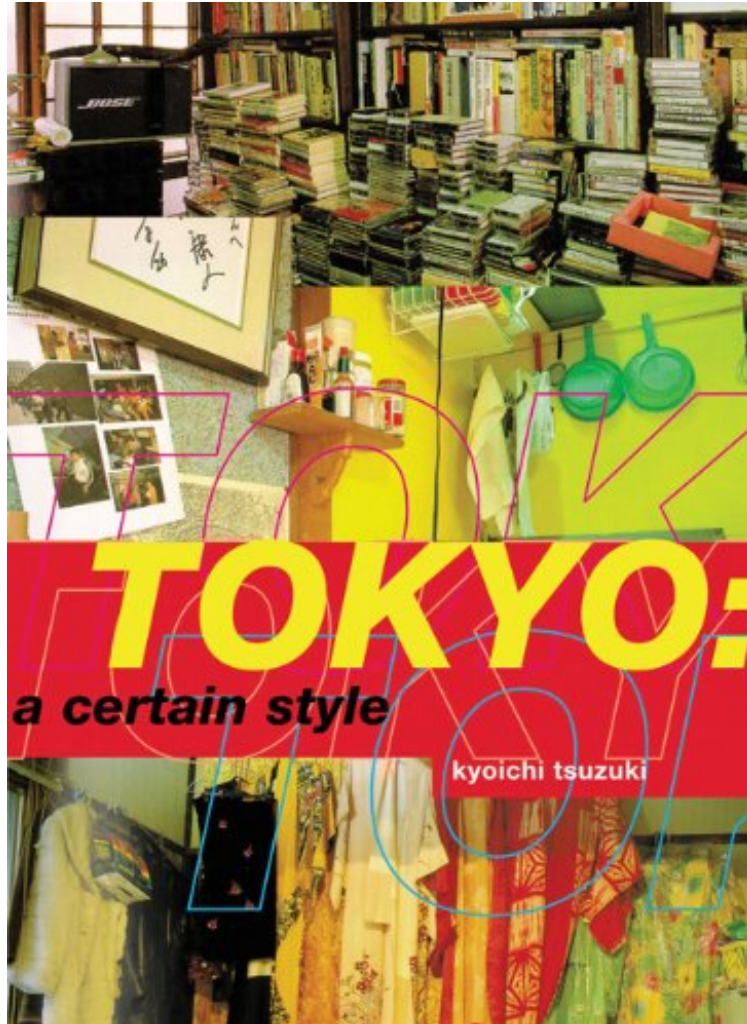


Tokyo: A Certain Style

Kyoichi Tsuzuki

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#1311701 in Books 1999-09-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 5.71 x .75 x 4.251, .72 #File Name: 0811824233440 pages | File size: 15.Mb

Kyoichi Tsuzuki : Tokyo: A Certain Style before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Tokyo: A Certain Style:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Worth reading By Noah Kyoichi Tsuzuki brings his unique perspective to this engaging little book about the way people in Tokyo really live - not what you see on design blogs, but the kind of interiors that are only, if ever, shown to the West through the medium of films and anime. There's something inexplicably appealing about the clutter and smallness of these spaces. Definitely worth a read, and makes a good coffee table book. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A peek into real Japanese life By octokyophile If you are interested in how most Japanese live, in their daily, ordinary lives, then pick this book up. It does not illustrate the "traditional" Japanese houses with Zen gardens and tatami mats everywhere, nor does it illustrate the "Ikea-ized" futuristic apartments of rich folks in Tokyo. Instead it shows how the other half (or make that 85%) of

Japanese live: in a word, cramped. This book showcases real, average apartments and houses. Most of these dwellings are (relatively) tiny and crammed floor to ceiling with STUFF. This book is interesting in that it shows how a person can literally cram their life into one or two tiny rooms and make it livable. For those interested in REAL Japanese daily culture, this book is a gold mine. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Not what I expected By B. Spencer I have long been interested in Japanese design and how they manage to be so space-efficient in such innovative ways. This book is really not about design "ideas" but is really just a snapshot into the everyday lives of ordinary Tokyo residents. Most of the rooms are ridiculously cluttered. Many look unclean. I actually like looking at the book, but not for inspiration. It's more a voyeuristic experience. Shatters a stereotype of mine: I always thought Japanese were ridiculously neat. The apartments featured in this book are disastrously messy. And while some of that is due to space issues, it's also related to strange collecting habits (ie. Hello Kitty and stuffed animals).

Ah, think of the serene gardens, tatami mats, Zen-inspired decor, sliding doors, and shoji screens of the typical Japanese home. Think again. Tokyo: A Certain Style, the mini-sized decor book with a difference, shows how, for those living in one of the world's most expensive and densely packed metropolises, closet-sized apartments stacked to the ceiling with gadgetry and CDs are the norm. Photographer Kyoichi Tsuzuki rode his scooter all over Tokyo snapping shots of how urban Japanese really live. Hundreds of photographs reveal the real Tokyo style: microapartments, mini and modular everything, rooms filled to the rafters with electronics, piles of books and clothes, clans of remote controls, collections of sundry objects all crammed into a space where every inch counts. Tsuzuki introduces each tiny crash pad with a brief text about who lives there, from artists and students to professionals and couples with children. His entertaining captions to the hundreds of photographs capture the spirit and ingenuity required to live in such small quarters. This fascinating, voyeuristic look at modern life comes in a chunky, pocket-sized format-the perfect coffee table book for people with really small apartments.

.com It's common for Americans to stereotype the Japanese as conformist, rigidly organized, and immaculately tidy, but with Tokyo: A Certain Style Kyoichi Tsuzuki makes remarkable progress toward broadening those impressions. Tsuzuki photographed the very lived-in interiors of numerous Tokyo houses and apartments, and then jammed his piles of pictures into the format of a short-of-stature book. The result is an engrossing look at the many ways people have adapted to Tokyo's notoriously cramped living spaces. There are several common threads--indoor clotheslines are used to supplement or replace closet space in almost every home--but each dwelling brings out its owner's personality. Some are breathtakingly cluttered, with bric-a-brac piled on electronic equipment and papers stacked on every flat surface, while others show so little evidence of the debris of daily living that one feels certain sorcery must be involved. Most charming are the "design" elements that show off the owners' little quirks: ingeniously improvised hooks and shelves, major appliances banished to the outdoors, and the extensive stuffed animal collection of a grown adult. Many photos simply boggle the mind with the sheer amount of stuff that can be crammed into incredibly small spaces, while others highlight the strange beauty that is often achieved in compressed living. Highly recommended for dorm-bound college students or anyone who has ever groused about a lack of space. --Ali Davis An indispensable resource for quality-conscious visitors who don't want to blow their budgets. Language Notes Text: English (translation)