



Brilliance of the Moon: Tales of the Otori, Book Three

By Lian Hearn

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***Brilliance of the Moon* is the third book in the *Tales of the Otori* series by Lian Hearn. Don't miss the related series, *The Tale of Shikanoko*.**

A beautiful, haunting evocation of the medieval Japan of Lian Hearn's imagination, this thrilling follow-up to *Grass for His Pillow* and *Across the Nightingale Floor* delves deeper into the complex loyalties that bind its characters from birth. Filled with adventure and surprising twists of plot and fortune, this third book in the Tales of the Otori series travels beyond the Three Countries, to the outside influences that threaten to intrude upon this isolated realm.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Lian Hearn's third installment in the Tales of the Otori series *Brilliance of the Moon* brings a mystical and violent conclusion to the saga of Takeo Otori as he fulfills his destiny to reclaim the Otori lands. At the climax of *Grass for his Pillow*, Takeo's passion for his beloved Kaede was finally realized with their secret and forbidden wedding. As spring approaches, Takeo and Kaede prepare for war and embark on a campaign to reclaim their respective realms. But just when victory seems certain, Hearn characteristically uproots her characters with unseen treachery and the two lovers are again separated. Takeo must summon courage from his conflicted heritage as he marches towards his destiny. The fates of other Otori characters are also determined in a succinct and magical finale.

This third chapter in the Otori saga lives up to its predecessors. Hearn's mythical ancient Japan is again brought to storybook life. Although the novel's climax comes suddenly and almost unexpectedly, the afterword hints at another tale to be told by the heirs of Kaede and Takeo's legendary rise. --*Jeremy Pugh*

From Publishers Weekly

Set in an imaginary medieval Japan, the pseudonymous Hearn's third elegant installment in her epic fantasy (after 2002's *Across the Nightingale Floor* and 2003's *Grass for His Pillow*) is a fragrant blend of romance and martial-arts action. Her warrior hero, Takeo Otori, feels destined to fulfill the potent prophecy of a holy woman: "Your lands will stretch from sea to sea, but peace comes at the price of bloodshed. Five battles will buy you peace, four to win and one to lose." Intrigue, heartaches and battles ensue as Takeo, of mixed blood and conflicting loyalties (to the pseudo-Christian Hidden, the noble Otori clan and the dangerous, supernaturally gifted Tribe), seeks to unite the Three Countries. Desperately in love with Kaede Shirakawa, whom he secretly wed at the end of *Grass for His Pillow*, Takeo must now assist her in reclaiming her lands of Maruyama while balancing his own need to avenge the deaths of his blood father and his adoptive father, Lord Shigeru. The fates of such characters as Kaede's lover, Dr. Ishida, and her nemesis, Lord Fujiwara, who's determined to possess her, provide some cool aftershocks, while the afterword adds another—that a book four may follow. FYI: Hearn is the pseudonym of Australian children's book author Gillian Rubinstein. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From School Library Journal

Adult/High School—Kaede and Takeo find themselves in danger after their hasty marriage. Lord Fujiwara is furious that Kaede chose to marry another man when he considered them betrothed, and the warlord Arai considers Takeo presumptuous. The Tribe is split over the decision to kill Takeo. The young lovers must find allies in unexpected places to claim the domains that are rightfully theirs. In the end, they are both saved by a timely earthquake. This is a satisfactory conclusion to the story line, although the afterword virtually promises a sequel. Hearn's writing is evocative and subtle. A great deal of the excitement and intrigue of the first book is missing, but readers who have stuck with Takeo and Kaede will want to continue following their adventures.—*Susan Salpini, TASIS—The American School in England*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Phyllis Callahan:

The ability that you get from Brilliance of the Moon: Tales of the Otori, Book Three could be the more deep you digging the information that hide in the words the more you get interested in reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to comprehend but Brilliance of the Moon: Tales of the Otori, Book Three giving you buzz feeling of reading. The author conveys their point in particular way that can be understood simply by anyone who read the item because the author of this publication is well-known enough. That book also makes your current vocabulary increase well. Therefore it is easy to understand then can go together with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We advise you for having that Brilliance of the Moon: Tales of the Otori, Book Three instantly.

Troy Munoz:

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Kenneth Flowers:

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