

e-Books in Japan

- Technology
- Scholarly e-books
- Comics & Novels
- Digitization

Technology

- Readers
 - PC
 - Mobile phones (most popular)
 - Nintendo, Sony PS
 - Kindle and iPhone is coming
 - No Sony Reader
- Formats
 - XMDF, Book Surfing
 - suited for comics
 - EPUB is coming

Scholarly e-Books

- EBSCO NetLibrary (Kinokuniya)
 - 1500 titles (52 publishers)
 - Toppan Printing plans to help create e-Books

Comics & Novels

- Comics for mobile phones have been most popular
- POPYLESS
 - 145,000 comic/novel titles
 - downloadable to PC and mobile phones
 - not yet for iPhone, iPad, Kindle

e-Books in Libraries

- Almost none
- Chiyoda Public Library is experimenting

Why So Slow?

- Processing Japanese-language texts
 - direction, ruby
 - costly
 - XML DTD not standardized
- Publishers are small
- No international market

117

都市は流入する。滞まることを知らない。ぶつかりあう。はじ、階層が。回転する独楽。都市に棲息するもの。それは皆、回転し、異質な独楽である。そして、それが都市の style だ。社会を人。異人。両性具有者。自と他との境界をくぐりぬけ、都市の境者だ。

都市を生きる芸術家。都市を彷徨する彼もまた、都市の運動の己と自己との距離を生み出していく、地図作製者である。

東京を流れるひとつの境界、隅田川。大正一〇年、一九二一年、の寄宿舍に入寮のため、江戸の名残、為永春水「春色梅児誉美」ちら側浅草へと越境する。向島から浅草へ。それを第一の越境と

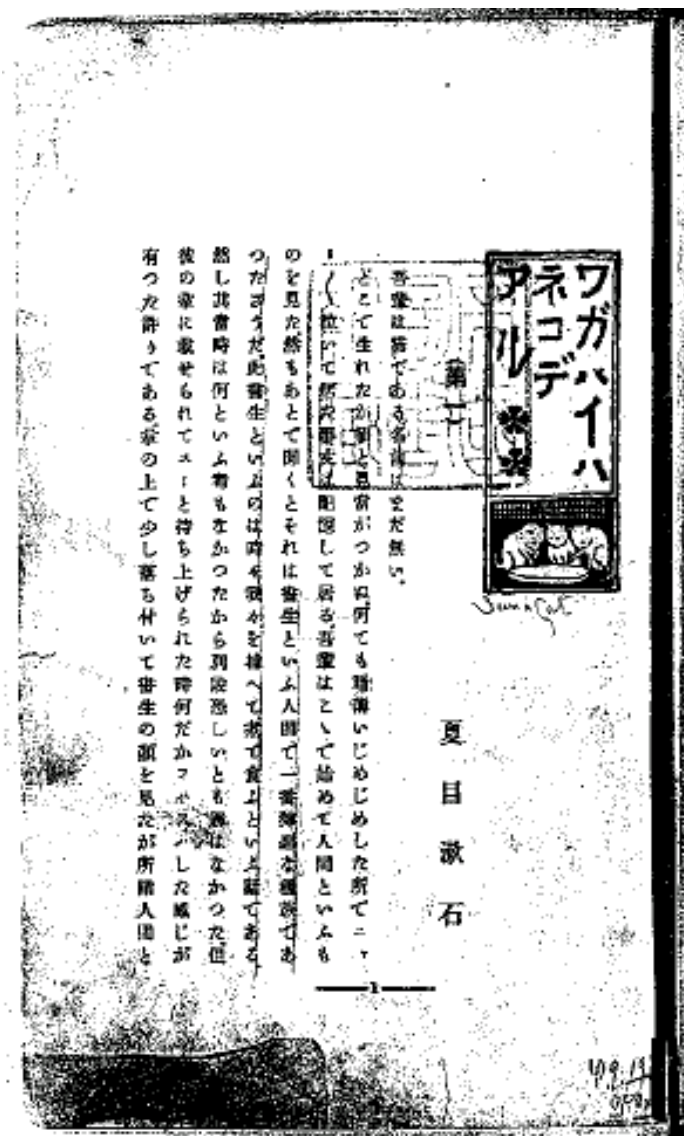
New Development

- Magazine Contents Digitization Promotion Consortium (50 publishers, est. Nov. 2009)
- The Electronic Book Publishers Association of Japan (31 publishers, est. March 24, 2010)
- Toppan-Sony-KDDI-Asahi Shinbun Project (Press release on May 27, 2010)
 - Establish a joint venture servicing e-book platform
 - Supported by major book publishers

Digitization Projects

- National Diet Library (NDL) Digital Library
- Aozora Bunko
- University libraries
- Google Book Search
- NDL Mass Digitization

NDL Digital Library from the Meiji Era



NDL Digital Library from the Meiji Era

- Digitizes public domain books and books under permission
- 156,000 books digitized mostly from microfilm
- Costly to clear copyright (50 years after author's death)

Aozora Bunko

- Similar to the Gutenberg Project
 - “Aozora” means “blue sky”
 - Public domain books
 - Create text manually by volunteers
 - 9000 book titles (May 2010)

University Libraries

- Digitiza rare books and ancient books

Google Book Search

- Only one university library in Japan joins
 - Keio University Library
 - 200,000 public domain books
- Impact of the settlement
 - Japanese books are exempted after the revision

NDL Mass Digitization

- Revised Copyright Law of 2009
 - NDL can digitize book holdings without permission
- Under fiscal 2009 stimulus package
 - 12.7 billion yen (\$140 million)
 - almost 100 times of annual digitization budget
 - plan to digitize 900,000 books and magazines
 - all magazines
 - books until 1968

NDL Mass Digitization

- Users can read digitized books “INSIDE”
NDL
- Library loans or public distribution are not permitted
 - possibly through a third sector (Nagao Plan)
- No OCR planned
 - possibly by publishers

Summary

- e-Books are now evolving in Japan, but slowly
- Kindle and iPad may ignite
- Impact of NDL Digitization
 - the only national project which competes with Google