

Introducing the Sato Family on a Sunday Afternoon.



It's one fine Sunday afternoon in the livingroom of the Sato family from Japan. Mr. Ichiro Sato works at a Japanese trading company in the capacity of a manager in the General Merchandise department. In fact, his office is located in Edgeriver, about 6 miles southwest away from Avonlea. Mr. Sato and his wife and two sons live in an apartment in Charlottestown, 3 miles away from Avonlea. It is a tall apartment of 50 stories with a nice view of Placid River and a safe surrounding. The rental cost commensurates with Mr. Sato's income, so this apartment is well fit to his family of four.

Mr. Sato, originally from Hokkaido, Japan, is a highly intelligent with critical analytical thinking faculty of mind and capability to put such ideas into practice, which have catapulted him to the current position in his department.

His personality also accounts for the endearment of him to his colleagues and underlings and his superiors at the office. Mr. Sato was brought up by his grandparents after his parents had died of a fatal accident of falling from the 20 feet high tree in their native hometown of Hokkaido. His grandparents reared him with affection and kindness engraved in his character.

The greatest yet simplest moment of happiness to Mr. Sato is having a quiet time of reading and watching TV in his livingroom –and frequently with sweet baked goods



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from Rainbow Bakery/Deli in Avonlea – after work. The weekends, especially Sundays are something of sacred holiday obligations to him doing his ritualistic routine of reading the latest edition of *The Calico Times* in English and eating a donut. Mr. Sato, well versed in the English reading and writing, highly regards the newspaper as the most worthwhile newspaper of all others published in the area for its excellence in investigative journalism on the issues of political scandals and humanitarian perspective on articles on ordinary people about their issues involving the community. It was a great choice of him to subscribe to the newspaper.



Mrs. Michiko Sato is a young wife of Mr. Sato. She was a beauty queen in her hometown of Yokohama, Japan at the age of 18. It was then Mr. Sato became acquainted with Michiko's elder brother Yutaka at a Kendo club after work. He was 25 years old.

Michiko was not only pretty in appearance but also placid in deportment: Prim and proper but without streaks of vanity and/or haughtiness prevalently displayed by people whose only virtue seems to be external beauty.

Moreover, Ichiro found a companion in her to whom he could confide his feelings – though not to an extremely outwardly degree- and that made him feel comfortable by being with her. Hence they became very good friends and started a family with a shared dream.

Both Ichiro and Michiko have two sons named Hideo, the first, and Yuki, the second. Hideo at the age of 3 years old is always bustling with activities with inquisitive aorriaches to anything that seems new and interesting in his sight. Michiko regards Hideo as the little version of Ichiro for the facial features, temperament, and the way he moves his little body with a pensive look on his face.

On the other hand, in her fairness, the littlest Yuki is her apple of the eye. Of course, Michiko being a good wise mother does not discriminate her attention and expresseion of affection between their beloved children. And yet, she cannot help thinking that the



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newest arrival of the member of their family is in many ways a resemblance of herself.

Yuki has soft facial features with big expressive eyes that seem to be filled with liquid love. It is a terms of endearment that Michiko uses whenever she referd to and thinks fondly of her Yuki.

The liquid eye is the characteristic of her family side who are known to have the most beautiful eyes in the region for generations. After all, physical beauty is also a heredity that is certainly a blesseing. Against the proverb saying, “Beauty is only a skin deep,” it is a virtue that not all of us are born with or blessed with being born therewith.

And especially in the case of Michiko’s family, beauty in terms of external and internal aspects is highly regarded and embelished by the cultivation of

cultural refinement and educational displines with spritual influence on their belief.

Looking at their little creations in the form of Hideo and Yuki, Michiko wonders what the boys will amount to when they grow up to be independent of their finanical dependecies and to find their own modes of living.

It will be nice to see Hideo becoming a doctor, preferably of a general practice, so that he can interact with and care people of all social spectrums indiscrimantely, ponders michiko while looking at Hideo trying to grab his lunch meal consisting of a omlet, finger bread, and cream soup.

And for Yuki, he will fit in the realm of artisit in literature. Maybe not, maybe he will excel in painting. But who knows? One professional in family will suffice because there always needs someone in the family to talk “common” about what might seem to be trifles” to the lofty eyes of the professionals. Balance of social strata within the family is soething to be considered as a microcosmic



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idea of fostering a sense of sound community without a huge crevice of social stratifications among its members, thus resulting in constant and often combative bickerings among the classes, within the family, which is the basic unit of society.