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# FUTURE TENSE, IMPERFECT: MONO-GLOT AMERICAN IN BI-CULTURAL JAPAN

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## What this book is about

An American teaching English in Japan for 12 years tries to learn the Japanese language. Becoming bilingual is very difficult; being bicultural succeeds more completely.

## What this book does

Documenting daily experiences in an unfamiliar culture, the narrator describes the unexpected process of becoming an expatriate.

## How the book does it

Incidents accumulate in the classroom, in train stations, in restaurants, and on trains with students, friends, journalistic sources, web pages, email, advertisements, and colleagues. The surprise is an expansion of cultural consciousness wider than that of any one individual.

## Who will buy this book

Everyone who has heard their language flow from the lips of a foreigner. Anyone who has fallen in the quicksand of lingual similarities that are merely transient. Frightened language learners, too, will find both solace and affirmation.

### **The Los Angeles Times**

### **Opinion**

December 5, 1996

TOKYO--I stand at the front of the class in the National Air Defense Academy class during a class on the future tense. I teach English as a native speaker. The dozen members of the class sit in uniform.

"I shall return," a major says, quoting General Douglas MacArthur. What governs the use of 'shall'?" he asks...

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