

The Dwarf Modern Korean Fiction

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A Ready-Made Life
Modern Korean Literature
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The History of Modern Korean Fiction (1890-1945)
Modern Korean Fiction in English
Whale
Peace Under Heaven: A Modern Korean Novel
Peace Under Heaven
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home to the new york yankees the bronx zoo and the grand concourse the bronx was at one time a haven for upwardly mobile second generation immigrants eager to leave the crowded tenements of manhattan in pursuit of the american dream once hailed as a wonder borough of beautiful homes parks and universities the bronx became during the 1960s and 1970s a national symbol of

urban deterioration thriving neighborhoods that had long been home to generations of families dissolved under waves of arson crime and housing abandonment turning blocks of apartment buildings into gutted graffiti covered shells and empty trash filled lots in this revealing history of the bronx evelyn gonzalez describes how the once infamous new york city borough underwent one of the most successful and inspiring community revivals in american history from its earliest beginnings as a loose cluster of commuter villages to its current status as a densely populated home for new york s growing and increasingly more diverse african american and hispanic populations this book shows how the bronx interacted with and was affected by the rest of new york city as it grew from a small colony on the tip of manhattan into a sprawling metropolis this is the story of the clattering of elevated subways and the cacophony of crowded neighborhoods the heady optimism of industrial progress and the despair of economic recession and the vibrancy of ethnic cultures and the resilience of local grassroots coalitions crucial to the borough s rejuvenation in recounting the varied and extreme transformations this remarkable community has undergone evelyn gonzalez argues that it was not racial discrimination rampant crime postwar liberalism or big government that was to blame for the urban crisis that assailed the bronx during the late 1960s rather the decline was inextricably connected to the same kinds of social initiatives economic transactions political decisions and simple human choices that had once been central to the development and vitality of the borough although the history of the bronx is unquestionably a success story crime poverty and substandard housing still afflict the community today yet the process of building and rebuilding carries on and the revitalization of neighborhoods and a resurgence of economic growth continue to offer hope for the future

a ready made life is the first volume of early modern korean fiction to appear in english in the u s written between 1921 and 1943 the sixteen stories are an excellent introduction to the riches of modern korean fiction they reveal a variety of settings voices styles and thematic concerns and the best of them masterpieces written mainly in the mid 1930s display an impressive artistic maturity included among these authors are hwang sun won modern korea s greatest short story writer kim tong in regarded by many as the author who best captures the essence of the korean identity ch ae man shik a master of irony yi sang a prominent modernist kim yu jong whose stories are marked by a unique blend of earthy humor and compassion yi

kwang su and kim tong ni modernizers of the language of twentieth century korean fiction and yi ki yung yi t ae jun and pak t ae won three writers who migrated to north korea shortly after liberation in 1945 and whose works were subsequently banned in south korea until democratization in the late 1980s one way of reading the stories all of which were written during the japanese occupation is that beneath their often oppressive and gloomy surface lies an anticolonial subtext they can also be read as a collective record of a people whose life choices were severely restricted not just by colonization but by education either too little or too much as the title story shows and by a highly structured society that had little tolerance for those who overstepped its boundaries life was unremittingly onerous for many koreans during this period whatever their social background in the stories educated city folk fare little better than farmers and laborers a ready made life will provide scholars and students with crucial access to the literature of korea s colonial period a generous opening essay discusses the collection in the context of modern korean literary history and short introductions precede each story here is a richly diverse testament to a modern literature that is poised to assume a long overdue place in world literature

the sixth book in kegan paul international s korean culture series this volume contains thirty stories that have been selected on the basis of historical interest and literary worth each representing a monumental moment in the history of korean literature the ten stories in the first part share the common theme of the korean experience of the confrontation between man and woman in some stories the relationship is portrayed as innocent and pure in others the relationship becomes more sophisticated and complex the ten stories in the second part all deal with old korean or the old korean way of life the korea of byegone days which is gradually disappearing in the face of industrialization and internationalization the third group of stories reveals modern korea in the process of change during the period of the japanese occupation the liberation from the occupation and the korean war all thirty stories may serve as social documents from the time of ideological chaos following the independence of korea in 1945 up to the fall of the ussr in the 1980s modern korean literature has been powerfully swayed by marxist ideology one way or another literature has an important role to play in its portrayal of the relations between society and individual people and it has a particularly vital social function in developing or undeveloped countries however the stories

in this anthology are not just historical documents they represent the peak of literary achievements by great and gifted writers in the first half of this century it is remarkable to find so many talented writers producing so many powerful works of art in a short span of just over 50 years between 1908 and 1965 this anthology is an invitation to readers to grasp how much korea has attained in the process of its modernization the authors whose works appear in this volume are yi kwang su kim dong in hyun chin kon yi hyo suk kim yu jong yi sang kim dong ni o yung su hwang sun won sohn so hi hahn mu suk sunwu hwi kang shin jae oh sang won suh ki won han mal suk choi in hun kim sung ok yi mun ku

the history of korea in the twentieth century has been a grim succession of oppressions humiliations and betrayals yet through it all modern korean writers have been able not only to find their own distinctive voices but to forge a national literature that speaks eloquently of the survival of the human spirit in times of crisis this anthology includes the finest translations available of representative works in all the major genres including poetry fiction essays and drama readers will gain a clear sense of the development of twentieth century korean literature and a vivid impression of the resilience strength and tenacity of modern korean writers

this book explores the history of modern korean literature from a sociocultural perspective rather than focusing solely on specific authors and their works young min kim argues that the development of modern media shifting conceptualizations of the author and a growing mass readership fundamentally shaped the types of narratives that appeared at the turn of the twentieth century in particular kim follows the trajectory of the sin sosol new fiction as it meshed with the new print and media culture to give rise to innovative and hybrid genres and literary styles in doing so he compellingly illuminates the relationship between literary systems and forms and underscores the necessity of re locating literary texts in their sociohistorical contexts

originally published in seoul in 1938 soon after the outbreak of the pacific war peace under heaven is a satirical novel centering on the household of a korean landlord during the japanese colonial occupation master yun embodying the traditional ambitions of a standard

korean paterfamilias by being projected fast forward into a modern urban environment caricatures the increasing irrelevance of confucian mores to 20th century social reality depicting the anomic lives of the yun household in colonial seoul chae man sik one of modern korea s best known writers uses black comedy to underscore the collapse of ritualistic traditional values in the face of capitalist modernisation the decadence of the nouveau riche pseudo aristocrat master yun is interwoven with insights into the customary bases of oppression of korean women into the self deceptions underlying collaboration by koreans with the japanese oppressor the savage hilarity of chae s style lends force and historical relevance to his insight into the attitudes of the milieu in which his narrative is set

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available for the first time in english the ten short stories by modern korean women collected here touch in one way or another on issues related to gender and kinship politics all of the protagonists are women who face personal crises or defining moments in their lives as gender marked beings in a confucian patriarchal korean society their personal dreams and values have been compromised by gender expectations or their own illusions about female existence they are compelled to ask themselves who am i where am i going what are my choices each story bears colorful and compelling testimony to the life of the heroine some of the stories celebrate the central character s breakaway from the patriarchal order others expose sexual inequality and highlight the struggle for personal autonomy and dignity still others reveal the abrupt awakening to mid life crises and the seasoned wisdom that comes with accepting the limits of old age the stories are arranged in chronological order from the earliest work by korea s first modern woman writer in 1917 to stories that appeared in 1995 approximately one from each decade most of the writers presented are recognized literary figures but some are lesser known voices the introduction presents a historical overview of traditions of modern korean women s fiction situating the selected writers and their stories in the larger context of korean literature each story is accompanied by a biographical note

on the author and a brief critical analysis a selected bibliography is provided for further reading and research questioning minds marks a departure from existing translations of korean literature in terms of its objectives content and format as such it will contribute to the growth of korean studies increasing the availability of material for teaching korean literature in english and stimulate readership of its writers beyond the confines of the peninsula

this guide book is to show the english speaking public a map of modern korean fiction introducing korean literature for readers of other natinos is an important part of various projects undertaken by the korean culture and arts foundation cover page 4

this much needed guide to translated literature offers readers the opportunity to hear from learn about and perhaps better understand our shrinking world from the perspective of insiders from many cultures and traditions in a globalized world knowledge about non north american societies and cultures is a must contemporary world fiction a guide to literature in translation provides an overview of the tremendous range and scope of translated world fiction available in english in so doing it will help readers get a sense of the vast world beyond north america that is conveyed by fiction titles from dozens of countries and language traditions within the guide approximately 1 000 contemporary non english language fiction titles are fully annotated and thousands of others are listed organization is primarily by language as language often reflects cultural cohesion better than national borders or geographies but also by country and culture in addition to contemporary titles each chapter features a brief overview of earlier translated fiction from the group the guide also provides in depth bibliographic essays for each chapter that will enable librarians and library users to further explore the literature of numerous languages and cultural traditions

the routledge handbook of modern korean literature provides a comprehensive overview of a korean literary tradition which is understood as a multifaceted nexus of practices both homegrown and transnational the handbook discusses the perspectives from which modern korean literature has thus far been defined analyzing which voices have been enunciated underappreciated or completely silenced and how we can enrich our understanding of it taking

up diverse transnational and interdisciplinary standpoints this volume aims to encourage readers not to treat modern korean literature as a self evident category but to examine it anew as an uncultivated and uncharted space unearthing its internal chasms and global connections divided into five parts the themes covered include the following literature and power borders and boundaries rationality in literature and its limits language ethnicity and translation korean literature in the changing mediascape by introducing new conceptual paradigms to the field of modern korean literature this book will appeal to students and scholars of korean east asian and world literature alike

the history of korea in the twentieth century has been a grim succession of oppressions humiliations and betrayals yet through it all modern korean writers have been able not only to find their own distinctive voices but to forge a national literature that speaks eloquently of the survival of the human spirit in times of crisis this anthology includes the finest translations available of representative works in all the major genres including poetry fiction essays and drama readers will gain a clear sense of the development of twentieth century korean literature and a vivid impression of the resilience strength and tenacity of modern korean writers

yi kwang su 1892 1950 was one of the pioneers of modern korean literature when the serialization of mujong the heartless began in 1917 it was an immediate sensation and it occupies a prominent place in the korean literary canon the heartless is the story of a love triangle among three youths during the japanese occupation yi hyÅng sik is a young man in his mid twenties who is teaching english at a middle school in seoul brilliant but also shy and indecisive he is torn between two women kim sÅn hyÅng is from a wealthy christian family she has just graduated from a modern western style school and is planning on continuing her studies in the united states pak yÅng ch ae is a musically gifted young woman who was raised in a traditional confucian manner due to family misfortune she has become a kisaeng but remains devoted to hyÅng sik whom she knew as a child the heartless goes beyond the level of romantic melodrama and uses these characters to depict korea s struggles with modern culture and national identity a long critical introduction discusses yi kwang su s life and work from his birth in 1892 to the publication of his first novel the heartless in 1917 it contains in

depth analyses of the novel yi kwang su s literary theory and early short stories

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