

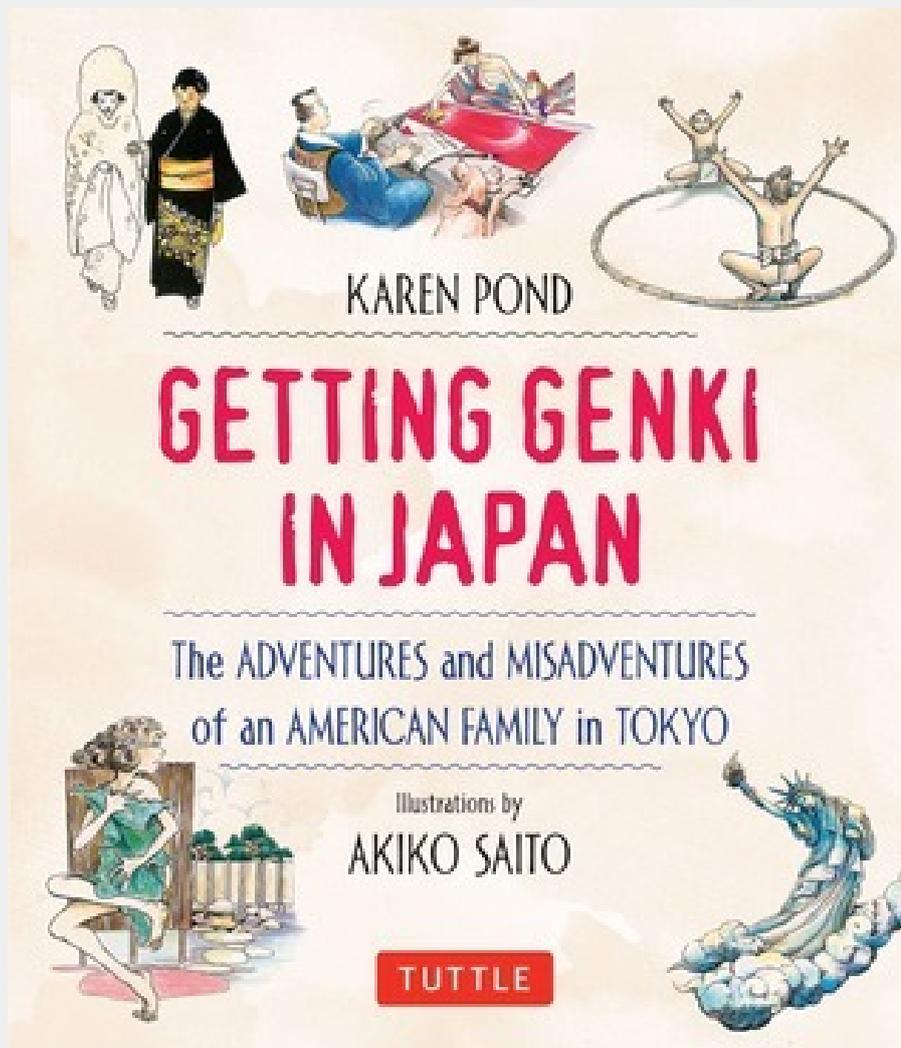
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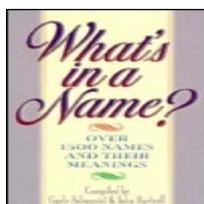
RECENT POST

Posted on 06 May 2017 By Karen Pond

The Unexpected Gift Of A Favored Bottle Of Shiraz From Her Husband Leads To The Adventure Of A Lifetime For Karen Pond And Her Family Moving From Rural Maine To The Largest City In The World Tokyo, Japan Getting Genki In Japan Is A Collection Of Illustrated Travel And Culture Essays And Musings Of A Down East Mom S Absurd And Exhilarating Adventures In The Far East From Bewildered And Befuddled And Back Again To Somewhat Wise, These Narratives Recount A Journey Of Cultural Discoveries, Experiences And The Follies Of A Newcomer To Japan Including Mis Identifying Food, Mis Pronouncing Japanese, Mis Pantomiming For Necessities, And Finally Figuring Out How To Flush The Japanese Toilet



10 thoughts on “Getting Genki In Japan ”



Shari Shari says:

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2 stars for content, 4 stars for illustrations LOVED the illustrations in this book, but I found myself mortified with the author s behavior in Japan Way too many faux pas that could easily have been remedied reading the most basic of Japanese travel books I found myself being

embarrassed to be American what they must think of us if people act like such dolts when visiting there. Nevertheless, it was cute, quick read, but it just needed a bit common sense and cultural awareness Although maybe that wouldn't be a book then D

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Jennifer Jennifer says:

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A bunch of culture shock vignettes by a woman who's moved to Japan I liked the self-deprecating tone and the ability to see oneself as the strange one and not just focus on Japanese culture as alien.

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Molly Molly says:

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Funny, short stories about life as a foreign family in Tokyo and how small tasks like buying cocoa, concert tickets, ordering pizza become monumental tasks. Great introduction to Japanese culture and the eccentricities of life in Japan.

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Nattapan Nattapan says:

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3.5 stars Hilarious. Language and cultural differences always make the world much interesting.

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Brandi Brandi says:

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Very funny Very real

Reply



Samantha Samantha says:

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This is the best book for a good laugh after having been in Japan for a few months You go through it all but it s so much funnier to read about it than experience it.

Reply



Elizabeth Elizabeth says:

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I love Japan I have traveled Japan, studied Japan, and thoroughly enjoyed all things Japanese I got this book from the library after a quick perusal at the bookstore Karen Pond is a good anecdotal writer, and the Fish out of Water genre is pretty entertaining. This is a short book, a fun read, a quick read, and a book I wish I could give

3.5 stars to There were some things I appreciated and some things that inexplicably bothered me. What I appreciated I remember feeling very ignorant and awkward at times when there was something I couldn't understand while traveling I am a person who loves to feel in the know, and it takes a big leap of faith to completely change your life I could appreciate some of her uncomfortable feelings. I also found some of her anecdotes highly amusing The pregnancy test anecdote and food related ones were especially charming. Japanese is a difficult language It is built with subtleties we don't rely on in English She must have struggled a bunch with developing an ear, an eye, and a tongue for the language. What I didn't appreciate I wish the book would have been a little meatier I read it in a day, and the anecdotes are nice, but many are forgettable. I wish she had explained the octopus balls comment After realizing she wasn't dealing with genitalia, I wish she would have taken a sentence to talk about what takoyaki is it's yummy. Sometimes, I feel like she was too enjoying the portrayal of herself as an ugly American Even if it was tongue in cheek. All in all, if you have spent extensive time in Japan or lived abroad anywhere, you may find a lot to identify with in this book A solid read.

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Leslie Leslie says:

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Despite my bad rating I really enjoyed this book But not for the right reasons I enjoyed it like you can enjoy a ridiculously bad movie Yes this book was bad The woman telling her story is completely retarded Now don't get me wrong, I understand for having done it myself that

living in a foreign country with a complete different language and culture can be hard But everywhere in the world there is a thing called common sense And this woman has a serious lack of it Now some could argue that the stories she tells aren t true, that she just made them up to be funny, witty and to make a point about the difficulties of living abroad Well it s not funny, REALLY not the dinner today is onictober, onigiri in October, get it get it HA HA HA. , it s the opposite of witty, and the only point it makes is that it must be hard to live, not abroad, but simply to live, when you re THAT stupid But for some reason I like mocking imbeciles so yeah I enjoyed this book, we can say it s one of my guilty pleasures But seriously it was bad.

Reply



Yue Yue says:

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It is so funny to discover new and strange things about Japan Or just to read about them Some things I ve already known, like the pedicure with the fish Or the onsen Others, like the little thing you have to wear when you are in a department store was totally new Japan is so different from anything I know Which is the reason why a book about Japan will never, EVER, be boring.What I did not like about this book was the humor of the author I feel like she was trying to hard to be funny She wasn t, in my opinion I would have enjoyed it if she did not try to be funny I mean, be a foreign living in Japan and trying to figure it out between the language, their Hiragana Katagana, etc, their beautiful and strange customs that is funny enough no reason to exaggerate or dramatize or whatever Also, it is very short The chapters have 3 pages at the most, but the size of the text is huge The

illustrations are nice.

Reply



Canesgalactica Canesgalactica says:

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Okay, so as a person currently living in Japan who also happens to be an American, I found this book to be pretty apt at summarizing mostly what it s like to live here as a foreign citizen The bits about standing in queues lines and learning about different customs for events like weddings was particularly funny to me as I find myself immersed in those activities quite often not always by choice.The illustrations are actually pretty well done, too and fit the tone of this lighthearted book splendidly I would honestly recommend this for any English speaking person who plans to stay in Japan for any extended amount of time as learning to survive here is not just about learning the language, but immersing yourself in the culture. and even then, chances are, you are still going to make mistakes, misunderstand something and be seen as that American person , regardless if you are here for a year. or twenty.

Reply
