

DOWNLOAD PDF THE CONCUBINES TATTOO (A SANO ICHIRO MYSTERY)

Chapter 1 : The Concubine's Tattoo - Hawaii State Public Library System - OverDrive

Sano Ichiro is back in Edo, getting his wedding festivities interrupted by the death of the Shogun's favorite concubine. The period detail and mystery were good, as usual -- Laura Joh Rowland is a master of misdirection -- but as the book progressed, I was starting to get a little tired of all the sex.

So, fair warning, major spoilers below. Hoshina, in *Red Chrysanthemum* tries to murder Sano in a pool of lye. Sano manages to take him out instead. Reiko, who was allowed to train in martial arts by her father and often finds herself in a situation where she must fight her way out. With this many swords and murders going around, it should be no surprise a few regular characters have met their end. Senior council member Makino, who is the victim of the crime. Hoshina, decapitated by Sano after trying to murder him via a lye bath. Lord Matsudaira, who commits seppuku after being tricked by Yanagisawa. Yoritomo, trying to rescue the shogun from being held hostage. The *Iris Fan*, as the last book, has quite a few. The shogun himself is the victim of an attack that brings Sano back to court; he eventually succumbs to his injuries, though the official cause of his death is measles. Hirata fights against the spirit of General Otani, literally tearing his body to pieces in the process and keeps him from killing Sano. Yanagisawa and Sano finally have it out in a full on battle to the death Sano stabs Yanagisawa and is rid of his rival once and for all. Sano and Reiko, as is typical of the time period. Theirs luckily turns into Happily Married. Arranged marriages on the whole are standard, particularly nobility. *Miai*, or a meeting to arrange a marriage, also serves as a plot point in several books such as *The Way of the Traitor* and *The Cloud Pavilion*. Averted by Midori and Hirata, who actually fell in love with each other before they were married. From time to time, but most prominently in the final book, *The Iris Fan*: There is no evidence that Tokogawa Tsunayoshi was ever attacked, and he most likely died from smallpox. Tokogawa Ienobu was not rendered a simpleton by a mystic attack; he was a very intelligent man and a Confucian scholar. Yanagisawa Yoshiyasu died in of unknown causes, and not in from being stabbed by a court rival. Also, he and his family were never exiled as they were in *The Perfumed Sleeve*. Authority in Name Only: Many of the Edo city police, especially after Hoshina is put in charge. Sano cleans things up some, but most of the truly honest investigators remain only in his inner circle. He often re-enacts the humiliation he experienced while he slept his way to the top. The trait is lessened greatly after his love affair with Hoshina collapses, when he realizes others are using his affection to gain power in a similar fashion. Yanagisawa often plans these, so even if Sano finds the truth it sets him back or causes him even more trouble. Hirata and Midori; their marriage becomes rocky after Hirata dedicates himself to his mystical martial arts training. Sano always reminds his son Masahiro of honor and duty at home. He realizes how well his words and lessons have been taken to heart when the Shogun himself recites them back at Sano Lady Yanagisawa before her marriage. The weapon used to attack the shogun in, naturally, *The Iris Fan*. Ito, who helps Sano by secretly performing illegal autopsies on the victims. He often has the help of his Silent Partner , the eta Mura. Ito and uses his forbidden Western knowledge to find clues. Cruel and Unusual Death: The most severe form of execution available to the Shogun, in which the guilty party is buried in the ground up to his neck and has his head sawed off. Black Lotus, investigated in the book of the same name. Dead Guy on Display: The fate of many of the criminals Sano catches after they are executed. Also used against anyone who tries to go against the shogun or his followers. The only difference is they wield almost no power over the country. The practice of bundori, done in the book of the same name; a head is cleaned, made up, and mounted on a spike for display as a war trophy. Subverted in more than one way by the normally flighty Keisho-in, who in a rare turn of events is the only one who is collected and confident when Midori goes into labor, coaching the younger woman through the birth of her first child. Died in Your Arms Tonight: In *The Iris Fan*, Hirata lives long enough for his family to be at his side as he slips away. Due to the Dead: Most of the murder victims; justified as the Shinto religion treats death very seriously and the proper rites must be observed. Notable as a plot point in *The Fire Kimono*. The unknown victim was buried in an unmarked grave by one of the local priests out of

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kindness. That priest is later found as an old man and identifies the murderers. Ironically, the shogun gets no such due; his body is hastily burned. It is done to prevent the measles he had before his death from spreading; his body is treated no differently than others of those who died of the disease. Chamberlain Yanagisawa, who manipulates the Shogun like a puppet and constantly tries to undermine Sano and other officials to maintain his power. He also has plans to control the next shogun in place. Often threatened as a punishment for high ranking officials who fail in their duties to the shogun, and carried out in a few cases, most notably to Yanagisawa and his family in *The Perfumed Sleeve*. Played with by Dr. Ito, who was supposed to be exiled for his use of forbidden western medical techniques; the shogun "lessened" his sentence to working in the morgue at Edo Jail. He might as well be an exile. The new shogun renounces his exile at the end of the series. When he actually tries to take things into his own hands on a couple of occasions, he makes things worse. In *The Black Lotus*, Anraku lost an eye sometime before his rise to power. He claims that the blind eye gives him divine premonitions. Marume goes down in the wave of fighters and disappears; Sano is upset at losing such a loyal man, but forces himself to continue on as the fate of Japan is at stake. In the next book, he reveals he is alive: Ienobu had him kidnapped, a body planted, and the house burned so he could keep Yoshisato as a hostage against his father, Yanagisawa. He escapes and eventually contacts Sano. *Finally Found the Body*: The victim of *The Fire Kimono*, courtesy of a wind storm toppling a tree. The victims in *The Incense Game* turn up after a month, due to the earthquake burying them in the remains of a house. The combat fan used to stab the shogun had an iris motif; irises symbolize boldness, courage, and power, qualities that Sano notes could be associated with someone who made an assassination attempt on the leader of the country. *George Jetson Job Security*: *Girl in the Tower*: Sano and Reiko, who are concerned about raising their children with morality and honor, rather than to be used as pawns in power games. Hirata and Midori have a similar attitude. Hirata and Midori, until Hirata constantly disappears for martial arts training. For a while, Midori wants nothing to do with him. *Heir Club for Men*: The shogun has no heir. It actually becomes a big issue in the later books as the Shogun grows older and others scheme to get him to declare their favorite the next in line. Sano has a minor meltdown in *The Pillow Book Of Lady Wisteria* after one too many death threat in reward for loyalty and competence. Hirata in *The Perfumed Sleeve*, where he is permanently lamed protecting Sano from a deathblow. In *The Iris Fan*, he does it again. He literally shatters his body in the process. *Lady Wisteria* is a famous first-class courtesan. Others pop in occasionally. Fact indicates the real one was not quite as scheming or nasty as the one in the books, and he was likely little more than a yes man to Tokugawa. *Hooker with a Heart of Gold*: Sometimes too close for comfort, though. Frequently averted or subverted by others, though. Sano knows this, and it causes him endless grief. *I Was Quite The Looker*: Sano and most of his circle of investigators are also Samurai. Perhaps the biggest one, after all the struggles Sano had just staying in court, keeping his reputation intact and his family alive, and in spite of genuinely having no interest in ruling over Japan, he ends up with sole and absolute control over the new shogun, allowing him to basically rule Japan. The time period the novels are set in, specifically the Edo period during the reign of Shogun Tokugawa Tsunayoshi. Then back up again after Yanagisawa refuses to leave his home in grief after the death of Yomitoro. Then up yet again when the shogun reinstates Sano to find out who attacked him.

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Chapter 2 : The Concubine's Tattoo | The Laura Joh Rowland Wiki | FANDOM powered by Wikia

A 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.

Reading them is like watching a cheap theatrical production: There was not even one character behaving reasonably: They were all stumbling in the dark. The whole plot was possible because everyone was so stupid: It was all needed in order for the story to happen. What I liked about the book was the ability of the author to convey the atmosphere of a place with a few sentences. Other than that, nothing good can be said about the book, I guess. One thing is probably worth mentioning: Danzaemon is a hereditary name all leaders of the group inherited, and they were VERY rich. Oh and Oka Basho is not a proper name. However, political machinations, whether historical or current, leave me cold. The relationship between the detective and his new wife was very unsatisfactory. Two brief arguments and two days of arranged marriage do not a convincing couple make. If the author wanted to pull in the "I like the main character, the mystery was interesting. If the author wanted to pull in the "they hate each other until they realize that they love each other" plotline, she should have picked up a few of the paperback mass-market romance novels. Those formulaic novels have that plotline down to a science. Use daimyo and let us figure it out, if you must, but for the love of Mike, stop writing "sumimasen - excuse me". Or better yet - just write excuse me instead of "translating" it numerous times throughout the book. The underlying story, adventure and relationship had great potential; unfortunately the occasional satisfying glimmers were dulled by writing that tried to be too clever. I personally really like crime stories, and to read one from the ancient Japan When I got this book I did not know this was a series and not even the first volume I highly recommend this book: Very good historical mystery. Lots of detail around like especially for women in Japan. Research is very good on social customs. The mystery was well paced and layed out. You will guess several characters through out. She does a good job of showing different types of characters in attributes in this book. It is book 4 of the series but start with book 1. Sano san got married, but a murder occurred at the same time. The murder involved a concubine of the Shogun, which would inevitably pull all of the weight of the internal politics on to Sano San. Like the previous books, the pacing goes back and forth between characters of importance. I did enjoy the character developme I just spent an excruciating 2 days trying to finish this book. I did enjoy the character development given to Sano San, his wife and Hirata. There were many tensions between the characters, and within themselves, that was built up due to social and cultural conventions of that time. What got me, structural wise, was the repetitive nature of the book. I want to know what they will do or not do about it. But why this is so deserving of a 2 star is the editing work. I am not sure if this occurs in the paperbacks too, but I am absolutely disgusted that the spelling in this book is beyond appalling. But spelling errors nearly every other page, making sentences broken because of the spelling errors is beyond comprehension. If it was just a slight misspelling, I can understand it. Thanks, but please edit properly. I only completed the book because the premise was interesting and the previous books were good. The spelling ruined what was a good ending for me.

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Chapter 3 : blog.quintoapp.com: Customer reviews: The Concubine's Tattoo (Sano Ichiro Novels)

The Concubine's Tattoo (Sano Ichiro, #4) by Laura Joh Rowland Twenty months spent as the shogun's sosakan-sama--most honorable investigator of events, situations, and people--has left Sano Ichiro weary.

On the historical side, Rowland gets many things right and several things wrong. It was really hard, therefore, to get a handle on the characters that populate this particular world. Ichiro, the lead character, is 31 and a detective in high Japanese society. None of his previous 31 years had made him think of this? Many of the quotes and situations in the book are deliberately set up for modern audiences to gasp in outrage, thinking "how could they treat a woman like that! OK, what if we assumed that years in the future, that "kids" could not vote or marry until age 25 and any sexual or drinking activity by them was considered evil child abuse. This book had parents who were aghast that their 22 year old son was having wine with dinner and had a girlfriend who he slept with. It would, in fact, be quite odd for the time. To force a couple in Japan to have "modern day sensibilities" to suit a modern audience is betraying the whole reason you set a book in another time period. Heck, some soldiers in Roman history were homosexuals, some in Greek history were However, this book goes a BIT overboard. I think the author was trying to toss in every strange Japanese sex practice she could think of in order to liven up the story. Yes, it involves a Shogun who likes boys. It got a bit much. There were tons of strong female characters in Japanese history! What makes it worse is that the female character in the book is a ninny virgin 20 year old who possesses little common sense. The way that she interacts with her new husband - going from demanding to petulant to "you must be my constant assistant" in such a short period of time is really quite unbelievable. We get the same problem of unbelievability from other characters. Other characters exist to serve a purpose, most of them presenting a specific stereotype. In a parallel problem, there is a huge fascination on the part of the author with physical beauty. People with physical beauty are praised and loved. People without physical beauty are evil and beat on. I own the books, obviously I enjoyed them enough to read and re-read them. There is a lot of great detail in here, a lot of clear imagery that is very moving. I enjoy the poetry and the environment that has been created. I just wish the characters themselves had been more robust and three dimensional. However, when the entire basis for characters is completely out of "time appropriateness" and when a large number of characters seem to be two dimensional, that does bother me in a book. It turns the book from one I can really savor into a quick page-turner to zip through on a rainy afternoon.

Chapter 4 : The Concubine's Tattoo (Sano Ichiro, book 4) by Laura Joh Rowland

After Sano traces the cause of Lady Harume's death to a self-inflicted tattoo, he must travel into the cloistered, forbidden world of the shogun's women to untangle the complicated web of Harume's lovers, rivals, and troubled past, and identify her killer.

Chapter 5 : The Concubine's Tattoo by Laura Joh Rowland | LibraryThing

A uniquely original mystery, set in 17th-century Japan, by the author of Shinju. The wedding of Sano, the shogun's Most Honorable Investigator, is interrupted by the murder of a beautiful concubine, poisoned by the ink in an exotic tattoo.

Chapter 6 : Editions of The Concubine's Tattoo by Laura Joh Rowland

The emperor's lead investigator, Sano Ichiro, must solve the mystery of her death while navigating the delicate balance of the court, the conflicted allegiances of his right-hand-man, and his new wife's feminist blog.quintoapp.com Concubine's Tattoois genre-fiction; there's no mistaking it.

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Chapter 7 : Laura Joh Rowland - The Concubine's Tattoo

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.

Chapter 8 : The Concubine's Tattoo - Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh - OverDrive

Editions for The Concubine's Tattoo: (Paperback published in), (Hardcover published in), (Kindle Edition published in

Chapter 9 : The Concubine's Tattoo (Sano Ichiro, #4) by Laura Joh Rowland

After Sano traces the cause of Lady Harume's death to a self-inflicted tattoo, his must travel into the cloistered world of the shogun's women to untangle the complicated web of Harume's lovers, rivals and troubled past, and identify her killer.