

Freezing Point By Ayako Miura Things like how much one's character and/or choices in life are determined by one's bloodline and the role that societal expectations plays in one's behavior and relations with others.



[Welcome to the World of Ayako Miura](#) [Ayako Miura \(Wikipedia\)](#) [Freezing Point](#)
The translation was done by a Japanese speaker into English so the text feels tedious and awkward at times. 9780933704299 我覺得冰點的作者厲害的地方是把人物的心境描寫的很詳細，包含仇恨、嫉妒、包容以及陷在寬恕和憎恨兩難的情緒。我不太喜歡看到冷冰冰、壓抑又灰暗的劇情，通常遇到這樣的內容得分好幾次才能把書看完，但冰點的作者節奏掌控的很好，讓我可以再看到快要窒息的時候，又再加把勁的看下去。The husband seeking to gain revenge on his wife for being negligent when she was to be watching their daughter adopts the child of the murderer after the murderer commits suicide. It really is a shame that the translation is so stilted as the authors voice is less clear than it should be but Miura has told such a deep and wonderful story that even a rough translation is worth working through. The set-up which I have vastly over-simplified to save others some of the inspired twists and turns is about a husband who after discovering his wife is having an affair tricks her into raising a daughter that is not hers. It's a wild ride full of surprises - murder and shipwrecks and incest - but also full of heartache and joy and tenderness - all crowned with a beautifully ambiguous ending. This kind of story probably wouldn't work in a Western country where bloodlines are not so sacrosanct where adoption is common where Christian values of neighborly love outweigh Confucian values of family and tradition but that is precisely the point. It's subtle and effective so subtle and effective that it has become a revered classic in a non-Christian country with the same regard that say The Great Gatsby has acquired in the U. I suppose if I had to compare Miura Ayako to an English writer I might choose Somerset Maugham for they are both deeply moralistic writers writing realistically with psychological insight and a great flair for scandalous story-telling. 9780933704299 The English translation of the book Freezing Point is currently out-of-print but since I have immense respect for the author (Ayako Miura) I thought it would be worth it to track this book down. com for about \$160 so I knew I didn't want to purchase the book! And of course living in Japan there's not much access to good old interlibrary loan! So I was really excited when we were visiting friends in Sendai over New Years and they had a copy on their shelves. I mean literally after every quotation there's one of these! Another example is that the translators waffle between making the English too colloquial (calling male friends chums or gents) and using language that is too formal (calling their children our offspring). 9780933704299 꼭 한 번은 눈 덮인 홋카이도에 가보고 싶게 만든 책 :) 표지가 왜 이렇게 생겼는지 모르겠네 호러물 아님 9780933704299 In many respects this novel is like Japanese fiction by such well known authors as Soseki Taniguchi or Kawabata: a slow moving if not ponderous plot with an intense focus on the inner lives of many of its characters punctuated by periodic melodramatic events. For those who have seen Kabuki theater and/or modern day dramas produced for Japanese TV this will feel familiar etc are powerfully depicted and quietly critiqued for the most part in the context of the plot, For others this methodical at times overly dramatic style may tax their patience. This was especially true for me given that the book was almost 500 pages long, The authors noted above often tell their tales quite skillfully in less than 200 pages: In the context of the

plot Miura portrays elements of Japanese society that are almost as relevant today as they were in the post WWII era when the story takes place: I also think there were quite a few side trails that didn't contribute to the overall plot: Not exactly a lighthearted read but I am glad that I did finish: I first read it when we were in Japan and eventually tracked down a copy for a somewhat reasonable price when we got back to the states: (Currently used copies are selling between \$55-\$133 while a new copy will cost you between \$175 and \$230). It is terribly sad that more people will not get to read this book, Let's get one thing out of the way: the translation is really rough (to be kind), It swings from being too literal and formal to being too colloquial. It awkwardly translates certain words (for example Japanese straw mats for tatami) and inserts cultural notes into the text that would be better as foot or endnotes. I appreciate the concern to bridge some of the cultural gaps between the English speaking world and Japan but this makes the translation cumbersome and at times tedious, Great stories show us how to live and teach us about life. This book shows how difficult it is to love our enemies (the life slogan of the husband) and the terrible effects of sin and hatred. Miura was a Japanese Christian author who has a had a surprising level of influence in her home country. In this her first novel she paints a picture of sin and redemption that is subtle and beautiful. Like Lewis and Tolkien Miura tells a story with deep redemptive themes: The book resonates with our experience as the very best of novels do. The book effectively communicates the Gospel through the telling of a wonderful story a story so beautiful that it has become quite popular in its home country: Hyoten (Freezing Point) has been produced as a drama for television three time since the novel's publication: This is a beautiful book and I hope more people get the chance to read it: 9780933704299 Although it is standard high-school reading in Japan the works of Miura Ayako are unknown in the States and that's a pity: Freezing Point was recommended by a Japanese friend of mine and it's truly a great work despite the poor translation that was full of misspellings and grammatical errors: It's a vengeful and malicious act that goes terribly wrong - or right depending on your point of view - and never in ways that you expect, Miura Ayako as a child was a militant patriot who believed in the idea of a superior Japanese spirit: After Japan's devastating defeat in WWII she turned to nihilism gave up on life and later was only revived again by her discovery of Christianity. This is a novel about Christian values set in modern Japan: But perhaps more importantly it is incredibly entertaining - afterall if you aren't entertained all the philosophy and symbolism in the world will not save your novel: Despite the awkward prose style that is almost certainly a result of the poor translation this novel is still a page-turner that packs a wallop of an ending: As a gift to all those who are after a little more than mere entertainment it's all woven together with philosophic threads. A terrific novel that every American ought to read as well. They've let me borrow the book! I think I perhaps I understand now why the book is out of print, I discovered that unfortunately the translation job is quite awkward:For example during all dialogue there are tiresome uses of . In all of my reading of other translations of Ayako Miura's work I've never noticed these patterns: In fact other translations of her work have been so natural that they really go completely unnoticed. In her other novels it feels as if Miura herself is speaking loud and clear, You cannot mask the fact that Freezing Point is an amazing story: It is a true drama that takes the reader on an intense psychological journey. The quality of the story I think is evidenced by the fact that this book has been made into at least 3 different Japanese movies (1966 2001 2006), Through this story Miura brings the reader into a world where sins and misunderstandings are never discussed, One sees in tortorous detail how harbored bitterness seeps into the soul and grows to murderous proportions, I found Miura's descriptions of the thoughts of a woman's heart very convincing -- eerily familiar in some ways: She really is an incredible artist at capturing the human psyche in regards to hurt revenge redemption & restoration. 9780933704299 This book is all about forgiveness in principle and how forgiveness work IRL. I happened to buy one copy from a 2nd hand book fair and did not expect such a quality read for its value. It was a bit far more dramatic than it should for my taste but the story is haunting and yes I actually cried at the end, 9780933704299 I re-read the Chinese translation of Freezing Point 冰點, I liked this book better when I was younger back in the days when I was more melodrama; I think I cried a lot the last time I read it. Forgiveness is

the word keep popping into my mind as I read the book. But I guess if everyone practice forgiveness and repentance there would be no story to tell. This allows for the gradual unfolding of their true natures with impressive depth and subtlety: I agree with those Goodreads reviewers who noted the inadequacy of the editing/ translation. On a relatively minor but still troubling level there are a smattering of typos and an occasional inappropriate use of prepositions, On a more significant level the prose particularly the conversations between characters is often awkward. As I speak conversational Japanese with modest fluency I could tell that the translators were trying too hard to faithfully convert the Japanese into English, In doing so the interactions between the characters in English seemed stilted: Another aspect of poor editing was the inconsistency in explaining Japanese culture and/or customs, This would be confusing if not frustrating for readers unfamiliar with Japanese culture, Finally there is one other element of the novel which deserves mention: Christianity. In a brief autobiographical sketch at the end of the book it is noted that Miura was a member of that faith: I would not agree however with the sketch's praise for the manner in which she portrayed this aspect of the story. Or perhaps it was because of the fact that Christians only make up about 1% of the population in Japan. Ie Miura might have been uncertain or reluctant as to whether/how to integrate that element more fully into the plot. This last fact the poor translation and the sometimes melodramatic aspects to the plot left me less satisfied than I otherwise might have been with this novel: Fortunately some of her other work has been translated into English, I will give at least one of these a try in the coming months. For those interested in Christianity in the context of Japanese society I would recommend the novels of Shusaku Endo, He was a believer who created some powerful portrayals of what it might be like for a follower of Christ to live in Japan. So much thought was put into this book which I really admire. however I could not say that the reading experience was pleasurable. Perhaps I'm a coward for not wanting to read more about human's ugly nature when I already know about it (laughs): I felt extremely uncomfortable countless times and there were some moments that I seriously contemplated whether to stop reading this book, Rather than impressing me the grey areas in this story sadly makes me disgusted instead. The plot is heavy whilst most of the characters are certainly not people I would like to meet in real life. I simply could not accept many of the actions or decisions they make as I cannot and will not comprehend them: They stem so much rage in me it's astonishing! I might give the second book a chance[1]

If not comfortable. 很讚的故事 9780933704299 This is my favorite novel. It desperately needs a new translation. I hope that I see that occur in my lifetime. This is a beautiful book. It is the story of a couple whose daughter is murdered. What then unfolds is a complex psychological story. S. This past year it has been selling on Amazon. he said gently .she said lamely .he bellowed loudly .he replied limply. Here in Freezing Point the translation calls attention to itself. It gets in the way. Don't get me wrong though. Miura still shines through. The translator explained some things in parentheses. But much was presented without any annotation. For me it was alluded to but not really explored. Perhaps this was because this was her first published book. For that reason I would give it a 3.5 rating. 9780933704299 2.75 stars. 9780933704299.