Rashomon



羅生門

王朝末期の荒廃した都を舞台に展開する凄惨な人間絵巻。 「今昔物語」「宇治拾遺物語」などに素材を得ている。

This collection of short stories includes "In a Grove", a psychologically sophisticated tale about murder, rape, and suicide; "Rashomon", the story of a thief scared into honesty by an encounter with a ghoul; and "Kesa and Morito", the story of man driven to kill someone he doesn't hate by a lover whom he doesn't love.



By Ryunosuke Akutagawa 芥川龍之介

Kappa 阿童



ある精神病院にて、患者 23 号は語り始める・・。山登りに行った彼は河童に出会い追いかけているうちに河童の世界へと迷い込みそこで生活することになったという。河童の世界を作り出すことによって、人間社会を批判した作品。

'Kappaland', is a whole different world which Patients No.23 fell as he chased a Kappa while on a mountain-climbing excursion.

Kappas are familiar from Japanese folklore, i.e. not Akutagawa's invention, but he imagines them and their world in new detail. Akutagawa presents them as having their own civilization, clearly using them to offer a satire and allegory of contemporary Japanese society.



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