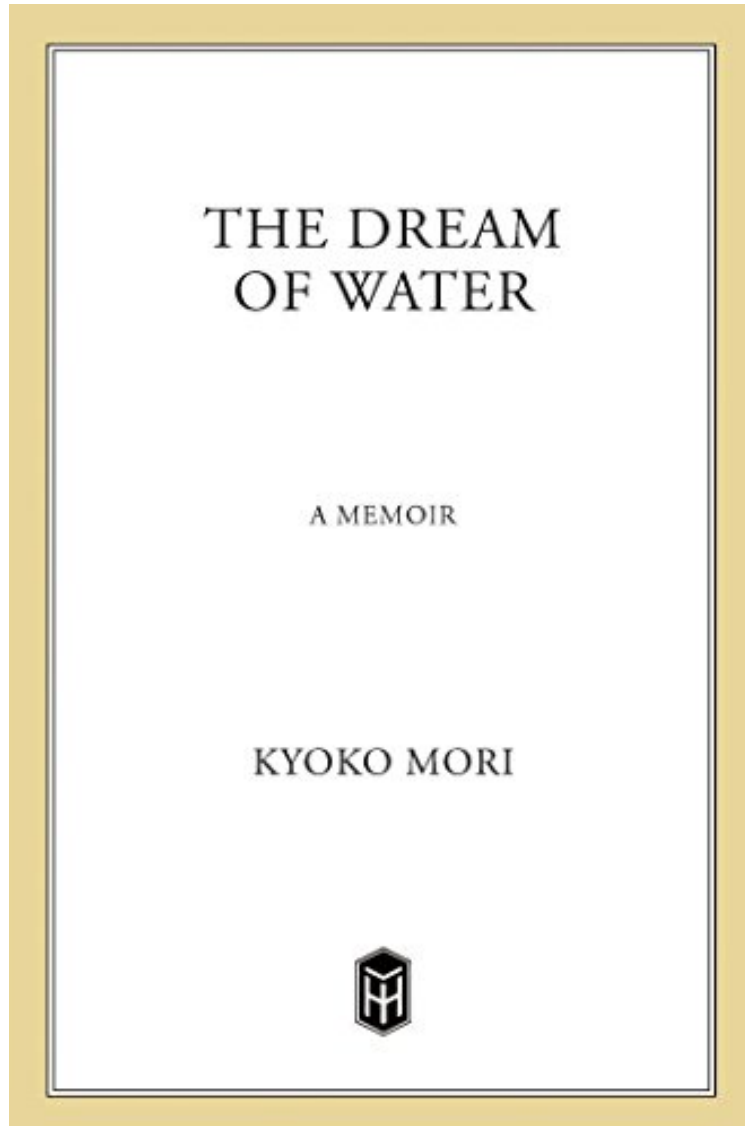


(Free pdf) The Dream of Water: A Memoir

The Dream of Water: A Memoir

Von Kyoko Mori

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Von Kyoko Mori : The Dream of Water: A Memoir before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Dream of Water: A Memoir:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. We can't go home again. Von Ein Kunde Water, life-giving source of comfort and sustenance, is among the most maternal of symbols on the island nation of Japan. In her new memoir, Kyoko Mori explores the loss of her mother, her childhood and ultimately, her native heritage, as a result of the behavior of an abusive father and stepmother. "The Dream of

"Water" is a search for the soul and essence of the mother she once found lying on the floor with a plastic bag over her head and a natural gas tube in her mouth. An American citizen, the Japanese-born Mori has lived in the US since her late teens and teaches creative (English) writing at St. Norberts College in Wisconsin. "The Dream of Water" tells the story of her first trip back to Japan since leaving 13 years before. None of us can go home again, and Mori is no different; but the book shows we can reach better a understanding of our past using the knowledge and experience of years. As Mori visited with what remained of her family and friends, she saw them now through the eyes of a self-confident adult from a radically different culture. Even this self-confident adult, however, had trouble with a father who decided to leave for a nap thirty minutes into her first meeting with him in years. The deliberate ambiguousness of Japanese language and culture is the basis of much current misunderstanding and apparent callousness when Japanese and Americans communicate. Although Mori had developed a strong dose of American assertiveness, the Japanese language she learned as a child lacked the words to civilly inquire why: why did you drive my mother to suicide? why did you cut me off from her family? why do you continue to criticize my looks, my work, my worth? We learn from this book that child abuse is not limited to America, nor is physical abuse necessarily worse than emotional abuse. This brilliant girl's pain has had a lasting effect on the woman. Though well written, it's not a fun book. It is often bleak and sad. Mori's first book, the fictional "Shizuko's Daughter" (Ballantine, 1993), dealt with the life of a twelve year old Japanese girl following the suicide of her mother and abuse at the hands of a distant father and an evil stepmother. It's easy to see the common influence for both books in her early experiences. With luck, the "The Dream of Water" will also serve to wash away the author's pain and help her produce more good writing on a different topic. -- End -- 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Mixed Von Ein Kunde I've never read a book where my feelings toward the story and the author kept rising and dipping, over and over. On the one hand, Mori is a beautiful writer. Her words are lyrical, and she tells a good, even suspenseful story. At times I didn't want to put the book down. Alternately, there were at least 3 times--and I'm only halfway through the book--where I just wanted to slam the book down, thinking, OK, enough is enough. Her bitterness toward her father, stepmother, and even the Japanese culture manifests itself in--simply put--whining. It isn't that I'm not sympathetic--indeed, I can relate to a lot of the issues she talks about; it's the reason I wanted to read her story--but, like the other reviewer wrote, enough is enough. She refuses to let go or at least try to understand or come to terms with her pain. It's family-bashing and Japan-bashing with no grey in between. At many points the book reminds me of an unconstructive, dragged-out heart-to-heart with a friend who goes over every angry detail for the umpteenth time. The only reason I tried to plow through this was my hope to see that "breakthrough." Now that I've read the other reviewer's comment that it doesn't ever come, I think my time will be better spent reading other books. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Excellence Stemming From a Honest Understanding of Life Von Ein Kunde This book may have a lot of mixed reviews but, it is a honest work! The author does not mask emotions in order to make the reader feel comfortable. While reading this work you may feel as if you are on an emotional joyride. However, this is an account of a highly personal experience. One that may help you put things into perspective by comparison. This book does not suggest a way for the reader to discern her life. It simply invites the reader to explore through her eyes. Wonderfully written!! Highly expressive. A must read for anyone who may wish to understand Japanese/American insight. The same review can be made for Polite Lies. You absolutely will not feel the reading of either books to be a waste of time.

Kurzbeschreibung In 1990 author Kyoko Mori returned to her native Japan to visit the "landscape of my childhood." There--looking for the house in which her mother killed herself, running on land that was once water, and retracing childhood train trips to her grandparents' farm--she relived the memories and uncovered the secrets that unlocked her past. In *The Dream of Water*, a series of chapters that are themselves "small perfections," she leads us to the "larger happiness" of an autobiography that is also a work of art. Japan is the land Mori fled as a teenager, seeking to escape from her cold, abusive father and her manipulative stepmother. It is the country she spend her adult life putting behind her, but it is also her homeland. As she searches through familiar neighborhoods and on distant islands, she is constantly aware of the culture she abandoned and the one she has adopted. Pushed by the sights and sounds of contemporary Japan into her interior world of memory and dreams, she also looks out toward the daylight land of America. A personal journey of discovery that is also an exploration of national difference, *The Dream of Water* explores intimate emotions that reveal profound cultural truths.

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one she has adopted. Pushed by the sights and sounds of contemporary Japan into her interior world of memory and dreams, she also looks out toward the daylight land of America. A personal journey of discovery that is also an exploration of national difference, *The Dream of Water* explores intimate emotions that reveal profound cultural truths. Synopsis An American poet explores her past and the meaning of memory and examines the two countries she knows well, Japan and America.