



# Summer of the BIG BACHI

*"Sweeps the reader into a world most of us know  
little about... A complete original."  
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*For fifty years, a secret was kept.  
Now it is about to unravel....*

NAOMI  
HIRAHARA

a novel

# Summer Of The Big Bachi

**Naomi Hirahara**



## **Summer Of The Big Bachi:**

**Summer of the Big Bachi** Naomi Hirahara, 2004-03-30 In the foothills of Pasadena Mas Arai is just another Japanese American gardener his lawnmower blades clean and sharp his truck carefully tuned But while Mas keeps lawns neatly trimmed his own life has gone to seed His wife is dead And his livelihood is falling into the hands of the men he once hired by the day For Mas a life of sin is catching up to him And now bachi the spirit of retribution is knocking on his door It begins when a stranger comes around asking questions about a nurseryman who once lived in Hiroshima a man known as Joji Haneda By the end of the summer Joji will be dead and Mas s own life will be in danger For while Mas was building a life on the edge of the American dream he has kept powerful secrets about three friends long ago about two lives entwined and about what really happened when the bomb fell on Hiroshima in August 1945 A spellbinding mystery played out from war torn Japan to the rich tidewaters of L A s multicultural landscape this stunning debut novel weaves a powerful tale of family loyalty and the price of both survival and forgiveness

**Summer of the Big Bachi** Naomi Hirahara, 2008-01-29 In the foothills of Pasadena Mas Arai is just another Japanese American gardener his lawnmower blades clean and sharp his truck carefully tuned But while Mas keeps lawns neatly trimmed his own life has gone to seed His wife is dead And his livelihood is falling into the hands of the men he once hired by the day For Mas a life of sin is catching up to him And now bachi the spirit of retribution is knocking on his door It begins when a stranger comes around asking questions about a nurseryman who once lived in Hiroshima a man known as Joji Haneda By the end of the summer Joji will be dead and Mas s own life will be in danger For while Mas was building a life on the edge of the American dream he has kept powerful secrets about three friends long ago about two lives entwined and about what really happened when the bomb fell on Hiroshima in August 1945 A spellbinding mystery played out from war torn Japan to the rich tidewaters of L A s multicultural landscape this stunning debut novel weaves a powerful tale of family loyalty and the price of both survival and forgiveness

Postcolonial Grief Jinah Kim, 2019-01-17 In Postcolonial Grief Jinah Kim explores the relationship of mourning to transpacific subjectivities aesthetics and decolonial politics since World War II Kim argues that Asian diasporic subjectivity exists in relation to afterlives because the deaths of those killed by U S imperialism and militarism in the Pacific remain unresolved and unaddressed Kim shows how primarily U S based Korean and Japanese diasporic writers artists and filmmakers negotiate the necropolitics of Asia and how their creative refusal to heal from imperial violence may generate transformative antiracist and decolonial politics She contests prevalent interpretations of melancholia by engaging with Frantz Fanon s and Hisaye Yamamoto s decolonial writings uncovering the noir genre s relationship to the U S war in Korea discussing the emergence of silenced colonial histories during the 1992 Los Angeles riots and analyzing the 1996 hostage takeover of the Japanese ambassador s home in Peru Kim highlights how the aesthetic and creative work of the Japanese and Korean diasporas offers new insights into twenty first century concerns surrounding the state s erasure of military violence and colonialism and the

difficult work of remembering histories of war across the transpacific      Gasa-Gasa Girl Naomi Hirahara, 2005-03-29 From the time she was a child Mas Arai's daughter Mari was completely gasa gasa never sitting still always on the go getting into everything And Mas busy tending lawns gambling and struggling to put his Hiroshima past behind him never had much time for the family he was trying to support For years now his resentful daughter has lived a continent away in New York City and had a life he knew little about But an anxious phone call from Mari asking for his help plunges the usually obstinate Mas into a series of startling situations from maneuvering in an unfamiliar city to making nice with his tall blond son in law Lloyd to taking care of a sickly child to finding a dead body in the rubble of a former koi pond The victim was Kazzy Ouchi a half Japanese millionaire who also happened to be Mari and Lloyd's boss Stumbling onto the scene Mas sees more amiss than the detectives do but his instinct is to keep his mouth shut Only when the case threatens his daughter and her family does Mas take action patiently stubbornly tugging at the end of a tangled dangerous mystery And as he does he begins to lay bare a tragic secret on the dark side of an American dream Both a riveting mystery and a powerful story of passionate relationships across a cultural divide Gasa Gasa Girl is a tale told with heart and wisdom an unforgettable portrait of fathers daughters and other strangers      **Emerging from the Rubble: Asian/American Writings on Disasters** Yasuko Kase, Eiko

Kosaka, 2025-08-12 With a focus on the transpacific and transnational relationship between North America and Asia Emerging from the Rubble Asian American Writings on Disasters explores Asian Americans complex and nuanced involvement in disastrous events Included in this purview of disaster are not only the damages and threats of current ongoing climate change but also the long lasting ruining effects inflicted by imperialism neo colonialism wars and these historical components entanglement with global capitalism that have generated both spontaneous and slow and or prolonged violent effects Moreover disasters can be acknowledged as manifestations of the Anthropocene an epoch shaped by human activity or what scholars like Jason W Moore and Donna J Harraway term the Capitalocene a paradigm where nature and capitalist society are deeply intertwined co creating an intricate web of life Asian American involvement in such a web has never been simple but convoluted some of them have experienced tremendous losses whereas others have perpetuated obfuscation of the truth and or induced violence often contingently with or without acknowledging the facts When considering Asian migrants including refugees from Southeast Asia who had little option but to seek asylum in the U S and Asian Americans who have pursued their happiness under the U S's capitalist premise of constant progress protection of human rights and freedom of choice it is important to note that Asian migrants and Asian Americans have become simultaneously active players and exploited individuals within the context of U S racial capitalism Acknowledging the impossibility of clearly differentiating natural and human made disasters scholars who contribute to this volume note the reciprocal influences between nature and civilization They examine how the entanglements of natural and human made disasters lead to the acceleration and expansion of damage This volume explores how Asian Americans connections with their ancestral origins along with their

particular racial positions social classes and socio historical backgrounds in North American societies force them to experience and witness disastrous events differently from the mainstream discourse on eco crises      *Encyclopedia of Asian-American Literature* Seiwoong Oh,2015-04-22 Presents a reference on Asian American literature providing profiles of Asian American writers and their works      *Snakeskin Shamisen* Naomi Hirahara,2006-04-25 From Summer of the Big Bachi to Gasa Gasa Girl Naomi Hirahara s acclaimed novels have featured one of mystery fiction s most unique heroes Mas Arai a curmudgeonly L A gardener Hiroshima survivor and inveterate gambler Few things get Mas more excited than gambling so when he hears about a 500 000 win from a novelty slot machine he s torn between admiration and derision But the stakes are quickly raised when the winner a friend of Mas s pal G I Hasuike is found stabbed to death just days later The last thing Mas wants to do is stick his nose in someone else s business but at G I s prodding he reluctantly agrees to follow the trail of a battered snakeskin shamisen a traditional Okinawan musical instrument left at the scene of the crime and suddenly finds himself caught up in a dark mystery that reaches from the islands of Okinawa to the streets of L A a world of heartbreaking memories deception and murder      **Asian Americans** Xiaojian Zhao,Edward J.W. Park Ph.D.,2013-11-26 This is the most comprehensive and up to date reference work on Asian Americans comprising three volumes that address a broad range of topics on various Asian and Pacific Islander American groups from 1848 to the present day This three volume work represents a leading reference resource for Asian American studies that gives students researchers librarians teachers and other interested readers the ability to easily locate accurate up to date information about Asian ethnic groups historical and contemporary events important policies and notable individuals Written by leading scholars in their fields of expertise and authorities in diverse professions the entries devote attention to diverse Asian and Pacific Islander American groups as well as the roles of women distinct socioeconomic classes Asian American political and social movements and race relations involving Asian Americans      *Dreams of Justice* Dick Adler,2005-12-14 Dick Adler reviews mysteries and thrillers every other week in his Crime Watch column for the Chicago Tribune He is the co author with the late Edmund G Pat Brown of Public Justice Private Mercy A Governor s Education On Death Row Anthony Lewis in the New York Times Book Review called it a compelling and important book and Jonathan Kirsch in the Los Angeles Times said Some of the most fascinating passages are the dozen or so case histories of the men and women themselves the stuff of hard boiled detective fiction come to life Adler has also written *Sleeping with Moscow* an account of the Richard Miller FBI espionage case His mystery novel *The Mozart Code* was published in May 1999 as an electronic book and was a Frankfurt eBook Award nominee in 2000

**Teaching Asian North American Texts** Jennifer Ho,Jenny Heijun Wills,2022-07-28 Offers pedagogical techniques for teaching Asian American and Asian Canadian literature film and media including topics such as diaspora transnationalism trauma history law and resisting racism along with literary techniques and genres Gives syllabus suggestions for undergraduate and graduate courses in literature gender studies ethnic studies and Asian American studies      The

Essential Mystery Lists Roger M Sobin, 2011-09-30 For the first time in one place Roger M Sobin has compiled a list of nominees and award winners of virtually every mystery award ever presented. He has also included many of the best of lists by more than fifty of the most important contributors to the genre. Mr Sobin spent more than two decades gathering the data and lists in this volume; much of that time he used to recheck the accuracy of the material he had collected. Several of the best of lists appear here for the first time in book form. Several others have been unavailable for a number of years. Of special note are Anthony Boucher's Best Picks for the Year. Boucher, one of the major mystery reviewers of all time, reviewed for *The San Francisco Chronicle*, *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine*, and *The New York Times*. From these resources Mr Sobin created Boucher's Best and Important Lists to Consider lists that provide insight into important writing in the field from 1942 through Boucher's death in 1968. This is a great resource for all mystery readers and collectors. Winner of the 2008 Macavity Awards for Best Mystery Nonfiction.

*Thugs and Kisses* Sue Ann Jaffarian, 2010-09-08 With the class bully murdered at her 30th high school reunion and her boss the annoying Michael Steele missing, Odelia doesn't know which hole to poke her big nose into first. This decision is made for her as she's again swept into the action involving contract killers, tangled relationships, and fatal buyer's remorse. Throughout this adventure, Odelia deals with her on-again-off-again relationship with Greg and her attraction to detective Devon Frye. Praise: The best title yet in a priceless series, a real treat for chick lit and mystery fans who like feisty women. Library Journal starred review. Odelia Grey is delightfully large and in charge in Jaffarian's third entertaining romp after 2003's *The Curse of the Holy Pail*. Publishers Weekly: The best one yet, an intriguing well-plotted mystery that will entertain and inspire. *The Strand Magazine*: Odelia is a character that could easily be a good friend. She's down to earth and likeable. While she doesn't fit into Hollywood's size 0 body criteria, she's a good plus-size fit for the real people and mystery readers of the world. *Deadly Pleasures*: Written with a light touch but a keen eye for detail, this satisfying entry in the Odelia Grey series also has room for a little romance. Booklist: Jaffarian's clear talent is that she delivers characterization so well drawn it destroys cliché, tramples trite expectations, and delivers a heroine pulsing with personality. *Crime and Suspense*: Snappy dialogue. Kirkus Reviews: I wish I'd had Odelia Grey as my paralegal when I was on *The Practice*. Gutsy, smart, and loveable, she is the perfect take-no-prisoners heroine for today's woman. Camryn Manheim, Emmy Award-winning actress. Sue Ann Jaffarian does a masterful job. Once you get to know Odelia Grey, you'll love her. I know I do. Naomi Hirahara, Edgar Award-winning author of *Snakeskin*. *Shamisen*: *Thugs and Kisses* is a very enjoyable reading experience. Harriet Klausner, *Genre Go Round*: Reviews: Light and breezy, a good time to pass your lunch break with. *Feminist Review*: Highly recommended to those interested in a fun, suspenseful mystery. You will not be disappointed. Reader Views: Odelia Grey is definitely a force to be reckoned with. *ReviewingTheEvidence.com*: Jaffarian tells a great story, a delight to read. *ReviewedByLiz.com*.

Race and Migration in the Transpacific Yasuko Takezawa, Akio Tanabe, 2022-11-25 Looking at a range of cases from around the Transpacific, the contributors to this book explore the complex formulations of race and

racism emerging from transoceanic migrations and encounters in the region Asia has a history of ceaseless active and multidirectional migration which continues to bear multilayered and complex genetic diversity The traditional system of rank order between groups of people in Asia consisted of multiple invisible differences in variegated entanglements including descent birthplace occupation and lifestyle Transpacific migration brought about the formation of multilayered and complex racial relationships as the physically indistinguishable yet multifacetedly racialized groups encountered the hegemonic racial order deriving from the transatlantic experience of racialization based on visible differences Each chapter in this book examines a different case study identifying their complexities and particularities while contributing to a broad view of the possibilities for solidarity and human connection in a context of domination and discrimination These cases include the dispossession of the Ainu people the experiences of Burakumin emigrants in America the policing of colonial Singapore and data governance in India A fascinating read for sociologists anthropologists and historians especially those with a particular focus on the Asian and Pacific regions

**Asian-American Writers** Allison Amend, 2010 Discusses the lives of some Asian Americans primarily known for their writing including Amy Tan and Jhumpa Lahiri

**The Book Bible** Susan Shapiro, 2022-02-01 A Brilliant Buoyant Guide to Publishing Your Book Hundreds of thousands of books come out every year worldwide So why not yours In *The Book Bible* New York Times bestseller and wildly popular Manhattan writing professor Susan Shapiro reveals the best and fastest ways to break into a mainstream publishing house Unlike most writing manuals that stick to only one genre Shapiro maps out the rules of all the sought after sellable categories novels memoirs biography how to essay collections anthologies humor mystery crime poetry picture books young adult and middle grade fiction and nonfiction Shapiro once worried that selling 16 books in varied sub sections made her a literary dabbler Yet after helping her students publish many award winning bestsellers on all shelves of the bookstore she realized that her versatility had a huge upside She could explain from personal experience the differences in making each kind of book as well as ways to find the right genre for every project and how to craft a winning proposal or great cover letter to get a top agent and book editor to say yes This valuable guide will teach both new and experienced scribes how to attain their dream of becoming a successful author

**The Curse of the Holy Pail** Sue Ann Jaffarian, 2011-08-08 Is the Holy Pail cursed Every owner of the vintage Chappy Wheeler lunchbox a prototype based on the 1940s TV western has died And now Sterling Price business tycoon and a client of Odelia Grey s law firm has been fatally poisoned Is it a coincidence that Price s one of a kind lunch pail worth over thirty grand has disappeared at the same time Treading cautiously since a recent run in with a bullet Odelia takes small bites of this juicy calorie free mystery and is soon ravenous for more Her research reveals a sixty year old unsolved murder and Price s gold digging ex fianc e with two married men wrapped around her breasts uh finger Mix in a surprise marriage proposal that sends an uncertain Odelia into chocolate sedation and you ve got an unruly recipe for delicious disaster Praise I d like to spend more time with Sue Ann Jaffarian s Odelia The New York Times Plus size paralegal Odelia Grey gets more

than she bargained for when she accepts an unusual gift from a favorite client Jaffarian plays the formula with finesse keeping love problems firmly in the background while giving her heroine room to use her ample wit and grit Kirkus Reviews Jaffarian offers the perfectly flawed alternative for readers sick and tired of picture perfect characters Booklist Odelia Grey is a keeper Library Journal Jaffarian's writing is sharp and sassy like her protagonist and she knows how to keep the suspense high Mystery Scene I have enjoyed both books in the series Odelia is a resourceful woman and I didn't chafe at her amateur sleuthing The book has an inspired cookie recipe Deadly Pleasures Even better than her first a major hoot Thomas B Sawyer bestselling author of The Sixteenth Man former head writer producer of Murder She Wrote Odelia Gray is a wonderful addition to the mystery genre a smart funny engaging plus size heroine who takes readers on a plus size ride You root for her laugh with her and cheer at her ultimate triumph If I were in trouble I'd want Odelia on my side Denise Hamilton Edgar and Willa Cather Award finalist and national bestselling author of Prisoner of Memory More fun than a lunch pail full of plump paralegals The Curse of the Holy Pail is a tale as bouncy as its bodacious protagonist Bill Fitzhugh author of Highway 61 and Resurfaced With a legendary curse a possibly murderous little person ruthless heirs and charismatic thugs a lively caper that will keep you guessing right till the end Kris Neri award winning author of the Tracy Eaton mysteries A funny read with off the wall characters a twisty plot and not a surplus calorie to be had Recommended Bookbitch.com Well written and nicely paced this is a good beach or airplane read Cycling Finial.com Big women of the world hang on to your hats you're going to love Sue Ann Jaffarian's plus sized Odelia Grey amateur sleuth This is funny sexy romantic you name it all wrapped up in one great mystery Cozylibrary.com

*Historical Dictionary of Asian American Literature and Theater* Wenying Xu, 2022-08-15 A Library Journal Best Reference Book of 2022 This book represents the culmination of over 150 years of literary achievement by the most diverse ethnic group in the United States Diverse because this group of ethnic Americans includes those whose ancestral roots branch out to East Asia Southeast Asia South Asia and Western Asia Even within each of these regions there exist vast differences in languages cultures religions political systems and colonial histories From the earliest publication in 1887 to the latest in 2021 this dictionary celebrates the incredibly rich body of fiction poetry memoirs plays and children's literature Historical Dictionary of Asian American Literature and Theater Second Edition contains a chronology an introduction and an extensive bibliography The dictionary section has more than 700 cross referenced entries on genres major terms and authors This book is an excellent resource for students researchers and anyone wanting to know more about this topic

The New Ethnic Studies in Latin America Raanan Rein, Stefan Rinke, Nadia Zysman, 2017-03-06 The New Ethnic Studies in Latin America aims at going beyond and against much of Jewish Latin American historiography situating Jewish Latin Americans in the larger multi ethnic context of their countries Senior and junior scholars from various countries joined together to challenge commonly held assumptions accepted ideas and stable categories about ethnicity in Latin America in general and Jewish experiences on this continent in particular This volume brings to the discussions on Jewish life in Latin



America less heard voices of women non affiliated Jews and intellectuals Community institutions are not at center stage conflicts and tensions are brought to the fore and a multitude of voices pushes aside images of homogeneity Authors in this tome look at Jews multiple homelands their country of birth their country of residence and their imagined homeland of Zion This volume brings together an important series of chapters that pushes ethnic studies to greater complexity therefore this work is critical in laying the foundation for what Jeffrey Lesser has called the new architecture of ethnic studies in Latin America Joel Horowitz St Bonaventure University in E I A L 28 2 2017 Overall this collection serves as a stimulating invitation to scholars of Latin American ethnic studies It offers multiple models of scholarship that go beyond and against traditional narratives of Jewish Latin America Lily Pearl Balloffet University of California Santa Cruz in J Lat Amer Stud 50 2018 These essays manage to bring to the fore stories of Jews whose journeys have been sidelined until now Their stories demonstrate that identities are always a work in progress a continuous dance between ancestry history and culture Ariana Huberman Haverford College in American Jewish History 103 2 2019

*Blood Hina* Naomi Hirahara, 2013-08-26 Mas Arai s best friend Haruo is getting married and he has grudgingly agreed to serve as best man But when an ancient Japanese doll display of Haruo s fianc e goes missing the wedding is called off with fingers pointed at Haruo To solve the mystery to save Haruo s life Mas must untangle a web of secrecy heart breaking memories and murder

*Japanese Brazilian Saudades* Ignacio López-Calvo, 2019-07-01 Japanese Brazilian Saudades explores the self definition of Nikkei discourse in Portuguese language cultural production by Brazilian authors of Japanese ancestry Ignacio L pez Calvo uses books and films by twentieth century Nikkei authors as case studies to redefine the ideas of Brazilianness and Japaneseness from both a national and a transnational perspective The result suggests an alternative model of postcoloniality particularly as it pertains to the post World War II experience of Nikkei people in Brazil L pez Calvo addresses the complex creation of Japanese Brazilian identities and the history of immigration showing how the community has used writing as a form of reconciliation and affirmation of their competing identities as Japanese Brazilian and Japanese Brazilian Japanese in Brazil have employed a twofold strategic rhetorical engineering the affirmation of ethno cultural difference on the one hand and the collective assertion of citizenship and belonging to the Brazilian nation on the other L pez Calvo also grapples with the community s inclusion and exclusion in Brazilian history and literature using the concept of epistemicide to refer to the government s attempt to impose a Western value system Brazilian culture and Portuguese language on the Nikkeijin while at the same time trying to destroy Japanese language and culture in Brazil by prohibiting Japanese language instruction in schools Japanese language publications and even speaking Japanese in public Japanese Brazilian Saudades contributes to the literature criticizing the cognitive injustice that fails to acknowledge the value of the global South and non Western ways of knowing and being in the world With important implications for both Latin American studies and Nikkei studies it expands discourses of race ethnicity nationality and communal belonging through art and narrative

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