

149 Story Cal Laura Kwong 1  
Suite 200  
SR 95401

Before SR I took a class in SJ in  
57 w/ Dr. McCullough on Chinese/Jp  
religion + we went to Sokeji and I  
met Tobase there. Bills 1st visit +  
Ryokan already born and named w/  
Jp name of San Master poet. My  
1st + girl would be Dufouen about  
beautiful woman wanted go monast  
too beautiful - scorched face w/ iron  
That's how I felt - outside long hair  
and inside sincere - willing to  
do anything to get in there - But  
she was me - willing to do anything  
to get there. Ryokan 7/11/59. We lived  
on Larkspur. We married 57 - in  
Falo Alto 57, 58 - Still in Palo  
Alto July 59 when he saw article  
IA '60 moved to Larkspur around July 60.  
There 6 mo - moved - met  
Bill M. Neid - moved October

be close Sokoji. Poster showed <sup>LK2</sup>  
away by Ido Church  
Maybe "Bazaar" that P. D. <sup>-DC</sup> said  
Problems w/ means more why  
Buddhism? than why Japanese  
Better if Chinese but many worried  
about both of us - lifestyle  
ordained w/S.Tas

when 1st went in zenodo what  
1. the - no pews - oh  
yes

Fainting - 1st Sat or long story  
2, 3 show they - ~~wanted~~  
fainted as stood - It was  
unusual I was there sitting -  
I'd go Wed eve 2nd, Sunday w/ kids  
Bill always going - I had ~~the~~  
kids 2 or 3

I want to talk to SR LK3  
but one Wed but he mentioned  
"you don't have to come to sit, your  
practice can be at home" it made  
a big impact on me. Of  
Buddha nature everywhere & in  
my house w/ children.  
If you're devoted it can be  
everywhere and won't be watered  
down - devote myself to  
forgetting the self, finding the  
Buddha in my house. To  
be wherever you are in wholehearted  
devotion practice. I had to be  
w/ children - had conversation  
w/ SR told him I was guilty  
cause not present w/ children.  
He said women/men nature  
diff - when I left felt completely  
calm & whole

Laura

Kwong forgot about the bird and the cat and started going to zazen and lectures regularly. ~~Laura tagged along with him even though it wasn't her shtick.~~ *and she went over there one* slamy  
~~They were used to doing everything together.~~ *and she went over there one* slamy  
~~Her first day was a Saturday~~  
 morning. She was dizzy with pain after having sat the zazen period without moving which her husband had told her was the rule. Then she stood too quickly and fainted onto the floor. At breakfast she broke a raw egg over her dress because she thought it was hard boiled, not being familiar with the Japanese custom of mixing raw egg with hot rice for breakfast. She kept coming and she loved suzuki-sensei but her heart wasn't in it--she felt like she was just her husband's shadow. One day Suzuki went up to her after the service and told her, "You know you don't have to come just because your husband does." She felt strangely empowered by what he said, and relieved. cut Laura

Bill Kwong's life ~~had~~ <sup>had</sup> reversed direction and in increments his appearance and lifestyle changed. For one thing his apartment ~~had~~ <sup>had</sup> lost a heavy layer of dust--mainly as a result of Suzuki's visit for dinner one evening. Suzuki hadn't been inside long before his robes started to acquire dust and cat hair. So instead of sitting and talking to them he started cleaning up. Bill and Laura joined him. Dinner had to wait. No

Suzuki talked to the students one day about the importance of coming to the zendo clean and neat. Bill started to wear freshly laundered clothes and lost his goatee. But Bill did not feel criticized by his new teacher--on the contrary, he felt Suzuki was the first person he'd met who unconditionally approved of him. He was willing to sit zazen day after day without moving his aching legs at an hour when he used to go to sleep. He was willing to change his lifestyle because he could feel that Suzuki had total confidence in him--more than he had in himself. Rather than being required to have faith in Suzuki, Suzuki demonstrated faith in him, and this