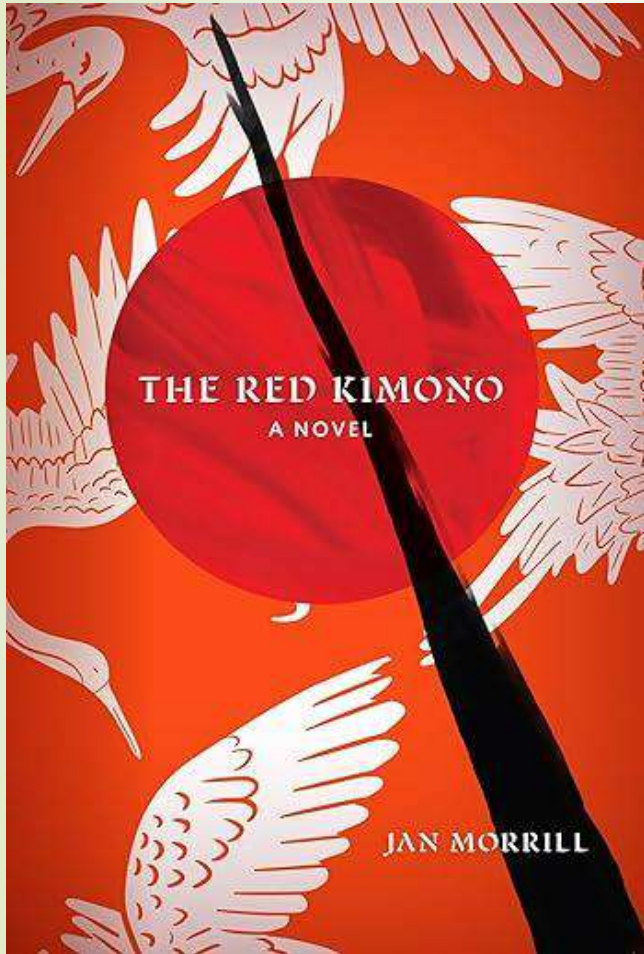




THE RED KIMONO

By Jan Morrill

The Seeds of the Story

My Mother, Miyoko Sasaki



My mother was seven years old
when she became an internee.

(Sachi)

Obaasan and Mom



(Mama & Sachi)

Mom Playing O-koto





My grandfather, Fukumatsu Sasaki, arrived in California in 1917. My grandmother, Yoi Muto Sasaki, arrived in 1915.

(Papa and Mama)



My Uncle Lloyd
(**Nobu**)



My mother's oldest brother, Uncle Yoshio, served with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and was awarded the Bronze Star while his family was interned.

(Taro)



CHARGED—James Howard, left, and Napoleon Jones, each 16, have been accused of murder in the death of 65 year old Frank Sasaki.
Bee Photo

Boys, 16, Face Murder Count In Robbery

Sixteen year old Napoleon Jones of 415 O Street and James Howard, 1331 1/2 Third Street, Negroes, are charged with murder in connection with the fatal beating of 65 year old Frank Sasaki of 518 O Street during a strong-arm robbery last evening.

Sasaki died in the Sacramento Hospital today without regaining consciousness after he fell in front of the Buddhist Church, 410 O Street.

Witnesses

The youths were arrested a short while after the attack after witnesses identified them.

According to the police, the pair admitted planning a strongarm robbery because they were short of funds.

Fought Back

Sasaki, they said, was picked at random as he walked along the sidewalk. When they grabbed Sasaki, he fought back. During the scuffle he fell to the street.

The youths fled with \$8.

Sasaki was taken to the hospital and the boys were held in isolated cells in the city jail.

The police said the youths admitted four other strong arm robberies.

Deny Other Beating

However, they denied fatally beating Isidor Defseninis, 66, who died without regaining consciousness a few hours after he was found near his home at 321 Capitol Avenue and N Street Alley December 22nd.

The Defseninis beating occurred within a few blocks of the scene of last night's robbery.

The police records show Jones and Howard were involved in a purse snatching a year ago and have been on police probation.



(Terrence)

Sacramento Bee
article about my
grandfather's
robbery and
murder.



When we were growing up, our good friends, sisters Nina and Maria, lived across the street. **Jubie** is a compilation of these friends.

The History



Due to provisions in the Naturalization Act of 1790, Issei, or the first generation of Japanese to immigrate to the United States, were not allowed become American citizens until 1952.

**WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY
WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION**

Presidio of San Francisco, California

May 3, 1942

**INSTRUCTIONS
TO ALL PERSONS OF
JAPANESE
ANCESTRY**

Living in the Following Area:

All of that portion of the County of Alameda, State of California, within the boundary beginning at the point where the southerly limits of the City of Oakland meet San Francisco Bay; thence easterly and following the southerly limits of said city to U. S. Highway No. 58; thence southerly and easterly on said Highway No. 58 to its intersection with California State Highway No. 21; thence southerly on said Highway No. 21 to its intersection, at or near Warm Springs, with California State Highway No. 17; thence southerly on said Highway No. 17 to the Alameda-Santa Clara County line; thence westerly and following said county line to San Francisco Bay; thence southerly, and following the shoreline of San Francisco Bay to the point of beginning.

Pursuant to the provisions of Civilian Exclusion Order No. 34, this Headquarters, dated May 3, 1942, all persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and non-alien, will be evacuated from the above area by 12 o'clock noon, P. W. T., Saturday, May 9, 1942.

No Japanese person living in the above area will be permitted to change residence after 12 o'clock noon, P. W. T., Sunday, May 3, 1942, without obtaining special permission from the representative of the Commanding General, Northern California Sector, at the Civil Control Station located at:

920 - "C" Street,
Hayward, California.

Such permits will only be granted for the purpose of uniting members of a family, or in cases of grave emergency. The Civil Control Station is equipped to assist the Japanese population affected by this evacuation in the following ways:

1. Give advice and instructions on the evacuation.
2. Provide services with respect to the management, leasing, sale, storage or other disposition of most kinds of property, such as real estate, business and professional equipment, household goods, boats, automobiles and livestock.
3. Provide temporary residence elsewhere for all Japanese in family groups.
4. Transport persons and a limited amount of clothing and equipment to their new residence.

The Following Instructions Must Be Observed:

1. A responsible member of each family, preferably the head of the family, or the person in whose name most of the property is held, and each individual living alone, will report to the Civil Control Station to receive further instructions. This must be done between 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M. on Monday, May 4, 1942, or between 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M. on Tuesday, May 5, 1942.

2. Evacuees must carry with them on departure for the Assembly Center, the following property:
 - (a) Bedding and linens (no mattress) for each member of the family;
 - (b) Toilet articles for each member of the family;
 - (c) Extra clothing for each member of the family;
 - (d) Sufficient knives, forks, spoons, plates, bowls and cups for each member of the family;
 - (e) Essential personal effects for each member of the family.

All items carried will be securely packaged, tied and plainly marked with the name of the owner and numbered in accordance with instructions obtained at the Civil Control Station. The size and number of packages is limited to that which can be carried by the individual or family group.

3. No pets of any kind will be permitted.
4. No personal items and no household goods will be shipped to the Assembly Center.
5. The United States Government through its agencies will provide for the storage, at the sole risk of the owner, of the more substantial household items, such as iceboxes, washing machines, pianos and other heavy furniture. Cooking utensils and other small items will be accepted for storage if crated, packed and plainly marked with the name and address of the owner. Only one name and address will be used by a given family.
6. Each family, and individual living alone, will be furnished transportation to the Assembly Center or will be authorized to travel by private automobile in a supervised group. All instructions pertaining to the movement will be obtained at the Civil Control Station.

Go to the Civil Control Station between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M., Monday, May 4, 1942, or between the hours of 8:00 A. M. and 5:00 P. M., Tuesday, May 5, 1942, to receive further instructions.

J. L. DeWITT
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding

SEE CIVILIAN EXCLUSION ORDER NO. 34.

Executive Order 9066

- Signed by President Roosevelt on February 19, 1942.
- Cleared the way for Japanese Americans to be sent to internment camps.

BOARD OF EDUCATION
OFFICERS
D. O. HOWARD, PRESIDENT
A. B. LEDBETTER, CLERK

TULARE UNION HIGH SCHOOL

HILTON D. BELL, PRINCIPAL
TULARE, CALIFORNIA

BOARD MEMBERS
FRED CARROLL
R. H. JONES
J. ELMER ROSS

February 13, 1942

Dear Suyo:

All the embarrassment and unhappiness that has come to some of our Japanese pupils as the result of present world conditions has made me very sad. I have prized very much the warm friendly feeling that has existed between me and the Japanese girls who have been in our school.

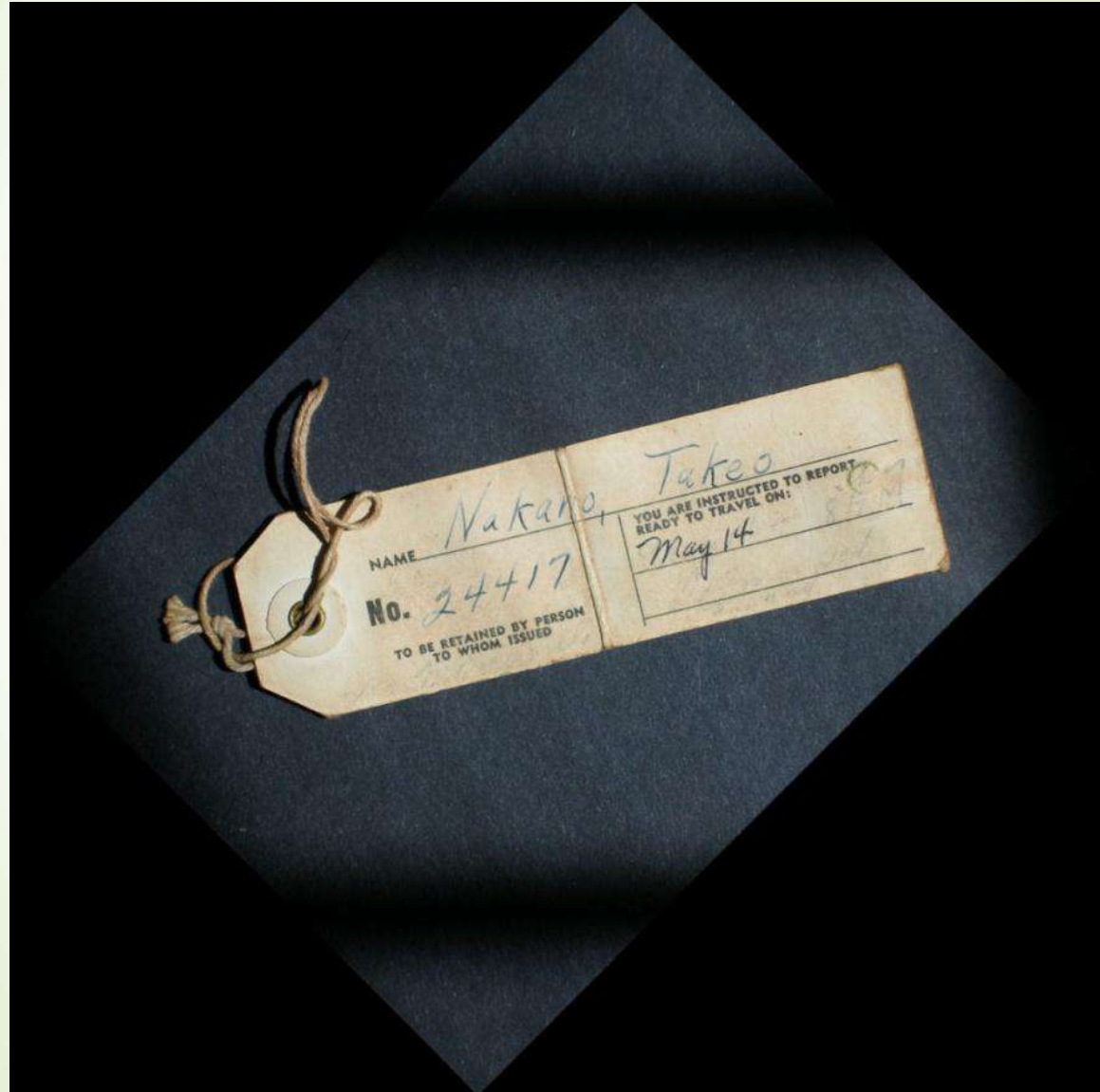
Please believe that I am not unmindful of the very difficult situation in which you find yourselves. This is a time when we all need to call upon all the reserve forces of strength and character that we possess. I am sure that you will try to be brave and courageous and fair minded. Please God all this will be over some day and we shall emerge into a world where all peoples and races will be friends.

I am enclosing a letter which I hope may help you. With all my heart I am hoping and praying that things may turn out well for you.

Sincerely yours,

Tulare Union High School
Tulare, California

Many were given only six days to prepare to leave their homes. Upon reporting to the Civil Control Stations, they were given tags to wear as identification.



On the west coast of the United States, approximately 120,000 people of Japanese descent were relocated.

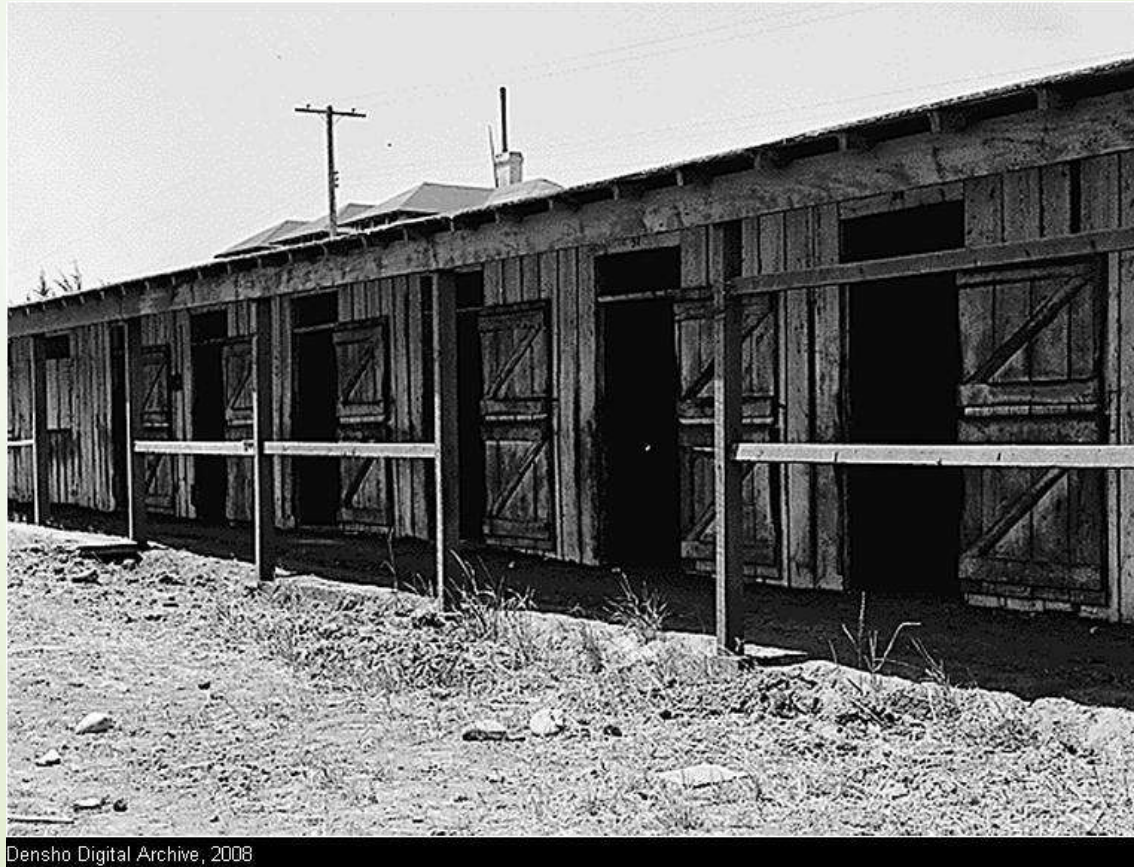
More than 60% were American citizens.



Densho Digital Archive, 2008

They were first taken to temporary Assembly Centers before being sent to more permanent relocation camps in Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming.

Some of these assembly centers were formerly horse tracks, such as Tanforan and Santa Anita in California.



Loyalty Questionnaire

17

Internees over seventeen years of age were required to take a loyalty oath.

Those who answered “no” to Questions 27 & 28 were called disloyal or “No-No Boys,” and were sent to a maximum security detention center at Tule Lake.

FORM APPROVED
BUDGET BUREAU No. 33-8045-43

(LOCAL BOARD DATE STAMP WITH CODE)

STATEMENT OF UNITED STATES CITIZEN OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

1. _____
(Surname) (English given name) (Japanese given name)

(a) Alias _____

2. Local selective service board _____ (Number)

(City) (County) (State)

3. Date of birth _____ Place of birth _____

4. Present address _____ (Street) (City) (State)

5. Last two addresses at which you lived 3 months or more (exclude residence at relocation center and at assembly center):

From _____ To _____

From _____ To _____

6. Sex _____ Height _____ Weight _____

7. Are you a registered voter? _____ Year first registered _____
Where? _____ Party _____

8. Marital status _____ Citizenship of wife _____ Race of wife _____

9. _____ (Father's Name) (Town or Ken) (Birthplace) (State or Country) (Occupation)

10. _____ (Mother's Name) (Town or Ken) (Birthplace) (State or Country) (Occupation)

In items 11 and 12, you need not list relatives other than your parents, your children, your brothers and sisters.
For each person give name; relationship to you (such as father); citizenship; complete address; occupation.

11. Relatives in the United States (if in military service, indicate whether a selectee or volunteer):

(a) _____ (Name) (Relationship to you) (Citizenship)

(Complete address) (Occupation) (Volunteer or selectee)

(b) _____ (Name) (Relationship to you) (Citizenship)

(Complete address) (Occupation) (Volunteer or selectee)

(c) _____ (Name) (Relationship to you) (Citizenship)

(Complete address) (Occupation) (Volunteer or selectee)

DSS Form 301A
(1-28-49)

(If additional space is necessary, attach sheets)

16-42565-1

Questions 27 and 28

27. Are you willing to serve in the armed forces of the United States on combat duty, wherever ordered?
28. Will you swear unqualified allegiance to the United States of America and faithfully defend the United States from any or all attack by foreign or domestic forces, and forswear any form of allegiance or obedience to the Japanese emperor, or any other foreign government, power, or organization?

.....
(Date)

.....
(Signature)

By the war's end and in the years following, no Japanese American was ever convicted of sabotage or espionage.

The Arkansas Internment Camps

Rohwer and Jerome housed approximately 16,000 internees from September 1942 to November 1945.



Rohwer Barracks

Each tarpapered barrack was 20'x120' and held four to six apartments. A block was comprised of 10-14 barracks and included a mess hall and communal latrine.

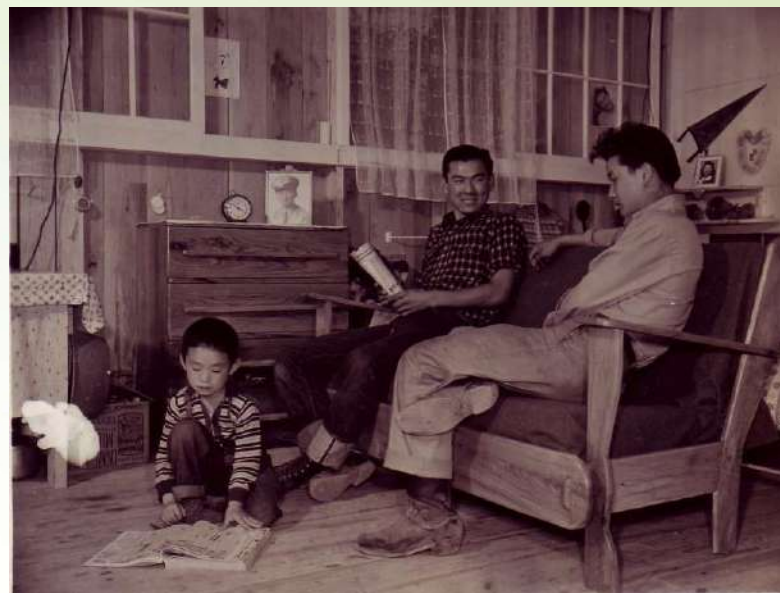




Densho Digital Archive, 2008



Densho Digital Archive, 2008





Courtesy Rosalie Gould

Leaving Rohwer

Due to difficulty relocating internees back to their homes in California, Rohwer was the last camp to close.

(September 18, 1942-November 30, 1945)



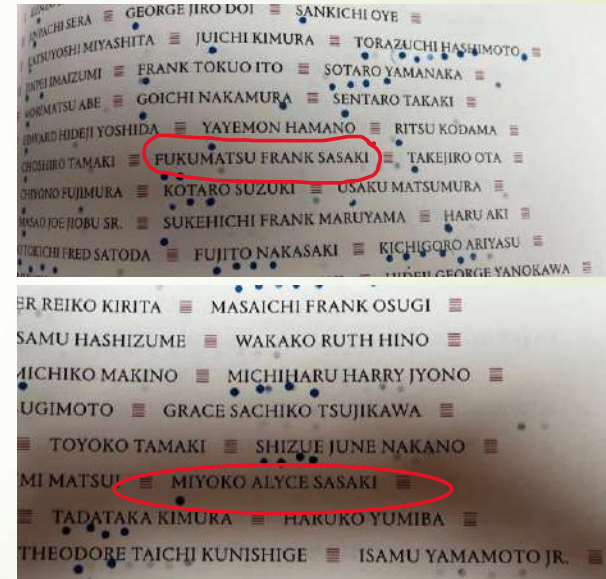
Rohwer Today

27



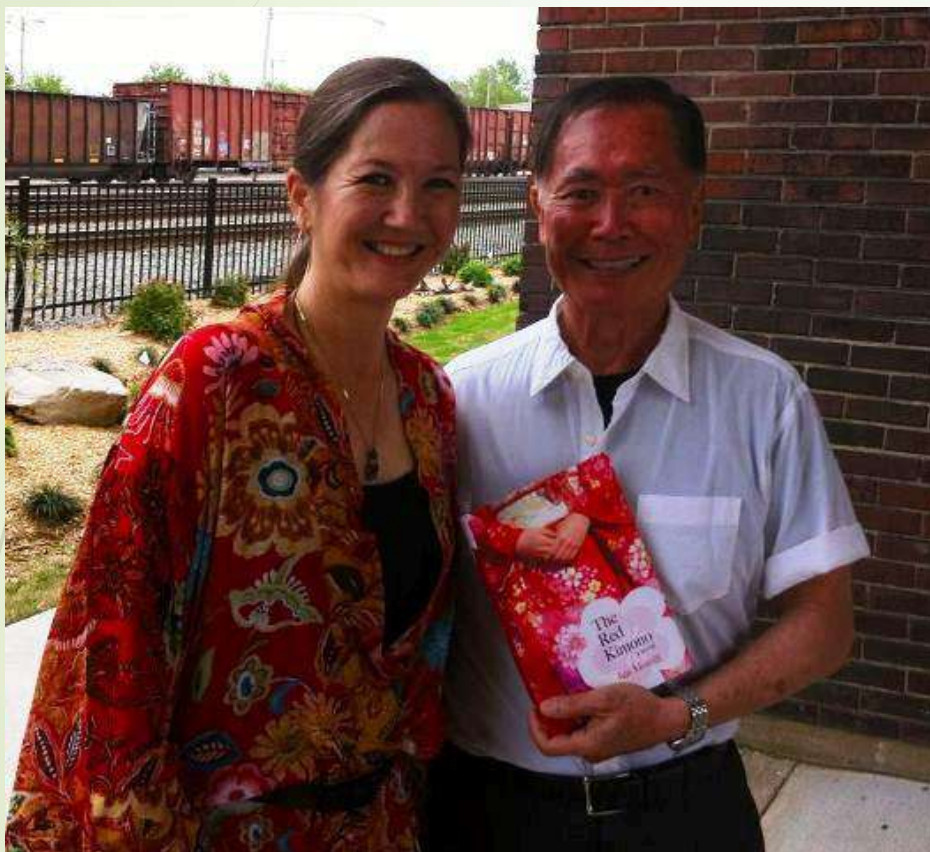
Tree of Secrets

Pilgrimage 2025



What Famous Person Was a Rohwer Internee?





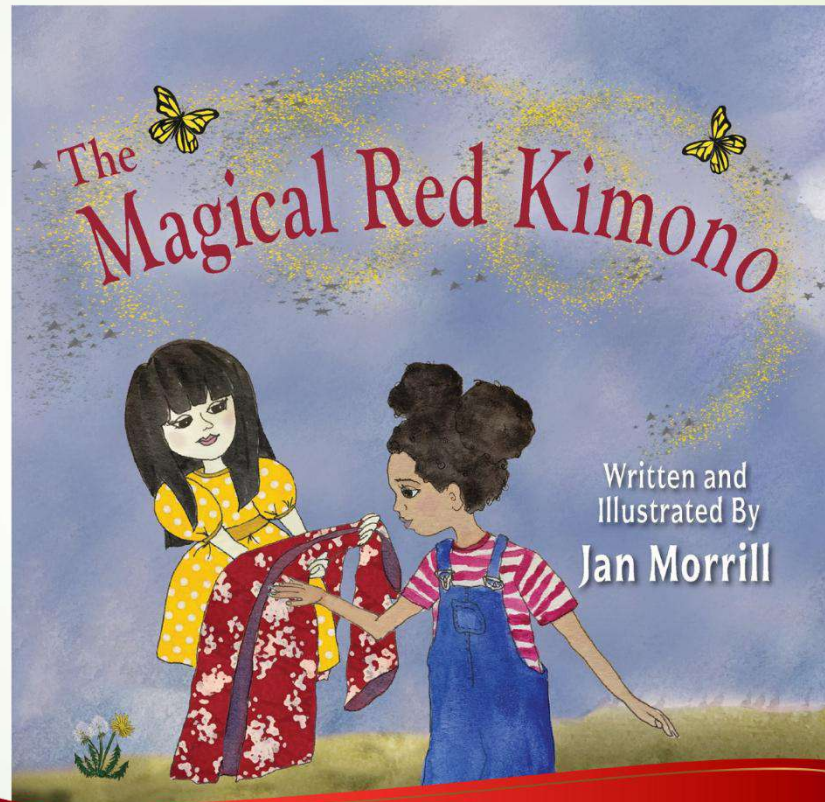
George Takei



*“Peace cannot be achieved
by force, it can only be
achieved by understanding.”*

~ Albert Einstein

For Kids:



Rated "Get It" by Kirkus!



Update!

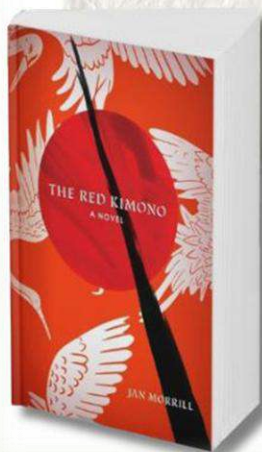


The University of Arkansas Press

SHADOW OF THE WHITE CHRYSANTHEMUM

Sequel to The Red Kimono

COMING SPRING 2027!



NEXT UP:

- Cover Reveal

A few ways readers can help authors:

- *Leave a review on Amazon or Goodreads*
- *Request books at your library*
- *Tell a friend or book club*
- *Share on social media*
- *Follow author on social media*
- *Subscribe to newsletter to stay updated*

Thank You

Jan Morrill

jan@janmorrill.com