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Urawaza: Secret Everyday Tips And Tricks From Japan



Synopsis

Japan has a way of thinking that is just . . . different. Nowhere is this more apparent than in Tokyo-born journalist Lisa Katayama's collection of urawaza (a Japanese word for secret lifestyle tricks and techniques). Want to turbocharge your sled? Spray the bottom with nonstick cooking spray. Can't find someone to water your plants while you're away? Place the plant on a water-soaked diaper, so it slowly absorbs water over time. The subject of popular TV shows and numerous books in Japan, these unusually clever solutions to everyday problems have never before been published in English until now! Urawaza collects more than 100 once-secret tricks, offering step-by-step directions and explanations in an eye-catching package as unconventional as its contents.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

TOYKO ART BEAT There is more to Urawaza, however, than these tricks exposed. The Tokyo-born and bred Katayama delves into the history of the craft and contributes anecdotes from her own experiences, meaning readers come out knowing that much more about life in the megalopolis. Her witty, down-to-earth style makes for a fun read while illustrator Joel Holland adds a comic book touch, and just a hint of irreverence. "Armed with urawaza like these, you'll never need a store-bought fix again." ReadyMade magazine

Lisa Katayama has written for Wired, Giant Robot, and Glamour, and is an editor at Planet

magazine. She lives in San Francisco. Joel Holland's illustrations have appeared in Holiday Hero as well as in Rolling Stone, Newsweek, and the New York Times. He lives in New York.

Did you know that cleaning your toilet bowl every day is lucky and brings good fortune? Clean it by splashing a little mouthwash in the bowl and then using the toilet brush. There are dozens of great tips in this book. It was a fun read. I love creative ideas. As a Michigander I was excited to know I can stay warm this winter by doing deep bows. And I can keep my feet warm by putting chili peppers in my socks.

I gave this as a housewarming kind of gift for my sister. She is recently married and renovated her home with her husband. I thought I'd give her something practical for Christmas, and I'm a poor college art student. I rather liked the tips, I'll be reusing some of the things I learned in here such as using egg shells to scrub pans. And we also had unripened mangoes, and lo-and-behold, there was a trick in here that made it sweeter! It's fun to read, and useful!

The trick about using a sliced potatoe for preventing windshield fogging is one of my favorites. Overall the book seems to have been written for a more female audience (not too many dudes will fix their lipstick using an air dryer) but still it is a fun and sometimes instructive read. I wish it would feature more anecdotes on the Japanese culture though.

Excellent reading for anyone who is interested in saving time and money! Well written and easy to understand, will use these tips often.

Disappointing. There was very little information that couldn't be easily accessed on the internet. There was little cultural link between the hints and Japan. Worst of all the Kindle rendition was in a light grey typeface that made it quite difficult to read. I regret having paid for this book.

There are some interesting tips and tricks. Philosophy of urawaza fun and interesting. Really enjoyed the science behind the why it worked.

I really, really, REALLY love books like this- jam-packed with tidbits that you can read in a minute, or sit down and read several in a row. I further love the illustration style and usefulness of the ideas. However, I really cannot say that I actually DO very many of them. Nonetheless I am happy to

have this in my library.

On my iPhone, where I do most of my reading, the text is bright red. I was only able to read a page or two before developing a headache. I rather regret this, as the book looked interesting.

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