



# Satori

By Don Winslow

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## Satori By Don Winslow

*Prepare to meet the world's most dangerous man . . .*

Nicholai Hel-genius, mystic, and the perfect, formidable assassin-was first introduced to readers in *Shibumi*, the classic #1 bestseller by master storyteller Trevanian. Now critically acclaimed author Don Winslow continues Hel's story for the first time in this all-new, blockbuster thriller.

## SATORI

It is the fall of 1951, and the Korean War is raging. Twenty-six-year-old Nicholai Hel has spent the last three years in solitary confinement at the hands of the Americans. Hel is a master of *hoda korosu*, or "naked kill," is fluent in seven languages, and has honed extraordinary "proximity sense"-an extra-awareness of the presence of danger. He has the skills to be the world's most fearsome assassin and now the CIA needs him.

The Americans offer Hel freedom, money, and a neutral passport in exchange for one small service: to go to Beijing and kill the Soviet Union's commissioner to China. It's almost certainly a suicide mission, but Hel accepts. Now he must survive chaos, violence, suspicion, and betrayal while trying to achieve his ultimate goal of *satori*-the possibility of true understanding and harmony with the world.

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## Satori By Don Winslow Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #350392 in Books
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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Nicholai Hel was already an accomplished assassin, a master of *hoda korosu* ("naked kill"), when introduced in Trevanian's 1979 *Shibumi*. Now Winslow (*The Life and Death of Bobby Z.*) dons Trevanian's mantle and cloaks Hel in a tangled series of adventures and misadventures in this exciting prequel. Hel's conditional ticket out of an American-run prison in 1951 Japan requires him to acquire a new face and identity and to carry out a probably suicidal mission to assassinate Soviet commissioner Yuri Voroshenin in China. In the guise of 26-year-old Michel Guibert, a French arms dealer, Hel enters a labyrinthine world of intrigue as various Chinese factions and foreign interests struggle for advantage. Winslow successfully fleshes out Hel's mixed heritage (aristocratic Russian mother, surrogate Japanese father and mentor), and eventually takes him to war-torn Vietnam, where Hel's expertise in applying Go strategy is as important to his survival as his physical skills. Winslow has crafted an impressive prelude to a highly esteemed classic thriller. (Mar.)

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From [Booklist](#)

**\*Starred Review\*** In his 1979 international best-seller, *Shibumi*, acclaimed author Trevanian introduced readers to handsome mystic and ingenious assassin Nicholai Hel. In this compelling prequel, Winslow, whose popular novels include *The Dawn Patrol* (2008) and *Savages* (2010), details Hel's life leading up to Trevanian's opus. *Satori* opens in the fall of 1951, in the throes of the Korean War. Twenty-six-year-old Hel has spent the last three years in solitary confinement at the hands of the Americans. Now his captors are offering to release him—at a price. He must go to Beijing and kill the Soviet Union's commissioner to China. Though Hel is blond with striking green eyes, his worldview is more Eastern than Western. (He was raised by an aristocratic Russian mother in Shanghai and later lived in Japan, where he studied the ancient and notoriously challenging board game, Go.) Hel is a master of *hoda korosu*, "the naked kill," and blessed with an uncanny sense of proximity, which makes him hyperaware of potential danger. He'll need every tool in his deadly dossier to earn freedom. Winslow renders breathless suspense and a cast of dark, devious characters from all corners of the globe. Recommend this one to fans of Baldacci and le Carré as well as, of course, Trevanian. --Allison Block

Review

"*Satori* is first-rate spy fiction, full of explosive action, exotic locales, and surprising romance, and Nicholai Hel is an assassin you'll cheer for: intent on vengeance for a terrible injustice, as comfortable with philosophy as he is familiar with the mechanics of stopping a man's heart, beset by enemies in a game whose true nature he can only divine by playing through to the end." (**Barry Eisler**)

"It is hard to improve on a classic novel, but Winslow has done the creator of *Shibumi* and the Nicholai Hel character proud. Elegant writing, a mature, confident narrative and characters so real you can almost touch them on the page abound in this novel. The carefully choreographed, bare-knuckled action will satisfy even the most discriminating action reader. A home run that should deliver continents of new fans to Winslow's door." (**David Baldacci**)

"In his 1979 international best-seller, *Shibumi*, acclaimed author Trevanian introduced readers to handsome mystic and ingenious assassin Nicholai Hel. In this compelling prequel, Winslow, whose popular novels include *Savages* (2010) and *The Dawn Patrol* (2008), details Hel's life leading up to Trevanian's opus. *Satori* opens in the fall of 1951, in the throes of the Korean War. Twenty-six-year-old Hel has spent the last three years in solitary confinement at the hands of the Americans. Now his captors are offering to release him—at a

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An intricately plotted, fast-paced thrill ride. Carrying on the legacy of Trevanian's *SHIBUMI*, Don Winslow skillfully brings the character of master assassin Nicholai Hel to life, creating a story so engrossing you won't be able to put it down. Winslow has truly done the Trevanian legacy proud. **(Nelson DeMille)**

"A grand, sprawling, magnificent entertainment. Trevanian, in the skilled hands of Don Winslow, is alive and well, and dare I say, better than ever! For those of us who look back on *Shibumi* as a highlight of their reading lives, *Satori* does not for a moment disappoint. Those who have not read *Shibumi* are in for a treat. My immediate question upon turning the last page was "when is the next one coming out?" I cannot wait!" **(Christopher Reich)**

"Trevanian's *Shibumi* was one of the all-time great thrillers. Don Winslow is one of the best thriller writers we have. Put the two together and the result, no surprise, is sleek, smart, and deadly. *SATORI* is a must-read." **(Joseph Finder, New York Times bestselling author of *Paranoia* and *Vanished*)**

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Diane Gonzales:**

As people who live in the particular modest era should be change about what going on or details even knowledge to make these keep up with the era and that is always change and move forward. Some of you maybe will update themselves by examining books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to anyone is you don't know what type you should start with. This *Satori* is our recommendation to help you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and need in this era.

#### **Johnny Rogowski:**

You may spend your free time you just read this book this e-book. This *Satori* is simple to create you can read it in the playground, in the beach, train along with soon. If you did not include much space to bring often the printed book, you can buy the e-book. It is make you better to read it. You can save the actual book in your smart phone. So there are a lot of benefits that you will get when one buys this book.

#### **Jeffery Herring:**

Is it you who having spare time in that case spend it whole day by simply watching television programs or just lying on the bed? Do you need something new? This *Satori* can be the respond to, oh how comes? A fresh book you know. You are so out of date, spending your time by reading in this brand-new era is

common not a nerd activity. So what these ebooks have than the others?

**Lester Magno:**

With this era which is the greater man or woman or who has ability in doing something more are more valuable than other. Do you want to become certainly one of it? It is just simple way to have that. What you have to do is just spending your time almost no but quite enough to enjoy a look at some books. Among the books in the top list in your reading list is usually Satori. This book that is qualified as The Hungry Hillside can get you closer in growing to be precious person. By looking up and review this guide you can get many advantages.

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