

Chapter 1 : After the Quake - Murakami Haruki

At the end of the day, After the Quake is a deeply meditative piece on how we cope with disaster. Murakami paints, with broad and economical strokes, the psychological repercussions of the choices we make as we wait for the dust to settle.

Two months later, the radical Aum Shinrikyo cult carried out a gas attack on the subway system in Tokyo, killing eleven and crippling many others for life. Because of these twin terrors, Murakami, who had lived in the United States for several years, returned to Japan to research and write a series of newspaper articles on the terrorist attack, later published as *Underground: The Gas Attack and the Japanese Psyche*, filled with accounts of the lives of both survivors and cult members. He takes a week off from work, and one of his colleagues says that if he will deliver a small package for him to his younger sister in the city of Kushiro he will pay for his airfare and hotel. When the sister, Keiko, along with a friend, Shimaou, meet Komura at the airport, he has the strange impression that he is witnessing some moment from the past. He also feels he has not come far even though it was a long journey. These impressions create a transition from everyday life into a mysterious realm of reality typical of many of these stories. When Komura and Shimaou try to have sex, he fails several times because he has been seeing images of the earthquake. At the end of the story, the most pessimistic in the collection, Komura understands the emptiness inside himself. She is convinced that the man actually wanted death, even though he fought to stay alive. Miyake, who is obsessed with the fires, tells her that getting such a feeling while looking at a fire shows a deep, quiet kind of feeling inside a person. Like Komura in the first story, Junko says she is empty, to which Miyake replies that he is an expert on emptiness. After talking about committing suicide together when the fire goes out, Junko goes to sleep and Miyake tells her that when the fire goes out she will feel the cold and wake up whether she wants to or not. In spite of the sense of emptiness, characteristic of other stories in this book, there is also a sense of communion between the two characters at the end. This mutual understanding suggests that it is possible that when the fire goes out, the two will still have each other. Yoshiya is convinced the man with a missing earlobe must be his biological father. When the man gets off the train in an industrial area, he walks like a mechanical doll being drawn by a magnet. The fact that there is no sign of human life and the place looks like an imaginary stage set in a dream is another indication, typical of these stories, that the main character has entered some alternate dream reality. The entire section is 1, words. [Unlock This Study Guide Now Start your hour free trial to unlock this 8-page After the Quake study guide and get instant access to the following:](#)

Chapter 2 : After the Quake | Haruki Murakami

After the Quake (地震のあとで、みんなの踊る場所、 Kami no Kodomo-tachi wa Mina Odoru, lit. "All God's Children Can Dance") is a collection of six short stories by Japanese author Haruki Murakami, written between and

The six stories in this mesmerizing collection are set at the time of the catastrophic Kobe earthquake, when Japan became brutally aware of the fragility of its daily existence. My two favorite stories: A hard, white stone. She does not know where it came from. The stone and its inscription are old, old things. You have been living with them inside you for a very long time. You must get rid of the stone. Otherwise, after you die and are cremated, only the stone will remain. In your dream, it will be easing its way out of a hole in a wall—a green, scaly snake. Once it has pushed out three feet from the wall, you must grab its neck and never let go. The snake will look very frightening, but in fact it can do you no harm, so you must not be frightened. Hold on to it with both hands. Think of it as your life, and hold on to it with all your strength. Keep holding it until you wake from your dream. The snake will swallow your stone for you. Overall, it was a strange but insightful read. I liked it the most from all the other tales. It was a lovely tale about friendships, love, storytelling, and so much more. Junpei gave a lot of thought to his answers. Out came the right hand again, and the left hand went up its sleeve. Sayoko turned her head just a bit, and the left hand came out holding a white bra—a small one with no wires. Without the slightest wasted motion, the hand and bra went back up the sleeve, and the hand came out again. Then the right hand pulled in, poked around at the back, and came out again. Sayoko rested her right hand on her left on the table. Your best time so far was thirty-six seconds. Buy a Coffee for nat bookspoils with Ko-fi.

Chapter 3 : After the Quake - free PDF, DJVU, FB2, FB3

After the Quake by Haruki Murakami Coming this October: Killing Commendatore, the much-anticipated new novel from Haruki Murakami Set at the time of the catastrophic Kobe earthquake, the mesmerizing stories in After the Quake are as haunting as dreams and as potent as oracles.

Inspirationalreads Murakami is another author that I have been in awe of and yet a bit wary. This was the last available to review on this list of the four books he has on here. And yet I was intimidated by the highly surreal nature often referred to where his books are concerned, where readers were unsure of what was happening but were enjoying themselves, happy to be taken for the ride. This was further emphasised when I read After Dark , another short story collection of his that is not on this list. So nabbing this last opportunity to review a Murakami for this list so far at least I put myself in the mindset of being open and willing to go wherever Murakami wanted to take me. Which for all my mental preparedness ended up being very middle of the road. After the Quake features six short stories all set in the aftermath of the destructive earthquake in Kobe, Japan. So while this collection is called After the Quake, this is far less a unifying theme as there is another more obvious ; that of human relationships. Be it the losing of some and gaining of new, re-connecting with yourself, searching for a connection that is missing, or re-connecting in a more meaningful manner this thread of connectivity runs throughout five of the six stories here. For me, this was unexpected and whether or not it was because I had mentally prepped myself for something different, a little disappointing in their straightforwardness and accessibility. That is not to say that these stories are not poignant or meaningful, as this common thread does make for interesting thought when looked at as a collective. The reactions of these different characters and the different aspects of human inter-connectivity are displayed in scenarios that never feel forced and could be everyday occurrences anywhere. In another, a business woman has a spiritual encounter that encourages her to let go of the painful past in order to move forward and connect more truthfully and happily in the future. It is just that this does not feel like a new handling of a common theme; nothing here is fresh and off-kilter like one would come to expect from Murakami. This thread of relationships can be drawn through this story as well, even though it is, as the title depicts, about a super-sized, super-skilled frog battling a giant worm to prevent an earthquake in Tokyo. Perhaps it is that he, who is humble and giving in his relationships with others is worthy of such a task, that of defending the city of Tokyo. This odd little tale was a bright spot that stood out because of how different it was and was enjoyable because of the difference. This book would be an odd choice as an introduction to Murakami so I would not recommend it for this. It is however a nice study of human interaction and a must read for Super-Frog alone. Maybe this is just a lesson for me to leave any and all expectations at the door, especially when it comes to this author.

Chapter 4 : After the Quake Quotes by Haruki Murakami

"I want to write about people who dream and wait for the night to end, who long for the light so they can hold the ones they love." — Haruki Murakami, After the Quake.

Synopsis[edit] "UFO in Kushiro"[edit] Komura, an early-thirties salesman living in Tokyo, comes home from work five days after the quake to find that his wife of five years has left him. She leaves a note saying that living with him is like living with a "chunk of air" and that other women would be lucky to be with him down the road. About a week later, he takes a week-long leave of absence. At the airport, he is greeted by Keiko and her friend Shimaō. After a slight confusion regarding Keiko thinking that his wife has died rather than left him, they go to a noodle house for a meal. There, the two women tell him the story of how a woman left her husband after a UFO sighting. Afterwards, the three go to a love hotel; Keiko knows the owner and says he can stay there for the duration of his trip. After taking a bath, he finds that Keiko has left, leaving him and Shimaō alone. He asks Shimaō about a "bear story" he heard them mention earlier; she tells him the story: After finishing the story, she goes to take a bath. When she returns to the room, the two try to have intercourse but Komura is unable to commit himself, mentioning earlier that he does not find interest in anyone other than his wife. They talk instead; he tells her that his wife left him because he was like a "chunk of air" and then asks her what was in the package. She insinuates that the package was just a "chunk of air," which upsets him. After Shimaō apologizes for the joke, Komura lies down again and ruminates about his excursion to Kushiro. One day right before midnight, they receive a call from mid-forty-year-old Miyake asking if they want to come to the beach to light a bonfire together; they go to join him. They also drink Suntory together; Keisuke leaves after a few drinks leaving Junko and Miyake alone. As the bonfires die, they talk about dreams and death; Miyake often finds that he horrifyingly dies trapped in a refrigerator and mentions that Jack London also thought he was going to drown to death so he killed himself with morphine instead. As they sit together thinking about death, Junko drifts to sleep. That evening, while transferring between subway lines to get home, he sees a mid-fifties man who has a missing earlobe and decides to follow him surreptitiously. Yoshiya lives with his mother who has recently been away helping her religious group provide earthquake relief. When he was young he was told by his fatherlike "special guide" Mr. Tabata that his father is "Our Lord. That man was adamant about Yoshiya not being his child and had an accident in his childhood in which a dog bit off one of his earlobes. The man who Yoshiya follows gets off at a station in the Chiba Prefecture and hails down a cab; Yoshiya is able to get a cab to follow the man. The man gets out at a remote location full of walls and barbed wire and walks away; Yoshiya follows him. After traveling through a scrap yard and several walls, they end up at a baseball field and the man vanishes. After surveying the field, he proceeds to dance, feeling as if he is being tested by God. During this dance, he thinks of several things: In that moment, Yoshiya wanted to confess to Mr. Tabata that he has incestuous feelings for his mother, but decided to hold back out of respect for his guide. On her flight, the PA asks if anyone is a doctor; she thinks about reasons not to volunteer but ultimately does. After the conference concludes, she takes a week long excursion to a hotel in the mountains. She is picked up by a Mercedes limo by driver Nimit. She talks with Nimit about jazz and the quake; they also talk about her former husband who left her because he said that she did not want to have children. Nimit helps her find a pool away from the hotel and chauffeurs her there everyday for five days; he also provides her with lunch. One the final trip to the pool, he asks her for an hour of her time and she accepts. He takes her to a poverty-stricken village to see an elderly soothsayer. While they drink at the cafe, she begins to tell the story of her father but Nimit interrupts her and tells her to have her dream first. He then tells the story of her former employer, a Norwegian gem dealer from Lapland; Satsuki wonders if they were lovers. He then tells the story of how polar bears mate once a year and how the males run away afterwards and both wonder about the existential meaning of the story. As the plane takes off, Satsuki thinks of a fond jazz piece as she falls asleep. Frog tells Katagiri that he is going to save Tokyo from an earthquake and needs his help. To prove his loyalty to Katagiri, Frog resolves a bank case for him; after this, Katagiri agrees to help Frog. They plan to meet on February 17 the day before Worm will cause the earthquake under the bank but on that day as Katagiri is

returning to the bank from his rounds, he is "shot. That night, Frog visits him to tell help that he was successful in his battle but the battle was fought to a draw. Afterwards, the frog skins burst and bug like creatures begins to eat Katagiri alive; he wakes up to learn that that horrifying experience is a dream. She says that Masakichi should sell honey pies to increase his profit and Junpei agrees. Junpei grew up in Nishinomiya and, after graduating from high school, went to study literature at Waseda University. During his first term there, he meets Takatsuki and Sayoko; the three become close friends. Not wanting to ruin their friendship, he suppresses his feelings for Sayoko. A few months later, he learns that Takatsuki asked Sayoko out. He is unsure how to feel, but does not harbor any enmity towards Takatsuki; however, he stops showing up for class. Worried, Sayoko shows up at his place to check up on him and convinces him to return to school. After graduation, Junpei finds solace in writing short stories and submitting them for publication. His parents also learns that he lied to them about studying business and they disown him; nonetheless his literary careers shows promise. Sayoko studies literature in graduate school and Takatsuki becomes a journalist. Sayoko becomes pregnant with Sala shortly after she turns thirty and shortly before Sala is born, Takatsuki reveals that he knows Sayoko likes Junpei more than she likes him when they were in school; nonetheless, he admits that she is the "greatest woman in the world. Junpei fills the void and is eventually told by Takatsuki that he should marry Sayoko; Junpei is unsure regarding whether it is the right thing to do. Two years later, the quake occurs while Junpei is in Barcelona but he returns to Tokyo as soon a possible; he does not, however, reach out to his parents who live near Kobe. Takatsuki is unable to join the three on their trip to the zoo due to him securing an interview in Okinawa at the last minute. Tonkichi was catch by a trap and that is the reason he is in the zoo rather than the wild. During dinner that night, Sala asks her mother to do the bra trick in which she takes off her bra with one hand and puts it back on; Sayoko refuses, but when Sala says she will go to sleep if she does it, Sayoko does it and sets a new time record. After Sala is asleep, she admits to Junpei that she did not put it back on. They then proceed to have intercourse on the living room couch and Junpei continually holds back on ejaculation, not wanting the moment to end. When Sala abruptly wakes up and says she has had a bad dream, Sayoko proceeds to comfort her. That night, while Sayoko and Sala sleep together in the same bed, Junpei watches over them and decides that he will ask Sayoko to marry him when she wakes up.

Chapter 5 : After the Quake - Wikipedia

About After the Quake. Coming this October: Killing Commendatore, the much-anticipated new novel from Haruki Murakami Set at the time of the catastrophic Kobe earthquake, the mesmerizing stories in After the Quake are as haunting as dreams and as potent as oracles.

Almost all very enthusiastic From the Reviews: He speaks to a place so deep inside us that we can scarcely even reply. Admiration for his singleness of purpose vies with impatience at the repetitiveness and whimsy. Americans should have no trouble empathizing with them after the shocks of Sept. This is breathtakingly close to a flawless book, but in a very modest way. These stories, both mysterious and yet somehow quite familiar, may have the same effect on you, living, as we all are now, with the possibility of imminent disaster. Das Ende kann eine neue Liebe, ein gemeinsamer Selbstmord, eine erfolgreiche Gottsuche, der Aufbruch aus seelischer Erstarrung sein. Similarly the illustrative quotes chosen here are merely those the complete review subjectively believes represent the tenor and judgment of the review as a whole. We acknowledge and remind and warn you that they may, in fact, be entirely unrepresentative of the actual reviews by any other measure. The English title of this collection, *After the Quake*, refers to the devastating earthquake that hit Japan in , centered around Kobe in the Kansai region. It is not one of the story titles, but rather a summing-up overview. The earthquake is a presence in each of the stories, an event that is mentioned and that has had some sort of lingering though usually only tangential effect on at least some of the characters. Murakami never really ventures to earthquake-country, or describes what the effects were there: The earthquake is merely another symptom of the general unease and uncertainty faced by contemporary Japan. There are six stories in this small collection. Most of it is the usual Murakami-stuff: The book is sparsely populated: There are few crowds, and people have few friends. Particularly striking is the trust found in the novel, with strangers forming unlikely bonds. Friendships also are reliable, the rare bond unlike marriage or family relationships that holds. But even where there are divorces these are not rancorous. The man, Komura, then travels to Hokkaido at the suggestion of a colleague, who has him deliver a mysterious small box. Not much happens, the most tense moments involving the question of whether the collected driftwood will catch fire. Yet it still manages to be a nice reflection of youthful life and concerns: Who knows when the world is gonna end? Who can think about the future? Here he believes to see the man who might be his father. He follows him, and finds release from some of what oppressed him. The story verges on the mystical. After attending a conference, Satsuki takes a vacation at a resort. Her driver, Nimit, is the perfect care-taker for her, taking her to a secluded swimming pool away from the hotel where she can rest and swim in peace. Nimit is also an unusual man, having worked for thirty years for a Norwegian who fled to Thailand. The two form an odd bond, and help each other in a way. Again, the story moves towards the mystical. What sounds ridiculous at first unfolds in neat turns into a surprisingly appealing tale, each advance never quite the expected one. Note also that the frog is just called "Frog" or "Mr. Frog -- who spouts Nietzsche and reads the Russian greats -- tells Katagiri: The whole terrible fight occurred in the area of imagination. That is the precise location of our battlefield. It is there that we experience our victories and our defeats. The final story, "Honey Pie", presents a familiar wistful Murakami-scenario: The writer is looking to the new -- in his personal life, in what he wants to write. But there is hope at the end. A nice collection, more resonant than it might first appear. Deceptively simple, with the familiar Murakami tropes, there is more to these stories than first meets the eye.

Chapter 6 : After the Quake – Haruki Murakami – Books to Read Before You Die

In Haruki Murakami and the Music of Words Jay Rubin writes -- without further explanation, and in a parenthetical aside -- that Murakami insisted that in the English version the title "should be all lower-case" (i.e. after the quake). As the book itself is inconsistent in this regard (the copyright page gives the title -- of the book and the stories -- properly capitalised) we have opted not to follow suit.

Chapter 7 : After the Quake Summary - calendrierdelascience.com

After the Quake, Haruki Murakami After the Quake is a collection of 6 short stories by Japanese author Haruki Murakami, written between and First published in Japan in , it was released.

Chapter 8 : After the Quake (Audiobook) by Haruki Murakami | calendrierdelascience.com

The official US site of Haruki Murakami. Enter Murakami's world to explore the books, read interviews, discover music, browse image galleries, and much more.

Chapter 9 : After the Quake by Haruki Murakami | calendrierdelascience.com

Haruki Murakami is a Japanese novelist and translator. An important asset to the Japanese literature of the 20th century, Haruki has received several noted awards for his fiction and non-fiction works.