



Masks

By Fumiko Enchi

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Masks By Fumiko Enchi

Following the death of her son, Mieko Togan? takes an increasing interest in the personal affairs of her widowed daughter-in-law, Yasuko. Devastated by her loss, she skillfully manipulates the relationships between Yasuko and the two men who are in love with her, encouraging a dalliance that will have terrible consequences. Meanwhile, hidden in the shadows, is Mieko's mentally-handicapped daughter, who has her own role to play in her mother's bizarre schemes. In *Masks*, Enchi has crafted a stunning and understated novel of seduction and infidelity.

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Masks By Fumiko Enchi Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

“A subtle examination of universal female behavior.” —*People*

“[Enchi’s] allusions to the masks of N^o plays and to the classic *The Tale of Genji*, the brilliant way she layers and interweaves the ancient, the more recent past and the present are haunting and rich. A fictional enchantment.” —*Publishers Weekly*

“Enchi’s writing has some of the same amniotic fluidity as Tolstoy’s, an almost bodily, floating immersion into the effortless habitat of the story.” —*The American Reader*

“Clear and powerful. . . . Almost imperceptively woven.” —*Kirkus*

Language Notes

Text: English, Japanese (translation)

From the Back Cover

'Clear and powerful' (Kirkus), *Masks* is perhaps Fumiko Enchi's finest work and her first to be translated into English. In this stunning and subtle novel about seduction and infidelity in latter-day Japan and about the destructive force of feminine jealousy and resentment, Mieko Togano, a handsome and cultivated woman in her 50s, manipulates--for her own bizarre purposes--the relationship between her widowed daughter-in-law, Yasuko, and the two men in love with her.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Mark Clark:

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Francisco Morgan:

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