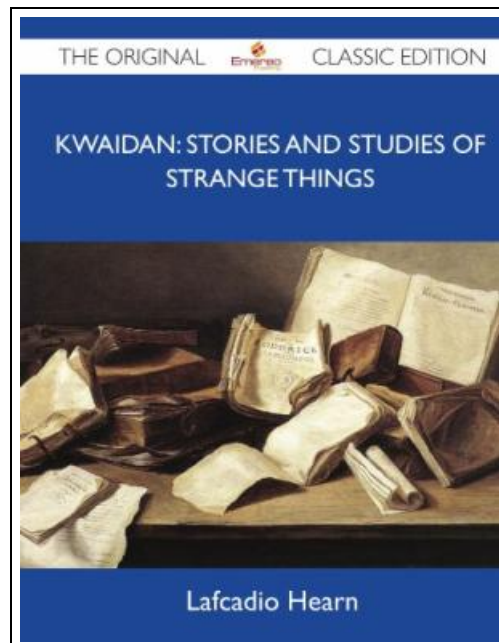


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Emereo Classics, Australia, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Lafcadio Hearn is well-known in his Japanese name, Koizumi Yagumo. Actually, I never doubted that Koizumi Yagumo was a born-Japanese. His famous Kwaidan, or Japanese ghost stories are so Japanese and it really scared me. When my brother told me that Koizumi Yagumo is actually a Western people, I didn't believe it at first. He was born in 1850 in Greece, his mother's country. Educated in his father's country, Ireland, he went to USA when he was 19 years old. He worked as a journalist in New Orleans, then came to Japan and became an English teacher in Matsue, Shimane prefecture in 1890. He married with Yae Koizumi and got Japanese citizenship. Kwaidan includes ghost stories like Earless Hoichi, a Biwa (Japanese Pipa) player and story teller of famous Heike legends, who was possessed by Heike (the warrior family once governed Japan then defeated) warriors' ghosts because of his talent, and Mujina, bewitched raccoon dogs which scare people to death. Koizumi Yagumo is more Japanese than Japanese. Koizumi Yagumo is still popular in Japan (and I believe a lot of people still believe that he is a born-Japanese.). When I searched Koizumi Yagumo in Japanese Google, it hit 422! Kwaidan is Hearn's most famous book, and justifiably so. It is the least academic of his works, collecting together some of Japan's core ghost and monster stories into one slim volume. Much like the Brothers Grimm, Hearn did not actually create these stories but rather compiled them and put them into written form for the first time, learning them from folk tales and storytellers. Along with famous, Kwaidan is Hearn's most influential book. The Story of Mimi-nashi Hoichi...

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