



## A Flock of Swirling Crows: and Other Proletarian Writings

By Denji Kuroshima

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Why is education potentially subversive? How does ethnocentrism facilitate an oppressive status quo? Who actually benefits from war? Questions such as these were integral to the work of writer Kuroshima Denji (1898-1943), one of modern Japan's most dedicated antimilitarist intellectuals.

Kuroshima was wholeheartedly committed to fundamental change and produced numerous literary works expressing his passionate opposition to armed force as an instrument of imperialism. His only full-length novel, superbly translated here as *Militarized Streets*, was censored by both Japan's imperial government and the U.S. occupation authorities. The present volume comprises much of Kuroshima's most highly acclaimed work for the first time in English.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"A superbly translated collection of fiction by a Japanese proletarian writer, a work of artistry and integrity."

#### From the Back Cover

"Kuroshima Denji emerges from the ranks of unhonored prophets in these lively and engaging translations. The translator rescues an oeuvre lost not only in the West but also in its native Japan. We find in these works a cinema vérité view of class brutality and war that contrasts with the fairy-tale Japan the Beautiful promoted by Japan's rulers and their American patrons. This collection, spanning the years 1925-1930, is recommended for anyone studying the crucial run-up to the era of Japanese imperial war in Asia and fascism at home." —Moss Roberts, New York University

#### About the Author

**Zeljko (Jake) Cipris** is assistant professor of Japanese at the University of the Pacific, Stockton.

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