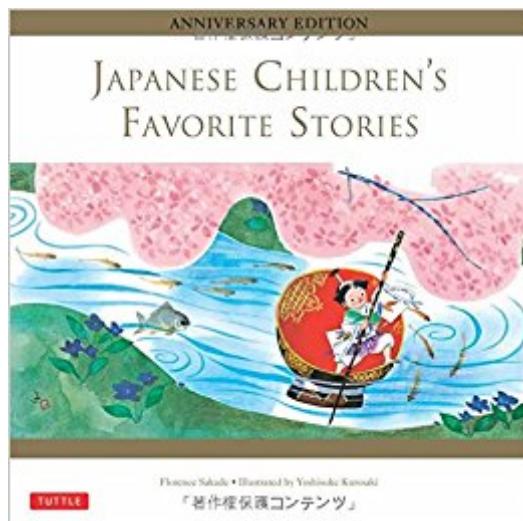


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# Japanese Children's Favorite Stories: Anniversary Edition



## Synopsis

This colorfully illustrated multicultural children's book presents Japanese fairy tales and other folk stories—providing insight into a rich literary culture. For 60 years, generations of English-speaking children around the world have been enchanted by Japanese Children's Favorite Stories—and for good reason. With such titles as "The Toothpick Warriors" and "The Rabbit Who Crossed the Sea", these 20 stories offer age-old lessons in kindness and goodness that are still riveting to children and parents alike. This 60th Anniversary Tuttle edition is proof that good stories never wear out. In this treasure trove of much-beloved Japanese children's stories, you'll meet charming characters drawn from folklore and passed down for generations. These tales about playful goblins with long noses, walking statues, and a delightful hero who just happens to be one inch tall speak of the virtues of honesty, humility and hard work. What better way for a parent to teach than through stories that thrill their children! Author Florence Sakade, a pioneer of English-language publishing in Japan, has compiled so many enchanting stories, readers will have a difficult time deciding which is their favorite. The sparkling illustrations by Yoshisuke Kurosaki are a visual treat that readers of all ages will enjoy! His original and stylized watercolors bring to life the fascinating tales of fairy cranes, eel catchers, and singing turtles, among many others. These Japanese stories shine on every page, and are sure to captivate your family as they have many others. The Children's Favorite Stories series was created to share the folktales and legends most beloved by children in the East with young readers of all backgrounds in the West. Other multicultural children's books in this series include: Asian Children's Favorite Stories, Indian Children's Favorite Stories, Indonesian Children's Favorite Stories, Singapore Children's Favorite Stories, Filipino Favorite Children's Stories, Favorite Children's Stories from China & Tibet, Chinese Children's Favorite Stories, Korean Children's Favorite Stories, Balinese Children's Favorite Stories, and Vietnamese Children's Favorite Stories.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 74 customer reviews

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Age Range: 9 - 13 years

Grade Level: 3 - 8

## Customer Reviews

Kindergarten-Grade 3--Fifty years after its initial publication, Sakade's compilation of popular Japanese folktales has been dusted off and prettied up for this new, third edition. Filled with now-familiar favorites, such as "Peach Boy" and "The Tongue-Cut Sparrow," along with lesser-known yet equally delightful tales, such as "Mr. Lucky Straw," this enduring collection presents 20 stories to enchant and enlighten young readers. Several of the tales can easily be compared with traditional Western counterparts: the main character in "Silly Saburo," for example, mirrors the follies of "Lazy Jack." Although a few of these tales have been made into fully illustrated picture books, this collection is greater than the sum of its parts. Minor text revisions have little effect on the stories, for the most part. "The Ogre and the Cock" has become "The Ogre and the Rooster," a "blue goblin" has been made over to green, and a formerly dead cat has been resuscitated and upgraded to merely "smelly." The text remains simple, clear, and accessible to beginning readers and storytellers alike. The "sparkling new color illustrations" are simply Kurosaki's original stylized scenes, repainted in bright dabs of watercolor. Most libraries will be glad to replace their well-worn older copies with this volume, in spite of (or perhaps because of) the fact that they are nearly identical inside.--Eve Ortega, Cypress Library, CA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Gr. 2-4, younger for reading aloud. This third edition, the fiftieth anniversary edition of a Japanese classic, has undergone minor cosmetic changes. The 20 stories remain intact, but color has been added to all of the pictures previously rendered in ink and wash. The pages are also slightly larger, allowing more white space. As with previous editions, sources are not cited and there is no index, but some of the stories, such as "Peach Boy," will be familiar to youngsters through American versions. This attractive new dressing should attract more children to the classic compilation of

Japanese folklore. Linda PerkinsCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

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This is a book from my childhood. I was so pleased that they had this available. You'll enjoy it if you like tales of Japanese folklore. The Rabbit in the Moon is a good example. I grew up believing in this tale and to this day, still look for the Rabbit in the Moon!

New favorite book of ours, my daughter (age 5) loved every single story and we often talk about them day to day after the fact. Beautiful art as well.

Beautiful illustrations

Gift

I grew up with the first book and was stoked to find out there was a second one! Some of these stories are a bit sadder than the ones in the first book but have an uniqueness all their own. They all have something to say. And of course, the art is absolutely beautiful and whimsical.

This book is very special to me as it was a dear part of my childhood growing up in a Japanese American household in the early 1960s. When I was about three years old, one of my "uncles" gave this book to me with a pink hardcover and it has stayed dear to my heart since. I was quite delighted to see it still in print and being offered here on . What's even more amazing, is that from what I can tell by the image previews for this newest edition, the illustrations are the very same ones as my forty-some-odd year old book. This collection of stories would be similar to a Japanese Grimm's Fairy Tales and were also part of my father's childhood in 1920s Japan. Overall, they are quite simple and to the point and have a cuteness typical of Japanese stories. In recent years, my ex-girlfriend had enjoyed listening to me tell her these stories at bedtime even from my 40 year memory. I'm sure I've mangled some of them and combined them into a hybrid monkey, ogre, old man, cookie tale. I've been meaning to find my original copy, but now I know I can relive my childhood with a fresh new copy.

I grew up hearing these stories from my grandmother who was from Japan. They are stories that teach about kindness, honesty, wisdom, and making the right choices. Loved finding this hardback

version. Bought one for myself and for a little 4 year old girl I know.

A wonderful collection of enchanting stories for young children, 3-7 years old. We have read from it since my boy was 3 years old - it is one of the very few books that have kept with him for a long period (he is now 5.5). I figure that he will be able to read the stories himself pretty soon, making this volume one of a handful of books that can be read to him and by him. The stories are imaginative, full of fantasy, culturally different yet appealing to "standard" elements of the children's minds. The plots are interesting to the children, who quickly learn them by heart and ask for specific stories night after night. The drawings are marvelous. The fact that there are multiple, independent stories, makes it easy to customize the length of the day's reading as needed. Of the many books that my boy has this is definitely one of the best, from his point of view as well as from mine. The wonderful illustrations, evocative of some of Miyazaki's magnificent animated movies, only add to the attraction of this exceptional book.

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