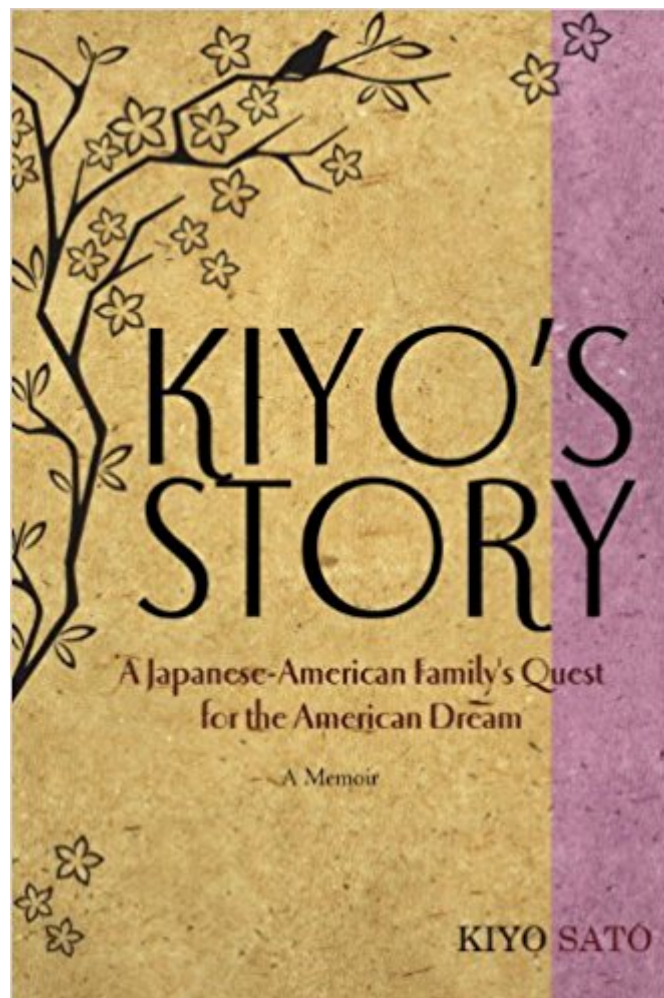




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# Kiyo's Story: A Japanese-American Family's Quest For The American Dream



## Synopsis

Kiyo's father arrived in California determined to plant his roots in the land of opportunity after leaving Japan. He, his wife, and their nine American-born children labored in the fields together, building a successful farm. Yet at the outbreak of World War II, Kiyo's family was ordered to Poston Internment Camp. This memoir tells the story of the family's struggle to endure in these harsh conditions and to rebuild their lives afterward in the face of lingering prejudice.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In this memoir, originally published as *Dandelion Through the Crack*, first generation Japanese-American Sato chronicles the tribulations her family endured in America through the Great Depression and WWII. Emigrating from Japan in 1911, Sato's parents built a home and cultivated a marginal plot of land into a modest but sustaining fruit farm. One of nine children, Sato recounts days on the farm playing with her siblings and lending a hand with child-care, house cleaning and grueling farm work. Her anecdotes regarding the family's devotion to one another despite their meager lifestyle (her father mending a little brother's shoe with rubber sliced from a discarded tire) gain cumulative weight, especially when hard times turn tragic: in the wake of Pearl Harbor, the Satos find themselves swept up by U.S. authorities and shuffled through multiple Japanese internment camps, ending up in a desert facility while the farm falls to ruin. Sato's memoir is a poignant, eye-opening testament to the worst impulses of a nation in fear, and the power of family to heal the most painful wounds. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of

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“Vividly honest, deeply moving.” •Bill Hosokawa, *Out of the Frying Pan: Reflections of a Japanese American* “It is a magnificent memoir, fully worthy of being compared to *Farewell to Manzanar*. I cannot praise its pointillist realism, its Zen-like austerity, highly enough. Exquisite.” •Kevin Starr, *California: A History* “Taken simply as a family chronicle, it is moving and graceful. But it is also a powerful, thought-provoking historical document.” •James Fallows, *Breaking the News: How the Media Undermine American Democracy* “Kiyo’s Story is unforgettable.” •Sacramento News & Review “Touching . . . an important portrait of a shameful period in American history.” •Kirkus Reviews

This book is not only the definitive chronicle of the Japanese-American internment during World War II, it is also the definitive how-to for child rearing. Kiyo Sato’s story of her mother and father’s contributions to her upbringing is a roadmap to producing a successful family. It is also the best description ever of the unfairness of imprisoning American citizens simply because they looked like the Asian enemy. Many Americans looked like Germans and Italians, yet no German-Americans or Italian-Americans ever suffered imprisonment or had their property confiscated. It ranks on the ‘Shame Scale’ with America’s treatment of Native Americans.

Great book! I saw Kiyo in person and she is an amazing woman with a story of perseverance and strength. I bought this for my mom.

It is so important to remember shameful events in US History. We have to remember the wrongful deeds , so we won’t do it again. Many racist and hateful people again in the race for president, very frightening.

I actually got to meet Kiyo. She came to our book club. This book was important to me because my sister in law’s mother was taken to the camps during the war, so it was more personal for me.

This period of time in history has not been talked about. It’s horrific that Americans with Japanese heritage were put into interment camps and lost everything. Kiyo brings this to light in this

fascinating book.

This a great book. I actually met the author at a local store and was amazed with her story. She is in her 90s now but still going strong, she is as inspirational in person as her book is to read

Very engaging and gave me new insights about our country's own history of prejudices and injustices! As a person who was an infant/toddler in the WW II years I knew nothing about current events and history books lack these accounts. Thanks, Kiyo, for sharing your family's story. My book club is reading it together and I can't wait for our discussion.

I thought the author did a very good job writing her families story of being relocated during the 2nd World war. I believe that these kind of memoirs are very important to our history. The book just happens to take place in my area. I am very familiar with the places she describes. So this book took on a very personal note for me

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