

Box 5:36

Robinson, Charles, 1931

1975-78

Illustrator

86/972

CHARLES ROBINSON  
MILLBROOK ROAD  
NEW VERNON, N. J. 07976

April 18 75

Dear Ms. Uchida,

Thank you so much for your thoughtful letter - it means a lot to me to hear kind words from you. I was sorry when I had finished my part on the book for it meant the end of a very pleasant working relationship with Eni and her family and friends.

I certainly join you in hoping for a long and prosperous voyage for your fine book - I hadn't heard of the favorable Publishers Weekly review - that is good news indeed!

Most sincerely,

Charles Robinson

1685 Solano Ave.  
Berkeley, Ca. 94707  
April 14, 1975

Mr. Charles Robinson  
c/o Charles Scribner's  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Robinson:

Just a short note to tell you how pleased I am with the lovely illustrations you did for THE BIRTHDAY VISITOR.

I appreciated your careful attention to accuracy and detail, and was especially happy with the fine Japanese faces and the way in which you caught the warmth and gentleness I wanted to convey in the text. I was enchanted with the jacket, which I think is a real gem!

Let's hope the book will have a long and successful life. Did you see the nice review we got in Publishers Weekly?

All the best,

Yoshiko Uchida

April 4, 1978

Mr. Charles Robinson  
Millbrook Road  
New Vernon, N. J. 07976

Dear Charles:

I just learned that you are reading JOURNEY HOME now and wanted to tell you how delighted I am at the prospect of working again with you.

Your illustrations for THE BIRTHDAY VISITOR and THE ROOSTER WHO UNDERSTOOD JAPANESE were done with such warmth and understanding. I do hope you'll want to do the illustrations for JOURNEY HOME as well.

I'm most anxious to have the book published this fall if possible, and was so encouraged to hear you were hopeful you could complete the art work in time. I would be so happy if you could!

If I can be helpful in any way, do let me know.

In the meantime, I hope this finds you well. Did you survive all those winter storms without difficulty? Everything is in bloom out here and it feels like spring!

All the best,

CHARLES ROBINSON  
MILLBROOK ROAD  
NEW VERNON, N. J. 07976

April 15 '78

Dear Yoshiko,

I am so pleased to have the opportunity of doing the illustrations for your most recent book - I think it is a fine, strong book which will be a real contribution to the literature -

You ask if you could be helpful in any way - I certainly would appreciate having any pictorial assists you might have on hand, snapshots, etc. showing the Japanese character, style of

clothes worn, appearance of  
the locales, etc. Anything!  
However, if you don't have  
any material, I will fabricate  
from what I have -

Thank goodness the snow  
has at last disappeared for  
good - Hope all is well  
with you -

Most sincerely,

Charlie

April 27, 1978

Dear Charlie:

It was nice to hear from you. I've looked through all my photos, but discovered that I don't ~~have anything~~ <sup>have anything</sup> very helpful for the time period involved in JOURNEY HOME. Also, since the book is largely fictional, I have no pictorial records of specific situations.

However, I'm sending along a copy of our Church History <sup>part of</sup> which I wrote a few years ago. If you want to include the church described in JH, it's the one pictured on the reverse of p. 5, (the 1918 dedication), and the pointed roof to the rear is the old student dormitory, then new, but quite run down by 1945.

The book also contains a lot of Japanese faces (including those of my parents on p. 28, although I made Yuki's father balding, and not physically patterned after my own father.)

As to clothing, it should be similar to what was worn by other Americans in the 1944-46 period. The older Japanese dressed quite conservatively.

If you can secure a copy of NISEI, THE QUIET AMERICANS, by Bill Hosokawa, (Morrow 1969), it contains quite a few photos including some of the 442nd boys, and might be helpful.

If you have any specific questions that need answering, do feel free to write or call.

All the best,

Phone: (415) 524-1152

CHARLES ROBINSON  
MILLBROOK ROAD  
NEW VERNON, N. J. 07976

May 4

Dear Yoshiko,

Many thanks for your letter with its very helpful enclosure of your Church History. The collection of Japanese faces (an impressive and happy looking group!) will be a big assist.

Unfortunately, Athenaeum was in a big rush on the jacket so I did not have the use of your history, with the appearance of the Church, etc. But this will be a big help on the interior pictures. Thanks again!

Sincerely

Charlie

September 23, 1978

Dear Charlie:

A bound copy of JOURNEY HOME has just arrived and I want to tell you how pleased I am with the lovely art work you did for it. I'd seen xeroxes of the art earlier, but wanted to wait until the book arrived to write you.

I especially appreciated your working so quickly in order to meet the short deadline and make it possible for this book to be published in October.

As you know, I was most anxious to have the book out this year, and I'm grateful for your willing cooperation which made it possible.

My warm thanks for your always fine work.

I'm off in ten days to enjoy some New England fall color and am hoping I'll be able to get down to NYC to see Margaret too. She was my editor for my early books, and it's nice to be back with her.

Hope this finds you well and thriving!

All the best,

P.S. Did you know "our book" is a Jr. Literary Guild selection? Isn't that nice?

CHARLES ROBINSON  
MILLBROOK ROAD  
NEW VERNON, N. J. 07976

Sept 26 '78

Dear Yoshiko,

How nice of you to write to me! I certainly appreciate getting a clap on the back from time to time. It is always a pleasure working on your excellent books! What good news indeed that Journey Home is a Jr. Literary Guild selection - you must be very pleased!

I would love to have the chance of meeting you while you are here in the cast, should your schedule permit - if not I

hope you have a wonderful  
trip. And thanks again.

Most sincerely,

Charlie