

Mill Valley Oral History Program

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Al Klyce

**An Oral History Interview
Conducted by Carrie Sheriff in 2012**

TITLE: Oral History of Al Klyce
INTERVIEWER: Carrie Sheriff
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In this oral history, architect, builder, and Mill Valley native Al Klyce recounts his life. Born in 1931, Al is the grandson of one of Mill Valley's early pioneers, Harvey Klyce, who came from Tennessee and settled in the area in 1895. Al discusses his schooling in Mill Valley and recollects some of the old businesses in town when he was growing up. Al recounts how as young man he considered going into the ministry after being inspired by Gordon Foster, the minister of the Community Church, but then changed his mind after being introduced to Zen Buddhism by Alan Watts in 1951. Al subsequently moved to Japan to study carpentry, and stayed there for two years. In Osaka, Al met his wife Shoko, and after moving back to Mill Valley they raised three kids together. Al discusses some of the houses he has designed and built over the course of his career, including his own house where this oral history was conducted, and shares the ideas of space and principles of design that have informed his work. Al concludes his oral history by praising Mill Valley where all three of his and Shoko's children live with their own families, the greater clan getting together frequently.

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Oral History of Al Klyce
July 31st, 2012

Editor's note: This transcript has been reviewed by Al Klyce, who made minor corrections and clarifications to the original.

00:00 Carrie Sheriff: Good afternoon, Al. This is Al Klyce sitting in his most beautiful, serene, special house, and I'm Carrie Sheriff. I've been living in Mill Valley for close to 50 years now, so I've seen some changes, but not the ones that you have seen Al. Al, you've been a resident here for how long?

00:26 Al Klyce: Well, ever since I was born here in 1931. And other than having traveled from places from time to time, I've lived in Mill Valley my entire life.

00:39 Carrie Sheriff: Well, what a gem you are. [chuckles]

00:42 Carrie Sheriff: Where were you born?

00:45 Al Klyce: In my parents' house on 34 Eugene Street, here in Mill Valley.

00:51 Carrie Sheriff: What was that like, that house that you lived in growing up?

00:56 Al Klyce: Well, my grandfather — I'd like to back up — moved to Mill Valley in 1895 and he built his house there at 501 Throckmorton. And he had a caretaker's house behind it for the barn. He had horses that pulled the lumber carts. Then when my parents got married, they moved into the caretaker's house, and so that's the house that he remodeled, added on to, and where I grew up.

01:26 Carrie Sheriff: And that's on Eugene?

01:28 Al Klyce: Yes.

01:29 Carrie Sheriff: You had mentioned a home that had a big ballroom. Whose home was that?

01:34 Al Klyce: Yes, that was the house.

01:36 Carrie Sheriff: That was yours?

01:37 Al Klyce: Yes, that was my father's house.

01:38 Carrie Sheriff: Oh, your father's house.

01:39 Al Klyce: Yes, my father and mother's house.

01:41 Carrie Sheriff: It was so unique to see such a wonderful room. They must have had a lot of joy in that house with music and dancing.

01:51 Al Klyce: It had big ballroom, and we had big parties there, dancing and so forth, Christmas parties, and a big fireplace, and a big window with a view of Mt Tamalpais. It was really a very unique room.

02:06 Carrie Sheriff: The good old days of Mill Valley.

02:09 Al Klyce: Yes.

02:10 Carrie Sheriff: So, you were born 1931?

02:12 Al Klyce: Mm-hmm. Yes.

02:14 Carrie Sheriff: Now, the Klyce name is quite prominent in building and design in Mill Valley. Can you briefly say where you are on the genealogical —

02:29 Al Klyce: Okay, well I am the grandson of my grandfather. And he moved here, like I said, in 1895 with my grandmother. And then my father was born in 1896. I have two older brothers, born in 1922 and '24, and a sister who is a year and a half older than I am, who was born in 1929.

03:02 Carrie Sheriff: So, you have a big family of your own here that lived in that home?

03:06 Al Klyce: Yes.

03:08 Carrie Sheriff: Now, how do you fit in? You're the grandson of Harvey. And what's the middle name there?

03:14 Al Klyce: Harvey Asbury Klyce.

03:15 Carrie Sheriff: Asbury Klyce.

03:16 Al Klyce: Yes, that's it.

03:17 Carrie Sheriff: And just briefly, where did he come from? How did he end up in Mill Valley?

03:22 Al Klyce: He came from Tennessee and was from a family of builders there. He came to San Francisco to study and become a builder, and so he met my grandmother there, and about a year before they got married and then moved to Mill Valley.

03:41 Carrie Sheriff: And he built the house before he moved into it?

03:44 Al Klyce: Yes.

03:45 Carrie Sheriff: That's talent, wasn't it?

03:46 Al Klyce: Yes, yes.

03:48 Carrie Sheriff: Did he build it himself? He had people helping him?

03:50 Al Klyce: He had people who helped him. I don't think he got out too much with his carpenter's apron, that type of thing, but he had it built.

04:00 Carrie Sheriff: And he was the designer?

04:01 Al Klyce: Yes.

04:01 Carrie Sheriff: And you're a designer.

04:02 Al Klyce: Yes.

04:03 Carrie Sheriff: Your life was such then when you were raised in Mill Valley you had thoughts about what you wanted to do when you grew up.

04:11 Al Klyce: Yes.

04:12 Carrie Sheriff: And what were those thoughts as a child?

04:13 Al Klyce: Well, all over the place. My two older brothers became structural engineers, and I wanted to be like them, so I wanted to be an engineer until I was about, oh I don't know, in high school. And then I was going to the Community Church and I met the minister there, Gordon Foster, and I was very, very inspired by him. He's one of the most loving persons I've ever met, and I wanted to be like him, so I wanted to be a minister. For about eight years, I thought to be a minister. I wanted to go to the Pacific School of Religion and study religion and become a minister, a congregational minister. Well, I can continue.

05:07 Carrie Sheriff: Yes, please do.

05:08 Al Klyce: For eight years I was going to do that. And then about 19 — when was it? 1951. I met Alan Watts and I got introduced to Zen Buddhism. I used to go to Alan's lectures and that really put a monkey wrench into my plans because between Christianity and Buddhism, Christianity is a dualistic religion — God and man are separate — and in Buddhism, man and God are together. So, this put me into a philosophical bind between Buddhism and Christianity, and ended the prospect of becoming a minister. I just couldn't proceed from that point.

06:00: After that I just decided I would become a social worker. So, I got a job later on at Hillcrest Juvenile Hall, where I was a deputy probation officer, and worked with children there, and so forth. I did that for three or four years, but I didn't really like it. At the same time, I was thinking of becoming a pianist and I was studying the piano three to five hours a day, plus working about eight to 12 to 16 hours a day, plus going to school full-time. Back then, I used to drink about 25 cups of coffee a day and I was wondering why I would start vibrating. [chuckles]

06:44: I studied piano with Vladimir Brenner, a very, very famous pianist who studied with Toscanini in the NBC Symphony Orchestra. He was teaching at San Francisco State and hired him as my teacher. We had two lessons a week, two 38-minute lessons a week, and I did very well with him. And I had two recitals with his students in a little theater at San Francisco State, which was quite something. I did that two times. But then I realized that I didn't really start studying piano until I was way, way too old, until I was 17. You need to be about five or six. I really never could do that unless I had a second career to support myself to do that.

07:35: And so, with the influence of Alan Watts, and seeing all those Japanese samurai movies and things like that, I decided to go to Japan and study carpentry. Through a series of introductions, I found two architects who had studied with Frank Lloyd Wright, who in turn introduced me to this man in Kyoto, Timitaro Nishikawa. They wrote letters of introduction, and I went there and I studied, as an apprentice, carpentry for two years. That really is the beginning of my career as an architect, builder, and so forth.

08:23 Carrie Sheriff: And the so forth is what?

[laughter]

08:25: When you look at your home, I've watched you over the years, especially while building the bridge every weekend when I'd come up West Blithedale. It was meticulous and it was done with such specifics and such dedication, I was very impressed. Now your home here, did you design and built this home?

08:52 Al Klyce: Yes. I designed it and I did more than 90% of the work myself including wiring, plumbing, windows, glass, tile, and so forth. But I would like to just go back and make a comment about when I was in Japan. I wasn't really thinking of designing Japanese-style buildings, but I wanted to have the technique and ability to be able to do anything in terms of carpentry or design and be able to build it myself. If any of you have been to Japan and have gone to the temples and gardens there, when you would go to such a place — there's 1200 temples in Kyoto that. I have probably been to more temples than just about anybody. But they made you feel wonderful. There's something about being in one of those temple gardens and, "How does this make me feel so good? And what about the design? And how is it do that?" So, I would make practice designs while I was in Japan. I would try this form and that form. I'd take the torii gate and design a house using that form. Or the Ise Shrine: I would use that form just as a

form to make designs. I made all of these designs and models and things so that some of these came at the beginning of my real career in designing.

10:29: And so, when I came back here, I wanted to be able to do things that would make you feel that way. It doesn't have to be Japanese, but the space, even the gardens, your hedge, your flowers, your trees would be planted, to create the space. And that space sort of moves; it never allows you to see anything at one time. You have to move to find your way; it's sort of a movement through the design. And then to design a house, here or anywhere, you wanna think about how the person is brought into the house, how he moves, and how the feeling from one space to another allows you to just feel good. I have this philosophy about when you're looking —

11:33: It's like doing Zazen, a meditation sitting, and you're looking through your eyes, your eyes are like a window of awareness, and the eyelids are like a frame. And then outside of that is another frame, and going inward there's another frame of the mind and so forth, of this awareness system that we have. And so, when coming in to an architectural environment, I wanted to create these frames of space. So even though a person wasn't aware of what was happening to them, the space would lead them to have this experience of this utmost inward feeling of awareness into the outside world.

12:25 Carrie Sheriff: That's wonderful. You can feel it here in this home. If you don't mind, we'll go back a little bit to your childhood in Mill Valley.

12:31 Al Klyce: Alright.

12:33 Carrie Sheriff: You went to the schools in Mill Valley, all the public schools?

12:38 Al Klyce: Yes, I went to Summit School for six months before they closed it down. And then I went to Old Mill School for six years, and then to Park School for two years. They had the seventh and eighth grades there — it was like a middle school — and then on to Tam High School for four years. Then I went to College of Marin for two years, and then after that I went to San Francisco State for four years and graduated with a Bachelor in Philosophy and a minor in music.

13:12 Carrie Sheriff: Oh, wonderful, wonderful.

13:13 Al Klyce: No training in architecture. [chuckles]

13:15 Carrie Sheriff: And do you remember some of the stores and buildings that were downtown as a child, when you would go through there and play with your friends?

13:24 Al Klyce: Oh yes, I remember — what's it called now? Esposti's used to be on Throckmorton. It used to be an ice cream parlor, and it's now that Italian restaurant.

13:36 Carrie Sheriff: La Ginestra?

13:37 Al Klyce: La Ginestra. I remember my brother taking me there. You could look in the window and they had a great, big ice cream machine. You could see them making it and you'd go in. He was nine years older than me, so he would take me in and treat me to an ice cream cone. I remember [one time] I ran out and the ice cream fell out of the cone. And I remember crying [chuckles] and he bought me another one. And on the corner where La Coppa is, that used to be a department store, a three-story department store. Down in the basement was certain wears, and the main floor was where the coffee shop was, and then upstairs, was where — what do you call it? The clear vision, or clear — what is it called? Clear something.

14:30 Carrie Sheriff: Clearance?

14:32 Al Klyce: It's kind of a doctor's place.

14:36 Carrie Sheriff: Oh, the spa?

14:37 Al Klyce: Yeah, upstairs. But anyway, that was a department store. And then, going down the other street, there was a soda place, Baltimore's Soda. The mother of one of my friends took the other kid and I in there and we had a milkshake drinking contest. Stuff like that.

14:56 Carrie Sheriff: How many did you drink?

14:57 Al Klyce: I don't remember; they were pretty big. [chuckles] There weren't any trees in Lytton Square; they hadn't planted any yet. They had taken the trains stall stop in 19 — when was that? 1929? No, later. The trains were running to Sausalito from Mill Valley. And I remember taking a ferry ride. Taking the train from the book depot to Sausalito, getting on a ferry boat and going across. I think I was about five years old, and I remember that day. It was very rough, and the tables had these little cut-outs, and my parents bought me a glass of milk and it was in one of those cut-outs so it wouldn't slide off the table. But the boat tipped and I remember the milk spilled and I cried again. [laughs]

15:54 Carrie Sheriff: That's very, very interesting. What are some of your first memories of Mill Valley as a child?

16:04 Al Klyce: Well, when I was very young, I would start building model airplanes and things like that. I'd build these little model airplanes that were bigger than me. [chuckles]

16:25 Carrie Sheriff: Did you have help from your dad doing those things?

16:27 Al Klyce: Well, yeah, he got me a piece of celotex and some wax paper and some pins and razor blades and things, and I would cut and make all of these things.

16:37 Carrie Sheriff: The beginning of your architectural and building career. Did you hike on the mountain at all?

16:44 Al Klyce: In high school? Yeah. A friend of mine and I, we'd hike up there. We didn't know how to get up there, we just started walking, and we went straight up. [chuckles] We didn't know where the trails were back then. Yeah, we did a lot of those things.

17:00 Carrie Sheriff: Bushwhacking?

17:00 Al Klyce: Yeah, bushwhacking. And we went over to Alpine Lake and just all over the place.

17:05 Carrie Sheriff: That's a ways away. [chuckles] Now, how did you meet your wife?

17:11 Al Klyce: Well, she's Japanese. In Kyoto, there was a hotel, and they were remodeling the hotel. One day a sign said, "Open house day. The new wing is open." So, I went in to explore, and I was up on the fifth floor, and my [future] wife was working as a floor clerk. I asked her in my terrible Japanese if I could look at some of the rooms, so she showed me a few rooms. And it's interesting that there was a rotary convention staying there that day, from Mill Valley, I bumped into somebody from Mill Valley right there. My future wife was at her desk, and I remember looking at her and talking to the man from Mill, and she'd kinda looked at me and blushed. So, that's how I first met her.

18:09: About a couple weeks later, I was in the area, and so I came by again to see if I could see her, and I couldn't find her. So, I forgot all about it, and about six weeks after the first time I met her, I'm walking up Kawaramachi, the main street, and I see these two ladies coming down the street. And I start looking at her, and she kept looking at me, and I kept looking at her. And that's very unusual for a Japanese woman, to look at you. They usually put their head down or put their hand over their mouth or something like that. She kept looking at me, and as we passed, she kind of blinked. And I said, "Oh, that's the lady that was working at the Kyoto Hotel."

18:57: So, I'm walking in the direction, I'm only about 10 or 15 minutes away from the Kyoto Hotel, and I'm thinking — well, when I first came to Japan, there was this young man who helped me get established. He took me to the Utano Youth Hostel, where I stayed. Anyway, he had gotten a job at the Kyoto Hotel, at the front desk. And so, I'm walking up there and I thought, "Well, I'll go see him." So, he was there and I said, "There's somebody that I'd like you to find out who she is." Shoko was wearing a lapel number, and I swear that I never at any time tried to memorize that number, but I pretty well have — what do you call it?

19:47 Carrie Sheriff: Photographic memory?

19:47 Al Klyce: Photographic memory. And as I was walking up to the hotel, I'm thinking, "What was that number?" I'm looking and I'm looking at her blouse and everything and I remembered the number. This is six weeks after the fact. So, I asked my friend at the front desk, "Who's 536?" He found out, he called her up — and this and that, back and forth — and Shoko said, "Oh, I got this American who wants to meet me. He wants to take me out to dinner." She asked some of her friends who said, "Well, why doesn't she do it? Americans usually are very respectable, on the first date anyway." So, we set up a date, and my friend from the front desk came with me and he ate a lot. I didn't hardly eat anything, nor did Shoko. So that was our first date. Then we had another date. I think we took a train ride over to Lake Otsu and back. But to finish the story, we actually had been introduced months before that incident.

21:06 Carrie Sheriff: Really.

21:07 Al Klyce: On Christmas Eve, 1960. I went into this coffee shop, which is called The Muse and met an American fellow that I knew. We were going to go to some kind of a party or something and he was sitting at this table with these two young ladies and he introduced me. It was rather dark in there but when I met her, Shoko, at a later time, the girlfriend remembered me from that time, so we actually had met and had been introduced.

21:49 Carrie Sheriff: Already, yeah.

21:50 Al Klyce: And the "muse" means goddess of inspiration, and it's the name that we've given to the tea house.

22:00 Carrie Sheriff: What is that?

22:01 Al Klyce: The Muse.

22:01 Carrie Sheriff: The Muse. Yes, I've watched you build that as I've hiked up the railroad grade, and you're so consistent, persistent. I mean, your way of working is beautiful; it's very nicely done.

22:16 Al Klyce: Oh, thank you.

22:17 Carrie Sheriff: Let me ask you a couple of other questions. Your family holidays were probably spent at your dad's house?

22:29 Al Klyce: Yes.

22:29 Carrie Sheriff: In the big room?

22:30 Al Klyce: Yes, that's right.

22:31 Carrie Sheriff: That big room.

22:31 Al Klyce: Yes.

22:31 Carrie Sheriff: Okay. And what else do you remember about early days of Mill Valley? What was the most fun thing you did in Mill Valley growing up here? [chuckles] Besides eating ice cream.

22:48 Al Klyce: Ice cream. What age are you thinking about?

22:52 Carrie Sheriff: Oh, I'm thinking of maybe your teens.

22:55 Al Klyce: Oh, okay. Well in my teens, I was going to high school and involved with the Community Church, and Gordon Foster came in, I guess, about 1948. And he got some of the kids together to meet in his office every Thursday afternoon. There'd be about six or seven kids, and we'd go there every week and discuss, and we had more and more fun. Those were very, very inspirational times. He would lead folk dancing and discussions and games, the kind in which you'd tell the person next to you something and they whisper it to the next. We used to do all these things.

23:47 Carrie Sheriff: Telephone.

23:47 Al Klyce: We just used to laugh our heads off. That was so much fun just doing all of those games and stuff like that.

23:55 Carrie Sheriff: He sounds like a wonderful man.

23:56 Al Klyce: Oh he was. And years later, after I came back out of the Army, I helped him to direct the junior high group, and I did the same thing that he used to do.

24:08 Carrie Sheriff: That's awfully nice.

24:08 Al Klyce: I was sort of imitating him.

24:15 Carrie Sheriff: You spent time with your grandfather?

24:19 Al Klyce: I was quite young. Well, as a child I remember he'd be sitting in the chairs, rocking chairs, gray-haired, and he would let me comb his hair. I don't know how old I was, about five years old or something, and I would comb his hair. He'd give me a nickel or something like that. [laughs] Other than just holidays and Christmas and Thanksgiving and things like that, I didn't see him too much. Well, I used to go up there to his house and take some of my friends and he'd be around. He had a billiard room and a big pool table. He built a whole room in his house just for the pool table, and had all those things with the beads on it, so I guess he taught me how to play pool. I hadn't even thought of that.

25:16 Carrie Sheriff: Are you a pretty good player?

25:17 Al Klyce: I'm pretty good, yeah.

25:19 Carrie Sheriff: And he played very well I'm assuming?

25:21 Al Klyce: He must have, yeah. [laughs]

25:25 Carrie Sheriff: The choice of this piece of land, is it because you love Mill Valley so much that you came down and found this place, and have made it a sanctuary for you and your wife?

25:39 Al Klyce: Yes. What's your question?

25:42 Carrie Sheriff: How did you find this parcel?

25:43 Al Klyce: Oh, well, I was doing some work for some people up on Ralston Avenue. We were remodeling their house, and they wanted to expand their parking garage, put a little storage unit on the back. So, I was doing that work and they had this property here that they had bought for horses, but they discovered that this property is absolutely unsuitable for horses. Anyway, I was so interested in the property, so they let me build this addition on their garage as sort of a down payment. So, I worked and made that as a down payment on this property, and that's how it all happened.

26:30 Carrie Sheriff: That's wonderful.

26:31 Al Klyce: They were so nice to me, they let me pay it off over a period of 10 years with no interest.

26:37 Carrie Sheriff: Isn't that wonderful?

26:38 Al Klyce: That was just wonderful. So, we were able to do it, 'cause we've never ever had any money. We have always been hand-to-mouth so to speak.

26:47 Carrie Sheriff: Have you designed other homes in Mill Valley?

26:49 Al Klyce: Yes, for Sam and Janet Daijogo up on Tamalpais Avenue. I think that it's been remodeled a bunch of times — just before you get back to Summit. And the Stromberg house on Throckmorton Lane, I did that in 1960, I think. That's really quite a nice house. It's still there, they've done different things to it. What other whole houses besides this one? A new house in Tiburon that just was finished about two years ago. And gee, I should look at my own sheet, I can't even remember. I had some friends who flew me out to New Hampshire about two years ago and I designed them a house there. Mostly, I have been doing remodeling or almost rebuilding houses. It's almost tearing them down and starting over and getting back the large portions of the house.

27:54 Carrie Sheriff: Oh no.

27:54 Al Klyce: I don't know how many houses I've remodeled. I guess hundreds.

27:57 Carrie Sheriff: So, this runs in your family.

27:58 Al Klyce: Yes.

28:00 Carrie Sheriff: Did you know all the Klyces that were in Mill Valley?

28:03 Al Klyce: Well, there were my grandparents. My father had a brother, and he lived down in Palo Alto. So, I met him and his wife many, many times. And he had a sister. My father was the oldest. Herbert, Marian was the next one. My father designed and built her house in Sausalito, and a year later she came and took care of my grandmother. Then the youngest sister was Caroline. My father built her a very nice house on 200 Molino. It was one of the nice houses.

28:42 Carrie Sheriff: Oh, I think I remember that house.

28:44 Al Klyce: Yeah, really a very nice house.

28:47 Carrie Sheriff: On the down slope?

28:47 Al Klyce: Up slope.

28:49 Carrie Sheriff: Up slope.

28:49 Al Klyce: What's the steep street? Wildomar. You're coming up and making a right at the bend there, before you get to Birch. It's right opposite to Heuters Lane.

29:08 Carrie Sheriff: Oh, okay. I think that was sold a couple of years ago, actually.

29:12 Al Klyce: That's a really nice house, yes.

29:14 Carrie Sheriff: So, if you had to live your life over, would this be the most special place in the world to live?

29:20 Carrie Sheriff: This house, this place? Or Mill Valley?

29:21 Carrie Sheriff: This place and Mill Valley.

29:23 Al Klyce: Oh, absolutely. We're just so fortunate when you think of the world and the turmoil and so forth. I like to be here or I'd like to be in Japan. The people in Japan are so wonderful. They don't allow any guns, or anything like that. The people are so wonderful. It's just that the space in Japan is very tight. People live in very tiny houses. We were just there for our 50th wedding anniversary about a month ago in 2018. Yeah, Japan is wonderful. So, either here or Japan, but my wife likes Italy, too. I

wouldn't mind Italy either, or reach out to France. Mill Valley probably is just the best, nicest place because here we have nature and hiking and San Francisco with the symphony halls and different museums, de Young and MOMA.

30:24 Carrie Sheriff: It couldn't be better, couldn't it?

30:26 Al Klyce: Couldn't be better. And restaurants going north to Saint Helena and things like that.

30:33 Carrie Sheriff: Thank you so much.

30:33 Al Klyce: You're welcome.

30:34 Carrie Sheriff: For your amazing information.

30:37 Al Klyce: Oh, thank you.

30:38 Carrie Sheriff: It is an amazing and wonderful time in Mill Valley. And thank you for your generosity with your time.

30:44 Al Klyce: You're so welcome.

30:47 Carrie Sheriff: We may have some more questions for you down the line. We'll just give you a call and ask you some questions, and you can get that other piece of paper back to me, when I took my scribbly notes the other day.

30:57 Al Klyce: Oh, okay. Sure. [chuckles] I'd be happy to.

31:00 Carrie Sheriff: If there's anything on that. We'll try and locate some more history, and when we do we'll let you know what we receive.

31:06 Al Klyce: Well, I hope I was able to give you some answers.

31:09 Carrie Sheriff: Oh, it was wonderful. Your joy, which is emitted not only from you but it's throughout this whole home. It's a special, special place, and you've done a wonderful job in your life and in your building.

31:28 Al Klyce: Thank you very much.

31:32 Carrie Sheriff: Anything you —

31:34 Al Klyce: Yeah. I like to tell you a little bit about my family, about my wife, Shoko, and our three children. My wife is such an incredible giving person. She's just absolutely amazing, and beautiful, thoughtful, and she has 2000 years of Japanese culture invested in her, in her genes and so forth. We've had three children. The oldest is Ren. He does movies and sound design, and he's been nominated for four Oscars. And then

my daughter, she's next. She works for him; she's his manager. And our younger son, Tai, used to also work for Ren, and now he's working for one of the other persons who used to work for Ren in Pix company. So, they're all doing really very well. My older son's wife, Rachel, she's very, very lovely. She's an actress, or an actor as they call them these days, and she's done a lot of Tennessee Williams and other great plays. And then, Misa, she has a great, wonderful husband. He was an artist, then became a carpenter, and they have two wonderful kids, probably seven and 11, and they're doing really well.

33:15: My youngest son has a great girlfriend, and while we were in Japan celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary just a little over a month ago, at one of the family meetings, we're all there and he got down on his hands and knees and proposed marriage to his girlfriend Vessy in front of all the family members, and made everybody just cry. So, they're doing all very well, and we're just blessed with such a wonderful family. We get together at least once a week. Everybody lives in Mill Valley and that's just incredible. It's just wonderful.

34:00 Carrie Sheriff: Oh, good for you. Getting together, that's so important. What a lucky, lucky family you have. Thank you for sharing all of this.

34:07 Al Klyce: You're welcome.