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cultural meanings of gender, mobility, and labor -- Moving up and out : the "shop girl" in interwar Japan / Elise K. Tipton -- Elevator girls moving in and out of the box / Laura Miller -- Sweat, perfume, and tobacco : the ambivalent labor of the dance hall girl / Vera Mackie -- "Flying geisha" : Japanese stewardesses with Pan American World Airways / Christine R. Yano -- Bus guides tour national landscapes, pop culture, and youth fantasies / Alisa Freedman -- The modern girl as militarist : female soldiers in and beyond Japan's self-defense forces / Sabine Fruhstuck -- The promises and possibilities of the pitch :

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## Sommario/riassunto

Edwards -- Miss Japan on the global stage : the journey of Ito Kinuko / Jan Bardsley -- Traveling to learn, learning to lead : Japanese women as American college students, 1900-1941 / Sally A. Hastings -- A personal journey across the Pacific / Yoko McClain.

This spirited and engaging multidisciplinary volume pins its focus on the lived experiences and cultural depictions of women's mobility and labor in Japan. The theme of "modern girls" continues to offer a captivating window into the changes that women's roles have undergone during the course of the last century. Here we encounter Japanese women inhabiting the most modern of spaces, in newly created professions, moving upward and outward, claiming the public life as their own: shop girls, elevator girls, dance hall dancers, tour bus guides, airline stewardesses, international beauty gueens, overseas teachers, corporate soccer players, and even female members of the Self-Defense Forces. Directly linking gender, mobility, and labor in 20th and 21st century Japan, this collection brings to life the ways in which these modern girls—historically and contemporaneously—have influenced social roles, patterns of daily life, and Japan's global image. It is an ideal guidebook for students, scholars, and general readers alike.