

Melodrama on Biracial Children and the Memory of Occupation: Reading *Emy yo* (Oh, Amy) (1954) by Kazuyo Kaneko

Takane SUZUKI

In this essay, I analyzed the published diary *Emy yo* by a Japanese woman, Kazuyo Kaneko, and illustrated what sort of expectations were projected on biracial kids and their Japanese mothers in journalism then. This diary was written by a woman who had a relationship with an American black GI during the occupation. However, the narrative stressed that their relationship had nothing to do with social or political limitations and was love. I defined this narrative as melodrama and how those all-problematic aspects, such as political or social regarding the presence of biracial children, were hidden behind it. Also, there are two key figures, Miki Sawada, a philanthropist who worked for the rights of biracial children, and a journalist who worked at Mainichi Press. To circulate a personal experience by Kaneko as a “last will with love for her left baby,” they projected certain expectations on her image in journalism. I also pointed out how a personal experience was enlarged as a melodrama that circulated in journalism in Japanese society.