Record Nr. UNINA9910172239503321 Autore Hendry Joy Titolo An anthropologist in Japan : glimpses of life in the field / / Joy Hendry Pubbl/distr/stampa London;; New York,: Routledge, 1999 **ISBN** 1-134-64522-8 1-134-64523-6 1-280-33297-2 0-203-01981-4 0-203-15917-9 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (183 p.) Collana ASA research methods in social anthropology Disciplina 306/.0952 Ethnology - Japan - Fieldwork Soggetti Women ethnologists - Japan Japan Social life and customs Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 155) and index. Nota di contenuto Book Cover; Title; Contents; List of illustrations; Preface; Settling in and making contacts; Arrivaland an invitation; The neighbourhood: a 'world of blossom and willow'; The hospitaland a strange encounter; The schooland a fight; A pilgrims' trail; Shiroyama, the Satomi legend and a new look at power; Events to attend; Wrapping the body: two local festivals; The housewives' 'Club for Life'; Cubs, sports and a shock; Suicide, funerals and the well-wrapped gift; Paper walls and flowers at the bank: The role of experts: A foreigner at the 'Culture Festival' 'Your Japanese is psychological torture' A volcanic eruption: Tennis and the 'surreal' dinner; Concerts, cakes and spiritual communication; Building a framework for analysis; New Year: shrine, mochi and a tea ceremony; Valentine's Day, and the 6th years pick on Hamish; The gang-leader's wife; Unwrapping the argument; An artistic farewell; Afterword: Index Sommario/riassunto In this highly personal account Joy Hendry relates her experiences of fieldwork in a Japanese town and reveals a fascinating cross-section of Japanese life. She sets out on a study of politeness but a variety of

unpredictable events including a volcanic eruption, a suicide and her

son's involvement with the family of a poweful local gangster, begin to alter the direction of her research. The book demonstrates the role of chance in the acquisition of anthropological knowledge and demonstrates how moments of insight can be embedded in everyday activity. An Anthropologist in Japan illumi