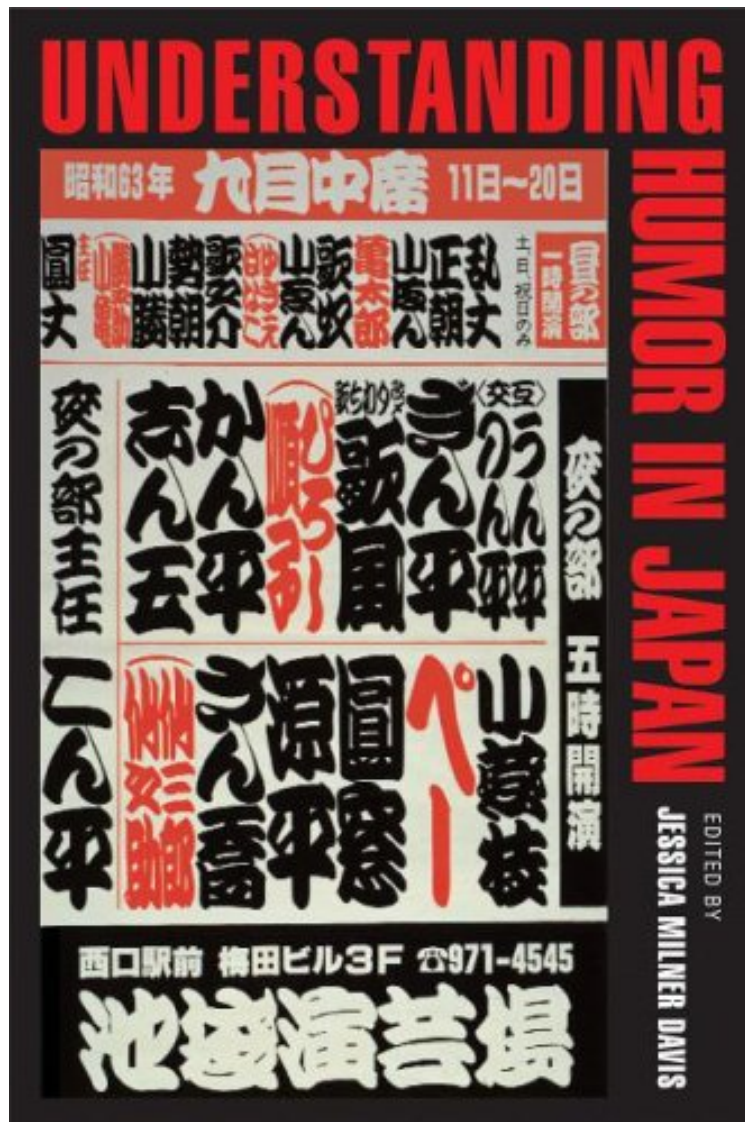


[Download] Understanding Humor in Japan (Humor in Life and Letters Series)

Understanding Humor in Japan (Humor in Life and Letters Series)

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From Brand: Wayne State University Press : Understanding Humor in Japan (Humor in Life and Letters Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Understanding Humor in Japan (Humor in Life and Letters Series):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Matthew TurnerA very useful guide for anyone trying to understand humor in Japan, a notoriously difficult subject to translate.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A solid introductionBy Alexandra RoedderDavis' book is well-written, easy to read, and full of information

about the history and current state of different kinds of humor in Japan. She clearly went to a lot of trouble with her ethnography, and does a good job of trying to explain what is to Westerners, even those who speak Japanese, a simply baffling sense of humor. 0 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Enlightening But...By D'shawn I'll still never understand it. I mean seriously? Seppuku, square watermelons, eating whales, Hentai...? Obviously what is considered "normal" varies from culture to culture, but come on, WTF Japan, seriously. I was raised by competitive dog groomers, and I still think Japan is Fing weird.

Japanese conventions about comedy and laughter are largely unanalyzed. For many students of Japanese culture and visitors to Japan, Japanese humor seems obscure, incomprehensible, paradoxical, and even nonexistent. By bringing together scholarly insights and original research by both Japanese and non-Japanese experts, Jessica Milner Davis bridges the differences between humor in Japan and the West and examines the entire spectrum of Japanese humor, from ancient traditions and surviving rituals of laughter to norms of joke-telling in ordinary conversation in Japan and America. For anyone interested in Japan, Japanese culture, and humor studies, *Understanding Humor in Japan* is an important teaching tool. It provides accessible, illustrative examples of humor in both Japanese and English with explanations of their meaning and cultural significance. Scholarly yet readable, these essays offer intelligent discussion on such topics as the Japanese delight in wordplay, the comic content of Japanese newspapers, the role of film and television in developing Japanese stand-up comedy, and formal censorship and its impact on humorous writing and self-expression in Japan. *Understanding Humor in Japan* breaks new ground in the study of humor and sheds light on much that is taken for granted about the role of laughter in civilized societies.

"This book is practically the first in the field and therefore it is a contribution in its entirety....[*Understanding Humor in Japan*] will be a very useful reference work for many years to come and will enable anyone whose research brings them into contact with humor in Japanese society to see the whole spectrum of ways in which the Japanese use and consume humor in their lives and culture." From the Publisher Japanese conventions about comedy and laughter are largely unanalyzed. For many students of Japanese culture and visitors to Japan, Japanese humor seems obscure, incomprehensible, paradoxical, and even nonexistent. By bringing together scholarly insights and original research by both Japanese and non-Japanese experts, Jessica Milner Davis bridges the differences between humor in Japan and the West and examines the entire spectrum of Japanese humor, from ancient traditions and surviving rituals of laughter to norms of joke-telling in ordinary conversation in Japan and America. For anyone interested in Japan, Japanese culture, and humor studies, *Understanding Humor in Japan* is an important teaching tool. It provides accessible, illustrative examples of humor in both Japanese and English with explanations of their meaning and cultural significance. Scholarly yet readable, these essays offer intelligent discussion on such topics as the Japanese delight in wordplay, the comic content of Japanese newspapers, the role of film and television in developing Japanese stand-up comedy, and formal censorship and its impact on humorous writing and self-expression in Japan. *Understanding Humor in Japan* breaks new ground in the study of humor and sheds light on much that is taken for granted about the role of laughter in civilized societies. About the Author Jessica Milner Davis is an honorary visiting fellow in the Department of Arts and Social Sciences at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia.