
Much Talked about Kikuchi Kan, Budding Author!

Have you heard about the play, “Father Returns”? It’s a story about a prodigal father who had abandoned his family and returns home for the first time in years. Everyone is happy to see him again but the oldest son, who refuses to take him back... It’s written by the much-talked-about budding playwright, Kikuchi Kan.

During the first showing of “Father Returns”, Kikuchi Kan cried his eyes out with his friends, Akutagawa Ryunosuke and Kume Masao. He said that he’s going to leave his name in history by this play.



Kikuchi Kan moved by watching the play, “Father Returns”

Kikuchi Kan had many obstacles to overcome before he became a popular writer. He started to write stories in his school days. He joined the newspaper company, Jiji Shimpō, after graduating from university. He continued writing literary works while working as a journalist, though he was often swamped with hard work. Especially, it was difficult for him to cover a story when his friends were in grief for the death of the great novelist whom he respected, Natsume Soseki. Nonetheless, he worked diligently and kept on writing stories.

In June 1918, Kan published “Diary of an Unknown Writer” in *Chuokoron*, which is a famous literary magazine. What it meant was he acquired a place among the great writers of Japan.



Enormously popular Kikuchi Kan after becoming a celebrated writer

Subsequently, Kikuchi Kan left Jiji Shimpō and concentrated on his literary work. He then published “Madame Pearl”. This story of love and revenge by the beautiful heroine, Ruriko, was a big hit and made him a popular writer in no time.

Kikuchi Kan became a super celebrity and rich as his books sold like hotcakes. However, this wasn’t his life’s goal as a writer. Actually, it seems that he’s planning to publish his own magazine. ...to be continued!

The Kikuchi Kan Chronicle is published every other month and chronicles the life of Kikuchi Kan. You can also read it on the website.
