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Yukiko Uchida

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Yukiko Uchida English 11-B Period I GUY W. COOK NISEI COLLECTION University of The Par My Autobiography I Yukiko Uchida, was born on August 17, 1926. In the town of Los Angeles, California. I am informed by my parents, that when I was yet a baby, we moved to a twon named Gardena, just a little ways off from Los Angeles. Gardena is a regular country town with its business district. The population of the people is about 4,000 or more. For ten years or more my father ran a Japanese theater, just about half a mile from the town, in a Japanese community. While having the theater father started a Chop Suey in Gardena. Here my father hired Chinese cooks. The cooks had taught me how to eat Chinese food and many their customs. Although my parents are buddhist, they sent me to a Christian Sunday school, but as I grew older I took parts in the Y. W. B. A. activities. When I was yet a girl, one of my deepest regret, was not to have sisters and brothers as the others did. For that reason I had lots of playmates and pets. One of my best pet was a police dog. She was one of the smartest thing I ever saw. I could almost say, she was my sister. In Gardena I graduated from gammar and Junior High. In my Senior year I decided to take up commercial course. At the beginning of the semester, I thought it would be impossible for me to type or to keep books but to my surprise I learned to do both. Every since I was eleven years old. I took up Japanese dancing. Dancing gave me opportunity to go places and see things. For instance we danced at the Greek theater, Graumans Chinese, Shrine Aud, San Francisco Fair, picnics. I had two hobbies, one was collecting movie autography, and the other was to collect stamps. I loved to read, listen to radio, and the movies. I use to go to the movies about twice a week. Since I am the only girl with one married brother, my mother has tried everything for me, so that I won't be lonesome. One thing mother had always told me, was to be considerate to other people, and always liked to know what kind of people I went around with.

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Mostly every summer I would go and visit my girl friend or to my brother-in-law at Hollywood. It was fun going to Hollywood, because they lived in the midst of everything, like the N.B.C. C.B.C. and to the studio lots. That's when I used to get the movie autographs.

The summer before we came in camp. Mother, and I took a trip to San Francisco and we were to take another one in December, but the war stopped us.

Evacuation was one the most exciting and important thing that ever occurred to me. When the news first came out, saying we were all going to be put in a camp I was terrified. When the day came for us to leave I could not keep my tears back, just the thought of leaving all our belonging, our home, and my American girl friend, make me cry.

Although I miss my home very much, I go not regret that we are in camps. I met so many people, and had so much funs. I'm hoping someday we will all be able to go back to California, and lead a normal life again.