



# Dazai Osamu

**Osamu Dazai**



## **Dazai Osamu:**

**Self-Portraits** Osamu Dazai, 2024-02-06 Bringing together novelist Osamu Dazai's best autobiographical shorts in a single slim volume *Self Portraits* shows the legendary writer at his best and worst. Art dies the moment it acquires authority. So said Japan's quintessential rebel writer Osamu Dazai who disgusted with the hypocrisy of every kind of establishment from the nation's obsolete aristocracy to its posturing warmongering generals went his own way even when that meant his death and the death of others. Faced with pressure to conform he declared his individuality to the world in all its self-involved, self-conscious and self-hating glory. Art he wrote is I. In these short stories collected and translated by Ralph McCarthy we can see just how closely Dazai's life mirrored his art and vice versa as the writer/narrator falls from grace, rises to fame and falls again. Addiction, debt, shame and despair dogged Dazai until his self-inflicted death and yet despite all the lies and deception he resorted to in life there is an almost fanatical honesty to his writing. And that has made him a hero to generations of readers who see laid bare in his works the painful, impossible contradictions inherent in the universal commandment of social life: fit in and do as you are told as well as the possibility, however desperate, of defiance. Long out of print, these stories will be a revelation to the legions of new fans of *No Longer Human*, *The Setting Sun* and *The Flowers of Buffoonery*. **Dazai Osamu, Selected Stories and Sketches** Osamu Dazai, 1983 **Studies in the Comic Spirit in Modern Japanese Fiction** Joel R. Cohn, 2020-10-26

Unlike traditional Japanese literature which has a rich tradition of comedy, modern Japanese literature is commonly associated with a high seriousness of purpose. In this pathbreaking study, Joel R. Cohn analyzes works by three writers: Ibuse Masuji (1898-1993), Dazai Osamu (1909-1948) and Inoue Hisashi (1934) whose works constitute a relentless assault on the notion that comedy cannot be part of serious literature. Cohn focuses on thematic, structural and stylistic elements in the works of these writers to show that modern Japanese comedic literature is a product of a particular set of historical, social and cultural experiences. Cohn finds that cultural and social forces in modern Japan have led to the creation of comic literature that tends to deflect attention away from a human other and turn in on itself in different forms. **The Saga of Dazai Osamu** Phyllis I. Lyons, 1985 [No Longer Human - Dazai Osamu](#) Osamu

Dazai, 2025-08-08 *No Longer Human* is a deeply introspective exploration of alienation, identity and the struggle for self-acceptance in a rapidly changing society. Osamu Dazai presents the fragmented life of *ba Y z*, a man unable to reconcile his outward persona with his inner despair, navigating a world where human connection feels impossible and authenticity seems unattainable. Through a series of confessional notebooks, the narrative confronts the psychological disintegration of its protagonist, revealing the corrosive effects of isolation, guilt and societal expectations. Since its publication, *No Longer Human* has been recognized as one of the most significant works of modern Japanese literature, praised for its unflinching honesty and emotional depth. Its exploration of universal themes such as the fear of rejection, the search for meaning and the destructive consequences of self-alienation has resonated with readers across cultures and generations. The novel's stark

portrayal of mental anguish and existential crisis continues to speak to those grappling with the tension between their inner selves and the facades they present to the world The enduring power of No Longer Human lies in its capacity to strip away illusions and confront the raw uncomfortable truths about the human condition By examining the fragile boundaries between authenticity and performance belonging and estrangement Dazai invites readers to reflect on the cost of disconnection and on the profound human need for understanding compassion and genuine connection *Dazai Osamu* James Aloysius

O'Brien,1975 A critical examination of Osamu Dazai Dazai Osamu ,1970 **Real Osamu Dazai** Osamu

Dazai,2024-09-24 Dazai s brand of egoistic pessimism dovetails organically with the emo chic of this cultural moment and with the inner lives of teenagers of all eras Andrew Martin The New York Times Best known for his novels No Longer Human and The Setting Sun Dazai was also an acclaimed writer of short stories experimenting with a wide variety of styles and bringing to each work a sophisticated sense of humor a broad empathy for the human condition and a tremendous literary talent The twenty stories in this collection include Memories An autobiographical tale in which Dazai relates episodes from his own childhood and adolescence showing his relationship with his family and his tendency towards introspection and self dramatization On the Question of Apparel A comic tour de force in which Dazai examines the hold that fashion has over him and how it relates to his own pathetic self image A Poor Man s Got His Pride A retelling of a story by 18th century master of burlesque fiction Ihara Saikaku about a fallen samurai who lives in poverty The Sound of Hammering A love story set against the backdrop of the rebuilding of Tokyo after the city was totally destroyed during World War Two And sixteen other stories By turns hilarious ironic introspective mystical and sarcastic these stories present a fully rounded portrait of a talented writer who tried several times to take his own life and ultimately succeeded An introduction by translator James O'Brien gives the background to Dazai s life and shows how the stories in this book whether autobiographical or fictional contribute to an understanding of one of Japan s greatest writers Recommended for readers 16 years up Not intended for high school classroom use due to adult content **SCHOOLGIRL** Osamu Dazai,2024-03-16 novella depicts a day in the life of a Tokyo

schoolgirl Propelling Dazai into the literary elite of post war Japan Schoolgirl gained notoriety for its ironic and inventive use of language Now it illuminates the prevalent social structures of a lost time as well as the struggle of the individual against them a theme that occupied Dazai s life both personally and professionally This new translation preserves the playful language of the original and offers the reader a new window into the mind of one of the greatest Japanese authors of the 20th century Dazai Osamu Joseph Chia,1988 *The Setting Sun - Dazai Osamu* Osamu Dazai,2025-08-08 The Setting Sun is a poignant exploration of postwar Japanese society focusing on themes of decline identity and the search for meaning in a rapidly changing world Osamu Dazai critiques the disintegration of the traditional aristocratic class while examining the psychological struggles of individuals caught between the past and an uncertain future Through the lives of characters such as Kazuko and her brother Naoji the novel delves into themes of alienation decay and the painful reconciliation with social

and personal upheaval Since its publication *The Setting Sun* has been acclaimed for its evocative prose and raw emotional intensity Its exploration of universal themes such as loss existential despair and the quest for redemption has secured its status as a classic of modern Japanese literature The deeply flawed yet compelling characters and their turbulent journeys continue to engage readers offering profound insights into the human condition The novel's enduring relevance stems from its ability to capture the complexities of a society in transition and the inner turmoil of those striving to find purpose amid chaos By portraying the intersection of personal tragedy and cultural transformation *The Setting Sun* invites readers to reflect on resilience the fragility of identity and the enduring human desire for connection and hope

*A Biographical and Literary Study of Dazai Osamu* James Aloysius O'Brien, 1969

**No Longer Human** 人間失格, 1958 A young man describes his torment as he struggles to reconcile the diverse influences of Western culture and the traditions of his own Japanese heritage

**Crackling Mountain and Other Stories** Osamu Dazai, 2012-04-10 *Crackling Mountain and Other Stories* features eleven outstanding works by Osamu Dazai widely regarded as one of the 20th century Japan's most gifted writers Dazai experimented with a wide variety of short story styles and brought to each a sophisticated sense of humor a broad empathy for the human condition and a tremendous literary talent The eleven stories in this collection of Japanese literature present the most fully rounded portrait available of a tragic multifaceted genius of modern Japanese letters

**Dazai Osamu**, 1975

Dazai Osamu James Aloysius O'Brien, 1975 A critical examination of Osamu Dazai

*Handbook of Japanese Christian Writers* Mark Williams, Van Gessel, Yamane Michihiro, 2025-10-01 Although a century and a half of Christian proselytizing has only led to the conversion of about one percent of the Japanese population the proportion of writers who have either been baptized or significantly influenced in their work by Christian teachings is much higher The seventeen authors examined in this volume have all employed themes and imagery in their writings influenced by Christian teachings Those writing between the 1880s and the start of World War II were largely drawn to the Protestant emphasis on individual freedom though many of them eventually rejected sectarian affiliation Since 1945 on the other hand Catholicism has produced a number of religiously committed authors led by figures such as Endo Shusaku the most popular and influential Christian writer in Japan to date The authors discussed in these essays have contributed in a variety of ways to the indigenization of the imported religion

**The Osamu Saga** Phyllis Ilona Lyons, 1975

*Early Light* Osamu Dazai, 2022-08-16 *Early Light* gathers three tales by Osamu Dazai author of the wildly popular *No Longer Human* *Early Light* offers three very different aspects of Osamu Dazai's genius the title story relates his misadventures as a drinker and a family man in the terrible fire bombings of Tokyo at the end of WWII Having lost their own home he and his wife flee with a new baby boy and their little girl to relatives in Kofu only to be bombed out anew Everything's gone the father explains to his daughter Mr Rabbit our shoes the Ogigari house the Chino house they all burned up Yeah they all burned up she said still smiling *One Hundred Views of Mount Fuji* another autobiographical tale is much more comic Dazai finds himself unable to escape the famous views the beauty once

immortalized by Hokusai and now reduced to a cliché In the end young girls torment him by pressing him into taking their photo before the famous peak Goodbye he hisses through his teeth Mount Fuji Thanks for everything Click And the final story is Villon's Wife a small masterpiece which relates the awakening to power of a drunkard's wife She transforms herself into a woman not to be defeated by anything not by her husband being a thief a megalomaniacal writer and a wastrel Single handedly she saves the day by concluding that There's nothing wrong with being a monster as long as we can stay alive

**Dazai Osamu** Osamu Dazai, James O'Brien, 1983

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