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私の My favorite books 本棚



● Kingdom (Yasuhisa Hara, Shueisha)

This is a manga set in the late Warring States Period of China, and being such a huge bestseller it is well known by a large number of people. Given that it is a manga, the characters' personalities are exaggerated quite a bit. Still, when I was reading it I would think, "There are people around me who are just like this," or, "I can relate to this part of that character." It remains one of my favorite series. I have read it many times and thoroughly enjoyed it because I like stories with drama that unfolds between a large roster of characters. It is easy to see why it is so popular with businesspeople. I'm currently reading it through the Kindle app on my iPhone.

● Raising Your Resolution: Four Perspectives and Methods to Bring Clarity to Ambiguous Thoughts through Depth, Breadth, Structure, and Time (Takaaki Umada, Eiji Press)

I met the author, Mr. Umada, through an acquaintance, and that led me to pick up this book. This book articulated its thought process well, allowing me to discover new ideas. I have been working with the university startup Quanmatic as its Chief Technology Officer (CTO) since its inception. This requires me to use a different "brain" than I do at Keio. I am interested in reading not only this book but also other books on how to think with a business mindset. I've applied the ideas from these books to my research and laboratory activities, and I have come to realize the importance of having a diversity of experiences. By the way, I mainly use the Kindle app on my iPad to read these books.

● The Non-Designer's Design Book (Robin Williams, trans. Norihide Yoshikawa, MyNavi Publishing)

I picked up this book when I was an undergraduate student after a friend recommended it to me. As the book title suggests, it introduces the concept of design for non-designers and has an abundance of examples. Since it is intended for non-designers, it is very informative, with guides that tell you what you need to do at the bare minimum. Since I pay attention to the design of things in my research lectures and poster presentations as well as the handouts used in my teaching, I sometimes go back to it and use it in my work.

● Quantum Spin Glasses, Annealing and Computation (Shu Tanaka, Ryo Tamura, Bikas K. Chakrabarti, Morikita Publishing Co.)

This is the first technical book that I wrote in Japanese. I originally wrote it in English, and then translated it into Japanese. I can still recall the difficulties I had in compiling all my technical knowledge on quantum spin annealing and related fields into this book. The contents are extremely specialized. It is very useful for teaching lab students and preparing them for the lecture on quantum computing offered through the Department of Applied Physics and Physico-Informatics.

● Writing Techniques for Science and Engineering (Koreo Kinoshita, Chuko Shinsho)

This is a well-known book. I picked it up during my first year as an undergraduate because it was being displayed in the book section of my university co-op. It was actually very difficult for me when I first got it, but when I was a graduate student I went back and read it again. I was writing more due to my research activities and was able to understand it a little better. Now that I do a lot of writing for my job and provide feedback to students in my lab on their writing, I am re-reading it again. This is one of the books I value the most in teaching someone how to write.