



The Sound of the Mountain

By Yasunari Kawabata

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Nobel Prize winner Yasunari Kawabata's *The Sound of the Mountain* is a beautiful rendering of the predicament of old age — the gradual, reluctant narrowing of a human life, along with the sudden upsurges of passion that illuminate its closing.

By day Ogata Shingo, an elderly Tokyo businessman, is troubled by small failures of memory. At night he associates the distant rumble he hears from the nearby mountain with the sounds of death. In between are the complex relationships that were once the foundations of Shingo's life: his trying wife; his philandering son; and his beautiful daughter-in-law, who inspires in him both pity and the stirrings of desire. Out of this translucent web of attachments, Kawabata has crafted a novel that is a powerful, serenely observed meditation on the relentless march of time.

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The Sound of the Mountain By Yasunari Kawabata Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

“Kawabata is a poet of the gentlest shades, of the evanescent, the imperceptible.”

—*Commonweal*

“A rich, complicated novel. . . . Of all modern Japanese fiction, Kawabata’s is the closest to poetry.”

—*The New York Times Book Review*

Language Notes

Text: English, Japanese (translation)

From the Back Cover

By day Ogata Shingo is troubled by small failures of memory. At night he hears a distant rumble from the nearby mountain, a sound he associates with death. In between are the relationships that were once the foundation of Shingo's life: with his disappointing wife, his philandering son, and his daughter-in-law Kikuko, who instills in him both pity and uneasy stirrings of sexual desire. Out of this translucent web of attachments - and the tiny shifts of loyalty and affection that threaten to sever it irreparably - Kawabata creates a novel that is at once serenely observed and enormously affecting.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Hayden Wolfe:

Have you spare time for just a day? What do you do when you have far more or little spare time? Sure, you can choose the suitable activity to get spend your time. Any person spent their particular spare time to take a wander, shopping, or went to typically the Mall. How about open or maybe read a book allowed The Sound of the Mountain? Maybe it is to become best activity for you. You recognize beside you can spend your time together with your favorite's book, you can more intelligent than before. Do you agree with its opinion or you have some other opinion?

Cheryl Bullen:

The reason? Because this The Sound of the Mountain is an unordinary book that the inside of the publication waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will shock you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such awesome way makes the content inside easier to understand, entertaining means but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this ever again or you going to regret it. This amazing book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book have got such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking method. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I had been you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

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