



LIBRARY JOURNAL

✓ Matsubara, Hisako. **Cranes at Dusk.**

Dial:Doubleday. 1985. c.255p. tr. from German by Leila Vennewitz. \$15.95. F

Disillusioned by defeat, fearful of the impending American occupation, the people in the silk weavers' quarter of Kyoto struggle for renewal of their lives in August 1945. The very affecting focal character in this delicate novel is ten-year-old Saya. Like the author (who now lives in Cologne and writes in German), Saya is the daughter of a Shinto priest. Confused by her new experiences with Americans and Christianity, disturbed by her mother's grasping self-centeredness, jarred by the sudden death of her beloved younger brother, Saya repairs to her wise and stoical father with her troubles and questions. The reader learns, as Saya does, the possibilities and limitations inherent in all religions.—*L.M. Lewis, Social Science Dept., Eastern Kentucky Univ., Richmond*