

[Download] The Concubine's Tattoo (Sano Ichiro Novels)

The Concubine's Tattoo (Sano Ichiro Novels)

Von Laura Joh Rowland

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Von Laura Joh Rowland : The Concubine's Tattoo (Sano Ichiro Novels) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Concubine's Tattoo (Sano Ichiro Novels):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Rich and

TexturedVon ShawnaLanneThe Concubine's Tattoo offers everything that I need in a mystery. It is set in an exotic, fascinating era, 17th century Japan. It has an engaging mystery, about the death of one of Shoguns concubines, Harume while she is illicitly tattooing her lovers' name in a secret place and there are many possible suspects. The main characters in the story are interesting and sympathetic people. She opens the story at the lead character, Sano Ichiro's arranged wedding to Reiko, a Japanese woman with a mind of her own. The untimely death of Harume interrupts the wedding festivities and immediately set Sano and Reiko in conflict because of their different ideas of where a woman's place is. There are many great subplots woven throughout the story and Rowland has managed to make Ichiro's enemy, Chamberlain Yanagisawa, a richly drawn and sympathetic character without losing his menace. Actually all of the important secondary characters are given a nice depth, as well as the main characters. This was the fourth book in a Series of books about Sano Ichiro's work as the Shogun's investigator and the first that I have read. I am not a regular mystery reader, the plots are usually a bit too predictable for me and I do not like the genre enough to put up with shoddy writing. This book however, and I hope the series, was engaging on several different levels. While it is a stand-alone book it definitely peaked my interest in finding and reading all of the books in this series. This is an author that I look forward to enjoying for years to come.1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Historical mystery can cause samurai night feverVon Bill PeschelThe Tokugawa shogunate in the 17th century has been a setting for a number of memorable works: the samurai films of Akira Kurosawa, Eiji Yoshikawa's epic novel "Mushashi," and James Clavell's "Shogun." It's also the setting for this series of four novels by Laura Joh Rowland featuring Sano Ichiro, the most honorable investigator to the shogun. When the shogun's favorite concubine is found poisoned, the discovery interrupts Sano's wedding feast as well as unleash a host of concerns. Was the killing an attempt to keep the shogun from begetting an heir? Will someone use the crime as a pretext for getting a rival out of the way? Sano has good reason to be doubly concerned about the case: failure to find the culprit could mean a visit to the execution ground for himself, his assistant and his family. Sano is also distracted by his bride, who is as spirited and unconventional as a 17th-century Katharine Hepburn. Their journey toward accommodation and compromise form a major part of the book. One word of warning: many forms of copulation show up in "The Concubine's Tattoo," and its explicitness may prove unsettling to regular readers of the genre.2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Another goodie by Mrs. Rowland!Von Ein KundeWhat I want to know is why are some of these reviewers panning this book because it contains sexual abuse and acts? The title of this book is "The CONCUBINE'S Tattoo" for crissakes! What do you expect to read from a book involving CONCUBINES? You don't see people innocently renting the the movie "Die Hard" and then turn around and slam it only because it contains violence, do you? And about the child abuse, we can't deny that sick and twisted acts such as this happen and weren't questioned in those days. Touchy subjects such as child abuse, racism, and violence shouldn't be censored from, nor require some ridiculous warning labels for books that are catered to mature readers in the first place. Just stop reading if you are that sensitive to such issues. Now that I got that out of the way, I just want to say how much I love Rowland's work. She's one of those authors who's work I would pick up from the shelf just because her name is on it! I don't know if every historical account in this book is accurate (and I don't care because if I were searching for accuracy, I would go to a nonfictional history book), but it is certainly fun to read a mystery that doesn't take place in cliché modern day streets of Manhattan/Los Angeles/any trendy city. Why didn't I give it five stars? I felt that the previous books "Shinju" and "Bundori" were a lot stronger and rank supreme to "The Concubine's Tattoo". Also, I miss Sano's previous love interest, Aoi. I can't wait to see what that lowdown slime of a villain, Chamberlain Yanagisawa is going to do next to my favorite detective in the upcoming "The Samurai's Wife". I will be first in line for that one!

KurzbeschreibungA richly crafted novel set in seventeenth-century Japan, Laura Joh Rowland's The Concubine's Tattoo unfolds with all the excitement of a superb murder mystery and a sweeping, sensuous portrait of an exotic land. Sano Ichiro, the Shogun's most honorable investigator, is summoned to the imperial palace to find the murderer of Harume, a young concubine poisoned while applying a lover's tattoo. Sano's new bride, Reiko, insists on helping him with the case. Reiko's samurai blood and warrior's skill alarm her new husband, who expected a docile wife. But Reiko is only the first of many surprises...As subtle as the finest lacquered screen, as powerful as the slash of a sword, The Concubine's Tattoo vividly brings to life a story of murder, jealousy, sexual intrigue, and political storms that keeps us under its spell until the final, shattering scene.From Publishers WeeklyRowland once again delivers a mystery laden with details of period and place, with strong portrayals of palace intrigue in 17th-century Japan. Sano Ichiro has risen to the rank of Most Honorable Investigator for the shogun in 1690 Japan. As his fourth adventure (after 1997's The Way of the Traitor) begins, he is marrying the beautiful Lady Ueda Reiko. The wedding is interrupted by the sudden death of Hamune, one of the shogun's concubines, the victim of poisoned ink that Hamune used to give herself an intimate tattoo. Sano's investigation requires extraordinary skill and care, for failure in a case involving the shogun's household could mean his death. Suspects include Yanagisawa, Sano's bitter rival for the shogun's favor; a young officer who loved Harume; and other concubines who had much to lose as Harume gained the shogun's affections.

Meanwhile, Reiko rebels against the submissive role of Japanese wife and insists on helping in the investigation. The book suffers, as Rowland's previous novels have, from a common hazard of historical mysteries: the pace is weighed down by the very details with which the author so painstakingly bedecks her narrative. Even so, Rowland's understanding of the society she depicts shines through, and she succeeds in presenting Sano as an intriguing combination of wiliness and decency, making this a good bet for fans of historicals as well as of mysteries past. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist

Suspects abound in Rowland's fourth mystery set in seventeenth-century Edo (Tokyo). After surviving the dangers described in *The Way of the Traitor* (1997), Sano Ichiro, the shogun's Most Honorable Investigator of Events, Situations, and People, hopes that nothing will interfere with the celebrations surrounding his arranged marriage to Reiko Ueda, the only daughter of a local magistrate. His desire is thwarted when his wedding feast is interrupted by news of the death of a concubine in the women's quarters at Edo Castle. Sano must tiptoe carefully through palace intrigues and jealousies as he sorts through suspects' alibis. Most important, Sano must come to an accommodation with his well-educated, highly intelligent young wife, who is determined to assist him in discovering the murderer. Despite a few instances of overwrought prose, Rowland offers fascinating glimpses into the culture of medieval Japan, especially into the thankless lives of women. A good choice for fans of historical mysteries. Nancy Pearl