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13 items

1951-63

Folder 1 of 10

Notes: 8/21/50 letter from Henry M. to Jane Friedman of Knopf (re: M. J.)
Contains handwritten notes for unidentified document.

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31 October 1951

Miss Joanna Foster
Assistant Editor
Books for Younger Readers
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Miss Foster:

The copy of "New Friends for Susan" that you sent to this office has been reviewed. The book is a delightful picture of little girls - Japanese, American, and Japanese-American - and will be highly suitable for the Reorientation Program that the Army is carrying out in its Information Centers in Japan.

It is planned to include this title in our monthly book kit program.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN I. PRAY
Lt. Colonel GSC
Chief, New York Field Office

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

December 7, 1951

Dear

We are sending you a biography of Yoshiko Uchida who wrote *NEW FRIENDS FOR SUSAN*. This book, quiet and unassuming, is a contribution to children's books because it is--so far as I know--the first picture of a Japanese-American child growing up normally and happily in this country, and having the home and school experiences of any child. In writing it Miss Uchida kept a balance between a few old customs carried over in the home, and the American way.

It is interesting that Miss Uchida was one of the "Moved-Outers"--Japanese Americans sent to camps during the war. So was Henry Sugimoto, who illustrates it.

There is no attempt at a sensational plot. The book is exactly what the author wanted it to be, a true picture of the life of a Nisei child.

Sincerely,

Alice Dalgliesh
Editor
Books for Younger Readers

AD:HH



YOSHIKO UCHIDA

author of *NEW FRIENDS FOR SUSAN*

Yoshiko Uchida was born in Alameda, California and grew up in Berkeley. *NEW FRIENDS FOR SUSAN* is set in Berkeley and tells of a happy home and school life such as was the author's own.

In 1942 Miss Uchida graduated CUM LAUDE from the University of California. Before commencement she had been evacuated to a Wartime Assembly Center, so received her degree "in absentia." At the Center she taught in the primary grades.

After the war she took her master's degree in education at Smith College then taught in Frankford Friends' School in Philadelphia.

She is working at present with the United Student Christian Council in New York. Her previous book was *THE DANCING KETTLE AND OTHER JAPANESE FOLK TALES*.

She says "Friends have asked me whether *NEW FRIENDS FOR SUSAN* is autobiographical. It isn't meant to be--although there is some of my own experience in it, and I suppose, something of me, too. What I want most from this book is to have the children who read it somehow realize that all children are basically alike no matter what their racial backgrounds may be."

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

August 5, 1952

Dear Miss Uchida:

I've read *THE CREPE PAPER FLOWERS* and find it effective and moving, particularly effective in its quality of restraint. I'm going away Friday, to be gone until September, as I told you. If you want to call me early in that month, I'll be glad to talk to you again. It might be helpful to know more about the intended content of your novel--the characters, the time span, etc. Can you lighten the essential grimness of the idea? But questions like that can wait until we talk again.

Sincerely yours,

Wallace Meyer

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
556 West 156th Street
New York 32, New York

556 W. 156 St.
New York 32, N. Y.
August 7, 1952

Mr. Wallace Meyer
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Meyer:

It was good of you to take time from your busy schedule to see me last week, and I appreciated so very much your willingness to read "The Crepe Paper Flowers."

I want to thank you, too, for your encouraging words about the story.

I wish it were possible for me to see you in September upon your return, but unfortunately, I shall be out of the city by then. My fellowship from the Ford Foundation becomes effective in September, and within two weeks, I hope to leave for California where I shall stay until I sail for Japan.

During my year overseas, I hope to have time to develop further thoughts about a novel based on the evacuation. My present thought was that I might develop the old man and woman into the main characters, with their relationship to their daughter and her husband as a subsidiary theme.

Perhaps by the time I return from Japan, I shall have something more substantial to show you, and I hope I might be able to have another talk with you then.

In the meantime, I do want to thank you so very much for your time and interest in my work.

With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Yoshiko Uchida

c/o T. Yamamoto
955 2-chome
Daita, Setagaya-ku
Tokyo, Japan
June 26, 1961

Miss Elinor Parker
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Miss Parker:

Thank you very much for your letter of June 26th. I am afraid it just crossed with mine of the 20th to Miss Gipson.

I was sorry to hear of her resignation and will be very interested to know who her successor will be.

In the meantime, I appreciate having your suggestions regarding changes for GHOST OF GREEN ACRES and hope to work on it as soon as time permits.

I presume you are not familiar with the picture book "ROKUBEI AND THE THOUSAND RICE BOWLS" which I mentioned in my last letter to Miss Gipson. If you are, and could answer my query, I would appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Yoshiko Uchida

c/o T. Yamamoto
955 2-chome
Daiba, Setagaya-ku
Tokyo, Japan
June 20, 1961

Miss Morrell Gipson
Charles Scribner's Sons
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss Gipson:

Greetings from Tokyo! I have been having a marvelous time and am continually amazed at the many changes since my last visit. Japan has adapted many of our western evils, but is still a country of much charm.

It has been a long time since I heard from you, and I am still hoping to have your thoughts regarding suggested changes for "Ghost of Green Acrea." I have brought along a copy of the manuscript and hope to hear from you.

I am writing today mainly to inquire regarding my picture book, "Rokubei and the Thousand Rice Bowls." I have looked around for a possible illustrator over here, but wonder if there will be time to negotiate and get matters settled before I leave the end of July.

I have shown my manuscript to several people in the field, all of whom seemed to like my illustrations and encouraged me to try to salvage them if possible. I wonder if I indicated to you that the pencil sketches you saw were preliminary, and that I intend to render the final drawings in black and white (sumi) brush paintings. With this in mind, do you think there is a possibility of using my illustrations?

I am rather hesitant about getting an artist over here involved in what might become complicated negotiations (once I leave Japan), and would appreciate having your frank opinion as to whether there is a pretty fair possibility of Scribner's doing the book if I obtain suitable illustrations.

I had considered the work of Yoshisuke Kurosaki who illustrated "Little One Inch" and "Peach Boy", folk tale collections put out by Charles E. Tuttle, Co. If you have time, I'd appreciate your looking at these and seeing if you like his work.

I look forward to hearing from you soon, and hope New York's summer isn't too unbearable. So far, the weather here has been quite pleasant.

Sincerely,

645 63rd St.
Oakland 9, Calif.
March 11, 1961

Miss Morrell Gipson
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Miss Gipson:

Thank you for your letter of March 6th. I was pleased to have your thoughts about the possibilities of GHOST AT GREEN ACRES and appreciate your suggestion that it might be put in better shape.

I would be glad to try a revision of it and would welcome your detailed suggestions.

I leave for Japan on March 27th and will plan to take a carbon copy of the manuscript with me. I may have time to work on it over there, but if not, perhaps there would be time on the trip home if I decide on a freighter.

In any case, I would like to work with you on this book and want to reassure you that I have no obligations to Harcourt, Brace. I had no option clause with them.

If the opportunity permits, I may look for an illustrator for my picture book, ROKUBEI, while in Japan. Do you have any thoughts on this? Or could you suggest a suitable illustrator over here?

I shall look forward to hearing from you again soon and to working with you toward a successful revision.

Cordially,

Address after March 28th:
c/o Rev. T. Yamamoto
955 2-chome
Daiba, Setagaya-ku
Tokyo, JAPAN

Yoshiko Uchida

645 63rd St.
Oakland 9, Calif.
February 17, 1961

Mrs. Morrell Gipson
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Gipson:

It has been some time since I sent you the manuscript of "The Ghost at Green Acres" and I wonder if you have reached some decision on it.

I am particularly anxious to hear because of recent developments which will take me out of the country in a few weeks. I have been invited to go to Tokyo to do some work with the director of the Folk Art Association of Japan and plan to leave toward the latter part of March to stay for 3-4 months.

I would like very much to have the matter of this book settled before I go and know you will understand my situation. I'll hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Yoshiko Uchida

645 63rd St.
Oakland 9, Calif.
January 3, 1961

Mrs. Morrell Gipson
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Gipson:

Now that the holiday rush is over, I
am able to send you the manuscript for "The
Ghost at Green Acres" about which I wrote you
earlier.

I shall look forward to hearing from
you about it.

Sincerely,

Encl: 125pp Ms.

Yoshiko Uchida

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

December 2, 1960

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9
California

Dear Miss Uchida:

I would like to see your
manuscript GHOST OF GREEN ACRES, so
send it along.

Cordially,

Morrell Gipson, Editor
Books for Young Readers

MG:mw

Thanks for your
nice letter

645 63rd St.
Oakland 9, Calif.
November 22, 1960

Mrs. Morrell Gipson
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Gipson:

Thank you very much for your letter of October. I am now completing the story of a ten-year-old Japanese American boy who lives on a farm in Southern California, (tentatively titled, "Ghost of Green Acres", and about 120 pp.) I wonder if you would be interested in considering it. I would hope that it could be published in the Fall of 1961, as I have tried to do a book each fall for the past few years. I believe I could have it completed in two or three more weeks.

As to "Rokubei", I am not in a hurry to place it, and, in fact, would prefer to wait until I place the above book. I would be most pleased to have your help in securing a suitable artist for "Rokubei" and to have you publish it whenever you felt you had room for it on your list.

I shall look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Yoshiko Uchida

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

May 3, 1962

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 - 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Yoshiko:

It was so very nice to meet you in Berkeley. I am always so happy when a lovely book is done by a lovely author. It is reassuring to know that the two go together. Now I am very much looking forward to seeing your new manuscript. We are so very pleased with ROKUBEI AND THE THOUSAND RICE BOWLS.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Nancy

Nancy Quint, Editor
Books for Young Readers

NQ:hs

December 6, 1962

Miss Nancy Quint
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Nancy:

I finally managed, by typing a page or two each day, and am happy to enclose the manuscript for THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE. I am quite fond of this story and hope you will like it too.

If you decide you'd like to add it to your list, I'd like to send along some thoughts regarding the illustrations and would like to have your thoughts too. I'll look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for your letter of November 21 with the enclosures. I was pleased to see the reviews and would appreciate seeing others you might have.

When convenient, would you return my original drawings for ROKUBEI?

Best wishes,

Sincerely,

Encl: Ms. 16 pp.

Yoshiko Uchida

БЕККЕГЕЛ 4 САНГОВИИ
KADIVATION GABOVLOKA

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

December 14, 1962

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Yoshiko:

We're quite fond of THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE too. It has a lovely warmth which we find most appealing.

We do have some queries about the story which we are enclosing in our editorial report and, of course, I'll want to know how you feel about our comments. You will see that our major concern is the diffusion in the story. There seem to us to be too many major characters; the story seems unable to contain them all. The reader wants to identify with Takashi but this is difficult to do because other characters keep "taking over" his story.

Now that we have seen the story there will be time to go over it and still make the Fall list without putting undue strain on you. I also want to know your thoughts about the illustrations.

I am sure that letter-writing is burdensome to you at this time and I want you to save your energies for your story; so I will call you ~~next~~ week when I think you will have received the manuscript and had a chance to mull over what we've said, and we can have somewhat of an editorial conference by phone.

So until I speak with you this coming week,

My best,

Nancy Quint
Nancy Quint

NQ:s

Enc: 1 manuscript, 1 editorial report

P.S. It is now late Friday night in the office and I'm typing all this myself so do please forgive the errors and my non-existent margin.

December 14, 1962

Editorial report: THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE by Yoshiko Uchida

Page 1, last paragraph - This is a beautiful paragraph but it is disruptive for the reader to go from this paragraph, when you place us in November, through the summer and then back to winter on page 3 as though November had not been mentioned before.

Perhaps either -

OK → Retain the last paragraph on page 1 and then on page 2 cut from the next to last line over to page 3, beginning with "If only I had someone to play with, he thought. etc."

Or - Delete the last paragraph on page 1 and begin page 2 with "But."

Pages 3-5 - Here it ceases to be Takashi's story and becomes a story about two gentlemen, Mr. Toda and Mr. Ikeda.

Would you consider eliminating Mr. Ikeda from the story completely and have the fir tree simply belong to Mr. Toda? This would keep the story focused on the major theme.

OK, It is "tricky" in a picture book to bring in too many elements. For instance, although the Tono Sama came along, Rokubei never ceased to be the center of interest in your "Thousand Rice Bowls." Unfortunately, Mr. Ikeda, rather than being a minor character in relation to the young hero, becomes momentarily the major person in the story. *He doesn't relate to Takashi, he relates to Mr. Toda.*

Removing Mr. Ikeda would not really involve major work. It might mean, for instance, eliminating paragraphs 4, 5, and 6 on page 3 and the last bracketed section of page four and the first section of page 5, plus some of the sentences in the last part of the story.

Then, after Kaya tells Takashi about the Christmas tree, you can have Takashi see the tree when Shiro runs into the old man's yard; a tree the old man simply has had all along.

Bottom of page 13, top of page 14 - As it is so important in a picture story that the main character be uppermost and that as much in the story as possible be from the leading character's point of view, we wonder if it would be possible to have Takashi ask if he may bring in people to see the tree.

We are worried that the story seems, after Mr. Ikeda, *takes over* as though it ~~now~~ is about Kaya rather than about Takashi.

Page 16 - The last paragraph seems unnecessary, as though a moral were being driven home, very hard.

Would you consider ending the story after "...became very special indeed."

OK As an ending this rather tugs at the heartstrings. The last paragraph seems anticlimatic.

no because he had no friends - & needed a friend - that's why getting to know old man was so special. He can go with Kaya to call her friends.

Editorial report: THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE by Yoshiko Uchida

Now about Takashi's age. The lowest possible age category we can give to this book would be four to eight-years-old. Children always like to read about children older than they are, so if Takashi is going to be specifically aged in the story we feel it would be most detrimental to have him five-years-old.

Could you possibly make him eight-years-old; or, if you feel his actions, enthusiasms, etc. are too young for the named age of eight, could you eliminate the specific reference to his age and give him some other reason for expecting something special to happen. * *

I hate to ask you to do this because, as you have written your first paragraph, it's a lovely way to begin the story. But there are a few cold, hard facts; and one of them is, unfortunately, the snobbery of children as far as the age of book characters is concerned in reference to themselves.

--0--

As always, Yoshiko, these reports are our feelings and, as always, we are completely open on every and any point. I hope that none of what we have said is distressing and that we can move in the same direction. I'll be in touch with you soon.

~~* Perhaps Takashi can want to~~

* Perhaps you can say in some way that the special thing he would like is to have a friend and, of course, he gets a friend at the end of the story. Now at the end of the story there is a ^{major} change in the secondary character Mr. Toda while there is no real change within Takashi.

Oh dear, I'm afraid I'm not being clear. I'd better wait until I call you.

no
he would be
in school -
have many
friends.
so he wouldn't
be more than 6.
That's why
I included
Kaya - make her
older - a girl -
so reader
I also
identify
with her.

①. OK. will follow 1st suggestion.

②. I see your point - am willing to eliminate Ikeda.

③. Will have Takashi go with Kaya. He is too young + he has no friends - that's why getting to know the old man is something special for him too.

④. ^{Don't want to be saccharine} OK. ~~I wanted to make~~ ^{for} the point that it wasn't only the tree that made the year special - but discovering that Mr. Ioda could be a kind ^{person} too - ~~make it specific~~ - Takashi ^{self} ~~isn't~~ ^{isn't} ~~met~~ ^{met} ~~realize~~ ^{knows} ^{isn't} ^{friendly} ^{next} ^{yr.}

⑤. Age: He can't be 8 - or he would be in school ^{next yr.} + have friends.

The story hinges on the fact that he is too young to go to school, \therefore left at home + \therefore lonely + wants a friend.

That was why I included Kaya - ~~make~~ ^{her} a major character. She is girl + 8. Wouldn't older ch. identify with her?

The story is about Takashi + Kaya.

I could change reference to 5 yr old - make something else special happen on Boy's Day. Find lucky charm - or rain bow over his carp -

don't split story down middle,

Illus:

2- with -

to work with merit -

1. What is the possibility of having color?
Think it most advantageous - especially
in a Cmas story.

✓ Notice most pic bks on / list have
2 - 4 colors.

2. Does Mizumura work with color?

4- color
not a good

I like authenticity of background -

think it's good to have someone who

knows Japan.

3. ~~That she did a very nice job on Kikubei - only one thing I~~
~~Don't know how we could say this to her like chi's~~
~~face too much.~~

but could the chi's face be made a

✓ little more appealing? (realize humor - robustness
for Kikubei) but want there to be a bit more
sensitive -

4. Possible to see early sketches & keep
in closer touch & act as a time.

5. ✓ Anticipate many more changes?
or shall I correct carbon & send?

6. ✓ Won't outtype - - deadline →

When Contract - after illus settled?

2nd wk

Dec. 30, 1962

Miss Nancy Quint
Charles Scribner's Sons
New York, N.Y.

Dear Nancy:

I'm enclosing THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE
with revisions and think it is considerably tightened.
I hope you will agree and will look forward to hearing
from you about it.

I'm sorry the manuscript looks such a mess.
Shall I send you a corrected carbon, or will you
be retyping the ms. there?

Do hope your holidays were pleasant and
my very best wishes for the new year.

Sincerely,

Yoshiko Uchida

P.S. Thank you for returning the original ms. for
ROKUBEI.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

January 4, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Yoshiko:

We think THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE is coming along nicely. There are still spots that bother us and I am sending along our suggestions. However, we do want to give you a contract and I have requested one which we will send along to you as soon as we receive it from our legal department.

Remember it isn't necessary to send us a freshly typed manuscript. Piece it together, write in, whatever is easiest for you.

OK
Uchida
You'll see that on the first page we've stapled a suggestion for revising the opening. We make this suggestion for two reasons. One is that Takashi was coming across to the reader as rather smug, and the other is that it seemed choppy to go from the carp to the woods back to the carp. *Perhaps return to original?*

OK
On page 3 we suggest deleting "and was quite content to" since in the next sentence, we learn he isn't really content. *prefer*

✓
On page 5 we feel the story does become Kaya's and we wonder if this transition cannot be made from Takashi's point of view. For instance, after page 4, something like:

Takashi had to stay indoors. He couldn't wait for Kaya to come home from school. Sometimes she learned wonderful things that she told Takashi about. This day Kaya had learned all about Christmas and she told about it in words that filled Takashi with her own excitement. They sat together at the kotatsu, etc.

As you can see, I am no writer but I wanted to give you an idea of what we meant by keeping the story Takashi's.

✓
The transition from page 6 to the discovery of the tree in Mr. Toda's yard is disruptive. To go from "but none that looked anything at all like a Christmas tree," to "Then one day, Shiro smelled a rabbit" is a terrible jolt for the reader. Shiro and the rabbit come from nowhere. Unfortunately it sticks out as

the author's device to get Takashi to discover the tree.
We have no suggestions but is there any other way in which
this can be handled?

*OK P. 11 - last line P. 12 - 1st 3 lines - seems contrived. Can he simply go outside?
Can you call the old man Mr. Toda a little more often?*

Page 15: Lines 7 and 8: We suggest deleting these two lines.
They seem somehow false. Perhaps this idea can be put elsewhere.
Perhaps, for instance, on page 16 -

"Then, slowly, a grin spread over Takashi's face for he
realized that this had been a special year after all.
He had a Christmas ~~tree~~ ^{frust} and a new friend too. He had
waited a long, long time, but etc."

As always these are our suggestions. Since this will probably
be a 32 page picture book, our aim is for a tight and unified
story line. If you disagree with our points, you know that
all you have to do is say so.

Now take care and don't retype. We can easily make the Fall
list.

My best,

Nancy
Nancy Quint

NQ:ab
Enclosure: ms

*— I think it
quite
natural
I think it
bleat out
what he suddenly
senses -
had Jim*

January 16, 1963

Dear Nancy:

I've had several bad days which prevented me from returning the ms. sooner. I'm enclosing it with revisions. About your suggestions:

P.1 I'm so glad you suggested a possible return to the original. (linked in paragraph 3). I have given much thought to the revision and it just doesn't seem to have the simplicity of the original or provide adequate motive for Takashi to have hopes for a special year. Since T. is revealed as being too young for school on p.2. anyway, I wonder if it is such a disadvantage to state his age on p.1. I really feel quite strongly that the original is the best first paragraph for this book.

p.3 I agree. Deletion OK.

p.5 Please see revision. I wouldn't want to cut this any further, as I think we must explain why T. knew so little about Christmas, and also, I'm anxious to keep alive the special feeling of that whole afternoon.

p.6 See added sentence. I think this covers the transition.

p.11-12 Agree to deletion.

p. 15 1.7 : I'd like to retain T's remark as I think it would be quite natural for a child to candidly blurt out something he had suddenly discovered.

I agree to deleting 1.8.

p.16 The last paragraph seemed to need rounding out, so I changed it and included your suggested sentence which I think fits in nicely here.

I'll look forward to hearing from you. In the meantime, my best wishes.

Sincerely,

Yoshiko Uchida

Encl.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

January 25, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Yoshiko:

I've had THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE retyped because there were some copyediting changes made in verb tenses, over-use of "and," and a few other minor points.

But now I would like to discuss with you a rather major change. Because of this new suggestion I am going to make, if you have any questions, or if there is anything at all you would like to talk over, please call me collect. Also if you agree with our suggestion and you would like to get someone to retype for you, please let Scribners assume the charge. We value you as an author most highly and we would like to help out in any way we can.

The more we have gone over the story the more we see it as a real Christmas picture book. Because of this we would like to see the story begin, in essence, on what is page 3 of the enclosed manuscript. Then the reader begins the story immediately in December with the excitement of Christmas.

I realize that the Japanese setting and the loneliness of Takashi and Mr. Toda would have to be worked in but do you see this suggestion as a possibility?

The mother and father work themselves in quite naturally on page 5 so they would be no problem.

We are concerned about the beginning's similarity to ROKUBEI and also the feeling that it just takes a little too much time to get to the actual story of the book.

I realize that after the work you have already done this suggestion may seem late in coming and may be unappealing,

but, as you may imagine, we have given the idea a good deal of thought, knowing that it will involve more work for you.

But we also did not think it would be fair to you to do the book as it is when we had an idea that we felt would help the story. We expect the book to have a good long life and since we feel this idea will tighten the story and give it greater pace, we just had to raise the point.

We have one further query and this is about the Mr. Thunder element. Do you think it is confusing to have one character referred to as the old man, Mr. Toda, and Mr. Thunder? Would it make you unhappy to drop the Mr. Thunder references? In going over the story we thought it might be confusing to young children.

I must apologize for not yet having your contract to you. But as this is a picture book we must secure the artist before we draw up the contract. I am so enthusiastic about the story I forgot all the legal technicalities. We are going to approach Miss Mizumura with the caution about the children that you and I talked over.

One word now of assurance. Once you have gone over the story this time, I can assure you that as far as we are concerned there will be no further queries from us. I know how draining all this must be.

All my best,

Nancy
Nancy Quint

NQ:ab

Enclosure: ms

February 11, 1963

Dear Nancy:

Enclosed is what I hope will be the final version of
THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE!

I am concerned that with all the cutting we might eliminate too much that tells the reader what kind of boy Takashi is - how he lives and amuses himself. For this reason, I retained the sentences about ther persimmon and mushroom hunting, waking sounds, etc. and added one about playing with bamboo swords.

For the same reason, I've had second thoughts about his calling the old man Mr. Thunder and would like to retain this. I don't want Takashi to be too colorless, and his calling the old man Mr. Thunder, I feel, gives him more substance as a real boy. I think, too, that it ~~conveys~~ well his fear of the old man and heightens his delight in discovering that the old man is really kind. (p.9 lines 3-4).

There were a few instances in the retyped version where "Mr. Thunder" had been added beyond my original version. With these eliminated, there are only about 2 or 3 occasions where T. calls him Mr. Thunder, and I am inclined to feel that children would be more apt to be amused than confused. I hope you will agree.

Also, I should explain that the Japanese term Ojii-san (roughly meaning "old man" or "grandfather") is in common use and not disrespectful. On p.10 line 7, therefore, it is more in keeping with Takashi's character for him to address him as "old man". Other references to Mr. Toda as the old man, too, are not meant to be derogatory.

I shall look forward to receiving the contract when it is ready, and would appreciate deletion of the option clause again for the same reason given before.

My thanks to Miss Bell for sending copies of review on ROKUBEI. I enjoyed seeing them.

I do hope we are now all set to go!

Sincerely,

Yoshiko Uchida

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

February 25, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Yoshiko:

We're really very pleased with THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE. I'm just delighted with the work you've done.

The story is rather long and we think it will have to be 48 pages, but we still plan to have two colors throughout. I'll be able to tell you more when the manuscript starts on its publishing way.

All my best,

Nancy Quint
Nancy Quint

NQ:ab

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

February 28, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Miss Uchida:

Here is the contract for THE FOREVER
CHRISTMAS TREE. Would you be good enough to sign all
three copies and return them to us. When Miss Mizumura
has signed, we will send you an original of the contract
to keep.

We are all very much looking forward
to publication of THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Robbie Gatheral

(Miss) Robbie Gatheral
Books for Young Readers

645 63rd St.
Oakland 9, Calif.
March 4, 1963

Miss Robbie Gatheral
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Ave.
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Miss Gatheral:

I am returning three signed copies of the contract for THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE as you requested. I, too, look forward to the publication of this book.

I would appreciate receiving the \$500 advance at your early convenience.

Sincerely,

Yoshiko Uchida

Encl: 3

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

March 12, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Miss Uchida:

Enclosed is your advance for THE FOREVER
CHRISTMAS TREE and also your copy of the
contract.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Anne Breuer

Anne Breuer
Secretary to Nancy Quint
Books for Young Readers

Enclosed: check and contract

GILBERT BOND

225 NOTION DRIVE

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

March 21, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9
California

Dear Miss Uchida:

I am enclosing herewith the flap copy for THE FOREVER
CHRISTMAS TREE for you to see. Please feel free to
make any changes or corrections you wish, and then return
it to me.

Thank you very much. With best wishes,

Cordially,

Margaret Frith

Margaret Frith
Books for Young Readers

645 63rd St.
Oakland 9, Calif.
March 24, 1963

Miss Margaret Frith
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Miss Frith:

Thank you very much for letting me see the flap copy for THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE. I have penciled in just one suggestion which I feel might more strongly convey a sense of the tree's importance to Takashi.

I trust ROKUBEI is being mentioned on the other flap. Would there be any possibility of mentioning some of my other books as well?

Best wishes,

Sincerely,

Yoshiko Uchida

"T. lived in a quiet village high & hill & d.
nothing exciting ever happened there. Then T's
sister told him & Yuma, "and more than anything
else T. wanted a Xmas tree & to run". But the only
tree just right for them grew - old in T's yard.
And the T's & boys were a nuisance.

Then it was Xmas Eve at last & T decided
to do a daring thing. The next morning there was a
surprise for the T's. The village, & T.

YU has skilfully created a flavor - J. which is illuminated by a fine
drawing - 1964.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

March 25, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9
California

Dear Miss Uchida:

Here are the galleys and the original manuscript for
THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE.

Would you be good enough to read them for any corrections
or changes and return both the galleys and the manuscript
to us? Thank you very much. How nice it looks and reads
in print!

With best wishes,

Cordially,

Margaret Frith
Books for Young Readers

Enc: galleys
manuscript

645 63rd St.
Oakland 9, Calif.
March 29, 1963

Miss Margaret Frith
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Miss Frith:

Many thanks for the galleys. I was
pleased to receive them so soon and agree
with you that they look very nice.

I have made a few changes which I
hope can be made without undue difficulty.

All the best,

Yoshiko Uchida

Encl: galleys
Ms.

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

April 5, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Miss Uchida:

Thank you very much for returning the flap copy and the galleys on THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE so promptly.

Our plan for the back flap of the book is to use it for ROKUBEI and there really isn't room to list books. We think it will be much more beneficial to use it for ROKUBEI rather than a list.

Thanks again for your promptness. With very best wishes,

Cordially,

Margaret Frith
Books for Young Readers

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

May 13, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Yoshiko:

I wanted you to know that production on THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE is moving along nicely. Next week I will present your book at sales conference, and I shall do so with a good deal of pleasure.

Now that summer is approaching, I hope that you are feeling better. And, of course, I would love to hear of any plans you might have for your next book - this is just interest on my part, I don't want you to feel pressured in any way. We have lots of time.

All my best,

Nancy Quint
Nancy Quint

NQ:ab

645 63rd St.
Oakland 9, Calif.
May 24, 1963

Miss Nancy Quint
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Nancy:

I was happy to receive your letter of the 13th and to learn that my book is coming along nicely. I'd be most interested to see something of the art work if that is possible. I imagine it will soon be time for the page proofs too, and am looking forward to seeing them.

I am feeling a little better these days and am finally able to get out a bit. However, I must still be very careful and am not accomplishing too much as yet.

If I feel more energetic by fall, I may have a longer book ready, for older children. If not, I may have to be content with another picture book. Both would have a Japanese locale. In any case, I'll keep you posted.

Incidentally, I did a series of sketches of some Linnets that nested right outside our window. It was a fascinating spectacle - and a most educational one. I didn't know, for instance, how birds kept their nest clean or enlarged them as the babies grew. I think there might be material for a book here, but this is a difficult subject to handle without becoming too "sweet." Do you have any ideas? Could it be handled as just a documentary sketch-book?

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Yoshiko Uchida

БЕККЕГЕЛ 4 САНГОВИИ
КУДИВЛИОН ГВОВКЛОК

УНИВЕРСИТИ ОЕ САНГОВИИ

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

May 24, 1963

Dear Miss Uchida:

This note comes just to check that you have no objection to our handling the placement of foreign rights to your new book THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE under the terms of the contract which grants Scribners world rights.

If the usual arrangement, whereby reading copies sent to foreign publishers are charged to the author's royalty account at the regular discount, is agreeable to you, would you let me know.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Robbie Gatheral

(Miss) Robbie Gatheral
Books for Young Readers

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

May 27, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Yoshiko:

Miss Mizumura has just brought in her completed artwork and she has done beautiful renderings. As soon as we have proofs we'll send them along.

To assure finer composition in the artwork a very minor change has been made in the text which is that the children carry the decorations in two boxes, which means that Kaya's "Precious Paper Box" stays in the house. Margaret Frith is going to write you more fully about this. In essence, the change means that instead of putting the decorations in "the Box" Kaya and Takashi put them in "two boxes."

I'm delighted to know that you're feeling somewhat better and we would be pleased to have any book from you, whether a picture book or a longer book for older children.

Unfortunately I am going to have to be discouraging about the Linnet book. There are several excellent books for children on the birth and growing up of birds. These books use photography and/or artwork. They are very effective and well-done, and I think it would be unwise to add another book to an already more than adequately supplied market.

But we will certainly look forward to your other books.

Sincerely,

Nancy Quint
Nancy Quint

NQ:ab

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

May 28, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9
California

Dear Miss Uchida:

Kazue Mizumura has just given us her art work for THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE. She has done a very beautiful job, and we are so pleased with the way the book is working out!

We did want to check one thing with you. When we went over the finished art, we found that Miss Mizumura has drawn Takashi and Kaya going out to decorate the tree and each child is carrying a box of decorations. Rather than have Miss Mizumura re-work these illustrations, we would like to alter the text to read "boxes" instead of "box." We hope that this will be all right with you, as we do not want to hold up the production schedule which has been going along so well, and Miss Mizumura's drawings are so right for the book.

I am sure you will understand the problem, and I am sorry that we have to ask you for a change at this point. With very best wishes,

Cordially,

Margaret Frith
Books for Young Readers

645 63rd St.
Oakland 9, Calif.
June 4, 1963

Miss Margaret Frith
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Ave.
New York 17, N.Y.

Dear Miss Frith:

I was glad to hear that the art work
for THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE seems to be so
successful and look forward to seeing it.

Regarding the changes you mentioned
in your letter of May 28, I think they would be
quite all right. I trust that box was made
plural in two places: first, when the children
made the decorations - "Then they put them all
away carefully in two big boxes." Secondly,
when they carry the decorations outside, -
"Kaya and Takashi carried out their boxes
of decorations."

At any rate, I'll see the changes in
the page proofs and will have opportunity then
to make any other changes.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Yoshiko Uchi da

MLLERS PA
EZERASE
Please forward the enclosed
to your order dept.

645 63rd St.
Oakland, Calif. -94609
July 31, 1963

Miss Nancy Quint
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Nancy:

I don't believe I ever wrote to thank you for your letter of a few months back. I hope all is going well and that you are having a pleasant summer.

Would you be good enough to let me know the approximate publication date of THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE? Also, I am a little concerned about the page proofs and wonder if they aren't due by now. I had hoped to see something of the art work by this time and hope this will be possible soon.

I had a call from your S.F. office about the National Council of English Teachers' luncheon on November 29 and hope to attend if I am fully recovered by then. I am still having to be cautious and at this point my activities are quite limited.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Yoshiko Uchida

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

August 2, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland, California

Dear Miss Uchida:

Miss Quint has just received your letter, and she asked me to write and explain why you haven't seen pages on THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE.

On the picture books, after the galleys which you have seen, the book then goes into reproduction proofs which are the actual proofs used by the printer to make the plates. We have to handle them very carefully and get them back to the Art Department as soon as we have checked them. Hence we don't send them out to the authors generally. As this is a Christmas book, we are trying to keep as close to the schedule as possible. And since printers go on vacation in the summer, there is always a rush.

Publication for THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE is planned for October but we do not have an actual date yet.

We are happy to hear that you hope to attend the luncheon in November. I hope you are feeling well and will be fully recovered very soon. With very best wishes,

Cordially,

Margaret Frith
Books for Young Readers

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

August 26, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Miss Uchida:

The publication date for THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE
is October 18.

Review copies of the book will be sent out to our regular
list of public and school librarians, and to reviewers
for newspapers, magazines, TV and radio.

If you would like to send me a list of names and addresses
of people you think might benefit the promotion of the
book, we will be glad to send them announcements of its
publication.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Anne Breuer

Anne Breuer
Books for Young Readers

645 63rd St.
Oakland 9, Calif.
September 18, 1963

Miss Anne Breuer
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Miss Breuer:

Thank you for your letter of August 26th
informing me of the publication date of THE
FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE.

Regarding review copies, would you please
include the following in addition to the local
dailies:

- Mr. Iwao Shimizu, Ed., Hokubei Mainichi, P.O. Box 3321
San Francisco 19, Calif. 94119
✓ Mr. S. Asano, Nichi Bei Times, P.O. Box 3098, San Fran-
cisco 19, Calif.
✓ Mr. Muronaka, Ed., The Kashu Mainichi, 346 E. First St.
Los Angeles 12, Calif.

Also, if it has not already gone, would you
see that Charlotte Jackson of the S. F. Chronicle
receives her review copy immediately? Last year
she informed me that Scribner's books were not
included in her Fall Book Review Edition because
they arrived too late.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Yoshiko Uchida

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

September 20, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Yoshiko:

I am so very sorry we have not kept in closer touch with you about THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE but illness has plagued our office. Six weeks ago I unexpectedly went into the hospital for emergency surgery and a week after Margaret Frith went in with hepatitis. We're both fine now, although poor Margaret is still in the hospital.

Now, however, the sheets are coming through and we shall be sending Miss Mizumura's efforts to you. I think the book looks charming and I hope you will like it.

Sincerely,

Nancy Quint
Nancy Quint

NQ:ab

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LT = International Letter Telegram

SF-1201 (4-60)

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination

237P PDT OCT 18 63 OA299

SYC421 SY NF085 PD FAX NEW YORK NY 18 457P EDT

YOSHIKO UCHIDA

645 63 ST OAKLAND CALIF

HAPPY PUBLICATION DAY FROM ALL OF US AT SCRIBNERS

NANCY QUINT.

1963 OCT 18 PM 2 39

645 63rd St.
Oakland 9, Calif.
October 19, 1963

Miss Nancy Quint
Charles Scribner's Sons
597 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Nancy:

Many thanks for your thoughtful wire which added to my pleasure on publication day.

I was pleased to receive five copies of THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE a few days ago, and the earlier unbound copy. I think the front board with the gold tree on red is particularly attractive and the illustrations are quite charming. There is one major error, however, which unfortunately wasn't caught. The text refers to Kaya's braids, ("she tugged at her long black braids as though ...etc") and she is pictured throughout with short hair. One of the reasons I think it's a good idea for the author to see preliminary sketches while there is time to make changes, is to avoid just such errors. However, let's just hope it isn't noticed by too many people!

I was sorry to learn that you and Miss Frith had been hospitalized, and do hope you are both feeling well by now. I know well the many inconveniences that illness can cause!

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Yoshiko Uchida

10/19
ordered
12 copies

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

October 23, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Yoshiko:

I received your letter and promptly passed out. I cannot begin to count the number of people who have looked at the text and pictures of THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE and no one noticed the discrepancy between the long black braids of the text and the short hair of the pictures. Naturally I am sending through a correction for the next printing but I cannot tell you how upset we are.

The book has just received a very nice review in Publishers' Weekly and Alice Dalgliesh called today to say what a good book it is so I'm hoping for a review in the December Saturday Review. The reviewers don't seem to be spotting the error, thank goodness.

I'm so pleased you like the book. We are delighted with it. It has great warmth and charm - qualities very lacking in children's books these days. I hope that you are now completely well and that you will be able to do another book for us in the near future. We love having you on our list.

Sincerely,

Nancy
Nancy Quin

NQ:ab

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

November 20, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Yoshiko:

THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE has actually gotten off to a very good start. Reviews and sales figures are both excellent.

Charlotte Jackson of the Chronicle received the first copy of the book about two months ago. Unfortunately Christmas books are reviewed by newspapers and magazines in their December issues. There is nothing we can do about this. Alice Dalglish received her copy of THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE in plenty of time to make the special Saturday Review children's issue, but she plans to review the book in her December issue as she will be doing Christmas books then.

Now about the Scribner ad. A gross error was made between the Chronicle and our ad agency. It was discovered too late and our ad did not go in. Naturally we are as upset about this as I know you are, but there was nothing that could be done about it. The Chronicle gave the agency the wrong date and by the time this was discovered, the Chronicle could not fit in our ad.

Would you let me have the sentence to replace the one about Kaya's braids as soon as you can? We keep it in the production file so that when the reprint comes up we have the material already in hand. Would you consider "short black hair" suitable instead of "long black braids." The idea and image is so nice I would hate to see the whole sentence changed.

Sincerely,

Nancy Quint
Nancy Quint

NQ:ab

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

November 27, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Miss Uchida:

We thought you'd like to see this nice
notice from next Sunday's Times Book Review right away!

And we all hope your Thanksgiving was
a happy one.

Sincerely,

Robbie Gatheral
Books for Young Readers

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

December 2, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Miss Uchida:

I am enclosing reviews of THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE from the Chicago Tribune, The Horn Book, and The New York Times. You may already have seen copies of these, but we thought you would like to have extra ones, since they are so wonderful.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Anne Breuer

Anne Breuer
Books for Young Readers

645 63rd St.
Oakland 9, Calif.
December 7, 1963

Miss Nancy Quint
Charles Scribner's Sons
New York, N.Y.

Dear Nancy:

Many thanks for your letter and the copies of reviews of THE FOREVER CHRISTMAS TREE which have been coming from your office. I've appreciated seeing them.

Re the sentence to be changed, I think we can just go ahead and substitute "short black hair" for the "Long black braids." I would appreciate seeing a copy of the new edition when it appears.

We have had much illness in the family and I've only now managed to finish the manuscript for my new picture book, SUMI'S PRIZE. I enclose it, herein, and send it off in haste. I'll be interested in hearing what you think of it.

Sincerely,

Encl: Ms.

Yoshiko Uchida

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

December 10, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Miss Uchida:

Thank you very much for sending us SUMI'S
PRIZE. Miss Quint will be in touch with you about
it soon.

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year,

Sincerely,

Marion Bell

Marion Bell

Books for Young Readers

CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS



PUBLISHERS

597 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

December 20, 1963

Miss Yoshiko Uchida
645 63rd Street
Oakland 9, California

Dear Yoshiko:

I am leaving today for a two-week vacation but I did want you to know how much we like SUMI'S PRIZE. It is an absolutely delightful story.

We do have some queries but they will not be major. I'll write you about them when I return. We also plan to have a different artist for this book.

Have a lovely holiday season. SUMI'S PRIZE is such a nice way to start the new year.

My best,

Nancy Quint
Nancy Quint

NQ:ab