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Title: Tonko Doi Interview
Narrator: Tonko Doi
Interviewer: Anna Takada
Location: Chicago, Illinois
Date: September 3, 2019
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<Begin Segment 12>

- AT: 00:53:37 And, um, you did mention the, the story about, um, your mother being told to not speak Japanese with you, um, in Cincinnati and later Chicago. Um, do you remember speaking Japanese?
- TD: 00:53:53 No. No. And, um, how about, um, you know, one, some experiences that, that we hear a lot are about, um, Japanese school.
- TD: 00:54:08 I was too old when we came, um, from Cincinnati to attend Japanese school. Now, in Cincinnati in 1948 my father's mother came to live with us. She had been living in Japan from 1939, but I should say my grandparents, the two missionaries in 1939, he retired from the church and they returned to Japan. That was their 50th anniversary, wedding anniversary in 1939. Could that be right? But anyway, he, um, they moved to, back to Japan. My grandfather died in Japan, but my grandmother survived the war and came to live with us. Uh, someone must have sponsored her. Maybe my father sponsored her or my uncle Joe, you know, through the university. So she came to live with us and in our small apartment in Cincinnati, the first one, well I used to have a bedroom, but when grandma came, I shared the bedroom with her and my grandmother was bilingual, English and Japanese. And I found some old letters that she was writing to me in English from Los Angeles. She had arrived in Los Angeles first and she was visiting old friends and she wrote, well, once you arrived in Cincinnati, her time clock, she was, she was writing her memoirs. I would sleep like with a blanket over me like this while she would be writing the light shining. Right. So finally I moved into what was the hallway and I slept in the hallway. But uh, my grandmother's memoirs are somewhere and I have to find them.

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