



The Black Lizard and Beast in the Shadows

By Rampo Edogawa

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The Black Lizard and Beast in the Shadows By Rampo Edogawa

Two Golden Age classics from Japan's grand master of mystery. Edogawa Rampo (pseudonym of Hirai Taro, 1894-1965) is the acknowledged grand master of Japan's golden age of crime and mystery fiction. In the early part of his career, he created the Japanese gothic mystery, developing the work of Edgar Allan Poe and related nineteenth century writers in a distinctly Japanese form. This part of his career coincided with a great flowering in Japanese literature and culture, a relatively free and uninhibited popular press being a defining feature of the times. In this context, Rampo's dark vision and extravagant grotesquery found an avid readership, and had a profound influence on other writers. The Black Lizard, a master criminal as deadly as she is beautiful, wagers all in an epic battle with a master detective. A mystery writer vows to protect the woman he secretly loves from the Beast in the Shadows, but disaster strikes when he turns detective himself.

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Editorial Review

From the Publisher

Edogawa Rampo (pseudonym of Hirai Taro, 1894-1965) is the acknowledged grand master of Japan's golden age of crime and mystery fiction. In the early part of his career, he created the Japanese gothic mystery, developing the work of Edgar Allan Poe and related nineteenth century writers in a distinctly Japanese form. This part of his career coincided with a great flowering in Japanese literature and culture, a relatively free and uninhibited popular press being a defining feature of the times. In this context, Rampo's dark vision and extravagant grotesquery found an avid readership, and had a profound influence on other writers. Public morals tightened in the years leading up to Japan's Asian and Pacific wars, and censorship was tight in the war years. Rampo's early work fell out of favour, and he turned to adventure stories with detective characters in leading roles. After the war, he concentrated on stories for young readers, and on developing the Japan Association of Mystery Writers. The Edogawa Rampo Prize, originally endowed by Rampo himself, is awarded annually to the finest work of the year in the mystery genre. It is the most important prize of its type in Japan. Edogawa Rampo -- whose name is meant to be read as a punning reference to 'Edgar Allan Poe' -- remains popular and influential in Japan. His work remains in print, in various different editions, and his stories provide the background for a steady stream of film, television, and theatrical adaptations.

Kurodahan Press takes great pleasure in presenting the first English language translations of these two short novels. We hope to bring more of Edogawa Rampo's unique brand of crime fiction to life in English, and there is no better place to start than in the cavernous hideaway of the Black Lizard.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kim Bogdan:

Have you spare time for the day? What do you do when you have far more or little spare time? Yeah, you can choose the suitable activity regarding spend your time. Any person spent their spare time to take a wander, shopping, or went to often the Mall. How about open as well as read a book titled The Black Lizard and Beast in the Shadows? Maybe it is to get best activity for you. You understand beside you can spend your time with the favorite's book, you can smarter than before. Do you agree with it is opinion or you have various other opinion?

Dorcas Starling:

The e-book with title The Black Lizard and Beast in the Shadows possesses a lot of information that you can find out it. You can get a lot of advantage after read this book. This book exist new understanding the information that exist in this guide represented the condition of the world now. That is important to you to find out how the improvement of the world. This kind of book will bring you throughout new era of the internationalization. You can read the e-book with your smart phone, so you can read it anywhere you want.

Kim Salgado:

People live in this new day of lifestyle always attempt to and must have the free time or they will get large amount of stress from both daily life and work. So , if we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely sure. People is human not just a robot. Then we question again, what kind of activity are you experiencing when the spare time coming to an individual of course your answer may unlimited right. Then do you ever try this one, reading publications. It can be your alternative in spending your spare time, often the book you have read is actually The Black Lizard and Beast in the Shadows.

Jami Hannah:

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