



Crystal City, Texas  
May 8, 1946

Mr. Thomas Tokugawa  
2345 West Olympic Blvd.  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Friend:

Just one month has come and gone since I was transferred here, in Crystal City Alien Internment Camp, Texas. Elsewhere everybody I meet always complains of so busy: "There is no time", but here people complains of "too much time". They don't know how to use it - How Sad!

Everyone in the world wishes to enjoy a long life, yet few seems to know the importance of time. The life is not the time, but the life is in the time: therefore, to waste the time is to ignore the life.

We are here in Crystal City Internment Camp, furnished with every need in daily life so abundantly that I cannot find any complaint of. Only inconvenience we suffer is to write letter in English--by the regulations, our correspondence should be written in English or Spanish--no Japanese is allowed.

For my dear friends, I have to write letter in English: but this is, I think, rather a good chance to learn the English language. As the proverb says: "The chance is a bold headed; you can only catch it in front, the minute it passes - catch, never." I have firmly determined to get hold of this chance to study the English. Here we have an excellent teacher in High School. She is kind and experienced teacher in English Literature. She teaches us the readings and conversations. In her class, there are, besides we young fellows, many pupils of highly educated old gentlemen. I shall earnestly study the English language now and by the time we meet in the future the world may be surprised that a foreigner could ever speak the English so fluently.

Such will be in the future--  
but now!! Words and thoughts are se-  
cretly related.

As I am trying to express my thoughts in the English sentences, what I wished to write you disappear suddenly in my mind: there I find nothing more to write.

Yours sincerely,

Makoto Arai