

additional random testing of top placeholders. In addition to having to contend with possible doping issues, the organizers for the Honolulu Marathon felt compelled to emphasize how much it benefited the local economy, purportedly to the tune of over \$100 million annually, while not receiving any government support. One recent hopeful sign was a seeming “second great American Running Boom” with more marathon participants.

The People’s Race Inc. winds down rather abruptly, but overall it makes a significant contribution to the history of sport, and particularly to that of long-distance running as both a competitive and non-elite activity.

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Picture Bride Stories. By Barbara F. Kawakami. Honolulu: University of Hawai‘i Press, 2016. xxi + 298 pp. Glossary. Illustrated. Index. \$39.99 cloth

Barbara F. Kawakami’s new book recounts 16 life stories of Japanese immigrant women who arrived in Hawai‘i between 1909 and 1923 as young picture brides. Similar to her highly acclaimed previous work, *Japanese Immigrant Clothing in Hawaii 1885–1941* (1993), Kawakami has adopted the oral history method; this book is the fruit of her extensive interviews with Issei women and their family members conducted during the 1970s and the following decades. These women came from Hiroshima, Yamaguchi, Kumamoto, Fukuoka, Fukushima, and Okinawa, prefectures known for sending large numbers of immigrants to Hawai‘i and the continental United States.

Some episodes of their accounts mesh neatly with and reinforce the established discourse of Japanese picture brides in Hawai‘i: lives of continuous struggles and perseverance. Indeed, these Issei women literally worked day and night. In addition to laboring in the fields the same hours as men, they took care of housework and burned the midnight oil doing laundry and needlework to earn extra money. Their husbands exercised patriarchal authority and expected them to be devoted, obedient wives. These women’s lives also revolved around continual pregnancies, childbirth, and child rearing. Some brides unexpectedly became widows, and then became breadwinners for their families. To be dutiful to their in-laws, many picture brides continued to send remittances to Japan for years. Though such experiences may not have

been unusual for Issei women in those days, their narratives describing such experiences are incomparably vivid and powerful.

Some stories go beyond the picture brides' everyday lives to shed new light on the larger canvas of Hawai'i Nikkei history. For example, the book reveals local Japanese involvement in independent farming and small businesses, including pineapple cultivation, hog raising, poultry raising, and laundry and owner-driven taxi businesses, occupations that have been less documented than their experiences on the sugar plantations. Hawai'i's Nikkei sought a niche on the edges of the Islands' larger economy, which was controlled by the Big Five conglomerates. Such women achieved a certain degree of economic autonomy in and outside their ethnic community even before World War II.

One of the most fascinating examples of small private businesses led by Issei in the pre-war years is the case of Shizu Kaigo, a bridal consultant. Shizu's clients were young Nisei women who were eager to have traditional Japanese costume weddings. During a temporary return to Hiroshima during the early 1930s, Shizu was professionally trained to dress brides in decorative *kimono* and set their hair in authentic Japanese style. Unlike many other Issei men, her husband Tomeji was fully supportive of her new career. She states, "he gave me the freedom to pursue whatever interest or goal I had, as long as I kept up with my domestic duties" (p. 183). Shizu's business thrived in Hawai'i because her expertise fulfilled the demands not only of Nisei brides but also of their immigrant parents, who had been unable to afford a fancy wedding for themselves, but then became financially comfortable enough to host one for their children. As Shizu's story suggests, this book illuminates how pre-war local Japanese, regardless of whether they were of the immigrant generation or American-born, benefitted from cultural capital brought from Japan as they settled down in Hawai'i and began to enjoy social and economic advancement.

Interestingly, this book presents a picture of rather amicable and cooperative interracial/interethnic relations in prewar Hawai'i that differs from many previous studies of local ethnic history. For instance, we learn that Kikuyo Fujimoto's Issei husband served as a steward to Queen Lili'uokalani at Washington Place, and that, after the queen's death, the Fujimoto family lived in her summer cottage in Waikiki for nearly 30 years, thanks to the courtesy of Mr. Curtis Iaukea, who also served Hawai'i's royal family. Taga Toki's husband was a Hawai'i-born Nisei who had many Native Hawaiian friends throughout his life. Similarly, some picture brides from Okinawa fondly recollect their friendship and bonding with people from *Naichi*, or mainland Japan. Ushi Tamashiro often got help from her *Naichi* neighbors when running a hog-

raising business after her husband's death. While some episodes reveal tensions between Japanese and Hawaiians and between Okinawans and mainland Japanese, the women's stories show more racial/ethnic cooperation than conflict.

The book does not include endnotes, though its introduction provides a general historical and cultural overview of Japanese immigration to Hawai'i. Some additional information about economic circumstances in Japan, such as the "*Matsukata* Deflation," would help the reader to understand why so many Japanese men from farming communities set out for Hawai'i in the late nineteenth century. The Deflation caused a sharp decline in the prices of agricultural products and subsequently led to economic depression. The price of silk also plummeted, causing many farmers engaged in sericulture to emigrate in order to make ends meet. The book features picture brides from Fukushima, Fukuoka, and Kumamoto who helped their parents raise silkworms, and the Deflation was one of the major factors that led their future husbands to leave their home villages. Such supplementary background information would be useful for readers who are not well-versed in the history of Japanese immigration to Hawai'i.

Picture Bride Stories is thoroughly researched, beautifully written, highly readable, and can be recommended to both academic scholars and general readers. This is a must-read for anyone interested in a history of Japanese Americans in Hawai'i, especially immigrant women's experiences.

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The term picture bride refers to the practice in the early 20th century of immigrant workers (chiefly Japanese, Okinawan, and Korean) in Hawaii and the West Coast of the United States and Canada selecting brides from their native countries via a matchmaker, who paired bride and groom using only photographs and family recommendations of the possible candidates. This is an abbreviated form of the traditional matchmaking process and is similar in a number of ways to the concept of the mail-order bride. Reviews of Children's Board Books, Picture Books, Activity Books, and Graphic Novels. Main menu. Skip to content. In *What Are You Doing, Benny?* author Cary Fagan and artist Kady MacDonald Denton join together to tell the story of two brothers, their power dynamics, why NO is a limiting word, and why YES is such a better word to use instead. Categories: 2019, Canada, Picture Books about Behavior, Picture Books about Siblings Tags: Canada, Picture Book, Picture Books, Recommended Picture Books, siblings. Most picture brides did not speak or read English. Many were shocked when their new husbands were much older and poorer than they anticipated. Most picture brides worked for pay because their husbands did not make enough money to support two people, let alone any future children. Many of these women were also lured into unsafe environments, including abusive marriages or forced prostitution. The government officials (who are all white men) are reviewing the passports of newly arrived picture brides. After passing such a review, brides met their husbands for the first time and participated in a group wedding on the dock or at a nearby location. Holding an immediate wedding guaranteed the marriages and the women's arrival were legal. *Picture Bride Stories* book. Read 3 reviews from the world's largest community for readers. During the 1885 to 1924 immigration period of plantation labor... We'd love your help. Let us know what's wrong with this preview of *Picture Bride Stories* by Barbara F. Kawakami. Problem: It's the wrong book It's the wrong edition Other.