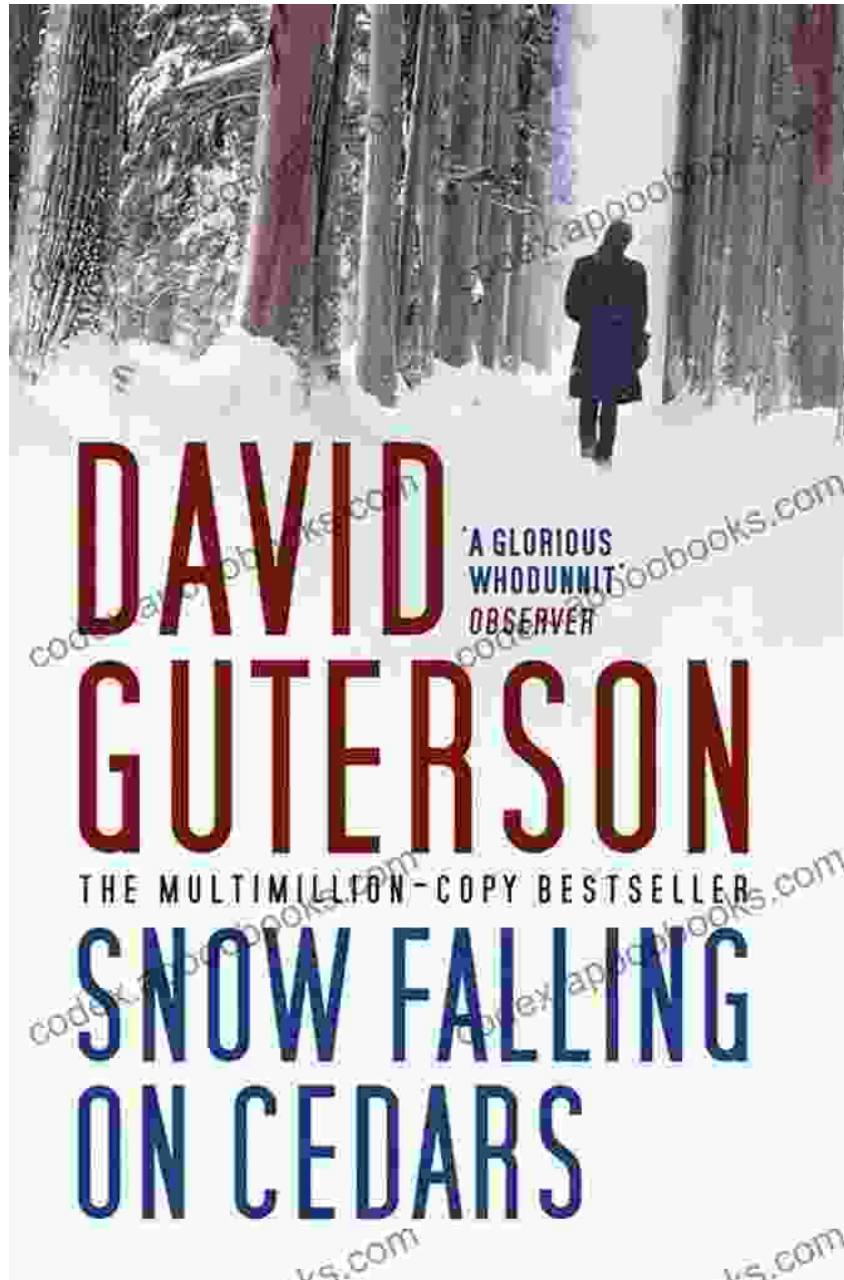


Uncover the Depths of Snow Falling on Cedars with SparkNotes



By David Guterson

Snow Falling on Cedars (SparkNotes Literature Guide)
(SparkNotes Literature Guide Series) by Baby Professor



★ ★ ★ ★ ☆ 4.7 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 211 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Print length : 72 pages
X-Ray for textbooks : Enabled



Snow Falling on Cedars is a 1994 historical fiction novel by American author David Guterson. It tells the story of a murder trial on San Pedro Island in Washington state, and explores themes of racism, prejudice, love, and loss. The novel was a critical and commercial success, winning the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction and the National Book Award for Fiction.

Plot Summary

The novel is set in 1954 on San Pedro Island, a small island community in the Pacific Northwest. A Japanese-American fisherman named Kabuo Miyamoto is accused of murdering a white fisherman named Carl Heine. The trial divides the island, with many residents believing that Kabuo is guilty due to his Japanese ancestry. However, there is also evidence that suggests that Carl Heine was killed by his wife, Hatsue Imada.

Themes

Snow Falling on Cedars explores a number of important themes, including:

- **Racism and Prejudice:** The novel exposes the deep-seated racism and prejudice that existed in the United States in the 1950s, particularly towards Japanese-Americans.

- **Love and Loss:** Snow Falling on Cedars also tells a story of love and loss. Ishmael and Hatsue's love for each other is tested by the murder and the trial.
- **The Power of History:** The novel shows how the past can continue to haunt the present. The murder of Carl Heine brings up old wounds from World War II, when Japanese-Americans were interned in camps.

Characters

Snow Falling on Cedars features a cast of well-developed characters, including:

Ishmael Chambers

A half-Japanese, half-white reporter who is assigned to cover the trial. Ishmael is torn between his loyalty to his Japanese heritage and his desire to fit in with the white community.

Hatsue Imada

A Japanese-American woman who is married to Carl Heine. Hatsue is a strong and independent woman, but she is also haunted by her past experiences as an internee during World War II.

Kabuo Miyamoto

A Japanese-American fisherman who is accused of murdering Carl Heine. Kabuo is a quiet and reserved man, but he is also proud and determined to prove his innocence.

Nels Gudmundsson

The prosecutor in the trial. Gudmundsson is a ruthless and ambitious man who is determined to convict Kabuo Miyamoto, regardless of the evidence.

SparkNotes Literature Guide

SparkNotes is a valuable resource for students and readers who want to better understand *Snow Falling on Cedars*. The SparkNotes Literature Guide provides:

- **Chapter summaries:** A detailed summary of each chapter, including plot development, character analysis, and themes.
- **Character analysis:** In-depth profiles of each major character, including their motivations, conflicts, and relationships with other characters.
- **Theme analysis:** A discussion of the major themes of the novel, including racism, prejudice, love, and loss.
- **Study questions:** Thought-provoking questions to help readers engage with the novel and explore its deeper meanings.

The SparkNotes Literature Guide is an essential resource for anyone who wants to fully appreciate the depth and complexity of *Snow Falling on Cedars*.

Snow Falling on Cedars is a powerful and moving novel that explores the complex themes of racism, prejudice, love, and loss. The SparkNotes Literature Guide provides invaluable insights into the novel's characters, plot, and themes. With the help of SparkNotes, you can unlock the full meaning and significance of *Snow Falling on Cedars*.

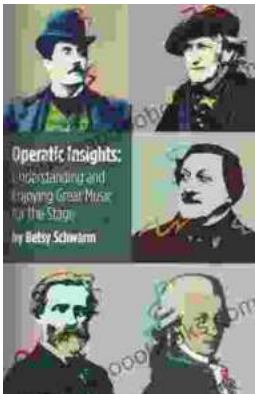
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