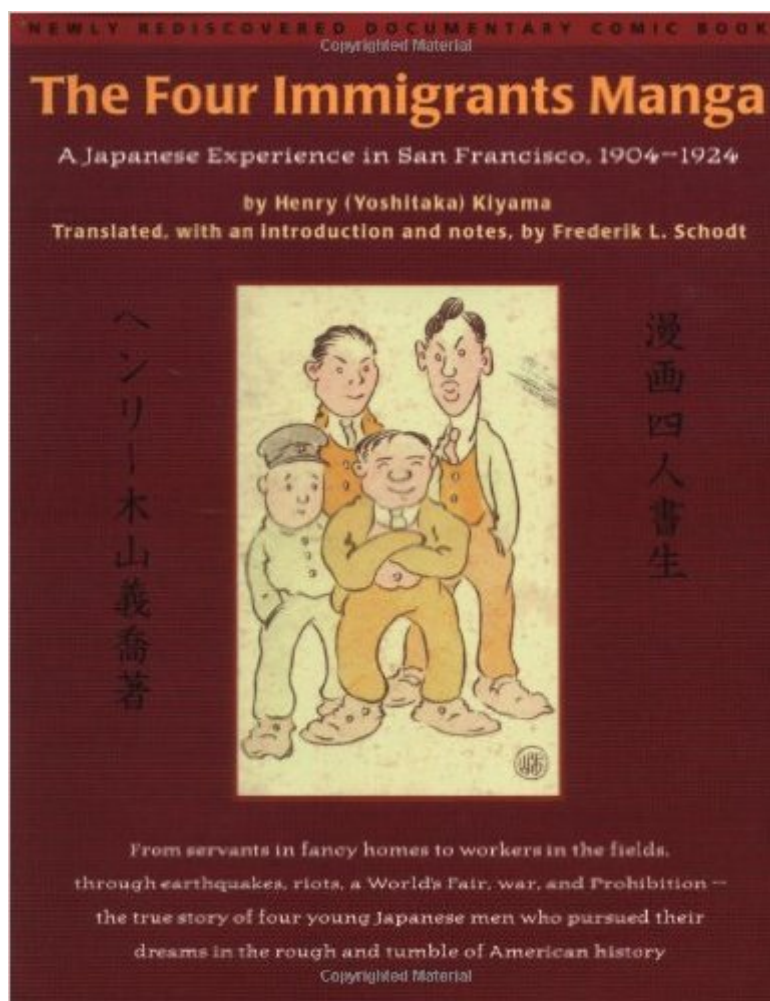


The book was found

# The Four Immigrants Manga : A Japanese Experience In San Francisco, 1904-1924



## Synopsis

A "documentary comic book" from 1931, depicting the true adventures of four young Japanese men in America.

## Book Information

Paperback: 152 pages

Publisher: Stone Bridge Press; Gph edition (June 1, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1880656337

ISBN-13: 978-1880656334

Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #360,260 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #65 in [Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Asia > Japan](#) #201 in [Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Graphic Novels > Educational & Nonfiction](#) #203 in [Books > History > Americas > United States > Immigrants](#)

## Customer Reviews

Henry Kiyama created this terrific book in the 1930's, chronicling the lives of four young Japanese immigrants and their struggle to find work and acceptance in San Francisco at the turn of the century. It was unearthed and translated into English, giving us all the rare privilege of a glimpse into the immigrant experience of that era. Drawn in a simple and lighthearted style and told with insight and depth, Kiyama, along with the rising popularity of Japanese Anime and Manga, reinforces the notion that comics are not just for kids anymore. A great read for a comic lover, a hyphenated-American or anyone interested in the multihued experience of our country.

This was a very interesting read, although the jokes themselves were rarely funny due to the difficulty of translating puns. It stands out mostly as a sort of documentary about Japanese immigrants in San Francisco, specifically worker-students. We watch them struggle to find jobs in strange American homes, a social commentary about gambling and the evils thereof, a six to eight page story of the San Francisco Earthquake, and building their families. I found it especially interesting to read the notes after each two-page "chapters" in the back of the book, which added depth to what was happening and provided historical content as well as further describing

conditions in San Francisco at that time. Comments were made at the beginning of the book that the cartoonist had limited his market because he was writing strictly for fellow immigrants, who would best understand the mixture of Japanese and English that he used in his writing. This is denoted throughout the book with shaky letters for English, which immigrants had difficulty following and plain type-set for regular Japanese, their birth tongue. As for the artwork, think more old-school Japanese and American comics than the manga that is popular today-- don't be expecting tick marks or sweatdrops for example! For me especially this had a lot of fond memories. I am not Japanese, but my family moved to San Francisco in the early 1905 from Italy, so a lot of this made me remember stories about my great grandfather and my great grandmother--my great-grandfather built a shoe-store that was destroyed by the San Francisco earthquake. Even if you don't buy this book for the humor, at least consider the purchase to read about immigrants to America in the 1900's.

If you're not used to reading comics, this will seem rough and not particularly funny. Readers more familiar with the form will recognize that this book is more subtle and better crafted than your typical comic. It's of special interest to Japanese Americans and others interested in the immigrant experience in the USA.

This translation by Frederick Schodt, an outstanding translator and writer of all things Japan, is extremely entertaining and intellectually rewarding. Through these manga the reader gains an understanding of Japanese-American life in the early 20th century that would be difficult to obtain from a mere essay. Schodt is superb at providing background and end notes on the manga that provide the necessary historical background. All in all, it's a fast read, but a particularly enjoyable one that will give most readers new insight into the Japanese-American experience of the 1904-1924 period.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Four Immigrants Manga : A Japanese Experience in San Francisco, 1904-1924 Manga Drawing Books How to Draw Manga Characters Book 1: Learn Japanese Manga Eyes And Pretty Manga Face (Drawing Manga Books : Pencil Drawings for Beginners) (Volume 1) Manga Drawing Books How to Draw Manga Eyes: Learn Japanese Manga Eyes And Pretty Manga Face (Drawing Manga Books : Pencil Drawings for Beginners) (Volume 4) Manga Drawing Books: How to Draw Manga Male Characters: Learn Japanese Manga Eyes And Pretty Manga Face (Drawing Manga Books : Pencil Drawings for Beginners Book 5) Manga Drawing Books: How to Draw Manga

Characters Book 1: Learn Japanese Manga Eyes And Pretty Manga Face (Drawing Manga Books : Pencil Drawings for Beginners 2) I Love to Eat Fruits and Vegetables (English Japanese bilingual, Japanese baby books): japanese children books, japanese kids books,japanese bilingual ... Bilingual Collection) (Japanese Edition) I Love My Mom (japanese kids books, japanese children stories, bilingual japanese books): japanese for kids (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) (Japanese Edition) I Love My Dad (English Japanese bilingual books, japanese children books): japanese kids books,japanese children stories (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) (Japanese Edition) How to Draw Manga: Mastering Manga Drawings (How to Draw Manga Girls, Eyes, Scenes for Beginners) (How to Draw Manga, Mastering Manga Drawings) Childrens Japanese book: Lisa can Read.ã ã•ã •ã^ã•¶ã “ã•§ã ~ã •ã <ã ~: Children’s English-Japanese Picture book (Bilingual Edition) (Japanese Edition),Japanese children books,Japanese ... English picture books for children 9) I Love My Dad ã• ã•ã•†ã•ã “ã• ã•„ã•™ã•• (Japanese Kids books, English Japanese bilingual, japanese children books bilingual,ã...•ç«¥æ>„, japanese children stories) (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) I Love to Eat Fruits and Vegetables(English Japanese bilingual, Japanese children books, Japanese kids books,japanese kids language,ã...•ç«¥æ>„)ã•ã•ã ã ã•®ã”ã „ã•ã•„ã•CEã•ã„ã•™ã•• (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) How to Draw Manga: The Complete Beginners Guide to Mastering The Art of Drawing Manga: A Step-By-Step Manga Drawing Tutorial ((Mastering Manga)) Peekaboo baby. Japanese Baby Book: Children’s Picture Book English-Japanese (Bilingual Edition) Bilingual Picture book in English and Japanese ... for children) (Volume 1) (Japanese Edition) My Daddy is the best!: (Bilingual Edition) English Japanese Children’s Picture Book Bilingual Picture book in English and Japanese,Japanese kids book ... for children) (Volume 7) (Japanese Edition) I Love My Mom (Japanese Kids books, bilingual japanese books, japanese children books bilingual,ã...•ç«¥æ>„) ã• ã•ã•ã ã•ã “ã• ã•„ã•™ã•• (English Japanese Bilingual Collection) Living Language Japanese Complete Course, Revised & Updated (40 Lessons on 3 Compact Discs \* Coursebook \* Japanese-English/English-Japanese Dictionary) (English and Japanese Edition) Shutting Out the Sky: Life in the Tenements of New York, 1880-1924 (Jane Addams Honor Book (Awards)) Harem Years: The Memoirs of an Egyptian Feminist, 1879-1924 San Francisco : Adult Coloring Book Vol.1: City Sketches for Coloring Book (Splendid Cities of the United States Series)