



THE USE OF FARMING AND CULINARY TOOLS AS RESISTANCE IN
JULIE OTSUKA'S *WHEN THE EMPEROR WAS DIVINE*

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Julie Otsuka's *When the Emperor Was Divine* (2002) discusses the traumatic experiences of a Japanese American family who, along with more than 110,000 Japanese and Japanese Americans, was sent to internment camps during the aftermath of the Pearl Harbor attack. With its unusual use of farming and culinary tools, this novel can be read as a resistance statement both in its historical context and in Asian American literary traditions.

Dr. Katsuya Izumi's research focuses on food and identity in Asian American literature. He has taught American literature, English writing, and Japanese.