



# Stories from a Tearoom Window: Lore and Legnds of the Japanese Tea Ceremony

*Shigenori Chikamatsu*

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**The Japanese tea ceremony blends art with nature and has for centuries brought harmony to the daily life of its practitioners.**

*Stories From a Tearoom Window* is a timeless collection of tales of the ancient tea sages, compiled in the eighteenth century. Both longtime adherents and newcomers to the tea ceremony will be fascinated by these legends, anecdotes, bits of lore and history that so aptly express the essence of tea.

Many of these stories center around the lives of the great tea masters. First among them is Sen no Rikyu, who perfected the tea ceremony and embodies its poise, modesty and refinement.

Holding to the tea ceremony's core ideal of natural simplicity, author Shigenori Chikamatsu brings to the page stories which touch on the related arts of ceramics, poetry, Zen, calligraphy, and the origins of everyday items of Japanese life such as the cotton *tabi* split-toed socks and the *bento* lunchbox.

## **Chapters include:**

- Tearooms in the Old Days
- Flowers in the Tea Garden
- The Origins of Tea
- Iori's Tea Scoop
- Famous Lacquerers
- The Legacy of Rikyu's House
- The Tea Ceremony for Warriors

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