

1 Season Three: *Forbidden Diary*
2 Episode Fifteen: Surrender and Suffrage

3
4 CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

5
6 Natalie Sevil Delin
7 Mrs. Greer Margo Zinberg
8 Jerry Mark Oliver
9 Mr. Greer Kaspar Michaels
10 Arthur Robert S. Ball
11 Enid Karen DeBoer
12 Women's Committee Secy. Wendy Brown
13 June Claire Oliver
14 Committee Man Christopher V. Thorn
15 Jim Maxwell Glick
16 Nida's Auntie Ria Vrana
17 Nida Jeannie Anne Sison
18 Edith Deanna Johnston
19 Hazel Diane Bolton
20 Dotty Ina Marie Smith
21 Mrs. Griffith Karla Wren
22 Wick Dwight Kuhlman
23 Bill Moule Dustin Parkhurst
24 Dr. Dean Nick Steen
25 Dr. Hall Dean T. Moody
26 Dr. Benedetti Lance
27 Miss McKim Christine Holloway

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 Fifteen.

39 [DIARY READING ONE]

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

42
43 Natalie March 15, 1943. Jerry told me the most startling headline of the
44 month so far: Jim Bozeman and Arthur were conscripted to hunt
45 down Americans hiding in the mountains. The two were called
46 into the guardhouse by an Intelligence man from town, where a
47 smooth, casual proposition was put to them. Either they help the
48 Japanese hunt down an American family hiding in the mountains,
49 and persuade them to surrender, or the Japanese will find and kill
50 them.

51
52 With the lull in guerrilla activity and recent capture of Mr. and
53 Mrs. Greer, the Japanese think it is time for all Americans to
54 surrender. After their capture, the Greers were interned here. As
55 they were driven through the gate, Mrs. Greer recognized Jerry.
56 What a story they had to tell!

57
58
59 [SCENE ONE A]¹

60
61 Mrs. Greer Now we know what a hunted animal feels like.

62
63 Jerry Where'd they catch you?

64
65 Mr. Greer Up in north in Bontoc province. We'd been living in a swell place
66 on up Mt. Data until we were betrayed by a native.

67
68 Jerry Was there was bounty on you?

69
70 Mrs. Greer Yes. But I don't think it was all about money.

71
72 Mr. Greer No. The Japanese are threatening to burn villages if anyone is
73 accused of helping Americans.

74
75 Mrs. Greer And they meant it.

¹ Based upon and imagined from Natalie's [March 14, 1943](#) diary entry.

76 Mr. Greer The pressure's terrific to turn Americans in.
77
78 Jerry Yea, I've heard horrible stories about the Japanese burning
79 villages.² What happened when you were caught?
80
81 Mr. Greer Some Japanese soldiers tied me to a tree and burned down our
82 house.
83
84 Mrs. Greer I was allowed to grab a few of our belongings and then...they just
85 sent us walking for what, six days?
86
87 Mr. Greer No, I think it was five. And then we spent 21 days sleeping on a
88 guardhouse floor for supposedly hiding guns for the guerillas.
89
90 Mrs. Greer When we drove through the gates here, I thought I was in heaven.

91
92
93 **[DIARY READING ONE B]**
94

95 Natalie I'd imagine after what the Greers had been through, even hell
96 would be heaven. Now the Japanese want to hunt down more
97 Americans.³
98

99
100 **[SCENE ONE B]⁴**
101

102 Jerry They want you to do what, Arthur??
103
104 Arthur You heard right, Jerry. They want us to act as their
105 "representatives."
106
107 Jerry Sounds more like a posse to me.
108

² Natalie's [November 29, 1942](#) diary entry

³ Op sit.

⁴ Unless otherwise footnoted, based on and imagined from Natalie's [March 15, 1943](#) diary entry.

109 Arthur Well, they want the Kessler family alive so they can put the screws
110 to the father. He supposedly has maps and intelligence the
111 Japanese want.
112
113 Jerry Why'd they pick you and Jim Bozeman to chase 'em down?
114
115 Arthur Kessler worked at with us at the lumber mill,⁵ and we're old
116 friends.
117
118 Jerry So you're the bait.
119
120 Arthur In a nutshell, yea. We're supposed to tell Kessler that if he
121 surrenders, he and his family'll be interned here, no questions
122 asked. But you know how that's gonna go.
123
124 Jerry Yea.
125
126 Arthur They'll put him in jail the minute they catch him, Jerry. I have to
127 lie to a friend.
128
129 Jerry Kessler'll know you're being strong armed.
130
131 Arthur But he'll also know that if he doesn't surrender, he'll probably be
132 putting me at risk. Boy, those sons of guns know how to twist the
133 knife.⁶
134
135 Jerry Yea, they got a real flair for it. Mrs. Greer said that when they
136 were captured, the soldiers went through her clothes and took
137 suit tops and pajama bottoms. You know, just for spite.⁷
138
139 Arthur We're going to get extra privileges for participating in this thing.
140 You know how that'll stick in people's craws around here.
141
142 Jerry Well I won't hold it against you.

⁵ Miles, Fern Harrington, *Captive Community*, pp 36. Arthur was actually Elmer Herold and worked for a lumber company. Natalie wrote in [March 15, 1943](#) diary entry that Arthur and Jim worked for the same company and knew Kessler there.

⁶ My conjecture and foreshadowing Arthur's growing paranoia about Japanese in a later diary entry and episode.

⁷ Natalie's [March 14, 1943](#) diary entry

143 Arthur Yea, but everyone else will. I can see it now. Man, the Japanese
144 have every angle figured, don't they.

145

146

147

[DIARY READING TWO]

148

149

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

150

151 Natalie

March 17, 1943. Arthur and Jim Boseman left camp with about a dozen Filipino policemen to find Kessler. Some say it could mean torture and death for him and the end of our contact with the outside. Others, grasping for anything positive, trust the enemy's promises in a game of war where all is fair, even lies.

156

157

March 20, 1943. The Kessler search posse returned to Camp emptyhanded. Before anyone could ask Arthur what happened, he walked straight up to his family's room in the woman's barracks to see Enid.⁸

158

159

160

161

162

163

[SCENE TWO]⁹

164

165 Enid

Oh, thank God you're back, Arthur. Did you find the Kesslers?

166

167 Arthur

No.

168

169 Enid

Well, that's a blessing, I suppose. I hate to think of what would have happened to them.

170

171

172 Arthur

It was a goose chase, Enid. First, they had us going to Baguio, then sent us up to Kapangan. And when we got there, every villager knew we were coming.

173

174

175

176 Enid

Good old bamboo telegraph for ya.

177

⁸ My set up for Scene Two.

⁹ Unless otherwise footnoted, based on and imagined from Natalie's [March 20, 1943](#) diary entry.

178 Arthur Yep. The one thing the villagers didn't get right was thinking that
179 Japanese'd come along with us.
180
181 Enid They just let you go on your own?
182
183 Arthur Yea.
184
185 Enid Why?
186
187 Arthur Probably because they thought we'd get more information. I don't
188 know. The whole setup was half-baked.
189
190 Enid Did you get *any* information?
191
192 Arthur No. No one knew Kessler or his whereabouts. Or at least that's
193 what they all said.
194
195 Enid Yet they knew all about you looking for him....
196
197 Arthur Yep. I'm telling ya, the Igorots are loyal. When they saw we were
198 just Filipinos and Americans, they fed us like kings.
199
200 Enid With all of the food shortages?
201
202 Arthur No. Not up there. It's all farmland. Everywhere we went, we got
203 three eggs a day.
204
205 Enid Did you bring of some food back?
206
207 Arthur Only what's in our stomachs.
208
209 Enid Well, that's a shame. Did you hear any news?
210
211 Arthur Everyone in camp's going to give us the third degree, but there's
212 nothing new to tell. The villagers mostly talked about what
213 happened in Bataan.
214
215 Enid Is it as bad as we've heard?

216 Arthur Yes. They kept saying that the Filipino soldiers' spirits were strong
217 and that they stuck it out until the Japanese cut off their water
218 and ordered them to surrender. But a lot of 'em didn't and hid in
219 the mountains.
220
221 Enid I hope they're better off.
222
223 Arthur Anyone who avoided Bataan is better off, honey. The villagers
224 said dysentery and malaria killed most the soldiers who
225 surrendered. Five or six thousand died in one day, they said.
226
227 Enid Dear Lord.
228
229 Arthur They carried the sick out to a field and left them in the sun. If
230 someone recovered, he crawled out himself, but the rest were left
231 to die.
232
233 Enid Oh Arthur.
234
235 Arthur When the Japanese finally let the American doctors in prison look
236 at the boys, it was too late.
237
238 Enid Those poor young men.
239
240 Arthur You know, I think Leung Nang had it right when he said way back
241 when we were interned Camp Hay that Japan's biggest crime is
242 complete and total neglect.¹⁰
243
244 Enid He's probably right. So you just tramped around from village to
245 village getting fed?
246
247 Arthur Pretty much. When the villagers *strongly* implied that Kessler was
248 long gone, we took it easy and enjoyed the trip.
249
250 Enid Hmm.... Well, next time you go on a manhunt, Arthur, take me
251 and your daughter along. We'd *love* to get three eggs a day.
252

¹⁰ My conclusion based on Natalie's telling of Leung Nang's observation in her [March 20, 1943](#) diary entry.

253 Arthur Don't tell anyone, but I think I actually gained a couple of pounds.

254

255

256

[DIARY READING THREE]

257

258

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

259

260 Natalie March 21, 1943. A typed notice left a few days ago on the bulletin
261 board perfectly describes the state of women in this camp:¹¹

262

263

264

[CUT-IN ONE]

265

266 Women's Committee Secy. In Memorium. Deceased—The spirit of Liberty as expressed in
267 Women's Suffrage. If the Women's Committee being duly elected
268 by the women of the Camp is only functioning through the
269 forbearance of the General Committee, then why not bring us
270 Women's Suffrage that we woman may have a voice in choosing
271 our General Committee? Signed, the Women's Committee

272

273 Natalie March 23, 1943. June has a boyfriend. I knew it would happen but
274 am dumbstruck. He made her a beautiful leather bracelet with her
275 name carved on a small aluminum link.

276

277 June is growing up. Last night she and I talked about the universe,
278 God, and how it all started, including the Garden of Eden, Christ,
279 and great men. She wanted to know how one knew a great man.¹²

280

281

282

[SCENE THREE]¹³

283

284 June Do you think that there's anyone great in here, mama?

285

286 Natalie Oh I don't know. I'd have to think about that one, June.

287

¹¹ Natalie's [March 19, 1943](#), diary entry with transition added by me for flow.

¹² Natalie's [January 12, 1943](#) diary entry.

¹³ Imagined from and based on Natalie's [January 12, 1943](#) diary entry.

288 June Well, you are.
289
290 Natalie What?
291
292 June Great. You saw the war coming before anyone else.
293
294 Natalie Oh Junie,¹⁴ I'm sure others figured it out before me.
295
296 June I don't care. I still think you're great.
297
298

299 **[DIARY READING FOUR]**

300
301 [SOUND OF WRITING AND FADE OUT]
302

303 Natalie There is nothing like having one's daughter so confident and
304 trusting as one struggles hand in hand with her through the
305 morass of war, learning together at the same school.¹⁵
306

307 March 25, 1943. The rolls of toilet paper came in—66 sheets
308 apiece!¹⁶ But, I lost a safety pin which is like gold these days.¹⁷
309

310 March 29, 1943. An armored truck drove in from Bayumbang with
311 a Mr. and Mrs. Moule and their three children—all under six, one
312 a baby born in the mountains. All five have malaria. He looked
313 haunted, pale, hollow-eyed, with great tears in his shirt. We gave
314 them food and a place to lie down.
315

316
317 **[CUT-IN TWO]**
318

319 Women's Committee Secy. March 30, 1943 Memo from the Women's Committee: We wish
320 to bring before the all-male General Committee the question of
321 Universal Suffrage and a joint General Committee of *both* men
322 and women to govern the camp.

¹⁴ Natalie refers to June as Junie multiple times in the diary.

¹⁵ Natalie's [January 12, 1943](#) diary entry.

¹⁶ Natalie's [March 22, 1943](#) diary entry.

323 Committee Man March 31, 1943. General Committee Minutes. The motion that
324 universal suffrage be adopted for Camp in the election of
325 members of the General Committee was lost in voting. The
326 election of the General Committee will continue in present form.

327
328 Natalie Well...I suppose I shouldn't be surprised that the General
329 Committee denied women their voting rights. But I'm ashamed to
330 say that, in this day and age—over two decades after the
331 ratification of the 19th Amendment¹⁸—they voted unanimously.¹⁹

332
333 There's full moon this evening, and Mrs. Birch broke a bottle over
334 her husband's head and beat her child twice. She also delivered a
335 long tirade to Mrs. Bell who simply suggested to Mrs. Burch that
336 she was tired after a hard day's work and shouldn't punish a child
337 in such weariness.²⁰

338
339 April 1, 1943. Six Brent School students left camp to join their
340 families in Manila as adults, no longer children. Three students
341 remain behind, with no word from their parents.

342
343 Jerry told me that I am much easier to live with right now, and I
344 say he is immeasurably so, which is part of the reason. The other
345 part is that I keep a lot to myself.²¹

346
347 April 4, 1943. Jim delivered an amusing commentary in the
348 newsletter today.

349
350
351 **[CUT-IN THREE]**
352
353 Jim *Camp Holmes Daily News* Men's fashions, considerably more
354 original and practical than those displayed in *Esquire* magazine,
355 are being created atop the hills as members of the wood crew
356 seek to reduce washing to a minimum. Loin clothes and G-strings,
357 once exclusively worn by Igorots in this area are extremely

¹⁸ The 19th Amendment was ratified in 1920.

¹⁹ Natalie wrote that the vote was unanimous; the rest is a transition and my assumption of her opinion on the matter.

²⁰ [Natalie's March 20, 1943](#) diary entry.

²¹ Natalie's [March 24, 1943](#) diary entry.

358 popular, varying from plain to a vivid-hued number made of
359 native cloth. Most impressive is the gentleman, rumored to have
360 clerical connections, who stalks magnificently about, bearded like
361 a profit of old, wearing a felt campaign hat, loincloth, sandals, and
362 not much else.

363
364
365 Natalie April 11, 1943. It's Jerry's 52nd birthday, so at breakfast together
366 we opened a precious can of scrapple to eat with scrambled
367 eggs—our first in weeks. We all kissed Daddy warmly—a big event
368 in concentration and more dangerous than it sounds.

369
370 Nida sent a bag with “Happy Birthday Mr. Crouter” tucked in it.

371
372

373 **[SCENE FOUR]²²**

374
375 Nida's Auntie [IN TAGALOG AND ENGLISH] What are you going to make Mr.
376 Crouter besides the roast chicken, Nida?

377
378 Nida Oh...I think I'll make cupcakes this year, Auntie. And, I'll some
379 chocolate and a can of butter...maybe a papaya, if I can find one.²³

380
381 Nida's Auntie Oh, he'll like that.

382
383 Nida I hope so.

384
385 Nida's Auntie Did you hear about Mr. Nagatomi?

386
387 Nida No.

388
389 Nida's Auntie It's all over town. He's in jail.

390
391 Nida Serves him right.

392

²² Imagined from and based on footnotes as indicated. Natalie's [April 9, 1943](#), [April 12, 1943](#) and [December 25, 1943](#) diary entries.

²³ Natalie's [April 11, 1943](#) diary entry.

393 Auntie No, Nida. It's really bad. The Japanese have him in leg irons and an
394 iron bar across his back.
395
396 Nida What did they catch him doing?
397
398 Auntie Taking money from prisoners at Camp Hay last year and keeping a
399 bunch of bank accounts with stolen money in them. The Japanese
400 couldn't find all of money. Think his cousin and some officer
401 named Lt. Mukibo have the rest.²⁴
402
403 Nida That Lt. Mukibo is a bad one.²⁵
404
405 Auntie You know him?
406
407 Nida Only what Ismael tells me. More coffee?
408
409 Auntie Don't mind if I do.
410
411 Nida It's second grounds, but I have a little bit condensed milk.
412
413 Auntie Mmmm I'd like that. [SOUND OF COFFEE POURING AS AUNTIE
414 CAREFULLY BROACHES THE SUBJECT] You've been looking tired
415 and worried, Sobrinita. Is something troubling you? You know you
416 can tell me anything.
417
418 Nida [WITH HESITATION] Ismael's thinking about helping the guerrillas.
419
420 Auntie Gasps.
421
422 Nida I knew he was going to end up doing it. I think he's already
423 involved.
424
425 Auntie What makes you say that?
426

²⁴ Natalie's [April 12, 1943](#) diary entry.

²⁵ The remainder of the dialogue concerning Ismael is a set up for a future episode when we learn that Ismael has been imprisoned for helping the guerrillas.

427 Nida He's talking about working at the mine,²⁶ and the other day I
428 found a bunch of ...

429

430

431

[DIARY READING FIVE]

432

433

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

434

435 Natalie April 12, 1943. Guess what. While Arthur was at Benguet mine
436 getting medicine and supplies, he learned from the Nipponese
437 themselves that Lt. Mukibo is back in Japan being court-
438 marshalled for looting and his conduct in Baguio. We don't know
439 much else except he will get *no* mercy from his own.²⁷

440

441 More Americans living in the mountains are arriving in camp. In
442 addition to the Greens and the Moules, the Griffith family²⁸ has
443 joined us along with a fellow named Wick.²⁹ Normally we are
444 anxious to talk with new arrivals but have become worn out with
445 fury and disturbance from hearing stories about the Imperial
446 Army's abuses and the War's effect on children.³⁰

447

448

449

[SCENE FIVE A]³¹

450

451 Edith Shhh, shhhh. They'll hear you talking about them.

452

453 Hazel Well, I think shaving their heads was the right thing to do.

454

455 Edith Those poor children couldn't help it.

456

457 Hazel Of course they couldn't, but we sure don't want lice in the
458 barracks!

459

²⁶ Natalie's [December 25, 1943](#) diary entry.

²⁷ Natalie's [April 9, 1943](#) diary entry.

²⁸ Natalie's [April 11, 1943](#) diary entry.

²⁹ Natalie's [February 18, 1943](#) diary entry.

³⁰ Op. Cit. The "especially on children is the lead-in to Scene Five A.

³¹ Unless footnoted, imagine from and based on Natalie's [March 30, 1943](#) diary entry.

460 Edith No. But still, all those lovely curls. The little things look so forlorn,
461 especially with their mother in the hospital and all.
462
463 Hazel Well, the father is very attentive.
464
465 Dotty Are y'all talking about the Moule family?
466
467 Edith Yes.
468
469 Hazel Mr. Moule should be in the hospital. He's as sick as his wife, you
470 know.
471
472 Edith What actually happened to them?
473
474 Dotty Mr. Moule said they were living just fine on the outside until
475 about four months ago when the Japanese started hunting them
476 down.
477
478 Hazel Why?
479
480 Dotty I don't know. They probably ginned something up about them.
481 Mr. Moule said that every time they moved, they lost more of
482 their possessions. Til they were down to nothing. They'd moved
483 18 times in one month.
484
485 Edith He told my husband that three Filipinos were shot because they
486 wouldn't tell the Japanese where they were hiding. Two of them
487 died, but the third man managed to crawl back and warn them
488 that the Japanese were coming.
489
490 Hazel Those brave men.
491
492 Dotty Well... then, you see, the family got malaria. When they were
493 caught, they were so sick they were barely able to crawl to feed
494 their children.
495
496 Hazel I don't know how they made it here alive with three young
497 children.

498 Edith She had to have had that baby up in the mountains. Can you
499 imagine giving birth in the woods and running for your life from
500 the Japanese with two young children and a newborn?
501

502 Dotty Mr. Moule said it took six days to get here after they were
503 captured.
504

505 Mrs. Griffith I believe that.
506

507 Edith Is that what happened to you, Mrs. Griffith?
508

509 Mrs. Griffith We were held two weeks before they let us come here. After we
510 were caught, the Japanese made us send for our household
511 belongings. But we'd already given everything to Igorot friends, so
512 they took our jewelry, even my wedding band. Then they tied my
513 husband up.³²
514
515

516 **[SCENE FIVE B]**³³
517

518 Jerry How'd you get caught, Wick? Did someone sell you out?
519

520 Wick No, I managed to run into Japanese soldiers all by myself. I'd been
521 warned they were coming and was getting away along a river
522 bank with two Igorot friends when they came up from behind us
523 and started shooting. I tossed my gun before we were caught, but
524 a soldier found it and asked potent questions about the Japanese
525 ammunition belt I was wearing. I told 'em I'd purchased it from a
526 Filipino as a Bataan souvenir.
527

528 Jerry Didn't buy your story, huh.
529

530 Wick Hell no. They tossed me in jail for 21 days and gave me the
531 works... twice.
532

533 Jerry What's the "works"?

³² Natalie's [April 11, 1943](#) diary entry.

³³ Imagined from and based on Natalie's [April 2, 1943](#).

534 Wick Beatings and the water cure. They didn't feed us but let the
535 villagers send in food, thank God.
536
537 Jerry I hear the water cure is pretty rough.
538
539 Wick Only if you mind being forced to drink unimaginable amounts of
540 water and someone prodding your stomach with a bayonet. If
541 they kick or jump on it, you're a gonner, right Mr. Moule.
542
543 Bill Moule Yea. That's what I hear. If there's a hint of guerrilla activity, the
544 Japanese'll round up people off the street.
545
546 Wick He's is right. I saw 'em drag 25 men and women off to jail for no
547 reason.
548
549 Jerry [INCREDULOUSLY] Women too?
550
551 Wick Yep.
552
553 Jerry Jeez.
554
555 Bill Moule They're terrorizing villagers non-stop.
556
557 Wick The lowlanders are treated so bad that a lot of them don't care
558 anymore and'll risk anything to fight the Japanese.
559
560 Jerry What are they fighting with?
561
562 Wick Any weapons they can get their hands on. Even though they're
563 more pro-Filipino than American, the natives sure helped me. I
564 owe my life to them.
565
566 Bill Moule Yep, me as too.
567
568 Jerry How's your wife doing in the hospital, Mr. Moule?
569

570 Bill Moule Okay. She wants to get out of there because the kids are here, but
571 she's not going anywhere for a while.³⁴

572

573

574

[DIARY READING SIX]

575

576

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

577

578 Natalie April 19, 1943. Marj Moule has had a rough road. Her children
579 have dysentery, she has malaria,³⁵ and now we hear that her
580 husband, Bill, has polio and is in isolation at our Camp hospital.
581 But our doctors say that polio is not as contagious as commonly
582 thought, so there is no reason for undue apprehension.³⁶

583

584 It takes me back to 1907 when I had polio—the leg aches that can
585 never be described, delirium, braces, casts and treatments. I pray
586 to God my children don't have to go through it.³⁷

587

588 April 20, 1943. Phil has reached greater heights since his invention
589 of the banana machine last month. Since then, he's carved two
590 front teeth from animal bone for the Camp dentist to fit into
591 Delphine's denture. Now everyone's lining up to get their
592 dentures fixed.³⁸

593

594 His peanut-crusher invention consists of two large pieces of wood
595 that slide back and forth, not quite against each other, crushing
596 the peanuts fed from the top. The nuts and shells drop down to a
597 shelf below and are then sorted manually.³⁹ One of our doctors is
598 using the peanut shells to chemically make alkali for soap.⁴⁰

599

600 Nearest and dearest to me is Phil's beautiful, infinitesimal riveting
601 skills that he uses to repair June's frequently-broken glasses.⁴¹

³⁴ Natalie's [March 30, 1943](#) diary entry.

³⁵ Natalie's [April 18, 1943](#) diary entry.

³⁶ Natalie's [April 16, 1943](#) diary entry.

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ Natalie's [March 21, 1943](#) diary entry.

³⁹ Natalie's [April 7, 1943](#) diary entry.

⁴⁰ Natalie's [April 19, 1943](#) diary entry.

⁴¹ Natalie's [April 26, 1943](#) diary entry.

602 April 22, 1943. The General Committee and Camp doctors met to
603 discuss a curious request from the Japanese Military Authorities.

604

605

606

[SCENE SIX]⁴²

607

608 Dr. Dean Okay. And we're all supposed to sign this thing?

609

610 Arthur Yep. They think it'll convince people living in the mountains to
611 turn themselves in.

612

613 Dr. Hall So let me get this straight: They want us to testify in a letter that
614 we're being treated fairly and our health is good?

615

616 Dr. Dean Oh, so that's what that little meeting at the guard house with Mr.
617 Nakano was all about.

618

619 Arthur You got it. And why those Japanese officers were so interested in
620 the Camp hospital during the inspection yesterday.

621

622 Dr. Hall Who's this Mr. Nakano?

623

624 Arthur He's the guy who gave us the piano.⁴³ I think he's got more power
625 than Mr. Hayakawa right now.

626

627 Dr. Dean Wait, I thought Seargent Fukihara was top dog.

628

629 Arthur For the moment.

630

631 Dr. Dean Hey where *is* Hayakawa these days?

632

633 Dr. Benedetti Hiding out. Sergeant Fukihura got him spooked.⁴⁴ He's even
634 avoiding Miss McKim.

635

636 Arthur He thinks she's going to somehow betray him to the officers.⁴⁵

⁴² Except where footnoted, imagined from and based on Natalie's [April 20, 1943](#) and [April 21, 1943](#) diary entries.

⁴³ Natalie's [April 7, 1943](#) diary entry.

⁴⁴ Natalie's [January 29, 1943](#) diary entry.

⁴⁵ Natalie's [August 25, 1943](#) diary entry.

637 Dr. Benedetti Miss McKim?
638
639 Dr. Dean Yea, well, like I was saying...Nakano lined up our doctors in the
640 guardhouse to tell us that our dysentery problems are not
641 because of overcrowding but the poor quality of our health care.
642
643 Arthur They're just trying cover what they've done.
644
645 Dr. Benedetti Or haven't.
646
647 Dr. Dean Well, when Dr. Lee mentioned that malnutrition is making us
648 susceptible to illness, Nakano declared we're not sick, just
649 neurotic and if we had done all we should have, there would be
650 no dysentery.
651
652 Dr. Hall Ah...Mr. Nakano may have a point about intervention, Dr. Dean. I
653 take no pleasure in saying, "I told you so,"⁴⁶ but if we'd continued
654 our sanitary regimen and collecting samples, we'd probably
655 wouldn't have had....
656
657 Dr. Dean So you'd also agree with, and I quote from the letter, "The
658 internees' health care is good and they receive adequate."
659
660 Dr. Hall That's not what I'm saying here. I'll fully aware that this letter is
661 political, but we must look at ourselves objectively.
662
663 Arthur I questioned Mr. Nakano about that statement, and he says it's
664 true, according to Japanese standards.
665
666 Dr. Dean Then things must be pretty grim there.
667 Arthur Well, Mr. Nakano's straight off the boat from Japan and knows
668 the war stringencies there.
669
670 Dr. Dean I don't care if the joker sailed, peddled over here on the
671 Emperor's rickshaw. The fact remains that people here are
672 medically compromised because of malnutrition.

⁴⁶ Natalie's [February 4, 1943](#) diary entry. Natalie wrote that Dr. Hall "doesn't know why he cares [about preventing dysentery], for no one seems to worry about much about it.

673 Dr. Benedetti Look, all of this is a moot point. The Japanese aren't asking us to
674 sign this thing, they're telling us. If you don't want to sign, then
675 quit the General Committee.⁴⁷
676
677 Arthur So...any of y'all resign?
678
679 [SILENCE]
680
681 Arthur Okay, on to other business? Next item. The woman who was
682 passing notes outside of camp was a
683
684 Dr. Dean What about her? We yanked her privileges and put her on work
685 detail for two weeks.
686
687 Arthur Well, the Japanese thought we were too lenient and are
688 threatening to take matters into their own hands.⁴⁸
689
690 Dr. Dean Christ.
691
692 Arthur I think our best tactic is to keep pressing High Command about a
693 camp judicial code so they aren't lookin' over our shoulders all the
694 time.⁴⁹
695
696 Dr. Hall Hmm. You know, this might be a propitious moment to ask
697 again.
698
699 Arthur Maybe tell 'em we'll sign their letter if we can govern ourselves?
700 They're doing it in other camps.⁵⁰
701
702 Dr. Benedetti Where?
703
704 Arthur Manila.⁵¹
705

⁴⁷ The moot point and resigning part is my transition to the next topic.

⁴⁸ Natalie's [April 18, 1943](#) diary entry.

⁴⁹ This is a lead up to a later episode when the Japanese allow the General Committee to write the *Camp Holmes Judicial Code*.
See Natalie's [May 14, 1943](#) diary entry.

⁵⁰ Natalie's [May 17, 1943](#) diary entry states, "The letter was the price for our new political set up and control of finances."

⁵¹ In a later episode, Arthur will go to visit other internment camps in Manila where prisoners are allowed to govern themselves.

706 Dr. Dean It's not that much of a gambit, but why not?
707
708 Arthur Might as well try to get something for our John Hancocks.
709 Gentlemen?
710
711 Dr. Dean I second the motion.
712
713 Arthur All in favor say Aye.
714
715 Group Aye.
716
717 Arthur The Ayes have it. I'll run it by the powers that be. Now, if we don't
718 have any other business, I call to close the meeting....
719
720 Dr. Hall Ah, Arthur, we also need to talk about the Women's Committee.
721
722 Arthur What about them?
723
724 Dr. Hall Have you been asleep man? They want the right to vote.
725
726 Dr. Dean Haven't we already gone over this twice in the last month?
727
728 Dr. Hall Yes, but it's not settled. The women took a poll of the entire
729 camp, and a majority agrees that women should be allowed vote:
730 181/168 in favor.⁵² Surely the General Committee can see the
731 irony of denying people their voting rights in a concentration
732 camp?⁵³
733
734 Dr. Dean No, not really. It'll be a disaster.
735
736 Dr. Hall Well, you can think what you like, but the women aren't going to
737 take no for an answer.
738
739
740
741

⁵² Natalie's [April 8, 1943](#) diary entry.

⁵³ Natalie's [April 9, 1943](#) diary entry.

[DIARY READING SEVEN]

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

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Natalie

April 26, 1943. The Japanese gave the General Committee permission to write a Camp judicial code, but the Committee didn't even consider Jerry, the only graduate lawyer in here, to write it.⁵⁴

I'm sure it's because of the case of canned milk we donated back at Camp Hay. When we discovered that the milk was going into people's coffee instead children's cups, Jerry tried to stop the graft and stealing. In return, he was defeated in the elections and snubbed by those who wanted to stay in power and grab the privileges. Then, when Jerry asked for a tin of our own milk returned, we were given a flat, cold "No." It was bad enough to be hungry and our own children getting no benefit from the milk but to see our own food taken and eaten by some of our people—that was torture indeed.⁵⁵

So...now a dentist is taking over the camp's new judicial branches which consist of police, jail, justice of the peace and Court of Appeals.⁵⁶

Mr. Hayakawa is sick with stomach trouble, and Mr. Nakano is so ill that they must take a picture of his lungs. Not only do we wear them out, but their *own* factions tear them asunder. Word has it that a military man is going replace them, but nothing is definite as yet. Mr. Hayakawa told Miss McKim that the officer High Command has in mind spent 11 years in America and warned her that he considers us to be military prisoners so will be very strict.⁵⁷

⁵⁴ Natalie's [April 22, 1943](#) diary entry.

⁵⁵ Natalie's [December 17, 1943](#) diary entry.

⁵⁶ Op. Cit.

⁵⁷ Natalie's [April 26, 1943](#) diary entry.

[SCENE SEVEN]⁵⁸

777
778
779 Natalie I'm so confused, Miss McKim. Who's taking over for Mr.
780 Hayakawa?
781
782 Miss McKim It's not Sgt. Fukihara. I think it's going to be a Lt. Kira.⁵⁹
783
784 Natalie Lt. Kira?
785
786 Miss McKim Yes. I think so. I had a chance to talk with him when I was greeting
787 other Japanese officers.
788
789 Natalie What's he like?
790
791 Miss McKim Well, umm, Lt. Kira's English is very good....⁶⁰ To be honest with
792 you, our first meeting was a bit uncomfortable.
793
794 Natalie Oh, how so?
795
796 Miss McKim Well, he watched me very intently while I was chatting with the
797 other officers. I mean noticeably so, and then he walked right up
798 to all of us and demanded to know why I'd lived in Japan and
799 what I did there. I answered him as politely as I could and
800 commented that he must have lived in America. That was a
801 mistake because he got a suspicious look on his face and
802 demanded why I wanted to know.
803
804 Natalie Was he accusing you of being a spy or something?
805
806 Miss McKim No...well at least, I don't think. I tried to compliment him and said,
807 "because your accent is so good." And that just made it worse
808 because he snapped back at me that he'd "have to change his
809 accent." I've never been treated with such suspicion. I guess I'm a
810 spy now.
811

⁵⁸ Based on and imagined from Natalie's [April 26, 1943](#) diary entry.

⁵⁹ Natalie wrote that Kira was an officer but didn't offer a rank other than he was an officer, so I assumed he was a lieutenant like Lt. Mukibo.

⁶⁰ Natalie's [April 26, 1943](#) diary entry.

812 Natalie They think every missionary is a spy.

813

814

815

[DIARY READING EIGHT]

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817

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

818

819 Natalie

May 8, 1943. Women have been given the right to vote! The decision came out of nowhere. The cynical among us say it is because the General Committee thinks women will vote for the members they want elected.⁶¹ Or maybe our voter poll and petitions had something to do with it? I don't know. All I can say is the men who voted against us were fools to think that they could maintain pre-suffrage days.

826

827

Like it or not, we must all face change, as I am daily reminded in here watching June and Bedie slip away from their childhood. June will turn 14 next month, and Bedie is 12. Bedie confided shyly to me that he has a girlfriend, an Alice in Wonderland blonde. He is also starting to sign his school work Fred, instead of Bedie.⁶² I suppose he wants a voice and self-determination like the rest of us in here.

834

835

[COLD CLOSE]

⁶¹ Natalie's [April 24, 1943](#) diary entry. The rest of the paragraph is my assumption and a lead in to the closing paragraph.

⁶² Natalie's [May 1, 1943](#) and [April 19, 1943](#) diary entries. I wrote the last sentence to close the episode.