

## Coin Locker Babies Ryu Murakami

It's just before New Year, and Frank, an overweight American tourist, has hired Kenji to take him on a guided tour of Tokyo's nightlife. But Frank's behaviour is so odd that Kenji begins to entertain a horrible suspicion: his client may in fact have murderous desires. Although Kenji is far from innocent himself, he unwillingly descends with Frank into an inferno of evil, from which only his sixteen-year-old girlfriend, Jun, can possibly save him. Since the death of his wife seven years ago, documentary maker Aoyama has not dated anyone else. Now even his teenage son, Shige, thinks that he should remarry and his best friend Yoshikawa comes up with a plan: to hold fake film auditions from which, he can choose a new bride. Of the thousands who apply, it is a beautiful ballerina, Yamasaki Asami, who captivates Aoyama. Infatuated by her fragile nature and nervous smile, he ignores his increasing sense of unease, putting aside his doubts about his new love, until it may be too late... In *Audition*, Ryu Murakami delivers his most subtly disturbing novel yet, confirming him as Japan's master of the psycho-thriller.

Two babies are left in a Tokyo station coin locker and survive against the odds, but their lives are forever tainted by this inauspicious start. As they grow up, they join the ranks of Toxiotown: a district of addicts, freaks and prostitutes. One becomes a bisexual rock star and looks for his mother, while the other one, an athlete, seeks revenge. This savage story unfolds in a surrealistic whirl of violence.

This entertaining and endlessly surprising book takes us on an exploration into every aspect of Japanese society from the most public to the most intimate. A series of meticulous investigations gradually uncovers the multi-faceted nature of a country and people who are even more extraordinary than they seem. Our journey encompasses religion, ritual, martial arts, manners, eating, drinking, hot baths, geishas, family, home, singing, wrestling, dancing, performing, clans, education, aspiration, sexes, generations, race, crime, gangs, terror, war, kindness, cruelty, money, art, imperialism, emperor, countryside, city, politics, government, law and a language that varies according to whom you are speaking. Clear-sighted, persistent, affectionate, unsentimental and honest - Alan Macfarlane shows us Japan as it has never been seen before.

Sacred Heart

Popular Hits of the Showa Era: A Novel

Essays

La Place de l'Étoile - The Night Watch - Ring Roads

Last Winter We Parted

Rescued from the lockers in which they were left to die as infants and raised to freely follow their ambitions, Kiku and Hashi begin parallel quests of vengeance against the mothers that abandoned them and the society that let it happen.

A scintillatingly witty memoir telling the story of a young woman's determined struggle for freedom. We all know families that are poor but 'respectable'. Mine, in contrast, was extremely rich but not 'respectable' at all... This is the extraordinary memoir of an 'odd, rich, exotic' childhood - of growing up in Azerbaijan in the turbulent early twentieth century, caught between East and West, tradition and modernity. Banine remembers her luxurious home, with endless feasts of sweets and fruit; her beloved, flaxen-haired German governess; her imperious, swearing, strict Muslim grandmother; her bickering, poker-playing, chain-smoking relatives. She recalls how the Bolsheviks came, and they lost everything. How, amid revolution and bloodshed, she fell passionately in love, only to be forced into marriage with a man she loathed - until the chance of escape arrived. By turns gossipy and romantic, wry and moving, *Days in the Caucasus* is a coming-of-age story and a portrait of a vanished world, and of how the past haunts us.

Internationally celebrated author Almudena Grandes has produced her finest work yet with *The Wind from the East*, a blend of two narratives set alternately in Madrid and an Andalusian town by the sea. Sara Gómez Morales, given up at birth to be raised by her wealthy godmother, is betrayed on her sixteenth birthday when she is forced to leave her godmother's home and return to live in poverty with her estranged parents. Tortured by resentment and the loneliness of belonging to neither place, she finds solace as an adult only when she moves to the coastal town. Parallel to Sara's story is the story of Juan and Damian Olmedo, brothers in love with the same woman. One night an argument incited by jealousy leads Damian to stumble down a flight of stairs and fall to his death. Suspected of murdering his younger brother, Juan flees to the same village that served as Sara's escape. Deftly engaging, *The Wind from the East* is an epic tale of love and redemption. Almudena Grandes' writing has been compared to the work of classic and contemporary voices such as the Brontë sisters and Isabel Allende.

Instantly reminiscent of the work of Osamu Dazai and Patricia Highsmith, Fuminori Nakamura's latest novel is a dark and twisting house of mirrors that philosophically explores the violence of aesthetics and the horrors of identity. A young writer arrives at a prison to interview a convict. The writer has been commissioned to write a full account of the case, from the bizarre and grisly details of the crime to the nature of the man behind it. The suspect, a world-renowned photographer named Kiharazaka, has a deeply unsettling portfolio—lurking beneath the surface of each photograph is an acutely obsessive fascination

**with his subject. He stands accused of murdering two women—both burned alive—and will likely face the death penalty. But something isn't quite right. As the young writer probes further, his doubts about this man as a killer intensify, and he struggles to maintain his sense of reason and justice. Is Kiharazaka truly guilty, or will he die to protect someone else? Evoking Truman Capote's *In Cold Blood* and Ryūnosuke Akutagawa's "Hell Screen," *Last Winter, We Parted* is a twisted tale that asks a deceptively sinister question: Is it possible to truly capture the essence of another human being? From the Hardcover edition.**

**Paprika**

**Coin Locker Babies**

**I Am Not Joey Pigza**

**Sixty-Nine**

**Audition**

Fiction. First published in 1989, this long-neglected cult classic features revisions, and a new afterword, by the author. As mysterious, beautiful, sad and frightening as contemporary American childhood itself—and, fortunately, a good deal less so—Bradfield's California is haunted by vast primordial Lovecraftian forces—death, sex, credit cards, Mom—which threaten to emerge from their ancient hiding places and engulf the world and the narrator, eight-year old Phillip and his preteen friends. Those who think they know all about California and Oedipal drives will here discover the true extent of their ignorance. The thing is indescribable—violent, hallucinatory, comic and incredibly well written. Scott Bradfield has not simply staked his literary terrain here, he has mapped and colonized an entire new planet."—Michael Chabon "If you spot it, grab it."—J. Edgar Hoover In the brilliant idiom of a modern Melville or Conrad, an odyssey of discovery by a bold and outrageous talent--the PEN/Hemingway Award--winning author of *The Ice At The Bottom Of The World*.

An irresistible mix of imagination, satire, and humor, these stories by acclaimed Japanese author Yasutaka Tsutsui immerse us in the consequences of a world where the fantastic and the mundane collide. The opening story, "The Dabba Dabba Tree," offers hilarious side effects of a small conical tree that, when placed at the foot of one's bed, creates erotic dreams. In "Circus Army," a sly commentary on the ludicrousness of war, a weapons supplier becomes an unwilling conscript in a war zone. "The World is Tilting" imagines a floating city that slowly begins to sink on one side, causing its citizens to reorient their lives to preserve a semblance of normality. And in the title story, we see how obscenely absurd the environment on Planet Porno is to a group of scientists. The stories in *Salmonella Men on Planet Porno* winningly combine madcap hilarity and a sharp critique toward the insanities of contemporary life.

*Those Who Forget*, published to international awards and acclaim, is journalist Géraldine Schwarz's riveting account of her German and French grandparents' lives during World War II, an in-depth history of Europe's post-war reckoning with the past and an urgent appeal to remember as a defense against today's rise of far-right nationalism. During World War II, Géraldine Schwarz's German grandparents were neither heroes nor villains; they were merely Mitläufer—those who followed the crowd. Once the war ended, they wanted to bury the past under the wreckage of the Third Reich. Decades later, while delving into filing cabinets in the basement of their apartment building in Mannheim, Schwarz discovers that in 1938, her paternal grandfather Karl took advantage of Nazi policies to buy a business from a Jewish family for a low price. She finds the only survivor of this family (all the others perished in Auschwitz), demanding reparations. But Karl Schwarz refused to acknowledge his responsibility. Géraldine starts to question the past: How guilty were her grandparents? What made them so complicit? On her mother's side, she investigates the role of her French grandfather, a policeman in Vichy. Weaving the threads of three generations of her family story with Europe's process of post-war reckoning, Schwarz explores how they were seduced by ideology, overcome by a fog of denial after the war, and, in Germany at least, eventually managed to transform collective guilt into democratic responsibility. She asks: How can nations learn from history? And she observes that nations that avoid confronting the past are especially vulnerable to extremism. Searing and unforgettable, *Those Who Forget* is a memoir, an illuminating history, and an urgent call for remembering.

*My Time Teaching English in Japan*

*Japan Through the Looking Glass*

*My Family's Story in Nazi Europe - A Memoir, A History, A Warning*

*The Life and Writings of Higuchi Ichiyū, a Woman of Letters in Meiji Japan*

*The Occupation Trilogy*

*A rape. A war. A society where women are bought and sold but no one can speak of shame. Shanghai 1937. Violence throbs at the heart of *The Dancing Girl and the Turtle*. Song Anyi is on the road to Shanghai and freedom when she is raped and left for dead. The silence and shame that mark her courageous survival drive her to escalating self-harm and prostitution. From opium dens to high-class brothels, Anyi dances on the edge of destruction while China prepares for war with Japan. Hers is the voice of every woman who fights for independence against overwhelming odds. *The Dancing Girl and the Turtle* is one of four interlocking novels set in Shanghai from 1929 to 1954. Through the eyes of the dancer, Song Anyi, and her brother Kang, the *Shanghai Quartet* spans a tumultuous time in Chinese history: war with the Japanese, the influx of stateless Jews into Shanghai, civil war and revolution. How does the love of a sister destroy her brother and all those around him?*

*Higuchi Ichiyū, Japan's first woman writer of stature in modern times, was born in 1872 and died at the age of twenty-four. In her brief life she wrote poems, essays, short stories and a great, multivolume diary. This book is made up of a critical biography, interlaced with extracts from the diary, and Robert Danly's translations of nine representative stories.*

*A nomadic starship, the *Sardonyx* (a.k.a. *Yago*) Net is manned by the Yago family, with Zed Yago as its captain. The *Sardonyx* Net is responsible for picking up space trash (i.e., convicts) in the *Sardonyx**

*sector. Zed gets great pleasure from torturing the convicts before selling them as slaves. The authorities of the planets in the Sector turn a blind eye as the Yagos drug and torture the criminals. But the Yagos' entire operation is at risk when there is a shortage of the drug they use to control the criminals and when Dana Ikoro arrives. In this story of forbidden love, crime, corrupt justice, and lucrative business, the Yago family must fight to keep their business stable.*

*A U.S. release of a signature work by the award-winning Japanese writer traces a brilliant psychotherapist's surreal battle in the realms of human subconscious when a psychiatric technology is stolen and used to invade dreams and induce insanity. Original. 15,000 first printing.*

*Look Alive Out There*

*Salmonella Men on Planet Porno*

*Almost Transparent Blue*

*The Wind from the East*

*Piercing*

This controversial novel touched the raw nerves of the Japanese and became a million seller within six months of publication. It is a semi-autobiographical tale of the author's youth spent amidst the glorious squalor of sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll in 1970s Japan. *Almost Transparent Blue* is a brutal tale of lost youth in a Japanese port town close to an American military base. Murakami's image-intensive narrative paints a portrait of a group of friends locked in a destructive cycle of sex, drugs and rock'n'roll. The novel is all but plotless, but the raw and

A cream-of-the-crop selection of Murakami's brilliance and piercing wit. This collection shows sides of Ryu Murakami that even avid fans may not be expecting. The intriguing, somewhat disturbing stories that *Topaz* was based on are included here, as are three entertaining and revealing portraits of the artist as a young man back in the *Transparent Blue* period of the late sixties and early seventies. We hear tales told by four very different individuals living in eighties Tokyo, each with his or her own problems but all with a thing about a certain pro baseball player, and we meet a brokenhearted young woman who finds an unexpected moment of love in the nineties and a single mother who stumbles on a ray of hope in the hard times of the noughties. Mixed in there somewhere are three linked stories about desire and obsession, with the timeless, seductive rhythms of Cuban music in the background. This book contains explicit content and is not suitable for minors. About the author: Ryu Murakami was not yet 24 when he won the prestigious Akutagawa Prize for his debut novel, *Almost Transparent Blue*. He has now published some forty best-selling novels, a dozen short-story collections, an armful of picture books, and a small mountain of essays. In his spare time, Ryu hosts a popular and long-running weekly TV show focusing on business and economic topics, and has for many years promoted tours and produced records for Cuban musicians. He has written and directed five feature films, of which *Topaz* a.k.a. *Tokyo Decadence* (1992) is probably the best known, and many of his novels have been made into films by other directors (notably Takashi Miike's *Audition*). Translated novels include *Coin Locker Babies* (Noma Prize for New Writers), *Sixty-Nine*, *Popular Hits of the Showa Era*, *Audition*, *In the Miso Soup* (Yomiuri Prize for Literature), *Piercing*, and *From the Fatherland, with Love* (Noma Prize for Literature and Mainichi Publishing Culture Award). Two babies are left in a Tokyo station coin locker and survive against the odds, but their lives are forever tainted by this inauspicious start. As they grow up, they join the ranks of *Toxibon*: a district of addicts, freaks and prostitutes. One becomes a bisexual rock star and looks for his mother, while the other one, an athlete, seeks revenge. This savage and stunning story unfolds in a surrealistic whirl of violence.

A surreal coming-of-age tale that establishes Ryu Murakami as one of the most inventive young writers in the world today. Abandoned at birth in adjacent train station lockers, two troubled boys spend their youth in an orphanage and with foster parents on a semi-deserted island before finally setting off for the city to find and destroy the women who first rejected them. Both are drawn to an area of freaks and hustlers called *Toxibon*. One becomes a bisexual rock singer, star of this exotic demimonde, while the other, a pole vaulter, seeks his revenge in the company of his girlfriend, *Anemone*, a model who has converted her condominium into a tropical swamp for her pet crocodile. Together and apart, their journey from a hot metal box to a stunning, savage climax is a brutal funhouse ride through the eerie landscape of late-twentieth-century Japan.

*Guilty of Dancing the Chachachá*

*Down in the City*

*Dancing Girl and the Turtle*

*Let's Speak English*

*Fishboy*

'*From the Fatherland, with Love*' is set in an alternative, dystopian present in which the dollar has collapsed and Japan's economy has fallen along with it. The North Korean government, sensing an opportunity, sends a fleet of 'rebels' in the first land invasion that Japan has ever faced. Japan can't cope with the surprise onslaught of 'Operation from the Fatherland, with Love.' But the terrorist Ishihara and his band of renegade youths - once dedicated to upsetting the Japanese government - turn their deadly attention to the North Korean threat. They will not allow Fukuoka to fall without a fight.

Oe has written about the sorrows and satisfactions of being the father of a handicapped child, but nowhere has his writing been more personal than in this autobiography. Without diminishing the suffering of his family and son, he celebrates the victories that can be won and captures the healing power of the family. 17 b&w illustrations.

Just when Joey Pigza's wired world finally seems to be under control, his good-for-nothing dad pops back into his life. This time though, Carter Pigza is a new man - literally. After a lucky lotto win, Carter Pigza has a crazy new outlook on life, and he's even changed his name to Charles Heinz. He thinks Joey and his mom should become new people, too. Soon Joey finds himself bombarded with changes: a new name, a new home, and a new family business - running the beat-up Beehive Diner. He knows he should forgive his dad as his mom wants him to, and get with the new family program. But Joey is afraid that in changing names and going with the flow he will lose sight of who he really is. In this rocket-paced new chapter in Joey Pigza's life, a father discovers what identity and forgiveness really mean, and how to cook a delicious turkey burger. This title has Common Core connections.

"Like the rhythm of the chachacha, the three short stories in this collection are marked by repetition and contrast. They all b

with the same scene: on a rainy afternoon, a man and woman are having lunch in a restaurant in the center of Havana. Each however, this scene is the genesis of a different love story, each corresponding to the vision of three distinct islands: the island of African rites and sacred tambours; the island of luxury hotels and American tourists; and finally, an island of communist utopia and political persecution. In this humorous, ironic and touching work, Cabrera Infante invites the reader on a journey through time on a quest to discover the many faces of his beloved Cuba."--BOOK JACKET.Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Those Who Forget

Neveryóna, Or, The Tale of Signs and Cities

A Novel

Come Closer

Text Classics

Let's Speak English is an autobiographical comic about my time as an English Teacher in Japan! Every night, Kawashima Masayuki creeps from his bed and watches over his baby girl's crib while his wife sleeps. But this is no ordinary domestic scene. He has an ice pick in his hand, and a barely controllable desire to use it. Deciding to confront his demons, Kawashima sets into motion a chain of events seeming to lead inexorably to murder...

Esther Prescott has seen little of life outside her wealthy family's Rose Bay mansion, until flashy Stan Peterson comes roaring up the drive in his huge American car and barges into her life. Within a fortnight they are living in his Kings Cross flat. Moody and erratic, proud of his well-bred wife yet bitterly resentful of her privilege, Stan is involved with his former girlfriend and a series of shady business deals. Esther, innocent and desperate to please him, must endure his controlling ways. This story of a troubled and obsessive marriage, set against the backdrop of postwar Sydney, is devastating. First published in 1957, *Down in the City* announced Elizabeth Harrower as a major Australian writer. Elizabeth Harrower was born in Sydney in 1928. Her first novel *Down in the City* was published in 1957, and was followed by *The Long Prospect* a year later. In 1959 she began working for the ABC and as a book reviewer for the *Sydney Morning Herald*. In 1960 she published *The Catherine Wheel*, the story of an Australian law student in London, her only novel not set in Sydney. *The Watch Tower* appeared in 1966. Her work is austere, intelligent, ruthless in its perceptions about men and women. She was admired by many of her contemporaries, including Patrick White and Christina Stead, and is without doubt among the most important writers of the postwar period in Australia. Elizabeth Harrower lives in Sydney. [textpublishing.com.au](http://textpublishing.com.au) 'Down in the City marked the arrival of one of the sharpest authors of psychological fiction in Australian literature. Many of the things that happen in the novel are unpleasant, but are rendered with such intensity and psychological insight that the experience of reading about them is thrilling.' Australian 'a triumph from Text's project to recover forgotten Australian literature. Doused in melancholy and written from an accessible yet unnerving third-person perspective, Harrower's debut is a light read with weighty resonance.'

Readings Bookshop

Nobel Prize winner Patrick Modiano's first three novels, about Paris under Nazi occupation, now in a single volume; the earliest--*La Place de l'Étoile*--in English for the first time. Born at the close of World War II, 2014 Nobel Prize winner Patrick Modiano was a young man in his twenties when he burst onto the Parisian literary scene with these three brilliant, angry novels about the wartime Occupation of Paris. The epigraph to his first novel, among the first to seriously question Nazi collaboration in France, reads: "In June 1942 a German officer goes up to a young man and says: 'Excuse me, monsieur, where is La Place de l'Étoile?' The young man points to the star on his chest." The second novel, *The Night Watch*, tells the story of a young man caught between his work for the French Gestapo, his work for a Resistance cell, and the black marketeers whose milieu he shares. *Ring Roads* recounts a son's search for his Jewish father who disappeared ten years earlier, whom he finds trying to weather the war in service to unsavory characters. Together these three brilliant, almost hallucinatory evocations of the Occupation attempt to exorcise the past by exploring the morally ambiguous worlds of collaboration and resistance. Award-winning translator Frank Wynne has revised the translations of *The Night Watch* and *Ring Roads*--long out of print--for our current day, and brings *La Place de l'Étoile* into English for the first time. The *Occupation Trilogy* provides the perfect introduction to one of the world's greatest writers.

The History of Luminous Motion

A Healing Family

Tokyo Decadence

Remote Control

The Sardonyx Net

***From the author of *Audition*, a wickedly satirical and wildly funny tale of an intergenerational battle of the sexes. In his most irreverent novel yet, Ryu Murakami creates a rivalry of epic proportions between six aimless youths and six tough-as-nails women who battle for control of a Tokyo neighborhood. At the outset, the young men seem louche but harmless, their activities limited to drinking, snacking, peering at a naked neighbor through a window, and performing karaoke. The six "aunties" are fiercely independent career women. When one of the boys executes a lethal ambush of one of the women, chaos ensues. The women band together to find the killer and exact revenge. In turn, the boys buckle down,***

**study physics, and plot to take out their nemeses in a single blast. Who knew that a deadly "gang war" could be such fun? Murakami builds the conflict into a hilarious, spot-on satire of modern culture and the tensions between the sexes and generations.**

**Pryn, a young country girl who flees her village on the back of a dragon, searches for Neveryona, a fabulous lost civilization, encountering a host of intriguing characters along the way**

**An epic manhunt begins when Masaharu Aoyagi, an unemployed delivery truck driver, is accused of the assassination of Sadoyoshi Kaneda, the youngest prime minister in Japanese history.**

**From a rising new star of horror comes a killer read that will make you lose track of time and reality. The Crimson Labyrinth is a wicked satire on extremist reality TV in the tradition of The Running Man-if that indeed is what it is. Welcome to THE MARS LABYRINTH where things aren't what they seem. Welcome to the world of Kishi, where the plot is as gnarly as the humor is twisted. When an unemployed former math major wakes up one day, he wonders if he's somehow ended up on the red planet. The good-looking young woman with aid-she says her name is Ai and that she draws erotic comics for a living-seems to have no clue either as to their whereabouts. Their only leads are cryptic instructions beamed to a portable device. Has the game begun? There is no reset button, no saving and no continue-make the wrong move and it's really GAME OVER. In the cruel world of THE MARS LABYRINTH, mercy and compassion are only for the weak or the very, very strong. The stakes are nothing less than your life-and apparently a lot of money. If you're a fan of Lost or Battle Royale, don't miss this one.**

**In the Shade of Spring Leaves**

**Days in the Caucasus**

**Dora's Jinx**

**From the Fatherland, with Love**

**69 (Kodansha Modern Writers)**

*A pulsating cult-favorite psycho-thriller soon to be a major motion picture starring Christopher Abbott and Mia Wasikowska \*One of Literary Hub's "Ten Works of Literary Horror You Should Read (Even if You Don't Think You Like Horror)"\* Kawashima Masayuki is a successful graphic designer living in Tokyo with his loving wife, Yoko, and their baby girl. Outwardly, their lives are a picture of happiness and contentment, but every night while his wife sleeps Kawashima creeps from his bed and watches over the baby's crib with an ice pick in his hand and an almost visceral desire to use it. One night, as this struggle unfolds once more, Kawashima makes a decision to confront his demons and sets into motion an uncontrollable chain of events seeming to lead inexorably to murder. The follow-up to In the Miso Soup from a cult favorite writer, Piercing confirms Murakami as the master of the psycho thriller-terrifying, sickening, and utterly gripping*

*Sloane Crosley returns to the form that made her a household name in really quite a lot of households: Essays! From the New York Times-bestselling author Sloane Crosley comes Look Alive Out There-a brand-new collection of essays filled with her trademark hilarity, wit, and charm. The characteristic heart and punch-packing observations are back, but with a newfound coat of maturity. A thin coat. More of a blazer, really. Fans of I Was Told There'd Be Cake and How Did You Get This Number know Sloane Crosley's life as a series of relatable but madcap misadventures. In Look Alive Out There, whether it's playing herself on Gossip Girl, scaling active volcanoes, crashing shivas, befriending swingers, or staring down the barrel of the fertility gun, Crosley continues to rise to the occasion with unmatched nerve and electric one-liners. And as her subjects become more serious, her essays deliver not just laughs but lasting emotional heft and insight. Crosley has taken up the gauntlets thrown by her predecessors-Dorothy Parker, Nora Ephron, David Sedaris-and crafted something rare, affecting, and true. Look Alive Out There arrives on the tenth anniversary of I Was Told There'd be Cake, and Crosley's essays have managed to grow simultaneously more sophisticated and even funnier. And yet she's still very much herself, and it's great to have her back-and not a moment too soon (or late, for that matter).*

*In a small, inconsequential city in Japan, all that matters to 17-year-old Kensuke Yazaki and his friends is girls, rock music and, to a much lesser extent, school. Told at high speed and with irresistible humour by Kensuke himself, this is the story of their 1969, as they engage in heated conversations about Marxism, Rimbaud, Godard, the Beatles and the Stones, set up a barricade in their school, organise a rock festival and map out a highly successful strategy in girl-winning. This is a young Japan entirely turned towards the West, pervaded by Western music, where the girls have nicknames pulled from famous British films, but still locked in a fight with the rigid post-war conservatism of the older generation.*

*The children of U.S. small-town Alexandria are just trying to live like normal teens until their parents' promised return from a mysterious, four-year religious pilgrimage, and Ben Schiller is no exception. She's just trying to take care of her sister, keep faith that her parents will come back, and get through her teen years as painlessly as possible. But her relationship with her best friend is changing, her younger sister is hiding a dark secret, and a terrible tragedy is coming for them all.*

**The Breaktime Bully**

**The Crimson Labyrinth**

**In The Miso Soup**

*Dora Behn might as well have been born invisible. She could wear bright colors and dance the Macarena in the middle of class without so much as a glance. This would naturally put a damper on her romantic life... If she had one to begin with. Everything changes on her sixteenth birthday when a talking cat appears and tells her she is a witch. For Dora, nothing could be worse. No one dated crazy cat ladies! Things go from bad to worse when the other witches' familiars go missing, including her aunt's. Dora's magic may be the only thing that can prevent the total destruction of the sleepy town of Kinderhook. But to save her friends and family, Dora must learn to embrace who and what she is. She just needs to figure out what that means.*

*Her marriage to Ed is challenged by odd noises, petty squabbles, and the onset of blackouts with no medical source, Amanda accidentally receives a book on possession, the arrival of which coincides with increasingly bizarre events.*