

1 Season Four, Part One, *Forbidden Diary*  
2 Episode Twenty-Five: Consequences

3  
4 CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

5		
6	Announcer	Steve Mountjoy
7	Natalie Crouter	Sevil Delin
8	Mr. Tomibe	Masaya Okubo
9	Miss McKim	Christine Atsuko Holloway
10	Millie	Melba Sibrel King
11	Dotty	Ina Marie Smith
12	Colleen	Mandy Basler
13	Enid	Karen DeBoer
14	Peg	Rebeccah Haugh
15	Arthur	Robert Ball
16	Smitty	Jessie Fister
17	Marj	Bonnie Marie Williams
18	Alex	Slava Timoshenko
19	Father Sheridan	Kaspar Micheals
20	Millie	Melba King
21	Walter	Kiff VandenHeuvel
22	Phil	Eric Ryan Moore
23	Gene	Matthew Amerman
24	Jim	Maxwell Glick
25	Dr. Benedetti	Lance LeBock
26	Jerry Crouter	Mark Oliver
27	Betty	Julie M. Dean
28	Doris	Nora Novak
29	Bill Moule	Dustin Parkhurst
30	Ted	Troy W. Hudson
31	Larry	Patrick Golebiowski
32	Isobel	Jennifer Nittozo
33	Joe	Rich 'dAngle
34	Bedie	Luka Aslan Nas
35	Herb	Vincent Caruso
36	Auntie	Ria Vrana
37	Nida	Jeannie Marie Sison
38	Jorge	Andre Ricarte

39  
40  
41  
42

43 [Cold Open]

44

45 Announcer Previously on *Forbidden Diary*....

46

47 [SOUND BITES FROM PREVIOUS EPISODES]

48

49 Announcer And now, Episode Twenty-Five.

50

51

52 [DIARY READING ONE]

53

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

55

56 Natalie April 6, 1944.<sup>1</sup> I didn't sleep much last night. Mr. Tomibe's car  
57 arrived at 11 from Baguio, and he went straight to the men's  
58 barracks to perform roll call himself. There was much coming and  
59 going. Carl was up nearly all night.

60

61 At ten this morning, our men were called to a meeting in the  
62 dining room for several hours. We women were next. A number  
63 of us watched the men's interrogation outside the dining hall with  
64 our noses pressed against the screen. I wouldn't have missed it  
65 for anything.

66

67 When Mr. Tomibe first talked to the men, he shouted in a loud  
68 angry voice which could reach the ears of the two Military  
69 Policemen standing outside the door, probably Kempeitai.<sup>2</sup> Miss  
70 McKim could not always make out what Mr. Tomibe was saying,  
71 so he gave her a modified, quieter version which she translated.

72

73

74 [SCENE ONE]<sup>3</sup>

75

76 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE] Yes, that's what I wanted to say. Please tell the  
77 men that, Miss McKim.

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<sup>1</sup> Natalie's [April 5, 1944](#) diary entry.

<sup>2</sup> Natalie used the term "intelligence."

<sup>3</sup> Based on and imagined from Natalie's [April 6, 1944](#) and [April 7, 1944](#) diary entries.

78  
79 Miss McKim Tomibe-san apologizes for the upset and inconvenience. He is as  
80 sorry as you for all of the trouble, *but* he holds us responsible for  
81 Wick and Ritchie’s disappearance and is disappointed that his  
82 trust has been betrayed. He expects that our discomfort will  
83 become worse.  
84  
85  
86 [TRANSITION 1: WOMEN]  
87  
88 Millie [Whispering] Betrayal of trust, my left foot! He’s the one that’s  
89 always telling us, “These are war times.” Humpt!  
90  
91 Dotty [Whispering] Move over, Doris. I can’t see a thing.  
92  
93 Colleen Is Wick a guerrilla?  
94  
95 Enid Shh!!  
96  
97 Colleen [Whispering] Is Wick a guerrilla?  
98  
99 Peg [Whispering] Well, if he is, he’s our only one.  
100  
101 Enid Shh!!! I’m trying to listen!  
102  
103  
104 [TRANSITION 2: TOMIBE AND MEN]  
105  
106 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE] Please ask who saw them on Wednesday, Miss  
107 McKim.  
108  
109 Miss McKim Tomibe-san asks, who saw Wick and Ritchie yesterday?  
110  
111 Arthur Tomibe-san, we’ve asked everyone and the only one who saw  
112 Wick and Ritchie yesterday was Smitty.<sup>4</sup> He works in the kitchen  
113 with them. Tell ‘em Smitty.  
114

---

<sup>4</sup> Natalie wrote that it was a fellow named Ty, but I changed it to Smitty to consolidate characters.

115 Smitty Umm, yea. Yesterday, Wick called in at the kitchen door and  
116 asked me to tell Alex not to make hotcakes for him. He said that  
117 he and Ritchie had the morning off and were going up the hill for  
118 a picnic.  
119  
120 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE] When?  
121  
122 Miss McKim Tomibe-san asks when this was?  
123  
124 Smitty Just after roll call, around 7 am.  
125  
126  
127 [TRANSITION 3: WOMEN LISTENING IN]  
128  
129 Marj [WHISPERING] I must have just seen ‘em them afterward by the  
130 pig pen. They had backpacks, and they were heading up the hill.  
131  
132 Natalie [WHISPERING] It makes sense that they’d leave after morning roll  
133 call.  
134  
135 Dotty [WHISPERING] Yea. That would give ‘em until evening roll call  
136 before anyone noticed they were gone.  
137  
138 Enid [WHISPERING] Will you three hush!  
139  
140  
141 [TRANSITION 4: TOMIBE AND MEN]  
142  
143 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE] Did the two men work in the kitchen yesterday?  
144  
145 Miss McKim Tomibe-san asks if Ritchie and Wick worked in the kitchen on the  
146 day they escaped?  
147  
148 Arthur They were supposed to work in the evening. Right, Alex?  
149  
150 Alex Yea. They had morning off.  
151

152 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE TO MISS MCKIM] Wasn't anyone suspicious at  
153 second meal?  
154  
155 Miss McKim Tomibe-san asks why you weren't suspicious when Wick and  
156 Ritchie didn't show up for work at second meal?  
157  
158 Alex I got plenty people who want work in kitchen next to food so is  
159 not problem.  
160  
161 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE] Why did they escape?  
162  
163 Miss McKim Tomibe-san asks if anyone knows of any reason why they  
164 escaped?  
165  
166 [SILENCE]  
167  
168 Fr. Sheridan They didn't like the food?  
169  
170 [RESTRAINED, MUFFLED LAUGHTER]  
171  
172  
173 [TRANSITION 5: WOMEN LISTENING IN]  
174  
175 Colleen [Whispering] Fr. Sheridan shouldn't be talking back to Mr.  
176 Tomibe!  
177  
178 Dotty [Whispering] What's Mr. Tomibe gonna do to a priest, Colleen?  
179  
180 Enid [Whispering] He can do plenty.  
181  
182 Peg [Whispering] Look. Tomibe's smiling? He's smiling, right?  
183  
184 Millie [Whispering] Yea, but I don't know if it's because he thinks it's  
185 funny or he's embarrassed. I never can tell....  
186  
187  
188 [TRANSITION 6: TOMIBE AND MEN]  
189

190 Walter Tomibe-san, umm sir. If I may venture a guess?  
191  
192 Mr. Tomibe [IN ENGLISH] Yes. Please do.  
193  
194 Walter I know how I felt as a single man imprisoned in Davao and being  
195 apart from my family. You get kinda...well, you know, restless  
196 after two and a half years. They probably flew the coop because  
197 they couldn't stand being fenced in any longer.  
198  
199 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE] What does "flew the coop" mean?  
200  
201 Miss McKim [IN JAPANESE] He means left the internment camp, Tomibe-san.  
202  
203 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE] Ah. Tell him that I think this is a most reasonable  
204 idea.  
205  
206 Miss McKim [IN ENGLISH] Tomibe-san says he thinks Walter's theory is most  
207 reasonable, a very sound idea.  
208  
209 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE] Please tell them Intelligence thinks that the escape  
210 was carefully planned for a long time and that they were getting  
211 information.  
212  
213 Miss McKim [IN ENGLISH] However, Tomibe-san says the Military Police's  
214 theory is that the escape was carefully planned for a long time  
215 and that Wick and Ritchie were getting information from the  
216 Outside.  
217  
218 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE] Did Wick or Ritchie tell anyone about their escape?  
219  
220 Miss McKim [IN ENGLISH] Tomibe-san asks, did Wick or Ritchie tell anyone in  
221 about their escape?  
222  
223  
224 [TRANSITION 7: WOMEN LISTENING IN]<sup>5</sup>  
225

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<sup>5</sup> April 7 1944

226 Enid [Whispering] Well, if they had any brains at all they wouldn't have  
227 told anyone in this Camp.

228  
229 Dotty [Whispering] That's for sure.

230  
231

232 **[DIARY READING TWO]**

233

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

235

236 Natalie In the afternoon Mr. Tomibe announced that he and his staff  
237 were moving from Baguio to Camp Holmes, which sent our guards  
238 scavenging around Camp looking for furniture for them. In no  
239 time a safe, desk and office furniture were piled in a hall at the  
240 hospital. After a truck arrived with Tomibe's effects, it was finally  
241 decided that his office would occupy a large, corner room in the  
242 hospital, moving the four girls out who were living there.

243

244 Meanwhile, the Military Policemen standing outside the dining  
245 hall took some of our men to the guard house for questioning but  
246 only held them for a few hours.

247

248 When the guards aren't looking, the barracks buzz with  
249 speculations. Everyone is trying to sort out what happened.<sup>6</sup>

250

251 After our men were interrogated, they were returned to their  
252 barracks where they were questioned a second time.

253

254

255 **[SCENE TWO A: MEN'S BARRACKS]<sup>7</sup>**

256

257 Phil What happened you guys?

258

259 Gene There's nothin' to tell, Phil.

260

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<sup>6</sup> These last two paragraphs are a set up for the next scene based on my assumption that people would "buzzing" about what happened and that when the men returned from questioning everyone would want to know what happened.

<sup>7</sup> Based on and imagined from Natalie's [April 6, 1944](#) diary entries.

261 Phil Come on, Gene. What'd the bastards do?  
262  
263 Gene Didn't lay a hand on us. Right, guys?  
264  
265 Phil Huh?  
266  
267 Steve Mountjoy Yea, Gene's right.  
268  
269 Dr. Benedetti It's the truth  
270  
271 [MEN TALKING]  
272  
273 Foley voice Shut up!  
274  
275 Jim How many were there?  
276  
277 Gene Two.  
278  
279 Jerry Were they Kempeitai?  
280  
281 Gene Probably. I know I've seen the fat one before.  
282  
283 Phil Well, what'd they ask you then?  
284  
285 Gene The same stuff Tomibe did.  
286  
287 Jerry What'd you say?  
288  
289 Gene Same stuff we told Tomibe.  
290  
291 Jim Why'd did they pick you?  
292  
293 Gene I don't know; ask the Japanese. Maybe because Wick sleeps in the  
294 bunk above me.<sup>8</sup> What they really wanted to know was where  
295 Wick and Ritchie were getting information.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Moule, William, *God's Arms Around Us*, pp. 327.

<sup>9</sup> In Natalie's [April 14, 1944](#) diary entry she wrote that this was one of the things the Japanese wanted to know from Bill Moule and Gene Kneebone when they were later interrogated in Baguio. This is also my setup for the next lines about Phil's hidden radio and Jim's Camp newsletter.

296  
297 Jim Did they ask about my camp Newsletter?  
298  
299 Gene No. They didn't, Jim.  
300  
301 Phil Did they say anything about a radio?<sup>10</sup>  
302  
303 Gene Yea, but they didn't make a big deal of it. They were almost too  
304 polite. You know, I kind wish they'd knocked us around and  
305 gotten it over with.  
306  
307 Arthur I think they're just getting started. Remember Tomibe-san's  
308 warning about prison escapes? Well, that was straight from ol'  
309 General Kō.  
310  
311 Phil Yea. He's probably torqued that Wick and Ritchie escaped before  
312 his barbed wire fence went up.<sup>11</sup>  
313  
314  
315 **[SCENE TWO B: WOMEN'S BARRACKS]**<sup>12</sup>  
316  
317 Enid Well, in hindsight, it's pretty obvious that Wick and Ritchie were  
318 escaping. That's why Ritchie had me furiously knitting those socks  
319 for him!  
320  
321 Betty You were knitting socks for Ritchie? So was I!  
322  
323 Enid Really?  
324  
325 Doris Me and Peg too! Right, Peg?  
326  
327 Peg Yes.  
328  
329 Millie He gave a bunch of wool to me and Fern and Gracie.  
330

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<sup>10</sup> My assumption that Phil would have asked about a radio and a reminder for listeners about the Camp's secret radio for Scene Two E and Scene Three.

<sup>11</sup> *Forbidden Diary* Introduction written by Lynn Z. Bloom, [pp. xix](#). Bloom wrote that the fence did not go up until May 1944.

<sup>12</sup> Based on and imagined from Natalie's [April 6, 1944](#) diary entry.

331 Enid Did he tell you that he had to have the socks by Tuesday?  
332  
333 Millie, Doris, Betty Yes.  
334  
335 Peg Yea, he said he wanted them for someone's birthday. Just *had* to  
336 have them by Tuesday.  
337  
338 Doris Hey, wait a minute, that's the day before he and Wick escaped!  
339  
340 Peg That little sneak!  
341  
342 Betty And we fell for it! The cheeky little blighter.  
343  
344 Enid This is all Wick's doing. Ritchie followed him around like he was  
345 John Wayne, or something.  
346  
347 Doris You know, I bet Wick *is* a guerrilla.<sup>13</sup>  
348  
349 Peg I don't know whether to love him for his patriotism or hate him  
350 for the consequences of what he and Ritchie have done.  
351  
352 Enid Consequences? My law, Peg! We're the ones bearing the  
353 consequences of Wick's so-called "heroism." The minute the  
354 Japanese captured him in the mountains and drove him into  
355 Camp, he should have abided by our rules, not some military duty  
356 to escape. Wick owed us that much since he cast his lot with  
357 women and children.<sup>14</sup>  
358  
359 Millie I just hope it's worth it.  
360  
361 Peg If it helps to win the war, then suffering the consequences is the  
362 least that we can do, I suppose.  
363

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<sup>13</sup> In multiple diary entries, such as [April 2, 1943](#), Natalie paints Wick as a larger-than-life character. In her [February 8, 1944](#) entry, she wrote, "The other man was Wick from Itogon whom the Japanese suspected of being USAFFE and a guerrilla but he denied it." Ritchie is mentioned eight times in the diary and but never as a guerrilla. In the [April 6, 1944](#) diary entry, Ritchie is described as "the gay and foolish one."

<sup>14</sup> Natalie's [April 8, 1944](#) diary entry.

364 Enid You won't be singing that tune for very long, Peg. Because the  
365 Kempeitai is going to come at us like a freight train, and there's  
366 nothing we or Mr. Tomibe can do about it.

367

368

369 **[SCENE TWO C: MEN'S BARRACKS]**

370

371 Phil Did any of us actually *know* Wick?

372

373 Jerry He came in last year when the Japanese rounded up people from  
374 the mountains. Didn't he, Bill?

375

376 Bill Moule Yea. About the same time as me and Marg.<sup>15</sup> I remember when he  
377 first got here that the Japanese thought Wick was military but he  
378 denied it.<sup>16</sup>

379

380 Ted He sure looked like he could've been a soldier.<sup>17</sup>

381

382 Phil Come on guys. Does anyone in here think Wick *isn't* a guerrilla?

383

384 Jerry Yea. It's always been a mystery to me how Wick maintained his  
385 weight in here.

386

387 Ted Well, he did work in the kitchen.<sup>18</sup>

388

389 Jerry Nah, it was more than that. Wick was husky.

390

391 Phil The women were always swooning over him.<sup>19</sup>

392

393 Jerry [CHUCKLES] If you go by looks, then Wick was the only one who  
394 could possibly be a guerrilla 'cuz the rest of us are a wreck.<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> Natalie wrote that Wick came into camp around [February 18, 1943](#) and the Moules are first mentioned on [March 29, 1943](#).

<sup>16</sup> Natalie's [February 18, 1943](#) diary entry.

<sup>17</sup> Natalie's [May 1, 1943](#) entry she writes, "When you see a husky staggering under a load, either mattress and blankets to the hospital, veg baskets on a pole, large tins steaming from the kitchen, or any kind of bulk belonging to someone, that's Wick; willing, generous with his strength, always looking for an outlet for his energy, entertaining people in camp." In Natalie's [April 5, 1944](#) entry, she wrote, "His great energy and strength will be perfect for guerrilla activity."

<sup>18</sup> Natalie wrote in her [April 6, 1944](#) diary entry, "No one missed [Ritchie and Wick] until supper time and substitute cooks had to be found."

<sup>19</sup> Natalie's [June 25, 1943](#) and [July 8, 1943](#) diary entries.

395  
396 Larry Speak for yourself, Crouter.  
397  
398 Jerry Yea, Larry. You're one hell of a fighting specimen.  
399  
400  
401 **[SCENE TWO D: WOMEN'S KITCHEN]**<sup>21</sup>  
402  
403 Isobel And those two were buttering us up all along!  
404  
405 Dotty Well, Ritchie sure wasn't the brains of the outfit.  
406  
407 Isobel No, of course not! Wick was the one who really laid it on thick—  
408 you know, getting in everyone's good graces, walking around  
409 always cheerful and smiling and showing off his muscles lifting  
410 that piano.  
411  
412 Dotty Or a huge piece of chocolate cake in his mouth. He thought he  
413 was a real dreamboat! And, all along he'd been beefin' himself up  
414 and stocking piling food so Ritchie and him could escape.  
415  
416 Colleen He sure pulled the wool over my eyes.  
417  
418 Dotty And while he was stuffing himself with cake, he learned how to  
419 play bridge and dance like Fred Astaire—and a few more things  
420 about women.  
421  
422 Isobel He left as fancy-free as when he came in here, the heel.  
423  
424  
425 **[SCENE TWO E: MACHINE SHOP]**<sup>22</sup>  
426  
427 Joe What I want to know is why Wick and Ritchie decided to amscray  
428 now?<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> Ibid.

<sup>21</sup> Based on and imagined from Natalie's [April 5, 1944](#) and [April 8, 1944](#) diary entries.

<sup>22</sup> The purpose of this to remind readers of the Camp's underground communication, highlight tension in the camp, and indirectly foreshadow Jim being interrogated later.

<sup>23</sup> Pig latin was used in the 1940s. See [Pig Latin - Wikipedia](#).

429  
430 Phil Probably thought now or never with General Kō's fence going up  
431 around the camp.<sup>24</sup>  
432  
433 Joe Or they heard news *from somewhere* about MacArthur....  
434  
435 Phil I wouldn't know anything about that, Joe.  
436  
437 Joe The hell you don't. You know those Kempai-scumbags<sup>25</sup> are gonna  
438 go lookin' around here for a radio.  
439  
440 Phil They've already done it.<sup>26</sup>  
441  
442 Joe Then they'll do it again.  
443  
444 Phil Joe. I told you, I *don't* know.  
445  
446  
447 **[SCENE TWO F: WOMEN'S KITCHEN]**<sup>27</sup>  
448  
449 Doris You know, even if he was a creep, I'm gonna miss Wick. He was so  
450 good at cheering me up.  
451  
452 Colleen Me too. When I was depressed about being stuck in here and  
453 thinking that the Marines are never gonna come, he'd say, "I  
454 haven't gone yet, but when I do, you'll know it's not far off."  
455  
456 Doris What! Huh? He really said that to you?  
457  
458 Colleen Yea. I thought he was joking around, so I said, "When's that going  
459 to be?" And he said, "soon."  
460  
461 Doris Coll...LEEN!  
462

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<sup>24</sup> Bloom, op. cit.

<sup>25</sup> Slang appeared in 1939. [scumbag | Etymology of scumbag by etymonline.](#)

<sup>26</sup> Natalie's [April 6, 1944](#) diary entry.

<sup>27</sup> Based on and imagined from Natalie's [April 8, 1944](#) diary entry.

463 Colleen What? Oh! Oh, my word! Well, I didn't take him seriously. I  
464 thought he was just trying to make me feel better.

465

466

467 **[SCENE TWO G: OUTSIDE, WALKING]<sup>28</sup>**

468

469 Larry You're gonna love what Hayakawa just told me, Joe.

470

471 Joe What, Larry?

472

473 Larry He said that Wick and Ritchie left too soon.

474

475 Joe Huh?

476

477 Larry He said that if they'd waited, he could have told them the right  
478 time to go.

479

480 Joe Moron. Wick probably decided to go before General Kō puts up  
481 the barbed wire fence around the camp.

482

483 Larry Is Kō really gonna do that?

484

485 Joe He sure is now. I heard Kō's gonna get 90<sup>29</sup> troops up here *tout*  
486 *suite* and get it done before anyone else escapes.

487

488 Larry Bet the Japanese aren't finished asking questions.

489

490 Joe Nope.

491

492 Larry Wonder who's gonna be next....

493

494 Joe Man, I'd give my left nut to be back in the States right now.

495

496

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<sup>28</sup> Based on and imagined from Natalie's [April 6, 1944](#) diary entry.

<sup>29</sup> Tomibe, Rokuro, *Memoir Notes*, MacArthur Memorial Archives, Record Group 105, Box 11, Folder 4, pp. 11. Tomibe wrote, "Immediately after the event, a garrison which was about one platoon consisted of 90 people lead by a military officer, was dispatched and enclosed the circumference with wire entanglements...."

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**[DIARY READING THREE]**

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

Natalie

April 7, 1944. Two of the men who were questioned briefly yesterday were taken to Baguio for further interrogation. One man was brought back at noon, but Gene is still there. It's Mary's turn to sweat now. She sat on the grass this morning, waiting for her husband to be released, and then ironing in the afternoon — anything to keep busy and hold down the jitters. We all wonder if Gene will get the heat put on or just be forgotten, surviving in jail on rice and very little water for who knows how long.

April 8, 1944. Bill Moule was taken to town for questioning. Now two of our men are in jail.

We just heard that Sam Weinstein has died. His blood pressure had been growing higher and higher, and yesterday he was taken to the hospital on a stretcher with phlebitis. We feel so badly for his poor wife who was devoted to him.

The Japanese have wiped the smiles off our faces. There are few wise-cracks now and no Easter holiday feeling or plans for celebration. There are many signs of lost faith, cynicism, despair, and depression amongst us from diet deficiency, tense nerves because of the escapes, and two men taken to town and held there.

Bedie is at loose ends. He has no girlfriend at the moment, has drifted from his two pals, lost Wick and Bill Moule and is worried about them. He feels the atmosphere and has asked Bill's wife if he can help.<sup>30</sup>

**[CUT-IN ONE]**

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<sup>30</sup> This paragraph and Cut-In One are from and based on Natalie's [April 9, 1944](#) diary entry.

534 Bedie Is there anything I can do to help, Mrs. Moule? Maybe I could  
535 babysit your kids or do your chores or something?

536  
537

538 Natalie The Japanese are telling us to be ready for any eventuality of war,  
539 which admits something. They've given us materials to paint large  
540 red crosses on the hospital and Baby House roofs, as well as  
541 "Internment Camp" on top of all main buildings. There's talk of  
542 building air-raid shelters, and Mr. Tomibe is urging us to prepare  
543 emergency packs of food and clothing.<sup>31</sup>

544

545 You would think that with all that is going on, news from the  
546 Outside would disappear, but Jerry told me...<sup>32</sup>

547

548

549 **[SCENE THREE]**<sup>33</sup>

550

551 Jerry Did you hear Romania surrendered to the Soviets and is going to  
552 fight the Germans?<sup>34</sup>

553

554 Natalie No. Where'd you hear that?

555

556 Jerry It supposedly came in last night from a San Francisco radio  
557 station.

558

559 Natalie That's pretty risky. Didn't they shut down the shortwave a while  
560 ago?

561

562

563 **[DIARY READING FOUR]**

564

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

566

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<sup>31</sup> Natalie's [April 5, 1944](#) diary entry. These were from Committee minutes; I assume that these orders came from Tomibe.

<sup>32</sup> My introduction for Scene Three.

<sup>33</sup> Based on and imagined from Natalie's [April 9, 1944](#) diary entry.

<sup>34</sup> See [Battle of Romania - Wikipedia](#). Natalie also mentioned Bulgaria surrendering, but that didn't happen until September 8, 1944. See [Bulgaria during World War II - Wikipedia](#).

567 Natalie

April 9, 1944. The Episcopalians woke us at six with Easter hymns and the chant of litany. At ten a full service was held in the garden. It was a solemn, very serious gathering, quiet and attentive. Mr. Tomibe sat on the bank above us. Near him sat the wives of the two men in jail, drawing what help they could from the service and prayers for their husbands. Mr. Tomibe left them to move closer to hear Carl's sermon. It was one of his best, all embracing, containing elements for a Japanese or American defeat or victory. Mr. Tomibe sat quietly taking it all in.

576

577

At two there was a church service for Sam Weinstein, then the procession wound slowly behind a heavy, flower-covered box to another gravesite on the hilltop. The Catholic service for an Orthodox Jew made the bereaved wife happy.

578

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581

582

Our grim Easter ended with the arrival of the Japanese garrison. Thirty khaki figures lined up on the parade ground this evening for a long harangue by Mr. Tomibe, who is now wearing an officer's uniform instead of civilian clothes to impress upon the soldiers his rank of major in the Imperial Army.<sup>35</sup>

583

584

585

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588

April 10, 1944. At supper time Jim was given five minutes to prepare his blanket roll for a trip to Baguio.

589

590

591

Now that three of our men are in jail, the atmosphere is charged. The strain is almost unbearable. It is surmised that Gene's diary was found and that, under torture, Gene might have said that Jim gave Wick and Ritchie information from the Outside. If so, Jim will have to explain his Camp newsletter's sources and how he adds two and two from the Manila *Tribune* and the *Nippon Times*.

592

593

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597

598

I think I'm going to bury these notes.

599

600

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<sup>35</sup> For clarity, I substituted "now in uniform" with "who is now wearing...." This is only time Natalie calls Tomibe Major Tomibe and mentions him being in uniform. It sounds like it was a typical behavior. Also, Bill Moule (*God's Arms Around Us*), Jim Halsema (both oral histories for Cal State Fullerton and National Archives), and R. Hind (*Spirits Unbroken*) called him Mr. Tomibe or Tomibe. I assume he didn't wear a uniform daily.

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**[SCENE FOUR A]**<sup>36</sup>

[SOUND OF WRITING AND FADE OUT]

Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] April 12, 1944

[IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] My Dearest Wife,

[IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] I have not written because two men have escaped from Camp Holmes. [REMAINDER IN ENGLISH] The military police think they are connected with guerrillas and took three internees to the jail in Baguio for interrogation.

When Miss McKim came to talk to me on behalf of the Camp, I became concerned about their safety.<sup>37</sup>

**[SCENE FOUR B]**<sup>38</sup>

Miss McKim [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] Tomibe-san, may I speak with you?

Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] Yes, Miss McKim. Come in.

[FOOTSTEPS] What is it?

Miss McKim It's been five<sup>39</sup> days since Gene's been taken to jail and people are worried about his life as well as Bill and Jim's.

Mr. Tomibe This is not a deadly situation for them, Honorable Aunt. They won't be beaten up much but may be imprisoned for a while.<sup>40</sup>

Miss McKim We are still worried for their safety, Tomibe-san. A prisoner named Rufus Gray died from being interrogated.<sup>41</sup>

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<sup>36</sup> Tomibe's letter to his wife is fictitious but unless otherwise footnoted is based on or directly quoted from Tomibe, op. cit.

<sup>37</sup> Ibid. Tomibe mentioned that there were more people, but for simplicity I just used Miss McKim.

<sup>38</sup> Unless footnoted, based on and imagined from Tomibe, op. cit.

<sup>39</sup> Gene was jailed [April 7, 1944](#).

<sup>40</sup> Natalie's [April 11, 1944](#) diary entry.

<sup>41</sup> Natalie's [July 29, 1942](#) diary entry.

634 Mr. Tomibe When was this?  
635  
636 Miss McKim At the beginning of the war.  
637  
638 Mr. Tomibe In Baguio?  
639  
640 Miss McKim Yes. He was a teacher at the Chinese Language School. The  
641 Kempai...um Military Police thought he was conspiring with the  
642 Chinese.<sup>42</sup>  
643  
644 Mr. Tomibe What happened to him?  
645  
646 Miss McKim He was given the water cure.<sup>43</sup>  
647  
648 Mr. Tomibe I see.  
649  
650 Miss McKim Forgive me for being so forthright, Tomibe-san, but surely you  
651 must know what goes on in the jail.  
652  
653  
654 **[SCENE FOUR C]**<sup>44</sup>  
655  
656 [SOUNDS OF WRITING AND FADE OUT]  
657  
658 Mr. Tomibe [IN ENGLISH] As Miss McKim spoke, I thought, “this is an  
659 unthinkable situation” and felt very strongly about my duty to  
660 ensure the safety of my prisoners. When I went to the prison later  
661 that day, I told the captain in charge that he must return the  
662 prisoners to Camp Holmes after their interrogation. Then I asked  
663 to see them and was escorted downstairs.  
664  
665 Before the War, the jail had been an ice house for cold food  
666 storage,<sup>45</sup> so the jail cells are underground. The basement was wet  
667 and permeated with a bad smell. I spotted the three internees  
668 who sidled up to me cautiously. They were dead tired and looked

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<sup>42</sup> *Forbidden Diary*, [footnote 38](#).

<sup>43</sup> Hind, R. Renton, *Spirits Unbroken*, [pp 26-7](#).

<sup>44</sup> Unless footnoted, based on and imagined from Tomibe, op. cit., pp.11.

<sup>45</sup> Information about the jail is from *Forbidden Diary*, [footnote 16](#)

669 at me with vacant eyes. As I started to ask, “Are you alright?” the  
670 captain appeared and called for the sergeant responsible for the  
671 interrogations.

672  
673 The sergeant said he was done interrogating the men but wanted  
674 to keep them until their injuries healed. He claimed that they only  
675 had a few sprains. It was obvious that he was lying, so I forcefully  
676 insisted that since I would be held responsible for the  
677 consequences of *his* actions, the prisoners would heal their  
678 wounds under *my* protection.

679  
680

681 **[DIARY READING FIVE]**

682

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

684

685 Natalie April 13, 1944. Bill Moule and Jim came back at noon from jail  
686 looking haggard and white. Poor Mary was told that her husband,  
687 Gene, was not on the truck. Bill was sent immediately to Mr.  
688 Tomibe’s new office at the hospital. Miss McKim was there to  
689 translate.<sup>46</sup>

690

691

692 **[SCENE FIVE]<sup>47</sup>**

693

694 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] Miss McKim, please bring in Mr.  
695 Moule.

696

697 Miss McKim [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] Yes, Tomibe-san. Did you know that  
698 one of the prisoners was not sent back?

699

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<sup>46</sup> There are several drafts of Tomibe’s telling of the story forty years later. This is distilled from Tomibe, op. cit., pp. 11. Tomibe wrote that he drove all three back to camp. However, in her [April 13, 1944](#) and [April 14, 1944](#) diary entries, Natalie wrote that Bill Moule and Jim came back together and that after talking with Bill, Tomibe drove to the jail to retrieve Gene. Moule, op. cit., ch. 36, corroborates Natalie’s version. I defaulted to Natalie’s version.

<sup>47</sup> Based on and imagined from Natalie’s [April 13, 1944](#) and [April 14, 1944](#) diary entries, as well as Tomibe, op. cit., pp. 11. Both wrote essentially the same information, but Natalie presented a slightly different timeline. Tomibe, op. cit., was written nearly forty years after the event so used Natalie’s diary.

700 Mr. Tomibe What! Who did they keep behind?  
701  
702 Miss McKim Gene, Tomibe-san.  
703  
704 Mr. Tomibe But he's been in there the longest.  
705  
706 Miss McKim Yes, Tomibe-san. Do you still want to see Mr. Moule?  
707  
708 Mr. Tomibe Yes. Please bring him in.  
709  
710 Miss McKim Before I get Mr. Moule, Tomibe-san, I must warn you that Mr.  
711 Moule is not himself.  
712  
713 [SOUND OF DOOR OPENING]  
714  
715 Miss McKim You may come in now, Mr. Moule.  
716  
717 [SLOW FOOTSTEPS]  
718  
719 Miss McKim Don't worry. Tomibe-san just wants to see if you are okay. Please  
720 be seated.  
721  
722 Bill Moule Thanks, Miss McKim.  
723  
724 [SOUND OF PULLING UP A CHAIR AND BEING SEATED]  
725  
726 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE] Please ask him about Mr. Gene.  
727  
728 Miss McKim Mr. Moule, Tomibe-san wants to know what happened to Gene.  
729  
730 Bill Moule I don't know. Tell Tomibe-san that the guards just took me and  
731 Jim.  
732  
733 Miss McKim Tomibe-san understands English fairly well, Mr. Moule. I'm just  
734 here to help translate when needed.  
735  
736 Mr. Tomibe Were you hurt any place other than your face, Mr. Moule?  
737

738 Bill Moule My thumbs and shoulder, Tomibe-san. I think my thumbs are  
739 infected.  
740  
741 Mr. Tomibe Would you please show them to me?  
742  
743 Bill Moule Okay.  
744  
745 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE] That is impossible! [IN ENGLISH] What did they do  
746 to you?  
747  
748 Bill Moule Umm, they... ah, put my hands behind me, and ah, pulled me up  
749 by my thumbs until I was balancing on my toes. Then they hit me  
750 from underneath and in the face with sticks.  
751  
752 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH] This is unthinkable!  
753  
754 Bill Moule They strung me up four times, sir.  
755  
756 Mr. Tomibe For how long?  
757  
758 Bill Moule Twenty minutes each time, I'm guessing. One time, they ordered  
759 me up on a chair so they could pull it out from underneath me,  
760 and when I wouldn't they beat me. The pain was so bad that I  
761 tried to knock myself out by hitting my head on the floor. But I  
762 couldn't do it hard enough and the guards beat me for it.  
763  
764 Mr. Tomibe [IN JAPANESE] Miss McKim, please beg him not to speak of this in  
765 camp.  
766  
767 Miss McKim [IN ENGLISH] Mr. Moule, Tomibe-san begs you not to say anything  
768 about this.  
769  
770 Bill Moule Are you kidding? I'm going to tell everyone the whole story so no  
771 one else tries to escape. Please, Tomibe-san. Can I go see my  
772 family?  
773  
774 Miss McKim You really should go to the Camp hospital first, Mr. Moule.  
775

776 Mr. Tomibe You may go see your family, Mr. Moule.  
777  
778 Bill Moule What about Gene?  
779  
780 Mr. Tomibe I will go to Baguio to see what can be done. Thank you, Mr.  
781 Moule.

782  
783

784 **[DIARY READING SIX]**

785

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

787

788 Natalie Over at the men's barracks everyone gathered around Jim and Bill  
789 to find out what happened to them and why Gene is still in jail.<sup>48</sup>

790

791

792 **[SCENE SIX]**<sup>49</sup>

793

794 Jerry Christ, Gene's been in there for six days!<sup>50</sup> Why didn't they let him  
795 go?

796

797 Jim I think it's because he got the worst of the beatings, and they  
798 don't want anyone to see their handiwork.<sup>51</sup>

799

800 Bill Moule Sadists always choose guys like Gene 'cuz they love to break the  
801 quick tempered, cocky ones.

802

803 Jim Gene made the mistake of lying because that's when they torture  
804 you.

805

806 Bill Moule Jim's right. If any of you guys are interrogated, tell it straight from  
807 the beginning. And don't make up lies just to tell them something.

808

809 Ted What if you don't know anything, Bill?

---

<sup>48</sup> My introduction to the next scene.

<sup>49</sup> Based on and imagined from Natalie's [April 13, 1944](#) and [April 14, 1944](#) diary entries, Tomibe, op. cit., pp. 11 and Moule, op. cit., ch. 36.

<sup>50</sup> Gene was jailed [April 7, 1944](#).

<sup>51</sup> My conjecture from Tomibe, op. cit., pp. 11.

810  
811 Bill Moule Then get as close to the truth as possible.  
812  
813 Jim The Filipinos told me that too. I stayed with them the first night,  
814 and the next morning the Japanese strung me up by my thumbs.  
815  
816 Phil Show us your thumbs guys. [SILENCE] Jeez.  
817  
818 Jim Mine got infected right away.  
819  
820 Bill Moule While they were doing it, the pain was so bad I wanted to kill  
821 myself.  
822  
823 Jim I've never known anything so terrible.  
824  
825 Bill Moule When my arm pulled out of my socket, they took me down and  
826 jammed it back in. Happened twice!  
827  
828 Jim You could hear him throughout the jail. It was...[CAN'T FIND THE  
829 WORDS].  
830  
831 Bill Moule I wasn't conscious of screaming until I saw a crowd of Filipinos  
832 gathering outside to see what was going on.  
833  
834 Phil Wait, from where?  
835  
836 Bill Moule The street.  
837  
838 Phil They could see you from the street?  
839  
840 Bill Moule Oh yea, and then a guard gagging me to shut me up. But the  
841 worst part was no water.  
842  
843 Jim They gave us less than a cup of water a day.<sup>52</sup>  
844

---

<sup>52</sup> Natalie's [April 19, 1944](#) diary entry, says 7½ ounces.

845 Bill Moule When they strung me up, I sweated so much that I saw a pool of  
846 water underneath me. I wouldn't be alive if it weren't for the  
847 Filipino prisoners.  
848

849 Jim Yea, thank God for them. After being strung up, my arms were  
850 stuck behind my back, and they helped me move them back to  
851 normal.  
852

853 Bill Moule They fed me after the beatings and rubbed my hands, thumbs and  
854 arms.  
855

856 Jim Me too. They said that it brings back the circulation.  
857

858 Bill Moule A Filipino char woman snuck in water when she could.  
859

860 Herb Did they give you the water cure? You know, fill you up with  
861 water and jump on your stomach.  
862

863 Jim No.  
864

865 Bill Moule No. I lost 12 pounds in there.<sup>53</sup> Doc says I have to watch my heart  
866 for a while.<sup>54</sup>  
867

868 Herb What about Gene? You think they gave him the water cure?  
869

870 Jim God, I hope not. He's gotta be in too rough a shape to take  
871 something like that.  
872

873 Jerry So, what'd the guards ask you?  
874

875 Bill Moule They wanted to know where Wick and Ritchie went.  
876

877 Jim And how they got news from the Outside.  
878

879 Jerry Was that what they wanted from you, Jim, you know, because of  
880 your Camp newsletter?

---

<sup>53</sup> Natalie's [April 14, 1944](#) diary entry,

<sup>54</sup> Natalie's [April 19, 1944](#) diary entry.

881  
882 Jim Yea. Mostly. They tried to trip me up and make me give answers  
883 that didn't add up.  
884  
885 Bill Moule And after it was over, they said they already had the information  
886 they wanted from interrogating one of the meat sellers at the  
887 market and two other guys. They'd tortured one of 'em into  
888 telling them about a message about a guerrilla they were after.  
889 Because it was typed the Japanese were convinced that Jim wrote  
890 it because he uses a typewriter for the Camp newsletter.  
891  
892 Jerry That doesn't make any sense. People use typewriters all the time  
893 in here.  
894  
895 Jim Nothing made sense in there, Jerry.  
896  
897 Bill Moule There's got to be some sort of a pipeline to the guardhouse.<sup>55</sup>  
898  
899 Phil Dollars to doughnuts, we're probably rattin' on ourselves.  
900 Everone's always walkin' around Camp one upping each other  
901 about who knows more.  
902  
903 Jim The Japanese are convinced that we have some kind of  
904 organization that's keeping Filipinos loyal to America. They can't  
905 understand why Filipinos are resisting them.<sup>56</sup>  
906  
907 Phil Gee, I wonder why they'd think that?  
908  
909 Jim It really bugs them.<sup>57</sup>  
910  
911 Bill Moule The bastards really loved telling me at the end that they had all  
912 the information they needed anyway and just wanted to confirm  
913 it. They kept stringing me up by my thumbs and the one time I  
914 mercifully passed out, they put a lit match up my nose.<sup>58</sup> When I  
915 figured out way prop myself up so I wasn't completely hanging

---

<sup>55</sup> Natalie's [April 18, 1944](#) diary entry.

<sup>56</sup> Ibid.

<sup>57</sup> Jim Zobel has mentioned this multiple times during interviews for this audio drama.

<sup>58</sup> Moule, op. cit., ch. 36. Applies to this sentence and the remainder of the scene.

916 from my thumbs, they tied my legs together so I couldn't. God, I'll  
917 never forget the pain.

918  
919 Jim Me neither. I've never known anything so terrible.

920  
921 Bill Moule They strung up this one Filipino by his thumbs all night long. One  
922 poor fella in jail had gone crazy from being tortured. Man, and  
923 that last night.

924  
925 Jim They told us we were going back to Camp at five, got us all ready  
926 to go and then shoved us back into a cell.

927  
928 Bill Moule We had to crawl through a hole to get to it.

929  
930 Jim Just to humiliate us.

931  
932 Bill Moule They let us go the next day, but we spent the night wondering if  
933 we were ever going to get out.

934  
935 Phil Jesus, nice guys.

936  
937 Bill Moule Sons of bitches.

938  
939 Jerry Why'd Tomibe call you into his office right when you got back,  
940 Bill?

941  
942 Bill Moule He wanted to see my injuries. I swear to you, Mr. Tomibe had  
943 tears in eyes when he saw my thumbs. The SOB who tortured me  
944 looked at me with so much contempt. It was like hate radiated  
945 out of him.

946  
947

948 **[DIARY READING SEVEN]**

949  
950 [SOUNDS OF PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE OUT]

951  
952 Natalie April 14, 1944. Tomibe went into town this morning and  
953 brought Gene back alive. Defiant as ever, Gene walked up to the

954 Camp hospital unaided, by himself. When Terry and Kim saw him,  
955 Terry shouted, "Daddy" and ran to him. Gene bent over and Terry  
956 grabbed him around the neck and would not let go. Gene patted  
957 his little rear softly, saying his name over and over.

958  
959 Gene took a tough beating. He went straight to the hospital and  
960 stayed there with dysentery. Bill Moule should have gone  
961 immediately to the hospital as well, but too many talked to him. It  
962 got him all keyed up. He couldn't eat and was nauseated. They  
963 finally gave him drugs to make him sleep. He is lucky to still be  
964 sane. It'll be months before he is normal and he will never forget  
965 the horror of it.

966  
967 Mr. Tomibe posted another notice.

968

969

970 **[SCENE SEVEN A]<sup>59</sup>**

971

972 Larry Whaz it say, Phil?

973

974 Phil Er... [LIKE HE'S SKIMMING IT] Just more of the same. Tomibe says  
975 all of our misery is because of the escapes and if it happens again  
976 there'll be even more, quote unquote, "difficulties."

977

978 Larry That's it?

979

980 Phil Yea. He's like a broken record. Hmmm. Well, here's a new one in  
981 his repertoire: he says the escape "has inconvenienced a great  
982 many people Outside of Camp."<sup>60</sup>

983

984 Larry Is he talking about the Filipinos?

985

986 Phil Yea. Probably.

987

---

<sup>59</sup> Based on and imagined from Natalie's [April 13, 1944](#) diary entry. Its purpose is to make a transition to the next scene to describe what's happening in Baguio.

<sup>60</sup> Natalie's [April 13, 1944](#) diary entry.

988 Larry Why does it always have to be a big goddamn secret? Can't the  
989 Japanese just spit it out and say what they mean?

990

991

992 [SCENE SEVEN B]<sup>61</sup>

993

994 Auntie [IN ENGLISH AND TAGALOG] I heard it was horrible, Nida.

995

996 Nida [IN ENGLISH AND TAGALOG] Did you know anything about it,  
997 Jorge?

998

999 Jorge [IN ENGLISH AND TAGALOG] I was there.

1000

1001 Nida What??!!!!

1002

1003 Auntie Oh, Jorge!!

1004

1005 Jorge I wasn't *there* in the jail, but I saw them torture him. You could  
1006 see everything from a basement window facing the street.<sup>62</sup>

1007

1008 Auntie You didn't stand around watching? Did you?

1009

1010 Jorge No, but you can't help looking at something like.

1011

1012 Auntie You should stay away from that cold store jail, Jorge.

1013

1014 Nida Was he a Filipino?

1015

1016 Jorge No an American. They strung him up by his thumbs. He screamed  
1017 like an animal when his arm came out of his socket.<sup>63</sup>

1018

1019 Auntie I don't understand. Why would they torture an American who is  
1020 already interned?

1021

---

<sup>61</sup> Based on and imagined from multiple diary entries as footnoted.

<sup>62</sup> Moule, op. cit., ch. 39.

<sup>63</sup> Natalie's [April 14, 1944](#) diary entry.

1022 Jorge Two prisoners escaped from Camp Holmes, and he was being  
1023 interrogated about it.  
1024  
1025 Nida I heard that the guys who escaped are guerrillas, and one of them  
1026 has a Filipino girlfriend.<sup>64</sup> What about you, Jorge?  
1027  
1028 Jorge What about me?  
1029  
1030 Nida You know what I'm asking. What do you know?  
1031  
1032 Jorge I thought you didn't want to hear anything about guerrillas.  
1033  
1034 Auntie Well, we do now.  
1035  
1036 Nida Spill the beans, Jorge.<sup>65</sup>  
1037  
1038 Jorge I don't have any beans to spill!  
1039  
1040 Nida Yes, you do.  
1041  
1042 Jorge Okay. The two Americans who escaped are both U.S. military.  
1043 When the Japanese caught them last year living up in the  
1044 mountains, they passed themselves off as civilians.<sup>66</sup>  
1045  
1046 Auntie How do you know that?  
1047  
1048 Jorge A little bird told me, Auntie.  
1049  
1050 Nida Is it true they're interrogating Filipinos at the jail because of it?  
1051  
1052 Jorge Yes.<sup>67</sup>  
1053  
1054 Auntie Mother of God protect them!  
1055

---

<sup>64</sup> Natalie's [April 8, 1944](#) diary entry.

<sup>65</sup> Old expression, see [Spill the Beans: What It Means & Where It Came From | Trusted Since 1922](#).

<sup>66</sup> Natalie's [February 18, 1943](#) diary entry.

<sup>67</sup> Forbidden Diary, [footnote 16](#).

1056 Nida And now Filipinos are being tortured because of them! Has  
1057 anyone died because of the escapes?  
1058  
1059 Jorge Yea, but the Japanese killed them, Nida, not the Americans.<sup>68</sup>  
1060 Those two prisoners who escaped are helping the resistance.  
1061 They're risking their necks.  
1062  
1063 Auntie The resistance! The resistance! Always the resistance!  
1064  
1065 Jorge I'd rather fight than keep living like this. Besides, the Japanese are  
1066 always putting Filipinos in jail anyway.  
1067  
1068 Nida For what?  
1069  
1070 Jorge You name it—sending money to guerrillas.... A friend of mine's in  
1071 there for the fourth time, and Joe just got out for the same thing.  
1072 I'm telling you, man, our guys are tough compadres! They won't  
1073 tell the Japanese *anything*. Blanche saw a guy brought into the  
1074 hospital from the jail who was so starved he had a strap under his  
1075 chin because he couldn't hold his mouth together.<sup>69</sup>  
1076  
1077 Auntie Oh no! Bless his soul.  
1078  
1079 Nida Who is this Blanche?  
1080  
1081 Jorge Rico's girlfriend—she works at the hospital.<sup>70</sup> She said the guy's  
1082 stomach was so curved in you could see his backbone. He was  
1083 barely alive and half out of his mind, not even human. Blanche  
1084 says he was probably given the water cure.  
1085  
1086 Nida That could be you Jorge, or my Ismael.  
1087  
1088 Auntie Ismael is fine, Sobrinita. He's safe in Davao. All he has to do is wait  
1089 out the War. But you Jorge....  
1090

---

<sup>68</sup> Ibid.

<sup>69</sup> Natalie's [April 14, 1944](#) diary entry.

<sup>70</sup> To tie the Filipino characters together and help with the conversation's flow, I had Blanche about whom Natalie wrote be a girlfriend of a friend of Jorge's.

1091 Jorge If those two American prisoners risked escaping, they must have  
1092 heard something about MacArthur coming back to take the  
1093 Philippines.<sup>71</sup>  
1094

1095 Auntie I wish he'd hurry up. We're all running out of food.  
1096

1097 Nida It's got to be worse at Camp Holmes for the Crouters, and I can't  
1098 send them food any more.  
1099

1100 Auntie We all do what we can do, Nida. I have a friend who cleans the  
1101 jail, and she told me that when the guards aren't looking, she'll  
1102 toss a wet rag to a prisoner.<sup>72</sup>  
1103

1104 Nida Why would she do that?  
1105

1106 Jorge Because the Japanese don't give prisoners enough water.<sup>73</sup>  
1107

1108 Auntie She says they suck the wet rags dry. She gets the floor mop really  
1109 wet and cleans next to the cells so the prisoners can drink water  
1110 from it when the guards aren't looking.  
1111

1112 Nida Oh my Lord.  
1113

1114 Jorge I heard the same thing.  
1115

1116 Auntie She says when the guards get tired of beating people, they go to  
1117 the movies for a break and then go back and torture them some  
1118 more. They left one man hanging by his thumbs while they  
1119 watched a movie.<sup>74</sup>  
1120

1121 Nida How do you know this stuff, Auntie?!!  
1122

1123 Auntie Well, Nida, I don't just sit around knitting.

---

<sup>71</sup> In her [April 8, 1944](#) diary entry Natalie wrote, "Several are now remembering that Wick cheered them up when they were depressed and wondering if the Marines would ever come, by saying, "I haven't gone yet. When I go, you can know it is not far off."

<sup>72</sup> Moule, op. cit., ch. 36.

<sup>73</sup> Natalie's [April 19, 1944](#) diary entry.

<sup>74</sup> Moule, op. cit.

1124  
1125 Jorge Maybe Nida, our Auntie is really a guerrilla!  
1126  
1127 Auntie Oh stop it, Jorge!  
1128  
1129 Jorge Is that what you are, Auntie? Maybe you're heading the  
1130 resistance?  
1131  
1132 Auntie You're a deviler is what you are! I should box your ears!  
1133  
1134 Jorge [LAUGHS] Oh man, I bet you are! Now I know how we're going to  
1135 win the War: we'll send in the Filipino grandmas and aunties.  
1136  
1137 Nida They'd probably win the War faster than your guerrillas.  
1138  
1139 Jorge [KEEPS LAUGHING] Look out MacArthur! Hey. I know! We'll call  
1140 them the grand-zillas or maybe the A-R-F! Get it? The Auntie  
1141 Resistance Force.  
1142  
1143 Auntie If you don't stop teasing, you're not going to get an empanada.  
1144  
1145 Jorge Okay. I'll stop! I'll stop.  
1146  
1147 Nida Too late.  
1148  
1149 Jorge Oy, wait. I was just kidding.  
1150  
1151  
1152 **[DIARY READING EIGHT]**  
1153  
1154 **[SOUNDS OF PAGE TURNING, WRITING, AND FADE OUT]**  
1155  
1156 Natalie April 15, 1944. At noon Jerry came to tell me that with an upswing  
1157 of his axe<sup>75</sup> he tore the ligaments in his back again. My heart hits  
1158 bottom for this means me running back and forth between  
1159 barracks and even possibly the hospital for two or three weeks,  
1160 And, so many lonely evenings without Jerry. I could sit down and

---

<sup>75</sup> I substituted axe for sledge because people are more familiar axe and Jerry was most likely splitting wood.

1161 weep, but I shut my teeth together because what is the use of  
1162 weeping?

1163  
1164 It is a tough time, food is low, Jerry is sick, my condition always  
1165 teetery. I've been taking vitamins shots for months,<sup>76</sup> so am in  
1166 balance at the moment. There is enough of our own food for  
1167 three more weeks and that is all.

1168  
1169 At least Jim, Gene, and Bill Moule are back in Camp. When Miss  
1170 McKim came by to ask about Jerry, she told me what Jim said  
1171 about his encounter with Mr. Tomibe a few days after he returned  
1172 from jail.

1173

1174

1175 **[SCENE EIGHT]<sup>77</sup>**

1176

1177 Jim Mind if I join you, Miss McKim.

1178

1179 Miss McKim Of course. Have a seat, Jim

1180

1181 Jim Thanks.

1182

1183 Miss McKim How are you doing?

1184

1185 Jim Good. Ummm, may I ask you about something, Miss McKim?

1186

1187 Miss McKim Of course.

1188

1189 Jim Mr. Tomibe asked me to see him after I got back from jail.

1190

1191 Miss McKim Oh, I didn't know that.

---

<sup>76</sup> This paragraph is from Natalie's [April 16, 1944](#) diary entry. She said 28 shots but started writing about them in her [January 8, 1944](#) diary entry. I substituted months to show that she had been taking them for a while.

<sup>77</sup> Based on and imagined from Jim Halsema oral history. Onorato, Michael P., California State University, Fullerton, Oral History Program, *James J. Halsema, The Internment Camp at Baguio*, pp. 11. Halsema recalled, "So we got out and Tomibe had me over to his quarters and gave me a dish of sweetened small beans. I was very grateful, of course for anything I could get to eat. He said that he was very sorry. And then I talked to Nellie McKim and she said that this gesture was very significant because that kind of dish was usually served as something that goes along with a very deep feeling of apology."

1192  
1193 Jim Yea. It was kinda, I don't know...strange?  
1194  
1195 Miss McKim Why? What happened.  
1196  
1197 Jim He gave me a bowl of these small...kinda, I don't know,  
1198 sweetened beans.  
1199  
1200 Miss McKim Oh Jim, in Japan, that is a very significant gesture.  
1201  
1202 Jim Really? Gee. Well, I think I was suitably grateful. I was still starving  
1203 from jail and real glad to get food.  
1204  
1205 Miss McKim That dish is usually served to express a very deep feeling of  
1206 apology.  
1207  
1208 Jim Well, he already said he was sorry about my thumbs and  
1209 everything.  
1210  
1211 Miss McKim I don't think Tomibe-san knows enough words in English to  
1212 apologize as he would like.  
1213  
1214 Jim Oh but gosh, I don't hold it against him at all. He's my friend.<sup>78</sup> Will  
1215 you tell him that, Miss McKim? I mean, jeepers, who knows what  
1216 would have happened if he hadn't gone to the jail to check on all  
1217 of us. I think he's the reason we got out.  
1218  
1219  
1220 [COLD CLOSE]

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<sup>78</sup> Schmidt, G. Lewis, *Library of Congress Interview with James J. Halsema*, pp. 2. Halsema said, "...Tomibe from Kyoto, a commandant for one year, was a man of great kindness and intelligence. We became friends in camp."