

March 24, 1957

Dear Sally,

Long time no write but you know how it is. I really meant to write a long time ago to thank you for the Xmas gifts which we all received from you. You really shouldn't have sent so much exp. in your financial state. I surely hope to heaven that Usoria has forked over something in \$ by now. If ever you get in a tough sitch, for God Sakes let us know and we can at least rake together ~~some~~ ^{enough} dough to ~~help you~~ ^{keep} the wolf from your door.

First of all, Kair & Albye did get that swell looking lamp which you guys ~~was~~ so thoughtfully sent. It looks good and since Kair has fixed the house the lamp is even more showy. They also have your dishes ~~pinned~~ pinned up on the walls. I must say, our relatives are the only ones who give people worthwhile gifts.

Albye is a nice wife and fixes good food as she likes to eat. As far as being a mother, she's okay but kinda stupid about little things. But she surely doesn't know how to fix up the house! It's a good thing that Kair has lots of imagination ~~and~~ it must be hard on him to have a stupid wife.

Walter is a very cute and very alert baby. He's quite big for his age and talks and tries to stand a little.

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As Hankie told you Ma + I went to L.D. for 4 days. Mama had a good rest + Mary + Abe + the children were all fine. Alexander is kind of a brat but is he cute, clever, and smart! Little Paul has so much hair that Abe calls him "Ally-ooop". Life must be a little hard on Abe + Mary's pockets as Mary surely talks about pinching pennies here and there.

They have a lot of pottery and pictures from Japan placed all over the house and it's really a lot of fun to look at everything. Also they have some cute dolls (Japones)

On the way back from Santa Monica we visited Sono-Chan in Goleta, she looked fine and Rikusaki-san seemed as cheerful as ever. My God they surely live in a sad looking house, and they have no well for water -

Oh yes, on the way to Santa Monica, we dropped in on the Otai's at Carpinteria. We decided to stay overnight and my God, Ma + Mrs Otai talked until 6 A.M. They have their lemon orchard yet and are also growing pears. What a quiet and beautiful place they live in. The oldest boy got married recently and the other 2 boys are home.

Right now mama is away to St Helena Sanitarium in Napa. She went last Sunday and will probably stay for another few weeks. She's a very tired woman

and has gotten worse ever since Hui's marriage. You can hardly blame her but she's ka-ta-ga-nai. I hope the complete rest will be good for her, but I'm afraid her mental state will have to be reorganized first. She claims that all she is living for now is the marriage of us 3 left over. Gads!

We hope to send mama to Japan this fall. Papa should go too but he feels his responsibility still is with the nursery and he can't leave.

God it surely is quiet around here with mama gone. Also the house is as neat as a pin. It's absolutely incredible! The quiet is a pleasure but papa is so lonely that he walks around real sad like. Honestly they fight when together and he gets lonely when she's gone.

Waka came to see us a few Sundays ago. She looks fine and seems to be a lot happier. I think it's because she is living with a bunch of Cal grad students and office girls of higher mentality. She may go out to see you people this summer if she can get a ride. I drove her around since all the apricot blossoms and peach & crabapple blossoms were in bloom and the weather was also very lovely. Also I wanted to show her that new housing development opposite the Demoto nursery + W. Spensons place. She probably has written Yuri about it.

We have been enjoying the letters from Miki. They are very well written and show that she's on the ball. Honestly papa misplaced one of her letters and he drove us all neurotic until he found it. He wanted to show it to Hankie. Anyo has certainly grown up. I hope he can come out here ~~next~~ ^{this} summer. If he gets much older, the novelty of coming out and seeing things will wear off. The girls and all of you should try to come, if possible. I'm afraid there won't be any wedding to come out to but try to come anyway.

I'm still going around with that funny looking boy whom you met last year. He's a nice kid, but that's the trouble, he's just a kid. He'll be 26 in July.

God I certainly would like to meet a guy with lots of dough and a reasonable amount of intelligence. I haven't much to offer but I sure want a lot.

This nice boy friend of mine wants to marry me but he's been stalling him off. Can't last much longer, I guess.

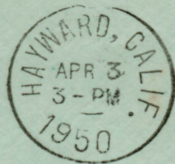
Take it easy and let us know how things are coming. Are Pa's other houses coming up now?

Love,
Kiki

April 3

P.S. Sent some Easter gifts to you people. The gray suits are for Ricky. The Red Suit is for you if you wish it. I bought it from Harriet but I didn't wear it much. I wanted to get it cleaned first but papa wanted to have it sent as

mail



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