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Hot List

Non-Fiction

KODANSHA LTD.

A Stroll Through Beautiful Moss Gardens in Kyoto: Observe, Understand, and Learn About Moss Landscapes That Touch Your Heart



By Yuri Ugaya



Published : May 2024

Pages: 142

ISBN:4065353556

Highlighting a selection of beautiful green carpets, moss landscapes, chosen from the gardens of shrines, temples, ryokan, and restaurants in Kyoto, along with explanations of each spot. This book introduces the charm of moss, which is an essential part of any Japanese garden!

Includes close-up illustrations of different types of moss, garden highlights, detailed explanations of stone lanterns and stones, and an essay on how to enjoy moss gardens.

The author studied horticulture and design at the Niagara Parks School of Horticulture in Canada and did an internship at Kew Gardens, in the United Kingdom. She has traveled to as many as 30 countries, visiting gardens around the world. Active as a garden designer, she has created Japanese gardens all over the world, including a rock garden inside Grand Central Terminal in New York. She is well-versed not only in the art of garden design but also in other Japanese garden design elements such as moss, garden stones, and stone lanterns.

This book highlights a selection of beautiful green carpets, moss landscapes, chosen from the gardens of shrines, temples, ryokan, and restaurants in Kyoto, along with explanations of each spot. It introduces the charm of moss, which is an essential part of any Japanese garden. Also included are close-up illustrations of different types of moss, garden highlights, detailed explanations of stone lanterns and stones, and an essay on how to enjoy moss gardens.

Yuri Ugaya

A garden designer. She studied horticulture and design at the Niagara Parks School of Horticulture in Canada and did an internship at Kew Gardens, in the United Kingdom. She has traveled to as many as 30 countries, visiting gardens around the world. She created a rock garden inside Grand Central Terminal in New York, producing a Japanese garden space there. She has published numerous works including *Utsukushii Koke no Niwa (Beautiful Moss Gardens)*.

A Stroll Through Beautiful Moss Gardens in Kyoto: Observe, Understand, and Learn About Moss Landscapes That Touch Your Heart



By Yuri Ugaya

Table of Contents

Chapter 1: Understanding Moss
What Is Moss?
The Japanese and Moss
Four Types of Moss Gardens in Kyoto
Taking a Stroll and “Moss Bath” at Hakuryuen
Different Kinds of Moss
What Color Is Moss?
A Year in the Life of Moss
Column: Moss’s Partners: Ferns and Vines

Chapter 2: Observing Moss
Kyoto Moss Gardens Collection 1: Classic Moss Gardens
Ryogen-in
Hogon-in
Obai-in
Shoren-in
Joju-ji
Column: Keywords for Temple Gardens
Kyoto Moss Gardens Collection 2: Landscape Moss Gardens
Tofuku-ji
Kennin-ji
Komyo-in
Okochi Sanso
Zuiho-in
Hashimoto Kansetsu Garden & Museum
Column: The Exceptional Taste of Mirei Shigemori
Kyoto Moss Garden Collection 3: Photogenic Moss Gardens
Houon-in
Jiju-in
moksa
Garra Nijo Castle Kyoto
Ruriko-in
Column: How to Take Aesthetic Photos

Chapter 3: Learning About Moss
The Beauty of Moss Is Universal
The Five Survival Strategies of Moss
The “Moisturizing Effect” of Moss
Burning Moss Peat
Moss as Medicine and Sanitary Products
Moss Gardens Around the World
Moss in Waka Poetry
How to Make a Moss Terrarium
Clients and Gardeners
Essay: “The Moss Culture in the World I Have Created, Seen, and Experienced.”
National Moss Gardens Index
Kyoto Moss Gardens Index



●p34, Daitoku-ji Ryogen-in

Nine Mountains and Eight Seas. Ryogen-in, the oldest among Daitoku-ji’s sub-temples, has four gardens, which were created in different time periods. The oldest, northern garden Ryugin-tei was created in the Muromachi period and is said to have been designed by either the founder of the temple, Tokei Soboku, or Soami. Also known as “the Moss Temple of Rakuho,” the visual scale of the moss garden stretching as far as the eye can see is indeed breathtaking. The worldview expressed here is referred to as *Kusen Hakkai*. It represents nine mountains and eight seas, and the vivid blue Kishu stone symbolizes Mount Sumeru, the sacred mountain of Buddhism. In addition, this stone is also likened to a dragon, and as the name Ryugin-tei suggests, it is said to abstractly depict a dragon roaring and swimming through the clouds. The deep green moss gives the dragon a vibrant sense of energy, as if it were truly alive.

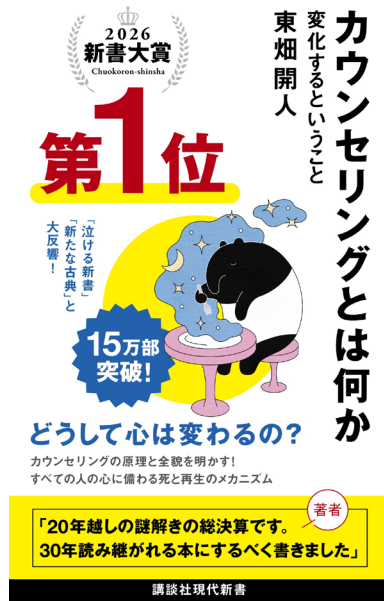
●p40, Hogon-in

At Hogon-in, beautiful moss covers its grounds all year round. Nurtured over a long period in the humid climate brought by the Oi River and the cool air of Arashiyama, the moss has this fluffiness like velvet and gently glistens. In particular, Dicranales glistens with moisture, soothing anyone who gazes at it. The garden is called “Shishiku no Niwa” (The Garden of the Lion’s Roar) and was designed by a Zen monk by the name of Sakugen Shuryo, who traveled to China twice in the late Muromachi period. “Shishiku” means “the Buddha gives a sermon,” and derives from the idea that even a roaring lion becomes quiet when it hears the Buddha’s sermon. In the guidebook from the Edo period called *Miyako rinsen meisho zue* (Pictorial guide to gardens in Kyoto) published in 1799, this garden is listed under its old name Myochi-in. Back in those days, it was renowned as a famous *karesansui* rock garden. The huge rock known as “Shishi-iwa” (Lion Rock), standing nearly 3 meters tall, is depicted in the illustrations as the exquisite stone of the Shishiku garden. Not only moss but also epiphytic orchids are growing on the rock’s surface. Just looking at the rock’s state, one can keenly feel the long years the stone has spent here.



What Is Counseling?

By Kaito Tohata



Published: September 2025

Pages: 442

ISBN: 978-4-06-541195-7

Rights Sold: Chinese (Simplified/
Traditional), Korean

The winner of the 2026 Shinsho Award and a bestseller with over 150,000 copies sold!

Counseling, a place that changes your life, is now opening its doors to society. A new milestone in the history of clinical psychology!

Everyone has heard of the word counseling, and yet, what actually goes on during counselling sessions is shrouded in mystery. By revealing conversations between the counselor and client that take place behind closed doors, this book sheds light on the mysteries of “Why do people change their minds?” and “What is the mind?”

There are five very practical interventions counselors utilize to support clients: moving the body, moving the world, becoming active, shifting the point of view, and stirring the soul. This book carefully examines each of these interventions, using specific examples.

The book also features clients who feel stuck in their daily lives and are uncertain about their futures. By getting the whole picture of what happens in the counseling room, we readers can find the courage to finally say goodbye to our pasts and take the next step forward.

Whether it's about family, work, school, or romance, this book is a must-read for anyone struggling with worries and feeling hopeless to turn your life around!

Selling points

The winner of the 2026 Shinsho Award and a bestseller with over 150,000 copies sold!

Psychoanalysis, Jungian psychology, cognitive-behavioral therapy, family therapy, humanistic psychology... This comprehensive work provides an overview of the fragmented field of clinical psychology and presents a metatheory of psychology.



Kaito Tohata

Born in 1983. He specializes in clinical psychology, psychoanalysis, and medical anthropology. Graduated from the Faculty of Education at Kyoto University and completed a doctoral program at the Graduate School of Education, Kyoto University. Director of the Shirokanetakanawa Counseling Room. Won the 19th (2019) Osaragi Jiro Rondan Prize and the 2020 Kinokuniya Jinbun Grand Prize for *Iruno wa Tsuraiyo (It's Hard to Be Here)*. Won the 2026 Shinsho Award for this work.

Life Advice for the Hard Days



By Ichiro Kishimi

泣きたい日の人生相談
岸見一郎



Published: April 2023
Pages: 240
ISBN: 978-4-06-531766-2
Rights Sold: Simplified Chinese, Korean

From the author of best-selling book *The Courage to be Disliked* with over 15 million copies sold worldwide, come hints on how to survive life!

30 topics that are sources of worry have been handpicked from Courier Japon's popular series "Introduction to Philosophy at 25" and are gathered here. People living in the modern age are beset by a myriad of troubles, such as worries about the unforeseeable future, money troubles, stresses about work and interpersonal relationships, and anxieties surrounding matters of the heart. It can be easy to feel overwhelmed and lost when faced with so many dilemmas... For those who feel like breaking down, this book offers the answers to living well even on the hardest days.

Selling points

Author of worldwide bestseller, *The Courage to be Disliked*, gives advice on some of life's most difficult troubles. Split into four parts—tips on how to live for yourself, facing life's troubles, overcoming the stress of interpersonal relationships, and the philosophy of romantic relationships and marriage—this book is guaranteed to leave the reader feeling their burdens have been lifted.

Topics Featured in this Book

- What should I do to become a "new me"?
- I'm sick of always being a people-pleaser.
- I want to become mentally resilient so I can overcome anything.
- I'm worried about all aspects of life. I have no savings and no partner.
- I'm worried about when I get old and what age I'll have to work until.
- I don't feel passionate about anything and don't have any life goals.
- How can I interact with people I don't like without feeling stressed?
- How should I come to terms with work I don't want to do?
- I feel so down on Mondays and after holidays.
- I'm troubled by my sexless relationship. Is it too late for us?
- What does it mean to "love someone"?

This book has an answer to all these worries and more!



Ichiro Kishimi

A philosopher and psychologist born in 1956. Completed his doctoral coursework without a degree at Kyoto University's Graduate School of Letters and Faculty of Letters (History of Western Philosophy). He specialized in ancient Greek philosophy alongside conducting research on Adlerian psychology. Author of *The Courage to be Disliked* (co-authored with Fumitake Koga, published by Diamond Inc.), a mega best-seller with over 15 million copies sold worldwide.

Bad Apples That Ruin the Workplace



By Tamami Katada



Published: March 2024

Pages: 192

ISBN: 9784065351925

Table of Contents

(Contents of the first chapter, which summarize the most common situations in a brief and concise manner.)

- Chapter 1: Bad apples that ruin the workplace
 - Case Study 1: Managers that push their own thoughts and opinions on others
 - Case Study 2: Managers that impose over-ambitious targets
 - Case Study 3: Younger employees that only do what they're told
 - Case Study 4: People who are perfectionists to an extreme
 - Case Study 5: People who complain about everything
 - Case Study 6: People who take their frustrations out on others
 - Case Study 7: People who are particular about departments at work
 - Case Study 8: People who always look down on others
 - Case Study 9: People who change their personality depending on who they are with
 - Case Study 10: People who shift blame to others
 - Case Study 11: People who stir the pot
 - Case Study 12: People who have no problem disclosing other people's secrets
 - Case Study 13: Managers that talk badly of those who are not in the room
 - Case Study 14: People who go behind others' backs to sabotage them.
 - Case Study 15: People who become workplace stalkers

Over 50,000 copies sold! Why can bad apples that ruin the workplace be found in all kinds of companies? A prominent psychiatrist in Japan, who has worked with over 7,000 patients, reveals the realities and remedies to this.

Those that impose their thoughts and opinions, those that look down on others, those that deflect responsibility, those that sabotage others, those that are self-serving, and those that change their personality depending on who they are with...One of these kinds of people can always be found in the workplace, but what is their actual thought process?

The author, who has worked with over 7,000 patients, says the most common source of anxiety affecting them is related to professional relationships.

What kind of people actually ruin the workplace? What is the social context that breeds them? What kind of person becomes the target of these people? Is there an effective way to deal with bad apples?

Our best-selling author shares plenty of clinical study cases on this phenomenon.

Selling points

- 15 case studies that illustrate the different pathologies in the workplace
- An analysis of the “narcissism epidemic,” the “illusion of equality,” and other systemic problems that afflict modern-day society in developed countries.
- There is also a section on the characteristics of people who become easy targets and techniques on how to say “no.”



Tamami Katada

Psychiatrist. Author of the best-seller *Tanin wo Kougekisezuniwa Irarenai Hito* (People Who Cannot Help but Attack Others) with over 270,000 copies sold, and other works.

The Real China: The Mindset and Principles of the Chinese That the Japanese Don't Know



By Daisuke Kondo



Published: August 2025

Pages: 272

Format: Paperback

Series: Kodansha Gendai Shinsho

Volume Number: 2784

ISBN: 978-4-06-540915-2

Retail Price: 1,100 yen (tax included)

What do the Chinese think and how do they act?

A vast continent, a turbulent history, a society where only the strong survive...Decoding the fundamental principles of the mindset and actions that drive China.

What do the Chinese think and what principles drive their actions? Despite the fact that Japan and China are neighboring countries that have interacted with each other for over two thousand years, their respective perceptions of common sense are surprisingly different. In this book, Daisuke Kondo, one of Japan's leading experts on China, decodes the fundamental principles of the mindset and actions of Chinese society, based on his many years of reporting experience. He puts a spotlight on the difference in environments between the Japanese, who live in an archipelago, and the Chinese, who live on a continent. On the vast continent, where invasions by foreign enemies and dynastic transfers of power took place frequently, the Chinese developed keen senses and instincts to quickly detect societal changes and protect themselves and their families. Kondo claims that this has resulted in mistrust of others, a competitive stance where the winner takes it all, a top-down organizational structure that makes decisions quickly, a preference for strength and power, and an intense obsession with money. Furthermore, using concrete examples, Kondo delves into various subjects including the Chinese imperial system and modern politics, Sinocentrism and diplomacy, Confucianism, Buddhism, and Taoism, characteristic differences between the north and south, urban and rural areas, generational gaps, and the values of Generation Z. This intriguing yet accessible introductory book on modern China encourages the readers to see China as a vast neighboring country governed by a different set of principles, rather than seeing them simply in dichotomic terms like "like or dislike" or "friend or foe."

Table of Contents (excerpts)

Prologue

Chapter 1: The Fundamental Principles That Form the Basis of China

The Japanese Living in an Archipelago and the Chinese Living on a Continent/A Fascination With Big Things/A Laid-Back Personality/The People of the Central Plains

Chapter 2: Lonely and Anxious Chinese People

A High-Risk Society/The "DNA" of Distrust/The Concept of "Self"/An Indifferent Society

Chapter 3: No Sympathy for Losers: Cruel Tales of China

A "Winner-Takes-All" Society/A Top-Down System That Makes Quick Decisions/Everyone Aims for the Top/The "DNA" of Running Away and Dodging

Chapter 4: What Do the Chinese Believe In?

"Money Worshipers"/Syncretic Buddhism/Confucianism Is Not a Religion/Natural Taoism

Chapter 5: The "National Logic" That Drives China

The Concept of "the Art of War"/The Imperial System and Chinese Democracy/ Sinocentrism and the Tributary System/Chinese Medicine Diplomacy

Chapter 6: Many Ethnicities in China

Diversity as Seen in Chinese Cuisine/Northern Chinese and Southern Chinese/Generational Gaps/The Reality Facing Generation Z/Japan Is a "Safe Haven" for the Chinese

Daisuke Kondo

Born in Saitama in 1965. Graduated from the University of Tokyo. Completed a master's degree in International Information Studies. After joining Kodansha, he studied abroad at Peking University and served as vice president of Kodansha Beijing. He has made reporting on East Asia centering around China and the Korean Peninsula his life's work. He is also a special editorial board member at Kodansha and a columnist for *Gendai Business*. Since 2008, he has served as a professor at Meiji University, teaching East Asian studies.

The column "Random Walker in Beijing," serialized in *Gendai Business*, is known as one of Japan's leading columns on China. In 2019, he received the Grand Prize for Okakura Tenshin Memorial Award from the International Academic Society for Asian Community for his work *Huawei to Beichu 5G senso* (*Huawei and the US-China 5G War*). Among his works are *Mirai no Chugokunenpyo* (*A Chronology of China's Future*), *Pax China: Chukateikoku no Yabo* (*Pax Sinica: The Ambition of the Chinese Empire*), *Fact de Yomu Beichu Shin-Reisen to After Corona* (*Understanding the New U.S.-China Cold War and the Post-COVID Era Through Facts*), and *Fushigina Chugoku* (*The Mysterious China*).

The Real China: The Mindset and Principles of the Chinese That the Japanese Don't Know



By Daisuke Kondo

Selling points

- **A thorough analysis of the differences in perceptions of common sense between the Japanese and Chinese**

By tracing the characteristics of the Chinese back to their roots in geography and history, the author breaks down the patterns of the mindset and actions of Chinese society that cannot be fully grasped through individual news stories or political issues alone.

- **A comprehensive introductory book exploring topics of Chinese politics, economy, and society**

This book provides an overview of everything ranging from China's geographical conditions as a continental nation, to a society where only the strong survive, to religious views, to the Chinese imperial system, to Sinocentrism, to diplomacy, to regional differences, to generational gaps.

- **Not viewing the Chinese in simple dichotomic terms**

The book provides a detailed explanation of the huge differences and diversity that exist within Chinese society such as between the north and the south, urban and rural areas, and older generations and Generation Z.

- **An easy-to-understand and intriguing narrative based on extensive on-site reporting**

Based on many years of reporting in China, including his time stationed in Beijing and an extensive professional network, the author breaks down Chinese society not only through abstract concepts but also through his personal experiences and relatable stories.

- **A must-read for understanding Japan-China relations beyond conflict and xenophobia**

This book presents a realistic point of view recognizing China as a neighboring country that is governed by different principles, rather than unconditionally praising China or simply viewing them as a threat.

- **A best-selling book with about 45,000 copies sold in its first year**

Amid the growing interest and concern over China, the book has garnered a lot of attention from a wide audience interested in business, diplomacy, international politics, and Chinese culture.

Modern World History: The Reasons Behind the Renaissance of “Might Makes Right” Paperback Edition



By Shogo Kawakita



Published: December 2025
Pages: 328
Format: Paperback
Series: Kodansha Gendai Shinsho
ISBN: 978-4-06-542192-5
Retail Price: ¥ 1,320 (tax included)

Why is the world heading, once again, towards an age where justice is dictated by those with power?

Analyzing what fuels Putin, Xi Jinping, and Trump’s urge to “recover lost ground” through the testimonies of world experts and the involved parties.

Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, China’s expanding presence in the Pacific, Trump’s re-election, anti-immigration policies, and the surge of the ultra-right. Why does this spell the end of an era where freedom and democracy were expected to expand after the Cold War?

A top international journalist for Kyodo News conducted interviews with researchers, politicians, diplomats, and businesspeople from all around the world in this massive undertaking. Angela Stent, the leading expert on Russia and Russian foreign policy, Zheng Wang, an authority in the study of Chinese Nationalism and its historical memory, Ian Bremmer, a prominent American political scientist specialized in global politics, and former Secretary General of NATO, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, are among the aforementioned experts and involved parties, right at the frontline of international politics, who are featured in this work.

Their testimonies illustrate a much bigger picture of the current climate of the world, something that cannot be seen by looking at the quasi-heretic leadership of Putin, Xi Jinping, and Trump individually. The hunger to recover lost lands, former glory, wealth, and racial pride, moves countries and societies from within towards a “Reconquista,” or recapture of lost ground.

The end of America’s hegemony, the social disparity bred by globalization, the active non-alignment of the Global South, information manipulation brought by social media, democracy fatigue... This work of modern world history breaks down these intricately intertwined social changes in the world in an easy-to-understand manner by vividly portraying all those shifts as part of a single history, answering the fundamental question, “Why did the world start to unravel all of a sudden?”

Table of Contents (excerpts)

Prologue: The Police Retreat
Chapter 1: The Reckoning – From Invincible to G-Zero
Chapter 2: The Great Country of Disparity – The Disease Consuming the U.S.
Chapter 3: Revanchism – Ambitioning the Reconstruction of the Great Russia
Chapter 4: The Century of Humiliation – The Chinese People’s Prodigious Recovery
Chapter 5: The Rebellion of the South – The Logic and Psychology Behind BRICS
Chapter 6: The White Man’s Unease – The Great Replacement Worldview
Chapter 7: Social Media and Information Manipulation – A New Threat to Democracy
Chapter 8: The Crimes of the Police – The Outdated Postwar Order
Chapter 9: History in Reverse – Traditionalism Makes a Comeback
Epilogue: History Heading Towards the 19th Century

Shogo Kawakita

An international journalist born in 1963 in Kobe, he joined Kyodo News after graduating from Keio University. Among his various assignments, he has been a special correspondent in Brussels and a temporary special correspondent in Geneva, a roving correspondent in Iraq, a special correspondent in New York (at the U.N.), a special correspondent in Washington, Deputy Foreign Editor, Deputy Manager of the Integrated News Center, and General Manager. He is currently a Kyodo News Agency Senior International Correspondent and Editorial Writer. Kawakita was also in charge of “The Age of the Reconquista,” a major international interview series published in 25 newspapers affiliated with Kyodo News, as well as its follow-up project, “The Reconquista 2.0: Trump’s America.” The work presented here is a bestseller, with over 100,000 copies sold.

Modern World History: The Reasons Behind the Renaissance of “Might Makes Right” Paperback Edition



By Shogo Kawakita

Selling points

- A massive amount of interview material with world-renowned experts, politicians, diplomats, and businesspeople. Testimonies recorded from the greatest minds and individuals at the frontlines of Russia, China, the U.S., Europe, and the Global South. An approach to a “view from the other side” that would be impossible to grasp just from Japanese journalism.
- The key to reading the historical tide brought by Putin, Xi Jinping, and Trump. A breakdown of the restructuring of the modern world that stems from the thirst for a “Reconquista,” or recapture of lost ground; a common motivator among these three leaders.
- An outline of global events happening since the end of the Cold War until now, condensed in a single story. Everything from the establishment of America’s unipolar hegemony to its decline, Russia and China’s rise to power, issues related to immigration and social disparity, and the expansion of the ultra-right and populism, are vividly explained.
- This is not just a compendium of interviews; it’s an expression of the highest forms of organization and wordsmithing. It’s the re-creation of a massive undertaking that took over 3 years and 80 interviews across the globe evolved so that it can be understood without the need to study complex international politics.
- An instant bestseller in international politics, with over 110,000 copies sold within just half a year after its release...
...and it continues to become the center of attention after every event that shakes the international scene, gathering a large following that considers it a guidebook in understanding the modern world.
- Continues to be praised by Japanese scholars!
Makoto Naruke (former President of Microsoft Japan): This is the best book I can recommend on international politics from everything I’ve read in the last 5 years. You should read it, nay, you **MUST** read it! Once you start reading it, you won’t be able to put it down until you’ve turned the last page. You might need to stay up all night to finish it, but its storytelling and narrative are phenomenal. As a Japanese reader, this book really made me think of how I interpret the world and the actions I should take.

Shakaibu Bucho (author of *Ano Kunino Hontono Omowakuwo Minuku Chiseigaku (Geopolitics to Understand the True Intentions of That Country)*):

The current world feels like it’s in a game of musical chairs where the music has stopped. America stood up, and Russia and China are fighting to take that empty chair. This book takes a cool-headed look at the anatomy of the ensuing chaos from the perspective of these “antagonists,” shedding a light on their version of justice.

Predatory: The Darkness of the Tokuryu Criminal Organization “Natural,” Making Money Out of Greed



By Masahiro Shimizu, Nihonbashi Group



Published: February 2024
Pages: 256
ISBN: 9784065427491

This is the unseen face of the men in a scouting group that sends women to the sex industry and hostess clubs, controlling the darkest corners of Shinjuku’s Kabukicho.

Kabukicho, Tokyo. A city that never sleeps, visited by tourists from all over the world.

“Natural,” a scouting group that sends women to work in the sex industry, in places such as escort services and massage parlors, as well as hostess clubs, currently boasts a force of 2,000 members nationwide. The police are currently making every effort to unmask this group, dubbed “a most vicious scouting criminal organization.” Kiyama, their top leader, was arrested in January this year, but this organization is still active in the nightlife districts of the city.

The leaders at the “headquarters” send instructions to their scouts through a malicious, home-developed app. Profits are amassed at the “headquarters” and then distributed among the scouts based on their level of performance and ranking. Secrets of the organization are guarded closely, and those that try to leave the group without permission, or those that leak information outside, are subjected to the cruelest punishments, such as brutal beatings. The rules continue to apply even after one has left the organization, and such is the fear of monetary and physical retaliation, that, once in, members find themselves trapped with no way out. The authors, who spent many years reporting on investigative agencies and a countless number of crimes, present this prominent work of journalism as they chase the truth behind the organization.

Table of Contents (excerpts)

Prologue: Scout-Hunting

Chapter 1: A Man Called Saeki

First Contact

From Student of a Major University to Member

The Rite of Passage at Kabukicho

Monthly Earnings of 3 million yen

Chapter 2: An Organization Shrouded in Mystery

The Strongest and Most Vicious Scouting Group

Profits Surpassing 5 Billion Yen Per Year

The Excuse Is “I Was Just Trying to Pick Her Up”

Remuneration Is Handed Out on the Streets

Chapter 3: A Malicious App

A Tool with an Exhaustive Number of Functions

Avoiding Security Cameras at All Costs

Individual Sales and the Career Ladder

Breaking the Rules May Cost up to Several Million Yen

Information Leaks Also Merit Severe Punishments

“Wanted Fugitives” Among the Members

A “Bug” to Track Each Other

“Never Share Your Code”

Leaving the Organization Without Permission Will Be

Severely Punished

Chapter 4: The Head of a Massive Organization

The Kiyama Brothers

The Role of the Experienced Adults

The Background to the Brawl

From Kabukicho to the Rest of the Country

Chapter 5: The Scouts and the Women

A Popular Sex Worker: Mirei

Nips and Tucks, One After Another

From Dental Hygienist to Lady of the Night

Isn’t There a Better-Paying Job Out There?

Driven into a Corner by Loan Sharks

Chapter 6: Overseas Prostitution, Plastic Surgery, Weight-Loss Drugs

“The Dubai Case”

The Risks of Overseas Prostitution

Beauty and Sex Work

Putting the Weight-Loss Drug Mounjaro on the Black Market

Chapter 7: The Police vs “Natural”

Why Did the Police Investigation Get Leaked?

The Osaka Organized Crime Control Division’s Blunder

Scouts Busted for “Protection Money”

The Newly Established Special Investigations Unit of the Tokyo Metropolitan

Police Department

Epilogue: Money is Everything, The World of Money

Masahiro Shimizu

Born in Nagano in 1973. Joined NHK in 1999 after graduating from the Philosophy Department of Hokkaido University. He worked at the News Bureau as head of press for the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department and as deputy director of Social Affairs, and he was also editor-in-chief of “Good Morning Japan,” mainly responsible for the coverage of crime and investigative journalism. He has also reported on and produced the NHK specials *Hitoridanchi no Isshitsu* (Living Alone in the Unit of an Apartment Complex), *Shokugyo “Sagi”* (I’m a Con Artist), the *Mikaiketsu Jiken* (Unresolved Crimes) series, and *Jiken no Namida “Tadoritsuita Basutei De”* (Tears of Incident: Human Crossroads “The Bus Stop I Arrived At”). In October of 2024, he went independent and started his own media-related company.

Nihonbashi Group

A team of a new type of journalists made up with people with experience in media, civil service, politics, IT, etc. They conduct investigative journalism in coordination with media outlets from in and out of Japan, as well as the planning and producing of documentaries and movies.



Kazuko Hosoki: The Witch's Resume—New Edition



By Atsushi Mizoguchi



Published: April 2026
Pages: 272
ISBN: 9784065428276

Over 110,000 copies sold! Trending as the reference work for *Straight to Hell*, a TV drama series that premiered worldwide on Netflix! Yakuza, psychic scams, host clubs... This controversial work exposes the underbelly of Japanese society!

A modern chronicle of desire steeped in lust, money, and violence that one of the few female yakuza in Japan lived through! A monumental achievement in Japanese journalism—the story of how Japanese journalists brought down the terrifying fortune-teller whose catchphrase “You’re going straight to hell!” had the TV industry on its knees, without yielding to a whopping 600 million yen lawsuit or pressure from senior executives of a major crime syndicate!

Born in Shibuya’s red-light district and raised in the nightlife of Ginza and Akasaka, she was indeed a “temptress.” The true face and identity of Kazuko Hosoki, who formed deep, long-standing ties with yakuza executives, won over high-profile figures including a top enka singer and an advisor to former prime ministers, and amassed a vast fortune as the “world’s greatest fortune-teller,” are finally revealed!

Selling points

- A vivid portrayal of Japan’s dark side, the yakuza, host clubs, and psychic scams.
- Supplementary reading material to *Straight to Hell*, a TV drama series that premiered worldwide on Netflix.
- An exposé on the reality of the Japanese television industry’s obsession with materialism and lack of social morality.

Table of Contents (excerpts)

Prologue: Was She the “Darling” of the Era?
Chapter 1: Born into a Household Where the Wife and the Mistress Lived Together
Chapter 2: The “Constant Companions,” Lust and Desire
Chapter 3: A Solemn and Long-Standing Pledge with the Koganei Family and Masashi Horio
Chapter 4: Riding on Someone Else’s Coattails: Enter the Fortune Teller Hosoki
Chapter 5: Here Comes Chiyoko Shimakura, the Golden Goose
Chapter 6: Pulling a Fast One on Masahiro Yasuoka, Advisor to Former Prime Ministers
Chapter 7: The Pathetic, Unprincipled Stance of the TV Stations That Hired Hosoki
Chapter 8: Hosoki’s Marketing Model of “From Holy Water to Gravestones”
Chapter 9: The Cemetery, Shedding Light on the “Love of Her Life”
Final Chapter: A Female Yakuza Thriving in an Era of Vulgarly
Addendum: Pitfalls of “Counterarguments and Lawsuits”

Atsushi Mizoguchi

A nonfiction writer and journalist. Among his works are *Eat or Be Eaten: My Experience with Yakuza Group Yamaguchi-gumi* (Kodansha Bunko), *Boryokudan (Yakuza)* (Shincho Shinsho), *Chi to Koso: Yamaguchi-gumi Sandaime (Blood and Feud: The Third Generation of the Yamaguchi-gumi)*, *Yamaguchi-gumi Yondaimo: Arakurushishi (The Fourth Generation of the Yamaguchi-gumi: The Raging Lion)*, and *Butoha: Sandaime Yamaguchi-gumi Wakagashira (A Militant: The Second-in-Command of the Third-Generation Yamaguchi-gumi)*, along with the Yamaguchi-gumi documentary series *Document: Godaime Yamaguchi-gumi (Documentary: The Fifth Generation Yamaguchi-gumi)*, and *Yamaguchi-gumi Doran!! Nihonsaidai no Boryokudan Document 2008-2015 (Yamaguchi-gumi Upheaval!! A Documentary on Japan’s Largest Yakuza Group: 2008–2015)*. Also, he won the 25th Kodansha Nonfiction Award for *Shokuniku no Teioh (The Emperor of Meat)*.

Managing “Interpersonal Relationships” for Adults with ADHD



By Rieko Shiba



Published: April 2026
Pages: 100
ISBN: 978-4065430637

Not being able to pick up after oneself, not being able to find the willpower to do things, tripping up when it comes to relationships... This series breaks down challenges like these that are commonly faced by adults with ADHD, using easy-to-understand explanations and illustrations.

Included in this three-volume set are *Managing Interpersonal Relationships*, *Tidying Skills*, and *Managing Motivation*. The author provides practical knowledge and know-how that can be used in daily life, such as tips for effective communication both at work and at home, techniques to create a comfortable living environment, and strategies to help cope with procrastination and ups and downs in concentration.

Packed with useful tips that can be applied to various aspects of life including at home, at school, and at work, this popular series offers support to those with ADHD who want to make life easier and live positively by utilizing their unique strengths. The three volumes can also be combined into a single volume.

Making others angry without meaning to, forgetting promises and losing others' trust because of it, saying the wrong thing and regretting it later... This practical guide by psychiatrist Dr. Rieko Shiba offers specific solutions for such interpersonal challenges that adults with ADHD face, along with easy-to-understand explanations.

Designed to help readers tackle their interpersonal problems step by step, the book is structured as follows: “understanding why interpersonal conflicts happen” → “keeping emotions in check” → “improving communication skills” → “learning how to be considerate of others” → “taking care of oneself.”

This book explores a wide range of topics from communication in the workplace, to strengthening family ties, to maintaining friendships, to navigating romantic relationships, along with helpful tips for various everyday situations. This is an essential practical guide for reducing stress in interpersonal relationships and living peacefully by embracing who you really are.

Table of Contents (excerpts)

- Chapter 1: Characteristics Play a Role in Interpersonal Problems
 - Common Causes Such as Impulsivity and Inattention
 - A Quick Temper Can Lead to Fights
 - The Inability to Wait for Others' Reactions, etc.
- Chapter 2: Tips to Tame One's Temper
 - Pausing for Just Three Seconds After Getting Upset
 - Avoiding Saying Things That Will Provoke Others
 - Taking a Deep Breath and Calming Down, etc.
- Chapter 3: Tips to Communicate Smoothly
 - Paying Attention When Others Are Speaking
 - The Intension of Moving at One's Own Pace
 - Taking a Pause Before Speaking, etc.
- Chapter 4: Ways to Show Empathy to Others
 - Realizing That Others Also Need Help
 - The Things That Cause Discomfort Vary from Person to Person
 - Trying Not to Be the Reason the Other Person Is Upset, etc.
- Chapter 5: Picking Oneself up by Taking Care of Oneself
 - Avoiding Self-Deprecation
 - Not Closing Oneself off After Failure
 - Forgiving Oneself for Being Sensitive, etc.

Selling points

- Provides a clear picture of why those with ADHD tend to have interpersonal problems, and how to deal with them.
- Plenty of practical communication techniques that can be applied in daily life situations.
- Offers solutions to various problems that come up in working relationships, familial relationships, friendships, and romantic relationships.
- Tips for regaining trust and building better relationships.
- Easy-to-understand explanations with numerous illustrations.



Rieko Shiba

Director of Shiba Clinic. Holds a PhD in Medicine. Graduated from Okayama University's Medical School in 1978. Completed her doctoral program at the same university's graduate school in 1983. In 1997, she published *Nobita・Gian Shokogun* (*The Nobita and Gian Syndrome*) (SHUFUNOTOMO). This book was the first in Japan to introduce ADHD in depth, and thanks to the use of analogies of familiar characters, which made it easy to understand, it became a bestseller. She has written and edited numerous other books as well.

Managing “Motivation” for Those with ADHD

By Rieko Shiba



Published: February 2020
Pages: 100
ISBN: 978-4065186770

Not being able to bring oneself to do things that have to get done, panicking when deadlines approach, regretting putting things off until the last minute... This practical guide by psychiatrist Dr. Rieko Shiba explains how to turn motivation into action for adults with ADHD who face struggles like these, using various illustrations.

Those with ADHD think “I should do it” or “I have to do it,” but because of their innate traits such as impulsivity, inattention, and difficulty processing time, they often find it hard to take action. This book carefully decodes the mechanisms behind procrastination and lack of motivation, offering specific coping strategies and techniques to help them effortlessly take action and stay motivated.

Managing “Motivation” for Those with ADHD offers support to those who want to move forward one step at a time in a way that best fits their style, helping to ease the struggles of life and providing tips for living a fulfilling life while staying true to themselves.

Table of Contents (excerpts)

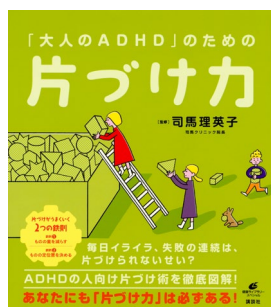
Chapter 1: Characteristics Play a Role in Interpersonal Problems
Chapter 2: Tips to Tame One's Temper
Chapter 3: Tips to Communicate Smoothly
Chapter 4: Ways to Show Empathy to Others
Chapter 5: Picking Oneself up by Taking Care of Oneself

Selling points

- Offers a clear picture of why those with ADHD can't take action even though they want to.
- Practical tips to motivate oneself that can be implemented right away.
- Detailed explanations of time management and countermeasures for procrastination.
- Strategies for resolving everyday challenges, including decluttering and document management.
- Tips for managing self-doubt and regaining confidence.
- Numerous easy-to-understand illustrations.

Tidying Skills for Adults with ADHD

By Rieko Shiba



Published: April 2018
Pages: 100
ISBN: 978-4062598682

Many people with ADHD feel they are not good at tidying up and organizing. Due to traits associated with ADHD such as inattention, forgetfulness, and difficulty processing multiple pieces of information at once, it's common for those with ADHD to not know where to start or to find that things are quickly back to being messy again even after tidying up. This is a practical guide to help those with ADHD who are struggling with tidying up even though they want to do so.

However, the aim of this book isn't to create the kind of aesthetically styled rooms you see in interior design magazines. Instead, it aims to help you achieve “functional tidying up” that streamlines your daily life and work such as being able to quickly take out what you need when you need it and not waste time looking for things. The goal here is to create a space that you can live comfortably in and is easy to maintain, rather than simply focusing on making your environment aesthetic.

Based on two golden rules that are essential for those with ADHD to maintain tidy spaces, this book introduces practical tips for organizing items, rooms, and workplaces, along with plenty of easy-to-understand illustrations. It also covers methods to effortlessly maintain an organized state. This book is packed with tips to help you find a tidying method that best suits you and makes your life easier.

Table of Contents (excerpts)

Chapter 1: Tidying Skills Lie in You
Chapter 2: Sticking to the Two Golden Rules and Finding Success
Chapter 3: By Item—The First Order of Business, Gathering Up the Clutter
Chapter 4: By Room—Identifying Which Item Belongs to Whom
Chapter 5: The Workplace—Staying Motivated with a “Reward System”

Selling points

- A practical organization guide for those with ADHD.
- Creating a “functional room” rather than an “aesthetic room.”
- “Two golden rules” for maintaining an organized space.
- Organization techniques for various situations, from home to the workplace.
- Tips to effortlessly maintain a tidy and organized space.
- Plenty of easy-to-understand illustrations.

The Attachment Disorder Spectrum: An Encyclopedia on Children's Feelings and Supporting Skills



By Yoshifumi Yonezawa



Published: February 27, 2026
Pages: 352
ISBN: 978-4065425268

The proposal of highly effective ways to treat the increasing number of attachment disorder cases, based on an innovative spin on attachment disorder theory!

Resorting to violence, joining in on bullying, telling lies... What is going on in the minds of children that keep repeating these actions, exasperating parents and teachers? This book offers a number of unique and specific measures to deal with children like this through the understanding of their motives from the perspective of "attachment."

This is the definitive edition regarding the "Program to Support Attachment Healing," originated in Japan from direct clinical observation. It has been highly praised for its effectivity even in difficult-to-support cases, where it tends to be overlooked by the current diagnostic criteria when presenting alongside ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder) and ADHD (Attention-Deficit / Hyperactivity Disorder).

The author's Attachment Theory [KY1.1]

Selling points

- This revolutionary take on the "Attachment Theory," first proposed by prominent authorities in psychology and psychiatry, John Bowlby and Mary Ainsworth, has been uniquely adapted by the author, and widely discussed in the Japanese education sector.
- Presents an easily applicable identification method to tell apart "Attachment Disorders" from ASD and ADHD, which can be difficult to do otherwise.
- Contains ARPRAM, a unique support program created from over 40 years of clinical practical.

Table of Contents (excerpts)

Chapter 1: What is Attachment?

- There Are Three Factors (Functions) to Attachments
- People Learn Emotions Through Interactions with Others
- The Existence of a "First Meaningful Relationship" Is Key

Chapter 2: What is Attachment Disorder?

- "The Difficulty of Maintaining Interpersonal Relationships" but Also "The Difficulty of Developing Emotionally"
- There Are Three Types of Attachment Disorders
- Telling Attachment Disorders and Developmental Disorders Apart

Chapter 3: The Feelings of Children Dealing with Attachment Issues

- Characteristic Actions of Children with Attachment Disorders, and Their Inner Thoughts
- Inappropriate Behavior Comes from "Emotions"
- Observing Times When No Inappropriate Behavior Is Occurring as Well

Chapter 4: Supporting Skills to Treat Attachment Disorders ① Building Relationships and Creating a Safe Space

- Creating an Attachment Target
- First Things First; Becoming the Child's Safe Space
- Naming Each Emotion to Identify It

Chapter 5: Supporting Skills to Treat Attachment Disorders ② Measures Against Inappropriate Behavior

- Validating Emotions and Redirecting the Course of Action
- The Actions After Aggressive Behaviors Have Settled Down Are Also Important
- The Importance of Mediating and Making Amends with the Affected Parties

Chapter 6: Supporting Skills to Treat Attachment Disorders ③ Taking Steps Towards Expanding Interpersonal Relationships and Gaining Independence

- Creating Habits and Routines
- Ensuring Consistent Support Is Provided

Yoshifumi Yonezawa

A professor at the Faculty of Education at Wakayama University with a specialization in clinical developmental psychology and pedagogical psychology. He passed away unexpectedly in January 2026.

The Day We Stopped Dialysis



By Keiko Horikawa

We lived our life together to the very end.

But we didn't know how to end it...

Why can't dialysis patients die peacefully? Why can't they even receive palliative care?

After over ten years of hemodialysis, a kidney transplant, and a return to dialysis, her husband made the decision to stop dialysis treatment. A spectacular medical nonfiction work by the author who stayed by his side until his tragic end!

Selling points

The author, a nonfiction writer, was at a loss for what to do when her husband's general condition began to deteriorate to the point where he could no longer continue his dialysis treatment that had been keeping him alive. She asked his doctor but received no answers. The only treatment option they could offer was to continue dialysis to the very end, no matter how much pain it may cause him or even if he lost consciousness. And at the age of 60 years and 3 months, during his final days on Earth, he experienced the greatest suffering in his life.

Was the pain really unavoidable? Was there no other option?

A critical exposé that questions the contradictions hidden within Japan's highly advanced dialysis care system!

After its publication, this book attracted a lot of attention and became a bestseller with over 70,000 copies sold. The author's heartfelt appeal touched the hearts of not only the general public but also lawmakers and officials at the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare. It ultimately resulted in dialysis patients being able to receive palliative care, which, until then, had been available only to cancer patients in Japan. This change is now spreading to other non-cancer patients as well. A single book brought about such a miracle, changing the medical administration and even the nation's healthcare system.



Published: November 2024

Pages: 328

ISBN:978-4-06-534279-4

Table of Contents

《Part 1》

Chapter 1: The Struggles of Long-Term Dialysis Patients

Chapter 2: The Hope of a Kidney Transplant

Chapter 3: The "True Strength" of a Transplanted Kidney

Chapter 4: The Limitations of Dialysis

Chapter 5: The Day We Stopped Dialysis

《Part 2》

Chapter 6: The Current State of the Massive Healthcare Market

Chapter 7: Dialysis Patients and Palliative Care

Chapter 8: An Option of Peritoneal Dialysis

Chapter 9: Staying at a Loved One's Deathbed After Making Peace with One's Decision



©MAL

Keiko Horikawa

Born in Hiroshima in 1969. A nonfiction writer. She won the 32nd Kodansha Nonfiction Award for *Shikei no Kijyun: "Nagayama Saiban" ga Nokoshitamono (Criteria for the Death Penalty: What the "Nagayama Trial" Left Behind)*, the 10th Shincho Documentary Award for *Sabakareta Inochi: Shikeishu kara Todoitategami (A Judged Life: Letters from a Death Row Inmate)*, the 1st Saburo Shiroyama Award for *Kyokashishi (The Prison Chaplain)*, the 47th Soichi Oya Nonfiction Award for *Genbakukuyoto: Wasurerareta Ikotsu no Nanajyunen (The Atomic Bomb Memorial Tower: 70 Years of Forgotten Remains)*, the 23rd Ryotaro Shiba Award for *Okami no Gi: Shin Inukai Bokudoden (The Wolves' Justice: A Tale of Inukai Bukudo—New Edition)* (co-authored with Arata Hayashi), and the 48th Jiro Osaragi Award for *Akatsuki no Ujina: Rikugunsenpakushireikantachi no Hiroshima (Ujina at Dawn: Hiroshima from the Perspective of Army Naval Commanders)*.

KAMIKAZE Gene

By Nobuko Nakano



Published: May 2026
Pages: 224
Price: ¥1500 (¥1650 with tax)
ISBN: 978-4-06-543362-1

Table of Contents (excerpts)

A Society Where "Reading the Room" Is Imperative
The Giant "Bubble" that Creates the Altar of Japanism—Social Media
The Three Mortal Sins that Make One a Target for "Sacrifice"
Is the KAMIKAZE Gene Still Present in Modern Japanese People's Brains?
Why Do Japanese People Prefer an "Elegant Loss" to an "Ugly Victory"?
Is Adultery and Bashing Controlled by Our Brains and Genes?
A Brain Afraid of Failure: Why Have Japanese People Stopped Trying?
"Weaknesses" Are a Necessary Part of Humankind's Survival Strategy

The Japanese Kamikaze attacks shocked the world...

What led them to do such a thing?

A neuroscientist whose books have sold over 4 million copies total reveals what is happening in our brains during this time of social unrest.

Why is it standard in Japan for people and the society as a whole to prioritize not ruining the atmosphere rather than just opting for the rational choice? Even if it results in tragedy...

The Kamikaze special attack units were a singular case even when put into the context of World War II. Over 6,000 young Japanese soldiers laid down their lives as they crashed their military aircraft, small boats, and submarines into Allied warships. They were victims of Japanese militarism and reckless military operations. However, it can be said that certain traits found in the Japanese people's brains are also to blame. While often viewed as self-sacrificing and hardworking, Japanese people are also known to fly into a rage when met with what they view as unfair treatment and bow to the peer pressure of the collective. These traits have been passed down to the Japanese population currently living in modern society. Furthermore, although these traits of the brain are more easily identifiable in Japanese people, in this time of "might is right," they can be seen as shared traits in countries with growing concerns about the ever-deteriorating global situation. This book gives insights into how to hold oneself and this chaotic world in check.

Nobuko Nakano

Neuroscientist, holder of a PhD in Medicine, and cognitive scientist. Born in Tokyo, she is a neuroscientist, cognitive scientist, and a holder of a PhD in Medicine. She has also held the position of a specially appointed professor at Higashi Nippon International University, visiting professor at Kyoto University of the Arts, and director of Mori Art Museum. In 2008, she received her doctorate in neurology from the University of Tokyo Medical Science Graduate Program. She returned to Japan after working at the CNRS NeuroSpin (High Magnetic Field MRI) Research Center. She has garnered support for her clear explanations of different phenomena found in human society viewed from a scientific lens along with themes of the brain and psychology. Her works include *Saikopasu (Psychopath)* published by Bunshun Books, *Lucky People: A Neuroscientist's Guide to Attracting Luck, Cultivating Success and Leading a Happier Life* (Sunmark Publishing), and *Majinaino Noukagaku (The Neuroscience of Spells)* published by Kodansha +a Shinsho among others.



What Is Life? The True Nature of Life as Seen Through Cells



By Ryota Tsukagoshi, The NHK Special Program “Jintai 3” Production Team



The cover art is a CG image of the inside of a cell filled with matter of strange and interesting shapes! This matter is the driving force of life itself and moves and coordinates almost as if it has a will of its own.

Published: December 2025
Pages: 270
Price: ¥1200 (¥1320 with tax)
ISBN: 978-4-06-540471-3

Coming soon to Germany and France!

International scientists shed light on the secrets of illness, aging, capability, and emotion through cutting-edge cellular research.

“Life is something that cannot be recreated by any earthly technology or riches. It is a true miracle unto itself.” - Scientist and Nobel laureate, Shinya Yamanaka

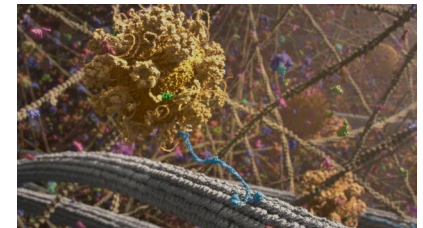
This book delves into the mystery that life scientists from around the world have been researching for years—the true nature of life. Through the use of cutting-edge science, researchers are striving to illuminate the origin of life by examining cells.

Author Ryota Tsukagoshi’s research journey began with the pursuit of the elusive “undying cell.” A surprising amount of knowledge has been gathered about cells, which are the smallest unit of life. There are non-living components inside cells, and they move about using the energy provided by mitochondria, thus sustaining life itself. Through research concerning illness, aging, emotions, and capability on a cellular level, development for things such as anti-aging medication has progressed significantly.

Additionally, this book introduces philosophies that were born as an extension of the research conducted by international scientists at the forefront of their professions. Understanding the true nature of life itself could fundamentally change the way humans look at their own lives.



Georgia Bowen. As a baby, she was the first human to undergo a mitochondrial transplant which saved her life.



“The porter of the cell,” kinesin (in light blue). It can be seen walking in brain neurons “on two legs” transporting various matter (CG image).

Table of Contents (excerpts)

Prologue: Why Look Into the Nature of Life Now?
Chapter 1: Undying Life: The Story of the Woman with the Undying Cell
Chapter 2: The Smallest Unit of Life: Each Cell Is Unique
Chapter 3: Cells Unmasked: The World of the Driving Force of Life
Chapter 4: The “Porter” of the Cell: The Unsolved Issue Concerning the Base of Biological Activities, Finally Answered!
Chapter 5: Sharing the Same Mitochondrial Fate: The Freeloader that Holds the Key to Their Host’s Life and Death
Chapter 6: Creating Life Is a Team Effort: The Flame of Life Has Been Identified
Chapter 7: Are Genes the “Blueprints of Life”? Are Cells the Ones Sending Orders to Genes?!
Chapter 8: Intercellular Structure Can Change Depending on One’s Actions: Effects on Illness, Constitution, and Capability Have Also Been Identified
Chapter 9: Why Do We Age? Aging and Anti-Aging Viewed at a Cellular Level
Chapter 10: Tracing the Origins of Life Back 4 Billion Years: The Greatest and Most Important Moment
Epilogue: The Profoundness of the Boundlessness of Life



Ryota Tsukagoshi

Born in 1987. After studying journalism at Sophia University, he started working at Japan’s public broadcasting network, the NHK, in 2009. He served as a director for multiple science TV programs featuring topics concerning science, medicine, and humankind such as “Human Age – Ningen no Jidai” and “Jintai 3 Inochi toha Nanika” (*The Human Body 3: What Is Life?*) among others. His most memorable experience while filming was when he followed a researcher to the African jungle where they camped out, looking for African forest elephant dung in hopes of finding an unknown strain of intestinal bacteria.

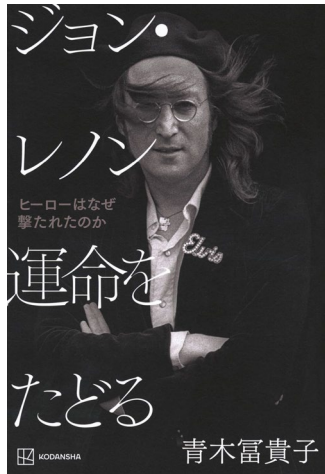
The NHK Special Program “Jintai 3” Production Team

With Nobel laureate Shinya Yamanaka (professor and director emeritus of the Center for iPS Cell Research and Application, Kyoto University) and famous television personality, Tamori acting as hosts, the production team has traveled the world to offer in-depth coverage on the forefront of life science research through the NHK special program “Jintai 3 Inochi toha Nanika” (aired April to June 2025). The program received an outstanding response from audiences for its deep dive into the secrets of life.

Tracing the Fate of John Lennon: The Shooting of a Hero



By Fukiko Aoki



A shocking non-fiction book that sheds light on the truth of John Lennon's life and death, 45 years after his passing.

What is the "unspoken truth" that shooter Mark David Chapman revealed to the author? This work is a culmination of 40 years of journalism.

Music, politics, his meeting with Yoko Ono, his fascination with the spiritual world, his interest in Japan... Through all this, what was Lennon thinking? And what did his fans see?

- A full view into the exclusive interviews with Mark Chapman that span 40 years.
- A work that uncovers the mystery of why John Lennon was assassinated.
- A work that sheds light on the influence that Yoko Ono and Japan had on John Lennon and the cultural background behind it as told by a renowned Japanese non-fiction writer.
- A masterfully penned dive into John Lennon's influence the 60s and 70s, even beyond of the realm of music.
- An important work that was slated for reprint only two weeks after its release and featured by every national news outlet.

"He smiled and held out his hand for me to shake. I was shocked to find that it was as cold as ice. 'You're the most tenacious reporter I've ever met.' Those were his first words to me. In a playful tone, as if he was half-joking." (excerpt)

Table of Contents

- Chapter 1: Letters from Chapman
- Chapter 2: A Fated Meeting
- Chapter 3: A Call from Yoko
- Chapter 4: The Origin of the Soul
- Chapter 5: Music and Revolution
- Chapter 6: Summer in Karuizawa
- Chapter 7: Murder Pamphlet
- Chapter 8: Gloria Hiroko's Testimony
- Chapter 9: Imagine John Lennon is Dead



©Kenji Takigami

Fukiko Aoki

<https://www.fukikoaoki.com/profile>

A writer born in Tokyo in 1948. She moved to the United States in 1984 and worked at Newsweek Japan for three years as the NY Bureau Chief. In 1987, she married author Pete Hamill. Her works include *Goodbye with a Leica*, *Indelibly Japanese*, *The New Yorkers*, *Witness: America's Collapse*, *Unit 731*, *Newsweek Tokyo Bureau Chief Compton Pakenham's Intelligent Diaries*, *SAWAD MIKI: The Woman Who Fought GHQ* among others. She currently resides in New York.

Narcotráfico

By Gonzales Maruyama



Published: March 2026
Pages: 368
ISBN: 978406542676

In-depth reporting on the illegal drug trade in South and Central America following the Netflix series *Narcos*.

A journalist hailing from the country farthest from the illegal drug manufacturing sites takes on Pablo Escobar's older brother.

A detailed examination of the illegal drug trade including how drug prices are set and who is profiting from it. After surviving car chases and shootouts with faceless drug lords, the truth emerges.

In 2026, when the FIFA World Cup was jointly hosted, drug lord El Mencho was killed in a military operation in Mexico, one of the host countries. His death led his cartel to launch retaliatory attacks across various states. Even in Japan, a country far removed from these drug-related conflicts, the trafficking of drugs such as cocaine and fentanyl is quietly but surely becoming an issue that plagues its society.

In *Narcotráfico*, the author thoroughly traces the business aspect of these drugs.

By the time cocaine, a white powder that trades for \$1 per gram in its region of origin, ultimately reaches the Japanese market, its price skyrockets to as much as \$200. Why does this happen? After conducting interviews across Bolivia, Colombia, Panama, Mexico, the United States, and Canada as if connecting the dots between these countries, a “white path” begins to emerge. It turns out that in the wake of the era of drug lord Pablo Escobar, organized crime syndicates had been formed in those countries. From seeing bodies left hanging to serve as a warning to others, to car chases with cartels, to boarding a narco-submarine, to witnessing drug labs firsthand, this book reveals all that the author encountered during his life-risking reporting.

Letter of Recommendation Fernando Medina(FIXER LATAM)

There are journalists who report what they hear, and there are others who venture into places few are willing to go in order to uncover realities that remain hidden. Maruyama Gonzales undoubtedly belongs to the latter.

I have had the privilege of working with him in Ecuador, Colombia, El Salvador, and Guatemala, traveling together through prisons, border regions, hostile territories, and neighborhoods controlled by criminal organizations.

Fernando Medina(FIXER LATAM)

Gonzales Maruyama

Born in Miyagi in 1977. A journalist and editor. After being unemployed and holding odd jobs such as a day laborer, he worked at a publishing company before going independent. He currently continues to report on the underworlds and dangerous areas both in Japan and abroad. Among his works are *MASTER Gonzales no Kureiji Kokogaku* (MASTER Gonzales' Crazy Archaeology) (Futabasha), *Sekaiyabasugi! Kikenchitai no Arukikata* (The World Is Crazy! How to Navigate Dangerous Areas), and *Tabako no Kemuri, Tani no Kioku* (Cigarette Smoke, Travel Memories) (Sangyo Hensyu Center). His YouTube channel, “Maruyama Gonzales’ Deep World,” has over 1.59 million subscribers.

