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TOPIC

“Illness Narratives” A Detailed Reflection of our Society

Written by Jang Dong-Suk (Publication Reviewer and
Head of Culture Business Division at the Book City Culture Foundation)

The center of our body is not the heart.
It's the spot we feel pain when we are sick.

This is a phrase from the poem *I, Stand There* written by Park No-Hae. In fact, we all get restless even when a small spinule is stuck under the fingernail. Needless to say, if we feel pain in some area of our body, that spot becomes the center of our body, getting all the focus. Every human being sometimes gets sick to a different degree. Even for someone who has never caught a cold, there must be a time they get sick due to perhaps aging, which is a natural process for our body. It is not a curse word, but all human beings have no choice but to go through sickness and healing, and through which, they gradually grow into a

mature person. (could be harmed, of course.) In that process, the sickness, or disease, at the center of your life creates a story of its own kind that is often made into a book.

People who share the story of their illness

The so-called “illness narrative” can be found commonly around us. This may sound like “You know, in my day...” (a slang expression describing an older person saying "Back when I was young..."). However, middle-aged women used to take care of their parents-in-law, and devoted sons of an earlier age searched the mountains to find wild ginseng to save their parents who were at the crossroads of life and death. The illness narrative of an earlier age focused on what people sacrificed at that time. Meanwhile, the illness narrative of today centers around our own story, openly describing how we care for ourselves.

A great example is a book titled *I Want to Die but I Also Want to Eat Tteokppokki* (HEUN) by Baek Se-Hee, published in 2018. By containing conversations between a psychiatrist and the writer suffering from “bipolar disorder” characterized by periods of depression, the book helps raise public awareness of the “illness narrative.” The author says early in the book that what matters is not the degree of pain, but the state of living with the illness. Hallucinations and self-harm are not the only conditions that qualify as illnesses. Just as a mild cold hurts our body, so a mild depression hurts our mind.



I Want to Die but I Also Want to Eat Tteokppokki, and I Come From a Land of Mental Illness

Most people look fine on the surface. But, for whatever reason, many people are sick deep inside their hearts. More than a few people manage to live their lives exhausted by work and hurt in relationships. As it is everywhere else, saying that life is hurting me, especially mentally, is considered taboo because when you say that, people immediately look at you with some prejudice. As such, those who are sick often become self-conscious. They are continuously nervous about what other people think about them and keep reproaching themselves, causing a vicious cycle. In such a reality, the author emphasizes that “We shouldn’t be someone who doesn’t cry, but someone who can cry when we want” because we can never reach happiness while pretending not to see the depression deep inside our hearts. Some people say that the book was successful because of its title, and the book was not evenly favorably reviewed. But after all, it is clear that *I Want to Die but I Also Want to Eat Tteokppokki* has opened up the possibility of illness narrative in our society.

I Come From a Land of Mental Illness (Banbi) was written by Lee Dan. As its subtitle, “A guide for those living with illness,” suggests, the book contains a concrete and detailed description of mental illness that the author suffered, and the disorder that has now become common. The author is diagnosed with bi-polar disorder that requires her to take medicine every day. Amid the suffering, she organized a self-help group where she would meet other patients while writing about mental disorders for years. Interestingly, the author doesn’t hesitate to use the term “mental illness” as much as the expression “mental disease,” both of which are often avoided among many patients. This is in contrast to other books of a similar subject where “illness of the mind,” a euphemism for mental illness, is often used. However, there is a reason why the author keeps using the term. That is because she wanted to focus on the state of being literally “ill” in the mind. Unlike other diseases that, of course, take great courage for patients to reveal, the disease in our minds inevitably leads to negative prejudices in our society. In that sense, the author is genuinely courageous with the strong hope that patients in a similar situation, although of different aspects, would no longer withdraw and come out of the psychiatry clinic toward the world.

The social context of illness matters

The illness narrative is fragmenting into different branches. In one branch, books are being published that look more carefully

at the social context of diseases. In fact, our society tends to emphasize the individual responsibility for health, attributing the cause of illness to individual failure to take care of his or her health. However, illness is a product of society. In that regard, a book worth noting is *Crazy, Weird, Arrogant and Smart Women (East Asia)* by non-fiction writer Hamina. As a patient diagnosed with a manic-depressive disorder, the author expands the scope for discussion on illness narrative, a subject mainly associated with individual environments and characteristics. At the core, there is “a male-dominated society” where women’s minds and bodies have long been disregarded. Depression, especially a woman suffering from it, has long been considered a patient subject to involuntary treatment and analysis. Hysterics or hysteria, which many people still associate the disease with women, has an origin that makes the association understandable. According to ancient Egyptian records, hysteria was “a disease that comes with paralysis and physical disease mostly affecting women without the specific cause.” At that time, the disease was also described as a “starving womb.” Hysteria was studied by prominent figures like Jean-Martin Charcot, one of the precursors of scientific psychology, and Sigmund Freud, the founder of psychoanalysis. But, female patients were just treated as a subject of research. Until recently, few medicines dealt with women’s bodies and sufferings. There are several reasons. According to the book, the systems to diagnose, measure, and treat depression were heavily funded, and the prejudices among

the white and men who regard themselves as experts and producers of knowledge led to a focus on research, rather than solid treatment.



Crazy, Weird, Arrogant and Smart Women, On the Way to a Proper Language of Pain, I Am Not Sorry That I Am Sick

Another book titled *On the Way to a Proper Language of Pain* (Graedobom) by Oh Hee-Seong draws attention for a similar reason. The author describes her life as “drifting off the border between the disabled and the able-bodied,” and there is a good reason. She has been suffering from degenerative arthritis of the hip joint, which is more commonly known as “Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease.” Also, she feels hesitant to open up to others about it, because of a widely held perception - “Only perseverance and silence are a virtue,” which was especially emphasized for women.

As the saying goes that misery loves company, the author would get comfort whenever meeting those suffering from similar pain,

making her determined to write something by sharing the pain. However, before going about writing, she felt that it was more important to find “a proper language” that can express what she had felt, such as inconvenience, anger, and regret. Otherwise, her writing could be considered nothing more than “a noisy cry.” Unfortunately, some people are so rude to ask an impolite question such as “so, what are your symptoms?”

“While pain itself is an incredible burden to bear, explaining symptoms that no one can understand is also too harsh,” says the author. Instead, the author speaks calmly about the social meaning of her disease and the power of encouraging each other. Our society is sometimes cynical and other times hospitable, but we should keep in mind that there are always some people who manage to live a life amid their suffering.

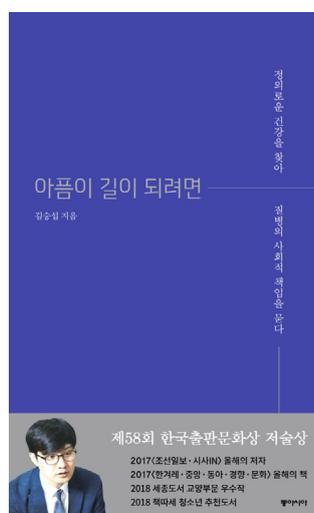
In recent years, other books including *Empathy of a period* (Planet B), *Speaking Body* (Munhakdongne), *Whether you Admire or Hate* (Little mountain), *I Am Not Sorry That I Am Sick* (Dongnyok), and *Dance With Illness* (Prunsoop) have been published. This means that illness narrative as a genre is apparently taking root.

Suffering individuals and society are reflections of our reality

The books mentioned so far have focused on the narrative of the person who suffers from the disease, looking at it from a social aspect from the perspective of individual suffering. On the

other hand, a book titled *Making Hope Out of Sorrow* (East-Asia Publishing) by social epidemiologist Kim Seung-Sup addresses the societal perspective of diseases, along with the historical perspective. The book candidly describes how social elements like hatred, discrimination against job seekers, and employment instability would permeate our body, that is, how devastating such a social element is to our body. No disease can progress without any contact with social environments. In other words, all diseases require social remedies.

To reemphasize this, the cause of a disease inevitably has to do with society. As such, books with illness narratives can simply be categorized as psychological essays, but they are books with social implications. What is notable is that the authors of many books dealing with disease narratives are primarily women. We don't need the explanation behind this. Women have had to endure all kinds of discrimination ever since human history began, and the resulting pain has left its trace in a woman's body.



Making Hope Out of Sorrow

It is also worth noting that one or two foreign books have helped the illness narrative take its place in our society. One is a book titled *Illness As Its Metaphor* by Susan Sontag, who became a genre unto herself after overcoming two cancers. In the book, she is wary of the tendency that being ill works as “a metaphorical trap that turns her into something ugly.” Still, the tendency to stigmatize diseases such as tuberculosis, smallpox, and AIDS is haunting our society, promoting fear and alienation. While it was not written by a female author, the book *Reflections on Illness* by Arthur W. Frank cannot be left out in discussions of illness narrative.

A documentary film “Sewing Sisters,” premiered in January, and centers around the stories of middle-aged ladies working in a Peace Market, a large textile market in the 1970s, who were called “*sida* (meaning ‘servant’)” or “*gongsun-i* (meaning ‘factory girl’).” At that time, they worked on sewing machines in the market for over 15 hours, from 8 am to 11 pm. These women, who were as young as 12 and at most 16 years old, had no choice but to go to work just because they were women and poor. A document from *A Critical Biography of Jeon Tae-Il* describes that “growing young girls were suffering due to harsh working conditions, and as if it wasn’t bad enough to be sick, their employers accused them of laziness and even ruthlessly fired them when the sickness got worse without providing treatment.” The film “Sewing Sisters” can be categorized as an illness narrative of a different dimension. We should not forget that the society we live in is

not a place that belongs to us, but a place where we have to live together.

SPECIAL PROJECT

[Korean Scholars ②]

Deep Insights into the World from the Great Scholar Lee O-Young's Viewpoint

A creative life led by the trinity of reading, writing, and thinking

Written by Lee Ji-Hyeon

A well-educated individual is called a scholar. Today's intellectual, professor Lee O-Young is a representative figure as a scholar. A literary critic, journalist, professor, and the first minister of culture, Lee O-Young left a strong impression when he first appeared in the literary world. When he was a university student, literary pieces of Yi Sang, now known as a revolutionary writer, were not welcomed. Professor Lee drew attention in the literary world by announcing *Theory on Yi Sang*, which interprets Yi Sang's pieces from a new perspective. When authoritarianism was at its peak, he harshly criticized peers who idolized existing literary circles in a publication celebration. His criticism was written as an article *Destruction of an idol* and was published

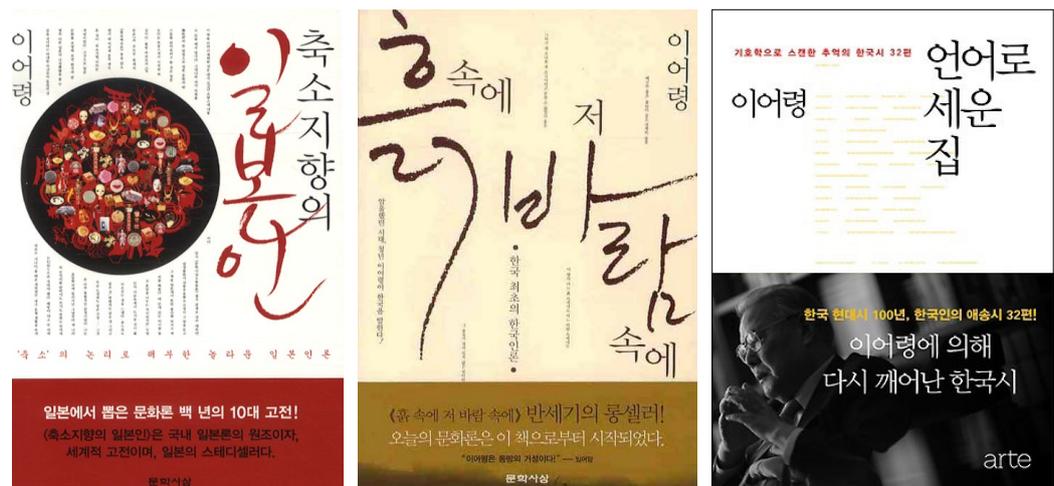
on a page of a 4-paged newspaper. The article brought immense shocks and impact to the field. At the age of 22, he showed his spirit, flexible thinking, and deep insight into the core of the object as he introduced himself to the literary world. As he reaches the age of 90, professor Lee still enjoys a creative life formed of the trinity of reading, writing, and thinking.

The mirror that reflects professor Lee's intellectual depth and breadth

Professor Lee has continued to write books for more than 60 years. Due to his long life as a writer, he has more than 30 books known as his major literary works. In an interview, he said, "Life is the process of writing and editing." All his books show his keen observation and deep insights. The types and genres of his books vary, including teachings for young people, essays about his own story, a father's monologue to his children, novels and poems, and a collection of realistic and sharp editorials. In particular, the writings of Professor Lee, who has been a university professor for a long time, are becoming a guidebook for young people living in the current era.

Smaller Is Better: Japan's Mastery of the Miniature (Literature & Thought) is one of professor Lee's representative books. The year 1934 was during the Japanese colonial era, and people learned Japan's language, culture, and history. This book is about a theory on Japanese written from a minimalist perspective, the origin of Korean's analysis on Japanese, and one of the steady selling

books on Japan. The book includes Japanese classic literature and the author's opinion and criticism on Japan and theories on Japanese. At the same time, it sees through Japan while focusing on a cultural phenomenon in an objective and neutral stance. Professor Lee's fundamental insight that transcends time brings awe to people. The missing contents in *Smaller Is Better: Japan's Mastery of the Miniature* was published in *Smaller Is Better: Japan's Mastery of the Miniature and After* (Gilionwon), 13 years after, adding and modifying some parts of the previous book.



Smaller Is Better: Japan's Mastery of the Miniature, In This Earth & In That Wind: This Is Korea, House Built with Words

In This Earth & In That Wind: This Is Korea (Literature & Thought) is regarded as the book that raised the banner of Korean cultural theory representing this land for the first time. The book is a collection of essays published in the *Kyunghyang Shinmun* in 1963. It sheds new light on Koreans' livelihood and practices while they suffered from poverty and hunger. The book is also

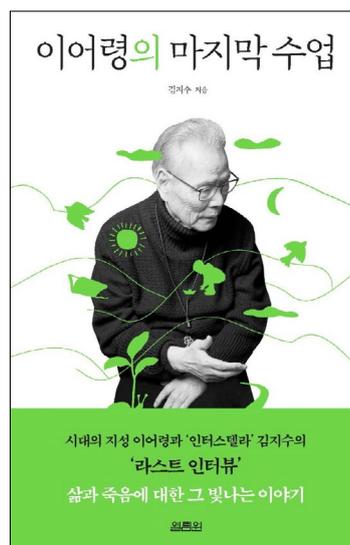
a valuable publication that shows the existence of a cultural theory on Korea to Korean society as it overcomes the cultural notion of poverty deriving from colonialism and the Korean war. The book unhesitantly expresses his broad knowledge and insightful remarks on Korea's architecture, clothes, and eating habits. The book is excellent for something written by a man in his 20s. 300,000 copies were sold in a year in Korea, becoming one of the best sellers at the time. It was translated into English, Japanese, and Chinese, playing the leading role in spreading Korean culture. Professor Lee was called “Leader of the Youth,” “Magician of Language,” and “Talented Man since Dangun” after the publication of *In This Earth & In That Wind: This Is Korea*. Also, a renowned Japanese anthropologist, professor Dada picked the book as one of the three books that gave him the biggest impression.

House Built with Words (Arte) is a collection of ‘Rereading Korean Poetry’ articles serialized on *Chosun Ilbo* in 1996. 32 valuable Korean poems are interpreted from professor Lee's viewpoint. This book is for people who misunderstand poems for being occupied with the history or life of authors or want to read poems from a different perspective. It shows the true meaning of every poetic diction, interprets the symbolic meaning of poems, and unravels the hidden but beautiful meaning of words used in our daily lives. The book shows the true value of poems, like *Azaleas* by Kim Sowol, *Wilderness* by Yi Yook-Sa, *Prologue* by Yun Dong-ji, *Green Grapes* by Yi Yook-Sa, *Sun* by Park Doo-Jin,

which are to be remembered as valuable assets to the history of Korean literature.

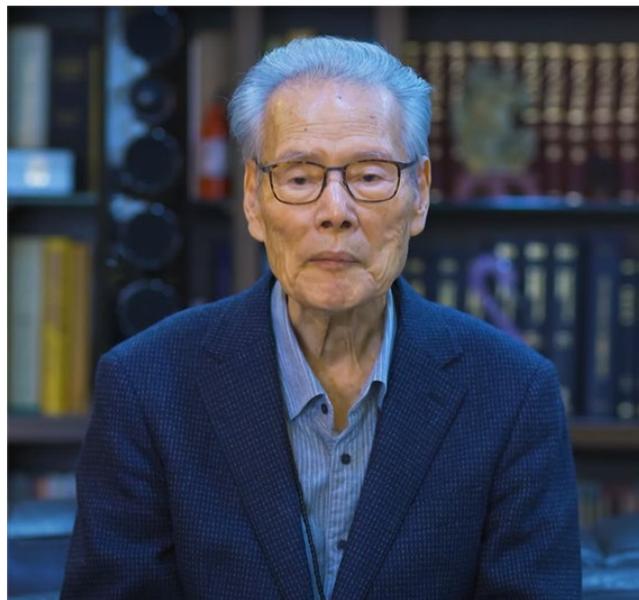
The essence between life and death

As a representative intellectual in the field of Korean literature and a person near the age of 90, what message would professor Lee like to deliver to readers as he struggles between life and death? In his recently published book *The Last Lesson of Lee O-Young* (Yolimwon Publishing Group), professor Lee wrote down his thoughts and anecdotes about life and death under various themes, such as love, forgiveness, and religion. Although he is exhausted physically and mentally from a long battle with cancer, as a person near death, he conveys his idea that death is at the center of life through the book.



The Last Lesson of Lee O-Young

In the fall of 2019, when *Chosun Biz* posted an article on *The Last Interview with Lee O-Young* in the “Jisu Kim's Interstellar” corner, many readers sent support to professor Lee, who said, “I lived a gifted life.” The article got more than 7,000 comments and was published as *The Last Lesson of Lee O-Young* after adding thoughts of professor Lee. In 16 interviews conducted throughout a year, professor Lee introduced his new friend, death, to reporter Jisu Kim and readers as a teacher would teach his students. He also talks about ‘death in life’ or ‘life near death.’ In the last chapter of the book, the full text of *The Last Interview with Lee O-Young* is included. Professor Lee answers students' questions on life and death using fitting metaphors and comparison. As a life mentor, he leaves composed words of comfort to students who will live in the world after his death.



Professor Lee O-Young

Source: BookTrailer. *The Last Lesson of Lee O-Young*
(www.youtube.com/watch?v=9X5-X-qvMIE)

Professor Lee, battling cancer, is currently serving as an advisor to the *JoongAng Ilbo* and chairman of the Northeastern Asia Institute of Comparative Cultural Studies. He will share wisdom by attending the 'Grand Master Class 20222 - Proof of Hope' lecture for two days, from March 26 to 27.

A Korean proverb says, “When a tiger dies, he leaves his skin, and when a person dies, he leaves his name.” As a teacher to many students living in this era, a leader guiding the times, a role model for the youth who will lead modern Korean literature, and as an eternal creator of Korea, professor Lee will be remembered forever in Korean literature, and for the pieces he left.

EXPORT CASE

China Export Case

Online advertisement and strong sales of children's books during the pandemic

Written by Shin Sun-Hang (The Director of Arui SHIN Agency)

Recently, I visited an exhibition held in the National Folk Museum of Korea on “Our Lives Beyond Epidemics.” From the period of the Three States, Goryeo, the Joseon Dynasty, to the modern and present-day, epidemics have always been a part of Korean history. Diseases that emerged from wars, changes in the natural environment, or foreign sources have made life miserable for people. Maybe it was our ancestors' persistence to get over hardships that led us to live a life today, accumulating all the knowledge on overcoming challenges. Even in the present day, human beings defeated pandemics several times. However, the recent one caused by COVID-19 neutralized our pride in cutting-edge science and technology. The pandemic has lingered for more than three years now, and this may be the sign that it is

time for us to coexist with diseases.

For the past two years, Korea's publishing industry has sought to advertise offline and sell publications. Despite the limited offline activities and gathering, efforts helped the sector recover its sales. Interestingly, it is said that book sales for under-fives and children, education material, and sentimental essays are similar or even better than the time before the pandemic.

Unlike the concerns during the early stage of the pandemic, Korean contents' overseas licensing to China is gaining much traction. Generally, the Chinese prefer math and science-related children's education materials over others. Books similar to auxiliary textbooks in form and contents are getting positive feedback to help children learn after the pandemic is over. Complete series of informational picture books or serialized educational cartoons are significantly more popular than others.



Chinese: *The Bizarre Adventure of Math* series

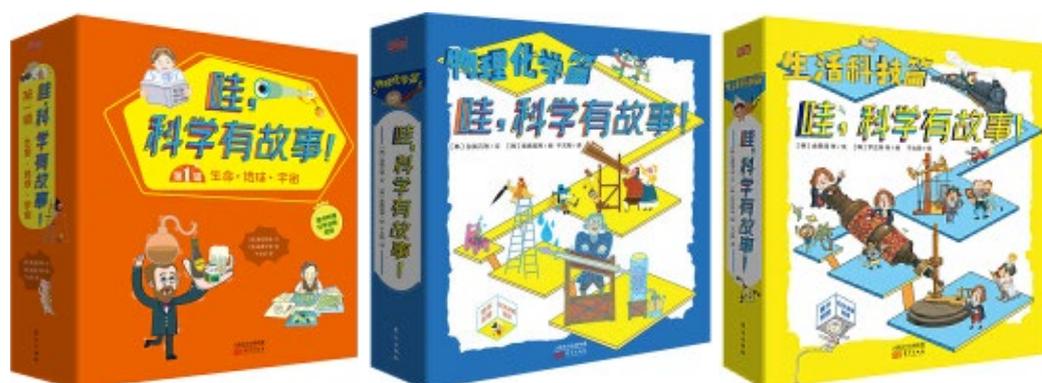


Korean: *Purunet Math Concept Cartoon series*

For instance, the Chinese version of the series, *Purunet Math Concept Cartoon* (Chinese: *The Bizarre Adventure of Math*), is a storytelling cartoon on mathematical concepts for all school years that chain stores of private teaching institutes use as a monthly textbook. The series is not sold in ordinary book stores but only provided to members of institutes in Korea. In contrast, the series is sold in ordinary book stores of China in sets based on the school year. After three sets of the series for school years 1, 2, and 3 were released in November 2021, the publisher has been selling the books through various methods, including internet book stores, like Dangdang and JD.com, offline book stores, or live commerce hosted by influencers. China's well-known digital marketing platform Douyin (TikTok) also hosted a live broadcast, starring the chairman of the publishing company and Wang Fang, an anchor and a writer, and sold 2,000 sets. The first print is almost out of stock now, and the publishing house is planning to reprint it after the Chinese New Year's holiday. The series consists of one book per school year, amounting to 12. It is getting popular in China as an auxiliary textbook because

the series is relevant to Chinese children as the elementary mathematics curriculum of Korea and China are similar. The series is also well-organized as it delivers stories in cartoons based on game scenarios. It has depth in content and is fun to read. The following series will be released in the first half of 2022, and I have high hopes for its sales in China.

A complete collection of science is also one of China's popular children's books. In the case of the Chinese version of *Clever Story Science* series published by Daekyo (Chinese: *Wow! There Is a Story in Science!*), the publisher selected themes, imported books to China, and reorganized the books to follow a theme for every series to meet the needs in the local market. The publisher is also actively engaging in online advertisement and sales selling online in real-time by using a Chinese influencer active on China's blog Weibo.



Chinese: *Wow! There Is a Story in Science!* series



Korean: *Clever Story Science* series

The two series were released some time ago in Korea but are loved in the Chinese market for their high-quality plans and contents. Some series also concluded contracts soon after release due to their excellent concept. For example, *One Step Forward Math*, published by Woongjin ThinkBig (Chinese: *Woongjin Math Picture Book*), is a math series targeting preschoolers. China's private publisher culture corporation astutely planned and concluded a contract with a public publisher to release and sell in China. This series generated more royalties than expected. It is famous as the series can be used at home to teach children because it is composed of the main book and a workbook. Children's literature with topics and materials that induce children's curiosity is also a genre loved for a long time. *Moonlit Restaurant*, published by BIR Publishing (Chinese: *Moonlit Restaurant*), became famous by getting selected to a list of books recommended to read during the summer vacation of 2020 in China. The book was even recommended as the best writing

in Children's literature of Books I Loved in 2021, nominated by some regional library associations. The Chinese publisher of the book maximized online advertisement by showing a video of the Korean author talking about his feelings and an introductory video during the online award ceremony.



Chinese: *Woongjin Math Picture Book series*



Korean: *One Step Forward Math series*



Chinese: *Moonlit Restaurant*, Korean: *Moonlit Restaurant*

So far, we have looked at China export cases. Despite the pandemic, Korean children's contents draw attention in China, a country with a strong consumption power. The popularity of Korean books in China is also proven through sales performance in the Chinese market. It is a piece of encouraging news to Korean publishers. Regardless of the market, customers want new and unique content. I sincerely hope that Korean writers and publishers continue introducing diverse materials filled with uniqueness and universality.

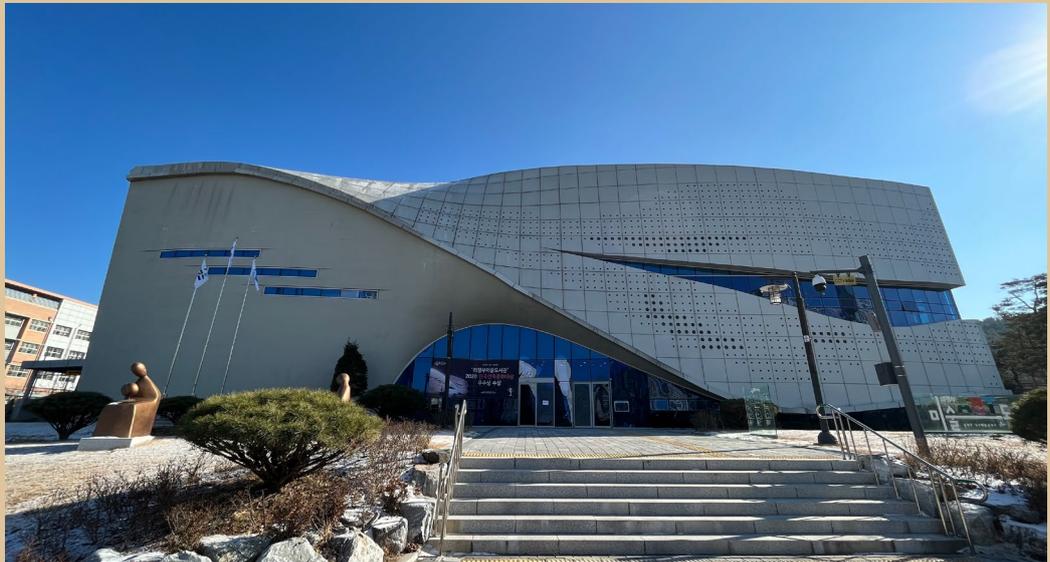
BOOK TRIP

[Beautiful Library in Korea ①]

Art Library Of Uijeongbu

A Public platform serving as both library and art gallery

Written by Choi Ha-Yeong

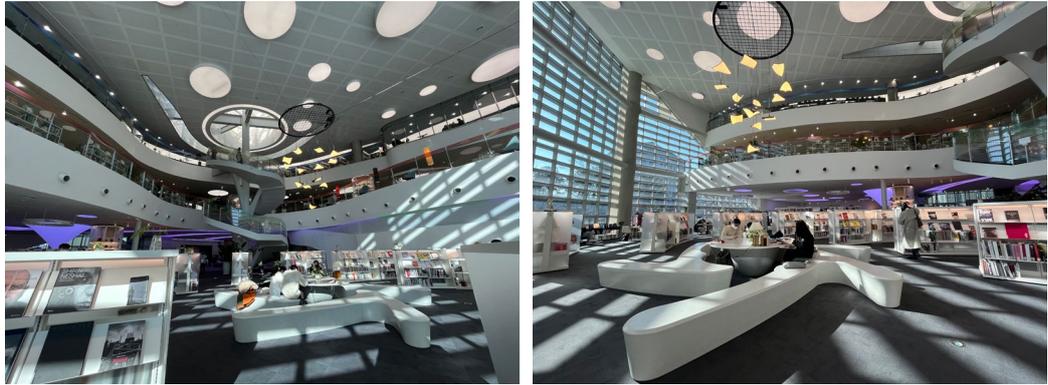


Recently, libraries that offer more than reading experiences have been springing up across the country. Art Library of Uijeongbu, opened in November 2019, combined the different areas of library and art gallery, boasting a great deal of beauty

and practicality both in the exterior and interior of the building. The library plays the roles of not just a library but an art gallery in Uijeongbu city which hasn't run its own art gallery before. The opening was great news for residents longing for cultural infrastructure. When searching for art reference materials, residents were often reliant on reading rooms in art museums such as the National Museum of Contemporary Art, where lending and accessing books were challenging. But, the opening of the Art Library of Uijeongbu now allows anyone to borrow or refer to such publications with ease. The combination of a public library and art gallery made the art library an established public platform for art and culture, the first facility of its kind in the country.

A new experiment in local culture and art

The beautifully curved building arouses people's curiosity, making them wonder, "what is the building for?" After noticing that it had combined an art gallery and a library, the first impression of uniqueness rather than unfamiliarity encourages them to visit there one time. The art library greets visitors with a sculpture, "Mother and Son," inspired by the works of painter Baek Young-soo. The overall impression is far from the stereotypical image of public buildings.



Interior of the first floor of Art Library Of Uijeongbu



View of the first floor from the third floor

When you step into the building, it offers a full view of a wide-open space from the first to third floors. Art Library of Uijeongbu, built with the concept of “connection, openness, communication,” offers all open spaces without walls and has low bookshelves, allowing visitors to communicate freely. The

spiral stairs at the center keep all the floors connected as one. The concept of “connection, openness, communication” is not just about people, books, and artworks. The round glass ceiling above the stairs illuminates the library, and the clear glass wall puts the whole building in harmony with nature. The view of nature changing from time to time serves as an interior wall. A glance at the view away from the books offers a relaxing escape. You can see how meticulously the building was designed.

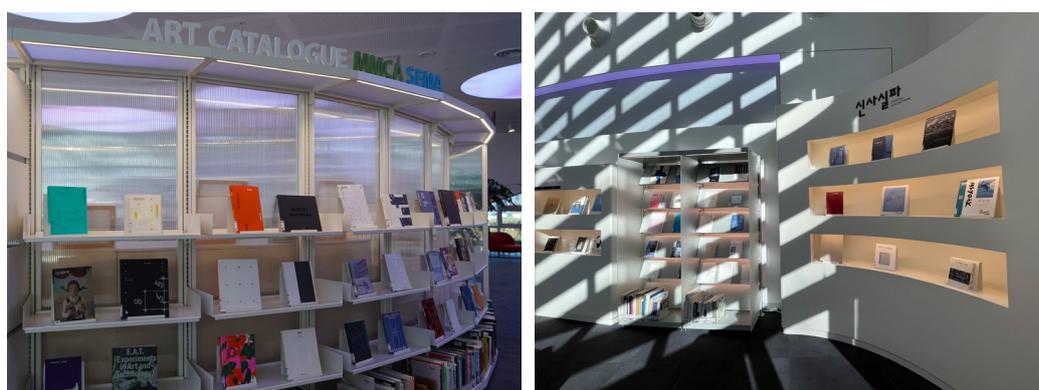
A library embracing an art gallery

Art Library of Uijeongbu has three sections: art, children, and general. Artbooks and exhibitions are in the Art Ground on the 1st floor. Various domestic and foreign art books are on display on the shelves, boasting beautiful covers. The bookshelves were designed to make the book covers stand out as if they were in a bookstore, contrasting to other libraries where towering shelves are packed with books. In addition, specially designed transparent bookends are placed to draw visitors' attention. It is unique how the curved bookshelves are arranged in a circle around the reading space. Reading books there in the middle makes you feel like you are the main character in a novel.

Among a variety of art books, there is a section for hard-to-find art magazines and art brochures of the National Museum of Modern Art and Seoul Museum of Art. Also, several reference materials about the New Realism Group (a group of abstract

expressionists who emerged after the Liberation) are exhibited on a bookshelf on the first floor. So, this is a place for reference materials of the New Realism Group, including Lee Jung Seob, globally known for his fairy tale style, and Baek Young-soo, who continued creative work in his studio in Uijeongbu (present-day Baek Young-soo Museum). And, around the stairs leading to the second floor are several art books on display, chosen by librarians along with some props fitting the theme of January. Next to them is a famous British artist David Hockney's *A Bigger Book*, drawing visitors' attention. As it is the limited edition for which only 9,000 copies were produced worldwide, some visitors come to the library just to see this book.

As such, the loan rate for art books in Art Library of Uijeongbu is three times higher than that of other libraries. This is possibly because the library offers some hard-to-find art publications and the best reading environment.



Art magazines, art brochures, and publications of New Realism Group



Librarians' recommendations and David Hockney's artwork

The highlight here is the special exhibition hall on the first floor. Just because it belongs to a museum, you shouldn't think of it as just another exhibition. The theme changes regularly, giving a chance for visitors to appreciate artworks of various painters. A new theme brings a new change to the exhibition space by installing partitions and lighting well-matched with artworks when needed, allowing visitors to savor an art gallery feel in the library.

Art Library of Uijeongbu is presenting an exhibition of works by artists Vakki and Jihee Kim with a theme of "See, Make, Paint" until March 3, 2022. These artists are all active in art and will present a unique and cheerful pleasure for visitors. In particular, the "See, Make, Paint" exhibition is more meaningful as it is the first exhibition where visitors can join artists' works since the opening of the library. Around 40 works, including drawings, paintings, installation arts, are on display, with four among them being participatory art, fully activating the audience's imagination.



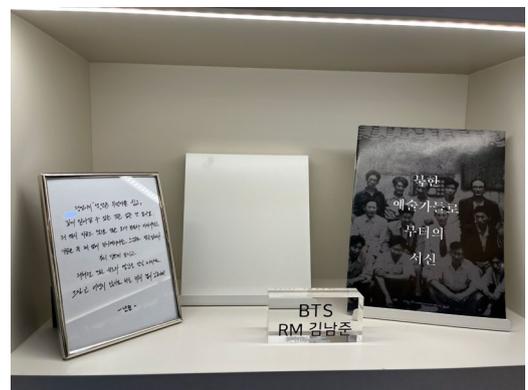
Displayed artworks by Vakki and Jihee Kim

A pleasant reading environment for visitor satisfaction

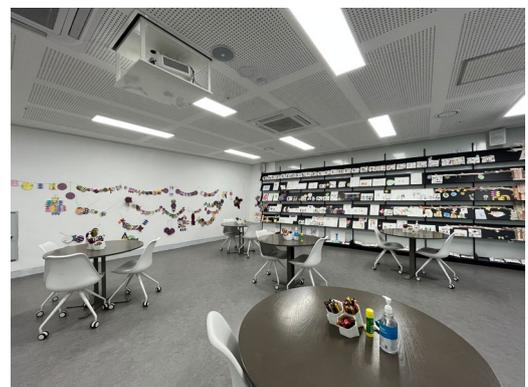
When you get to the General Ground on the second floor, collections of children's books and general books are waiting for readers. The two sections are divided by the stairs with different carpet colors, which is quite impressive. And the children's book section is decorated in a way that allows children to freely read books as if it were a small playroom. A part of the section is dedicated to reading books to children so that they can be more familiar with books. The reason why the general book section is on the same floor is to encourage both adults and children to read a book they want in the same place. As such, the Art Library of Uijeongbu is seeking to keep visitors satisfied by meeting the needs of various audiences.

In Multi-Ground on the third floor, there are also books in general fiction. As the name of Multi-Ground implies, the place serves various purposes to attract more visitors. Another place, 'Donation zone', presents books donated by individuals and organizations such as the Honolulu Museum of Art, those

affiliated with the art museum, and also the prizes that it won, such as Korean Architecture Award 2020 and Korean Cultural Space Award 2020. Also, a book donated by RM, a member of K-POP band BTS, is on display. If you are a fan of K-POP, it is worth visiting there at least once. ‘Open Studio’ is a space to support creative work by promising budding artists, offering a workspace for new artists who are chosen twice a year. The open studio surrounded by transparent walls allows for communication between artists and audiences. Finally, in ‘Program Zone,’ visitors can freely participate in the hands-on activities related to the exhibition on the first floor. So, do not miss out on the artistic experience.



Books donated by Honolulu Museum of Art and RM, a member of BTS



Open Studio and Program Zone

Librarians' book recommendations displayed on each floor are a good way to enjoy this art library where librarians nominate books in arts, children, and general genre, based on the theme of each month. There are a total of four sections for recommended books, regardless of genre and theme, curating more books than other libraries. Art library of Uijeongbu is seeking to offer a fulfilling experience by understanding the convenience and needs of visitors to operate the facility better. By combining two different areas of library and art gallery, Art library of Uijeongbu offers a refreshing and unique experience for visitors. Visit the place one day to immerse yourself in the joy of books and art.

A short interview with Art library of Uijeongbu

1. For visitors, are there any Must-See things in Art library of Uijeongbu?

One is a section for foreign books and the other is the exhibition hall on the first floor. We have many foreign art books that are rarely found in other libraries. As they are normally printed in a large format, you can appreciate them in more detail. Also, we hold a special exhibition organized by our curator three times a year. As such, enjoying the artworks in the exhibition is one of the greatest things of a visit to our library.

2. If you have a book to recommend to overseas visitors, please introduce it.

We would like to recommend a book titled *BIRTH OF THE MODERN ART MUSEUM* (Misulmunhwa, 2018), which is an art brochure of the special exhibition “BIRTH OF THE MODERN ART MUSEUM(2018.5.3.~2018.10.14.)” organized by the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art at MMCA Deoksugung Gallery. The book introduces the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, one of the leading art museums in the country, and prominent artists and their masterpieces that represent Korean modern art among its collections. As such, the book would help readers better understand the history of modern Korean art and Korean culture.

3. What kind of place do you want this art museum to be?

There are not many cultural spaces open to residents in Uijeongbu city, which was the main reason behind the foundation of the Art library of Uijeongbu. Looking at many people visiting here made us believe that our intention was well delivered. Hopefully, Art library of Uijeongbu will bring visitors a great experience as a rest area that connects books and art.

Art Library Of Uijeongbu

Homepage: www.uilib.go.kr/art/index.do

Phone: +82-31-828-8870

Address: 248, Minrak-ro, Uijeongbu-si, Gyeonggi-do

ONE-LINER QUOTES

Korean Food Critic's Pick

Korea's Food Books

Written by Jeong Dong-Hyun (Food Critic)



At a Korean-Western Restaurant

Cho Yeoung-Gwon, Lintintin



"A proud chef who devoted his whole life to the kitchen with 50-years of experience.

In a world where changes are too fast to catch up with, what do 50 years mean to people of today?"

Food is the mirror of the past and present. Trending foods show the era's social structure and direction. Luxurious sushi restaurants that boast high popularity are often located in the Gangnam area. This shows Koreans' love of sushi but also disconnection from ties with Japan during the COVID-19 pandemic. In line with sushi restaurants, Korea's old Korean-

Western restaurants located all over the country are cherished remnants of Korea's modern history after its independence. It also captures time in the place as people's old tastes remains in the meals they serve.

Like Cho Yeong-Gwon's previous book *Chinese Cuisine in Korea* (CABOOKS), he recollects his experience visiting old Korean-Western restaurants in *At a Korean-Western Restaurant*. The writer has a unique job as a piano tuner, which is well reflected throughout his book. The food pictures taken from the same angle are not as impressive as an expert's work. However, enjoying drinks and food in a single common angle shows his job as a tuner who pursues 'harmony' in the instruments he touches. His works do so as well. Like how the note 'Doh' should sound like 'Doh', the author never exaggerates the food he eats. Restaurants he visits also show his character. As a piano tuner with 28 years of experience, the author sticks to an old method of tuning by using a tuning fork than a cutting-edge tuning device. The restaurants he finds are also places that keep their old form where time seems to have stopped. He prefers those old ones to fancy restaurants with a long list of customers. How the author finds his restaurants is simple. He visits where he marked in his note after finishing his daily job. The book's structure is similar to the Japanese cartoon *Lonely Gourmet*. However, his book does not get boring as the writer describes his journey in a calm manner, with no frills, and without exaggeration.

Korean-Western restaurants emerged after Korea's independence.

They sell meals that need to be cut by knife, like pork cutlet or beef cutlet, and serve bread and soup before the main dish is out. Eating outside was a luxury in the past, and Korean-Western restaurants used to be the place people visited on special occasions, such as entrance or graduation ceremonies. It was a place people would enjoy their special moments just like how they used to visit Korea-Chinese restaurants. Having a dish with a knife and a fork instead of chopsticks was a rare experience back in the day. Though the choice was only between a slice of bread or a bowl of rice, Korean-Western restaurants were as the place where an individual choice was considered. Now, the food from those restaurants brings back old memories. The restaurants still have chefs who hold onto their knives even while their youth is gone. Even some people seek to find restaurants served by old chefs. The scenery taken with a wide lens flows along with the lives forgotten throughout our lives in old Korean-Western restaurants.

“A proud Chef who devoted his whole life
to the kitchen with 50-years of experience.

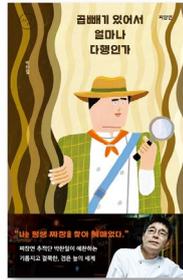
In a world where changes are too fast to catch up with,
what do 50 years mean to people of today?

I also devoted my time to a job.

Acoustic musical instruments are hard to find nowadays.

Will piano turners still exist 50 years from now? I don't think so.

Regardless, the coffee here tastes wonderful." p.92.



*Jjajangmyeon: How Grateful
It Is to have a Double Portion Serving*
Park Chan-Il, Semicolon (Minumsa)



“Some chefs might think that cucumber is not much of a deal and that they can chop it without thinking.

But I believe it's worth betting on a chef who cares about ornamental cucumber than one who does not care about tiny details in food.”

Jjajangmyeon resembles curry in the UK in many ways. Curry is a well-known Indian dish. Since it was first introduced to England, curry has become one of the most favored foods for many. However, the curry's taste in the UK is different from that of India. The UK uses dairy products, such as butter, more than India, making the food taste milder. There is even the UK's unique curry, known as butter chicken curry. It is a modification of a curry called Chicken Tikka Masala. The base ingredient is tomato sauce, and butter is added to meet UK people's taste. Jjajangmyeon has a history similar to curry. The food originated from Zhajiangmian, a Chinese dish that stir-fries meat and vegetables to fermented soybean paste. The looks of both Zhajiangmian and Jjajangmyeon may be similar, but they taste different. Jjajangmyeon was introduced to Korea as many Chinese workers migrated to Incheon in the late 19th century. As Japan colonized Korea, the food also changed, adding some Japanese food ingredients. In the military dictatorship era, Jjajangmyeon was included in the price index and was

pressured not to increase in price. Due to such movements, Chinese immigrants who made Jjajangmyeon in Korea lost their economic foundation during the era. Since apartments had been widely adopted, Jjajangmyeon became a staple as a delivery food. Seeing the history of Jjajangmyeon, we can see that it has stayed near us, changing along with our history.

Chef Park Chan-Il's recent book *Jjajangmyeon: How Grateful It Is to have a Double Portion Serving* shows diverse aspects of Jjajangmyeon's history as he talks about his life. As a chef would do, the author writes the recipe on China and Korea's Jjajangmyeon in the book. The recipe is what differentiates his book from others written by ordinary writers or professors. Jjajangmyeon was described by a person whose life depends on the object rather than out of academic interest or personal preference. Jjajangmyeon is fast food in Korea, but the process required to make it is not that simple. You have to go through various steps: Chop onions, stir-fry the chopped onions in Tianmian sauce, hand-pull noodles, and so on. The series of processes one has to endure to make Jjajangmyeon takes a chunk of a person's life after many repetitions. After years and years of hard work, the young boy's arm becomes that of a bread winner's. People who enjoy Jjajangmyeon also age as they eat Jjajangmyeon throughout their lives. A Chinese restaurant one used to go to while holding their parent's hands becomes a place for an elderly person who enjoys a drink along with a bowl of Jjajangmyeon.

Food is an object of joy and a tool for living to the author. It is also something that makes people live and reflect on themselves. Jjajangmyeon, the author's favorite food, encompasses all the aforementioned factors. The writer says a bowl of Jjajangmyeon with evenly cut cucumber is trustworthy as the chef poured time and effort into cutting a cucumber. However, he may not have had much time to spend on a single dish. *Jjajangmyeon: How Grateful It Is to have a Double Portion Serving* is what a reader can rely on. The book is like a bowl of Jjajangmyeon. Even if it is not written elaborately, the piece is like a wrinkled shirt that can be seen anywhere but describes something that is always in our hearts. The author shows his love towards Jjajangmyeon in his writing. Our life is bland rather than colorful and is simple rather than grandiose like Jjajangmyeon. The author's love and interest in people are not so much different from his passion and affection towards food.

“I feel very special when I have a bowl of Jjajangmyeon that has even, soft, and crunchy cucumber cut by a professional chef. The cucumber gives me trust that the restaurant will be good at every food it makes. Of course, some chefs might think that cucumber is not much of a big deal and that they can chop it without thinking. But I believe it's worth betting on a chef who cares about ornamental cucumber than one who does not care about tiny details in food.” p.155.

KOREAN PUBLISHERS

Mati Books

New Perspective, Broader Sight



Logo of Mati Books

Mati Books is a publisher specializing in the humanities, publishing books in various fields such as society, art, and architecture. Starting as a single-person publisher, Mati Books has been delivering the importance of humanities books, winning the Lotte Publishing Culture Award and Korean Publishing Culture Award, and being designated as the Sejong Excellent Academic Book. Under the slogan of “Humble Life with Ambitious Thinking,” Mati Books has been touching the

hearts of its readers with insightful interpretation, heartwarming encouragement, and deep enlightenment for 17 years. Following is an interview with Mati Books.

Please introduce Mati Books to our readers.

Mati Books was founded in 2005. We publish books about society, art, and architecture, based on humanities. We have been publishing the *Faustian Bargain* series, which broadened the scope of understanding about the Third Reich through the lives of artists who cooperated with the Nazis such as Furtwängler, Leni Riefenstahl, and Albert Speer, the *Edward W. Said Selections* that introduce the intellectual heritage of Edward W. Said such as *On the Late Style*, and the *Good House Series* that led the house-building syndrome in Korea in the mid-2000s including *The House Building Bible*.

Mati in Greek means “eye.” Upon establishment, we wanted to focus on visual art and media in the early 20th century. It was the time when all sorts of “post (like post-modernism)” were trending. And we were instead thinking that we should look at modernism. We wanted to show the act of “seeing,” viewpoints, and perspectives.

Why does Mati Books focus on humanities, among all other genres?

Historically, the very first root of publishing as an action is modern humanities, and it is not an exaggeration to say that it has led to publishing today. Many fields such as society, art, and architecture are closely intertwined, and the link is the humanities. In fact, each of the fields has branched out from this common root of humanities. But, we don't think that the humanities are at a level where it encompasses every other genre. Time has long passed. Yet, we still think that if there's a common foundation for topics for our conversation, it would be the humanities, even should it be a worn-out foundation.

What do you think is the biggest charm of the humanities as a genre, and why do you think we must read such books?

Humanities can also mean a study of human beings. As we want to know and must know human behaviors, history, and life, we have to look into humanities. Sometimes the humanities are the most practical fields. Plus, it's fun. There's nothing more interesting than a human being, right?

What are the criteria for good books and good writing that Mati Books seeks to pursue?

It's like a tautology, but we think good books are those that well exhibit the unique characteristics and strengths of books as a medium. As paper books have their own advantages, we try to produce books that are good at showing such strengths. Also, there might be various yardsticks to judging good writing, but we think that writing (media) should fit the content of the book. Just like Marshall McLuhan said, the medium can also become the content. We prefer accurate writings rather than beautiful ones.

In order to publish the good books and good writings mentioned above, what are the criteria by which Mati Books selects authors and works?

Above all, the writing must be able to stimulate our members' curiosity. As there are not many products that highly depend on individual preferences, we believe that a good book should be able to capture the minds of its producers first. Then, our interest and curiosity shall extend to our readers. We think whether we would buy the book instantly if another publisher has made the book.

If you were to pick 3 books published by Mati Books, what would they be, and why?



The Genealogy of Modern Korean Houses, The Symphonies, Borrowed, Bought, Discarded

The Genealogy of Modern Korean Houses by Park Cheol-Soo won the Lotte Publishing Culture Award and Korean Publishing Culture Award, also being designated as the Sejong Excellent Academic Book last year. It literally won all the awards an academic book can receive. It's 1,400 pages long with more than 1,000 drawing plates, but it's actually quite fun. It tracks down the history of Korean housing, looking at the kinds of houses Koreans have lived in since the colonization period, Korean War, and the miraculous economic growth, and talks about how Korea got to invest everything into apartments.

The next book is *The Symphonies* by Choi Eun-Gyu. This is a classical book that includes “almost every” symphony written by renowned composers, from C.P.E. Bach and Haydn to Mozart, Beethoven, and Brahms, not to mention Mahler and

Shostakovich. It focuses more on the music itself rather than discussing episodes about the composers. It has been largely popular among genuine music lovers.

Last but not least, we would like to pick *Borrowed, Bought, Discarded* by Chang Jung-Il. It's a book journal. Novelist Chang is a famous book collector and an extensive reader. He has been keeping the book journal since 20 years ago. He has been writing it everyday, believing that books open the window to society, and that society is again reflected in books. The book journal is a mirror of the generation.

Mati Books has been issuing a newsletter named *Footnotes**. What is the reason for publishing it, and how's the readers' response?

As we've mentioned earlier, we wanted to make a channel closest to our readers where we share our interests and curiosity with them. We also wanted to put together all our content into one place, unlike using Social Media, where posts are kind of volatile. Feedback from the readers on the free newsletter is all positive. We get good opinions. But, many of them say that it is different from many other publishing-related newsletters. It seems that they take our newsletter as more friendly. Maybe that's why its open rate is high.

What kind of publisher does Mati Books pursue to become, and what are your next plans?

We hope the publisher becomes more colorful as we welcome more members. In a time when it is difficult to quickly increase the size of a publishing company, we think it is one of the few ways to keep publishing for a long time.

KOREAN AUTHORS

Writer Lee Kkoch-Nim

Warm Stories of Comfort for the Youth



We feel a sense of delight when the protagonist of a story beats insurmountable challenges, changing a tragedy into a comedy. It may be that our lives are in a similar process. Due to how our life is, transitional stories gain sympathy and comfort people.

The warmth of the stories translates to understanding, gives the power to get over the harsh reality, and gifts cherished daily life. That is how the writer Kkoch-nim Lee shares the vitality of her stories with adolescents.

Please introduce yourself to our readers.

Hi, I am Kkock-Nim Lee, a writer. I am pleased and excited to introduce my stories through this web magazine.

You released popular Adolescent Literature, *I Will Cross Time for You* (published by Munhakdongne), *Killing Your Friend* (published by Woori School), and others. Is there any particular reason you write adolescent literature and fairy tales?

My troubled youth was longer than usual. My sister even said, “Are you the only one suffering from adolescence? Come on. Stop nagging!” You would not believe it, but my puberty spanned from upper elementary years to the early 20s. I almost thought that was who I was rather than to think it was because of puberty. It is lamentable not to enjoy the time then, but I hated myself, felt lonely, and fought against the world all by myself like many other pubescent girls. My comfort was coming-of-age novels at that time. Reading stories of main characters overcoming challenges and finding their normal daily lives helped me a lot. Since then, I naturally dreamed of being a writer who writes coming-of-

age novels. Like how I got my comfort through those stories, I wanted to console the youth suffering from loneliness as I did. That is how I came to study and write adolescent literature and fairy tales.



I Will Cross Time for You, Killing Your Friend

It must be important to form emotional connections with the young generation. Where do you get your ideas and materials for your novel?

From my college years when I aspired to be a writer to the early stage of my literary career, I wrote about things that I thought about a lot or what used to worry me. That was until I wrote *I Will Cross Time For You*. Now, I try to write stories about 'you' not 'me.' Sometimes, I find themes from newspapers or media outlets, like when I wrote *Luck Is On Its Way For You* (published by Munhakdongne) and *Killing Your Friend*.

How was your adolescence? Can you please tell us how you got to decide to become a writer?

I recall my youth being deplorable. I had low self-esteem and hated my guts. I did not like who I was then. I was lonely but enjoyed being alone at the same time. It was because I could think of stories only when I was by myself. I create the main character and a situation where they fought or fell in love with someone. When I learned that writers are the ones who write down stories in their heads, I wanted to become one. However, I did not share my dream with anybody. I thought people would laugh at me for wanting to be a writer. I considered myself to lack talents in writing because I never won an award for writing during my school years. Maybe I thought that one is a good writer only when they win a lot of awards in writing contests. So, I could not even think about the 'dream' of becoming a writer. I tried to forget about writing and live my life, but the more I did, the more I wanted to write. Later on, my heart was filled with sorrow. I felt sorry for myself for not even dreaming. I could not stand it anymore, and I took my courage to tell my mom that I wanted to be a writer. My family's response was, "Sure! Do it!" That's how I started to write in earnest.

You wrote many works on adolescent literature. Is there any particular piece that is special to you? If there is one, please tell us the reason as well.

I have to read a piece multiple times until each one is completed. No work did not go through me. Every book I wrote is unique and important to me. Nevertheless, if I have no choice but to select one, I would choose *Luck Is on Its Way to You*. Many people expressed gratitude to me after reading the book. It was simply a story I wrote, but many were thankful that I wrote such a piece. When I think of *Luck Is on Its Way to You*, I feel shy, but it is always on my mind.



Luck Is on Its Way to You

What kind of impact do you expect your writings to have on teenagers or society?

I do not write to affect others. I never thought of impacting one's life or society. But I do hope my stories bring a sense of comfort to someone or bring a smile to one's face when brought to mind. It will be my greatest honor if my wish comes true.

What is your plan for the future?

I want to write stories that I like. I can't ask for more if teenagers continue to love my stories. To that end, as always, I want to have fun writing my stories. It is because if it's a story I like, I'm sure it can bring joy to others.

PUBLISHING INDUSTRY

Collaboration of Reading Class at School and the Publishing Industry

The Impact of the "Reading One Book in a Semester" Program

Written by Song Seung-Hun
(Member of Mulkkobang under the Reading Education Branch of
the Korean Language Teachers Association)

Before discussing Korean schools' reading education, "Reading One Book in a Semester" should come first. The program "Reading a Book in a Semester" is an educational method in the National Curriculum Revised in 2015. It is about reading a book a semester during Korean classes. This methodology was first applied to 3rd and 4th graders of elementary school and first-year students in middle and high school in 2018. From 2020, it was expanded to students from grades 3 to 12.

Generally, "Reading One Book in a Semester" is conducted in around 12 to 17 classes per semester for Korean courses. Time for reading and relevant activities are included during the regular curriculum. Reading the same book in a group of 4 or 5 is the most common activity. Reading books in different ways comes

next. Sometimes the whole class reads the same book. Teachers suggest between 5 to 15 books, and students select books they like from the list. Reading activities include the following: “Reading Diary” that summarizes the book; “Book Review” that writes about one's thoughts about the book; “Having a Dialogue” on Books that records the discussion made in a group after reading the same book; “Conducting Interviews” on Books that writes a report on a person selected to interview after reading a book on the person.

Characteristics of Korean educational culture: Textbook-based class

Korean schools still tend to run classes with textbooks reviewed and approved by the state. In the 2000s, the Ministry of Education officially directed teachers to help students reach the Standard set in the National Educational Curriculum by using various class materials. Twenty years have passed since then, but too many are still dependent on textbooks.

The textbook-based class is highly relevant to Korea's modernization process, which was affected by Japan's colonization of Korea, the Korean War, and military dictatorship. When Korea was liberated in 1945, the right to education became one of the fundamental rights of Korean citizens. Confucianism was deeply rooted in Korean society, which led people to have a burning desire for education. In the countryside, it was even

expected for a farmer to sell his cows, a means of livelihood, to send children off to universities. The Korean government also emphasized education and built many schools but lacked qualified teachers. For that matter, teachers assigned to schools after a short period of training programs relied on textbooks that summarized advanced countries' knowledge, culture, and technologies. From 1961 to 1987, generals of the military forces took power and ruled under dictatorship. Like in George Orwell's *1984*, authoritarian governments wanted to control citizens. Therefore, the government struck down teachers who used materials other than textbooks for classes.

However, the successful result of the civil uprising led Korea to be a democratic country in 1987, and the political change came along with rapid economic growth. In the mid-1990s, economic competition among countries heated up, and the Presidential Education Reform Committee was established to discuss ways to strengthen national competitiveness through education. It led to the 5.31 Education Reform Program being born in 1995. Korea developed under a single standard of schooling until the reform. The reform suggested a new educational direction to build a brighter future for the nation through diverse and more individualized education.

As Kim Dae-Jung, the first Nobel prize laureate of Korea, became the president in 1998, his administration implemented policies on literary arts more actively than in the past. Improving school reading classes was part of the Kim Dae-Jung administration's

educational efforts. Before that time, libraries were considered storage spaces for schools. For ten years, from 1998 to 2008, as Kim Dae-Jung and Roh Moo-Hyun were the presidents, school libraries were built to function in all schools. The policy established on spending 3% of the school's expense budget on buying books is sustained. It continued until 2017, when Lee Myung-Bak and Park Geun-Hye, conservative party members, were the presidents of Korea. The Ministry of Education released the manual on reading books during classes, including Korean, English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Korean History, and Art. Teachers nationwide were trained to follow the manual. There are 17 city and provincial offices of education in Korea, and each office has a training center. All the centers include reading instruction as the introductory course.

Currently, the books students read during school classes are recorded in school reports of course activities, and the record is used as a reference point for college entrance.

Educational activities in school and responses of the publishing industry

Until the 1990s, the list of recommended books for students consisted mainly of Western white middle-class male writers' books. Japan learned the Western culture, and the list of recommended books was called World Literature. The list was sustained for 50 years, even after Korea earned its independence.

However, the tendency changed in 2000. Teachers rose to let students read books from the same era, not classics. Also, students should read books they can comprehend, not the ones famous but hard to read. The movement was well-received among teachers, changing the school-recommended books by 2010.

The Korean publishing industry was hit directly by the change. Growth novels of many countries were translated, and the ones written by Korean writers were published. Once books written by Korean writers were recommended in schools, there came famous writers in children and youth literature. The writers were often invited to schools to lecture. The market for adolescents was the new one to rise as there were only markets for children and adults for the publishing industry. Over time, the adolescent market firmly established itself in the industry.

The more reading education for classes became active among teachers, the more the publishers printed books. Children's stories were released on various topics for elementary school students, and liberal arts books were released in multiple fields. Fun and interesting books on diverse topics were written to meet the level of reading of middle school students. Some academic books on social studies were designed and published for high school students. What stands out among them are growth novels, poems, and the selection of literary works for middle and high school students. These books are widely read in middle and high schools. The books reflect Korean culture, like the drama

"Squid Game" or the movie "Parasite." Students' concerns, such as lookism, friendship, bullying, school violence, racial discrimination, homosexuality, gender, school grades, part-time jobs, and career, are the contents of the books.

According to a study on how Korean students choose books, teachers' recommendation is the most influential factor. As books recognized by teachers or the ones in the school's recommended book list are sold well, Korean publishers try hard to publish good-quality books.

“Reading One Book in a Semester” is the most recent government policy that affected publishers. Before the method was introduced, reading education was a recommendation, and reading was only for teachers interested in reading as an educational method. With the introduction of the program to the National Educational Curriculum, reading classes became introductory courses for all teachers who teach Korean. The introduction of "Reading One Book in a Semester" is a policy that has had a significant influence on the education sector as the government's approach tends to have a considerable impact in Korea. While the total count for reading of the population decreased due to the widespread use of smartphones and easy Internet access, the policy was the best that the Korean government could do as an educational policy to promote the reading culture.

Once “Reading One Book in a Semester” was introduced in 2018, the publishing industry welcomed the news as if it saw the

rainfall during the drought. Publishers that printed children's books saw their revenue recover as if the Renaissance was back. Once a publisher publishes a decent book, many prints of the book are purchased by the school, stabilizing the publisher's financial situation, and building the foundation for the publisher to find another good book to publish. As a result, many publishers plan and release books on diverse topics for middle and high school Korean classes for the “Reading One Book in a Semester” program. In turn, experts in various fields of Korea have opportunities to write. With books in diverse areas, students can read more books related to diverse fields. As a result, a virtuous cycle is formed where the entire culture becomes abundant.



The 2021 Winter Reading List recommended by Teachers Who Make the World Warm with Books. *My Name is Cuckoo*, *A Very Private Walk in the Palace*, and *My House is a Planetarium*, each published by Little Mountain, Nol, and Wisdom House, respectively.

Three years after passing the teacher test and being appointed a teacher, Korean teachers receive first-class teacher training.

When he was first appointed as a teacher, he was a second-class teacher, and after receiving the aforementioned three-year training, he became a first-class teacher. The 17 City and Provincial Education Training Centers run a first-class teacher training course. In addition, the Korean language curriculum includes the "Reading One Book a Semester" program. Teachers receive education on reading classes and evaluation methods, such as Writing Book Reviews, Dialogue on Books, Oral Evaluation on Books, and apply the training to school. Suppose you are interested in Korea's reading class. In that case, I recommend reading from a portal site, Naver (www.naver.com), searching the following in Korean: “서평 쓰기” (Writing Book Reviews), “책 대화하기” (Having a Dialogue on Books), “독서 구술평가” (Oral Evaluation on Books), and “한 학기 한 권 읽기” (Reading One Book in a Semester). If you search for the keyword, you will see articles that several teachers have posted on blogs regarding their classes, and you can see what reading education in Korea looks like. Unfortunately, there is a problem with translation because the postings are written in Korean. Still, you will understand the overall meaning by using the translation provided by the web browser.

School reading education was something only a few interested teachers used to do, but now all the teachers use it in their curriculum. Reading class is obligatory in Korean classes, and it is based on the individual choice of a teacher. Nowadays, reading books is recommended regardless of the course. In line with

the changes in public education, publishers are designing and printing books with good content and easy-to-read for students. If you want to learn about the books Korean teachers recommend to students, visit Teachers Who Make the World Warm with Books (www.read.or.kr) or Mulkkobang under the Reading Education Branch of the Korean Language Teachers Association (www.naramal.or.kr) to see the list of recommended books. In addition, you can find the relevant material by searching “물꼬방 추천도서” (Books Recommended by Mulkkobang) or “책따세 추천도서” (Books Recommended by Teachers Who Make The World Warm with Books) on the Internet.

Publishing Policy

**K-Literature:
The Winners of Major International
Literary Awards in 2021**



We introduce to you some of
the Korean literary works
**that won major
international literary
awards in 2021.**



— United Kingdom —

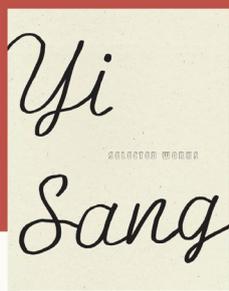


The CWA Dagger - Crime Fiction in Translation
The Disaster Tourist (Minumsa Publishing)
by Yoon Ko-Eun

Author Yoon Ko-Eun's
The Disaster Tourist won in the Crime
Fiction in Translation category of the
CWA, UK, for the first time in Asia.

Join the bizarre adventure taking
place at the center of a disaster
and reconstruction zone.

— United States —



Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for a
Translation of a Literary Work
Yi Sang: Selected Works by Yi Sang

Yi Sang: Selected Works by poet Yi Sang,
a famous poet among Koreans,
won the Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize
for a Translation of a Literary Work, US.

The book includes fresh and
experimental works that completely
overturn the traditional literary system.

— Sweden —



Winner of the 14th Cikada Prize
By poet Kim Hye-Soon

Poet Kim Hye-Soon won the Cikada Prize,
which celebrates
East Asian artists whose works
defend the inviolability of life.

The book talks about the intrinsic
values of things through the beauty of
modern Korean poetry.



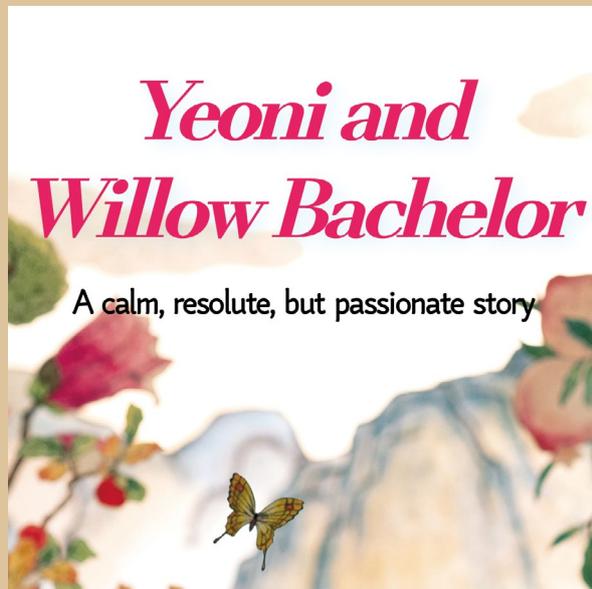
We have just met some of the Korean authors and works that raised the reputation of Korean literature across the world last year.

We ask for your continued support for Korean literature and invite you to see how Korean authors continue to mesmerize the world with their works this year as well!



NEW BOOKS

Yeoni and Willow Bachelor



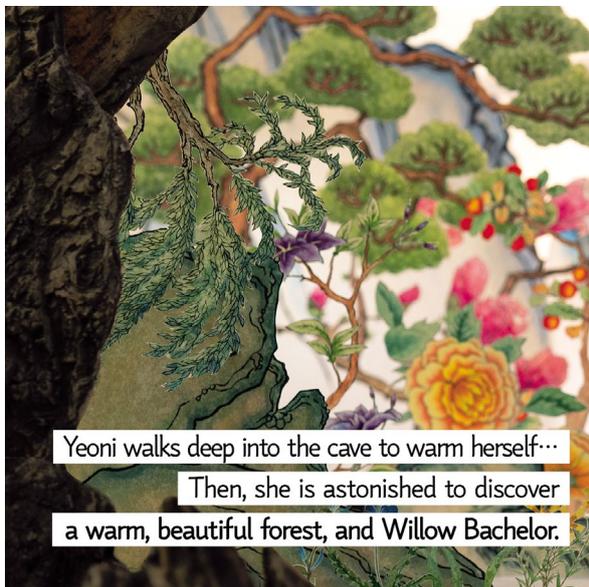
Yeoni was living a harsh life under the care of an old woman, doing all the hard work.

She has been doing all the housework, preparing meals and sewing even understanding the grudges of the old woman.



One winter day,

the old woman orders Yeoni to find some lettuce.
As she goes in search of the lettuce, she comes
across a cave in the cold, winter mountain.



Yeoni walks deep into the cave to warm herself...

Then, she is astonished to discover
a warm, beautiful forest, and Willow Bachelor.



Willow Bachelor treats her with great hospitality and
uses magic to give her lettuce as a gift
so she can get through the crisis with the old woman.



Meanwhile, the old woman starts to be suspicious of Yeoni, as it is almost impossible to find lettuce in the middle of winter...



Will Yeoni and Willow Bachelor be able to protect each other, standing firmly against trials and tribulations?

A new reinterpretation of a traditional fairy tale orally passed down



Yeoni and Willow Bachelor

written by Baek Hee-Na, published by Bear Books

* youtu.be/XAv5kyfeqEY

BEST SELLERS

3rd Week, January 2022**Bestseller Trends in the Four Biggest Online Bookstores in Korea**

With the presidential election in March coming up, political and social books have been gaining much attention in Korean society since the first day of the new year. People's heightened interest and expectations – or perhaps concerns – about the candidates seem to be reflected in the books. For example, *Yoon Seok-Youl X File*, which topped the bestsellers' list of four major bookstores' online markets, is a book that verifies candidate Yoon based on factual grounds. As a result, it has been at the center of readers' attention, ranking first, even though the book is scheduled to be published in the third week of January. Also, *Longing Doesn't Happen to Anyone*, an autobiography of former president Park Geun-Hye, and *Goodbye, Lee Jae-Myung*, a book about presidential candidate Lee Jae-Myung, joined the top 10 bestsellers.

Meanwhile, the script books of “The Red Sleeve” and “Our Beloved Summer,” TV dramas that ended with massive popularity, also became bestsellers. Script books of dramas and movies published in Korea boast a high selling rate among their fans, as they offer goods along with the book such as postcards and posters. Furthermore, the book *The Red Sleeve* based on a web novel, and *Our Beloved Summer*, based on a webtoon (web-comics), drew attention since their early episodes. Such transformation of a webnovel and webtoon turning into a drama, which then turned into a script book, shows the potential of Korean publishing content in the intellectual property market.

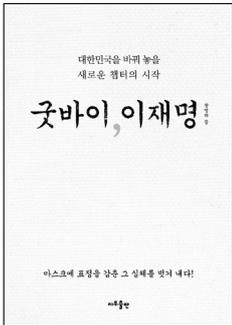
On the other hand, in the health category, *Reset Your Moves Rather Than Exercising*, the no.1 bestseller published in January, inspired readers hoping to boost their fitness to purchase it. With detailed explanations and illustrations about how to exercise, it helps readers understand and follow the moves without difficulty. Also, three books – *Managing Your Waist for 100 Years 1, 2*, and *Exercising for 100 Years* – written by professor Chung Sun-Gun of Rehabilitation Medicine, Seoul National University, all made it into the top 5. Books by professor Chung, who hopes to help people exercise safely, have been steady picks by Korean readers.

* The rank of bestsellers below was organized after integrating domestic best sellers in the third week of January from the four biggest online bookstores in Korea – Kyobo Bookstore, Aladdin, Yes 24, and Interpark.

Top 10 Bestsellers for the 3rd Week of January

<p>1</p>		<p><u>Yoon Seok-yeol X File</u></p> <p>Author Yeollin Gonggam TV Publisher Yeollin Gonggam TV Genre Politics / Society</p>
<p>2</p>		<p><u>Uncanny Convenience Store (Winter edition commemorating 150 thousand copies sold)</u></p> <p>Author Kim Ho-yeon Publisher Namu Bench Genre Fiction</p>
<p>3</p>		<p><u>Longing Doesn't Happen to Anyone</u></p> <p>Author Park Geun-hye Publisher Garo Sero Research Institute Genre Politics / Society</p>
<p>4</p>		<p><u>Don't Know Where to Invest? Ask Me</u></p> <p>Author Kim Jung-soo Publisher Haum Genre Business</p>

Top 10 Bestsellers for the 3rd Week of January

5		<p><u>Goodbye, Lee Jae-Myung</u></p> <p>Author Jang Young-Ha Publisher Jiwoo Publishing Genre Politics / Society</p>
6		<p><u>The Mysterious Candy Store 13</u></p> <p>Author Reiko Hiroshima Publisher Gilbut School Genre Children</p>
6		<p><u>The Red Sleeve 1, 2 Script Book Set</u></p> <p>Author Jung Hae-Rhee Publisher Chungeoram Genre Art / Pop Culture</p>
8		<p><u>Olje Classics - 41st Set</u></p> <p>Author Zhang Juzheng, Adolf Hitler, Johann Gottlieb Fichte Publisher Olje Classics Genre Liberal Arts</p>
8		<p><u>Our Beloved Summer 1 Script Book</u></p> <p>Author Lee Na-Eun Publisher Gimmyoung Genre Art / Pop Culture</p>

Top 10 Bestsellers for the 3rd Week of January

8



Tokyo Revengers 19

Author | Ken Wakui
 Publisher | Haksan Publishing
 Genre | Comics

Top 5 Health Books for the 3rd Week of January

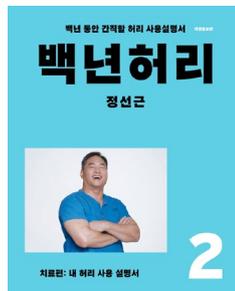
1



Reset Your Moves Rather Than Exercising

Author | Hong Jung-Ki
 Publisher | EBS BOOKS

2



Managing Your Waist for 100 Years 2: Treatment

Author | Chung Sun-Geun
 Publisher | Untangling

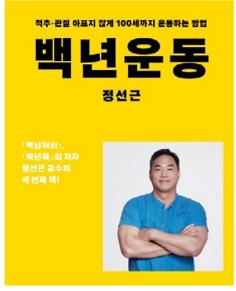
2



1 Minute a Day for Your Eyes

Author | Yamaguchi Gojo
 Publisher | Untangling

Top 5 Health Books for the 3rd Week of January

4		<p><u><i>Managing Your Waist for 100 Years 1: Diagnosis</i></u></p> <p>Author Chung Sun-Geun Publisher Untangling</p>
4		<p><u><i>Exercising for 100 Years</i></u></p> <p>Author Chung Sun-Geun Publisher Artisan</p>

KOREAN TRANSLATOR

Sungrye Han (한성례, 韓成禮)

Profile

She was born in Jeongeup, Jeollabuk-do, South Korea. Translator (Japanese-Korean), Poet.

She has translated many Japanese literary works into Korean and many Korean literary works into Japanese. This work includes more than 200 volumes, such as poems, novels, essays, poem anthologies, books for children, humanity books, self-enlightenment books and scientific books. In particular, she has translated many poems and books of Poetry between Korea and Japan.

Korean textbooks used in Korean high schools contain several of her translations for educational purposes.

She has translated and introduced Korean and Japanese poems in various literary magazines between the two countries since 1990.

Then, from 1990 to 2000, she selected the poems of representative poets in Korea and Japan and published four anthologies in Korean and Japanese, respectively. She translated all of these anthologies into Korean and Japanese by herself. Whenever her anthologies were published, Korean and Japanese poets held international literary seminars and poetry festivals together, all of which she hosted. In addition to that, she worked as an interpreter and translator for several major literary festivals between Korea, China, and Japan.

Among them, she took charge of all literary events, including translation and interpretation, for four occasions, including the Korea, China, and Japan Poetry Festival and the International Literature Festival, which were held in time for the 23rd Pyeongchang Winter Olympics in 2018.



She translated Korean poetry into Japanese, and for the first time in over 100 years since modern literature began in Asia, Korean poetry and Korean literature have been widely introduced in major Japanese newspapers, including Japan's *Asahi Newspaper*. In particular, her Japanese translation made the poet Ahn Dohyun widely known in Japan. In addition, essays were serialized daily for three months in *Nishi-Nippon Paper*, a major Japanese newspaper, which was also a first in Japan.

And among the books she selected and translated into Korean, *A Liter of Tears, If the World Was a Village of 100 People*, and *Another Roman Story* became bestsellers, selling about 1 million copies.

And to train translators, she gave lectures in the 'Japanese translator's training course' from 2010 to 2014 at the 'Hankyoreh Cultural Center' of the *Hankyoreh newspaper*.

She served as an adjunct professor of Japanese studies in the Department of International and Regional Studies at the Graduate School of Policy Science at Sejong University, and is currently an adjunct professor at Sejong Cyber University.

- E-mail: hansungrea@naver.com
- Homepage: blog.naver.com/kudara21

Translated Works

- Korean-Japanese

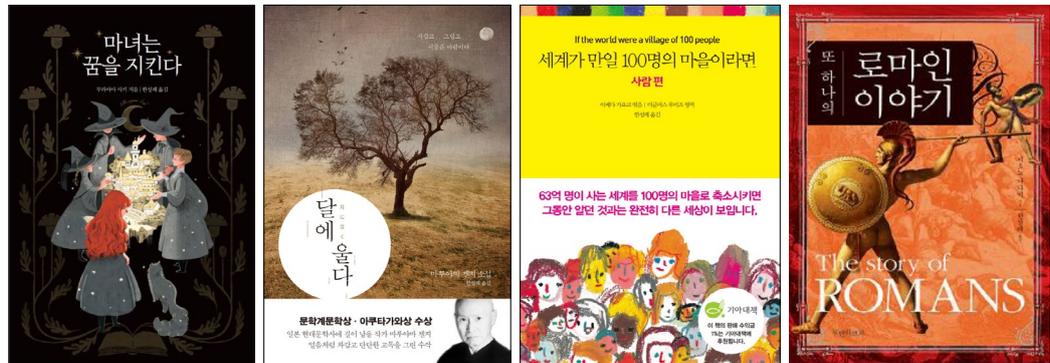
- Song Chan-ho's Poems *Red Pigs* (Shoshi kanbo, 2021)
- Kim Yeong-nang's Poems (Toyobizechusha, 2019)
- Kim Gyeong-ju's Play Script - *A wolf's eyeballs grow first* (Nonshosha, 2018)
- Kim Ki-taek's Poems - *The Storm in the Eye of a Needle* (Shichosha, 2014)



- Japanese-Korean

- *Witches protect dreams* (Novel by Saki Muraya, Seacube, 2021)
- *Crying to the Moon* (Novel by Kenji Maruyama, consonants and vowels, 2020)
- *If the World were a Village of 100* (Vol. 1, Essays by Kayoko Ikeda, Kukil Media, 2018)
- *Another Roman Story* (The History of Nanami Shiono, Buen Libro, 2007)

- In addition, there are translations of 200 passports between Korea and Japan.



Written Works

- Publication of Korean poetry book: *Beautiful woman in the laboratory* (Modernism, 1992), *Smiling flowers* (Hwanggumal, 2018)
- Publication of Japanese poetry book: *The Sky in the Yellowish Red Korean Skirt* (Seijusha, 1997), *Drama of the Light* (Seijusha, 2009)
- Publication Dutch poetry book: *Gedichten voor onderweg* (*Poems for on the road*) (Hannie Rouweler (Netherlands) & Sungrye Han (Korea)), *Joint Authorship* (Netherlands, Demer Press, 2021)
- Publication of Korean Historical essay: *The Formation of the Ancient Nation in Japan and Japanese oldest anthology Manyo-shu* (Hwanggumal, 2017) Etc.

Research Paper

- *Examining Japan's Legal Responsibility regarding the 'Comfort Women' Question - with a Focus on the Kato Statement and the Kono Statement* (Journal of Law and Judicial System, Volume 1 No. 2, 2018)
- *Emperor Keitai and his era* (Japanese Studies, No. 49, September 2011)
- *The formation and study of the ancient nation of Japan* (Japanese Cultural Studies, No. 39, 2011)

Participation in Anthology and Mook from Around the World

- *World Poetry Tree*, Anthology (UAE, Almaserah Media & Heritage Consultation, 2022.1)
- *WORLD POETS female voices*, Anthology (Netherlands, Demer Press, 2021.2)
- *The Female Voices WOMANIA*, Anthology (India, AABS Publishing, 2020.12)
- *Современост (Modernity)*, 70th Anniversary Mook (Macedonia, Современост, 2020.12)
- *Литературен свят (The literary world)* (Bulgaria, Литературен свят, No131, 2020.9)
- *Flowers of Tomorrow*, Anthology (Netherlands, Demer Press, 2020.9)
- *AZAHAR REVISTA POETICA* (Spain, Calaméo, No. 104~110, 2020.1~2021.3)

- *PRIMERA PÁGINA REVISTA*, Monthly Mook (Mexico, PRIMERA, 2020.1)
- *ATUNIS GALAXY POETRY*, Monthly Mook (Belgium, ATUNIS, 2020.1~2020.12)
- *LA POESIA DELLA SETTIMANA GOZZANO* (Italy, italian-poetry, No. 404, 2019.11)

Newspaper Interview

- *Seoul Newspaper*, 2016 (www.seoul.co.kr/news/newsView.php?id=20160620021004)
- *Dong-A Newspaper*, 2013 (www.donga.com/news/article/all/20130828/57265095/1)
- *Dong-A Newspaper*, 2008 (www.donga.com/news/article/all/20081024/8648211/1)
- *Segye Newspaper*, 2006 (www.segye.com/newsView/20060816000750)

Pod-cast Invitation Interview

- Invitation to the 354th edition of the Korean Culture and Arts Committee to share texts and literature (munjang.or.kr/archives/187599)

Education

- Graduated from the Department of Japanese Language and Literature at Sejong University.
- Graduated from Sejong University's Graduate School of Policy Science, Department of International Relations, Master's Degree in Japan.

Awards and Grants

- IFCH GOLDEN-CREATIVITY AWARD 2021 (International Alliance Morocco Mexicain Culture Art Humanity and Peace Foundation, 2021)
- SILVER SHIELD Award 2021 (Unión Hispanomundial de Escritores-UHE (THE WORLD HISPANIC UNION OF WRITERS-UHE), 2021)
- Selected in the liberal arts section of the Sejong Excellent Book by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Korea (Korea Arts Council, 2019)
- Shitsozo Literary Award (2009, Japan)
- Heo Nanseolheon Literary Award (1994, Korea)
- 'Poem and Consciousness' Newcomer Literary Award (1986, Korea)
- In addition, She received grants for the translation of eight books from the LTI Korean Literature Translation Institute and the Daesan Cultural Foundation.

#K-BOOK

#K-Webtoon Drama

KPIPA Introduces K-Books for Global Publishing Markets through K-Book Platform

Your Letter

1. Publication Details

Title | Your Letter
Author | Cho Hyeona
Publisher | SONBOM BOOKS
Publication Date | 2019-05-27
ISBN | 9791196155711
No. of pages | 264
Dimensions | 148 * 210

2. Copyright Contact

Name | NAVER WEBTOON Ltd.
Email | dl_webtoonpub@webtoonscorp.com
Phone | +82-31-784-1193

3. Book Intro

A magical time came with a letter.

In a strange and fearful moment, one letter arrived as if drawing me in to the mystery written inside. Will I be able to meet you only if I follow the letter?

The main character, Sori, is still an outsider at her new school, where she transferred to avoid the school violence at her previous school. But one day, she finds a letter hidden inside her desk and everything starts to change. The letter, from an unknown person, explains the school's shortcuts, classmates' faces and name tags, and the characteristics of the teacher, and encourages Sori to quickly



adapt to the new school.

* k-book.or.kr/user/books/books_view?idx=2218

Having a Dog (Complete Series, Vol. 1-3)

1. Publication Details

Title | Having a Dog (Complete Series, Vol. 1-3)

Subtitle | From Hello to Goodbye

Author | Lee Seon

Publisher | Wisdomhouse Mediagroup Inc.

Publication Date | 2019-09-25

ISBN | 9791190305068

No. of pages | 812

Dimensions | 150 * 216

2. Copyright Contact

Name | Julia Kwon

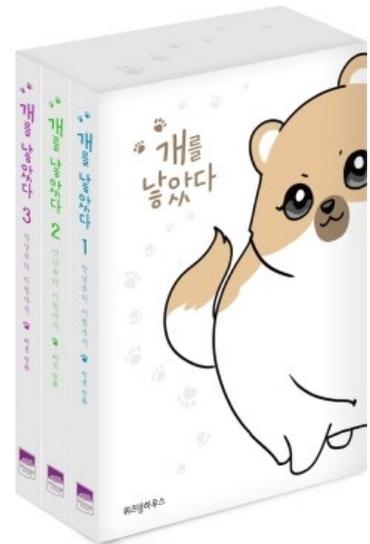
Email | ohappyday@wisdomhouse.co.kr

Phone | +82-31-936-4199

3. Book Intro

A popular webtoon series that has been in publication on Naver since June 2018, *Having a Dog* is about the various life changes that the author, a freelance illustrator, experienced after adopting a Pomeranian named Myeongdong.

* k-book.or.kr/user/books/books_view?idx=4547



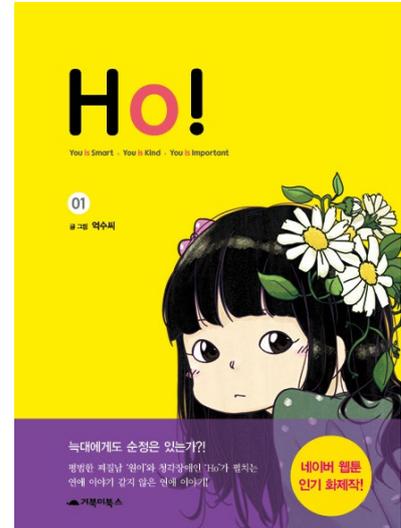
Ho! (Vol. 1)

1. Publication Details

Title | Ho! (Vol. 1)
Author | Eoksu-si
Publisher | GOBOOKY BOOKS Co. Ltd.
Publication Date | 2015-02-01
ISBN | 9788966071197; 9788966071364;
9788966071425
No. of pages | 312
Dimensions | 152 * 210

2. Copyright Contact

Name | Oh Wonyoung
Email | owy0209@naver.com
Phone | +82-10-4050-2662



3. Book Intro

Ho! is a cartoon that brings to mind a long list of words that make you feel good. It was one of the most popular webtoons on Naver during its serialization, and reading it in book form is a whole new experience. The storyline flows more naturally, engaging the reader as intended by the author, who had the book form in mind. The sophisticated use of empty space and details makes readers feel as though they're looking at watercolor paintings. *Ho!* is an extraordinary cartoon that leaves one feeling healed and happy, which is a rare thing in an era deluged with stimulating but short-lived content.

Eoksu-si, the cartoonist, has shed a warm light on the difficult lives of the youth living in this era. In this book, he does the same with the love story between Won, an ordinary guy and Ho, a lovely girl who is hearing impaired. The story unfolds naturally from past to present, like a trip down memory lane. It is engaging without exaggeration, making it easy for readers to sympathize with the characters's thoughts and feelings.

The sophistication of the artwork, as well as the subtle charm of the dialogue, touch the sensibility of the reader with even greater power in the book form. It's a beautiful book you'll want to keep by your side at all times.

* k-book.or.kr/user/books/books_view?idx=2548

No Need to Be Dazzling (Vol. 1- 3)

1. Publication Details

Title | No Need to Be Dazzling (Vol. 1-3)

Author | Kkamajung

Publisher | NEXUS Co., Ltd.

Publication Date | 2020-08-10

ISBN | 9791190927178

No. of pages | 700

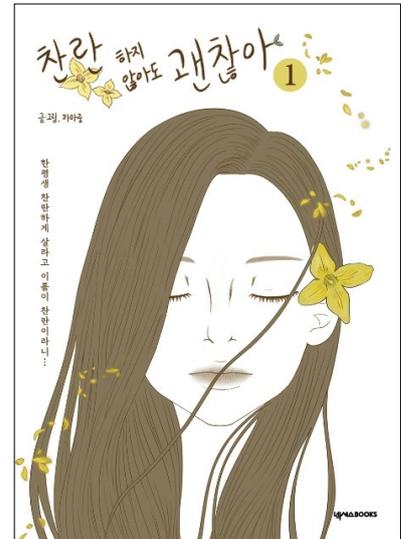
Dimensions | 154 * 215

2. Copyright Contact

Name | NAVER WEBTOON Ltd.

Email | dl_webtoonpub@webtooncorp.com

Phone | +82-31-784-1193



3. Book Intro

This is the highly acclaimed web comic series No Need to Be Dazzling published as a book. The series was lauded for its comforting story-telling during its run.

Lee Chan-lan is a college student who considers a cup of coffee or eating out to be a luxury. One day, people in a theater troupe who appear to have had perfect childhoods, begin to have an impact on her dull daily life. Chan-lan, who pushes them away thinking that they are part of a world very much different from hers, gradually opens her mind after realizing that they're not so different from her, scars and all.

* k-book.or.kr/user/books/books_view?idx=4799

Amanza (Complete Series, Vol. 1-5)

1. Publication Details

Title | Amanza (Complete Series, Vol. 1-5)

Author | Kim Botong

Publisher | Wisdomhouse Mediagroup Inc.

Publication Date | 2015-10-10

ISBN | 9788959138395

No. of pages | 1192

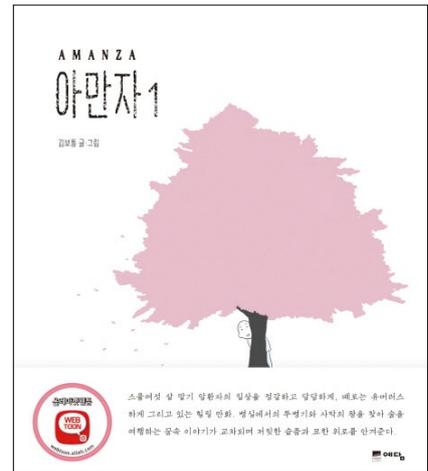
Dimensions | 170 * 194

2. Copyright Contact

Name | Julia Kwon

Email | ohappyday@wisdomhouse.co.kr

Phone | +82-31-936-4199



3. Book Intro

The late father of author Kim Bo-tong was the inspiration for this work. After his father died of cancer, Kim suddenly quit his job. While contemplating what to do next, he drew a picture in his notebook and felt pleasure for the first time. That's how Kim became a cartoonist. He constantly reminisced on the times he shared with his father and created *Amanza* as if he were writing a letter to him. His work has now reached to countries beyond Korea such as the United States and Japan. *Amanza*, a series that was a topic of daily discussion on *HuffPost* and the Japanese website for Lezhin Comics, has established itself as a work of healing that has touched the hearts of countless people around the world.

* k-book.or.kr/user/books/books_view?idx=4549

Tale of Fairy (Vol. 1-5)

1. Publication Details

Title | Tale of Fairy (Vol. 1-5)

Author | Dolbae

Publisher | Wisdomhouse Mediagroup Inc.

Publication Date | 2018-07-05

ISBN | 9788960863118

No. of pages | 1464

Dimensions | 155 * 217

2. Copyright Contact

Name | NAVER WEBTOON Ltd.

Email | dl_webtoonpub@webtooncorp.com

Phone | +82-31-784-1193



3. Book Intro

This is the original web comic of the 2018 tvN K-drama *Tale of Fairy* published in book form. It's a fantasy romance that captivated readers' hearts through a re-telling of the classic Korean folktale *The Fairy and the Woodsman* in the modern age.

Tam Lang-seong, who's waited for 699 years on Mt. Gyeryong, always waiting for her husband to reincarnate, runs a café using the coffee-making skills she learned from the god of coffee. One day, she follows two men from Seoul back to the capital where she begins to experience romance.

* k-book.or.kr/user/books/books_view?idx=4860

Awl

1. Publication Details

Title | *Awl*
Author | Choi Kyusok
Publisher | Changbi Publishers, Inc.
Publication Date | 2017-11-13
ISBN | 9788936479688
No. of pages | 1308
Dimensions | 153 * 215

2. Copyright Contact

Name | Ally Bang
Email | Ally.Bang@changbi.com
Phone | +82-2-70-4838-4971



3. Book Intro

The story is set in the late 2000s, in the French-headquartered supermarket "Purumi." The story has two main characters: Lee Soo-in, who was ordered to fire people, and the labor activist Gu Go-sin. Lee is a type of person who strictly follows rules and principles, and do not hide his discomforts when he saw injustice. But to live quietly, he leaves army and chooses an ordinary job. But as the company orders him to dismiss employees without fair reasons, he once again stands up against the world. Gu Go-sin is a cold-hearted, experienced labor activist who runs a consulting office for workers near Purumi. Unlike Lee, who is conservative and does not get along well with people, Gu does not hesitate to approach people and sometimes do whatsoever if he could get what he wants. The book is a story about how the two help "nice and common" people open their eyes to their rights and how they change together.

Other characters add realism to the story. Joo Kang-min is trustworthy and helps Lee and Gu. Jung Mincheol, Lee's supervisor, is an ivy-league graduate and envious of Lee. Nam Donghyup enthusiastically participates in the labor protest but is hostile to Lee. And Yoo Jonghak, the union leader, is tired of never-ending battles. These three-dimensional characters created by the artist's insight into human beings is another attraction of *Awl*.

* k-book.or.kr/user/books/books_view?idx=2220

Navillera (Complete Series, Vol. 1-5)

1. Publication Details

Title | Navillera (Complete Series, Vol. 1-5)

Author | Choi Jong-hun

Publisher | Wisdomhouse Mediagroup Inc.

Publication Date | 2017-11-30

ISBN | 9788960863736

No. of pages | 1512

Dimensions | 154 * 224

2. Copyright Contact

Name | Julia Kwon

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Phone | +82-31-936-4199



3. Book Intro

This is the complete book of the webtoon Navillera, the only work to achieve a perfect score since Daum Webtoon implemented a rating system. Toward the end of his life, 70-year-old Shim Deok-chul attempts to realize his dream of becoming a ballerino. After seeking out a ballet company to learn to dance, Shim meets Chae-rok, a young man who has suffered an injury that ended up causing himself to cast doubt on his own dreams. Although seemingly different at first, Shim and Chae-rok learn to understand each other through ballet and build a friendship that crosses the age gap. Shim's illness worsens with each passing day, further exacerbating his anxiety. Nevertheless, he tries his hardest for his family, the people around him, and his own dream so that he doesn't leave any room for regrets.

* k-book.or.kr/user/books/books_view?idx=4548

My Sweet Little Child

1. Publication Details

Title | My Sweet Little Child
Author | Lee Mugi
Publisher | YOUNG COM Co.,Ltd
Publication Date | 2014-03-26
ISBN | 9791185193083
No. of pages | 288
Dimensions | 145 * 200

2. Copyright Contact

Name | Lee Mugi
Email | toon@iyoungcom.com
Phone | +82-2-6741-1756



3. Book Intro

A story about exploitation and comfort women issues in Korea during the Japanese occupation period. It tells the story of an ordinary 14-year-old girl in a poor rural village in Korea in 1942, when Japanese colonial rule reached its peak. At the time the series was published, *Pampered* was highly praised for tackling historical issues in a webtoon and was regarded as a must-read work for Korean children.

* k-book.or.kr/user/books/books_view?idx=4834

Women's Sauna Report (Complete Series, Vol. 1-2)

1. Publication Details

Title | Women's Sauna Report (Complete Series, Vol. 1-2)

Author | Milo

Publisher | Wisdomhouse Mediagroup Inc.

Publication Date | 2016-01-10

ISBN | 9788959139989

No. of pages | 600

Dimensions | 140 * 200



2. Copyright Contact

Name | Julia Kwon

Email | ohappyday@wisdomhouse.co.kr

Phone | +82-31-936-4199

3. Book Intro

Milo, the author who visited more than 30 public baths while living in a famous hot spring town in Busan, created this book with the idea that "A person who enjoys public baths should naturally write a story about bathing." Milo has been the talk of the town since her debut thanks to her unique personality and outstanding creativity, and through this work, she shows off her sense of humor and draws in readers into a world of women's public baths.

* k-book.or.kr/user/books/books_view?idx=4550

INFO

2022 Visiting Korean Book Fair



Host a 'Visiting Korean Book Fair'

KPIPA is promoting the '2022 Visiting Korean Book Fair' businesses to invigorate overseas expansion and reinforce global competitiveness of domestic publishing contents.



'Visiting Korean Book Fair' is a business that was changed online consultation to Covid-19 in 2021.



In 2021, it held one-on-one meetings with Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Russia, France, Belgium and United States through online video consultations using K-Book platform for publishing and export.



In 2022, Visit publishing professionals from abroad such as Russia, Vietnam, Japan and USA organize one-on-one on-off meeting between Korean and overseas publishers.

We will continue to make every endeavor to Globalize K-book, participate in international book fairs, increase copyright sales and exchanges.



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