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Patrick Drazen

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Patrick Drazen : Anime Explosion! The What? Why? Wow! of Japanese Animation before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Anime Explosion! The What? Why? Wow! of Japanese Animation:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Dated, but a good primerBy jmchale1959Which I guess can be said

about many of the general works available on anime, most of which seem to date from more or less the year 2000, back when the medium was still a "phenomenon". As another customer reviewing a similar work has noted, much of this information is available online. Still, if you're new to Japanimation, this is a fairly well-done work with a wealth of basic facts. Bear in mind that, as you would suspect, the insights given are based on the author's own perspective. So such notions as, for instance, anime just wouldn't be anime if you removed the oft-present TA content are debatable (Studio Ghibli seems to be unaware of the need for "fan service", and yet they are very much the 800 pound gorilla of the US anime market). Again, worthwhile as a work on where anime has come from, not as useful for ideas as to where the medium is going. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good first book By pdchapin Drazen has written a good, introductory book on anime. As such, it doesn't do a spectacular job on anything, but it covers most of the bases well. In general it treats the movies as art and covers sociology and culture only sparingly. This book should be read by people who are new to anime and have limited experience with it. For newbies it does a good job of giving them a handle on the genre so they can look at anime with some idea of what's going on. People with a stronger background in the field will probably be bored and likely to nitpick the book to death. In particular some of the generalizations are likely to annoy anyone with a serious background in anime. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It was so much fun and so interesting By Michi Vallieres I could not stop reading this! It was so much fun and so interesting. I hope to read more of Patrick Drazen's works and learn even more about anime.

Suddenly anime is . . . exploding. But where did Japanese animation come from, and what does it all mean? Written for fans, culture watchers, and perplexed outsiders, this is an engaging tour of the anime megaverse, from older arts and manga traditions to the works of modern directors like Miyazaki and Otomo. Read about anime standbys like giant robots, samurai, furry beasts, high school heroines, and gay/girl/fanboy love even war and reincarnation, plus all of anime's major themes, styles, and conventions. At the end of the book are essays on 15 of fandom's favorite anime, including Evangelion, Esca-flowne, Sailor Moon, and Patlabor. "A good resource and guide to the foundation, historical development and overall themes in Japanese animation and serves as an excellent reference source whether you are an established fan or a person who wants to learn about the cultural aspects of this specific and increasingly popular genre. It is an easy yet thorough read on the myriad of societal aspects and cultural references Japanese animation holds." -- Active Anime

"This book is useful not only as a reference to Anime, but also as a rewarding guide to some aspects of contemporary Japanese culture." Niagara University Library: Monthly Book Spotlight, June 2003 -- About the Author Patrick Drazen has lectured on Japanese pop culture at the University of Chicago and Southern Illinois University Carbondale, where he earned a Masters of Arts degree. He has been published in Channels of Communication and the Journal of Pop culture. He and his wife live in Chicago.