



Jasmine

Noboru Tsujihara, translated by Juliet W. Carpenter

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Description

Intrigue, betrayal, family secrets and forbidden passions are rife in this Japanese tale of adventure and suspense, translated for the first time.

Intrigue, betrayal, family secrets, forbidden passions – this tale of adventure and suspense links the Tiananmen Massacre of 1989 and the Kobe earthquake of 1995 through the story of Akihiko Waki, who is living a quiet life as a think-tank director in Kobe, Japan, when he hears rumours that his father, presumed long dead, is in fact alive and in danger. Akihiko undertakes a dangerous journey to China, and in Shanghai learns that what he thought he knew about his father is in fact far from the truth. Here he meets the intriguingly secretive actress Li Xing, who as a pro-democracy activist is herself in danger, and as events gather pace Akihiko's search for his father also becomes a desperate battle to save her from the brutal authorities...

This new translation of a Japanese novelist famed for his creation of suspense and his Hitchcock-style plotting is a rewarding and gripping read.

Readership: Fans of adventure stories, romance and suspense.

About the Author

Noboru Tsujihara made his literary debut in 1985 with the novella *Inu kakete (Swear by Dog)*, which was shortlisted for the prestigious Akutagawa Prize. He later won that prize in 1990 with a novella set in the Chinese countryside, *Mura no namae (The Name of the Village)*. In 1999, his first full-length novel *Tobe kirin (Fly, Kylin)* received the Yomiuri Prize for Literature and cemented his reputation as a writer of serious literature. He currently teaches at Tokai University while continuing to write novels, and in 2005 won the Kawabata Prize for *Kareha no nakano aoi honoo (Blue Flame in Withered Leaves)*.

Juliet W. Carpenter, a graduate of the University of Michigan, now teaches at Doshisha Women's College of Liberal Arts in Kyoto. During the thirty-plus years that she has spent in Japan, as an award-winning translator she has translated into English a wide array of fiction, non-fiction, essays and poetry by authors including Kobo Abe, Fumiko Enchi, Machi Tawara, Masao Miyamoto and Chuya Nakahara.

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