

Author of the Week: Kazuo Ishiguro



Kazuo Ishiguro, (born November 8, 1954, Nagasaki, Japan), Japanese-born British novelist known for his lyrical tales of regret fused with subtle optimism.

In 2017 he won the Nobel Prize for Literature for his works that “uncovered the abyss beneath our illusory sense of connection with the world.”

His father, who was a physical oceanographer, moved to Guildford, Surrey, to begin a two-year research project at the National Institute of Oceanography. When Kazuo Ishiguro was 15, his father turned down a post at a Tokyo university to stay in England, following which Kazuo Ishiguro formally became a British citizen in 1983.

“All children have to be decided if they are to grow up without trauma.”

His Life and career

Three of Kazuo Ishiguro’s short stories, ‘**A Strange and Sometimes Sadness**’, ‘Waiting for J’ and ‘Getting Poisoned’, were included in ‘Introduction 7: Stories by New Writers’ in 1981.

In 1982, he published his thesis as his first novel, ‘**A Pale View of Hills**’. The story of Etsuko, a Japanese widow in England, who is trying to cope with her daughter's suicide, earned him the ‘Winifred Holt by Memorial Prize’ in 1982.

His second novel, ‘**An Artist of the Floating World**’, is set in post-World War II Japan and focuses on Masuji Ono who reflects on his past career as a political artist of imperialist propaganda. The book, released in 1986, was shortlisted for the ‘Booker Prize’ and won the ‘Whitbread Book of the Year Award’ that year.

In 1989, he bagged the ‘**Man Booker Prize for Fiction**’ for ‘**The Remains of the Day**’, in which butler Stevens narrates in first person his professional and personal relationship with former colleague, housekeeper Miss Kenton. The novel was adapted into an eponymous film in 1993, starring Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson, which went on to win eight ‘**Academy Award**’ nominations.

His next novel, ‘**The Unconsoled**’ (1995), which describes the frustration of a famous pianist with his inability to take control of his commitments before a performance, marked a radical stylistic departure from his previous works. The book initially received overwhelmingly negative reviews for being “indecipherable”, but won the ‘**Cheltenham Prize**’ that year and in 2006 was voted the third “best British, Irish, or Commonwealth novel from 1980 to 2005”.

Kazuo Ishiguro received the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2017 for his illustrious literary career.

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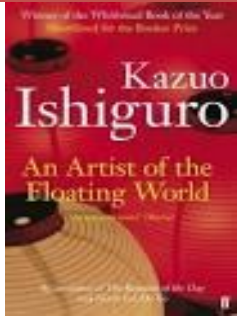
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<http://biography.jrank.org/pages/4456/Ishiguro-Kazuo.html>

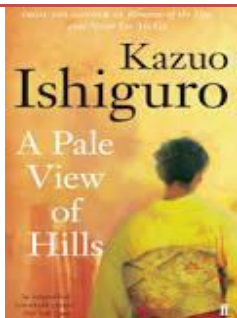
<https://literature.britishcouncil.org/writer/kazuo-ishiguro>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-41513246>

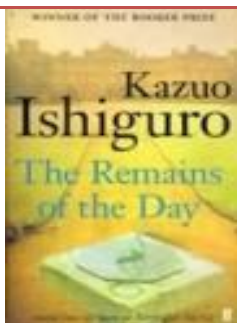
Books by Kazuo Ishiguro



Title: Artist of the floating world
Author: Ishiguro, Kazuo.
Publisher: London: Faber & Faber
Call No.: 823.914 ISH
Acc. No.: 025222



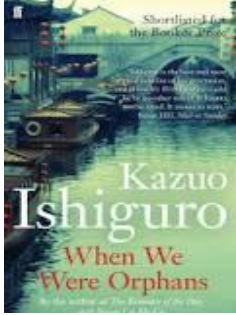
Title: Pale view of hills
Author: Ishiguro, Kazuo.
Publisher: London: Faber & Faber
Call No.: 823.914 ISH
Acc. No.: 025224



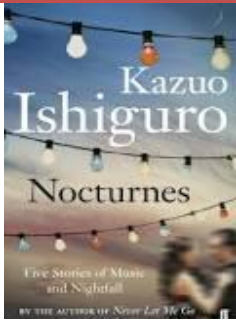
Title: Remains of the day
Author: Ishiguro, Kazuo.
Publisher: London: Faber & Faber
Call No.: 823.914 ISH
Acc. No.: 025225



Title: Never let me go
Author: Ishiguro, Kazuo.
Publisher: London: Faber & Faber
Call No.: 823.914 ISH
Acc. No.: 025198



Title: When we were orphans
Author: Ishiguro, Kazuo.
Publisher: London: Faber & Faber
Call No.: 823.914 ISH
Acc. No.: 025226



Title: Nocturnes: five stories of music and nightfall
Author: Ishiguro, Kazuo.
Publisher: London: Faber & Faber
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