

1 Season Three: *Forbidden Diary*
2 Episode Nineteen: Gaining and Losing Ground

3
4 CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

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| | | |
|----|-----------------|----------------------|
| 6 | Natalie Crouter | Sevil Delin |
| 7 | Jerry Crouter | Mark Oliver |
| 8 | Nida's Auntie | Ria Vrana |
| 9 | Nida | Jeannie Marie Sioson |
| 10 | Jim | Maxwell Glick |
| 11 | Isobel | Jennifer Nittso |
| 12 | Dotty | Ina Marie Smith |
| 13 | Bedie | Luka Aslan Nas |
| 14 | Arthur | Robert S. Ball |
| 15 | Enid | Karen DeBoer |
| 16 | Betty | Julie M. Dean |
| 17 | Carl | Scott Walton |
| 18 | Miss McKim | Christine Holloway |
| 19 | Phil | Eric Ryan Moore |
| 20 | Wick | Dwight Kuhlman |
| 21 | Committee Woman | Wendy Brown |
| 22 | Doris | Nora Novak |
| 23 | Josephine | Halley DeVestern |
| 24 | Peg | Rebecca Haugh |
| 25 | Hank | Dan Davis |
| 26 | Committee Man | Christopher V. Thorn |
| 27 | Larry | Patrick Golebioiski |
| 28 | Joe | Rich D'angle |
| 29 | Fern | Priscilla Hagan |
| 30 | Hazel | Diane Bolton |
| 31 | Colleen | Mandy Balser |
| 32 | Wise Guy | Allen Enlow |
| 33 | June | Claire Oliver |
| 34 | Dr. Viola | Bob Bavnani |
| 35 | Proud Father | Allen Enlow |

36
37 [Cold Open]
38

39 Announcer Previously on *Forbidden Diary*....
40
41 [SOUND BITES FROM PREVIOUS EPISODES]
42
43 Announcer And now, Episode Nineteen.
44
45 [COLD CLOSE]
46
47
48 [DIARY READING ONE]
49
50 [SOUNDS OF PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE OUT]
51
52 Natalie October 18, 1943. Jerry met me at the hospital, all excited and
53 holding an envelope.¹
54
55
56 [SCENE ONE A]
57
58 Jerry I think you're going to have to sit down, Natalie. I'm not sure if
59 your heart can take it.
60
61 Natalie Oh my God. What is it?
62
63 Jerry Just...just open the envelope.
64
65 Natalie I can't believe it!
66
67 Jerry Yea, I nearly fell over when Dr. Schafer handed it to me.
68
69 Natalie Five hundred pesos!!
70
71 Jerry Yea, from Nida. Read the note.
72
73 Natalie It says, "Five hundred peso loan from Nida for the Crouters." She
74 must know about the shortages in here.
75

¹ Diary reading is a set up for Scene One, which is based on and imagined from Natalie's October [25, 1943](#) diary entry.

76 Jerry You know what, I'm gonna cook a dinner for Nida.
77
78 Natalie She'd get a kick out of that Jerry.
79
80 Jerry Boy, I don't know which is better: this or the news.
81
82 Natalie Are you sure it's true?
83
84 Jerry Yep. It's an honest-to-God authentic. We've taken a big airfield in
85 Celebes, so the U.S. can finally start taking back Davao and
86 Mindanao. *And* there have been four or five landings in Borneo.²
87
88 Natalie No wonder the guards are antsy.
89
90 Jerry They sure are. Arthur told me what's been going on in Baguio.
91
92
93 **[SCENE ONE B]³**
94
95 Auntie Hello.
96
97 Nida Hello Auntie, did you get rid of your radio?
98
99 Auntie Why should I?
100
101 Nida Didn't you hear? We're supposed to hand them in?
102
103 Auntie No.
104
105 Nida Oh Auntie, the Japanese are giving us until the end of the month
106 to turn in our radios. or they'll put us in jail.⁴
107
108 Auntie Then I'll give mine to Ismael for the resistance.
109
110 Nida No. Don't give it to him!

² Natalie's [October 26, 1943](#) diary entry.

³ Based on and imagined from as footnoted.

⁴ Op. Cit.

111 Auntie Maybe Jorge, then?
112
113 Nida No, Auntie!! Just turn it in. The Japanese are going crazy. They
114 think everyone's a guerrilla.
115
116 Auntie Okay.
117
118 Nida Good. And don't let them see smoke coming out of your chimney.
119
120 Auntie Why?
121
122 Nida Because the Japanese will think you've been cooking food.
123 They've been raiding people's houses. You don't want soldiers
124 snooping around and taking your food—or worse.⁵
125
126 Auntie How am I going to cook?
127
128 Nida Do you want to go to jail?
129
130 Auntie Okay. I won't.
131
132 Nida Good.
133
134 Auntie Did the Crouters get their money?
135
136 Nida I think they did. I hope they can get food for Bedie. Mr. Halsema
137 says he's is so thin.
138
139 Auntie Oh, our poor little Bedie.
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⁵ Moule, William R., *God's Arms Around Us*, pp. 338.

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[DIARY READING TWO]

[SOUNDS OF WRITING, AND FADE OUT]

Natalie

For several days, the kitchen has served first-class, pure white rice. It seems our regular supplier had no rice, so we had to take from the General’s cache. Thus, we know why it takes a crew of 51 to pick over and clean the third- and fourth-class rice we’ve eaten for the past two years.⁶

Despite first-class rice, parties and the newly distributed cash, we are all losing ground with our health—even the elites, which is a mystery to me. Why does Wanda Gallagher have the same acid and cankers in mouth condition as me when she eats everything cash could buy. Her family have all had acute dysentery, some have lost much weight and been in the hospital a number of times, yet I have kept comparatively well.⁷

[CUT-IN ONE]

Jim

Camp Holmes Daily News The Executive Committee reports that unless additional relief funds are received, the present supply of drugs is all that we can plan on for the duration. Because there may be no more pharmaceutical supplies available here or in Baguio, please do not request medicines that you can do without as you may be depriving people seriously in need of those drugs. Those who regularly take certain medicines might wisely arrange through the camp store to purchase a supply for their future use.⁸

Natalie

October 20, 1943. Jerry dreamed he was dying and gasping out to Bedie that he must try to complete everything that he starts and not leave things unfinished.⁹

Natalie

November 2, 1943. Roxy went to the hospital on a stretcher with a rapid heart. There are now quite a few heart cases, a number of

⁶ Natalie’s [October 16, 1943](#) diary entry.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Natalie’s [October 28, 1943](#) diary entry.

⁹ Natalie’s [October 16, 1943](#) diary entry.

183 bad chronic colitis and a good many suffering from beriberi with
184 swollen legs, eyes and ankles. Nora who has flu and high fever
185 passed out cold in the aisle after the long trip down to the
186 bathroom which is a tough jaunt when one is sick.

187
188 November 3, 1943. Jerry is reading up on pellagra and talking with
189 the doctors about the similarity of our diet to what was fed to
190 those who wound up with sore tongue and mouth, aching hands
191 and arms, and upset stomachs. Many suffer from borderline cases
192 of scurvy, sprue, pellagra and beriberi—all from vitamin
193 deficiencies.

194
195 I tire easily, so Jerry ordered liver for me. He and Dr. Skerl are
196 going to make calcium from lime and vinegar, or maybe from
197 rocks or eggshells.¹⁰

198
199 November 4, 1943. A beautiful golden day. I took materials up to
200 Kathie for her to make a lemon pie. She earns a little cash this
201 way. Then I made lemonade and toast for Bedie and me. We are
202 on a citrus campaign to fend off pellagra, which Jerry is sure we
203 verge on. I have a thoroughly sore tongue again and a fine cough.

204
205 November 5, 1943. I have to laugh at the marital follies around
206 here. The other day I heard a conversation in the women's
207 kitchen....

208
209
210 **[SCENE TWO]**¹¹

211
212 Isobel That's it! I am no longer cooking for love.

213
214 Dotty What's he done now?

215
216 Isobel When I said I couldn't cook him pancakes, my darling husband
217 asked for our frying pan and had another woman make them! If

¹⁰ Natalie's [November 5, 1943](#) diary entry.

¹¹ Diary reading is a set up for Scene Two, which is based on and imagined from Natalie's [November 6, 1943](#) diary entry.

218 that isn't grounds for divorce, I don't know what is. The nerve of
219 him and that woman!

220
221 Dotty Don't let your curlers get wound too tight. She cooked pancakes
222 for him alright and spilled 'em on the ground in front of him.

223
224 Isobel Really? Well, good!

225
226 Dotty He'll be back askin' at supper.

227
228 Isobel Well, he can beg all he want, but I'm not going to stand around
229 waiting for hours to use women's stove just to cook for that
230 knucklehead! Where's the incentive?

231
232

233 **[DIARY READING THREE]**

234

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

236

237 Natalie Living here has certainly reinforced that economic mating is not
238 enough. There must be some love, interest, and companionship
239 behind it.

240

241 Believe it or not, Jerry found out from the *Camp News* that he has
242 something in common with one of the Imperial Army generals.¹²

243

244

245 **[SCENE THREE]**

246

247 Jerry Ha! Well, whadda ya know!

248

249 Bedie What is it, Daddy?

250

251 Jerry Well according to the *Camp News*, the Japanese Commander of
252 the Philippines and I were in Russia at the same time.

253

254 Bedie Really?

¹² Diary reading is a set up for Scene Three, which is based on and imagined from Natalie's [November 6, 1943](#) diary entry.

255 Jerry Here, read this.

256

257 Bedie “Lt. Gen. Shigemora, Commander of the Imperial Japanese Army
258 in the Philippines, was born in Fukuoka prefect, Japan. He
259 graduated from the Military Academy and Military Staff College,
260 took part in the Siberian Expedition, and studied in England in
261 1922.”

262

263 Jerry He was in Siberia when I was. What are the odds?

264

265 Bedie When were you there?

266

267 Jerry Right after WWI. I was in the Siberian Expedition too, but with the
268 American Army. Believe it or not, son, we were allies with Japan in
269 the Great War.

270

271

272 **[DIARY READING FOUR]**

273

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

275

276 Natalie November 6, 1943. I’m still feeling weak. My mouth, tongue and
277 throat are sore all the time, and my teeth feel acid. Frankly, I
278 haven’t felt so nearly sunk since Camp John Hay, so Jerry bought
279 eight ampules of calcium and glucose for me to take each week. It
280 cost 20 pesos, but it’s better to take it this way than by eggshell or
281 rock. Intravenous won’t be pleasant but life doesn’t hold easiness
282 or pleasure these years, except for sun and scenery.

283

284 Arthur isn’t doing much better. He and Enid talked with us over
285 coffee, and he looks run down. His eyes took on a wild look when
286 he talked about what happened to his house.

287

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291

[SCENE FOUR]¹³

292

293

294 Arthur

Lt. Mukibo *promised* to keep our house safe. You know, I thought we were all set, ya know...because I'd employed Japanese before the War.

296

297

298 Jerry

I know you did, Arthur. That's why Nakamura made you the first camp liaison.

299

300

301 Enid

Arthur did more than that Jerry; he made sure the Japanese were fed when they were interned at Camp Hay. The Filipinos just left them there.

302

303

304

305 Arthur

Lt. Mukibo promised they'd leave our house alone and let our housekeepers stay. Fat lot of good that was.

306

307

308 Jerry

So, I take it they got your house too, huh?

309

310 Arthur

Yes.

311

312 Enid

They ransacked it and sent our Filipino girls away.

313

314 Arthur

Even burned some of our belongings.

315

316 Enid

And the leaders in charge of the dirty business were Arthur's so-called friends!

317

318

319 Arthur

Everything the Japanese do is for spite. You know that night Ritchie and I were jailed in town? They made us watch while they beat this poor Igorot fellow and threw him down the stairs. It would have been better to be beaten than to watch it.

320

321

322

323

324 Enid

Of course, the Japanese *knew* that.

325

326 Arthur

All of it, Jerry. The torture, my house—all of it was directed at me. Any position or good will I ever had with them is gone, if I ever had it in the first place.

327

328

¹³ Diary reading is a set up for Scene Four, which is based on and imagined from Natalie's [November 6, 1943](#) diary entry.

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[DIARY READING FIVE]

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

Natalie November 7, 1943. Betty saw Nida downtown in Baguio and got a brief chance to talk with her.¹⁴

[SCENE FIVE]

Betty Natalie will be very pleased to hear you're looking so well, Nida. She talks about you all the time.

Nida How are the Courters?

Betty Oh, as well as can be expected. They've all lost weight, and, you know, Natalie didn't have an ounce to lose.

Nida Do they get my food?

Betty Every package. You're keeping them alive, my dear.

Nida Are they getting the money I've sent?

Betty Yes, and all of it has gone for food, mostly eggs for Bedie.

Nida Oh my Bedie. I miss him.

Betty He's got a girlfriend.

Nida Oh no, he can't grow up on me.

Betty And June has a young man. Several, actually.

Nida Ah Junie. I wish I could see them both.

Betty Nida...I know Natalie is going to ask me about their house.¹⁵

¹⁴ Diary reading is a set up for Scene Five, which is based on and imagined from Natalie's [November 6, 1943](#) diary entry.

366 Nida It was awful. All Ismael could do was watch the Japanese load
367 everything onto their trucks.
368
369 Betty Well, what could he have done?
370
371 Nida Tell Mrs. Crouter that they missed the Willow Ware and their
372 cocktail glasses.
373
374 Betty I'm sure she'll be glad to hear that.
375
376 Nida One of the drivers was an American soldier. He begged Ismael to
377 give him magazines and books for the GI prisoners at Camp Hay,
378 so Ismael gave him all of the Crouter's magazines and a lot of their
379 books. I hope Mrs. Crouter won't mind.
380
381 Betty Actually, I think she'll be very pleased he did that, Nida.
382
383 **[CUT-IN TWO]**
384
385 Jim *Camp Holmes Daily News* Dr. Esquivel presented camp with a
386 small supply of medicines, gauze and thermometers. He also gave
387 us ten bottles of vaccines, and as only two additional are needed
388 to complete the series of shots, the doctors will start injections at
389 once. Incoming internees will be now isolated at the hospital for a
390 period of two weeks.¹⁶
391
392
393 **[DIARY READING SIX]**
394
395 **[SOUNDS OF PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE OUT]**
396
397 Natalie November 8, 1943. Three generals of varying ranks visited Camp
398 today. At noon Carl, Walter, Miss McKim, and some Japanese
399 officers assembled near the guardhouse as five shiny cars drove

¹⁵ For simplicity and to keep with the timeline. I had Ismael there when the Japanese unloaded the Crouter's house. Natalie wrote that Nida was there, so it must have happened after she came home from the hospital.

¹⁶ Natalie's [November 6, 1943](#) diary entry.

400 into camp with the generals. Jerry talked with Carl and
401 Miss McKim afterward.¹⁷

402

403

404

[SCENE SIX]

405

406 Jerry Well, how was the dog and pony show,¹⁸ Carl?

407

408 Carl Not too bad. What do you think, Miss McKim?

409

410 Miss McKim The Generals were very respectful.

411

412 Carl Yea, I was sure surprised when they said they wouldn't embarrass
413 us by going through our barracks.

414

415 Jerry Why all the courtesy all of a sudden?

416

417 Miss McKim I think they're worried about how prisoners are being treated.

418

419 Carl I got a real shocker for you: they even asked why our families
420 weren't living together.

421

422 Miss McKim One of the generals is the highest in command on the Islands, so
423 he can do something about it.

424

425 Carl I tried to stay away from those two Intelligence guys.

426

427 Jerry Why do they always cart them along to these things?

428

429 Carl I guess they don't want to miss the opportunity to snoop around.
430 One of them interrogated me way back when.

431

432 Miss McKim Oh, Arthur. I didn't know that.

433

434 Jerry Bet you gave him a wide berth.

435

¹⁷ Diary entry and Scene Six based on and imagined from Natalie's [November 7, 1943](#) diary entry

¹⁸ Idiom was used in the 1940s. See [Dog and pony show - Wikipedia](#)

436 Carl I sure did.
437
438 Miss McKim The generals were quite open to talking about many subjects,
439 don't you think Carl?
440
441 Carl Yea.
442
443 Miss McKim Lt. Kira was there too, though I don't know why.
444
445 Jerry He's sure been moping around lately. What's with him?
446
447 Miss McKim Oh, the usual—just homesick and lonely. He's been hanging
448 around the women's stove, watching us cook. Hazel took pity on
449 him and gave him some cookies the other day.
450
451 Jerry Yea, they've all been miserable lately. Even the new Sergeant's
452 lookin' pretty hangdog.¹⁹
453
454 Miss McKim He needed to lose some of that swagger. We call him the "Big
455 Ape" over at the women's barracks.
456
457 Carl He told me that he has five children at home.
458
459 Miss McKim All of the guards are worried about what's going to happen to
460 them.
461
462 Carl I'd be worried too.
463
464 Jerry Hey, did the generals say anything about the relief ship in Manila?
465
466 Carl No. But we made it known that we're expecting to get letters and
467 packages this Christmas.
468
469 Miss McKim I don't think that they can't pull the wool over our eyes like last
470 year. One of the generals said they've assigned an officer to make
471 sure that we are "not forgotten" this year.
472

¹⁹This slang term was used in the 1940s. See [hang-dog | Etymology of hang-dog by etymonline](#)

473 Jerry What's this guy's story?
474
475 Miss McKim The only information I got was his name—a ah...Major Tomibe.²⁰
476
477 Carl I'll try to find out more about him. The Generals are taking me to
478 Manila with them in a few days to inspect internment camps
479 down there—most likely Santo Tomas and Los Baños.²¹
480
481 Jerry Wow, that came out of nowhere.
482
483 Carl Yea, it usually does.

484
485
486 **[DIARY READING SEVEN]**
487

488 [SOUNDS OF PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE OUT]
489

490 Natalie November 10, 1943. I rushed about making peanut butter cookies
491 to get some protein into Bedie. Baking periods only last 15
492 minutes per person, so all had to be ready at the right time.
493
494 Now that we have the vote, women are carrying whole or part
495 responsibility for five departments—medical, sanitation, children,
496 clothing, and food preparation. But with our newly-found power
497 comes managerial headaches, Camp Holmes style.²²
498
499

500 **[CUT-IN THREE]**
501

502 Jim *Camp Holmes Daily News* The Women's Committee is astonished
503 that rice pickers are attempting to read while removing rocks,
504 weevils, straw and so forth. The ladies let it be known they don't
505 think the two occupations can be combined.²³
506
507

²⁰ Tomibe is referred to in the diary, but I want to establish his rank in this conversation. See *Forbidden Diary*, [pp. xix](#).

²¹ Set up for Scene Seven.

²² Natalie's [October 13, 1943](#) diary entry.

²³ Natalie's [November 9, 1943](#) diary entry.

508 Natalie November 12, 1943. Fresh milk from town has stopped. The
509 Manila *Tribune* reports gas and tire shortages. As a result, people
510 are moving closer to their jobs and causing a housing shortage.
511 There's a coal strike, and people are eating horsemeat.²⁴
512
513 November 16, 1943. Rice rationing is stricter than ever. There is
514 no sugar so yeast is about to stop, which means no vitamin B.
515 Swollen legs and wrists, numb hands, dizziness, lassitude at
516 unexpected moments—these are the order of the day for many. If
517 we could lie around, we could face it better but many, Jerry
518 included, have to do hard work and the spells of feeling “all gone”
519 hit at various times.²⁵
520
521 Liver is now \$5 a kilo.²⁶
522
523 November 17, 1943. June went to Baguio this afternoon to get
524 new glasses. She was thrilled as this was her first car ride in 24
525 months. She got car sick and returned home tired and homesick.²⁷
526
527 November 19, 1943. There is no sweet in the children's juice and
528 it is so sour! Today was the lowest calorie day of the year.
529 Everything is tight, and even drinking water must be hoarded
530 from now on. We were lucky to get rain so late, but doctors are
531 starting to worry once again about dysentery.
532
533 November 22, 1943. I have had three low days and no time or
534 energy to write but will try to piece out what Carl told everyone
535 about his camp inspection trip to Manila.
536
537
538 **[SCENE SEVEN]²⁸**
539
540 Phil Come on Carl, spill the beans.
541

²⁴ First sentence is from Natalie's [November 12, 1943](#) diary entry. The remainder is from [November 15, 1943](#).

²⁵ Natalie's [November 17, 1943](#) diary entry.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Natalie's [November 16, 1943](#) diary entry.

²⁸ Based on and imagined from Natalie's [November 22, 1943](#) diary entry.

542 Carl Whadda you want to know?
543
544 Wick Come on. Anything, man. You were gone almost two weeks
545 hobnobbin' around with Generals.
546
547 Carl Okay. Well, first stop was Los Baños. The Colonel who runs the
548 camp says it can house 7,000. But boy, the General sure set him
549 straight. He said it couldn't hold more than a 1,000 and was unfit
550 for living.
551
552 Phil A Japanese general said that??
553
554 Carl Yea, he seems like a reasonable guy. He wants to condemn it.
555
556 Committee Woman Then why doesn't he condemn Camp Holmes?
557
558 Carl I know it's hard to believe, but we're better off here. For one
559 thing, they don't have any plumbing or sanitation.
560
561 Doris Well, neither do we.
562
563 Carl Compared to them, we do.
564
565 Josephine I heard that families are allowed to live together. Is that true?
566
567 Carl Yes. And the General says we can do the same.
568
569 Peg Are they going to let spouses living in separate camps reunite?
570
571 Carl Yes. But they say Los Baños is too crowded, so it's likely that
572 they'll move more people up here. They talked about nine going
573 up here and six going down there.
574
575 Hank What about Santo Tomas?
576
577 Carl I think it includes Santo Tomas.
578
579 Peg That's only 15 people!

580 Carl But it's a start. Boy, I'm tellin' ya, Santo Tomas was like a city.
581
582 Committee Man Was the food any better?
583
584 Carl Nah. Actually, it's better up here. But kids under 15 get a glass of
585 milk and an egg at supper.
586
587 Jerry [TO NATALIE UNDER HIS BREATH] That'd make a whale of a
588 difference for June and Bedie.
589
590 Natalie [UNDER HER BREATH] It sure would.
591
592 Carl You know, frankly, I'm glad to be back. The people in these camps
593 are on their own for everything, but we pitch in and help each
594 other. As much as we all like to gripe around here, I think we've
595 got a better system. We're a lot more democratic.
596
597 Larry Bet the General wasn't eating internee food.
598
599 Joe Did you get some good chow?
600
601 Carl Yea. I had a couple of steaks with him.
602
603 Enid What about mail from home? Is it still sitting out in Manila
604 Harbor?
605
606 Carl No, they unloaded 40 tons of private mail and packages. And get
607 this: there are nearly 12,000 cases of Red Cross Christmas kits!
608
609 Fern Praise the Lord!
610
611 Hazel When are we going to get them?
612
613 Carl They didn't say.
614
615 Phil Figures. Bet it all gets stolen like last year.
616

617 Carl Well, now...maybe not. The cases were moved to a warehouse
618 sealed by the Swiss Consul.
619

620 Wick You don't really think any of it got there?
621

622 Carl For what it's worth, the General swore that the cases were
623 guarded from pier to warehouse.
624

625 Hank How long before they're stolen and sold off?
626

627 Carl It's supposedly being guarded by the Japanese.
628

629 Enid That's letting the fox guard the hen house.
630

631 Carl I... I don't think so. It's pretty clear that Japanese are worried
632 about prisoner treatment, at least us civilians.
633

634 Larry That's cuz we'll be out of here in '44 and they'll be behind bars.
635

636 Carl I don't know about that, but we're definitely gaining ground and
637 it's starting to show. When the General left camp today, he shook
638 hands and saluted every American. Since when has that
639 happened? And what did he say to you Miss McKim?
640

641 Miss McKim The General asked me to tell you all good-bye and to take care of
642 yourselves.
643

644 Joe Did you tell him not to let the door hit him where the good Lord
645 split 'em on the way out?
646

647 [SOUNDS OF PEOPLE LAUGHING]
648

649 Larry Hey, don't talk to Miss McKim like that!
650

651 Carl All right you guys. Settle down because I saved the best news for
652 last: The General let me see inside some of the Red Cross
653 Christmas kits.
654

655 Colleen What's in them!
656
657 Isobel Yea, what's in them!
658
659 Carl Food! You know, butter, powdered milk, Spam, cheese, even
660 Chesterfield cigarettes. And some of the boxes had medical
661 supplies. There was clothing and recreational stuff.
662
663 Phil Yea. Okay, so when are we supposed to get all these goodies?
664
665 Carl They didn't say. [JEERS FROM AUDIENCE] Hold on guys. There's
666 been too much publicity about the supply ship for us not to get
667 something. And get this: the generals talked about trading
668 supplies between camps.
669
670 Miss McKim Didn't the generals say that couples can get now permission from
671 Tokyo to get married?
672
673 Carl Yes. And, the generals assigned an officer who is going see that
674 we get our Red Cross kits.
675
676 Wise guy Perfect. Is he Lt. Mukibo's brother-in-law?
677
678 [LAUGHTER]
679
680 Carl No, his name is Major Tomibe.²⁹
681
682
683 [DIARY READING EIGHT]
684
685 [SOUND OF WRITING AND FADE OUT]
686
687 Natalie The reason I'm so wrung out is my vitamin shot. I started out
688 feeling the usual instant warmth all over and then bitter mouth
689 and throat. I concentrated my gaze as the doctor pushed it all in

²⁹ Tomibe is first mentioned in Natalie's [December 23, 1943](#) diary entry. This is a set up because he will become a central figure in Season Four (1944). Episode 20 will go into Tomibe's involvement with the Red Cross packages.

690 and checked my pulse. But then the grass beyond the window,
691 the desk, everything, went white, pure white, and all I could see
692 were outlines. I mentioned this, and the nurse give me a glass of
693 water with ammonia spirits. My whole system felt out of control,
694 a most hideous feeling when one is hanging on to the thread of
695 consciousness. Then a horrible sweet and sickening nausea came
696 over me, and I was escorted to my dorm space.

697
698 When the doctor came to see me later, I asked him what in the
699 world happened. He said he was afraid that the blood in the
700 syringe would coagulate so he gave the injection a little faster, not
701 as slowly as usual, and I couldn't absorb it. I hope I never have to
702 repeat such an experience.

703
704 November 23, 1943. Despite food shortages, Jerry's culinary
705 experiments continue.³⁰

706
707 **[CUT-IN FOUR]**

708
709 Jerry Try this, guys.

710
711 June What is it, daddy?

712
713 Jerry My third attempt at bread. Actually, it's cake. I figure, if we can't
714 have bread, then let us eat cake.

715
716 Bedie It's good, daddy.

717
718 Natalie It is. Did you use the women's stove?

719
720 Jerry Yea. I had to wait until 9:30 last night to bake one loaf of cake.

721
722 [SOUNDS OF PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE OUT]

723
724 Natalie November 25, 1943. All four of us waited for the truck to come in
725 from Baguio and came back with a wonderful Thanksgiving bag
726 from Nida which touched us deeply. She sent chicken salad—the

³⁰ Set up for Cut-In Four which is based on Natalie's [November 23, 1943](#) diary entry.

727 bowl covered with fresh young lettuce and scarlet radishes with
728 green leaves, new potatoes, peas, diced carrots and celery—all
729 made carefully like our salads of old. She packed a half a jar of
730 mayonnaise made from olive oil. As Bedie dove into it, he
731 remarked.

732

733 **[CUT-IN FIVE]**

734

735 Bedie So that is what chicken tastes like.

736

737 Natalie Also in the bag were six oranges, a half kilo of sugar, and a *real*
738 pound cake.

739

740 Daphne and her crew decorated the dining hall for the children’s
741 Thanksgiving at four. At one end of the room was a fireplace
742 made of tin painted red with a huge log carved in beautiful old
743 lettering with our camp creed that read, “Learn to Labor and to
744 Wait.”

745

746 In the evening, the dining hall was jammed. We sat down to
747 hamburgers (from one of our own pigs mixed with beef), peas,
748 gravy, and mashed potatoes which I’ve been dreaming about.

749

750

751 **[SCENE EIGHT]³¹**

752

753 Jerry Hmm, oh boy! I think the coconut milk in the potatoes has gone
754 sour.

755

756 Natalie I don’t care. I’ve been looking forward to a real mashed potatoes
757 all day.

758

759 Bedie I’ll take it if you don’t want it, Dad.

760

761 Jerry Pass your plate over and I’ll give you some.

762

³¹ Unless otherwise footnoted, based on and imagined from Natalie’s [November 25, 1943](#) diary entry.

763 Natalie That was such a nice speech Miss McKim gave thanking the
764 kitchen. Did you see Alex smiling in the corner?
765
766 Jerry Yea, I don't think I've ever seen him smile. I heard he's going to
767 send a pie and a big can of cookies to those 12 American soldiers
768 at Camp Hay.³² It's a miracle Alex managed to make them this year
769 with all the shortages.
770
771 [SOUNDS OF JUNE ARRIVING AND PULLING UP A CHAIR]
772
773 Natalie There you are, June.
774
775 Jerry You're late. What's up?
776
777 June Nothing!
778
779 Natalie Boy troubles again.
780
781 June Billy said that if I don't believe in Christ then I have nothing to live
782 for.
783
784 Natalie You know the saying about religion and politics, June.
785
786 June I know, mom. I didn't even bring it up. All I said was I didn't want
787 to talk about it with him. And anyway, I think that I have a right to
788 my own beliefs.
789
790 Jerry You sure do, honorable daughter.
791
792 Natalie Well I'm sure you two will batch things up.
793
794 June Maybe.
795
796 Bedie Dad?
797
798 Jerry Son.
799

³² Natalie's [November 26, 1943](#) diary entry.

800 Bedie If the GIs are getting pumpkin pie does that mean we do too?

801

802

803 **[DIARY READING NINE]**

804

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

806

807 Natalie June and I went to Union Church service at ten, which was held
808 inside because of gentle rain. Patton's sermon was fine, taking the
809 place of Collier who's in the hospital. There are few patients there
810 because of the lull in dysentery for which the pastor said we can
811 be thankful.

812

813 November 27, 1943. The Men's Committee received an additional
814 4,000 pesos in Relief Funds. But bananas have become scarcer
815 due to rice shortages and natives eating them instead. They are
816 now going for five cents each! If we only spent money on bananas
817 the 4,000 pesos would give each of us in Camp one banana a day
818 for five months, if they don't go up in price and we can get them.³³

819

820 November 28, 1943. Here we go again. Three people have
821 dysentery with high fevers. One had a heart attack from the
822 severity of it. When I took Bedie's specimen to the lab today, Dr.
823 Viola asked me to sit down.

824

825

826 **[SCENE NINE]³⁴**

827

828 Dr. Viola Thanks for waiting, Mrs. Crouter. I just viewed his slide, and
829 Bedie's got dysentery.

830

831 Natalie Okay.

832

833 Dr. Viola I'm terribly sorry.

834

835 Natalie I thought he'd just eaten some bad food.

³³ My addition to help listeners know what 4,000 pesos would buy. $(4000/.05)/500=160$

³⁴ Unless otherwise footnoted, based on and imagined from Natalie's [November 28, 1943](#) diary entry.

836 Dr. Viola You know, with the food shortages, it's just as likely that he could
837 have food poisoning from spoiled meat.³⁵ But he doesn't.

838
839 Natalie I thought Bedie was starting to gain some ground with his health.

840
841 Dr. Viola We're going to have to quarantine him.

842
843 Natalie I know.

844
845 Dr. Viola Well...bring Bedie down in 15 minutes, and we'll have a space
846 ready for him.

847
848

849 **[DIARY READING TEN]**

850

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

852

853 Natalie When I took Bedie's soap and towel down to him at the hospital,
854 he turned his face to the wall and wept. I couldn't comfort him
855 physically without being contaminated. But I soon had him
856 smiling, and he was later cheered by his girlfriend and her friend
857 calling from below the window.

858

859 Dr. Viola is upset and worried. Some of the older people are
860 failing visibly, and with the new water restrictions, the flies have
861 started again.

862

863 November 29, 1943. The Igorots report great suffering outside
864 from scarcity, privation and hardship.

865

866 The Igorot women age young and have internal troubles. A few
867 days ago, a newborn baby was brought in by neighbors. They
868 wanted hospital treatment for the infant. A woman who lost her
869 infant last year now has another one, living, this time.³⁶

870

³⁵ Based on Natalie's [December 1, 1943](#) diary entry.

³⁶ Natalie's [November 24, 1943](#) diary entry.

871 November 30, 1943. Jerry and I sat together studying Spanish and
872 Japanese when Peg ran in to tell us the long-awaited news.

873

874

875 **[SCENE TEN]**³⁷

876

877 Peg Walter's being transferred to Manila!!

878

879 Natalie Oh, that's wonderful, Peg!

880

881 Jerry Great news! Here. Have some cake-bread.

882

883 Peg Thanks, Jerry. I'm so excited I could just bust. I'm finally going to
884 get to see my husband! Gee, I hope Walter gets my letter before
885 he leaves Davao.

886

887 Jerry Think he knows about the prisoner swaps?

888

889 Peg No. That's why I wrote to him.

890

891 Natalie We're keeping fingers and toes crossed for you, Peg.

892

893

894 **[DIARY READING ELEVEN]**

895

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

897

898 Natalie I'm worried. Peg has been wearing herself out lately. She refuses
899 to face the fact that we must cut down on firewood consumption
900 and puts it off still further by volunteering for the crew who can
901 no longer work full time because they don't get enough food.
902 Controlled economy comes hard and people fight against it,
903 twisting and turning, anything but face it.

904

905 December 1, 1943. There is nothing left in the camp store;
906 everything was bought out today. I suppose it came to no shock
907 that the Medical Committee accepted Dr. Viola's resignation so he

³⁷ Based on and imagined from Natalie's [November 30, 1943](#) diary entry.

908 can move to Los Baños. Maybe Peg’s husband is there from Davao
909 and they can switch places.

910
911 December 2, 1943.³⁸ Eloise gave birth to a 6-1/2-pound girl who
912 was born Outside BUT manufactured in camp. Although she’s
913 married to the father, it’s being treated like a scandal but, we
914 hear, not a bad as internment camps a Manila where fathers of
915 newborns are jailed for six weeks in what the Japanese call
916 “affection tents.”³⁹

917
918 What a time to have a baby and be proud of the fact! It’s the last
919 thing I would want now. No wonder the mother was jolly and
920 rotund, waddling about. When she went to the hospital it was
921 said to be dysentery. One asks, “What will they do with the
922 specimen?” and the reply is, “put it in the silver drawer like they
923 did with little John Hay!”

924
925 Jerry says the infant is not illegitimate but illicit. And the proud
926 father is strutting around telling people....

927

928

929 **[CUT-IN SIX]**

930

931 Proud Father Wouldn’t you like to know how we managed it? I told you we
932 could make anything at the shop, and now I’ve proven it.

933

934 **[COLD CLOSE]**

³⁸ Except where footnoted, Natalie’s [December 1, 1943](#) diary entry.

³⁹ Natalie’s [December 21, 1943](#) diary entry.