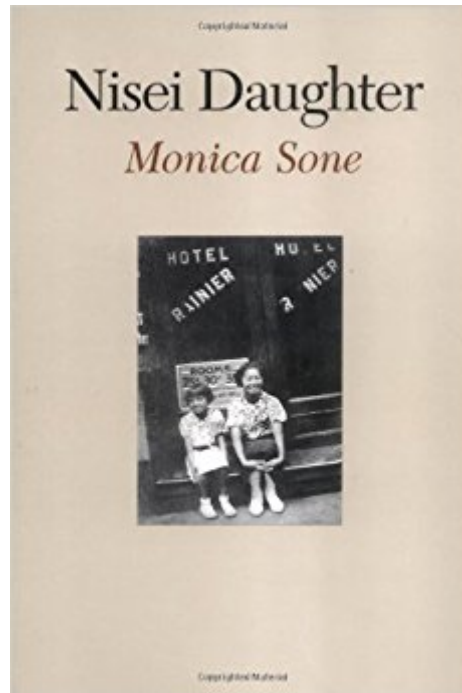




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Nisei Daughter



Synopsis

With charm, humor, and deep understanding, a Japanese American woman tells how it was to grow up on Seattle's waterfront in the 1930s and to be subjected to "relocation" during World War II. Along with some 120,000 other persons of Japanese ancestry--77,000 of whom were U.S. citizens--she and her family were uprooted from their home and imprisoned in a camp. In this book, first published in 1952, she provides a unique personal account of these experiences. "Monica Sone's account of life in the relocation camps is both fair and unsparing. It is also deeply touching, and occasionally hilarious." --New York Herald Tribune "The deepest impression that this unaffected, honest little story made on me was of smiling courage." --San Francisco Chronicle

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Monica Sone spent her childhood in pre-World War II Seattle, in a part Japanese, part American world. Dinner might be steak and pumpkin pie or pickled daikon, rice, and soy sauce; there was American public school during the day and the strict formality of Japanese school in the late afternoons. "I found myself switching my personality back and forth daily like a chameleon. At Bailey Gatzert School I was a jumping, screaming, roustabout Yankee, but at the stroke of three...I suddenly became a modest, faltering, earnest little Japanese girl with a small timid voice." Her memories of growing up are vivid and full of marvelous stories, showing the confusion, frustration, and enrichment of living within two cultures. These elements come together when Japan bombs Pearl Harbor and Monica and her family are sent to an internment camp in Topaz, Idaho. Nisei

Daughter describes the loss of property and the personal insults, the barbed wire and armed guards, the dust storms, horrible food, unfinished barracks, and barren land - and the efforts of the Japanese-Americans to maintain their ethics, family life, and belief in the United States. Monica Sone is furious at the blatant disregard of her civil rights, and yet ironically, it is during her time in the camps and afterwards in the Midwest that she finally brings together the various aspects of her heritage. Straightforward, searching, often funny, this is a highly readable account of one woman's experience living in many worlds. -- For great reviews of books for girls, check out Let's Hear It for the Girls: 375 Great Books for Readers 2-14. -- From 500 Great Books by Women; review by Erica Bauermeister

I first read this book when it had its first printing in 1953. Since then I have read it many times and have given copies of it to my students over the years. It is an outstanding literary work regarding the Japanese American experience. I have corresponded with the author many times and have received some wonderful replies that have augmented what she wrote in the book. The 1979 version with its additional entries is very informative. Ms. Sone should have written a complete sequel to it for her life following the years of World War II is just as interesting as her life before and during the war. In the book, Ms. Sone never mentioned her father's first name although she did mention her mother's. In a letter she wrote to me she mentioned that her given name was Seizo,

Great book. Timely mailing. Miss the "old" cover.

A good book that explores Monica Itoi Sone's live as a second generation japanese American. Filled with many different moments, some funny some sade but all make a very good read.

great book about Japanese internment.

This book was written by the mother of my friend Susan. It made me understand Susan and what the Japanese cities had to go through.

thank you

Filled with history, joy, frustration, a wonderful close family unit that got through a terrible time with someHumor and by loving and teaching each other as they went. Highly recommended.

I was impressed with this lady's life. A wonderful look into immigrant life and the longing to cling to the "old ways" and traditions versus the children's experiences and feelings. I read it twice.

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