a semi-autobiographical tale of the author's youth spent amidst the glorious squallor of sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll in 1970s Japan. A Most Transparent Blue is a brutal tale of lost youth in a Japanese port town close to an American military base. Murakami's image-intensive narrative paints a portrait of a group of friends locked in a destructive cycle of sex, drugs and rock'n'roll. The novel is all but plotless, but the raw and

The Roasting Tin A round the World In a small, inconsequential city in Japan, all that matters to 17-year-old Kensuke Y azaki and his friends is girls, rock music and, to a much lesser extent, school. Told at high speed and with irresistible humour by Kensuke himself, this is the story of their 1969, as they engage in heated conversations about Marxism, Rimbaud, Godard, the Beatles and the Stones, set up a barricade in their school, organise a rock festival and map out a highly successful strategy in girl-winning. This is a young Japan entirely turned towards the West, pervaded by Western music, where the girls have nicknames pulled from famous British films, but still locked in a

Tokyo Decadence A pacy, fresh and surprising portrait of Japan and the Japanese - from David Pilling, award-winning writer and Asia Editor of the Financial Times Despite years of stagnation, Japan remains one of the world's largest economies and a country which exerts a remarkable cultural fascination. David Pilling's new book is an entertaining, deeply knowledgeable and surprising analysis of a group of islands which have shown great resilience, both in the face of financial distress and when confronted with the overwhelming disaster of the 2011 earthquake. The resulting tsunami, which killed some 19,000 people, and nuclear catastrophe highlighted both the deeply impressive practical resilience of ordinary Japanese and a political culture of extraordinary carelessness and arrogance. Pilling describes the emergency and its aftermath, but then writes far more broadly about many aspects of Japan which are little known to outsiders and which do so much to explain these contradictory responses to the earthquake. Bending Adversity is a superb work of reportage and the essential book even for those who already feel they know the country well.

The Lake At some point, maybe twenty minutes after he'd begun refreshing Twitter, Tumblr, Facebook, Gmail in a continuous cycle - with an ongoing, affectless, humorless realisation that his day 'was over' - he noticed with confusion, having thought it was early morning, that it was 4:46PM Taipei is an ode - or lament - to the way we live now. Following Paul from New York, where he comically navigates Manhattan's art and literary scenes, to Taipei, Taiwan, where he confronts his family's roots, we see one relationship fail, while another is born on the internet and blooms into an unexpected wedding in Las Vegas. From one of this generation's most talked-about and enigmatic
Writers comes a deeply personal and uncompromising novel about memory, love, and what it means to be alive.

Winners of the Akutagawa Prize " Et toi, tu sais pourquoi Van Gogh s'est taillé une oreille ? " C'est par cette énigme que M iyashita, le fragile de l'histoire, va se laisser entraîner dans un autre jeu - qui lui sera fatal - de relations sadomasochistes. Aspiré malgré lui par la recherche vertigineuse du plaisir et des drogues, il ira en un crescendo terrifiant jusqu'au point de non-retour. Ecstasy is the premier volume of the trilogie intitulée par l'auteur on en linked on le plaisir, la lassitude et la mort.

The Cat and The City Cook delicious one-tin versions of your favourite recipes from around the world, including fresh vegan and vegetarian ideas. The perfect Christmas gift from the bestselling author of The Green Roasting Tin. The Roasting Tin Around the World covers all corners of the globe with brand new recipes. The greatest hits from each region are reworked into quick and easy one-tin meals. The dishes are perfect for weeknight dinners, lunch breaks and family favourites. Rukmini Iyer's vision for the roasting tin series is: 'minimum effort, maximum flavour'. This book really delivers with its bold, punchy and global flavours. The perfect way to experience your favourite international flavours when you can't travel abroad. Just chop a few ingredients, pop them into a roasting tin and let the oven do the work. Featuring 75 easy-to-make recipes that make use of your lockdown larder ingredients, The Roasting Tin Around the World is the perfect cook book for vegans, vegetarians and meat-eaters alike. THE SWEET ROASTING TIN, THE LATEST IN THE MILLION-COPY-SELLING ROASTING TIN SERIES, IS OUT NOW Everyone loves the The Roasting Tin series: 'This book will earn a place in kitchens up and down the country' Nigella Lawson 'This book has changed my life' Juno Dawson 'It's a boon for any busy household' Jay Rayner 'Wonderful. So delicious. So easy' Nina Stibbe

In The Miso Soup Danny is a rent boy, an architecture student, a waiter, and hot! Working his way through school seemed pretty easy: he serves ego-obsessed writers their cocktails at the Salamagundi Club; he has his toes and other appendages sucked by horny businessmen; and he escorts anyone - male, female, or otherwise - who can afford him. But then his liaison with another rent boy gets him involved with an organ theft ring centering around a crazy old doctor and a crackpot nurse. A relentless stream of social commentary, careening between sex, comedy, and murder. Rent Boy is a hysterical romp through the worlds of contemporary culture and crime.

Coin Locker Babies From the hosts of This Is Horror Podcast comes a dark thriller of obsession, paranoia, and voyeurism. A fter relocating to a small coastal town, Brian discovers a hole that gazes into his neighbour's bedroom. Every night she dances and he peeps. Same song, same time, same wild and mesmerising dance. But soon Brian suspects he's not the only one watching and she's not the only one being watched. They're Watching is The Wicker Man meets Body Double with a splash of Suspzsia.

In The Miso Soup ?????????????????????????????????????????????????????????????????CDD???

Deadkidsongs Ugutsu M onogatori, or Tales of Moonlight and Rain numbers among the best-loved Japanese classics. These nine illustrated tales of the supernatural from eighteenth-century Osaka combine popular appeal with a high literary standard. The author expressed his complex views on human life and society in simple yet poetic language. A kini aru questioned the prevailing moral values and standards of his age whilst entertaining his readers with mystery and other-worldly occurrences. This is a reissue of Leon Zolbrodâe(tm)s definitive English translation of the work, first published in 1974.

A udition Growing up in rural Chichibu, Mari Okada wanted nothing more than to leave her truant lifestyle behind to live in "the world outside." This screenwriter faces her own anxiety as she embraces her past through the words she screams on the page.

Rent Boy Please note that the content of this book primarily consists of articles available from Wikipedia or other free sources online. Pages: 32. Chapters: Shintar Ishihara, Kenzabur e, Ry Murakami, K b A be, Yoko Ogawa, Taeko K ono, Shusaku Endo, Jun Ishikawa, Takeda M achi, Koko Hayashi, Genpei Akasegawa, Jun Takagi, Nakayama Gishu, Tatsu Ishikawa, Kenji Nakagami, K Machida, Saiichi M aruya, Y asushi Inoue, M iki Y u, Yoko Tawada, Nobuko Takagi, Taku M iki, A kiko Itaya, Seich Matsu moto, Shuichi Y osida, So A ono, Tsuneko Nakazato, Yoshikichi Furu, Chiya Fujino, Minako Oba, Junzo Shono, Noboru T sujihara, Eiki M atayoshi, Gomi K osuke, Y osinori Y a, Hitomi K anehara, Keizo Hino, Shimizu M toyoshi, A shihei Hino, Hirami K awakami, Nobuo K ojima, Hikaru Okuzumi, Fujimoto K ometani, Yuchi Takai, M aki Y osako, Y onoko Shono, Ikezawa Natsuki, Junnosuke Y osiyuki, Risa W ataya, M orio K ita, Hitonari T suji, Kazushi H osaka, Y anggi Lee, M ieki K awakami, K eicho Hirano, Masuo Ikeda, Nanase A oyama, Tsuru H iromoto, Azus hige A be, Takami T, Toshiyuki H orie, Tetsushi Suwa, Tatsuo Oshiro, Shun M edoruma, M ino Higashi, K enji M aruyama. Excerpt: Shintar Ishihara Ishihara Shintar, born September 30, 1932) is a Japanese author, actor, politician and the governor of Tokyo since 1999. Shintar was born in Suma-ku, Kobe. His father K iyoshi was an employee, later a general manager, of a shipping company. Shintar grew up in Zushi. In 1952, he entered Hitotsubashi University, and graduated in 1956. Just two months before graduation, Shintar won the Akutagawa Prize (Japan's most prestigious literary prize) for the novel Season of the Sun Taiy no kisetsu). His brother Y ujiro played a supporting role in the screen adaptation of the novel, and the two soon became the center of a youth-oriented cult. In the early 1960s, he concentrated on writing, including plays, novels, and a musical version of Treasure Island. One of his later novels, Lost Country (1982), speculated...
They’re watching "M aggie understands that splatter for splatter’s sake is boring. Psychopathy is boring. Coldness is boring. She’s interested in understanding, and when her stories turn violent (as they frequently do), it’s with a surreal emotional barbarity that distorts the entire world. Y ou can mop up blood with any fabric. M aggie’s concern is with the wound left behind, because the wound never leaves—it haunts. As a result, each of these stories leaves a wound of its own. Some weep, watching as you try (and fail) to recover. Others laugh. But never without feeling." -B . R . Y eagor, author of Negative Space "A nd once finished, I felt like my tongue had been misplaced, guts heavy and expanded gums numb with a tongue that’s been put elsewhere, my mouth clean around a pipe weaving up through pitch and shadow and well past ready, primed for delight, waiting but knowing I had already been filled to skin; crying shit, hearing piss, fingernails seeeping bile, pores dribbling blood, soles slopping off and out to meet a drain mid-floor " - Christopher Norris, author of Hunchback ’88

U getsu M onogatari Or Tales of M onelight and Rain Written as a cultural weapon and call to arms, "Howl" touched a nerve in Cold War America and has been controversial from the day it was first read aloud. This is a critical and historical study of the work, elucidating the nexus of politics and literature in which it was written.

Sixty-Nine From postmodern Renaissance man Ryu M urakami, master of the psychothriller and director of Tokyo Decadence, comes this hair-raising roller-coaster ride through the nefarious neon-lit world of Tokyo’s sex industry. In the M iso Soup tells of Frank, an overeighted American tourist who has hired Kenji to take him on a guided tour of Tokyo’s sleazy nightlife. But Frank’s behavior is so strange that Kenji begins to entertain a horrible suspicion— that his new client is in fact the serial killer currently terrorizing the city. It is not until later, however, that Kenji learns exactly how much he has to fear and how irrevocably his encounter with this great white whale of an American will change his life.

Ecstasy From the author of A udition, a wickedly satirical and wildly funny tale of an intergenerational battle of the sexes. In his most irreverent novel yet, Ryu M urakami creates a rivalry of epic proportions between six aimless youths and six tough-as-nails women who battle for control of a Tokyo neighborhood. At the outset, the young men seem like harmless but harmless, their activities limited to drinking, snacking, peering at a naked neighbor through a window, and performing karaoke. The six " aunts" are fiercely independent career women. When one of the boys executes a lethal ambush of one of the women, chaos ensues. The women band together to find the killer and exact revenge. In turn, the boys buckle down, study physics, and plot to take out their nemeses in a single blast. Who knew that a deadly " gang war" could be such fun? M urakami builds the conflict into a hilarious, spot-on satire of modern culture and the tensions between the sexes and generations.

A fter Dark Every night, Kawasaki Masayuki creeps from his bed and watches over his baby girl’s crib while his wife sleeps. But this is no ordinary domestic scene. He has an ice pick in his hand, and a barely controllable desire to use it. Deciding to confront his demons, Kawasaki sets into motion a chain of events seeming to lead inexorably to murder.

A Wild Sheep Chase Reality bends all the more acutely with lack of sleep in this stunning novel from the master of the surreal. Eyes mark the shape of the city The midnight hour approaches in an almost-empty diner. Mari sips her coffee and reads a book, but soon her solitude is disturbed: a girl has been beaten up at the Alphaville hotel, and needs Mari’s help. Meanwhile Mari’s beautiful sister Eri lies in a deep, heavy sleep that is ‘too perfect, too pure’ to be normal; it has lasted for two months. But tonight as the digital clock displays 00:00, a hint of life flickers across the television screen in her room, even though it’s plug has been pulled out. Strange nocturnal happenings, or a trick of the night? ‘A captivating mood piece, delicate and wistful’ Evening Standard

69 (K odansha Modern Writers) We all live our lives carrying secrets we cannot disclose. ‘B eguiling M urakami is brilliant at folding the humdrum alongside the supernatural; finding the magic that’s nested in life’s quotidien details’ Guardian When a thirty-something portrait painter is abandoned by his wife, he holes up in the mountain home of a famous artist. The days drift by, spent painting, listening to music and drinking whiskey in the evenings. But then he discovers a strange painting in the attic and unintentionally begins a strange journey of self-discovery that involves a mysterious ringing bell, a precocious thirteen-year-old girl, a Nazi assassination attempt and a haunted underworld. A fascinating look at the “business of bringing a best-selling novelist to a global audience” (The Atlantic) and a “rigorous” exploration of the role of translators and editors in the creation of literary culture (The Paris Review). Thirty years ago, when Haruki M urakami’s works were first being translated, they were part of a series of pocket-size English-learning guides released only in Japan. Today his books can be read in fifty languages and sold millions of copies globally. How did a loner destined for a niche domestic audience become one of the most famous writers alive? This book tells one key part of the story. Its cast includes an expat trained in art history who never intended to become a translator; a Chinese American ex-academic who never planned to work as an editor; and other publishing professionals in New York, London, and Tokyo who together introduced a pop-inflected, unexpected Japanese voice to the wider literary world. David Karashima synthesizes research, correspondence, and interviews with dozens of individuals— including M urakami himself— to examine how countless behind-the-scenes choices over the course of many years worked to build an internationally celebrated author’s persona and oeuvre. His careful look inside the making of the “M urakami Industry” uncovers larger questions: What...
role do translators and editors play in framing their writers' texts? What does it mean to translate and edit "for a market"? How does Japanese culture get packaged and exported for the West?

A merican Scream Michiko K on: Still Lives presents a unique artist's photographs of the impossible objects she has created in her studio. K on skillfully creates a permanent record of impermanent objects: a garter belt fashioned from fish; a pair of melons covered with octopus tentacles; a mid-calf boot made of shrimp, among many other nondelectables. An exhibition is currently touring worldwide.

Who We're Reading When We're Reading M urakami A cream-of-the-crop selection of Murakami’s brilliance and piercing wit. This collection shows sides of Ryu Murakami that even avid fans may not be expecting. The intriguing, somewhat disturbing stories that Topaz was based on are included here, as there are entertaining and revealing portrayals of the artist as a young man back in the Transparent Blue period of the late sixties and early seventies. We hear tales told by four very different individuals living in eighties Tokyo, each with his or her own problems but all with a thing about a certain pro baseball player, and we meet a brokenhearted young woman who finds an unexpected moment of love in the nineties and a single mother who stumbles on a ray of hope in the hard times of the noughties. Mixed in there somewhere are three linked stories about desire and obsession, with the timeless, seductive rhythms of Cuban music in the background. This book contains explicit content and is not suitable for minors. A bout the author: Ryu Murakami was not yet 24 when he won the prestigious Akutagawa Prize for his debut novel, A Kiss. Transparent Blue. He has now published some forty best-selling novels, a dozen short-story collections, an armful of picture books, and a small mountain of essays. In his spare time, Ryu hosts a popular and long-running weekly TV show focusing on business and economic topics, and has for many years promoted tours and produced records for Cuban musicians. He has written and directed five feature films, of which Topaz a.k.a. Tokyo Decadence (1992) is probably the best known, and many of his novels have been made into films by other directors (notably Takashi Miike’s Audition). Translated novels include Coin Locker Babies (Noma Prize for New Writers), Sixty-Nine, Popular Hits of the Showa Era, Audition, In the Miso Soup (Yomiuri Prize for Literature), Piercing, and From the Fatherland, with Love (Noma Prize for Literature and M airichi Publishing Culture A ward).

The Sailor who Fell from Grace with the Sea A major literary sensation is back with a quietly stunning tour de force about the redemptive power of love. While The Lake shows off many of the features that have made Banana Yoshimoto famous—a cast of vivid and quirky characters, simple yet nuanced prose, a tight plot with an upbeat pace—it’s also one of the most darkly mysterious books she’s ever written. It tells the tale of a young woman who moves to Tokyo after the death of her mother, hoping to get over her grief and start a career as a graphic artist. She finds herself spending too much time staring out her window, though until she realizes she’s gotten used to seeing a young man across the street staring out his window, too. They eventually embark on a hesitant romance, until she learns that he has been the victim of some form of childhood trauma. Visiting two of his friends who live a monastic life beside a beautiful lake, she begins to piece together a series of clues that lead her to suspect his experience may have had something to do with a bizarre secret from his past. . . . With echoes of real life events, such as the A um Shinrikyo cult (the group that released poison gas in the Tokyo subway system) and the kidnapping of Japanese citizens by North Korea, The Lake unfolds as the most powerful novel Banana Yoshimoto has written. And as the two young lovers overcome their troubled past to discover hope in the beautiful solitude of the lake in the countryside, it’s also one of her most moving.

From Truant to Anime Screenwriter: M y Path to "A nohana" and "The A nthem of the Heart" 'A masterly novel' New York Times Such is the exquisite, gossamer construction of Murakami’s writing that everything he chooses to describe trembles with symbolic possibility. Guardian Read the haunting love story that turned Murakami into a literary superstar. When he hears her favourite Beatles song, Toru Watanabe recalls his first love Naoko, the girlfriend of his best friend K izikui. Immediately he is transported back almost twenty years to his student days in Tokyo, adrift in a world of uneasy friendships, casual sex, passion, loss and desire - to a time when an impetuous young woman called Midori marches into his life and he has to choose between the future and the past. 'Evocative, entertaining, sexy and funny: but then Murakami is one of the best writers around' Time Out 'Poignant, romantic and hopeful, it beautifully encapsulates the heartbreak and loss of faith' Sunday Times 'This book is undeniably hip, full of student uprisings, free love, booze and 1960s pop, it's also genuinely emotionally engaging, and describes the highs of adolescence as well as the lows' Independent on Sunday

Popular Hits of the Showa Era: A Novel From the Fatherland, with Love is set in an alternative, dystopian present in which the dollar has collapsed and Japan’s economy has fallen along with it. The North Korea government, sensing an opportunity, sends a fleet of ‘rebels’ in the first land invasion that Japan has ever faced. Japan can’t cope with the surprise onslaught of ‘Operation From the Fatherland, with Love’. But the terrorist Ishihara and his band of renegade youths - once dedicated to upsetting the Japanese government - turn their deadly attention to the North Korea threat. They will not allow Fukuoka to fall without a fight. Epic in scale, From the Fatherland, with Love is laced throughout with Murakami’s characteristically savage violence. It’s both a satisfying thriller and a completely mad, over-the-top novel like few others.

The Diving Pool It’s just before New Year, and Frank, an overweight American tourist, has hired Kenji to take him on a guided tour of Tokyo’s nightlife. But Frank’s behaviour is so odd that Kenji begins to entertain a horrible suspicion: his client may in fact have murderous desires. Although Kenji is far from innocent himself, he unwillingly descends with Frank into an inferno of evil, from which only his sixteen-year-old girlfriend, Jun, can possibly save him.
Colorless Tsukuru Tazaki and His Years of Pilgrimage

Haruki Murakami’s third novel, *A Wild Sheep Chase* is the mystery hybrid which completes the odyssey begun in *Hear the Wind Sing* and *Pinball, 1973*. The man was leading an aimless life, time passing, one big blank. His girlfriend has perfectly formed ears, ears with the power to bewitch, marvels of creation. The man receives a letter from a friend, enclosing a seemingly innocent photograph of sheep, and a request: place the photograph somewhere it will be seen. Then, one September afternoon, the phone rings, and the adventure begins. We come to the wild sheep chase. ‘Mr. M urakami’s style and imagination are closer to that of Kurt Vonnegut, Raymond Carver and John Irving’ New York Times

**Bending Adversity**

Two babies are left in a Tokyo station coin locker and survive against the odds, but their lives are forever tainted by this inauspicious start. As they grow up, they join the ranks of Toxitown: a district of addicts, freaks and prostitutes. One becomes a bisexual rock star and looks for his mother, while the other one, an athlete, seeks revenge. This savage and stunning story unfolds in a surrealistic whirl of violence.

**The History of Luminous Motion**

Killing Commendatore

Kafka Tamura runs away from home at fifteen, under the shadow of his father’s dark prophesy. The aging Nakata, tracker of lost cats, who never recovered from a bizarre childhood affliction, finds his pleasantly simplified life suddenly turned upside down. As their parallel odysseys unravel, cats converse with people; fish tumble from the sky; a ghost-like pimp deploys a Hegel-spouting girl of the night; a forest harbours soldiers apparently un-aged since World War II. There is a savage killing, but the identity of both victim and killer is a riddle—one of many which combine to create an elegant and dreamlike masterpiece. ‘Wonderful magical and outlandish’ Daily Mail ‘Hypnotic, spellbinding’ The Times ‘Cool, fluent and addictive’ Daily Telegraph

Girlfriend in a Coma

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 idealize 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.

From the Fatherland, with Love

A rollercoaster ride from the master of the psycho-thriller

Piercing

Since the death of his wife seven years ago, documentary maker Aoyama has not dated anyone else. Now even his teenage son, Shige, thinks that he should remarry and his best friend Yōshikawa comes up with a plan: to hold fake film auditions from which, he can choose a new bride. Of the thousands who apply, it is a beautiful ballerina, Yamasaki Asami, who captivates Aoyama. Infatuated by her fragile nature and nervous smile, he ignores his increasing sense of unease, putting aside his doubts about his new love, until it may be too late. In Audition, Ryu M urakami delivers his most subtly disturbing novel yet, confirming him as Japan’s master of the psycho-thriller.

Taipei

With the death of one of the Gang (as they call themselves), the war games escalate, directed now against the adults they hold responsible for the loss of one of their soldiers.

Norwegian Wood

On a snowy Friday night in 1979, just hours after making love for the first time, Richard’s girlfriend, high school senior Karen Ann McNeil, falls into a coma. Nine months later she gives birth to their daughter, Megan. A s Karen sleeps through the next seventeen years, Richard and their circle of friends reside in an emotional purgatory, passing through a variety of careers—modeling, film special effects, medicine, demolition—before finally reuniting on a conspiracy-driven supernatural television series. But real life grows as surreal as their TV show as Richard and his friends await Karen’s reawakening. . . . and the subsequent apocalypse.

Mickichi Kon

Beautiful, twisted and brilliant - discover Yoko Ogawa. A lonely teenage girl falls in love with her foster-brother as she watches him leap from a high diving board into a pool—sparking an unspoken infatuation that draws out darker possibilities. A young woman records the daily moods of her pregnant sister in a diary, but rather than a marvels of creation. The man receives a letter from a friend, enclosing a seemingly innocent photograph of sheep, and a request: place the photograph somewhere it will be seen. Then, one September afternoon, the phone rings, and the adventure begins. We come to the wild sheep chase. ‘Mr. M urakami’s style and imagination are closer to that of Kurt Vonnegut, Raymond Carver and John Irving’ New York Times

Ryu A mesmerising mystery story about friendship from the internationally bestselling author of *Norwegian Wood* and *IQ 104 Tsukuru Tazaki* had four best friends at school. By chance all of their names contained a colour. The two boys were called A kamatsu, meaning ‘red pine’, and Oumi, ‘blue sea’, while the girls’ names were Shirane, ‘white root’, and Kurono, ‘black field’. Tazaki was the only last name with no colour in it. One day Tsukuru Tazaki’s friends announced that they didn’t want to see him, or talk to him, ever again. Since that day Tsukuru has been floating through life, unable to form intimate connections with anyone. But then he meets Sara, who tells him that the time has come to find out what happened all those years ago.

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