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**Origins of Modern Japanese Literature**

Karatani Kōjin
Translation Edited by Brett de Bary
Foreword by Fredric Jameson

Since its publication in Japan ten years ago, *Origins of Modern Japanese Literature* has become a landmark book, playing a pivotal role in defining discussions of modernity in that country. This work is both the boldest critique of modern Japanese literary history to appear in the postwar era and a major theoretical intervention, calling into question the idea of modernity that informs Western consciousness.

"I have hopes that Karatani's book—one of those infrequent moments in which a rare philosophical intelligence rises to the occasion of full national and historical statement—will also have a fundamental impact on literary criticism in the West."—Fredric Jameson, from the foreword

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