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## TAKEO UJO NAKANO

From: Takeo Ujo Nakano with Leatrice M. Willson Chan, *Within the Barbed Wire Fence: A Japanese Man's Account of His Internment in Canada* (Toronto: James Lorimer & Company, 2012) (originally published 1980), pages 10, 13, 49, 71, 105.

Together, these five tanka speak to the moment of his departure from his home in Woodfibre,

Against such a thing as tears Resolved, When taking leave of home. Yet at that departure whistle, My eyes fill.

initial detention in the Livestock Building at the PNE grounds in Vancouver,

Reek of manure, Stench of livestock, And we are herded, Milling – Jumble of the battlefield.

leaving the CPR station in Vancouver for the interior,

Many passed this way, My countrymen. This train whistle They must have heard, and passed. Their feelings come to me. at the road camp to which Japanese Canadian men were sent,

Primeval forest!
Feeling as though in violation,
Cutting down standing trees
Before watchful guards.
Cutting firewood.

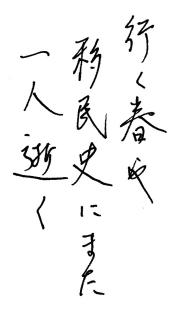
and his decision two decades later to become a Canadian citizen.

As final resting place, Canada is chosen. On citizenship paper, Signing Hand trembles.\*

<sup>\*</sup>Nakano's daughter, Leatrice Nakano, explains that this poem was "one of twelve chosen from 46,886 entries in the annual Imperial Poetry Contest" to be read before the emperor and empress of Japan in 1964.

## CHIE KAMEGAYA

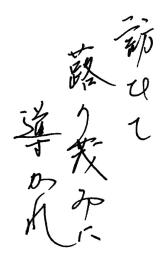
From: Chie Kamegaya, An Immigrant's Haiku Year: Seasons in New Denver (Imin no tsuzuru Nyū Denbā no shiki: Kamegaya Chie no Haiku) (New Denver, BC: Twa Corbies, 1999), n.p.n.



Spring passes, and another pioneer whose memory we will hold in our history

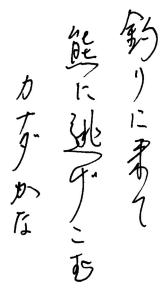


Though an immigrant and far away, I would not miss this evening's moon



Guided to her house by the fuki growing lush: an immigrant's garden

Fuki is a mountain vegetable called butterbur.



Fishing, I run from the bear to the car This is Canada

