

A Noh drama ( 能 )

## Neo ADACHIGAHARA ( 新安達原 )

Theme A madness from love, and the relieve of it, and an insane consideration in Japan ( SONTAKU 忖度 ).  
Cast SITE ( leading actor ) : a **woman** ( ogress )  
WAKI ( supporting actor ) : a **priest** ( Buddhist )  
Scene The field of Adachi of Fukusima prefecture in Japan, in middle autumn.

1. **PRIEST** : ( course ) It is our rule to travel with SUZUKAKE robe ( 鈴懸衣 ) . The poor my robe, have faded with chilly dew.  
( name oneself ) I am YAMABUSHI Pilgrimage ( 山伏の巡礼 ) , walking around various countries.
2. **CHANT** : He abandon himself, and take a walking tour ( 捨身行脚 ) . The religious austerities ( 禁欲生活 ) , the pilgrimage to Kumano ( 熊野 ) fur various countries, are the custom of all Buddhist ( 仏門の習い ) .
3. **PRIEST** : Now I want to practice of the Buddhist doctrine, and leave our temple, go to other countries.
4. **CHANT** : Leaved our temple, and visited the Kinoji lagoon ( 紀の路瀉 ) , and passing by the Siono headland ( 潮岬 ) , and enjoy each scenes of the Nisiki beach ( 錦の浜 ) , then my travel robe is fading further.  
Passing few days, I have arrived at the field of Adacigahara ( 安達原 ) in Michinoku region, where they talked about, so I had sought. And I have arrived.
5. **PRIEST** : Oh my God ! Suddenly the day have got dark, there is no human habitation. I have difficulty. Well! there is a light far away. I will go there, beg an overnight stay ( 一夜の宿 ) .
6. **WOMAN** : ( enter ) Indeed, there is no life more dreary than the lonely woman.

7. **CHANT** : A chilly autumn had come to her lonely life. A wind in dawn blow, and cool down her physical, but don't calm down her mental. Every day get dark in vain, the nights with modest dream is her reason for living (生きがい) . Is this her fate?
8. **PRIEST** : May I come in ?
9. **WOMAN** : Who is there ?
10. **PRIEST** : Here is a traveler, please allow me an overnight stay.
11. **WOMAN** : Sorry , this is a shabby house, so you should not stay even a night.
12. **PRIEST** : Oh madam , Could you manage . I am on the strange region, at a loss what to do. I have no shelter from night dew.
13. **WOMAN** : The Place far from town, a cold wind is blowing the pine forest, such humble abode, it is difficult to offer a night lodging.
14. **PRIEST** : Don't worry about hospitality. I only ask a doze in the night, as it were, on a pillow of grass (草枕) . Now, please allow me a lodging.
15. **WOMAN** : Such a house, though I have lived long time, is gloomy.
16. **PRIEST** : I only hope a night lodging, solely cling to the cold door.
17. **WOMAN** : I feel sorry for the figure of begging.
18. **CHANT** : At length, She come out, open the door, and tell him that he might stay here. Although the humble straw mats with weeds, that she hesitantly offers him. He lays himself in the mats, for a while, notices his sleeves got wet with dewdrops or teardrops. In the house of grass, with the restless bedding, on the halfway of travel, there are

gloomy.

19. **PRIEST** : Thank you very much for the tonight lodging.

By the way, that device is a curious for me, what is that?

20. **WOMAN** : Yes, this is a spinning wheel, namely WAKUKASEWA (杵杵輪) ,  
which is the work tool of our humble woman.

21. **PRIEST** : I am interested in the dear works, please perform the night-  
works, and show me the good skill.

22. **WOMAN** : [ as perform ] I am embarrassed to do my humble work, so  
melancholy.

23. **PRIEST** : The owner of the lodging I stay tonight is merciful. The  
night has advanced.

24. **WOMAN** : The moonlight come in ,

25. **PRIEST** : The grateful abode, sweat or tear is shining, the labor is  
more divine than the dance in a floral palace.

26. **CHANT** : Despite of the gaze of a traveler, she performed it. She is  
spinning hems into thread, as if, haul in the glorious old days.

27. **WOMAN** : Not only days but also nights,

28. **CHANT** : It is depressive to get along in life.

29. **WOMAN** : Miserable ! Despite be human being, such living with  
wretched, so I have painful sorrows.

30. **PRIEST** : Please don't mourn for the lost youth. Firstly do you  
maintain your precious body, then a sprig will come, and flower again  
on you. (69への伏線)

31. **CHANT** : In the inhuman world, day in, day out, we are living  
endlessly, but if our souls head for truth way, without praying, we will  
be saved by Divine Providence (心だに誠の道にかないなば祈らずとも神や守らむ) .  
Basically, we are only creation of soils, water, fire, wind and so on.

Therefore we transmigrate six stages (六道輪廻) , the hell, staving, beast, ogre, human, heaven. Now we are human, this is only illusion of a mind, so we repeat life and death, and go around six stage. A young woman with beauty becomes an older with dirty, at length. Why we are attached such transient lives, as a thread clings to a wheel.

[ sing rhythmical ] Speaking of thread, at 5 street in Kyoto (京の五条) , who visited to the lady like a moonflower (夕顔の君) .

32. **WOMAN** : It is the prince Genji (源氏) , he put on a diadem (冠) with threads of ornament (飾り糸) .
33. **CHANT** : The AOI mallow festival (葵祭) in Kamo shrine (賀茂神社) ,
34. **WOMAN** : It is an ox-drawn carriage (牛車) , with ornamental threads.
35. **CHANT** : In spring, like threads, weeping cherry (糸桜) blossoms bloom over.
36. **PRIEST** : Many people had visited.
37. **CHANT** : In autumn, like threads, Japanese pampas grass (すすき) come into ears (穂) .
38. **WOMAN** : I only wait a moon in lonely night.
39. **CHANT** : Now lonely one is spinning thread.
40. **WOMAN** : I am spinning a inanely life.
41. **CHANT** : What to do, in the long time. Like a plover (千鳥) in Akashi (明石市) beach, does she weep all night.
42. **WOMAN** : ( She come to herself ) By the way, tonight is too cold, I will make a fire, go nearby forest and gather firewood (焚き木) . Wait just a moment.
43. **PRIEST** : Thanks, but I never hope the service. it is in darkness, and you are female.
44. **WOMAN** : Don't worry about my works, which is usual lives.

45. **PRIEST** : Then I'll wait you. Come back soon.
46. **WOMAN** : Surely. Anyway, please don't open this room, until I come back here
47. **PRIEST** : Understand. I never open the room.
48. **WOMAN** : Thanks ! By no means, you must not peep into the room.
49. **PRIEST** : Very well, I agree to it.
50. **CHANT** : The priest is a hermit of pilgrimage, now he don't bear the lust to peep the woman bedroom. The woman looked a thoughtful person. Why she had enigmatically disappeared, and long time passed.  
[ a musical accompaniment , an interval ]
51. **PRIEST** : What ? It is mysterious that a nasty smell suddenly hung over.
52. **CHANT** : [ strong and swiftly ] The priest abruptly stand up, and touch the door of the bedroom. Suddenly, the wall has fallen, and horrible corpses (死体) appears. Pity ! the pregnant woman was teared, a baby in the womb was drawn a liver, and festered blood flowed, a bad smell emitted, a rotten meat broken.  
Surely ! This is the Dark Den (黒塚) where the demon lurk in, that is called the field of Adach (安達原) .  
[ The woman appears with a mask of an ogress, and get angry severely ]
53. **WOMAN** : Though you promised so solemn, but have broken. You, namely Koya priest (高野聖) , damn ! prepare yourself for the worst (覚悟せよ) .
54. **CHANT** : [ violently ] The flame of a grudge burns in the woman heart, as if the fire of Kanyo Palace (咸陽宮) rising columns of smokes, raging gales and gusts, roaring thunderbolt of heaven. As if an ogre of rainy night opens his mouth wide, and assaults to eat him at a bite. Iiron

stick, she is shaking violently, overwhelms all around.

55. **PRIEST** : [ silent with hands seal (印契) , and crouch down ] .....

56. **WOMAN** : [ groan ] Why don't you run away.

[ recite ] Silence, the words of no voice, pricks into my heart, like a moonlight breaks into darkness.

57. **CHANT** : Enduring a shame, lend a lodging, perform a spinning, gathering firewood in cold night, to comfort the traveler. Supposing her heart, how can he run away ! as if kicking gravels by back legs.

[ recite ] The mind of gathering firewood had warmed the room, more mild than the bonfire.

58. **PRIEST** : Sorry ! I have no ward to apologize you.

Tell me, what is this, who are they sleeping here ?

59. **WOMAN** : [ moan ] My daughter and her baby in the womb is here.

60. **PRIEST** : As I had feared !

61. **CHANT** : [ narrate ] That is to say, for saving certain princess having an incurable disease, **the woman** believed a fable of a fortuneteller, far do SONTAK (村度) so to speak a guessing other's feeling. She killed a traveling pregnant woman, to rob a liver in the womb, for making the medicine. However, **she** found an amulet of pregnant. In fact, the amulet is that **she** ever gave her daughter, that is, she made sacrifice of her own child to princess, so she couldn't keep sanity.

62. **WOMAN** : It had been fatal.

63 **PRIEST** : Indeed, Heaven might be merciless.

64. **CHANT** : [ powerful ] If Heaven be merciless, only Human should be merciful. Cold a night be, only minds of human should warm a room. Though I can't save the human, then I'd like to live close to the human that Heaven abandoned.

[ recite charms of prayer ] Oh! Fudo Myoo(不動明王) the god of fire with flaming sword and rope, please slashes away material attachments and binds up evil lusts.

65. **PRIEST** : I want to save you, the woman of Adachgahara.

[ play with JUZU(数珠), and chant a spell (呪文) ] On korokoro sendari matougi on abiraunken sowaka untaratakanman. (薬師如来と大日如来に祈る)

66. **CHANT** : He have JUZU prayer, This string bundled up 108 beads that symbolize BONNO (煩惱) , namely lust, envy, anger, gluttony and so on.

[ recite charms of prayer ] One, look one's body, awake one's senses.

One, here one's name, break one's crime. One, listen one's sermon, get great wisdom. One, know one's mind, rest in peace. (不動の本誓の偈文)

[ narrate ] Long ago, a mother couldn't cry with the death of her poor child, but she cried loudly with the disease of an emperor.

[ song ] The cherry blossoms, Japan is too beautiful. Beyond the glory, a sad soul lurked in the shadow, and be wet with tears.

There is a soul, that be abandon from God and Buddha, and wander around the other world. Here is a human, cherishes a wish (願) in heart, and pilgrim various countries.

67. **PRIEST** : [ powerful ] If I , as a Human, doesn't visit the wander souls, who does ! in the world.

68. **WOMAN** : [ peaceful ] I have visited by the human. Though I was abandoned from God and Buddha. Now, I am aware of mercy in human.

69. **CHANT** : [ song refreshing ] Now bitter night has broken.

And heavy fog clear away.

There is no more beautiful than the repented sins.

A wind has blown on Adach field.

The former hermitage has disappeared.

And only a black mound has remained.

I don't know any cause is there.

A flower come out on there.

Only a single flower has come out.

End

*Seich Terada*

Adapt and translate

