



IFCATS DISAPPEARED FROM THE WORLD

ANOVEL

GENKI KAWAMURA

Cats and humans have been partners for over ten thousand years. And what you realize when you've lived with a cat for a long time is that we may think we own them, but that's not the way it is. They simply allow us the pleasure of their company.

(1) quotefancy

As you go on with your life, always remember the things that are good in you. They're your gifts. As long as you have these things, you'll find happiness, and you'll make the people around you happy.

Genki Kawamura

a quotefancy

Cats are really something. They'll just ignore you half the time, but they seem to know when you're really in need of some comforting.

Genki Kawamura

If Cats Disappeared From The World

--- a Japanese bestseller about enjoying life in the face of death

The narrator's days are numbered because he has a grade four brain tumor. Estranged from his family, living alone with only his cat Cabbage for company, he was unprepared for the doctor's diagnosis that he has only months to live. But before he can set about tackling his bucket list, the Devil, dressed in a Hawaiian shirt, appears with a special offer: in exchange for making one thing in the world disappear, he can have one extra day of life. He accepts the bargain, sacrificing phones, films, clocks – but he draws the line at his beloved cat, Cabbage.

The narrator's mother, who died four years ago, loved cats and passed on that love, and their cat Cabbage, to him. The narrator is worried about who will take care of Cabbage after he dies. As he struggles with the idea of dying soon and reflects on the disappearing objects and what they mean to humans, he often goes back to the image of his mother as the woman who kept the family together. After her death, four years prior to when the novel is set, he completely loses contact with his father. Aside from trying to mend their relationship, she's the one who teaches him the different ways to cope with life, and also the person who gives him perspective on the nature of cats.

A warm, quirky novel that has sold more than a million copies in Japan, it reflects on life, love, family alienation and what remains when we are gone with levity and a surprising emotional charge. The author's message is clear: look around you, embrace those you love and enjoy life while you can.

How do you decide what makes life worth living? How do you separate out what you can do without from what you hold dear? What other things disappeared that we never noticed? Genki Kawamura's If Cats Disappeared from the World is a story of loss and reconciliation, of one man's journey to discover what really matters in modern life.



- It is an inter-class competition (It helps you earn marks for the STTSS Award!)
- How can I earn marks for my class?
 You can respond to the following question and submit the reflection form to the box outside the library.
- There are 3 rounds: Oct Nov; Jan Feb; Mar Apr

Question for October and November:

If ______ disappeared from the world, ...

Deadline for submission: 30/11 (Tues)