



The Girl Who Played Go

By Shan Sa, translated from French by Adriana Hunter (Alfred A. Knopf)

In the midst of the growing Japanese occupation of China via Manchuria in the 1930s, an unlikely relationship develops between a teenage girl and a Japanese soldier disguised as a Chinese peasant, while playing endless games of go — in near silence. Told through alternating voices, *Go* traces the experiences of these disparate characters, who come to know one another deeply through the strategies they use in their game, following their lives to a sudden, shattering conclusion. A chilling, haunting work, *Sa* is poised to follow in the steps of Dai Sijie, another Chinese ex-patriot living and writing in French, who wrote the best-selling *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress*.

Outlet

*By Randy Taguchi,
translated by Glynne Walley (Vertical, Inc.)*

OK, this one is really odd — but, nevertheless, hard to put down. Yuki's a freelance finance writer whose older brother is found in a decomposing heap. On her way to her parents' home when she gets the news, her brother's ghostly form appears to her ... and keeps appearing again and again. Yuki becomes obsessed with how and why her brother died, and along the way discovers some incredible psychic truths about her own self — and those who come into close contact with her.