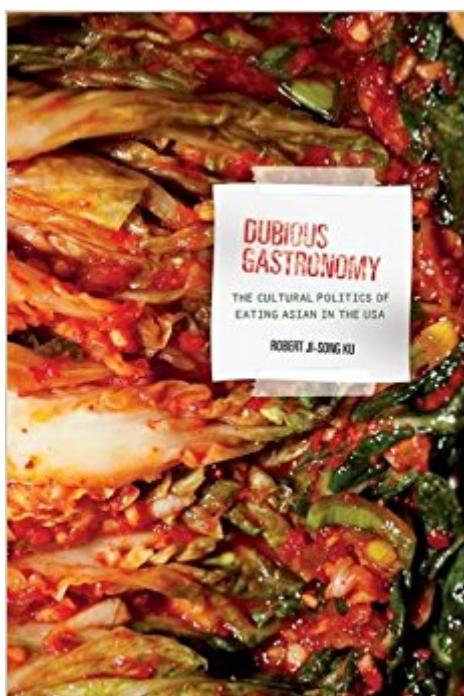


The book was found

Dubious Gastronomy: The Cultural Politics Of Eating Asian In The USA (Food In Asia And The Pacific)



Synopsis

California roll, Chinese take-out, American-made kimchi, dogmeat, monosodium glutamate, SPAM, and all are examples of what Robert Ji-Song Ku calls "dubious" foods. Strongly associated with Asian and Asian American gastronomy, they are commonly understood as ersatz, depraved, or simply bad. In *Dubious Gastronomy*, Ku contends that these foods share a spiritual fellowship with Asians in the United States in that the Asian presence, be it culinary or corporeal, is often considered watered-down, counterfeit, or debased manifestations of the "real thing." The American expression of Asianness is defined as doubly inauthentic as insufficiently Asian and unreliably American when measured against a largely ideological if not entirely political standard of authentic Asia and America. By exploring the other side of what is prescriptively understood as proper Asian gastronomy, Ku suggests that Asian cultural expressions occurring in places such as Los Angeles, Honolulu, New York City, and even Baton Rouge are no less critical to understanding the meaning of Asian food and, by extension, Asian people than culinary expressions that took place in Tokyo, Seoul, and Shanghai centuries ago. In critically considering the impure and hybridized with serious and often whimsical intent, *Dubious Gastronomy* argues that while the notion of cultural authenticity is troubled, troubling, and troublesome, the apocryphal is not necessarily a bad thing: The dubious can be and is often quite delicious. *Dubious Gastronomy* overlaps a number of disciplines, including American and Asian American studies, Asian diasporic studies, literary and cultural studies, and the burgeoning field of food studies. More importantly, however, the book fulfills the critical task of amalgamating these areas and putting them in conversation with one another. Written in an engaging and fluid style, it promises to appeal a wide audience of readers who seriously enjoys eating and reading and thinking about food.

Book Information

Series: Food in Asia and the Pacific

Hardcover: 304 pages

Publisher: University of Hawaii Press (December 31, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0824839218

ISBN-13: 978-0824839215

Product Dimensions: 1 x 6.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds ([View shipping rates and policies](#))

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #1,323,553 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #95 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Regional & International > U.S. Regional > Hawaii #704 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Specific Demographics > Asian American Studies #1905 in Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Asian Cooking

Customer Reviews

Ku's book does not seek to simply prove that certain foods are inauthentic, disreputable, or artificial; instead, he queries how these malleable discursive categories are used to limit and channel the consumption of Asian and Asian American ethnicity. . . . Ku is at his best when he shows how often contemporary culinary discussions of Asian authenticity rely on and reinforce an orientalist East West binary. Ku's entry on dog meat, in particular, captures his trademark balance of sober research and challenging polemic. . . . Written in an accessible and entertaining voice, this book strikes a rhetorical balance, containing enough academic grist to push Asian American studies to further its critical engagement with the respective fields of food and postcolonial studies while providing a litany of anecdotes that would allow the book to sit comfortably on a coffee table next to Jennifer 8. Lee's best seller, *The Fortune Cookie Chronicles*.-- "American Quarterly" Ku's book does not seek to simply prove that certain foods are inauthentic, disreputable, or artificial; instead, he queries how these malleable discursive categories are used to limit and channel the consumption of Asian and Asian American ethnicity. . . . Ku is at his best when he shows how often contemporary culinary discussions of Asian authenticity rely on and reinforce an orientalist East-West binary. Ku's entry on dog meat, in particular, captures his trademark balance of sober research and challenging polemic. . . . Written in an accessible and entertaining voice, this book strikes a rhetorical balance, containing enough academic grist to push Asian American studies to further its critical engagement with the respective fields of food and postcolonial studies while providing a litany of anecdotes that would allow the book to sit comfortably on a coffee table next to Jennifer 8. Lee's best seller, *The Fortune Cookie Chronicles*.-- "American Quarterly" The six chapters, each dedicated to a particular food, reveal long, complex histories that not only involve the circulation, production, and consumption but also unearth stories of migration and exclusion, revealing much about the complexities of definitional power over authenticity and the construction of multiple boundaries of Asian, American, and, most important, Asian Americanness. In doing so, Ku grapples with the complex role of food in the making and unmaking of borders and systems of order including national order, systems of belonging, order of the body, family belonging through the passing down of

culinary knowledge, hierarchies of taste and palatability, and the very ordering of what is acceptable for human consumption.-- "Journal of Asian American Studies"

Ku's book does not seek to simply prove that certain foods are inauthentic, disreputable, or artificial; instead, he queries how these malleable discursive categories are used to limit and channel the consumption of Asian and Asian American ethnicity. . . . Ku is at his best when he shows how often contemporary culinary discussions of Asian authenticity rely on and reinforce an orientalist East-West binary. Ku's entry on dog meat, in particular, captures his trademark balance of sober research and challenging polemic. . . . Written in an accessible and entertaining voice, this book strikes a rhetorical balance, containing enough academic grist to push Asian American studies to further its critical engagement with the respective fields of food and postcolonial studies while providing a litany of anecdotes that would allow the book to sit comfortably on a coffee table next to Jennifer 8. Lee's best seller, *The Fortune Cookie Chronicles*. (American Quarterly) The six chapters, each dedicated to a particular food, reveal long, complex histories that not only involve the circulation, production, and consumption but also unearth stories of migration and exclusion, revealing much about the complexities of definitional power over authenticity and the construction of multiple boundaries of Asian, American, and, most important, Asian Americanness. In doing so, Ku grapples with the complex role of food in the making and unmaking of borders and systems of order including national order, systems of belonging, order of the body, family belonging through the passing down of culinary knowledge, hierarchies of taste and palatability, and the very ordering of what is acceptable for human consumption. (Journal of Asian American Studies)

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Dubious Gastronomy: The Cultural Politics of Eating Asian in the USA (Food in Asia and the Pacific)
Easy Asian Cookbook: 200 Asian Recipes from Thailand, Korea, Japan, Indonesia, Vietnam, and the Philippines (Asian Cookbook, Asian Recipes, Asian Cooking, ... Thai Recipes, Japanese Recipes Book 1)
Clean Eating: 365 Days of Clean Eating Recipes (Clean Eating, Clean Eating Cookbook, Clean Eating Recipes, Clean Eating Diet, Healthy Recipes, For Living Wellness and Weigh loss, Eat Clean Diet Book)
Binge Eating: Cure Binge Eating, Overcome Food Addiction, and Rid Your Life of Eating Disorders (Binge Eating Cure Series Book 1)
VIETNAMESE VEGETARIAN FOOD - OUR FAMILY VEGETARIAN RECIPES: VEGETARIAN FOOD RECIPES FROM OUR VIETNAMESE HOME - VEGETARIAN FOOD RECIPES VEGAN RECIPES ASIAN ... RECIPES ASIAN VEGAN SERIES Book 1)
Southeast Asian Cooking: Bundle of 120 Southeast Asian Recipes

(Indonesian Cuisine, Malaysian Food, Cambodian Cooking, Vietnamese Meals, Thai Kitchen, ... of recipe books from Southeast Asia! Food & Freedom: How the Slow Food Movement Is Changing the World Through Gastronomy Whole Food: The 30 day Whole Food Ultimate Cookbook 100recipes (Whole Food Diet, Whole Food Cookbook, Whole Food Recipes, Clean Eating, Paleo, Ketogenic) Asian Paleo: 30 Minute Paleo! Your Complete Guide to Delicious, Healthy, and Gluten Free Asian Paleo in 30 Minutes or Less (Asian Paleo Guide - Thai, Japanese, ... Korean, Filipino, and Vietnamese Recipes) Asian Paleo: 30 Minute Paleo! Your Complete Guide to Delicious, Healthy, and Gluten Free Asian Paleo in 30 Minutes or Less (Asian Paleo Guide - Thai, ... Korean, Filipino, and Vietnamese Recipes) Asian Salads Book: The Ultimate Asian Salad Dressing Cookbook and Best Asian Salad Recipes You Will Ever Find! Easy Asian Cookbook Box Set: Easy Korean Cookbook, Easy Filipino Cookbook, Easy Thai Cookbook, Easy Indonesian Cookbook, Easy Vietnamese Cookbook (Korean ... Recipes, Asian Recipes, Asian Cookbook 1) CLEAN EATING: The Detox Process And Clean Eating Recipes That Help you lose weight naturally (Clean eating cookbook, Weight Watchers, Sugar free detox, Healthy ... Eating Cookbook, Loss weight Fast, Eat thin) Clean Eating: Clean Eating Diet: The 7-Day Plan for Weight Loss & Delicious Recipes for Clean Eating Diet (Clean Eating, Weight Loss, Healthy Diet, Healthy ... Paleo Diet, Lose Weight Fast, Flat Belly) Sources of East Asian Tradition, Vol. 1: Premodern Asia (Introduction to Asian Civilizations) The Asian Kitchen: Fabulous Recipes from Every corner of Asia [Asian Cookbook, 380 Recipes] Food Truck Business: How To Start Your Own Food Truck While Growing & Succeeding As Your Own Boss (Food Truck, Food Truck Business, Passive Income, Food ... Truck Startup, Food Truck Business Plan,) Asian America through the Lens: History, Representations, and Identities (Critical Perspectives on Asian Pacific Americans) Asian Dining Rules: Essential Strategies for Eating Out at Japanese, Chinese, Southeast Asian, Korean, and Indian Restaurants On the Edge of the Global: Modern Anxieties in a Pacific Island Nation (Contemporary Issues in Asia and the Pacific)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)