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Kinshu: Autumn Brocade

By Teru Miyamoto

New Directions. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 208 pages. Dimensions: 6.9in. x 4.9in. x 0.7in. As delicate as the shimmering wings of a dragonfly, Kinshu is an epistolary novel by one of Japan's most popular literary authors. It is a masterpiece of simplicity and beauty. Life, death, karma, these interwoven themes form the heart of this lyrical novel in letters. Kinshu: Autumn Brocade, the first work to be published in the U. S. by Teru Miyamoto, one of Japan's most popular literary writers. The word kinshu has many connotations in Japanese: brocade, poetic writing, the brilliance of autumn leaves, and resonates here as a vibrant metaphor for the complex, intimate relationship between Aki and Yasuaki. Ten years after a dramatic divorce, they meet by chance at a mountain resort. Aki initiates a new correspondence, and letter by letter through the seasons, the secrets of the past unfold as they reflect on their present struggles. From a lover's suicide to a father's controlling demands, to Mozart's Thirty-Ninth Symphony (a veritable marvel of sixteenth notes), to the karmic consequences of their actions, the story glides through their deeply introspective and stirring exchanges. What begins as a series of accusations and apologies, questions and excuses, turns into a source of mutual...



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