



The real story. Japanese American History told by those who lived it.

Ms. Susan Uyemura, CEO
(657) 278-4483
suyemura@jalivinglegacy.org

NEWS RELEASE

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The Mystical World of Harry M. Kuboi Reiki Master of Masters, Psychic and Professional Exorcist

Eighty-one year old Harry Kuboi lives in Palolo Valley, Hawaii. Most days Harry's garage door becomes his window on the world as he comfortably sits in a chair and "talks story" with many of his neighbors as they pass by. Other days, neighbors might greet him while he tends to his garden and his tamed grey doves. His phone rings regularly with requests for healing but today he politely explains to his callers that he is being interviewed and will return their calls later.

I first learned of Harry Kuboi while reading the Hawaiian Herald over five years ago. My father, being a transplanted *kamaina* living in California, subscribed to this bimonthly newspaper to stay connected to the islands. In any case, the story introduced Harry as a "healer." It's rare to see a story on any type of mystic; I thought the public generally reserved these types of stories for the tabloids. However, this story thoroughly intrigued me. I had hoped to meet him "someday" not knowing when the opportunity would ever present itself.

Fast forward to April 2008 ... I had been traveling back and forth to Hawaii for the past three years while working with Japanese American veterans but had not thought of Harry Kuboi until this particular trip. Thoughts of Harry started to distract me; I felt compelled to contact him. Granted, I had no contact information for Harry so I began the arduous task of looking-up his name in the local phone book.

After a few disconnected and wrong numbers, I finally managed to dial the correct one. A lady answered the phone and I asked to speak with Harry Kuboi. She politely asked what my business was with "Mr. Kuboi" and I introduced myself as the CEO of Japanese American Living Legacy and that I wanted to interview him about his life. She gave the phone to Harry who greeted me with a cautious, "Hello?" I have to admit that I was nervous; I usually am not nervous when requesting to do an oral history. However, this oral history seemed different. After I explained to Harry my intentions, he warmly invited me to come over the next day. "I'll be waiting in the garage," he said.

As I walked toward Harry, I first noticed the grey doves that were congregating on his driveway. The Hawaiian Herald article I had read distinctly mentioned the oddity of this familiar flock and what the birds represented. Harry confirmed it for me, "The doves are spirits who had passed on." Harry had provided a chair for me as I sat in his garage beside him. I tried not to look nervous but I was a little apprehensive. As the interview progressed, one grey dove made it a point to walk around my feet; it wasn't scared at all.

I questioned Harry about his childhood. He described growing up in a family of five children and that he was the second oldest son. Harry had a typical *Nisei* childhood filled with hardship and war memories but he clearly perseveres. He served in the military in the occupied forces but he didn't care to go into too much detail. Harry wanted to discuss something more urgent and personal to whom he is now; he wanted to talk about his psychic abilities, healings and his exorcisms. Again, these are topics rarely discussed in mainstream American news let alone the Japanese American community.

Harry exhibited little concern over the possibility of his opinions and experiences sounding far-fetched. He deeply believes in his abilities. During the interview he would often stare off into the distance talking to something or someone he addressed only as "Father."

At one point in the interview, Harry asked me to focus on a particular house just down the street from where we were sitting. He asked me if I believed in spirits. I nodded "yes" but admitted that I had never seen one nor did I have the desire to meet any. He continued to stare at that one house and went into a trancelike state, moving his lips but not really saying much. He came out of the trance and said there are seven spirits that reside in that house. His eyes tracked left and right while he turned his head from side to side as if he was watching the spirits and what they were doing. He just said, "That house will never be peaceful until those spirits leave."

Harry shared that he did not feel he had psychic abilities while growing up. He didn't realize he was psychic until he began to practice Reiki in 1975, a Japanese system of promoting wellness in the human body by strengthening and normalizing vital energy fields through touch. He studied under the famous Reiki master, Eitoku Usui. Harry was one of twenty people who successfully studied to become a Reiki Master.

I asked Harry how many spirits or entities he felt were malevolent. He claims that 74% are bad; I thought that number was rather high. It made me uncomfortable too. He went on to describe that 99% of all illnesses are from entities from other planets and only 1% are caused by the food or environment. Harry describes entities in great detail and reveals what they are capable of doing to the human body. HIV, cancers, even mental illness were all products of entities. Thus, Harry proclaimed cures will never be found in our lifetime by modern medicine.

Harry decisively calculates how many spirits reside in a location or inside of a person. He told me the number of spirits that reside at the Hawaii state capitol. Upon that figure, I had "chicken skin" because I had just been to the state capitol two days earlier. In fact,

the tour guide informed us that many believed that there were many spirits haunting the state capitol; she had not seen any and did not care to experience a spiritual connection.

Harry asked me if I believed in Reiki. I told him I have read about it and even went so far as to formally study it briefly but never attained the rank of master. He grabbed two books off of his table and handed them to me. "Please read my books," he urged. Harry's books are very difficult to find in stores. Harry pointed out the title of his second book; it was printed in bright blue foil. "When you meditate, concentrate on this color blue, it will offer protection."

Most people might easily dismiss Harry as some kind of "crazy old man." But Harry's abilities are notable and are truly validated by his humble yet confident demeanor. Harry continued to show me illustrations of entities he hopes to include in his next book.

Harry asked to examine my hands as we concluded the interview. He took my right hand and described my illnesses. Since the age of 19, I have battled Crohn's Disease; sometimes I would go years without symptoms. Harry was unaware that I had arrived on the islands feeling some symptoms of a recurrence; however, Harry went into a trancelike state and after a few moments said I would not experience those problems again. I did feel better for the rest of the trip, is this real?

I left Harry Kuboi that day knowing our paths would cross again someday, just not knowing how or when. I assured him that I would write an article on him and do my best to educate the public on his abilities. I began the interview "on the fence" about my own beliefs in healings but left thinking that there is a lot I don't know about metaphysics. Just because we don't know or can't see it, doesn't mean it doesn't exist.

Harry Kuboi is available for healings and exorcisms. There is a monetary charge for his services. Harry is currently working on his third book on Reiki which will illustrate entities from other planets and illnesses. For more information on Harry Kuboi please visit his website at <http://www.byguy.com/harrykuboi/accredit.htm>. I have personally interviewed over 100 people who contribute to our history as a community. However, Harry Kuboi's oral history is definitely one of the most memorable.

Japanese American Living Legacy is a California nonprofit (501.c.3) organization based out of California State University, Fullerton. All of the board of directors, staff and advisors are volunteers. For more information on Japanese American Living Legacy, please visit their website at www.jalivinglegacy.org or call them at (657) 278-4483.

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