

A Young Girl's Struggle for Freedom in Twentieth Century Japan



Obachan: A Young Girl's Struggle for Freedom in Twentieth-Century Japan by Tani Hanes

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language	: English
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In the early 20th century, Japan was a rapidly changing country. The Meiji Restoration had opened the country to Western influence, and Japan was quickly modernizing. However, for women, life was still very restricted. They were expected to stay at home and raise children, and they had few opportunities for education or employment.

One young woman who defied these expectations was Ume Tsuda. Tsuda was born in 1864 in Tokyo, the daughter of a samurai. She was a bright and curious child, and she longed for a life beyond the confines of her home.

When she was 12 years old, Tsuda's father arranged for her to marry a much older man. Tsuda was horrified, and she refused to go through with

the marriage. Her father was furious, and he disowned her.

Tsuda was determined to make her own way in life. She enrolled in a girls' school, and she excelled in her studies. She then went on to college, where she studied English literature and philosophy.

After graduating from college, Tsuda worked as a teacher and a journalist. She also became involved in the women's rights movement. She wrote articles and gave speeches calling for equal rights for women.

In 1900, Tsuda founded the Tsuda College for Women. The college was the first of its kind in Japan, and it provided women with the opportunity to receive a higher education. Tsuda's college was a great success, and it helped to pave the way for women's education in Japan.

Tsuda continued to work for women's rights throughout her life. She was a member of the Japanese Diet, and she served as the president of the International Federation of University Women. She died in 1929, but her legacy continues to inspire women around the world.

Ume Tsuda was a remarkable woman who dedicated her life to fighting for freedom and equality for women. She faced many challenges, but she never gave up on her dreams. Tsuda's story is an inspiration to us all, and it reminds us that anything is possible if we set our minds to it.



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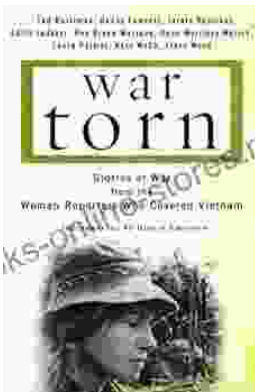
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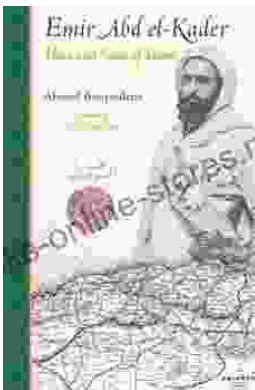
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