Japan Examined

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this book examines dilemmas faced by second language I2 japanese speakers as a result of persistent challenges to their legitimacy as speakers of japanese based on an ethnographic interview study with I2 japanese speakers and their I1 japanese speaking friends co workers and significant others the book examines ideologies linked to three core speech styles of japanese keigo or polite language gendered language and regional dialects to show how such ideologies impact I2 japanese speakers the author demonstrates that speaker legitimacy is often tenuous for I2 speakers and argues that despite increasing

numbers of japanese speaking foreign residents in japan native speaker bias remains a persistent issue for I2 japanese speakers living and working in japan this book extends the discussion of native speaker bias beyond educational contexts and in the process reveals tensions between how I2 speakers aspire to speak and how I1 speakers expect them to speak

in fuzzy traumas tyran grillo critically examines the portrayal of companion animals in japanese literature in the wake of the 1990s pet boom blurring the binary between human and nonhuman grillo draws on japanese science fiction horror guide dog stories and a notorious essay on euthanasia treating each work as a case study of human animal relationships gone somehow awry he makes an unprecedented case for japan s pet boom and how the country s sudden interest in companion animals points to watershed examples of productive errors that provide necessary catalysts for change examining symbiotic concepts of humanity and animality grillo challenges negative views of anthropomorphism as something unethical redefining it as a necessary rupture in not a bandage on the thick skin of the human ego fuzzy traumas concludes by introducing the paradigm shift of postanimalism as a detour from the current traffic jam of animal centered philosophies arguing that humanity cannot move past anthropocentricism until we reflect honestly on what it means for the human condition

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this book explores alternative approaches to foreign language education in a context which is traditionally dominated by english only approaches and widely viewed as highly monolingual it examines the grassroots classroom practices of teachers and their assistants involved in plurilingual education in the first longitudinal research of its type in the japanese context these practices are grounded in depictions of the practitioners personal and professional trajectories

through explorations of their visual linguistic autobiographies the holistic ethnography thus deepens understanding of plurilingualism in a hitherto underexplored context and should be of interest to students and researchers of language teaching teacher training language policy sociolinguistics and plurilingualism

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taking a sociological approach this text provides a sophisticated highly readable introduction to japanese society

two years before the atomic attacks on hiroshima and nagasaki helped bring a quick end to hostilities in the summer of 1945 u s planners began work on operation downfall codename for the allied invasions of kyushu and honshu in the japanese home islands while other books have examined operation downfall d m giangreco offers the most complete and exhaustively researched consideration of the plans and their implications he explores related issues of the first operational use of the atomic bomb and the soviet union s entry into the war including the controversy surrounding estimates of potential u s casualties following years of intense research at numerous archives giangreco now paints a convincing and horrific picture of the veritable hell that awaited invader and defender in the process he demolishes the myths that japan was trying to surrender during the summer of 1945 and that u s officials later wildly exaggerated casualty figures to justify using the atomic bombs to influence the soviet union as giangreco writes both sides were rushing headlong toward a disastrous confrontation in the home islands in which poison gas and atomic weapons were to be employed as macarthur s intelligence chief charles willoughby succinctly put it a hard and bitter struggle with no quarter asked or given hell to pay examines the invasion of japan in light of the large body of japanese and american operational and tactical planning documents the author unearthed in familiar and obscure archives it includes postwar interrogations and reports that senior japanese commanders and their staffs were ordered to produce for general macarthur s headquarters this groundbreaking history counters the revisionist interpretations questioning the rationale for the use of the atomic bomb and shows that president truman s decision was based on real estimates of the enormous human cost of a conventional invasion this revised edition of hell to pay expands on several areas covered in the previous book and deals with three new topics u s soviet coope

northernmost home island of hokkaido and operation blacklist the three phase insertion of american occupation forces into japan it also contains additional text relevant archival material supplemental photos and new maps making this the definitive edition of an important historical work

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