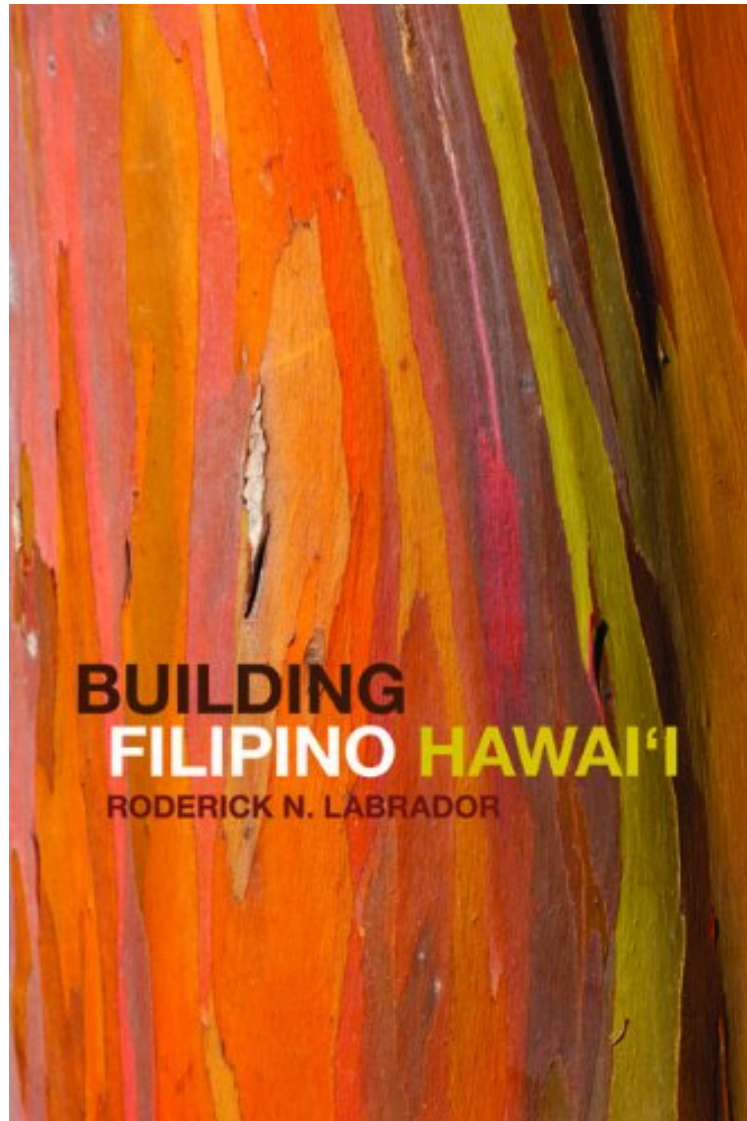


(Free and download) Building Filipino Hawai'i (Asian American Experience)

Building Filipino Hawai'i (Asian American Experience)

Roderick N Labrador

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Roderick N Labrador : Building Filipino Hawai'i (Asian American Experience) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Building Filipino Hawai'i (Asian American Experience):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Labrador ReviewBy Tom ServoIn Building Filipino Hawaii, Labrador explores some lesser-known territories of what is known about Filipinos living in Hawaii. One thing that I took away from the book was the talk of the FilCom Center acting as a symbol of political and social achievement in the eyes of Filipinos living in Hawaii. While that may be true, Filipinos living in Hawaii are still living in poverty,

compared to other Asian and Pacific Islander ethnic groups residing there. The chapter about Filipino comedy was kind of concerning to me. It seems like Labrador doesn't have a sense of humor, and takes himself too seriously. In other words, I don't think he quite knows how comedy works. He talks about how Frank De Limas brand of comedy is encouraging stereotypes of Filipinos. In response to that, a lot of comedy encourages stereotypes, but I don't think it's wrong to laugh. It's impossible to be 100% politically correct all the time, and if you try, good luck having a healthy social life. The demonization of people who say things others disagree with is one of the biggest threats to free speech we face today. The mindset of you can have your own opinions, as long as they don't offend me is ridiculous, and goes completely against the 1st Amendment. If you don't like somebody's style of comedy, music, art, etc., don't support them by giving them money. It's as simple as that. Aside from that chapter, the book has some interesting discussion about different dialects spoken by Filipinos living in Hawaii. The notion that some Filipinos would rather speak Pidgin, rather than a Tagalog or Cebuano, for example, is evidence that Filipinos feel like outsiders, and will do anything to try to fit in with local Hawaiians. Overall, it's a great book, that is thought provoking, and gives a good insight into Filipino life in Hawaii.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It's a great book especially if someone is interested in learning about ...

By Vanessa Soria

Roderick N. Labrador research of Filipinos in Hawaii explores the questions about Filipino identity and the politics of it. Labrador focuses on two main questions of his book where he is constantly answering what does it truly mean to be Filipino? and what are the circumstances and concerns of how the identity grouping is described? While reading his book, it is important to construct his main arguments and analyze his responses to these questions in order to fully understand how the author portrays the experiences of the Filipino community. It's a great book especially if someone is interested in learning about the historical component of Filipinos in Hawaii, the US colonialism of Hawaii and the Philippines in the perspectives of the Filipino community, the hardships of Filipino immigrants that were faced in Hawaii, information about the local neighborhoods where most of the Filipino community reside, the power of learning and speaking the language, and the importance of creating a Filipino center where it symbolizes the facade American Dream to the public and Hawaiian community. Labrador provides examples from individuals who either identify themselves as locals or Filipinos shared their experiences about living in Hawaii and what Filipinos had to achieve in order to assimilate to a new culture, of being local. He also provides various researchers work about Hawaii through scholarly books and articles throughout his book. Overall, this book has helped me to understand the changing demographics of similar ethnic groups in different geographical settings. It also helped me to understand the new identity and culture Filipinos have to adapt in order to be accepted by the local people of Hawaii.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Review of Building Filipino Hawaii

By Alice Zhang

The book explained and described Filipinos in Hawaii. It wrote about the influence of the community and individuals. Labrador brought up Filipino disunity in his book. In his eyes, Filipinos are lack of unity. They speak different languages and it does not bring them together. That's why the Filipino center exists. It's built to bring all the Filipinos together, and show others about Filipino culture. Labrador also talked about comedy. I can read disapproval between lines. It is really sensitive when it comes to joke about ethnicity. In Labrador's opinion, it's confirming stereotypes and prejudices in other people's eyes towards Filipinos. Like I said, things like this is super sensitive. Filipinos can joke around with their ethnicity stigma. But it's a big NO for people from other ethnicity. When Filipinos does it, everyone knows he/she is joking. When others does it, there's possibility that they actually believes it.

Drawing on ten years of interviews and ethnographic and archival research, Roderick Labrador delves into the ways Filipinos in Hawai'i have balanced their pursuit of upward mobility and mainstream acceptance with a desire to keep their Filipino identity. In particular, Labrador speaks to the processes of identity making and the politics of representation among immigrant communities striving to resist marginalization in a globalized, transnational era. Critiquing the popular image of Hawai'i as a post-racial paradise, he reveals how Filipino immigrants talk about their relationships to the place(s) they left and the place(s) where they've settled, and how these discourses shape their identities. He also shows how the struggle for community empowerment, identity territorialization, and the process of placing and boundary making continue to affect how minority groups construct the stories they tell about themselves, to themselves and others.

"Labrador provides an engaging and thoughtful study of Filipinos in Hawai'i, demonstrating how they have struggled to define and/or redefine their identity in the diaspora, by moving from the margins of Hawaii's society to becoming an integral part of it, while also maintaining their sense of Filipino-ness." --Rudy P. Guevarra Jr., author of *Becoming Mexipino: Multiethnic Identities and Communities in San Diego*