

Contents

Translator's Preface — VII

Acknowledgments — XV

Preface — XIX

Introduction:

**The Stories of the Survivors of the Japanese Military *Comfort Girls*-
*Women: The Making of the Memories and Meaning — 1***

Why the 'Story'? — 1

**To Speak About the Experiences of the Japanese Military *Comfort*
*Girls-Women — 3***

Problems in the Reproduction and Editing process of Oral Statements — 5

An Unfinished Story — 9

Explanatory Notes — 13

Glossary — 15

**"I Never Dreamt, Not in My Wildest Dreams, That So Many Soldiers
Would Come to Me Like That":**

Gong Jeom-yeop — 17

The Silk Factory — 19

The First Customer — 21

Scary Sunday — 22

Backscratching — 24

Rat Poison — 25

First Love — 27

Farewell — 28

An Old Man — 30

A Shaman — 31

Tiresome Men — 32

Investigation — 34

Resentment — 35

Interviewer's Commentary: Self-Censorship and Lies — 36

Choi Kija

“You Japs, Without Your War, Why Would We Have Gone There?”:

Kim Hwa-ja (Pseudonym) — 41

The Four-Eyed Mr. Kim — 43

Asama Maru — 45

Kagetsu — 46

Bizarre Bastards — 48

The White Pill — 51

Suicide Attempt — 52

Talking in Whispers — 53

Destiny — 55

An Assumed Name — 57

Deep Rooted Sickness — 58

Compensation — 58

Interviewer’s Commentary: Ariadne’s Thread — 59

Cha Hyeyoung

“It Is Like a Dream That I Survived. But an Utterly Terrifying Nightmare of a Dream”:

Chung Seo-un — 63

Lie — 65

Collecting Cheonyeos — 66

A Faraway Country — 67

Semarang — 68

Ruthless Bastards — 69

Addiction — 70

Quinine — 71

Concentration Camp — 71

Alcohol Smell — 73

An Arranged Marriage — 74

Two Sons — 75

Old Man — 77

Woolhwabyung — 78

Interviewer’s Commentary: Nightmare — 79

Kim Dong-hee

“When I Try to Speak of What Is Buried in My Heart, It Feels Like My Heart Is Bursting”:

Kang Il-chul — 85

The Youngest Daughter — 87

A Policeman with a Sword — 88
 Changchun — 89
 The Life of a *Comfort Girl-Woman* — 90
 Mr. Kim — 92
 First Husband — 95
 A Nurse — 97
 Betrayal — 99
 Return — 100
 Resentment — 102
 Interviewer's Commentary: 'For the Country' of Kang Il-chul — 103
 Oh Yeonju

"How Can I Avenger Myself?":
Seok Soon-hee (pseudonym), Ahn Jeom-soon (real name) — 109
 Escape — 111
 Weighing the Weight — 112
 Earthen House — 113
 Soldiers — 114
 Opium — 116
 Syphilis — 117
 Liberation — 118
 The Return Home — 119
 American Army Unit — 120
 Making a Living — 121
 My Family Members — 123
 Hope — 124
 Interviewer's Commentary: Dry Cough — 125
 Yoon Meehyang

"That History, At First, I Was Ashamed About It, So I Was Not Able to Talk Very Clearly":
Lee Ok-seon — 131
 Her Passion for Learning — 133
 On That Day — 134
 Airport — 135
 A Tin-Roofed House — 136
 Bruise — 137
 Comrade Shim — 139
 First Marriage — 140

Forlorn Parting — 141
Second Husband — 142
My Poor Son — 144
Midwife — 145
Attempt to Return — 146
Interviewer's Commentary: Lee Ok-seon's Homecoming — 148
Oh Jiyeon

"Never, Ever Forget":
Lim Jeong-ja — 153
A Spring — 155
Tatami Room — 157
Cast — 159
Yoto Furimo — 161
Being Treated like a Criminal — 162
Hatanaka Chutaicho — 164
Meeting and Separation — 165
Homecoming — 167
Lingering Attachment — 169
Han — 171
Interviewer's Commentary: A Pair of Glasses and a Golden Watch — 172
Kang Hyunju

"Do Not Ask Me About My Past Life. It Pains My Heart":
Roh Chung-ja — 177
Old Maid — 179
Gwonbeon — 180
Coverless Train — 181
Asahi Shokudo — 183
Entertainment Performers — 185
Women from the Same Hometown — 186
Armband — 187
A Dog Hole — 188
Peddling — 190
A Noble Man — 192
Sad Heart — 192
Interviewer's Commentary: The Memory of Sad Times — 193
Kim Eunkyung

“You Come and Give Us Compensation and Beg Us for Forgiveness”:

- Jang Jeom-dol — 199**
 Cotton Factory — 201
 Running Away — 202
 Singapore — 203
 The Japs — 204
 Good Men — 206
 Syphilis — 207
 Dead Friend — 207
 Back Home — 208
 Gossip — 209
 Food Business — 210
 Aftereffects — 211
 A Boy — 212
 Registration — 214
 Weeping — 214
 Interviewer’s Commentary: Dry Tears — 215
 Choi Kija

**“To Whom Shall I Say This? Does Anyone in Heaven or on Earth Know
 What I Went Through?”:**

- Kim Bong-yi (pseudonym), Choi Seon-soon (real name) — 221**
 Draft Notice — 223
 Stable-Like Comfort Facilities — 226
 Accessories — 227
 Mental Disturbance — 230
 Homecoming — 230
 Relationship — 232
 Registration — 235
 Nightmare — 236
 Redress and Me Today — 237
 Interviewer’s Commentary: In Search of Lost Memories — 239
 Jin Ju

“There Was Not a Thing I Could Do that I Wanted”:

- Kim Soon-ak — 245**
 Symptoms of Doubt — 247
 Licensed Quarters — 248
 Police Officer Lim — 249

Business — 251

Name — 253

Yamada Factory — 253

The House of Prostitution — 255

Meat — 256

Bookkeeping — 258

Refugee — 259

Shame — 260

Interviewer's Commentary: The Registration Certificate of *Comfort*

***Girls-Women* — 261**

Cha Hyeyoung

"It Passed Along With the Blow of Wind and Waves of Water, Time Has":

Gil Won-ok — 267

A Penalty — 269

***Yokone* Surgery — 270**

Going Back Home — 272

Back to China — 272

Tokiwa — 274

Violence — 275

Contest — 277

An Official Gazette — 277

Liberation — 278

Housekeeping — 279

Uterine Surgery — 280

Living Together — 281

Meeting My Son — 282

Secret Revealed — 284

Wish — 284

Interviewer's Commentary: The Story of Gil Won-ok at the End of Many

Twists and Turns — 286

Choi Kija

**The Story of Failed Interviews: The Silence of Cho Yi Seon, the Secret
of Kim Dduk Bbal — 293**

Jungae Park

Some Works on *Comfort Girls-Women* — 303