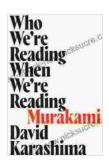
# Who We're Reading When We're Reading Murakami

Haruki Murakami is one of the most widely read and influential authors of our time, a master of postmodernism and magic realism whose work has delighted and bewildered readers around the world. His novels are often surreal, dreamlike, and infused with a sense of loneliness and alienation, but they also contain moments of great beauty and hope.



#### Who We're Reading When We're Reading Murakami

by David Karashima

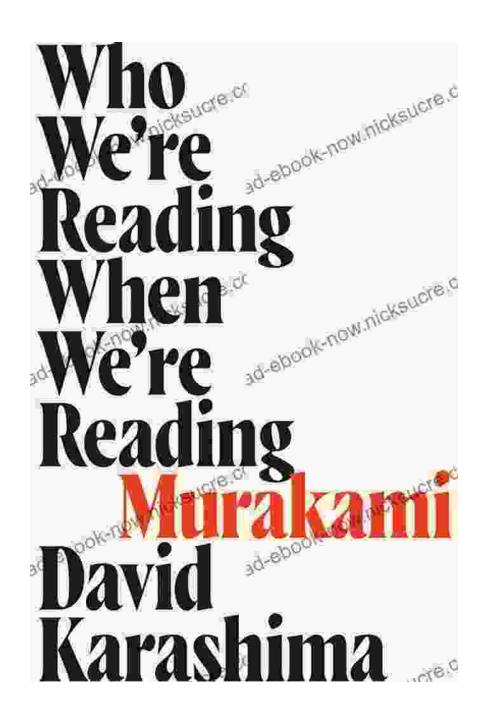
★ ★ ★ ★ 4.4 out of 5 Language : English File size : 10443 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled : Supported Screen Reader Enhanced typesetting: Enabled X-Ray : Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 304 pages



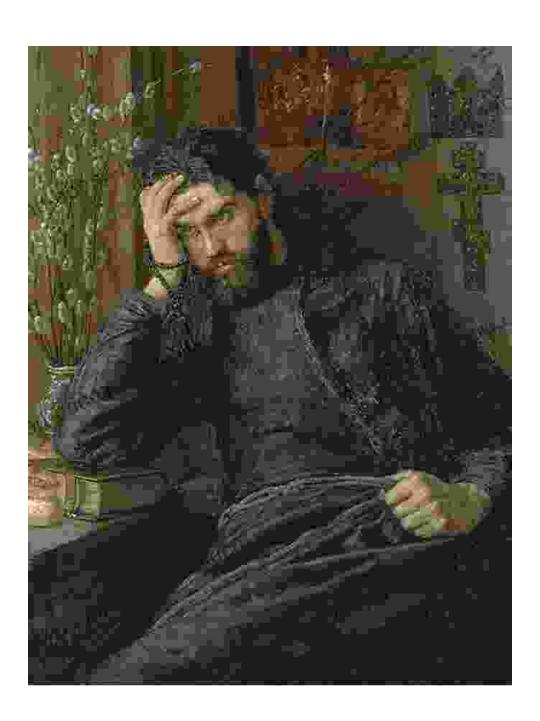
Murakami's work is often compared to that of other great writers, past and present, and it's clear that he has been influenced by a wide range of literary sources. In this article, we'll take a look at some of the writers who we think Murakami is reading when he's writing his own work.

#### Franz Kafka

Franz Kafka is one of the most important figures in 20th-century literature, and his work has had a profound influence on Murakami. Like Kafka, Murakami often writes about characters who are alienated from society and who struggle to make sense of their own lives. His novels are also full of surreal imagery and dreamlike sequences, which have been compared to Kafka's own work.



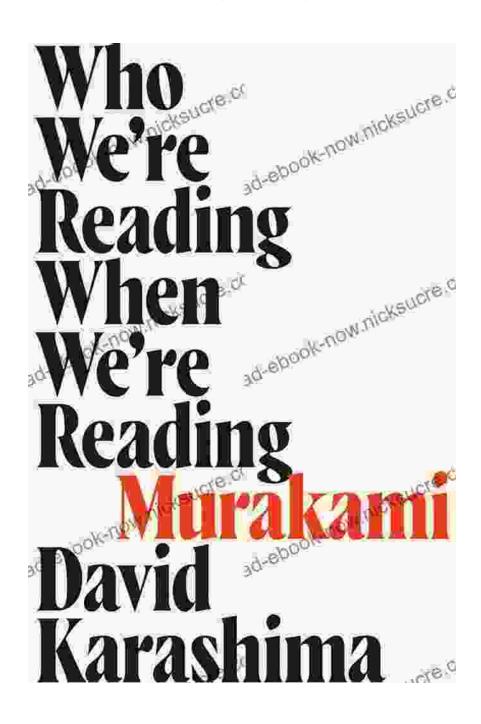
Fyodor Dostoevsky is another Russian writer who has had a major influence on Murakami's work. Dostoevsky's novels are often dark and psychological, and they explore the depths of human suffering and despair. Murakami has said that he admires Dostoevsky's ability to write about the most difficult aspects of human experience, and his own work is often full of similar themes.



Fyodor Dostoevsky, another of Murakami's literary influences

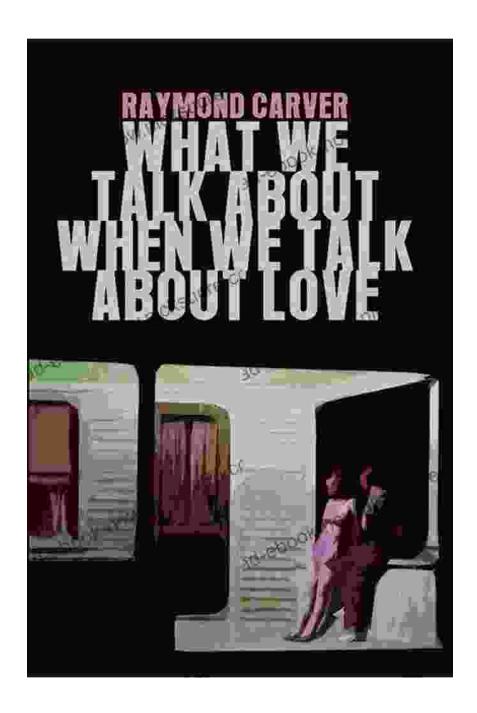
#### **Raymond Chandler**

Raymond Chandler is an American crime writer who is best known for his hardboiled detective novels. Murakami has said that he is a big fan of Chandler's work, and his own novels often feature similar elements, such as private detectives, femme fatales, and dark urban settings. However, Murakami's work is also more surreal and dreamlike than Chandler's, and he often uses the crime genre to explore deeper themes.



### **Raymond Carver**

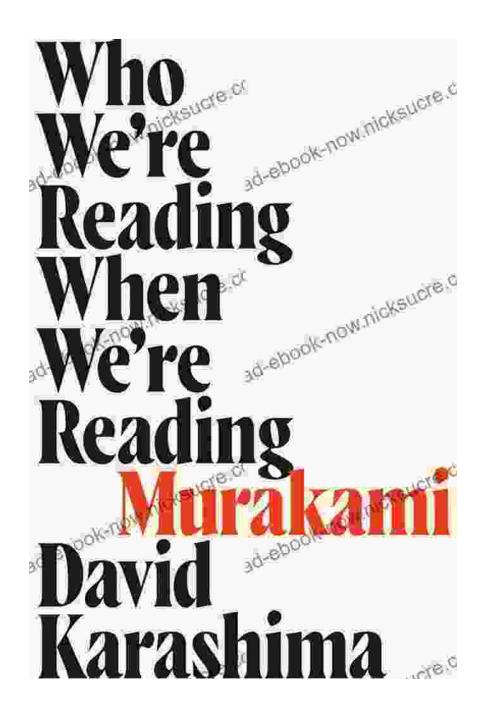
Raymond Carver is an American short story writer who is known for his minimalist style and his focus on the everyday lives of ordinary people. Murakami has said that he admires Carver's ability to write about the most mundane details of life in a way that is both moving and insightful. His own work often features similar themes, and he often uses Carver's techniques to create a sense of realism and intimacy.



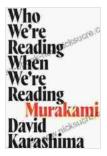
Raymond Carver, a literary influence on Murakami's minimalist style

### F. Scott Fitzgerald

F. Scott Fitzgerald is an American novelist who is best known for his novel The Great Gatsby. Murakami has said that he is a big fan of Fitzgerald's work, and his own novels often feature similar themes, such as love, loss, and the American Dream. However, Murakami's work is also more surreal and dreamlike than Fitzgerald's, and he often uses the American Dream to explore deeper themes.



These are just a few of the writers who we think Murakami is reading when he's writing his own work. It's clear that he has been influenced by a wide range of literary sources, and his work is a unique blend of different genres and styles. Murakami's novels are often challenging, but they are also rewarding, and they offer a unique perspective on the human condition.



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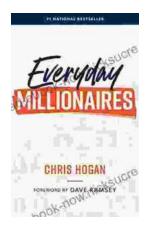
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