

1 Season Two: *Forbidden Diary*
2 Episode Eight: Life Goes On

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4 CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

5		
6	Natalie Crouter	Sevil Delin
7	Hazel	Diane Bolton
8	Isobel	Jennifer Nittoso
9	Helen	Sarah Pavelec
10	Peg	Rebecca Haugh
11	Millie	Melba King
12	Enid	Diane DeBoer
13	Dotty	Ina Marie Smith
14	Diane	Andrea Hadhazy
15	Pvt. Haruki	Miki Hiramoto
16	Nakamura	Yoshi Amao
17	Arthur	Robert S. Ball
18	Jerry	Mark Oliver
19	Bedie	Luka Aslan Nas
20	Nida's Auntie	Ria Vrana
21	Nida	Jeannie Anne Sison
22	Ismael	Pocholo Gonzales
23	Jim	Maxwell Glick
24	June	Claire Oliver
25	Betty	Julie M Dean
26	Dr. Dean	Nick Steen
27	Hank	Dan Davis
28	Alex	Slava Timoshenko
29	Larry	Patrick Golebioski
30	Little Ester	Emily
31	British Man	Jay Simon
32	Mrs. Saleeby	Melba King
33	Eleanor*	Sandra Espinoza
34	Colleen	Mandy Balser
35	Doris	Nora Novak

36
37 * *It Had to be You* sung by Sevil Delin
38

39 [Cold Open]

40

41 Announcer Previously on *Forbidden Diary*...

42

43 [SOUND BITES FROM EPISODE SEVEN]

44

45 Announcer And now, Episode Eight.

46

47

48 [DIARY READING ONE]

49

50 [SOUNDS OF PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE OUT]

51

52 Natalie January 30, 1942 Camp John Hay Yesterday afternoon all of the
53 missionaries and their families were called onto the tennis court
54 to hear an announcement that they were leaving camp
55 immediately. It did not matter whether they wanted to stay or
56 not. No choice.

57

58 A terrible flurry and flutter ensued. The missionaries had no idea
59 where they were going or why they were being let go.

60

61 After a mad rush of packing and then standing for roll call, about
62 150 people—mostly woman and children¹—were loaded onto
63 vehicles. We watched them driven over the hill into freedom.

64

65 At second meal speculations were passed around. Were they
66 freed because our water is getting short? Or to remove the
67 Japanese responsibility of starving us when our funds run out?
68 Where and how will the missionaries live? And what about us?
69 Are we to be let out to cope in a new world?

70

71 At least there was more food. With the missionaries gone and few
72 mouths to feed, we all had a full second meal.

73

¹ Halsema January 30, 1942 diary entry at ../DIARIES & MEMOIRS/ 42-43 Diary - Angeny Family Files - Halsema/Halesma Diary from Angeny Files.pdf. In Halsema's diary he wrote that it was 51 men and 149 women, but I will go with Natalie's numbers.

74 Isobel, who looks like she's going to deliver at any minute, was
75 exhausted from the upheaval and went to bed to wait for the
76 truck to take her to the hospital.

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[SCENE ONE A]²

80

81

[WOMEN'S BARRACKS SOUNDS]

82

83 Hazel How are you doing Isobel?

84

85 Isobel Oh fine, I just need a lie down after that meal. Mmmm pea
86 soup....

87

88 Hazel And then sweet potatoes and meat topped with tomato.

89

90 Isobel Plus carrots, banana and taffy!

91

92 Hazel Full stomachs for once.

93

94 Isobel Maybe a little too full.

95

96 Hazel Well I hope you saved room for castor oil.

97

98 Isobel You're going to kill me with that castor oil.

99

100 Hazel Doctor's orders. Here, take a swig.

101

102 Isobel I've already eaten too much. Please, just... gimme a chance to
103 digest.

104

105 Hazel Is your bag packed?

106

107 Isobel Oh stop being a mother hen! Dr. Bruce and a nurse'll be taking me
108 to the hospital tonight. It's all planned, just like when Helen had
109 her baby a few weeks ago. Right Helen?

110

² Unless otherwise noted, based on Natalie's [January 30, 1942](#) diary entry.

111 Helen Only it was Dr. Dean who delivered Billy.
112
113 Isobel Tell 'em what he said to you, Helen.
114
115 Helen Well, he was hoping I'd be in labor long enough for him to get
116 food at the hospital, so he said to me, "Honey, I want you to take
117 a good long time at this, as I want to get three square meals from
118 this trip."³
119
120 Hazel That sounds like Dr. Dean all right. But he's a good surgeon, went
121 to Vanderbilt.⁴
122
123 Peg Well, I sure wouldn't want him delivering my baby. Did you see
124 him roll into our dining room tonight?⁵
125
126 Millie Boy did he ever take a wrong turn in Albuquerque!⁶
127
128 Enid Drunk as a skunk from the alcohol he gets from the hospital.
129
130 Isobel Darn! I missed it.
131
132 Peg You should have seen Bessie. She swooped in so fast that the
133 guards didn't even notice her steering him back to the kitchen.
134
135 Dotty One of them did, but he's the nice guard.
136
137 Peg Dotty!
138
139 Dotty Well he is! I saw him covering Diane's baby the other night.⁷
140
141 Peg Don't tell Diane that. She'll have a fit!
142
143 Diane Tell me what?

³ Angeny, Helen Frances Buehl, *Behind Barbed Wire and High Fences*, pp 52.

⁴ Halsema January 22, 1942 diary.

⁵ Halsema January 30, 1942 diary entry talks about the "Dr. Dean" episode. Ethel [Enid] was the one who lead him away.

⁶ Trope from the popular Bugs Bunny cartoons of the time. See [Bugs Bunny Albuquerque - Bing video](#). It was first said in the 1945 cartoon entitled, *Herr Meets Hare*. See [Herr Meets Hare - Wikipedia](#).

⁷ Natalie's [February 5, 1942](#) diary entry. Natalie mentions a guard covering up a baby named Diana. Diane is a fictional character.

144 Peg Oh nothing.

145

146 Dotty Nothing

147

148

149 **[SCENE ONE B]⁸**

150

151 Pvt. Haruki [IN JAPANESE] Arthur wants to see you, Nakamura san.

152

153 Nakamura [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] Tell him I've already called
154 headquarters three goddamn times!!

155

156 Pvt. Haruki [IN JAPANESE] Yes sir.

157

158 [SOUNDS OF DOOR KNOCK AND OPENING. ARTHUR WALKING INTO NAKAMURA'S OFFICE]

159

160 Nakamura What the hell do you want Arthur!!

161

162 Arthur The driver's waiting to take Isobel Scott to the hospital.

163

164 Nakamura I goddamn know he's waiting!!

165

166 Arthur What gives then?

167

168 Nakamura It isn't prudent to drive at night.

169

170 Arthur But she's gone into labor.

171

172 Nakamura I goddamn know she's in labor!!! But that's what High Command
173 told me. What the hell does prudent mean?

174

175 Arthur It's a twenty-dollar word for "Isobel isn't going to the hospital
176 tonight."

177

178 Nakamura I called those sons of bitches three times! Have I told you those
179 bastards haven't paid me?⁹

⁸ Based and imagined from Natalie's [January 30, 1942](#) diary entry and Halsema January 31, 1942 diary entry.

⁹ Natalie's [February 2, 1942](#) diary entry is just one reference indicating that Nakamura was not being paid.

180 Arthur Yes.
181
182 Nakamura Not one peso! Mrs. Scott will have to wait until morning.
183
184 Arthur I am afraid it doesn't work like that.
185
186 Nakamura I have four goddamn kids!¹⁰ I know it doesn't work like that!
187
188 Nakamura Okay, well then...I gotta go back and figure out something.
189
190 Nakamura Tell those doctors and nurses to get off their cans and help her!
191
192

193 **[SCENE ONE C]¹¹**
194

195 [SOUNDS OF FURNITURE BEING MOVED SHEETS SNAPPING. DOOR OPENS.]
196

197 Enid Hey, what are you doing in our room!
198
199 Hazel We're going to use it as a delivery room.
200
201 Enid Oh, no you're not!
202
203 Hazel Look, Enid. This is the only place with a door and privacy.
204
205 Enid You could at least ask for permission.
206
207 Hazel Well, Isobel's almost fully dilated, so she won't be needing your
208 room for very long.... [BACK TO BUSINESS] Nancy, go get Isobel
209 and send for Dr. Bruce while I set up here.
210
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¹⁰ Not sure how many children Nakamura had, but Natalie mentioned that he had a family. (Ibid.)

¹¹ Based and imagined from Halsema January 31, 1942 diary entry.

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[DIARY READING TWO]¹²

Natalie We heard Isobel’s baby cry at 1:30 this the morning. A son, seven pounds, and all is well after a three-hour travail. Every noise carries in these barracks, but Isobel hardly let out a sound.

The infant’s receiving crib is a utensil drawer from Brent School tented with gauze to keep out flies and mosquitoes.

Millie and I went to see Isobel this afternoon and celebrated with peppermint sticks while we watched the baby learn to drink.

[SCENE TWO]¹³

[SOUNDS OF INFANT COOING]

Millie Well done Isobel! He’s beautiful.

Natalie You were like a heroine in a story!

Millie What a story! I can see the headlines, “Japanese Imperial Command Tries to Stop Birth, Says Wait ‘till Morning!”

Natalie Your baby’s the first American born in Camp Hay.

Millie In the [Igorot](#) barracks no less.

Isobel Oh, my mother would have a fit!

Millie Everyone wants to name him John Hay.

Isobel Over my dead body!!!

¹² Taken from Halsema January 31, 1942 diary entry and Natalie’s January [30](#) and [31](#), 1942 diary entries.

¹³ Taken and imagined from Natalie’s [January 31, 1942](#) diary entry.

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[DIARY READING THREE]¹⁴

[SOUND OF WRITING AND FADE OUT]

Natalie

Nearly all of the missionaries who left last night returned this afternoon hungry and exhausted. Evidently, the Japanese misunderstood orders from Manila. They took the families to the Baguio Hotel and left them amid a confusion of heaped baggage and howling children.

While they were there, three more missionaries were detained in town for questioning by the Kempeitai. We still don't know what's happened to the other three men jailed earlier this month. Curiously, a handful of people with jobs or permanent assignments in town were allowed to stay and live in Baguio. One of them is Carl for whom we're happy but will miss very much.

February 11, 1942 Today is Bedie's 11th birthday, so I whispered him a song with kisses.

Jerry and I celebrated our 15th wedding anniversary last week. He arrived early on the back porch where we usually meet when he carries out the garbage cans and thus have an excuse if caught talking. One of his presents was sugar that he had boiled down from dark and dirty cakes, along with a piece of celery, and two infinitesimal tomatoes.

Later, he brought a box of candy he'd secured with great difficulty and gave me a stern warning, telling me....

[CUT IN ONE]

Jerry

Natalie, Don't you dare give any of this candy away.¹⁵

¹⁴ From Halsema January 31, 1942 diary entry.

¹⁵ All of the anniversary references are from Natalie's [February 3, 1942](#) diary entry. Jerry actually said, "I'll knock your block off if you give any away." It didn't have the connotations it does today, so I edited.

283 Natalie Bedie celebrated his birthday party with five other boys in the
284 backyard trench. Two mothers contributed food. When I gave him
285 a bag of Filipino pan bread and card from Ismael and Nida, Bedie
286 cried.

287

288 **[CUT IN TWO]**

289

290 Bedie Oh Mummy, they're both alive!

291

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293 **[SCENE THREE]¹⁶**

294

295 **[KITCHEN SOUNDS]**

296

297 Nida's Auntie **[IN TAGALOG]** Mmm, that smells good Nida!

298

299 Nida **[IN TAGALOG]** I hope they turn out all right. **[IN ENGLISH]** They're
300 for Bedie's birthday.

301

302 Nida's Auntie Oh, how old is he going to be?

303

304 Nida Eleven

305

306 Nida's Auntie I remember when he was a baby.

307

308 **[KITCHEN TIMER DINGS]**

309

310 Nida Would you hand me the pot holders over there? Thank you,
311 Auntie.

312

313 Nida's Auntie Like I was saying, the Japanese burned it to the ground when the
314 Chinese refused to give themselves up.¹⁷

315

316 **[SOUNDS OF NIDA TAKING BREAD OUT OF OVEN AND DOOR OPENING]**

317

318 Ismael What burned to the ground?

¹⁶ Scene imagined. Facts are referenced in footnotes.

¹⁷ The Dainty Bakery fire is based on Natalie's [February 26, 1942](#) diary entry.

319 Nida's Auntie Dainty Bakery, Ismael.
320
321 Ismael They probably thought that the Chinese were helping the
322 guerrillas.¹⁸
323
324 Nida Do you think it was Kempeitai?
325
326 Ismael I wouldn't be surprised.
327
328 Nida Were they captured?
329
330 Nida's Auntie I don't know.
331
332 Ismael The Japanese are worried about the resistance fighters.¹⁹
333
334 Nida Did you see that poster in town blaming Americans for destroying
335 the cane fields?²⁰
336
337 Nida's Auntie But they're interned in Camp Hay.
338
339 Ismael Not all of them. Some escaped up in the mountains. And there's
340 few in town, but you never see 'em.²¹
341
342 Nida's Auntie Why?
343
344 Ismael They can't go out of their houses.²²
345
346 Nida Blaming Americans for the fires is stupid.
347
348 Ismael They're just trying to make Americans villains so we'll side with
349 them.²³

¹⁸ Hind, Renton R., *Spirits Unbroken*, pp. 30. Hind wrote about guerrilla activity January 1942, almost immediately after the invasion. Carl Eschbach's 1950 report at ../Forbidden Diary/MacArthur/DIARIES & MEMOIRS/Carl Eschbach—Dec 41 Jan 42/ Eschbach History of Camp 3 Baguio.pdf, pp. 6. Eschbach writes about the Japanese Military Police interrogations about guerrilla activities.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Natalie's [February 28, 1942](#) diary entry.

²¹ Natalie's [July 17, 1942](#) diary entry describes how lonely it was living in town for Westerners because of the isolation.

²² Halsema California State University Fullerton (CSUF) Oral History, pp. 7. "[Prisoners who lived in Baguio] were sent to house internment. They were all sponsored by Filipinos as guaranteeing their safe conduct."

350 Nida That's never going to happen.²⁴
351
352 Nida's Auntie When American prisoners come to Baguio Market I smile at
353 them.²⁵
354
355 Nida Be careful, Auntie. The soldiers will slap you right there on the
356 street if you say or do anything they don't like.²⁶
357
358 Nida's Auntie Oh, don't worry about me.
359
360 Nida Well, I do. So you be careful! Now, where did I put that flour
361 sack....
362
363 Nida's Auntie Here it is. Did you read the other poster ordering Filipinos back to
364 work?²⁷
365
366 Nida Then maybe the Japanese shouldn't be burning down businesses!!
367
368 Nida's Auntie We still have to put food on the table, Nida.
369
370 Ismael I heard that Mr. Nagatomi's turned the Pines Hotel into a
371 cabaret.²⁸
372
373 Nida's Auntie I used to think that he was such a nice man.
374
375 Ismael It's running full blast with a Filipino band leader whose wife is the
376 dancer. She used to work in a store on Sessions Road.²⁹
377

²³ Natalie's [July 10, 1942](#) diary entry mentions a leaflet dropped by the Japanese vilifying Americans.

²⁴ Crouter, Natalie, *Forbidden Diary*, pp. xx.

²⁵ Ibid. Natalie's [March 14, 1942](#) diary entry mentions secret smiles and nod from the Chinese. I'm assuming Filipinos did the same.

²⁶ Mrazek, Robert J., *The Indomitable Florence Finch: The Untold Story of a War Widow Turned Resistance Fighter and Savior of American POWs*, pp. 112. See also Sr. Louise Koeger's memoir, pp. III, at ../Forbidden Diary/MacArthur/DIARIES & MEMOIRS/Sr. Louise Kroeger. She wrote, "Slapping of faces became a favorite pass time; people were taken from the streets, tortured, and never heard from afterwards; even public killings were held in the market front and people were forced to witness them. Guerilla activity constantly irked the Japanese and there is no doubt that many innocent Filipino people were killed in reprisal for the guerrilla activities."

²⁷ Natalie's [February 28, 1942](#) diary entry.

²⁸ Natalie's [July 15, 1942](#) diary entry.

²⁹ Ibid.

378 Nida At least her husband's there.³⁰
379
380 Ismael Mr. Nagatomi's looking for Filipinas to be waitresses.³¹
381
382 Nida's Auntie There's no way I'd let any young lady within a mile of those
383 soldiers!
384
385 [SOUND OF BREAD BEING CUT]
386
387 Nida Ismael! Those pan de sal are for Bedie's birthday!
388
389 Ismael If Bedie were here, he'd give me one.
390
391 Nida I've been saving flour for two weeks to make this!
392
393 Ismael He's not going to miss just one.
394
395 Nida Oh, okay. But just take *one*... and pass me that flour sack. I'm
396 going to put all of them in there so you don't get your hands on
397 them again. Have you taken the Crouter's name off of the house?
398
399 Ismael I was going to do that today.
400
401 Nida We've been living at the Crouter's since the first week of January,
402 and Mr. Jerry asked you before they left!!³² It's for our own safety
403 Ismael.
404
405 Ismael Okay, okay. It'll do that after I go to the delivery truck.
406
407 Nida When does it get into town from Camp Hay?
408
409 Ismael Around ten.
410
411 Nida Then you'd better go now. Here. I didn't get up this early to give
412 Bedie day-old bread! Watch your fingers. It's still hot.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Halsema January 17, 1942 diary entry talks about Mukibo asking Arthur for young girls to waitress; I'm assuming that he tried to get young Filipinas.

³² Actually, it was earlier. See Natalie's [December 26, 1941](#) diary entry.

413 Ismael I'd better go. [IN TAGALOG] See you later.
414
415 Nida [IN TAGALOG] Bye
416
417 Nida's Auntie Bye.
418
419 Nida Wait, Ismael! Here's Bedie's birthday card.
420
421 [SOUNDS OF ISMAEL LEAVING AND COFFEE BEING POURED]
422
423 Nida Thank God the Japanese let Americans go into town to buy food.
424 Everyone gives their packages to the driver, so it's a lot safer.
425
426 Nida's Auntie Word got around quick. That delivery truck's like the post office at
427 Christmas.
428
429 Nida I hated it when Ismael took a package of clothes to Camp Hay. You
430 never know what those Japanese are going to do.³³
431
432 Nida's Auntie Are the Crouters okay?
433
434 Nida I don't know. I never know if they get my packages. I'm so worried
435 about them, Auntie. Ismael saw Mr. Jerry once about a month ago
436 and said he looked awful.³⁴
437
438 Nida's Auntie All of the prisoners look horrible. The Americans I've seen at
439 Baguio market look like beggars, even the rich ones. I'll light
440 a candle for them before mass tomorrow.
441

³³ See footnote 26.

³⁴ Ismael brought laundry to Camp Hay on [January 6, 1942](#) when there were extreme food, water and sanitary problems.

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[DIARY READING FOUR]

[SOUND OF WRITING AND FADE OUT]

Natalie

February 15, 1942 Lt. Mukibo asked for volunteers among our teen-age girls to work at the Pines Hotel which is now used for the Japanese officers' mess. None did.³⁵

Our new camp infirmary was christened with its first delivery! Little William³⁶ was born at 5:30 AM this morning, with the labor starting at midnight. What are these babies — Japanese subjects, citizens?

February 16, 1942. We woke in early hours to hear loud pounding coming from Nakamura and the guards nailing a huge sign onto the tree in front of the barracks. In big black and red letters, it read "News, Singapore FELL on February 15 at 7:30 PM!"

Wasn't that swell of them to save Jim the bother of printing it in the newsletter that he started this month?³⁷ Of course, the Japanese monitor every word in the *Camp Hay Daily News*, so Jim keeps his articles upbeat to boost our morale.³⁸

Jim turned 23 on New Year's in this miserable place.³⁹ He was editor of the Baguio edition of the *Manila Daily Bulletin*, his first job out of Duke University after returning home to the Philippines. His family has deep roots in Baguio, but I'm sure his parents wish he had stayed in North Carolina.⁴⁰

At roll call, we were given a number to sew onto our clothing. So now I can write a letter to mother and sign it "Your loving daughter, No. 87"—if and when we are allowed to write.

³⁵ Halsema January 17, 1942 diary entry.

³⁶ Natalie called him the Junkin baby, but I thought would be confusing to listeners, so I looked up his first name in "Spirits Unbroken" Births appendix, [pp. 291](#).

³⁷ Miles, Fern Harrington, *Captive Community*, [pp. 55](#).

³⁸ Halsema February 18, 1942 diary entry.

³⁹ Halsema January 1, 1942 diary entry.

⁴⁰ Halsema CSUF Oral History, pp. 1 and Halsema Library of Congress Oral History, pp. 2. Last sentence is mine.

474 Jim usually ends his newsletter with a line or two to make us
475 chuckle, and today he had a good one:

476

477 [CUT IN THREE]

478

479 [SOUND OF TYPEWRITER]

480

481 Jim *Camp Holmes Daily News* Do you think that we'll go around
482 collecting girls' badge numbers instead of phone numbers
483 someday?⁴¹

484

485 Natalie I sewed an 88 on June's sweater and an 89 on Bedie's.

486

487 February 25, 1942 Twenty-eight days of our funds left—then
488 what? The committee has been pooling everyone's money to buy
489 food at the market. It costs each of us about eight pesos a month
490 and the committee uses somewhat less than 100 pesos a day.⁴²
491 Perhaps there is no need to worry because the missionaries read
492 in a letter from Manila that "Uncle Sam is just around the
493 corner."⁴³

494

495 There may be something to it. At a committee meeting, Nakamura
496 burst forth profanely that we wouldn't need the bomb holes in
497 our roof mended for the rainy season because we probably
498 wouldn't be here. And, the Japanese don't seem to be doing well
499 in some respects lately.⁴⁴ We hope so, even though they take it
500 out on us.

501

502 When Ruth declared that we'll be out in a week, some started
503 guessing how it would happen.⁴⁵ Rumors are bread for our spirits
504 to feed upon.⁴⁶

505

506 What a small life this is—so bounded and detailed by checking

⁴¹ February 16, 1942 Halsema diary entry.

⁴² Natalie's [February 7, 1942](#) diary entry.

⁴³ Natalie's [February 25, 1942](#) diary entry.

⁴⁴ Natalie's [February 28, 1942](#) diary entry.

⁴⁵ Op cit.

⁴⁶ Natalie's [March 1, 1942](#) diary entry.

507 and numbering. The floor space now is being measured by the
508 inch to see how much each occupies. I don't know how much less
509 space is possible. Sleeping between June and Bedie, it's hard to
510 turn on three quarters of a mattress. My back aches every night.⁴⁷

511
512 We look like Ellis Island émigrés with wooden boxes, market bags,
513 duffel bags, pillows and a typewriter piled up on mattresses so we
514 can put a sea of soapy water around them while I take pride in
515 cleaning the floor with petty thoroughness.⁴⁸

516
517 After evening sing-along, I escaped to the barracks porch for some
518 solitude. The moon was high, and for the first time no fires could
519 be seen in the distance.⁴⁹

520
521

522 **[SCENE FOUR]**⁵⁰

523

524 [OUTDOOR NIGHT SOUNDS]

525

526 Natalie Oh, hi Peg.

527

528 Peg Hi Natalie. [SOUND OF LIGHTER AND EXHALING SMOKE] I've been
529 saving this cigarette for three days. Wanna a puff?

530

531 Natalie No. Thanks anyway.

532

533 Peg Nice out, huh?

534

535 Natalie Mmmm. Did you know that I can see our house from here?⁵¹

536

537 Peg No kidding. Where is it?

538

539 Natalie Over there. The one with the light on.

540

⁴⁷ Natalie's [February 19, 1942](#) diary entry.

⁴⁸ Natalie's [March 3, 1942](#) diary entry.

⁴⁹ Natalie's [February 27, 1942](#) diary entry.

⁵⁰ Scene imagined and based on Natalie's "[Notes jotted in late January 1942.](#)"

⁵¹ If Natalie could see the Camp Hay bombing from her house, she could see her house from Camp Hay.

541 Peg Bet it's strange to see it so close by.
542
543 Natalie Mmmm. Sure is.
544
545 Peg Camp Hay sometimes makes me think of East Side New York from
546 a fire escape. You know, bedding hanging out all windows and
547 over railings, children everywhere yelling, and no place to get
548 away from it.
549
550 Natalie Well, except here sometimes. Think you could you wash my hair
551 tomorrow?⁵²
552
553 Peg Sure, if I can get a bucket. Ya want me to set it?
554
555 Natalie No. My hair'll just end up in braids.⁵³
556
557 Peg You sure?
558
559 Natalie Yes. But I'm still going wearing lipstick and rouge when I meet
560 Jerry.⁵⁴
561
562 Peg Well thank goodness your standards haven't slipped Natalie
563 Crouter!
564
565 Natalie Oh heavens no! [PAUSE IN CONVERSATION] Did you see those
566 two soldiers playing baseball with our guys today?⁵⁵
567
568 Peg When one of 'em swung and missed they all laughed like old
569 friends.
570
571 Natalie Yes. All very fraternal. Beyond my comprehension.
572
573 Bedie Mummy, are you coming in?
574
575 Natalie Well, I'd better get the kids settled.

⁵² Natalie's [February 6, 1942](#) diary entry.

⁵³ Ibid. Also, Natalie's [March 11, 1942](#) dairy entry.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ Natalie's [March 16, 1942](#) dairy entry.

576 Peg You go ahead, I'm going finish my cigarette.

577

578

579

[DIARY READING FIVE]

580

581 Natalie March 11, 1942 It is interesting to watch the war of nerves' effect
582 on different people. Some want to be square and play ball, others
583 have a dash of the devil and get away with all they can.⁵⁶

584 But sooner or later we all suffer when someone breaks the rules.

585

586 Lt. Mukibo's "the mistake of one is the mistake of all"⁵⁷ hit us hard
587 today. Someone snuck out a note saying, "send us food; we are
588 starving," and Nakamura is furious because he was called on it by
589 Japanese Intelligence. When the food truck arrived with packages
590 from town, he angrily rifled through them and cut open many
591 loaves of bread. He found nothing but demanded that Mrs.
592 Henderson's book order—all 25 pounds of it—be burned. Later he
593 posted an angry missive on the parade ground:

594

[CUT-IN FOUR]

595

597 Nakamura No messages, orders, or writing of any kind is to go out from the
598 camp from now on. If any message of any kind is sent out, the
599 penalty will be that no further packages will be allowed into
600 camp. This order affects the whole camp and not individuals.

601

602 Natalie I'm sure that Arthur had to clean up the language. Nakamura
603 uses a fine combination of profanity that he learned from the
604 American miners he's worked with through the years.⁵⁸

605

606 Nakamura claims he hasn't been paid, and his wife and children
607 are destitute. Some say that he's near the end of this tether. A
608 few weeks back, when rumors were in favor of America,
609 Nakamura oozed with relief when he heard that we'll be shipped
610 home.⁵⁹

⁵⁶ Natalie's [March 16, 1942](#) dairy entry.

⁵⁷ Natalie's [February 20, 1942](#) diary entry.

⁵⁸ Natalie's [March 15, 1942](#) diary entry.

⁵⁹ Natalie's [February 13, 1942](#) diary entry.

611 The Imperial Army, the Navy, the Intelligence, and the Samurai
612 with the beautiful old swords, they do not give, they take and
613 take, even from their own people! How many sacrifices have the
614 people made for these Big Swords that they may come into towns
615 and not even feed the families of their guards and helpers?⁶⁰

616
617 And so...life goes on. One of the guards plays tennis with several
618 of our men.⁶¹ Geraniums give way to lettuce around our barracks.
619 And June tells me,

620
621 **[CUT IN FIVE]**

622
623 June Mummy, I don't care for dolls any more. They're tame after taking
624 care of a baby.⁶²

625
626 Natalie March 14, 1942 We are now forbidden to write or talk to Filipinos
627 and Chinese. The Japanese think that they'll forget us. But Arthur
628 said he winked at our Filipino seller at the market today, and Nang
629 and Chan smiled broadly from the pushcart on the road.

630
631 Many have stuck by us and sent gifts even with little themselves,
632 for they know what real need is.⁶³ Nida and Ismael send packages
633 nearly every week. And Filipinos are sending us homemade food
634 wrapped in banana leaves. The bucayo, peanut candy, oranges
635 from trees in their yard, and Suman,⁶⁴ a gooey cake of coconut
636 juice and cassava flour, all taste so good.⁶⁵

637
638 Before Nakamura's crackdown, Nida tucked in a note in between
639 two cans of Nestle milk and consume. The first word from home!
640 We felt like we'd heard from the whole world.⁶⁶

641

⁶⁰ Natalie's [March 4, 1942](#) dairy entry.

⁶¹ Ibid.

⁶² Natalie's [March 10, 1942](#) dairy entry.

⁶³ Natalie's [March 1, 1942](#) dairy entry.

⁶⁴ Natalie mentions Sinnoman, but the Filipino actor who provided pronunciations for actors did not recognize this word and called a Filipino cake with the same description as Suman.

⁶⁵ Natalie's [February 26, 1942](#) diary entry.

⁶⁶ Natalie's [March 4, 1942](#) dairy entry.

642 March 16, 1942 A car drove into camp today with a Red Cross
643 flag—not that infernal Rising Sun! How breathless we felt
644 watching a blue car drive up the hill with the Philippine Red Cross
645 printed on the door, loaded with food, medicines and supplies.

646
647 When Dr. Devenecia⁶⁷ stepped out of the car, it made me realize
648 how long it's been since we've seen Nida, Ismael, their children,
649 and all the friendly Filipino faces. I want to see them all again! I
650 thought, "Does this coming of the Red Cross mean anything for
651 us, an opening wedge for more?" I shall cry if I go on. It tightens
652 the throat—that sign of somebody giving a damn about what
653 happened to us.

654
655 Our Camp Committee greeted Dr. Devenecia, but were promptly
656 joined by Nakamura, Mr. Natgatomi, and another Japanese we
657 call Joe Philadelphia who rode up on a motorcycle in beautiful
658 jodhpurs.

659
660 The group talked while the car was unloaded. Then the gong rang
661 for second meal and we had to go inside.

662
663 We later learned that Mr. Natgatomi wouldn't let us have any of
664 the Red Cross supplies. He said that we must live entirely on
665 friends, charity, and the Japanese Army for support.

666
667 Now I must go and dress up, put on a white sweater and forget
668 how long I stood gazing at that blue car and its Red Cross symbol
669 of international good will.

670
671

672 **[SCENE FIVE A]⁶⁸**

673

674 [SOUNDS OF WOMEN'S BARRACKS IN BACKGROUND]

675

676 Peg Aw what the heck Natalie, you may as well go.

677

⁶⁷ I went with the pronunciation and spelling provided by the Filipino actor who plays Nida.

⁶⁸ Unless otherwise notes, based on Natalie's [March 16, 1942](#) diary entry.

678 Natalie I just don't have heart Peg.
679
680 Peg Everyone's worked so hard on the show.
681
682 Betty Oh, come on Natalie. Chin up. There's nothing to be done about
683 it. Look here's the program.
684
685 Peg See it's got seven skits.
686
687 Betty Do you good.
688
689 Millie Hey, guys, you'd better bring some boxes to sit on because we've
690 got a full house. Nakamura and the guards are in the audience.⁶⁹
691
692 Betty They certainly have some nerve showing up after what happened
693 today.
694
695 Natalie [SOUNDING TIRED AND BEATEN] Oh Betty, I don't think they got
696 any of the Red Cross supplies. It probably all went to Mr.
697 Nagatomi.⁷⁰
698
699 Betty Along with all of our money he took. The nasty bugger!
700
701 Natalie Betty!
702
703 Millie Betty!
704
705 Betty Well, that's what he is! Isn't he! He's a nasty bugger!
706
707
708 **[SCENE FIVE B]**
709
710 [SOUNDS OF AUDIENCE CLAPPING IN UNISON TO GET THE SHOW GOING]
711
712 Dr. Dean Ladies and gentlemen... ladies and gentlemen....

⁶⁹ Actually they saw it later, but I needed to condense the scene.

⁷⁰ Nagatomi made the decision to keep the Red Cross supplies and was profiting off (stealing from) of non-Japanese in Baguio. See Natalie's [April 12, 1943](#) diary entry.

713 [SOUNDS OF CURTAIN OPENING AND JOE SHOUTING TO THE AUDIENCE]
714
715 Allen Eyaaa shudd ap!
716
717 [LAUGHTER AND AUDIENCE SETTLES]
718
719 Dr. Dean Lay-dies and GEN-tle-men We bring you this evening, “Life Behind
720 Barbed Wire” where we always say, “If you want privacy, shut
721 your eyes.”⁷¹ Brought to you by the Camp Hay Kitchen, purveyors
722 of fine dining. Remember what Chef Alex and his crew always say.
723 Give it to me guys:
724
725 Alex, Hank, Allen, & Larry Shut up and eat it!
726
727 [LAUGHTER]
728
729 Dr. Dean And now, Scene One.... Where’s little Ester? Oh there she is.
730 That’s it darlin’. [CHILD FOOTSTEPS] Come on up and bring your
731 little sign. That’s it, darlin’. Bring your little sign. Yep. There you
732 go. That’s it. Up on the box with you. [SOUND OF CHILDS STEPS
733 UP BOX AND SILENCE] Read the sign dear.
734
735 Little Ester Now?
736
737 Dr. Dean Now.
738
739 Little Ester Night Time Behind Barbed Wire
740
741 Dr. Dean Jimmy, pull up the sheet.
742
743 [SOUNDS OF SHEET GOING UP; LOUD EXAGGERATED SNORING; THEN TRIPPING AND THINGS
744 CRASHING; DRAGING]
745
746 Hank Ah, criminy Christmas! Not again.⁷²
747
748 Larry Cut the racket, will ya!

⁷¹ Angeny, pg 45

⁷² Miles, [pp. 32](#).

749 Dotty Where's my mosquito tent? Who took my mosquito net!!!
750
751 British Man Hank, you're dragging Dotty's mosquito net like a bloody wedding
752 veil!
753
754 Dotty Y'all bring my net back!
755
756 Hank I didn't take your cotton pickin' net. YA PINNED IT TO MY PANTS
757 LEG AGAIN!!
758
759 [LAUGHTER; SOUND OF LITTLE ESTER STEPPING UP ON HER BOX]
760
761 Little Ester The Dining Room⁷³
762
763 [SOUND OF SILVERWARE JANGLING]
764
765 Allen Hold on there! What have you got in that knitting bag?
766
767 Mrs. Saleeby Oh nothing deary, just a few knitting needles.
768
769 Allen Sounds like silverware to me. Gimme that knitting bag.
770
771 Mrs. Saleeby Not on your life Charlie!
772
773 Allen What do we have here—a clip joint or a concentration camp?
774
775 [LAUGHTER]
776
777 Dr. Dean And now for our finale, Camp John Hay's own song bird. Let's hear
778 it for Eleanor.⁷⁴
779
780 [APPLAUSE]
781
782 Eleanor It had to be you
783 It had to be you

⁷³ Too much explaining needed for this scene about people stealing utensils, so I kept the "Is this a clip joint" line and made up the knitting needles. According to Natalie's [December 14, 1942](#) diary entry, there was a problem with people stealing silverware.

⁷⁴ The group actually sang "Cleanin' Time" and "Manana." To save costs the fictitious Eleanor, sings *It Had to Be You*.

784 I wondered around
785 And finally found
786 Somebody who
787 Could make me be true
788 Could make me be blue
789 And even be glad
790 Just to be sad thinking of you
791 Some others I've seen
792 Might never be mean
793 Might never be cross
794 Or try to be boss
795 But they wouldn't do
796 Boy nobody else
797 Gave me a thrill
798 With all your faults
799 I love you still
800 It had to be you
801 Wonderful you
802 It had to be you⁷⁵

803
804
805 **[SCENE FIVE C]⁷⁶**

806
807 [SOUNDS OF AFTER SHOW EXCITEMENT AND PEOPLE TALKING]

808
809 Peg That was swell show you guys! I didn't know you could sing
810 Eleanor!
811
812 Eleanor I used to sing in a piano bar back home.
813
814 Millie Hey, does anyone know how Nakamura got a hold of Doreen's
815 wedding gifts?
816
817 Enid Oh, who knows.
818

⁷⁵ "It Had to be You" is public domain (see [50 Popular Songs in the Public Domain | Stacker](#)). It was composed by Isham Edgar Jones with lyrics by Gus Kahn, 1924.

⁷⁶ Except where noted, based and imagined from Natalie's [March 17, 1942](#) diary entry.

819 Peg What's this about Doreen's wedding gifts?
820
821 Millie After the show Nakamura and the guards came into the kitchen
822 and doled out Doreen's wedding linen to thank the cast. They just
823 *loved* the show.
824
825 Peg But, how'd they get Doreen's linens?
826
827 Enid Stole it—just like they always do.
828
829 Eleanor I couldn't believe it. Nakamura's such a huckleberry!!
830
831 Millie I thought it was funny.
832
833 Enid You would. Awkward's more like it.
834
835 Millie Aw, he was just trying to show his appreciation for our fine
836 performance.
837
838 Eleanor Well, I didn't know what to say when Nakamura handed me
839 Doreen's linen table cloth.
840
841 Peg So what'd you do?
842
843 Eleanor Smiled and did a little bow for him. Here's your tablecloth Doreen.
844
845 Dotty Colleen, y'all gonna give those little embroidered napkins back to
846 Doreen?
847
848 Colleen Yes!
849
850 Helen and Doris Hey everyone!! Ronnie's gone into labor! If she hangs in for a few
851 more hours we'll have a St. Patrick's Day baby.
852
853
854

855
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870

[DIARY READING SIX]

Natalie

March 17, 1942 Ronnie gave birth to a boy who is sleeping soundly in basket trimmed with ruffles sewn by Ronnie’s Filipino housekeeper and wearing a donated layette.⁷⁷ Little did we think when we made adult and baby clothes for the Red Cross that we would be using so many of the garments ourselves. I remember the advertisement for their drives asking, “Will it ever happen to You?” And, here it is.⁷⁸

It helps to keep notes like this. I’ve never dared to type a letter to Mother as it takes up too much space and notice of the guards. I only hope to get out these notes as the days fade from memory very quickly and would be almost impossible to recall.⁷⁹

[COLD CLOSE]

⁷⁷ Natalie doesn’t mention the gender, but he is listed in Hind’s book. The basket was given to another mother named Martha who gave birth a few days later. (See Natalie’s [March 21, 1942](#) diary entry.)

⁷⁸ Natalie’s [March 21, 1942](#) diary entry.

⁷⁹ Natalie’s [March 8, 1942](#) diary entry.