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Sommario/riassunto	As one of Japan's leading post-war anthropologists, the writings of Takie Lebra have had significant impact on Western understanding and appreciation of the structures and workings of Japanese society. In particular, her research into the notions of self and self-other relationships, issues of gender and women and motherhood has provided a new paradigm in the way these issues are now addressed. Similarly, her analysis of the status culture of royalty and the aristocracy in Japan, based on extensive field study, which culminated in her book Above the Clouds: Status Culture of the Modern Japanese Nobility (1993), has been widely regarded as the most important contribution of its kind to date. This volume brings together twenty-four of the author's key papers on the three principal areas of her research over the last thirty-five years, and includes a complete Bibliography of her published writings, subdivided into books, articles in journals or as book chapters, and book reviews. The collection is introduced by Takie Lebra herself, in which she first 'reviews' selected essays appearing in the volume, along with a consideration of the contemporary controversy surrounding the imperial succession. In

conclusion, by way of a personal 'mini memoir', she offers what she terms 'a sentimental reverie on my own self as a "native outsider"'.
