

10/2004  
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# A'cross Travellers Bureau

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**THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL**

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**¥27,000~**  
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¥38,500 ~  
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¥62,000 ~  
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¥37,000 ~  
11/1-11/30 Fri

\* Prices may vary. Depends on departure & return date

**HIROO BRANCH**

(03) 5795-4711

MON-SAT 10:00-19:00  
CLOSE/SUNDAY, HOLIDAY



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HOTEL + AIR TICKETS  
(1 night stay/round trip prices may vary depends on dep. & return date)  
**SAPPORO** ¥19,800~  
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• 11/1-12/21  
(3 persons per room)

**SHINJUKU BRANCH**

(03) 3340-6745

MON-SAT 10:00-19:00  
CLOSE/SUNDAY, HOLIDAY



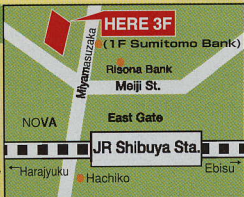
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**MIDNIGHT-EXPRESS**

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• ¥3,900 (One way)  
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**IKEBUKURO**  
(03) 5391-3227

**YOKOHAMA**  
(045) 322-7525

→ **Water Lily**

Susanna Jones

(Warner Books, 2004)

Following the theme established in her critically acclaimed debut novel, *The Earthquake Bird*, Jones returns to Japan in what *Publishers Weekly* calls a "Highsmithian tale of psychological suspense." Runa, a young Japanese schoolteacher, flees the country after she's discovered having an affair with one of her students. Meanwhile, hopelessly awkward English shopkeeper Ralph enters the country in one last desperate attempt to find a wife. When the two meet, an inevitable clash ensues. Jones expertly crafts the mindsets of her dual protagonists—hopeless and hopelessly at odds.—*Caleb Lawson*

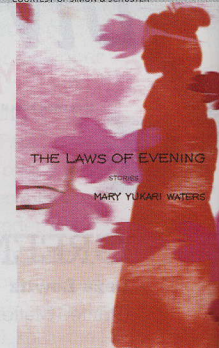
COURTESY OF SIMON & SCHUSTER

**The Laws of Evening**

Mary Yukari Waters

(Simon & Schuster Adult Publishing Group, 2004)

Mary Yukari Waters focuses this collection of 11 short stories around Japanese women coming to terms with the rapid Westernization of their country immediately following World War II. In "Aftermath," an anxious widow watches her son playing dodgeball and worries about his ability to digest Western food, all while trying to keep the memory of her dead husband alive. "Egg-Face" recalls the last bit of hope one woman feels when a matchmaker promises to find her a handsome young man. *The Journal News* calls *The Laws of Evening* "eloquent...exquisitely rendered...poignant."—*CL*



**The Dragon King's Palace**

Laura Joh Rowland

(St. Martin's Paperbacks, 2004)

In the eighth novel detailing the exploits of medieval samurai detective Sano Ichiro, the shogun's Most Honorable Investigator of Events, Situations and People, author Laura Joh Rowland once again recreates what *Kirkus Review* calls, "A lively dissection of the samurai code of honor, sexual dishonor, palace infighting, and ancient Japanese mores." This time around, Sano Ichiro must find a way to rescue the shogun's mother and his wife from a kidnapper whose strange demands further complicate the always volatile affairs of the court.—*CL*

COURTESY OF ST. MARTIN'S PAPERBACKS

**Zero Over Berlin**

Joh Sasaki

(Vertical, 2004)

When Hitler commissions the building of a Zero fighter in Germany, Japanese officials reluctantly agree to send two prototypes. In doing so, they are confronted with the obstacle of sending the planes literally to the other side of the world. In his first English-language novel, highly esteemed Japanese author Joh Sasaki succeeds with his fictional take on events that *could* have occurred during World War II—and not just because of the story he tells, but also due to the depth of his characterizations of the planes' pilots and his intriguing presentation of rarely-discussed war events.—*CL*



**A View from the Chuo Line and Other Stories**

Donald Richie

(Printed Matter Press, 2004)

The short stories of renowned expat author, film historian, and Japan watcher Donald Richie are compiled in this book, his first work of fiction. Each of the 27 vignettes, some no longer than a page and a half, capture a slice of life in contemporary Japan. Although his protagonists are Japanese, Richie provides startling insight into their personal worlds. He describes what happens to the people and places that we see every day when we aren't around to see them.—*CL*

**Country of Origin—A Novel**

Don Lee

(W.W. Norton & Company, 2004)

The seedy underbelly of '80s Tokyo provides the backdrop for Don Lee's dark debut novel. When half-Japanese Berkeley graduate student Lisa Countryman disappears, presumably into the depths of