

# Footprints: Poetry of the American Relocation Camp Experience

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translators and compilers.

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⑤ Tachinoki no  
shirase o nigiru  
haru no yo ni  
haha no mite toru  
tsuma omoinu  
—Sojin

Notice of evacuation  
one spring night  
the image of my wife  
holding the hands of my mother

W

holding my mothers hands

⑥ Zaibei no  
sanjunen wa  
yume to nari  
— Sasabune

Thirty years  
in America  
just empty dreams

③

③ 13. Umagoya mo  
sumeba miyako no  
kaze ga fuki  
— Hakujuaku

If you live in a  
horse stable  
the wind of cities  
blow through

5a 5

17. Iminshi wa  
owareri akikaze  
mata samishi  
— Sanada Kikyo

Immigrant's story  
has ended, lonely again  
is the Autumn wind

④

⑤ 14. Gaman shite  
gaman shite iru  
hifu no iro  
— Sanada Kikyo

Endure!  
We are enduring  
by the color of our skin

⑥

② 2. Yuki no yama  
(ji) negurushii kana  
shaiyo fu ressha — Hibutsu

Snow in moutain pass  
unable to sleep  
the prison train

②

③ 3. Shashin daite nete  
yume mite samete  
(MISSOURI) Mizora samui  
yo yuki no kaze  
— Sasabune

Falling asleep with  
a photograph,  
awakened by a dream,  
cold snowy wind of  
Missoula

⑦

④ 4. Samete mo  
koe seshi mago no  
kage o oi — Oshio

Awakened again  
by a voice  
chasing the shadows of  
my grandchild

⑧

9

11. Saku no naka ~~au~~  
sunde torikau  
hitogokoro  
— Nikaido Gensui

Birds,  
living in a cage,  
the human spirit.

(9) W

8

10

7. Tsuma wa izuko  
ko wa izuretomo  
shiranami no  
taiheiyo engan wa  
jigoku emaki  
— Hibutsu

Where is my wife?  
where is my child?  
White waves on the  
pacific coast,  
a picture of hell.

(10)

9

11

12. Sekitan no  
yama mo kodomo mo  
asobi basho  
— Yamanaka Keiho

Even a mountain  
of coal becomes  
a ~~children's~~ playground.  
*children's*

56

12

9. Hiroi sora da  
Nipponjin no  
ie o ~~homa~~ ga nai  
— Sunada Toshu

With such a wide sky  
the Japanese  
have no home

(11) H

10

13

10. Chu fuchu  
hito moshi kikaba  
nanto kotaen  
— Sunada Toshu

Loyalty, disloyalty,  
if asked,  
what should I answer?

(12)

11

14

16. Kangetsu o  
funde yakei no  
mawari kinu — Muin

While making rounds  
the night sentry  
steps on the Winter moon

(13) S

12

15

8. Kondo wakare rya  
aware mo sumai  
nakoka tomodomo  
namida no tane ga  
tsukite kawaite  
nakenumade  
— Sasabune

If we part this time  
we might never meet again  
so shall we cry together?  
until the seeds of our tears  
dry away  
and we can cry no more

(14)

13

16

1. Kutsuato no  
tenten to shite  
yuki no michi — Muin

Footprints, ,  
dots being made,  
path of snow,

14

A  
1. Notice of evacuation  
one spring night  
the image of my wife  
holding my mother's hands.

1. Tachinoki no  
shirase o nigiru  
haru no yo ni  
haha no mite toru  
tsuma omoinu

B  
2. Snow in mountain pass  
unable to sleep  
the prison train

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ji o negurushii kana  
shuyo ressha

A  
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in America  
just empty dreams

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sanjunen wa  
yume to nari

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has ended, lonely again  
is the Autumn wind

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owareri akikaze  
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5. Endure!  
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by a voice  
chasing the shadows of  
my grandchild

7. Samete mo  
koe seshi mago no  
kage o oi

A 8. Birds,  
living in a cage  
The human spirit.

8. Saku no naka  
sunde torikau  
hitogokoro

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where is my child  
white waves on the  
pacific coast  
a picture of hell

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jigoku emaki

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the Japanese  
have no home

10. Hiroi sora da  
Nipponjin no  
ie o ga nai

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if asked,  
what should I answer?

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hito roshi kikaba  
nanto kotaen

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the night sentry  
steps on the Winter moon

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mawari kinu

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we might never meet again  
so shall we cry together?  
until the seeds of our tears  
dry away  
and we can cry no more

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aware mo sumai  
nakoka tomodomo  
namida no tane ga  
tsukite kawaite  
nakenumade

B 14. Footprints,  
dots being made  
path of snow.

14. Kutsuato no  
tenten to shite  
yuki no michi

~~Waka~~  
Janka - short poems

- ① <sup>man</sup> ~~man~~ - Tachindai no  
Notice of Evacuation
- ② ♯ - yuki no yama  
Snow in Noto pass
- ③ man - Zaisei no  
30 yrs
- ④ ♯ - Iminsha wa  
Immigrants' Story
- ⑤ A. ♯  
Umagoya no  
If you lie in a horse stable
- B. man  
Sekitan no  
Even a mtn ...
- ⑥ ♯  
Naman Shite  
Endure
- ⑦ ♯  
Aishin deite rete  
Falling asleep w/ a photograph
- ⑧ man  
Samete no  
Awakened again

(9)

#

Saku no naka  
Birds, living in a cage

(10)

man

Isuna wa izuko  
Where is my wife

(11)

#

Hiroi sora da  
W/ such a wide sky

(12)

man

~~Shiranu~~ Chū jūchū  
Loyalty / disloyalty

(13)

man

Kungetsu o  
while making sounds

(14)

#

Kutsurata no  
Footprints