

ASIAN AND ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES





Nakagami, Japan

Buraku *and the Writing of Ethnicity*ANNE MCKNIGHT

NEW How do you write yourself into a literature that doesn't know you exist? This was the conundrum confronted by Nakagami Kenji (1946–1992), who counted himself among the *buraku-min*, Japan's largest minority. His answer brought the histories and rhetorical traditions of buraku writing into the high culture of Japanese literature for the first time and helped establish him as the most canonical writer born in postwar Japan.

In *Nakagami, Japan*, Anne McKnight shows how the writer's exploration of *buraku* led to a unique blend of fiction and ethnography—which amounted to nothing less than a reimagining of modern Japanese literature. As McKnight considers the ways in which Nakagami and other twentieth-century writers used ethnography to shape Japanese literature, she reveals how ideas about language also imagined a transfigured relation to mainstream culture and politics. Her analysis of the resulting "rhetorical activism" lays bare Nakagami's unique blending of literature and ethnography within the context of twentieth-century ideas about race, ethnicity, and citizenship—in Japan, but also on an international scale.

"Anne McKnight's proposal that we understand Nakagami's writings in terms of a 'parallax vision' immediately resonates in the mind of anyone familiar with his works: it is an approach that finally allows Nakagami to be Nakagami. We know that we need to get outside the framework of national literary studies, but that is a task easier said than done. McKnight goes a good deal of the way toward showing us what is to be done now in the study of both Japanese literature and minority cultures." —Michael K. Bourdaghs, University of Chicago

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TABLE OF CONTENTS



Asian Studies and Literary Criticism Pages 2, 5-6



Graphic Arts and Visual Culture Pages 3-4



Asian American Studies Pages 6-7



Film Studies Pages 7-8



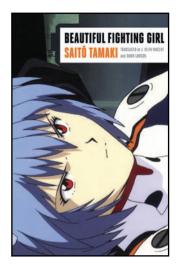
Urban Studies, Globalization, and Development
Pages 8-9



Culture and Society
Page 10



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Beautiful Fighting Girl

SAITŌ TAMAKI

TRANSLATED BY J. KEITH VINCENT AND DAWN LAWSON INTRODUCTION BY J. KEITH VINCENT COMMENTARY BY HIROKI AZUMA

NEW From *Cutie Honey* and *Sailor Moon* to *Nausicaä* of the Valley of the Wind, the worlds of Japanese anime and manga teem with prepubescent girls toting deadly weapons. In *Beautiful Fighting Girl*, Saitō Tamaki offers a sophisticated and convincing interpretation of this alluring and capable figure. For Saitō, the beautiful fighting girl is a complex sexual fantasy that paradoxically lends reality to the fictional spaces she inhabits. Rejecting simplistic moralizing, Saitō understands the otaku's ability to eroticize and even fall in love with the beautiful fighting girl not as a sign of immaturity or maladaptation but as a result of a heightened sensitivity to the multiple layers of mediation and fictional context that constitute life in our hypermediated world—a logical outcome of the media they consume.

Featuring extensive interviews with Japanese and American otaku, a comprehensive genealogy of the beautiful fighting girl, and an analysis of the American outsider artist Henry Darger, whose baroque imagination Saitō sees as an important antecedent of otaku culture, *Beautiful Fighting Girl* was hugely influential when first published in Japan, and it remains a key text in the study of manga, anime, and otaku culture.

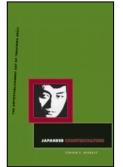
"Foundational ... Saitō's uncomfortably deep understanding of the particulars of this Japanese phenomenon allows us to finally begin to answer questions about the far-reaching implications of the now nearly universal fetish, of our atomizing technologies of interactivity, and of our obsessions with new media. I wouldn't be surprised if this book gives that once-a-decade jostle leading to the n-th wave of feminism or a complete reconfiguration of our understanding of male desire."

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STEVEN C. RIDGELY

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Mechademia 5

Fanthropologies

FRENCHY LUNNING, EDITOR

NEW *Fanthropologies* focuses on fans, fan activities, and the otaku phenomenon. The zones of activity discussed in these essays range from fan-subs and copyright issues to gender and nationality in fandom, dolls, and other forms of consumption that fandom offers.

Contributors: Madeline Ashby, Jodie Beck, Christopher Bolton, Naitō Chizuko, Ian Condry, Martha Cornog, Kathryn Dunlap, Ōtsuka Eiji, Gerald Figal, Patrick W. Galbraith, Marc Hairston, Marilyn Ivy, Koichi Iwabuchi, Paul Jackson, Amamiya Karin, Fan-Yi Lam, Thomas Lamarre, Paul M. Malone, Anne McKnight, Livia Monnet, Susan Napier, Kerin Ogg, Timothy Perper, Eron Rauch, Brian Ruh, Nathan Shockey, Marc Steinberg, Jin C. Tomshine, Carissa Wolf

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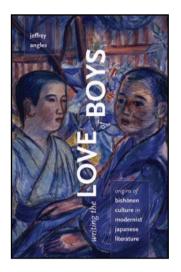
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IEFFREY ANGLES

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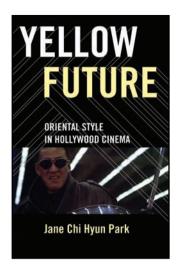


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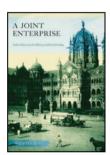
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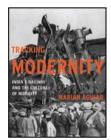
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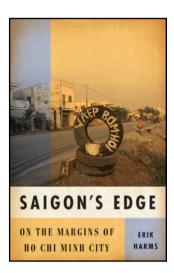
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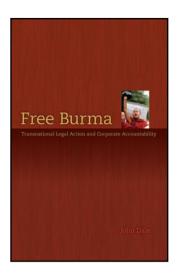


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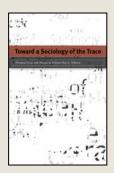
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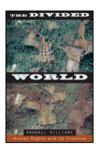
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HERMAN GRAY AND MACARENA GÓMEZ-BARRIS, EDITORS

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Contributors: Sarah Banet-Weiser, U of Southern California; Barbara A. Barnes, U of California, Berkeley; Marie Sarita Gaytán; Avery F. Gordon, U of California, Santa Barbara; Tanya McNeill, U of California, Santa Cruz; Sudarat Musikawong, Willamette U; Akiko Naono, U of Kyushu; Rebecca R. Scott, U of Missouri.

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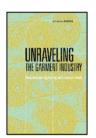
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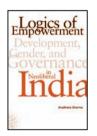
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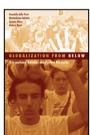
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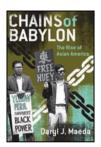
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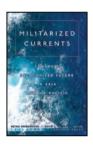
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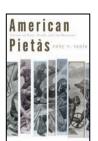
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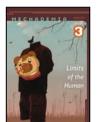
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