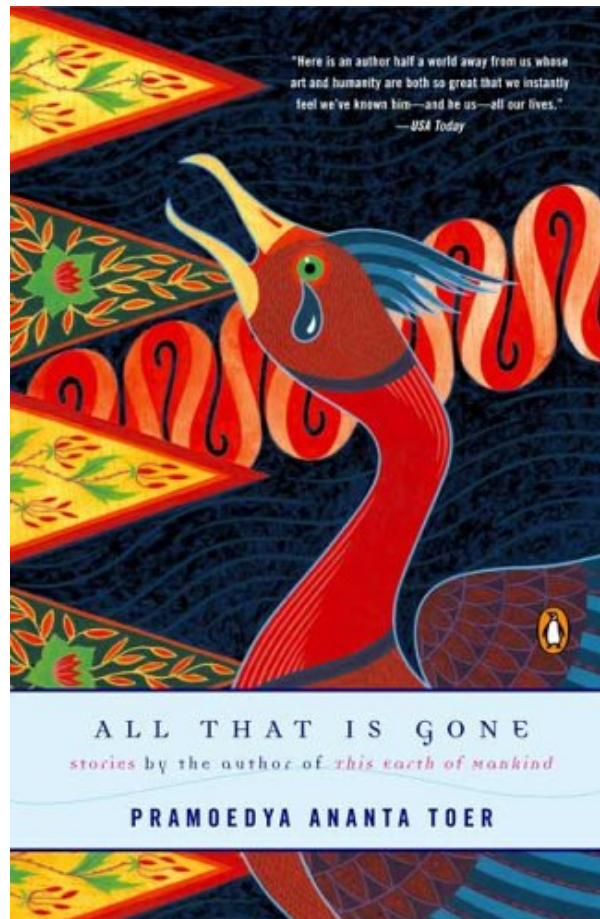
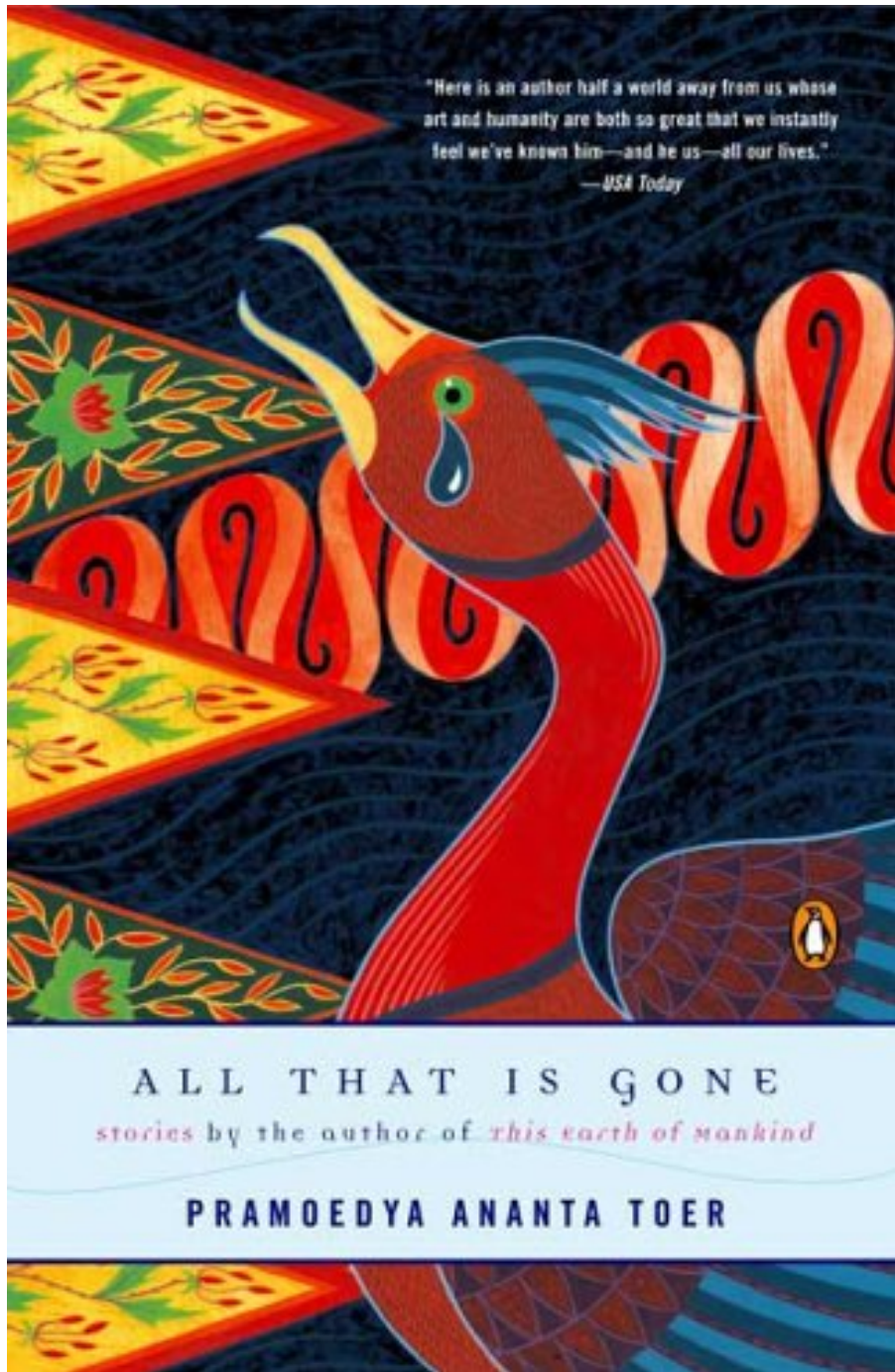


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From Publishers Weekly

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From The New Yorker

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Pramoedya Ananta Toer's transcendent novels have become part of the world literary canon, but it is his short fiction that originally made him famous. The first full-size collection of his short stories to appear in English, *All That Is Gone* draws from the author's own experiences in Indonesia to depict characters trying to make sense of a war-torn culture haunted by colonialism, among them an eight-year-old girl soon to be married off by her parents for money and an idealistic young soldier who witnesses the savage beating of a man accused of being a spy. Though violence and brutality pervade these tales, there is present throughout a profound sense of compassion—an extraordinary combination of despair and hope that gives *All That Is Gone* rare power and beauty.

- Sales Rank: #1408861 in Books
- Brand: Toer, Pramoedya Ananta
- Published on: 2005-02-01
- Released on: 2005-02-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.65" h x .74" w x 5.08" l, .41 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 272 pages

From Publishers Weekly

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Five Stars

By Johanna

Book as described. Prompt shipping.

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Great stories, weak translation

By Mr. Gelek

Pramoedya is a master of the short story, and "Stories from Blora" is his finest collection. Sadly this translation is often cliched and often shallow. Pramoedya deserves a more nuanced translator than Mr. Samuels. Readers are advised to seek out the stories translated by Benedict Anderson and James Siegel -- scholars who have a far more sophisticated understanding of Indonesia and the author.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

All That is Gone: Great Story, too harsh

By A Customer

All That is Gone

By: Pramoedya Ananta Toer

This collection of realistic short stories by Pramoedya Ananta Toer was very emotionally moving, and somewhat depressing. Although I thought the book was written very well, it was almost hard to read for very long, because it was so harsh and melancholy. Regardless, the stories he wrote about young people and their harsh lives in Indonesia were the kind that almost any person can relate to.

The eight short stories in this book speak of love, hatred, separation, cultural tension, and the many occupations of Indonesia in the first half of the 20th century. Almost all of them involve families being broken apart, prisoners, death, and love. The stories are all written in easy-to-understand language, and I enjoyed reading it because of that. I learned a lot about Indonesian history, and throughout the book the Toer used very descriptive language, and I could really see and understand what was going on.

One of my favorite stories in the collection was the story Independence Day. It was about a family living during the time when the two political parties the "Reds" and the "Republicans" were fighting for power in Indonesia. The family had no mother, the father was taken by the "Reds", and the eldest sister joined them by choice, leaving the other five children to fend for themselves in a time where no one was a friend, and you could never be sure if you would be living in your house for much longer. The story introduced me to many new topics, and the harsh, cruel aspects of the story made me realize what tragic things occur in other parts of the world.

All That is Gone relates to my life, mostly because it is all about life. There is nothing entirely unrealistic about it, and although I cannot fathom the misery and sorrow these characters experience, somehow I understand their lives. I know what it is like to be very uncertain of what you are going to do in life, just like these characters, but on a much smaller scale. When I moved from my old school to Catlin, all of my friends went to a public school, but I chose to come here. Other than my parents, I had no idea who would understand my situation or be able to really help me, just like the siblings in Independence Day.

Overall, the book was fascinating, and I really enjoyed learning about the different cultures from that part of the world, and I enjoyed learning about the harsh but interesting history.

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