

Re: Need help choosing a novel to read

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On Wed, 12 Jan 2005 10:59:09 -0000, "Paul Blay"
<ranma@saotome.demon.co.uk> posted the following:

> "*Gavin Steyn*" wrote ...

>

>> *I'm looking for some recommendations that will push my Japanese boundaries a bit, in addition to being good (that is, I enjoy Murakami, for example (and plan to read more), but reading his novels isn't going to push my Japanese up to a higher level).*

>*I /liked/ the Harry Potter books – but I don't know that they'd be that good to learn from because the Japanese is probably the 'wrong sort of odd'.*

I just finished the first Harry Potter book in Japanese today. Not so bad because I had already read it in English and was familiar with a lot of the more "rare" vocabulary from "other sources". Especially if you've read them in English and enjoyed them it's worth a shot.

I actually saw a fair bit of JLPT 1-kyuu grammar in the book and quite a bit of 2-kyuu grammar so it's not completely worthless either. As usual with fantasy-type books, the vast majority of the vocabulary is normal, everyday words, and the "fantasy" stuff are usually either katakana loan words or kanji compounds which you can guess.

-Chris