

Re: Books on expressing emotion

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- *From:* Phil <phil.yff@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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On Sun, 23 Sep 2007 09:29:39 +1000, Ben Finney wrote:

... Senko Maynard's "Expressive Japanese: A Reference Guide for Sharing Emotion And Empathy," University of Hawaii Press, March 2005, ISBN: 0-8248-2889-5.

...
(I'm re-reading this book. It is quite helpful.)

I have Mamiko Murakami's *Love, Hate and Everything in Between: Expressing Emotions in Japanese*, 1997 Kodansha, ISBN 4-7700-2803-2. I've found that very useful.

Could you (or someone who has both works) describe the differences between them?

Murakami's book was originally published as part of the "Power Japanese" series. That's the version I have. These books are intended to supplement a learning curriculum. They are all very good and Murakami's book is no exception. The Power Japanese series is now out of print but this book has been republished by Kodansha. The book provides some situational explanation, vocabulary for the key words, and representative phrases.

Maynard's book is much more rigorous and more expensive. She is a linguist and goes beyond the descriptive limits of Murakami's book to explain not only the language patterns but also the thought processes and cultural aspects behind the language. Maynard's examples are not the normal ones invented for a text. Rather, they are real excerpts from Japanese press, radio, TV, novels, manga, and so on.

If you just want to expand your vocabulary and learn some expressive phrases, Murakami's book is quite good. Maynard's books (not just this one) are in a class by themselves. She is one of the best linguists, in my opinion, writing today and I don't limit this assessment just to linguists writing about the Japanese language. I very strongly recommend this book and feel that it provides invaluable insight into Japanese language and

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culture.

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Phil

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