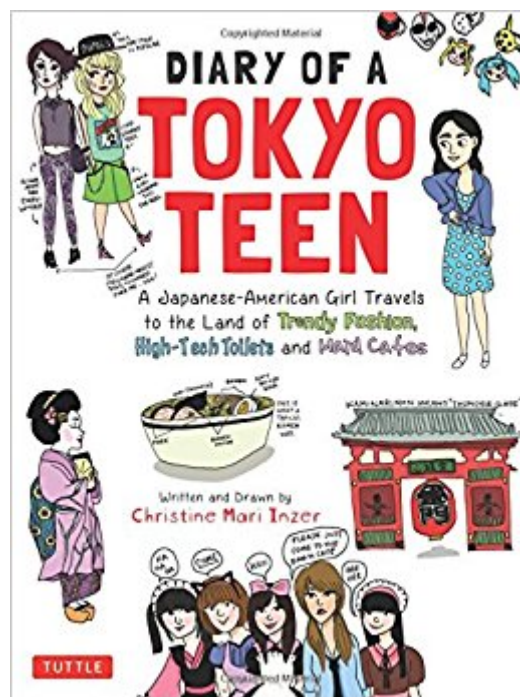




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Diary Of A Tokyo Teen: A Japanese-American Girl Travels To The Land Of Trendy Fashion, High-Tech Toilets And Maid Cafes



Synopsis

****2017 Creative Child Magazine Preferred Choice Award Winner**** A book for comic lovers and Japanophiles of all ages, *Diary of a Tokyo Teen* presents a unique look at modern-day Japan through a young woman's eyes. Born in Tokyo to a Japanese mother and an American father in 1997, Christine Mari Inzer spent her early years in Japan and relocated to the United States in 2003. The summer before she turned sixteen, she returned to Tokyo, making a solo journey to get reacquainted with her birthplace. Through illustrations, photos, and musings, Inzer documented her journey. In *Diary of a Tokyo Teen*, Inzer explores the cutting-edge fashions of Tokyo's trendy Harajuku district, eats the best sushi of her life at the renowned Tsukiji fish market, and hunts down geisha in the ancient city of Kyoto. As she shares the trials and pleasures of travel from one end of a trip to the other, Inzer introduces the host of interesting characters she meets and offers a unique—and often hilarious—look at a fascinating country and an engaging tale of one girl rediscovering her roots. ****Listed as a 2016 Great Graphic Novel for Teens by the Young Adult Library Services Association****

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Gr 7 Up—Born in Tokyo in 1997, Inzer grew up there until her family moved to the United States in 2003. While the book refers to her as a "Tokyo teen," she in fact has revisited different neighborhoods and provinces and shares accounts from urban and rural locations. This offering will attract a wide range of Japanophiles, both for the humorous stories and her charming and colorful drawings. This is a visually engaging selection, and photographs from Inzer's visits help to ground

this narrative in reality. Readers will appreciate the amusing tales about unfamiliar foods, far-out fashion, and intriguing traditions and will enjoy reading something by a teen author. One minor drawback is the title—while it has lots of teen appeal, it's not entirely accurate, because Inzer's experiences take place all over Japan. This work is a newer version of *Halfway Home: Drawing My Way Through Japan*, which featured a more accurate title. The main difference between the two versions is that this one has additional illustrations and is also in color. VERDICT A sweet and funny book that will entice those with an interest in Japan, as well as fans of Lucy Knisley's *Relish: My Life in the Kitchen*.—Andrea Lipinski, New York Public Library

"A sweet and funny book that will entice those with an interest in Japan, as well as fans of Lucy Knisley's *Relish: My Life in the Kitchen*."—School Library Journal "This funny travelogue is a portal to both modern Japan and the life of a teenage girl experiencing new things while traveling—Teens hoping to travel to Japan—or anywhere, for that matter—will have a lot to gain from Inzer's warts-and-all account of her journey."—Booklist "Using a blend of photos and fun illustrations, Japanese-American writer/illustrator Christine Mari Inzer travels at 15 to Tokyo to reacquaint herself with the country while offering up her *Diary of a Tokyo Teen: A Japanese-American Girl Travels to the Land of Trendy Fashion, High-Tech Toilets and Maid Cafes* packed with interesting observations and plenty of navel-gazing for other teenage visitors."—Travel Channel "The book is full of interesting and funny observations on Japan and Japanese culture."—I Heart Japan blog "Diary of a Tokyo Teen is a fun multicultural journey—the book is devoid of heavy teenage angst and instead brings the reader on a journey of wonder, fascination, and self-discovery. Teenage readers may be inspired to create their own travel diaries on their own journeys."—Asian Fortune News "The art is funny, colorful, and imaginative, which enhances the reading experience. Although this book is technically a memoir, it reads like work of fiction. Inzer writes in an amusing way, highlighting the differences between her two cultures."—VOYA (Voice of Youth Advocates) "—brimming with humorous insight into Japanese culture."—Tokyo Weekender "Readers won't just want to go to Japan by the end of this memoir—they'll want to go with Inzer."—Publishers Weekly

I really enjoyed this graphic memoir! It is chock full of personality, humorous anecdotes and wit. Whether you've been to Tokyo or not, you will be transported there with Christine's artwork. From a detailed deconstruction of a bowl of ramen to an apt commentary on Japanese fashion, I think she

captures not only the city's culture and charm, but what it's like to be a teen today. Christine's style is thoughtful, personal, and whimsical. I won't give away where her adventures take her, you just need to read it and go on the journey to Japan with her yourself! What an accomplishment for a first time author. I can't wait to see what she does next!

This is a fun book!! I am planning on moving to Japan soon, and this is a great book to get for a new perspective. It shows Japan from the view of an American teenage girl, which is really nice, because most books are written from the pov of someone older (and someone less focused on the fun part of Japan, the culture shock for a teen girl). It's not a guidebook, but it is a great read.

Not only is this a well-written charming diary/travelogue, but a must read for first time trips to Tokyo. Diary of a Tokyo Teen is a joyful, insightful discovery adventure and perfect for holiday giving, I am sending copies to the Wilson School library in St. Louis, educator friends, and my granddaughter who is a freshman in college.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book and would recommend it to anyone. The illustrations are brilliant, and brought me back to my travels to Tokyo. This book is a perfect gift for friends/family who are traveling to Japan, or those who appreciate / want to learn more about Japanese culture.

Purchased as a surprise gift for my daughter. It arrived ahead of schedule, and she really enjoyed the book.

A very fun read. Very relatable. Funny. Light. Bright. Wise and entertaining. I hope you are working on your next book.

Fun, perfect gift for my young teenage friend who wants to go to Japan.

This is a simple nonfiction graphic novel of a teenage girl's trip to visit her grandparents in Japan. She was born in Japan and lives in the United States. She discusses how she views areas of Japan differently as a child and now as a teenager. She loves the food. Simple drawings show how she wants to appear confident and how she thinks she really appears.

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