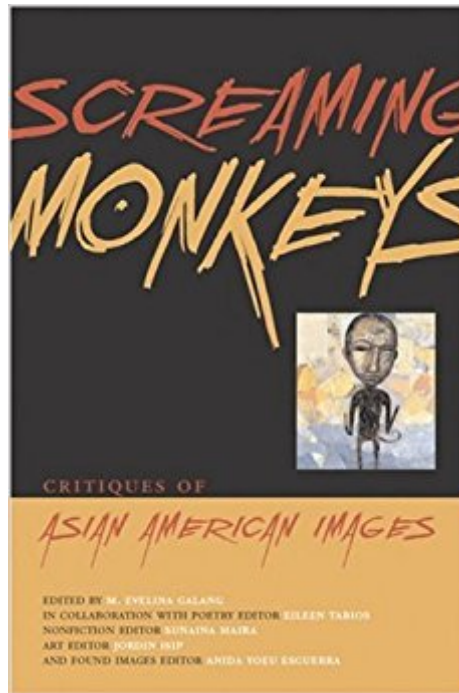




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Screaming Monkeys: Critiques Of Asian American Images



Synopsis

When a restaurant review referred to a Filipino child as a "rambunctious -little monkey," Filipino Americans were outraged. Sparked by this racist incident, *Screaming Monkeys* sets fire to Asian American stereotypes as it -illuminates the diverse and often neglected history and culture within the Asian American diaspora. Poems, essays, paintings, and stories break down and challenge "found" articles, photographs, and headlines to create this powerful anthology with all the immediacy of social protest. By closely critiquing a wealth of material, including the judge's statement of apology in the Wen Ho Lee case, the media treatment of serial killer Andrew Cunanan, and the image of Asian Americans in major U.S. marketing campaigns, *Screaming Monkeys* will inspire all its readers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Screaming Monkeys enacts one of the most challenging, yet culturally rewarding, subversions of prevailing stereotypes of Asian Americans in contemporary mass media. The title of the anthology comes from a controversial incident that sparked the editor's anger: in a restaurant review published in *Milwaukee Magazine* in 1998, the reviewer calls a young Filipino American boy a "rambunctious little monkey," leading to a flurry of indignant responses by Asians. The key issue was simple: the writer's ignorance of Filipino and Filipino American history led her to frivolously write what she probably considered a cute anecdote. How exceedingly misguided she was is evidenced by this amazing anthology, a dramatic work of creativity and resistance to uninformed cultural categories

and a vital document that professors of Asian American studies or anyone interested in the complex history of Asians in America will appreciate. Sunaina Maira, noting the "rise of Indo-chic" in the last couple of years, "part of a wider marketing of 'Asian cool' in fashion, music, and film," asks the crucial question: "So what kinds of representations do we, and can we, construct in response?" Here is the answer: M. Evelina Galang and her amazing team of editors have constructed an anthology of a wide range of texts and images that illustrate how Asian America has been uncritically represented in the media and in art, to challenge those representations with art itself. The juxtaposition of creative modes-fiction, poetry, essay, art with advertisements and critical pieces-provides a nuanced perspective of the vexed position of Asian Americans in mainstream America, and obliges us to rethink our manner of cultural classifications.

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