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Title: Ellen Watanabe-Huxtable Interview  
Narrator: Ellen Watanabe-Huxtable  
Interviewer: Anna Takada  
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**<Begin Segment 12>**

AT:	<u>00:48:00</u>	Can you tell me a little bit about this book that you had mentioned before I started filming that you're working on, and what inspired you to do that?
EH:	<u>00:48:10</u>	Well, I have a book that I am. I do have to finish because it is important for family history, but when my son was very little, he was very, very upset that he never got to meet my father and his he and then when my mom passed away, that was a seminal moment for him that he was old enough to understand, but misses her, still misses her greatly and he was wishing that he would have had a chance to meet my dad. So I wrote a, a middle school, a young middle schoolish book, in a time travel mode. So in this book my son would have had the opportunity as a character in the book to go back in time to go to Manzanar and to engage with and meet my dad because my dad had questions very involved in baseball at the camp and then he would have a chance to develop that relationship that he never had a chance to develop and so I wrote a draft of the book and very much from the heart and recognize of course, that that, that as far as plot development in complexity, it's not ready yet. It's not ready. I do need to do more, but certainly this is something that my son has had the opportunity to read and even when he was much younger, this is done when he was in middle school, young middle school. He's now in college and almost ready to get out. It's been a while, but at the same time it was, that prompted me to do a lot of research about Manzanar and the camp experience and when I started the book years ago now, there is almost nothing out there. There were the photos of Dorothea Lange through the photos of Ansel Adams. There was some things that Densho had pulled together, but there's very little out there and now that there's so much more available, I'm able to fill in a lot of the things in the book, some of the texture of the detail that was just not available before then. The Manzanar Free Press, uh, the newspaper there were, there were selected copies available as

pdfs years now I know that the whole Manzanar Free Press has been digitized and is available. And that's how I found out about a lot of the things my dad did because his, with his profile in the athletic programs at Manzanar, his name does come up occasionally in the Manzanar Free Press. And family friends that I knew from when from childhood, their names come up in the Manzanar Free Press as well. So as I think about Chiyo Tashimo was a woman that was a professional bowler from the pro bowl circuit after the war, uh, an in-law of my mother's and she was a, she was a jock back and Manzanar, I mean she was uh, uh, I was a very athletic woman. She was a jock back in Manzanar, and that's all in the Free Press that she and her sister, who's my, um, my mom's sister in law, uh, they were both very athletic back, back in Manzanar. Things like that are, are fun things that as I find names of people I know, that are in there, and I remember them when I was a child and what they were like after the war. So it was always fun, it's fun for me to go back and look sometime.

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