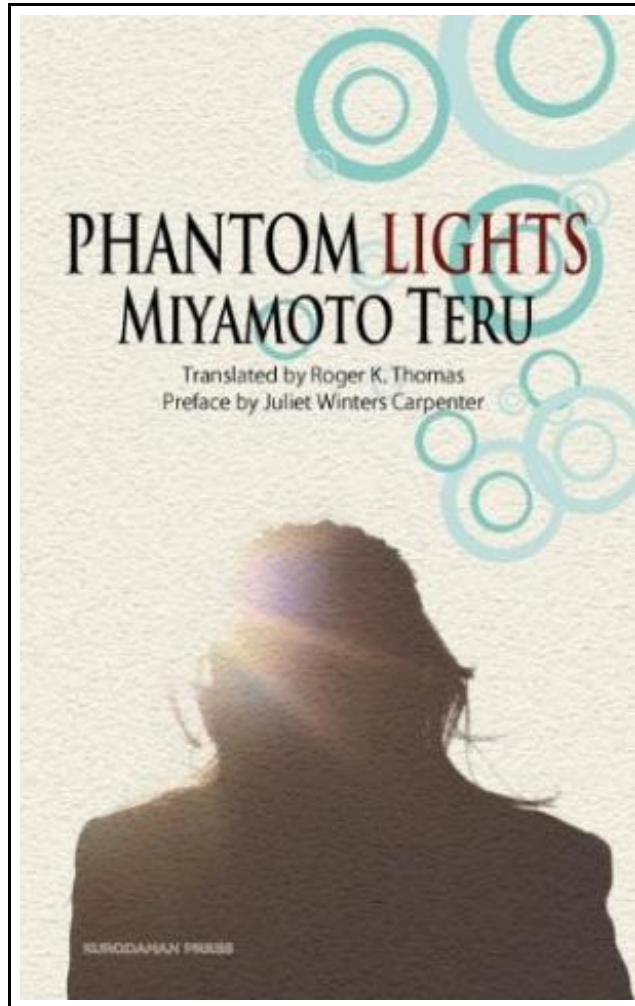


## Phantom Lights and Other Stories by Miyamoto Teru



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***(Melany Goyette)***

## PHANTOM LIGHTS AND OTHER STORIES BY MIYAMOTO TERU



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Kurodahan Press, Japan, 2011. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 203 x 127 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Presenting a new collection of stories exploring the perennial themes of Miyamoto Teru s fiction, narrative sketches of the world-class world of the Osaka-Kobe region of his childhood employing memory to reveal a story in layered frames of time with consummate skill. His work examines the mutual proximity--or even the identity--of life and death, often touching on such grim topics with a touch of humor. Stories of personal triumph and hope are often set in situations involving death, illness, or loss, but what might be the stuff of tragedy in the hands of some writers turns into stepping stones for his characters to climb upward and onward. Miyamoto s considerable and devoted following in Japan has come increasingly to be mirrored in other Asian countries and parts of Europe as his fiction has been translated into various languages. With renditions of only three of his works currently available in English, however, Anglophone readers have for the most part been unaware of the Teru literary phenomenon. The present collection aims to fill part of this lack by offering a selection of some his finest short stories along with one of his most admired novellas--Phantom Lights--which was made into the internationally acclaimed 1995 movie Maborosi by Koreeda Hirokazu. The will to live, karma, and death are themes developed through the lives of Miyamoto s fictional characters, who struggle to achieve closure with their respective pasts and in their often difficult relations with others. The comments of Washington Times writer Anna Chambers in her review of Kinshu: Autumn Brocade aptly apply to the works presented here as well: . .existential crisis after existential crisis force the characters to question whether one...



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