



# **And the Japanese Cleaned the Stadium: A Book about Japan**

*Matthew Rowe*

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## **And the Japanese Cleaned the Stadium: A Book about Japan** Matthew Rowe

"And the Japanese cleaned the stadium" follows a wide-eyed gaijin (foreigner's) first foray into Japan. Discovering samurai, robotic dogs, baby mops, manga, maid cafes, oh-so-many temples and why the Japanese can't say "no", it's an eventful journey full of light-hearted moments and (not always pleasant) surprises. The author explains some of the country's quirks and foibles and debunks some myths, as well as raising some interesting (and occasionally slightly disturbing) questions about the Japanese way of life. From sacred sites to neon lights "And the Japanese cleaned the stadium" is an enjoyable and entertaining introduction to Japan, the Japanese people, and their unique culture. Packed with anecdotes and insights, it's a must-read for anyone who's interested in Japan or travel in general.

## **And the Japanese Cleaned the Stadium: A Book about Japan Details**

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# **From Reader Review And the Japanese Cleaned the Stadium: A Book about Japan for online ebook**

## **Amanda Z says**

I won this eBook through Goodreads Giveaways!

The book is an extended description on one (British) man's trip to Japan combined with some analysis/criticism of Japanese culture. Sometimes it reminded me of reading a Bill Bryson type trip report combining anecdotes and history with personal experiences, other times I felt like I was reading about someone's vacation.

I made a very short, last-minute business trip to Japan during the holidays in 2011 (many things were closed). As a result, I got very little opportunity to see the country, and would love to go again someday, making me an ideal reader. It would have been nice to have this book for my original trip, because I thought it gave a reasonable overview of places, culture and manners. At the same time I don't have the background knowledge to judge its accuracy, completeness or offensiveness, or compare it against similar works. At one, there was one really awkward sentence about race in regards to stair climbing that made me raise my eyebrows.

The book was not professionally made, with some glaring issues. There was something seriously wrong with the pagination of the eBook. The first few chapters happened before the very first page before things went on as expected. The book frequently jumped between single and double spacing, which was rather distracting.

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## **Mardi Gorham says**

### **5 stars**

Interesting read. I learned a lot about Japan that I did not know before now. The author did a good job of describing the country.

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## **Laura Schrillo says**

This book had some interesting insights into Japanese culture by this gaijin. It also had some disturbing facts about some of their fetishes. Quick read but left me wanting to know more from someone raised in this culture.

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## **Jeanne says**

I received this book as a Goodreads giveaway. The author includes many interesting facts about Japan. However, the style was off-putting to me. Imagine being trapped by an acquaintance at a dinner party who goes into great detail about a recent vacation sans photos. Also, there was too much mansplaining and

opinionated digression.

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### **Kayla Tornello says**

This book offered an outsider's view of Japanese culture. While this is an interesting topic, the text jumped around a lot and repeated information, which wasn't ideal. Also, I really wanted photos of the various things the author talked about. This was a quick read which was interesting, but don't expect it to go into any depth on this topic.

I received this book as a Goodreads giveaway. Yay!

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### **Radoslav Vician says**

I really enjoyed the book as I was for some time living in Japan and got myself a Japanese wife. Most of the experience and the insight the author has corresponds also with mine. And the hats off to him for getting all the insight based on 'only' a tourist trip (and, I am sure, lots of research). A good book.

One note regarding transliteration. Why hari-kiri when hara-kiri is normally used? And I have never heard of seppuko, only seppuku. Finally, the name of Aum Shinrikyo leader was Shoko Asahara and not Ashara.

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