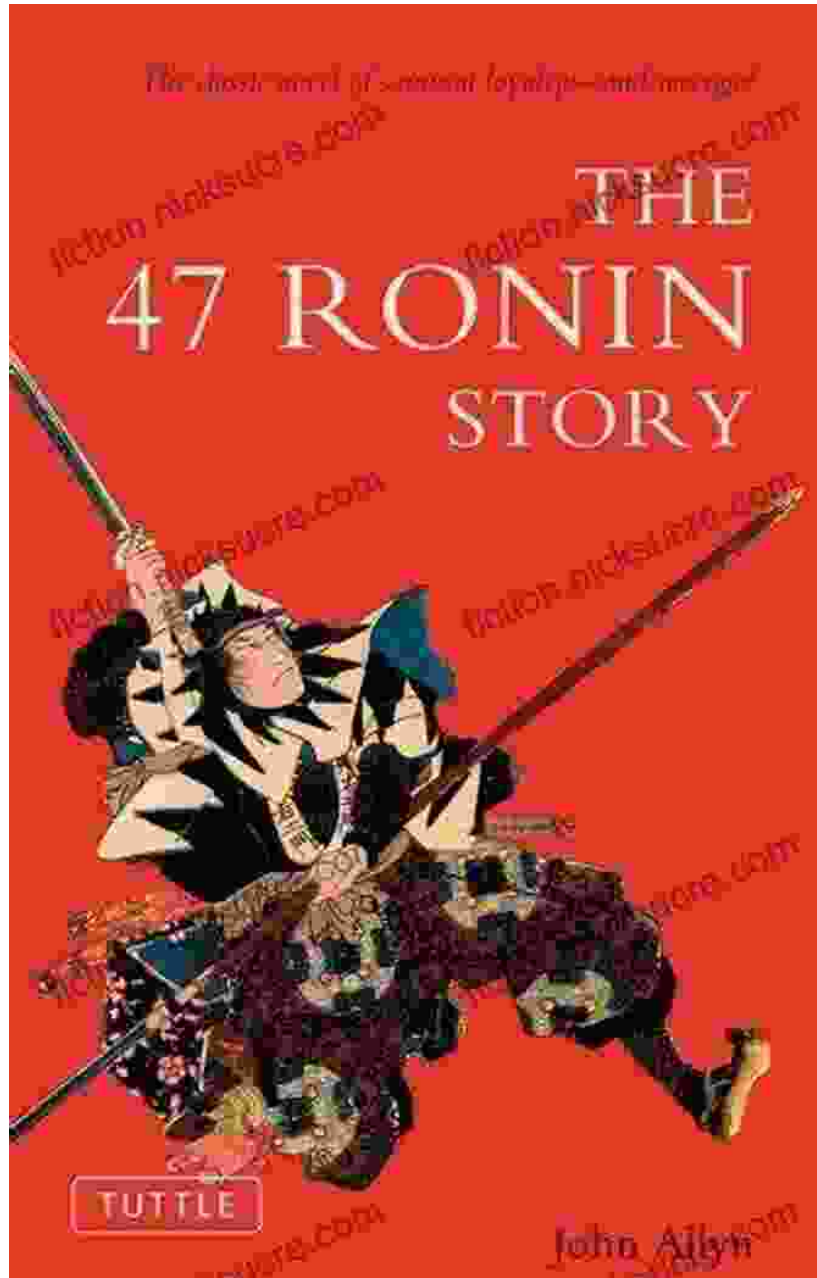
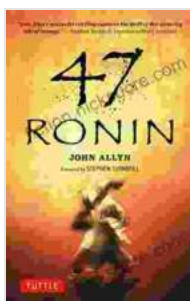


# 47 Ronin: The Timeless Tale of Loyalty, Courage, and Revenge



The tale of the 47 Ronin is one of the most enduring and beloved stories in Japanese history. A timeless epic of loyalty, courage, and revenge, it has

been told and retold for centuries in countless forms, from kabuki theater to modern-day films.



### 47 Ronin (Tuttle Classics) by John Allyn

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 6220 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 228 pages



In this article, we will explore the origins of the 47 Ronin story, its historical context, and its enduring legacy. We will also take a closer look at John Allyn's classic Tuttle Classics edition of the tale, which has introduced generations of readers to this timeless masterpiece.

## The Origins of the 47 Ronin Story

The story of the 47 Ronin is based on a real historical event that took place in 18th-century Japan. In 1701, Asano Naganori, the daimyo (feudal lord) of Ako, was forced to commit ritual suicide (seppuku) after drawing his sword in the shogun's palace. His offense? Striking another daimyo, Kira Yoshinaka, who had insulted him.

After Asano's death, his retainers (samurai) were left masterless and dishonored. Led by Oishi Kuranosuke, the retainers vowed to avenge their

lord's death. For two years, they plotted and planned, disguising themselves as merchants and farmers.

In 1703, the 47 Ronin infiltrated Kira's mansion and killed him in a fierce battle. They then surrendered to the authorities and were sentenced to death. On February 4, 1703, the 47 Ronin were executed at the Sengakuji temple in Tokyo.

## **The Historical Context**

The story of the 47 Ronin took place during a period of great social and political upheaval in Japan. The Edo period (1603-1868) was a time of relative peace and stability, but it was also a time of strict social hierarchy and rigid samurai codes of conduct.

The samurai were the elite warrior class of Japan, and they were bound by a strict code of honor. The most important virtues for a samurai were loyalty, courage, and obedience. When Asano Naganori was forced to commit seppuku, his retainers felt that they had no choice but to avenge his death.

## **The Enduring Legacy**

The story of the 47 Ronin has been told and retold for centuries, and it continues to resonate with audiences today. The story's themes of loyalty, courage, and revenge are timeless, and they appeal to people of all cultures.

The story of the 47 Ronin has been adapted into countless forms, including kabuki theater, plays, films, and television shows. The most famous film adaptation is Akira Kurosawa's 1941 classic, "The Forty-Seven Ronin."

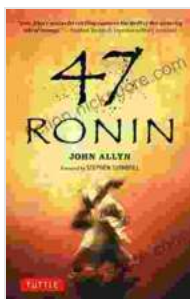
## John Allyn's Tuttle Classics Edition

John Allyn's Tuttle Classics edition of the 47 Ronin story is one of the most popular and widely read versions of the tale. Allyn's translation is clear and concise, and his and notes provide helpful context for the story.

The Tuttle Classics edition also includes a number of beautiful illustrations by Yoshitoshi, a famous Japanese ukiyo-e artist. These illustrations bring the story to life and help readers to visualize the characters and events.

The story of the 47 Ronin is a timeless classic that has captured the imagination of generations of readers and viewers. It is a story of loyalty, courage, and revenge, and it continues to resonate with audiences today.

John Allyn's Tuttle Classics edition of the 47 Ronin story is a must-read for anyone who is interested in Japanese history, culture, or literature. Allyn's translation is clear and concise, and his and notes provide helpful context for the story. The Tuttle Classics edition also includes a number of beautiful illustrations by Yoshitoshi, which bring the story to life and help readers to visualize the characters and events.



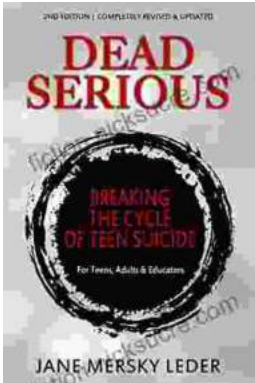
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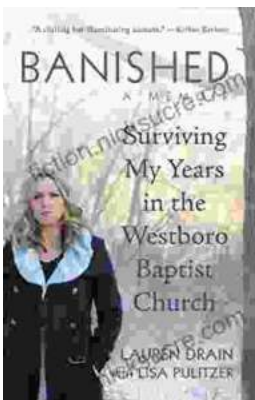
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