

Biography of Julie Otsuka

Julie Otsuka is a fresh new voice to the literary scene. She was born on May 15, 1962, in Palo Alto, California. Before becoming a writer, Julie Otsuka focused on becoming an artist, discovering a passion for sculpting and painting. She is a 1984 graduate of Yale University with a B.A. in art. She was accepted into the M.F.A programme at Indiana University and began her studies in September 1987 but withdrew from the school after a few months. She later returned to graduate studies and received an M.F.A in Creating Writing from Columbia University in 1999.

Julie Otsuka is one of the winners of the Sixth Annual Asian American Literary awards for her debut novel When the Emperor Was Divine. It took six and a half years to write and publish the book. Her favorite writers are Ernest Hemingway, Henry James, Richard Ford, Rick Bass, and Cormac McCarthy. She spends much of her time reading and writing. She currently resides in New York City and is working on her next novel.