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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgements -- Introduction -- Chapter 1. The Postmodern Basis of Autoethnography -- Chapter 2. Narrative Inquiry in SLA and Applied Linguistics -- Chapter 3. In the Beginning: Situating the Story -- Chapter 4. In the Middle: Love, Marriage, Family -- Chapter 5. Career Discourse(s) -- Chapter 6. Where I Am Now: Two Days in the Life of an Expatriate -- Appendix 1: Foreign population -- Appendix 2: Newspaper article -- Appendix 3: Typical examples of Mayor Kawamura's 'Nagoya dialect' -- Appendix 4: Examples of Japanese emoticons -- Appendix 5: Manual for high school visits -- References -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	This autoethnographic account of the author's Japanese as a second language learning trajectory is an important and unique addition to diary studies in SLA and applied linguistics qualitative research circles. In-depth ethnographic details and introspective commentary are skilfully interwoven throughout Simon-Maeda's narrative of her experiences as an American expatriate who arrived in Japan in 1975 – the starting point of her being and becoming a speaker of Japanese.

The book joins the recent surge in postmodernist, interdisciplinary approaches to examining language acquisition, and readers are presented with a highly convincing case for using autoethnography to better understand sociolinguistic complexities that are unamenable to quantification of isolated variables. The comprehensive literature review and wide ranging references provide a valuable source of information for researchers, educators, and graduate students concerned with current issues in SLA/applied linguistics, bi/multilingualism, and Japanese as a second language.
