



At Home in Japan: A Foreign Woman's Journey of Discovery

Rebecca Otowa

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"This portrait of Japanese country life reminds us that at its core, a happy and healthy life is based on the bonds of food, family, tradition, community, and the richness of nature" —John Einarsen, Founding Editor and Art Director of *Kyoto Journal*

What would it be like to move to Japan, leaving everyone you know behind, to become part of a traditional Japanese household? *At Home in Japan* tells an extraordinary true story of a foreign woman who goes through an amazing transformation, as she makes a move from a suburban lifestyle in California to a new life, living in Japan. She dedicates 30 years of her life as a housewife, custodian and chatelaine of a 350-year-old farmhouse in rural Japan.

This astonishing book traces a circular path from where Rebecca began, to living under Japanese customs, from the basic day to day details of life in the house and village, through relationships with family, neighbors and the natural and supernatural entities with which the family shares the house. Rebecca Otowa then focuses on her inner life, touching on some of the pivotal memories of her time in Japan, the lessons in perception that Japan has taught her and the ways in which she has been changed by living in Japan.

An insightful and compelling read, *At Home in Japan* is a beautifully written and illustrated reminiscence of a once simple life made extraordinary.

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