



In the Miso Soup

By Ryu Murakami

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From postmodern Renaissance man Ryu Murakami, master of the psychothriller and director of **Tokyo Decadence**, comes this hair-raising roller-coaster ride through the nefarious neon-lit world of Tokyo's sex industry. **In the Miso Soup** tells of Frank, an overweight American tourist who has hired Kenji to take him on a guided tour of Tokyo's sleazy nightlife. But Frank's behavior is so strange that Kenji begins to entertain a horrible suspicion—that his new client is in fact the serial killer currently terrorizing the city. It is not until later, however, that Kenji learns exactly how much he has to fear and how irrevocably his encounter with this great white whale of an American will change his life.

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Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Easygoing young Kenji makes good money guiding Americans through Tokyo's seamy nightlife. His teenage girlfriend has no objections, as long as he reserves New Year's Eve for her. But Kenji's latest client, a simmering psychopath called Frank, disrupts those holiday plans. He wants to regale Kenji with crazy monologues as he hypnotizes low-level sex workers. A fat man with superhuman strength, skin that's metallic to the touch, and an unsettling habit of telling contradictory lies, Frank immediately raises the guide's hackles. Kenji even suspects that this ugliest of Americans dismembered a local schoolgirl and immolated a homeless man. But until he can prove his suspicions--and for a disturbing while after--Kenji will keep leading this monster man from one bizarre scene to another. It's a compelling nightmare for Kenji and the reader, who both hope he'll either wake up screaming or escape and alert the cops. Instead, everyone remains in evil's thrall until it's too late. A wicked meditation on the worst traits of American and Japanese society, this is a creepy culture clash indeed. *Frank Sennett*

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Review

"A writer with talent to burn . . . Fellini and Günter Grass, David Bowie and Dostoevski, García Márquez and Mike Leigh's *Naked* all come to mind." —**Gary Indiana**, author of **Rent Boy**

"A blistering portrait of contemporary Japan . . . one of the most savage thrillers since **The Silence of the Lambs**." —**Kirkus Reviews**

From the Inside Flap

It looked as though Maki had another mouth below her jaw. Oozing from this second, smiling mouth was a thick, dark liquid, like coal tar. Her throat had been slit literally from ear to ear and more than halfway through, so that it looked as if her head might fall right off. And yet, incredibly, Maki was still on her feet and still alive, her eyeballs swiveling wildly and her lips quivering as she wheezed foam-flecked blood from the wound in her throat. She seemed to be trying to say something. . . .

It is just before New Year's. Frank, an overweight American tourist, has hired Kenji to take him on a guided tour of Tokyo's sleazy nightlife on three successive evenings. But Frank's behavior is so strange that Kenji begins to entertain a horrible suspicion: that his new client is in fact the serial killer currently terrorizing the city. It isn't until the second night, however, in a scene that will shock you and make you laugh and make you hate yourself for laughing, that Kenji learns exactly how much he has to fear and how irrevocably his encounter with this great white whale of an American will change his life.

Kenji's intimate knowledge of Tokyo's sex industry, his thoughtful observations and wisecracks about the emptiness and hypocrisy of contemporary Japan, and his insights into the shockingly widespread phenomena of "compensated dating" and "selling it" among Japanese schoolgirls, give us plenty to think about on every page. Kenji is our likable, if far from innocent, guide to the inferno of violence and evil into which he unwillingly descends--and from which only Jun, his sixteen-year-old girlfriend, can possibly save him. . . .

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ann Edwards:

A lot of people always spent their particular free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them loved ones or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent that they free time just watching TV, or maybe playing video games all day long. If you want to try to find a new activity here is look different you can read a book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent all day long to reading a reserve. The book In the Miso Soup it is rather good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. We were holding enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to bring this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book provides high quality.

Anna Humphrey:

Precisely why? Because this In the Miso Soup is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will zap you with the secret this inside. Reading this book next to it was fantastic author who all write the book in such wonderful way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining method but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This unique book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book get such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking technique. So , still want to hesitate having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the reserve store hurriedly.

Richard Harden:

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Georgia Evans:

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