

## Foreword:

“I want to draw a tank, but I’m not very good at it. Mom, draw me a tank...,”  
“Draw me a plane...” the kids begged, holding out a piece of paper and a pencil. But how many mothers can just take that pencil into their hands and draw what was asked?

“Oh, I don’t think I can. Drawing is too difficult. Why don’t you have your dad draw it for you?” they say, directing the request to their children’s fathers.



“A tank? I dunno. Sounds tough...”

But actually, the dads have similar trouble. They know what a tank looks like, but when asked to draw it, they find themselves lost as to how to express it on paper. They can’t help but wonder how happy their children would be if they could easily draw an interesting image in sequence.



Truly, drawing is an action that seems easy but is hard, and an action that seems hard but is easy. “I’m always at a loss when my kids ask me to draw for them” are words I hear time and time again from families all over.



If you really think about it, this troublesome request is just the instinct of your dear children to preserve the things they have seen with their own eyes and touched with their own hands. In other words, it is the reassuring manifestation of their expanding knowledge. Thus, I believe instructing them well in this desire is an incredibly important task.



In such situations, if the parents or other members of the house hold a similar wish to draw, try joining them in drawing a tank or plane, just as the children wish. You’ll see them dance around in glee.

Drawing like this, not only will your children’s wisdom continue to grow, the filial love between you two will grow ever deeper as well.



After hearing and seeing these situations, I felt the need for a reference book that teaches how to draw in simple terms. There have been other drawing books or books on sketching that have been published previously, but most simply randomly list out drawings. I’ve found none that explain the process of sketching or provide friendly explanations. Thus the need for a book that easily and clearly taught people how to draw whatever they want, whenever they want, in a way that they would enjoy became ever-more apparent to me.



People say it is talent that decides whether one is good or bad at drawing. However, I am certain that even those without talent can improve greatly if they look at and draw many pictures under the right instruction.

Thus, my book *The Simple Way to Draw (Yasashi e no kakikata)* is dedicated not just to parents, but to children as well, so brothers, sisters, and everyone in the house can use it as a reference and instruction in looking at drawings and learning to draw.



Above all, I believe my pages on “How to Draw Funny Manga (*Omoishiroi manga no kakikata*)” will be heavily enjoyed by children while also greatly accelerating their skills. Additionally, my section “A Guidebook to Simplified Sketching (*Ryakuga no e tehon*)” records simplified images of all sorts of items, and thus can be used as a drawing dictionary not just by families, but schoolteachers, and the general public.



That is how I felt when I created this book, but due to some of my designs and desire to write for both adults and children, some of my simple sketches become quite detailed. I wish for your understanding in this.

Through this book, I pray everyone discards their mistaken belief that drawing is difficult and gains the ability to draw simple and fun pictures of whatever their heart desires.

That concludes my somewhat boastful foreword.

Note: This book also includes items originally published in magazines like Shonen Club, Shojo Club, Yonen Club, Ie no Hikari, and Kodansha picture books.



This book was written with the various kindnesses of the Ministry of the Army's Mister Takeo Suga, Mister Taiji Kamiya, and Mister Sho Ohtsuki. I express to them my deepest gratitude.

With this book as my legacy, I am determined to contribute my final duty on the front line.

(Translated by Madeleine Willette)