



**Title:** *The Kwaidan Collection*

**Author:** Lafcadio Hearn; illustrated by Kent Williams

**Genre:** Horror/ Fantasy

**Date of Publication:** April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**Type of Book:** Hard cover

**Trim Size:** 9"x12"

**Binding Type:** Smyth sewn cloth

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**Available Via:** Consortium Book Sales & Distribution; Amazon

**Publisher's Name:** Beehive Books

**Publisher's Address:** 4440 Ludlow Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104

**Publisher's Phone #:** (267) 223-9758

**Publisher's email:** [info@beehivebooks.com](mailto:info@beehivebooks.com)

#### **Selling Points:**

- Features 22 haunting, full-color painted illustrations and 20 spot drawings by Kent Williams
- Housed in a decorative die-cut foil-embellished slipcase
- Includes an introduction by filmmaker Darren Aronofsky, a foreword by writer and translator Kyoko Yoshida, and a biographical afterword by Bon Koizumi, Hearn's great-grandson and director of the Lafcadio Hearn Memorial Museum

#### **Reviewed in:**

- [Foreword Reviews](#): "Elegant and unpredictable...a beautiful compendium of Japanese supernatural tales."

**Book Summary:** *The Kwaidan Collection* gathers twenty-three ghost stories originally featured in Lafcadio Hearn's *Shadowings* (1900) and *Kwaidan* (1904), the latter of which served as inspiration for Masaki Kobayashi's 1964 film of the same name. These stories cover strange and nightmarish tales drawn from Japanese folklore – tales of undead samurai, possessed pine forests, man-eating demons, and tormented Buddhist monks.

**Author Bio:** Patrick Lafcadio Hearn (1850 – 1904), later known as Koizumi Yakumo, was a Greek writer and journalist best known for retellings of Japanese folktales. Raised in Ireland, Hearn lived in America for over a decade writing for various newspapers in Cincinnati and New Orleans before eventually settling in Japan while on a correspondence assignment for *Harper's Magazine*. Here, he penned most of his work, which covered not only ghost stories but also travelogues, novels, cultural theory, and translations.

**Illustrator Bio:** Kent Williams (b. 1962) is an award-winning and Eisner-nominated painter. In the 1980s, he was one of the forerunners of what was coined as "Painted Comics" and helped set the stage for a more experimental approach to the graphic novel medium. He also collaborated with filmmaker Darren Aronofsky in developing the graphic novel of Aronofsky's film *The Fountain*. More recently, he did the movie poster for the restored and theatrical re-release of Akira Kurosawa's *Rashomon* and cover and interior art for the Criterion Collection Blu-ray edition of *The Lord of the Flies*.

**Illustrator's Website:** <https://www.kentwilliams.com/kwaidan>