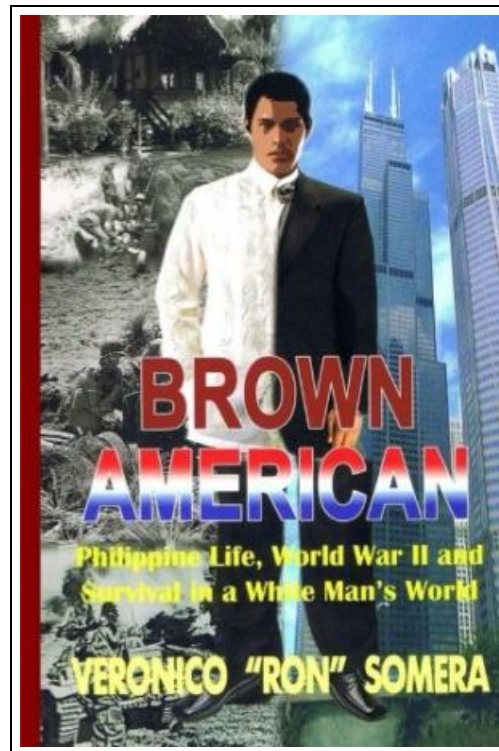


## Brown American: Philippine Life, World War II and Survival in a White Man's World



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***(Madyson Rutherford)***

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 ----- Why Brown American? ----- On June 2, 1973, I married Millicent O. Pasaporte, a Filipina nurse on the Work Exchange Program, at the Our Lady of Help Christians Catholic Church in Chicago, Illinois. By March of 1974, our daughter, Kimberly, was born. ----- As has been the common practice of married young couples who have immigrated to America, petitioning for their parents is the next logical step they do after they become Naturalized US Citizens. Parents are a tremendous asset once they set foot on American soil. They do not only keep watch on the house while their children go to work, they also do invaluable household chores, cook favorite childhood dishes and, most importantly, babysit their grandchildren. (Culturally, mother-in-law jokes don't fly with Filipinos. In-laws are welcome to stay with married children for as long as they wish.) --  
 ----- I did just that - applied for my retired parents coming. In October, 1974, I met them at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport. They were new immigrants with Green Cards in their possession. My father, Alejandro, and mother, Corazon, appeared timidly amazed and bewildered by what they saw around them. I gave them a tour of downtown Chicago before we proceeded to my apartment in Oak Park, a suburb west of the city. I could see the fascination on their faces as they saw tall buildings - especially the Sears Tower where I worked, the tallest building in the world at the time (the building on the left shown on the cover of this book) - glittering neon lights, huge department stores and...

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