

Otaku Spaces

Patrick W. Galbraith

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Patrick W. Galbraith : Otaku Spaces before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Otaku Spaces:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. An enjoyable glance into Otaku culture.By GBLet me start off by saying that I, myself, am a big fan of anime/manga/Jrpgs/etc. I say this not to paint myself as an otaku, as I am not (though I may own a figurine or two of my favorite characters), but to help the readers understand where my review is coming from - so that those who can relate to my position might better be able to decide whether or not they are interested in this product.So, to start, the format of the book:It begins with a rather short, but helpful, introduction that speaks about how the book was done. It gives the reader a few useful definitions(which, if you are a fan of anime or Japanese culture, you're likely already familiar with) that help you understand some cultural vocabulary used in popular Otaku circles (moe, kawaii, etc). The author then presents their view of what "Otaku" can be, providing a decent history of the term and its evolution from "mania", its negative view due to certain public events, and eventually its more localized acceptance.After the introduction of "Otaku" comes the aspect I will admit drew me to the product in the first place: the pictures and interviews. Here you are introduced to plethora of individuals - from those who collect tons of figurines due to their affections towards given characters, to a man who owns a ridiculous number of dating simulation games. There are males, there are females, and they all share one thing in common: They each have their own definition of what an "Otaku" is. To some it is a prideful badge to be worn, some find the term too constraining, others feel like it has too many implications for them to fully relate to it. All in all, the interviews were enjoyable as the reader gets to experience a cast of characters in all of their interesting (and at times peculiar)

or in Japanese pop culture in general." - Experiments in Manga