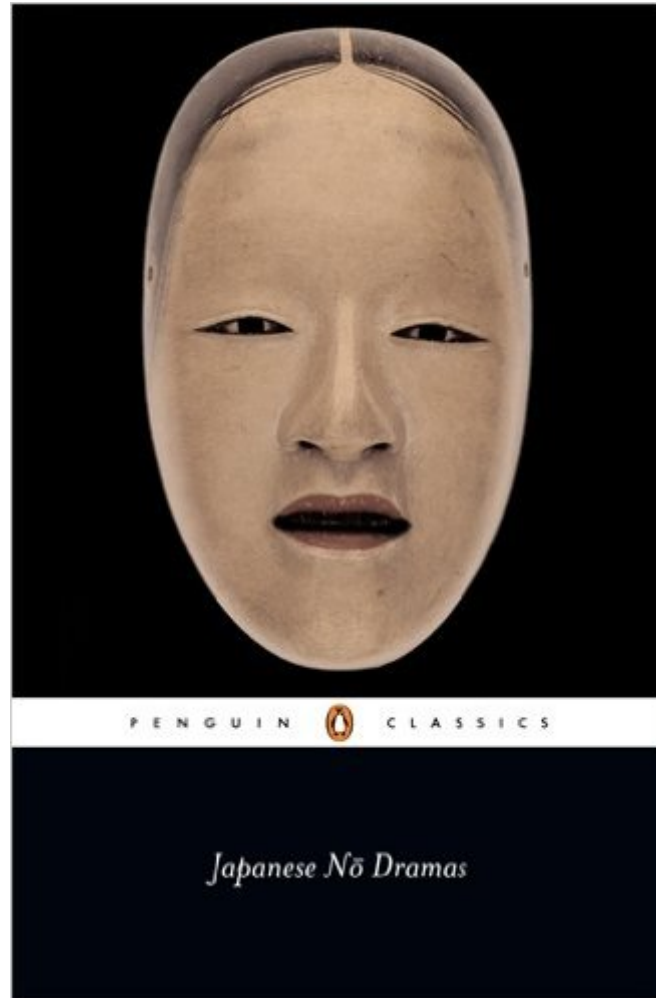


The book was found

# Japanese No Dramas (Penguin Classics)



## Synopsis

Japanese noh theatre or the drama of "perfected art" flourished in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries largely through the genius of the dramatist Zeami. An intricate fusion of music, dance, mask, costume and language, the dramas address many subjects, but the idea of "form" is more central than 'meaning' and their structure is always ritualized. Selected for their literary merit, the twenty-four plays in this volume dramatize such ideas as the relationship between men and the gods, brother and sister, parent and child, lover and beloved, and the power of greed and desire. Revered in Japan as a cultural treasure, the spiritual and sensuous beauty of these works has been a profound influence for English-speaking artists including W. B. Yeats, Ezra Pound and Benjamin Britten. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

## Book Information

Series: Penguin Classics

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Penguin Classics (June 1, 1993)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140445390

ISBN-13: 978-0140445398

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.9 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars See all reviews (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #168,412 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Dramas & Plays > Regional & Cultural > Asian #48 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Dramas & Plays > Anthologies #77 in Books > Literature & Fiction > World Literature > Asian > Japanese

## Customer Reviews

The significance and effect of Noh drama is roughly equivalent to that of the plays of the great tragedians of ancient Greece. Noh combines the spiritual influences of the Buddhist and Shinto

religions and the Japanese flair for densely woven, yet elegantly simple, verse in haunting allegories of enlightenment. Every detail, from set construction to the ritual motions of the actors on stage, heightens the poignancy of the plots. While the text of many of the plays are only a few pages long; a performance of a Noh play can last several hours. These plays are not only touching and intensely spiritual, but also provide a valuable resource for westerners who want to understand the roots of Japanese culture.

Tyler is known as an authority on Japanese Literature and this volume serves an excellent introduction to No drama which is quite philosophical and religious in background. Tyler includes several plays which are interesting from both an academic and aesthetic viewpoint. I would like to make the suggestion to readers to look up some of Tyler's academic papers in titles such as "The Noh play Matsukaze as a transformation of Genji Monogatari" in Monumenta Nipponica. You can search in Jstor.com at your university library for his articles by author. His work in academic journals is top-notch.

I appreciate that no plays are supposed to be seen in performance rather than read, and I've never had the opportunity to see one. Still, I enjoyed this book and found it really useful to my understanding of Japanese art. Each play is short and easy to take in, and Tyler's translation is very readable. The explanatory notes provided context and understanding without overwhelming the reader with detail, and the performance directions went some way towards conveying what each play would be like on stage. Some line drawings of typical costumes would have been helpful, as with Tyler's translation of the Tale of Genji, but this is a very minor point. Four stars because I lack the specialist knowledge to make a truly informed judgement here.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Japanese No Dramas (Penguin Classics) Bento Box Cookbook: Delicious Japanese Cooking Recipes For Lunch And Dinner (Bento Box Recipes, Japanese Cooking, Japanese Recipes, Japanese Bento, Sushi, Rice Cooker) Genki: An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese II [Second Edition] (Japanese Edition) (English and Japanese Edition) Beyond Polite Japanese: A Dictionary of Japanese Slang and Colloquialisms (Power Japanese) Japanese Slanguage: A Fun Visual Guide to Japanese Terms and Phrases (English and Japanese Edition) Confessions of a Japanese Linguist - How to Master Japanese: (The Journey to Fluent, Functional, Marketable Japanese) Beyond Bethlehem and Calvary: 12 Dramas for Christmas, Easter and More! Communication for Behavior Change: Volume I: Writing and Producing Radio Dramas Masques,

Mayings and Music-Dramas Pushing the Boundaries: And Five Other Dramas for Tweens NaTiVity  
Dramas The Penguin Book of Caribbean Verse in English (Penguin Classics) The Penguin Book of  
Russian Poetry (Penguin Classics) Penguin Classics Fear and Trembling: Dialectical Lyric By  
Johannes De Silentio (Penguin Pocket Hardbacks) The Penguin Arthur Miller: Collected Plays  
(Penguin Classics Deluxe Edition) The Penguin Book of the Undead: Fifteen Hundred Years of  
Supernatural Encounters (Penguin Classics) Modern Classics Journeys End (Modern Classics  
(Penguin)) Little Black Classics Box Set (Penguin Little Black Classics) Modern Classics Selected  
Poetry (Penguin Modern Classics) Japanese Takeout Cookbook Favorite Japanese Takeout  
Recipes to Make at Home: Sushi, Noodles, Rices, Salads, Miso Soups, Tempura, Teriyaki and  
More (Takeout Cookbooks 6)

[Dmca](#)