

## The Smallest Samurai

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Taiko  
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Japan in Transition  
Game Wizards  
I Love This Guy  
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little inchkin is only as big as a lotus flower but he has the courage of a samurai warrior how he proves his valour wins the hand of a princess and is granted his dearest wish by the lord buddha is charmingly retold in this tom thumb legend of old japan

discover the enchanting world of taro the field mouse in our delightful new children s book the smallest samurai meet taro a small but

courageous field mouse living in a cozy seaside village when the peaceful life of his village is threatened by the menacing cat neko who bullies and frightens everyone taro knows he must step up to protect his friends and family journey with taro as he gathers his wits rallies his fellow villagers and takes on the biggest challenge of his tiny life packed with vibrant illustrations and heartwarming adventures the smallest samurai teaches young readers the importance of bravery friendship and standing up against bullies children will be captivated by taro s clever strategies and heartfelt determination all while learning valuable lessons about courage and resilience each page turns into a vivid scene of action and emotion making it an engaging read for kids and a cherished story for parents bring home the smallest samurai today and embark on a heartwarming adventure with taro and his friends perfect for bedtime stories or classroom reading this book will inspire children to be brave and kind available now at your favorite bookstore and online retailers don t miss out on this tale of courage that will spark imaginations and touch hearts

in the tempestuous closing decades of the sixteenth century the empire of japan writhes in chaos as the shogunate crumbles and rival warlords battle for supremacy warrior monks in their armed citadels block the road to the capital castles are destroyed villages plundered fields put to the torch amid this devastation three men dream of uniting the nation at one extreme is the charismatic but brutal nobunaga whose ruthless ambition crushes all before him at the opposite pole is the cold deliberate ieyasu wise in counsel brave in battle mature beyond his years but the keystone of this triumvirate is the most memorable of all hideyoshi who rises from the menial post of sandal bearer to become taiko absolute ruler of japan in the emperor s name when nobunaga emerges from obscurity by destroying an army ten times the size of his own he allies himself with ieyasu whose province is weak but whose canniness and loyalty make him invaluable yet it is the scrawny monkey faced hideyoshi brash impulsive and utterly fearless who becomes the unlikely savior of this ravaged land born the son of a farmer he takes on the world with nothing but his bare hands and his wits turning doubters into loyal servants rivals into faithful friends and enemies into allies in all this he uses a piercing insight into human nature that unlocks castle gates opens men s minds and captures women s hearts for hideyoshi s passions are not limited to war and intrigue his faithful wife nene holds his love dear even when she must share it the chaste oyu sister of hideyoshi s chief strategist falls prey to his desires and the seductive chacha whom he rescues from the fiery destruction of her father s castle tempts his weakness as recounted by eiji yoshikawa author of the international best seller musashi taiko tells many stories of the fury of nobunaga and the fatal arrogance of the black toothed yoshimoto of the pathetic downfall of the house of takeda how the scorned mitsuhide betrayed his master how once impregnable ramparts fell as their defenders died gloriously most of all though taiko is the story of how one man transformed a nation

through the force of his will and the depth of his humanity filled with scenes of pageantry and violence acts of treachery and self sacrifice  
tenderness and savagery taiko combines the panoramic spectacle of a kurosawa epic with a vivid evocation of feudal japan

between the sixteenth and the nineteenth centuries in both western europe and east asia towns and cities helped to shape the individual  
consciousness against the background of a more traditional society in which collective values remained strong towns were centres of stimulus  
challenge and opportunity for residents and visitors and the identity of the town itself its character and history became a strong theme in the  
formation of the individual writing and the circulation of texts played an important part in this process towns created artefacts rituals and  
memories that embodied their history and identity but individuals positioned themselves and their families in the town histories as they wrote  
them the seven essays in this volume range in focus from renaissance venice to nineteenth century edo tokyo and from capital cities seoul  
london to provincial towns in france england and japan they explore the interaction of self family and social group and the construction of  
collective memory examining autobiographies letters and exchange diaries family narratives and urban histories and collections together they  
challenge the long prevailing historiography that contrasts the emergence of the individual in european societies with the persistently  
traditionalist and collective character of east asian societies in the early modern period

in this book social scientists scrutinize the middle decades of the nineteenth century in japan that scrutiny is important and overdue for the  
period from the 1850s to the 1880s has usually been treated in terms of politics and foreign relations yet those decades were also of pivotal  
importance in japan s institutional modernization as the japanese entered the world order they experienced a massive introduction of western  
style organizations sweeping reforms without the class violence or the utopian appeal of revolution created the foundation for a modern society  
the meiji restoration introduced a political transformation but these chapters address the more gradual social transition originally published in  
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discover the colorful history of the table top rpg phenomenon dungeons dragons as a d d expert examines its surprising successes setbacks and

controversies the battle over dungeons dragons was the ultimate geek war wired when dungeons dragons was first released to a small hobby community it hardly seemed destined for mainstream success and yet this arcane tabletop role playing game became an unlikely pop culture phenomenon in game wizards jon peterson chronicles the rise of dungeons dragons from hobbyist pastime to mass market sensation from the initial collaboration to the later feud of its creators gary gygax and dave arneson inside you ll learn about gygax and arneson s first meeting and their work toward the 1974 release the founding of TSR and its growth as a company arneson s acrimonious departure and subsequent challenges to TSR satanic panic accusations that plagued D&D and boosted its popularity TSR s reckless expansion and near fatal corporate infighting and much more with game wizards peterson restores historical particulars long obscured by competing narratives spun by the one time partners that record amply demonstrates how the turbulent experience of creating something as momentous as dungeons dragons can make people remember things a bit differently from the way they actually happened

licd i love this guy brings a full year s worth of least i could do strips to print with this exclusive publication this full color edition will entertain you friends and family alike with hilarious bonus material features 320 strips of least i could do each page is in full colour bonus content including original artwork sketches bloopers and strip by strip commentary art done by lar desouza

this expert guide to japanese architecture is of enormous historical importance to the understanding of japanese design and culture pioneering japanologist a l sadler s invaluable study of japanese architecture first appeared in 1941 considered a classic in its field unequaled in clarity and insight japanese architecture a short history is a lucid and uncomplicated introduction to this important aspect of japanese culture beginning with the earliest evidence from prehistory and ending with the edo period when japan attained stature as a modern state japanese architecture is as relevant today as it was in 1941 the book includes an overview of japanese domestic architecture as it evolved through successive periods of history and perfected the forms so widely admired in the west of particular importance in this respect are the four concluding chapters in which the distinctive features of the japanese house are presented in clear detail the architecture book also contains excellent illustrations which show details of planning and construction

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