

Liza Crihfield Dalby

## **Kimono: Fashioning Culture**



The colorful and stylized kimono - the national garment of Japan - expresses not merely Japanese esthetic sensibilities but the soul of Japan aswell. Largely discarded by guys a hundred years ago in the name of modernity and effectiveness, kimono continues to be worn by many women on formal occasions and by some females, such as geisha, within their daily work. the consumerist mentality and profusion of style occurring at the start of the Tokugawa period; Dalby concludes with personal reflections about geisha and kimono. Drawing on a variety of period texts (such as seventeenth-century kimono pattern books), Dalby creates vivid images of kimono and the ones who wore them through the centuries. and the complete guidelines of kimono dressing and what they signify when it comes to gender, age, course, and event. An engaging mixture of fashion history and social anthropology, this lively book demonstrates in a fresh way how clothing fashions can illuminate our understanding of culture. Elegantly anachronistic, kimono still retains a robust hold on japan heart and brain. the redefinition of kimono in the nineteenth century as Japanese experienced to deal seriously with the outfit of the outlandish West; the interpretations and uses of kimono today; She discusses the development of the kimono robe from its Chinese origins two thousand years back to its assimilation as the nationwide dress of Japan. In this beautifully written and lavishly illustrated book, Liza Dalby, author of the highly acclaimed Geisha, traces the history of kimono - its uses, aesthetics, and social meanings - to explore Japanese culture. Of particular note will be the elaborate twelfthcentury robes that reveal a uniquely Japanese sensibility mirrored in the literature and painting of the Heian period;



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Instantly become a kimono expert! covers with exotic Japanese ladies??? so good I've it in paperback and hardcover Had my reservations initially (geisha? all the kanji will be backwards and everyone in the picture would have their kimono on the wrong manner.? also they dropped japanese conditions without giving any definitions. I kowtow to her and her anthropologist's analytical pursuit of the origins of kimono. That is a seriously good book. So good I went and bought hardcover and paperback editions, as the hardcover edition provides extra color pages explaining the Heian Era color schemes of gown. You won't ever ever wear your kimono - ahem, I mean "kosode" - "the wrong manner" again. I would recommend it to everyone who's interested in Kitsuke This version has more details and exhibits Dalby's expertise Far better. Excellent Intro to Kimono. Dalby provides included an incredible degree of detail, so if you're obsessing about getting stuff right, you need this publication. Fashionistas, you need to read this. This may not be the definitive book on this issue, and it could not be the most academic work on the topic, but it is certainly the most approachable book I've encountered. It offers all the answers I have already been looking for approximately kimonos. For costumers, historians, and aficionados of Kimono and Japan, that is a must-have book even if you intend to later read more educational texts. Some books like this can be very wordy with lots of random unrelated examples. . It is not by period. I came across it very easy to read and understand--quite important considering the intricacies in the guidelines governing kimono. I priceless reference when studying Heian costume. Informative Book Nice reserve with a whole lot of information, but wish there have been some color photos. The just this that put me off was just how it was organized. I really like Liza Dalby's works. there have been also a few pictures that had been flipped that were just a little distracting. a pretty book, however, not as fine as i expected, easily had seen it in a store before i had bought it instead of getting it off of amazon i most likely wouldn't have gotten it. more info please the pictures were nice, but I think more information about each picture would have helped. There exists a topic, and then within the subject it is arranged by period.?) but Liza Dalby provides come through. Thus giving it the sensation or jumping around, when you are constantly rotating through periods and back again. great shape Really like the author, Liza Dalby A book predicated on fine research This is an essential book, I believe, for clothing designers, individuals who like Japanese style, and fabric makers -- as well as others. Dalby's understanding of Japan and women's kimono fashion is founded on personal understanding in the culture, including a stint as an "American geisha" in Japan and all of the kimono wearing that involved. There's so much history and information in this book. 2001 version took out the colors and heian color schemes and dressing guidelines. I own the 2001 and my university has the 1993, they won't be the same. Her prose explains kimono to you easily, and it reads like ideas from a preferred friend. Even for a guy who hardly ever expects to put on a yukata once again, I enjoyed it tremendously. Very comprehensive. Wonderful! Wonderful book. It makes kimono history and lifestyle very available. But this was a nice read! I've read various other kimono books but this is the only one I know written in English \*and\* by a woman expert. Obtain the 1993 hardback version NOT the 2001 paperback edition. The publication becomes a double enjoyment of fashion AND artwork. Among the intriguing elements of the book is the revelation of the fashion art of woodblock print (ukiyo-e) artists. This edition has more details and exhibits Dalby's expertise MUCH better. Liz Dalby is a great writer. Great for those that want to know the history behind modern kimono. She also do terrific book research. ... There's so much background and information in this reserve. It is not a light go through. It's engaging, smart and detailed, without having to be dry or dragging.



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