

Science-Fiction

Loop, Suzuki Koji



About the Author:

He is a Japanese writer, who was born in Hamamatsu and currently lives in Tokyo. Suzuki is the author of the *Ring cycle* of novels, which has been adapted into a manga series. His first book, *Ring* (also known as *Ringu*) has been made into a Japanese film, which was remade into a US movie. Fluent in English, he has written several books on the subject of fatherhood.

He is currently on the selection committee for the Japan Fantasy Novel Award.

Book Summary:

The story revolves around a simulated reality, exactly the same as our own, known as the Loop: created to simulate the emergence and evolution of life. It is in this alternate universe that the events of the previous novels, *Ring* and *Spiral* took place. The protagonist, Kaoru Futami, is a medical student whose father, Hideyuki, has contracted Metastatic Human Cancer (MHC), a virulent new breed of cancer that infects humans, animals and even plants, and is becoming a global epidemic. Motivated to find a cure, Kaoru eventually comes to learn about the Loop project, in which his father was involved, and its connection with the MHC virus.

Spiral, Suzuki Koji



Book Summary:

The story follows on from the first *Ring* novel, and establishes the origin of Sadako Yamamura's cursed videotape. The idea is that if the tape is watched by a woman who is ovulating, she can impregnate herself in such a woman and therefore live again. The woman turns out to be Mai Takano.

It also contains a plot about a former classmate of Ryuji Takayama from medical school performing his autopsy. In so doing, he discovers that Ryuji kept a record of the events that lead to his death. The doctor is unsure of what to do because the record clearly states a danger to the public, but it also includes supernatural events, so going public could ruin his reputation.