

1 Season Two: *Forbidden Diary*
2 Episode Ten: Auld Lang Syne

3
4 CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

5		
6	Natalie Crouter	Sevil Delin
7	Jerry Crouter	Mark Oliver
8	June	Claire Oliver
9	Sergeant	AJ Sparks
10	Dr. Dean	Nick Steen
11	Jim	Maxwell Glick
12	Arthur	Robert S. Ball
13	Hank	Dan Davis
14	Phil	Eric Ryan Moore
15	Hazel	Diane Bolton
16	Bedie	Luka Aslan Nas
17	Lt. Mukibo	Masaya Okubo
18	Privileged Woman	Wendy Brown
19	Doris	Nora Novak
20	Eleanor	Sandra Espinoza
21	Diane	Andrea Hadhazy
22	Colleen	Mandy Balser
23	Peg	Rebecca Haugh
24	Isobel	Jennifer Nittoso
25	Millie	Melba King
26	Alex	Slava Timoshenko
27	Pvt Haruki	Miki Hiramoto

28
29
30 [Cold Open]

31
32 Announcer Previously on *Forbidden Diary*....

33
34 [SOUND BITES FROM PREVIOUS EPISODES]

35
36 Announcer And now, Episode Ten.

37
38 [SOUNDS OF BOOK OPENING AND WRITING]

39 [DIARY READING ONE]

40
41 [SOUNDS OF PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE OUT]

42
43 Natalie

44 May 10, 1942 Camp Holmes All afternoon about 100 Chinese
45 living in the hills straggled into camp. In every direction, bundles
46 and suitcases were opened by guards and poured out on the
47 ground— the picture of ourselves as we came in. My friend,
48 Lilian Lim, the trim, stylish sophisticate, was just another person in
49 blue denim trousers. Her mother with a blue cap wound about
50 her head was serene as ever, sitting on the ground by the
51 guardhouse. Lilian waved at us and pointed to her drawn cheeks
52 calling out, "No more rouge," showing empty hands.

53 May 12, 1942 We all laughed a few months ago when one of the
54 guards said there are too many Chinese to imprison,¹ but maybe
55 he was right. With little notice, the Japanese set free our barracks
56 neighbors and are urging them to open stores, and start
57 businesses again...everything back to normal, for Japan, not
58 America. So this is what occupation is like, how it went in China—
59 starvation, weakness, fear, terror and finally submission.²

60 All the Chinese not driving trucks, delivery wagons or cars, walked
61 to Baguio this morning. Many used the old shoulder pole system
62 of luggage transportation. They also carrying packs, boxes, looted
63 army trunks, burlap sacks, and red blankets holding all belongings.

64
65
66 Down the hill they trekked, checked off in line, on the march with
67 only what they have salvaged, a replica of thousands in occupied
68 countries around the world. One fellow carried out a gray cat
69 yowling inside a burlap sack.

70
71 Later, I watched an older woman tottering along on diminutive
72 "lily" bound feet, followed by the distinguished looking language
73 teacher from Peking in a long olive-green gown, her hair coiled in
74 braids above a lovely face. They left in a truck with others—a

¹ [February 15, 1942](#) diary entry.

² [May 10, 1942](#) diary entry.

75 Shanghai amah lonely and weeping in a group of Cantonese; a
76 husky peasant woman with a bandana on her head; and Leung
77 Nang with his wife and seven children, the littlest in a sailor suit
78 with red collar.

79
80 The Chinese barracks are silent now, the murmur of departure
81 stilled. Nang waved to us his truck turned down the hill out of
82 sight.

83
84 May 21, 1942 When I met Jerry at the talking fence today, I knew
85 something was up. He looked sheepish and pleased at once, or
86 perhaps it could be termed rueful. He said that he'd been
87 summoned to see Nakamura.

88
89

90 [SCENE ONE]³

91
92 Natalie What did he have to say?

93
94 Jerry Well, you know they're letting Americans live in Baguio.

95
96 Natalie Yes.

97
98 Jerry It's probably coming from High Command 'cause Nakamura was
99 sure pushing it.

100
101 Natalie Pushing what?

102
103 Jerry Internees living in town. You have to have a sponsor.

104
105 Natalie But we didn't put anyone down when Nakamura asked.
106 Remember. We don't want to put anyone in jeopardy.

107
108 Jerry Yea. That's what we agree on.

109
110 Natalie And that it's safer to wait out the war in here.⁴

³ Based and imagined from Natalie's [May 21, 1942](#) diary entry, except where footnoted.

⁴ [May 11, 1942](#) diary entry, "We'd be wiser to wait for deliverance."

111 Jerry Yea. Well, then Nakamura asked me, who Nida and Ismael are?
112
113 Natalie Oh no! What did you say?
114
115 Jerry What could I? I told him they used to work for us. Then Nakamura
116 tells me he has a letter signed from them guaranteeing their
117 support for us if we want to live in Baguio.
118
119 Natalie Oh those dear, dear people.
120
121 Jerry [CHOKES UP] I don't want to *ever* hear *anyone* say again in my
122 presence that Filipinos aren't loyal.
123
124
125 **[DIARY READING TWO]**
126
127 [SOUND OF WRITING AND FADE OUT]
128
129 Natalie You at home cannot know, without five months like ours behind
130 us, how wonderful was the glow, the warmth of all this.
131
132 To have Nida and Ismael volunteer to sponsor us was
133 tremendous. We can imagine them planning, talking it over,
134 putting the words down on paper, committing themselves
135 irrevocably to any future whim or accusation of the invader.
136
137 Do the Japanese know that they are strengthening bonds
138 between Americans and Filipinos more lasting than any built
139 during prosperity or gold mine boom? It is beyond the price of all
140 possessions which war may have stripped from us.
141
142 May 23, 1942 Another lovely day. Someone shared a cup of tea
143 with me, another, a mango. Babies had their baths in a fire
144 bucket, and a guard just marched toward the guard house with a
145 gun over one shoulder and a long vivid green banana leaf over the
146 other.⁵ And there goes Nakamura clenching another one of his
147 lists in his hands. Lately he's been busy hunting up sponsors, even

⁵ [May 27, 1942](#) diary entry.

148 for those he doesn't like. Evidently we weren't the only ones who
149 turned him down.

150
151 There's been a turnaround in guards lately. The Japanese don't
152 like to keep soldiers here for more than a few months, so our
153 guards come and go. One of the new soldiers, a Sergeant, came
154 from Bataan breathing fire and is now most eager to talk and
155 express himself. While June drew clothes for her paper doll, the
156 he sat next to her and began to sketch pictures of kimonos for
157 her.

158
159
160 **[SCENE TWO]⁶**

161
162 [SOUND OF SKETCHING]

163
164 June Look Mummy.

165
166 Natalie He's very good

167
168 Sergeant Kimono. Man [TAP] Kimono Woman. [TAP] Girl [TAP]

169
170 June The men have short sleeves and the girl's is longer than the
171 wife's!!

172
173 Sergeant [IN JAPANESE] Yes. Now watch.

174
175 [SOUND OF SKETCHING]

176
177 June It's a pair of pants.

178
179 Sergeant Pants?

180
181 June Yes.

182

⁶ Based on and imagined from Natalie's [May 23, 1942](#) and [June 12, 1942](#) diary entries. They may have been about the same guard or two guards. I combined for simplicity.

183 Sergeant [IN STILTED ENGLISH] Men, boys yes. Women, girls, no! [IN
184 JAPANESE] Now I'm going to draw my village for you.⁷

185

186 [SOUND OF SKETCHING]

187

188 June What's he drawing Mummy?

189

190 Natalie It looks like a mountain and a village below.

191

192 June I like the village.

193

194 Natalie Is this your home?

195

196 Sergeant [IN JAPANESE] What?

197

198 Natalie [TAPPING ON PICTURE] Home.

199

200 June Home.

201

202 Sergeant Ah... [IN JAPANESE] Home

203

204 Natalie [IN JAPANESE] Home.

205

206 June [IN JAPANESE] Home.

207

208 Sergeant Home.

209

210

211 [DIARY READING THREE]

212

213 [SOUND OF WRITING AND FADE OUT]

214

215 Natalie The Sergeant communicated to us that he doesn't like the way
216 American women push open doors and gave us a graceful
217 pantomime of a Japanese woman kneeling, sliding the door
218 slowly, quietly. He then wrote Japanese words in English letters to
219 the lyrics of "Auld Lang Syne" and a Japanese song.

⁷ [June 12, 1942](#) diary entry. My assumption that the guard was drawing his home.

220 As I watched him draw a second picture, I noticed the U.S.
221 buttons on jacket and realized that he was wearing an American
222 soldier's army coat, probably shortened to size with a knife or
223 bayonet. We learned that the Sergeant is 26. I wonder how old
224 our American soldier was.

225
226 May 26, 1942 The committee chairman announced that our camp
227 grade school will be allowed to start tomorrow. It's taken quite
228 some time to get approval because nothing is allowed without
229 Nakamura's consent.⁸ I heard that the men had a big discussion
230 about it at first meal.⁹

231
232

233 [SCENE THREE]¹⁰

234

235 [MESS HALL SOUNDS]

236

237 Dr. Dean Yes, I know. I know. It took a long time to open, but it's starting
238 tomorrow.

239

240 Jerry That's great news, Dr. Dean.

241

242 Jim There was a hang up with history and geography.¹¹

243

244 Dr. Dean Jim's right. Our close friend Lt. Mukibo wasn't too keen on either
245 subjects, so now we're teaching biography.¹²

246

247 Jim They even wanted to ban math because they didn't like an
248 arithmetic problem in the text book. It asked something like if so
249 much of a certain product were grown in Manchuria now, how
250 much could be grown if the Japanese were no longer there.¹³

251

252 Dr. Dean We'll find a way around it just like we did for the other subjects.

⁸ My assumption that the Japanese monitored all prisoner communication, especially during spikes in guerrilla activity.

⁹ Transition sentence to Scene Three.

¹⁰ Based on and imagined from footnoted sources.

¹¹ Crouter, Natalie, *Forbidden Diary*, pp. xx. Also California State University, Fullerton (CSUF), Oral History Program, *James J. Halsema: the Internment Camp at Baguio*, pp 9.

¹² [December 12, 1942](#) diary entry.

¹³ [June 4, 1942](#) diary entry.

253 Jerry Well, I know June's looking forward to going back to school. All of
254 our kids have missed a lot of school.
255
256 Arthur I'd say that my daughter's already received an education here.
257 She's always had everything handed to her, but here she's learned
258 how to wait on tables, wash floors and take care of herself.¹⁴
259
260 Dr. Dean Yea, and how to go hungry....
261
262 Arthur True, but she's also learned how to live with different people.¹⁵
263 She's grown up.
264
265 Jerry Both my kids sure know *now* what it means to pull your own
266 weight.¹⁶
267
268 Hank Yea. I agree. Don't get me wrong. I wish this never happened. But
269 we're stuck here, and my kids are doing things they'd never have
270 done. You know, like washing their own clothes and climbing the
271 hill to take food to the lumberjacks. The other day my son worked
272 with a crew lifting sheet iron so it could be attached onto the new
273 runway.¹⁷
274
275 Jerry Yea, Bedie's learning how to grow vegetables.¹⁸
276
277 Dr. Dean Well, your kids are sure learning about the Japanese.
278
279 Jerry We gotta find something worthwhile in here for our kids.
280
281 Dr. Dean Crouter, you remind me of that joke about the father who tells his
282 two boys he's bought 'em a pony.¹⁹
283
284 Jerry Oh yea, how's that?
285

¹⁴ [February 13, 1942](#) diary entry.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ [March 3, 1942](#) diary entry.

¹⁷ [June 6, 1942](#) diary entry.

¹⁸ [December 15, 1942](#) diary entry.

¹⁹ My joke to show contrast between personality types and how they deal with adversity.

286 Dr. Dean Well, he takes them both to a pile of manure. And the first son
287 stomps away mad but second grabs a shovel and says, "There's
288 got to be a pony in there."

289
290 Jerry Well then, I guess that makes you the first son.

291
292 Dr. Dean You're absolutely correct, Jerry. I ain't diggin' out that pony.

293
294

295 **[DIARY READING FOUR]**

296
297
298

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

299 Natalie May 30, 1942 Our move to Camp Holmes went quickly, but it's
300 taken weeks to re-establish routines. People are now settled back
301 into their jobs. Doctors offer services so that their skills will not
302 become rusty. They want to keep alive mentally. Mining
303 engineers, teachers, missionaries, and businessmen, all feel in a
304 backwater. They're are glad to work in the shop, in the kitchen, on
305 the hill until they are dead tired. Work is the great healer, the
306 strong motive power which keeps us normal.²⁰

307
308 Unfortunately petty and territorial habits remain. When two men
309 brought a table over from the shop, Enid asked them to carry a
310 second one, but they declined so she suggested that a couple of
311 the garbage crew could help. Well, oh my! The men expressed
312 their horror at such encroachment. It recalls the unions —
313 paperhangers who must not touch a brick or board, stage workers
314 who only move sets without touching a curtain rope. Good old
315 rugged American individualism!²¹

316
317

²⁰ [June 4, 1942](#) diary entry.

²¹ [June 5, 1942](#) diary entry.

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352

[Cut-In One]

[SOUND OF TYPING]

Jim *Camp Holmes Daily News*: Every crew on the campus thinks the other crews don't do any work; the Committee thinks none of them do any work; the rest of the camp thinks the Committee is loafing; actually, they're all right and wrong. A lot of work does get done here despite all insinuations. If it didn't, we'd all be in a bad way.²²

Natalie Jim keeps himself on the job with the *Camp Holmes Daily News*. But Nakamura approves every word. We're so starved for news that anyone who returns from a hospital visit is given the third degree. An authentic—what we call real news from the outside—is distributed through word of mouth.²³ No real source is given, but I have my suspicions that Dr. Dean and one of the engineers are somehow in on it.

[SCENE FOUR A]²⁴

[SOUND OF KNOCKING AND DOOR OPENING]

Phil Why'd I get called to the clinic, Dr. Dean? Nothing's wrong with me. Is there?

Dr. Dean Close the door, Phil. [DOOR CLOSES] I wanna talk with you about something while the assistants are on break. If they come back early, I'm checking your athlete's foot, so take off a shoe.

Phil You're serious, aren't you?

Dr. Dean Yes.

²² [May 25, 1942](#) diary entry.

²³ [April 2, 1942](#) and [November 6, 1942](#) diary entries use the term "Authentic" which is described in the footnotes for these entries.

²⁴ Based on and imagined from Halsema CSUF Oral History, pp. 9 and Library of Congress Oral History, pp. 4-7.

353 Phil What's this about?
354
355 Dr. Dean I've got a big favor to ask.
356
357 Phil Shoot.
358
359 Dr. Dean It's something that's dangerous to know about.
360
361 Phil How dangerous?
362
363 Dr. Dean Well, it involves contraband, and I need your help.
364
365 Phil Deal me in.
366
367 Dr. Dean I got a shortwave radio.
368
369 Phil Jesus! Where'd you get that?
370
371 Dr. Dean Notre Dame Hospital. I brought into camp with a bunch of medical
372 supplies. I got a Japanese interpreter to carry the package into
373 camp.²⁵
374
375 Phil Man doc, you got guts. Where is it?
376
377 Dr. Dean Let me find out if you can fix it first. It's missing an antenna. Got
378 any ideas that won't get us killed?
379
380 Phil The hospital's got an antenna.
381
382 Dr. Dean Yea, but it was hit during the bombings. The Japanese haven't
383 bothered with it so it must be irreparable.
384
385 Phil Well, it's not. I checked it out when I was fixing some shorts in the
386 building's wiring. And if I can get a thin piece of magnet wire, I can
387 attach it to the antenna and the radio's lead in.²⁶
388

²⁵ Halsema CSUF Oral History, pp. 9.

²⁶ Ibid

389 Dr. Dean That would be fantastic! But how do we access the antenna
390 without anyone knowing?
391
392 Phil Cut a hole in the storage room next to it. I can put a false door
393 behind the boxes of bandages.²⁷ But short waves are noisy, so
394 we're going to need some headphones.²⁸
395
396 Dr. Dean You can find some?
397
398 Phil Probably not. But I can "borrow" a telephone and make a headset
399 from the earphones.
400
401 [SOUNDS OF NURSES RETURNING]
402
403 Dr. Dean Shhhh. It sounds like they're back.
404
405 [SOUND OF HAZEL ENTERING THE ROOM]
406
407 Dr. Dean It's just a case of the jungle crud, Phil. Oh your back. Hazel, would
408 you give Phil here some Desenex for his Athlete's foot?²⁹ I want to
409 see him back in a week.
410
411 [SOUND OF PHIL PUTTING HIS SHOE ON]
412
413 Phil Thanks Doc.
414
415 Dr. Dean Oh... and Phil...while you're here, would you fix the lights in the
416 medical supply room?
417
418 Hazel They were working this morning.
419
420 Phil I'll just check 'em while I'm here. Might be another short.
421
422 Dr. Dean Thanks Phil.
423

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Halsema, Library of Congress Oral History, pp. 7.

²⁹ Mackie, Hunter, Worth, *A Manual of Tropical Medicine*, pp. 201. This book was published in 1945.

424 Phil You bet.
425
426 Hazel Don't forget your foot powder.
427
428 Dr. Dean Yes. Don't forget your foot power, Philip.
429

430
431 **[SCENE FOUR B]**³⁰
432

433 [HOSPITAL BACKGROUND, SOUNDS OF DR. PHIL WRITING AND SETTING CLIP BOARD DOWN]
434

435 Dr. Dean You've been here for the last 16 hours, Hazel. Why don't you go
436 get some shut eye? We'll find someone to spot you.
437

438 Hazel And who would that be? Everyone's sick with ptomaine poisoning.
439 Half the camp's was up with it last night.³¹ Phil's ready for you in
440 room two. Now he's complaining about a sinus infection. He looks
441 healthy to me. You'd think he could wait until all of this is over.
442

443 Dr. Dean I'll see him any way. Thank you, Hazel.
444

445 [SOUND OF DOOR OPENING AND CLOSING]
446

447 Dr. Dean Did ya do it Phil?
448

449 Phil Yep. We're all set. I can get KGEI out of San Francisco and the BBC.
450

451 Dr. Dean That's fantastic! We are *in* business.
452

453 Phil The Saigon station comes in clear as a bell, but it's all out of Vichy
454 France.
455

456 Dr. Dean [GERMAN ACCENT] Vel, den maybe vee get some news from da
457 Furher.

³⁰ Scene based on and imagined from Halsema CSUF Oral History, pp. 9 and Library of Congress Oral History, pp. 4-7.

³¹ [June 9, 1942](#) diary entry. Note that in the 1940s, ptomaine poisoning meant food poisoning, not trichinosis as it is referred to today. See <https://medical-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/ptomaine> and <https://sweetishhill.com/can-you-get-food-poisoning-from-pork/>. See also MacKie, Hunter, Worth, pp. 144.

458 Phil And get this: I even picked up a Russian station in Shanghai. The
459 headphones aren't fancy, but they're as silent as a nun's fart.

460

461 Dr. Dean You're a genius Phil! When can I use it?

462

463 Phil I've been thinking about that doc. We gotta really look at this
464 from all angles. You know what I mean?³²

465

466 Dr. Dean Yea, Jim can't be reporting this stuff in the newsletter like he's
467 Edward R. Murrow. Nakamura and Lt. Mukibo'll start sniffing
468 around.

469

470 Phil I'm not comfortable with putting Jim in danger. He's just a kid.

471

472 Dr. Dean He's gonna know eventually.

473

474 Phil Then some sort of word-of-mouth system?

475

476 Dr. Dean I don't know. Let's test it first. You know, start out small.

477

478

479 **[DIARY READING FIVE]**

480

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

482

483 Natalie June 11, 1942 For her birthday, June was thrilled to get a bag
484 from Nida containing a bouquet of tiger lilies, gladioli and Benguet
485 lilies from our terraced garden at home. There were four eggs
486 from Nida's own chickens, two pineapples, and a bag of cookies
487 which June shared like pieces of birthday cake with six different
488 families. But June kept saying,

489

490 **[Cut-In Two]**

491

492 June When are we going home? I want to go home.

493

³² Based on my assumptions and Footnote 12, [page 530](#) says "To prevent detection, listeners released news information gradually."

494 Natalie She often weeps from homesickness when we hear from Nida.
495
496 Jerry's secretary, Miss Ramos, sent a birthday package of bread,
497 four mangoes, and a jar of jam. Marie and Betty gave June candy
498 and canned meat. Because the Japanese are lax right now, the
499 four of us had a birthday picnic out by the wire on a little seat
500 built around the fir tree.

501

502

503 [SCENE FIVE]³³

504

505 [OUTDOOR SOUNDS]

506

507 Bedie What'd you bring us to eat Daddy?

508

509 Natalie I haven't even spread the blanket out yet Bedie!

510

511 Jerry Canned, corned beef sandwiches with onion and salt—three each.

512

513 June Thank you Daddy.

514

515 Bedie Yum.

516

517 Natalie The birthday girl gets the first sandwich.

518

519 Bedie I know what June wants for her birthday: that American soldier.

520

521 June I do not!

522

523 Natalie Oh stop it Bedie! I think everyone likes him. The kids hero-worship
524 him.³⁴

525

526 Jerry You mean that kid who drives the delivery truck?

527

528 June He's from Nebraska.

529

³³ Based on and imagined from the [June 11, 1942](#) diary entry and other entries as noted.

³⁴ Comments about the soldier are based on Natalie's [June 9, 1942](#) diary entry.

530 Jerry And too old for you.
531
532 Natalie I always wonder what happens to those GIs.
533
534 Jerry He probably won't be here for long.³⁵
535
536 Natalie No. I think Nakamura's still on the hunt for people who want to
537 live in Baguio.
538
539 Jerry Did I tell ya that Dr. Lee's got a permit to live there for two
540 years?³⁶
541
542 June Why don't we go home?
543
544 Jerry Honey, the grass isn't that much greener in town.
545
546 Natalie People say it's lonely and boring.³⁷
547
548 Jerry Your mother's right. You can't leave your house without a pass,³⁸
549 and you're a big burden on the people who sponsor you.
550
551 Natalie And you might not get to live in your home. Even Nakamura's
552 house has been looted and destroyed.³⁹
553
554 June Then why did Dr. Lee leave?
555
556 Natalie To have her baby and for work, I suppose. She'll be closer to the
557 hospital.⁴⁰
558
559 Bedie Daddy, Daddy! Look at my snail!
560
561 Jerry That's a good looking snail, son.
562

³⁵ Natalie didn't give any military information on this soldier, but Halsema's June 16, 1942 diary entry describes military POWs being in Camp Hay and Holmes before being transferred to POW camps.

³⁶ [July 15, 1942](#) diary entry.

³⁷ [July 17, 1942](#) diary entry.

³⁸ [August 15, 1942](#) diary entry.

³⁹ Natalie's [February 23, 1942](#) diary entry.

⁴⁰ A fair assumption that a doctor would be allowed to come and go to see patients.

563 Bedie See how his horns are moving. That's how he feels his way.
564
565 Jerry How'd you know that?
566
567 Bedie School.
568
569 Natalie See June. You'd miss school and your friends.
570
571 June I miss Nida.
572
573 Natalie I know you do, sweetie.
574
575 Jerry Hey, I've got two big surprises.
576
577 Bedie What is it?
578
579 June What have you got Daddy?
580
581 Jerry The first is a frying pan! Ta da! I made it myself in the shop.⁴¹
582
583 Bedie [A DISAPPOINTED] Oh.
584
585 Natalie Bedie, do you know what a frying pan means? Independence!
586 Daddy can make our own meals now.
587
588 Jerry And I won't have to serve dinner in an apricot can! For the
589 second surprise...you have to close your eyes June. Are they
590 closed?
591
592 June Uh huh.
593
594 Jerry Okay Bedie, give me a drum roll.
595
596 [SOUND OF HANDS CLAPPING ON KNEES]
597
598 Jerry Okay you can open them.
599

⁴¹ All references to a frying pan are based on Natalie's [June 18, 1942](#) diary entry.

600 June Oh, a jar of honey!!!
601
602 Jerry With some bread for dessert.
603
604 June It's got a candle in it.
605
606 Jerry Well you don't turn 13 every day.
607
608 [SOUND OF A MATCH BEING LIGHT]
609
610 Jerry, Natalie, Bedie Sing "Happy birthday."
611
612 Bedie And here's a pinch to grow and inch!
613
614 Jerry Make a wish and blow out the candle, June.
615
616 [SOUND OF BLOWING OUT A CANDLE]
617
618 Natalie June gets the first slice of bread.
619
620 June Mmmm.
621
622 Natalie Watch that honey Bedie. It's dripping down your chin.
623
624 Bedie Mmmm. Yum!
625
626
627 **[DIARY READING SIX]⁴²**
628
629 [SOUNDS OF PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE OUT]
630
631 Natalie June 14, 1942 When the truck came back from Baguio market we
632 headed over to see if there was a package and who should step
633 out of the car behind it but Lt. Mukibo himself—young, thinned
634 down, and smooth as ever. It is the first time he has come any
635 nearer than the guardhouse.
636

⁴² First part is from Natalie's [June 14, 1942](#) diary entry; the second, about people moving in, from her [June 16, 1942](#).

637 He ordered that all the children be called over and gave each a
638 handful of candy — colored gumdrops, chocolate caramels and
639 nougats called "Good Pomposity" on the wrapping. He smiled that
640 constrained, secret, little smile, bowing to the children, looking
641 very kind and good.

642
643 Afterwards, the adults came over to kiss his ring. Old Mrs. Watson
644 was introduced to talk about living in Baguio. Others pushed in
645 like old friends. In contrast to his mien with the children, Lt.
646 Mukibo said told a British mother wanting to take her small infant
647 to join her husband in Manila,

648
649 **[Cut-In Three]**

650
651 Mukibo Your country and my country are at war. You cannot expect me to
652 be interested in doing for your comfort.

653
654 Natalie I've lost track of the people moving in and out of camp lately.
655 After a group of internees left to live in Baguio, three big trucks
656 arrived loaded with American and European missionaries,
657 including Nuns in their dark robes and high, stiff headdresses;
658 families, one with six children badly sunburned; and priests in
659 long robes and high collars.

660
661 All was disorder as they piled out. Bags and boxes were open for
662 inspection all over the ground as Nakamura poked into every
663 crevice.

664
665 The group had only been interned three weeks and had no idea
666 they were coming here until five o'clock yesterday evening. When
667 we learned that they had listened to the radio every day before
668 being captured, we gathered around them anxious for news.

669
670 Until others go to Manila tomorrow, they'll probably have to sleep
671 on the middle aisles tonight.

672
673 June 23, 1942 I started work this morning in the wrong mood. I'm
674 sick of mops. My hand hurts across the knuckles with a bruise

675 from wringing, and I'm tired of garbage and washing out three
676 cans every morning. Tomorrow I will see the dignity of labor
677 again, but today it's off!

678
679 I am weary of watching families who can afford packages from
680 Baguio enjoy hot coffee and cocoa, hot brown toast, and
681 scrambled eggs in the morning. June gasped with horror when she
682 saw the whites of several hard-boiled eggs tossed in the garbage.
683 It has happened several times from a group that eats only the
684 yolks, so June gathered her courage and talked to them.

685
686

687 **[SCENE SIX]⁴³**

688

689 June Excuse me. Ma'am?

690

691 Woman Yes.

692

693 June If you are going to throw your egg whites away, would it be okay
694 if I took them?

695

696 Woman Well of course, dear. We'll just leave them on a little plate for you.

697

698

699 **[DIARY READING SEVEN]**

700

701 [SOUND OF WRITING AND FADE OUT]

702

703 Natalie Today the group left June a quarter cup of cocoa headed for the
704 trash.

705

706 June 16, 1942 So as not to draw attention from the guards,
707 husbands are now using various whistle calls to alert their wives
708 to meet them. As the young girls were imitating the calls in our
709 barrack, someone made the comment...

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711

⁴³ Based on and imagined from [June 23, 1942](#) diary reading.

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[Cut-In Four]

Millie

I used to call my horse the way these men call their wives.

Natalie

...which gave me a good laugh. Jerry uses a cricket chirp to signal me to the wire. One man sounds like a morning dove. The cadences are many.

June 30, 1942 Out of nowhere, with only a few days notice we learned that Nakamura was promoted to run Tarlac prison camp.⁴⁴ He left today.

On his last round through the barracks to say good-bye, he seemed sorry to go. Nakamura has watched over our trials and tried to straighten out some of the tangled months. We could search far to find one more equable in such an emergency of war and hate. Some even petitioned for him to stay. But others despise him.

[Cut-In Five]

Hank

He can go to hell as far as I'm concerned. When my broke her leg, all Nakamura had to do was let her go to the hospital for an x-ray, but the bastard didn't give permission until gangrene set in and they had to amputate. She lost her leg because of him!⁴⁵

Natalie

In typical Nakamura style, he grumbled about how we women should never wear slacks and made one last magnanimous effort to change the situation. Not long after his departure, Nakamura returned in a truck, his white teeth in a wide smile. The front seat was piled with shoes, hats, evening gowns, and coats. He dumped them all out on the ground, and here before us in smooth, shining black satin, diamond shoulder straps, and silver lame was the last word in style before bombs— a farewell gesture from one who had only loot to give us.

⁴⁴ [June 28, 1942](#) diary entry.

⁴⁵ Miles, Fern Harrington, *Captive Community*, [pp. 56](#).

[SCENE SEVEN]⁴⁶

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[SOUNDS OF TRUCK PULLING UP AND DUMPING PILES OF CLOTHES.]

Colleen Oh! French-heeled slippers!

Doris Will you just look at all of this!

Eleanor These are gorgeous!

Doris Oh God! Real furs!!!

Diane I take back everything I've ever said about Nakamura.

Arthur What in the Sam Hill are we going to do with all this junk?

Natalie [LAUGHS] What do you think, Jerry? Should I wear this beaded gown to mop the barracks?

Jerry You look like a million buck no matter what you wear Natalie.

Peg Hey, this is *really* expensive stuff!

Isobel Looky here, they're from London and Paris.

Peg And some of them say, "original model." Oh my God, will you look at the labels? The gowns are marked A.Q.

Doris Aurora Quezon??

Peg Aurora Quezon??

Eleanor Aurora Quezon??

Colleen The first lady!

Peg Whadda you bet....

⁴⁶ Based on and imagined from Natalie's [June 30, 1942](#) diary entry.

785 Millie Looks like good 'ol Nakamura's going to get us wearing dresses
786 one way or the other.

787
788 Jerry Is there anything else in that pile?

789
790 Natalie No. Just women's evening wear.

791
792 Phil Ah Christ! This is a waste of time.

793
794 Hank Yea, just what we all need.

795
796 Alex I got to go cook second meal. Too bad son of bitch didn't steal
797 Quezon meat locker.

798
799

800 **[DIARY READING EIGHT]**

801

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

803

804 Natalie July 1, 1942 Today we said goodbye to some of the guards
805 moving on to their next assignment. Before leaving the Sergeant
806 gave bananas to the children as good-bye gifts. Another
807 held Donald in his lap. Every time he tried to put Donald back into
808 the playpen, baby arms twined around his neck, refusing to let go.
809 The guard finally pointed to his gun resting on the floor, indicating
810 he had to go and the mother must rescue him. Donald hung on
811 protesting to the last.⁴⁷

812

813 Last night we heard much singing at the guardhouse to the tune
814 of "Auld Lang Syne." It was a farewell party to which some of our
815 men were invited, enjoying the family-style sukiyaki, singing with
816 the departing guards.

817

818 They really liked each other. The guards told someone that they
819 had the best time of their lives in here with us. The pity of it—
820 that our enemies should tell us this— that prisoners in a prison
821 camp had given them more fun and friendliness than they had
822 ever had before. How it lights up the poverty, the barrenness of
823 the past, the severity of their lives, a mere struggle to exist, no

⁴⁷ Donald clinging to a guard is from Natalie's [May 15, 1942](#) diary entry.

824 time for years of pleasure such as we have all known. This place
825 that most members hate or merely endure for a brief spell— in
826 this place they had the time of their lives. They came from the hell
827 of Bataan and we seemed like heaven. They go back to a hell in
828 China— anywhere but the peace of home. No wonder they hate
829 to leave and look back on the two months here as a wondrous
830 interlude.

831
832 So American and Japanese men in the Philippines sang
833 "Auld Lang Syne," just boys again, sorry for the mess we are mixed
834 in together, forgetting it in an all too short evening before
835 "historical necessity" called again toward some tragic fate, today
836 liking us, tomorrow hating us.

837
838

[SCENE EIGHT]⁴⁸

840

[NIGHT TIME SOUNDS AND DR. DEAN POURING HOME-BREWED HOOTCH INTO GLASSES]

842

843 Dr. Dean Welp, here's mud in your eye boys! To Auld Lang Syne!

844

[GLASSES CLINK]

846

847 All To Auld Lang Syne!

848

[GASPING SOUNDS FROM JAPANESE SOLDIERS AND FADE TO DISCUSSION]

850

851 Sergeant [IN JAPANESE AND THEN ENGLISH] What did they say stuff is
852 made this from?

853

854 Pvt. Haruki [IN JAPANESE AND THEN ENGLISH] Rice maybe. They are not
855 sure.

856

[FADE TO ANOTHER DISCUSSION]

858

859 Arthur But I thought you guys are going home.

860

861 Pvt. Haruki No Arthur-san. We are now going to China.

862

⁴⁸ Based on and imagined from Natalie's [July 1, 1941](#) diary entry.

863 [SOUNDS OF DR. DEAN DRINKING, SETTING HIS GLASS DOWN, AND SINGING]

864

865 Dr. Dean Should old acquaintance be forgot. Come on.

866

867 [THE REST JOIN IN SINGING IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE]

868

869 And never brought to mind

870 Should old acquaintance be forgot

871 and old lang syne?

872

873 [THE MEN SING IN A SADDER MORE REFLECTIVE TONE]

874

875 For auld lang syne, my dear

876 for auld lang syne

877 we'll take a cup of kindness yet

878 for auld lang syne.

879

880 [COLD CLOSE]