

# How Kyoto Breaks Your Heart

Florentyna Leow's debut essay collection tells the story of her life as a tour guide in Kyoto, backgrounded by the rumblings of a friendship cracking at the foundations.

AUTHOR Florentyna Leow COVER DESIGN OR ARTWORK BY Elīna Brasliņa

#### SERIES

The Emma Press Prose Pamphlets

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DNL: Literary essays DNC: Memoirs WTL: Travel writing

- How Kyoto Breaks Your Heart joins Nina Mingya Powles' runaway hit Tiny Moons on The Emma Press' growing essay collection list
- Florentyna Leow is a well-published writer and journalist with an international readership; How Kyoto Breaks Your Heart will appeal to Leow's current readership

20-something and uncertain about her future, Florentyna Leow is exhilarated when an old acquaintance offers her an opportunity for work and cohabitation in a little house in the hills of Kyoto.

Florentyna begins a new job as a tour guide, taking tourists on elaborate and expensive trips around Kyoto's cultural hotspots. Amidst the busy tourist traps and overrun temples, Florentyna develops her own personal map of the city: a favourite smoky jazz kissa; a top-shelf katsuobushi loving cat; an elderly lady named Yamaguchi-san, who shares her sweets and gives Florentyna a Japanese name.

Meanwhile, her relationship with her new companion develops an intensity as they live and work together. Their little kitchen, the epicenter of their shared life, overlooks a community garden dominated by a fruitful persimmon tree. Their relationship burns bright, but seasons change, the persimmon tree out back loses its fruit, and things grow strange between the two women.

How Kyoto Breaks Your Heart is a collection about the ways in which heartbreak can fill a place and make it impossible to stay.

## **AUTHOR DETAILS**

Florentyna Leow is a writer and translator. Born in Malaysia, she lived in London and Kyoto before moving to Tokyo. Really, though, she lives on the internet. Her work focuses on food and craft, with an emphasis on under-reported stories from rural Japan, like English Toast (neither English nor toast), a shrine dedicated to ice, and Japan's rarest citrus. She cannot go five minutes without thinking about food. How Kyoto Breaks Your Heart is her first book.



To place your order please contact James Trevelyan on james.o.trevelyan@gmail.com

# **How Kyoto Breaks Your Heart**

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