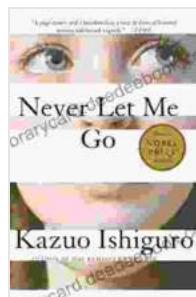


Never Let Me Go: A Haunting Exploration of Love, Loss, and the Meaning of Life

Kazuo Ishiguro's 2005 novel, *Never Let Me Go*, is a haunting and thought-provoking exploration of love, loss, and the meaning of life. Set in a dystopian future, the novel follows the lives of three clones who are raised and educated in a boarding school for organ donation. As they come to terms with their inevitable fate, they grapple with questions of identity, free will, and the nature of humanity.



Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 2327 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 272 pages
Screen Reader	: Supported
X-Ray for textbooks	: Enabled



Plot

The novel is narrated by Kathy H, a young woman who is being prepared for her fourth and final organ donation. As she looks back on her life, she recounts her childhood at Hailsham, the boarding school where she was raised with her friends, Ruth and Tommy.

Hailsham is a strange and isolated place, where the children are taught to be obedient and to accept their fate. They are also encouraged to express their creativity through art and music. As they grow older, the children begin to understand the true nature of their existence. They learn that they are clones, created solely for the purpose of providing organs for transplant.

Despite their knowledge of their fate, Kathy, Ruth, and Tommy form close bonds with each other. They share their hopes and dreams, and they support each other through the difficult times. However, as they approach the end of their lives, they must confront the reality of their situation. They must come to terms with the fact that they will never experience life outside of Hailsham, and that they will eventually die.

Characters

Kathy H is a complex and sympathetic narrator. She is intelligent and observant, and she has a deep understanding of the world around her. However, she is also resigned to her fate, and she does not allow herself to hope for a different life.

Ruth is Kathy's best friend. She is a kind and caring person, but she is also more fragile than Kathy. Ruth is deeply affected by the knowledge of her fate, and she struggles to come to terms with it.

Tommy is Kathy and Ruth's other close friend. He is a creative and sensitive boy, but he is also reckless and impulsive. Tommy is the first of the three friends to die, and his death has a profound impact on Kathy and Ruth.

Themes

Never Let Me Go explores a number of complex and challenging themes, including:

- **Love and loss:** The novel is a deeply moving exploration of love and loss. Kathy, Ruth, and Tommy form close bonds with each other, but they must eventually face the fact that they will never be able to have a normal life together. Their story is a reminder of the fragility of life and the importance of cherishing the moments we have with our loved ones.
- **Identity:** The novel also explores the question of identity. Kathy, Ruth, and Tommy are clones, and they are raised to believe that they are not real people. However, as they grow older, they begin to question their identity and to search for their own sense of self.
- **Free will:** Another important theme in the novel is free will. Kathy, Ruth, and Tommy are raised to believe that they have no choice in their lives. However, as they come to understand the true nature of their existence, they must decide for themselves how they want to live.
- **The meaning of life:** Ultimately, Never Let Me Go is a novel about the meaning of life. Kathy, Ruth, and Tommy must come to terms with the fact that their lives are short and that they will eventually die. However, they also discover that their lives have value and that they can find meaning in their relationships with each other.

Critical reception

Never Let Me Go has been praised by critics for its haunting and thought-provoking exploration of love, loss, and the meaning of life. The novel was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award, and it won the Nebula Award for Best Novel.

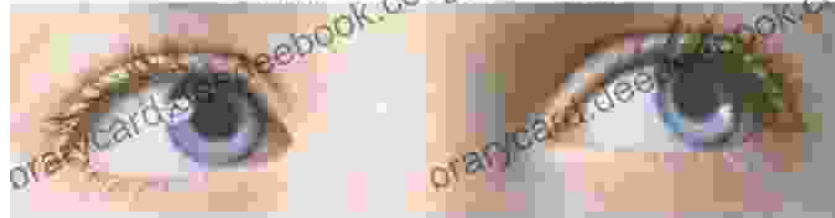
In his review of the novel, Michiko Kakutani of The New York Times wrote: "Never Let Me Go is a haunting and unforgettable novel that will stay with you long after you finish reading it."

Legacy

Never Let Me Go has had a lasting impact on literature and popular culture. The novel has been adapted into a film and a stage play, and it has been translated into over 40 languages. The novel has also been the subject of numerous academic studies and essays.

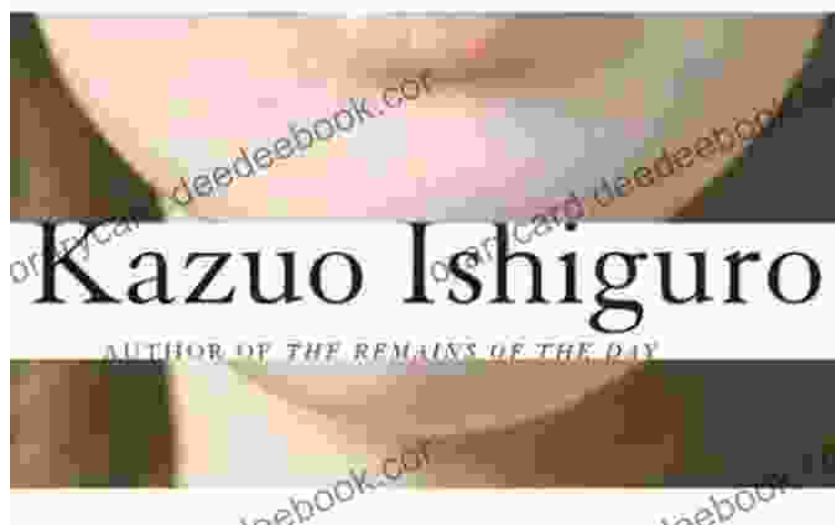
Never Let Me Go is a powerful and moving novel that explores some of the most fundamental questions of human existence. The novel is a must-read for anyone interested in literature, philosophy, or the human condition.

"A page-turner and a heartbreaker, a tour de force of knotted tension and buried anguish." —*TIME*



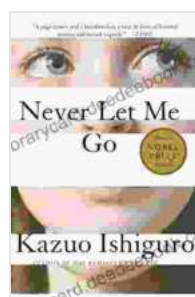
Never Let Me Go

Go



Kazuo Ishiguro

AUTHOR OF *THE REMAINS OF THE DAY*



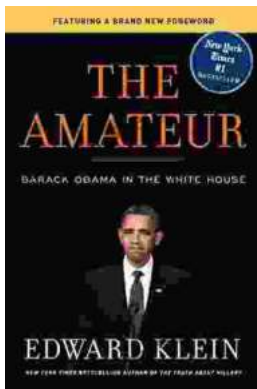
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