KARUKI PLAY

"EDOSODACHI OMATSURI SAHICHI"

Written by Shinhichi Kawatake

LAST ACT

----- Scene of the house of Koito in Yanagibashi
----- Scene on the dike of Yanagihara

TO BE PRESENTED BY KIKUGORO YANGER TROUPE
AT MITSUKOSHI THEATRE FROM FEB. 4 '48 to '48.
CAST

Omatsuri Sahichi
Yanagiya Koito
Kurata Tomohei
O-naka (Denji's sister)
O-tetsu (Kaito's mother)
Otatsu (Kanemon's wife)
Bonsuke (Geisha's samisen cariør)
Yoshimatsu
Sankichi of Tomoe
Palanquin-bearer
Odedeko Denji
Sheriff
Oho (Hair-dresser)
Yoshinoya Tomijiro
Whole stage is a set of a plain house.

In the front to the right is seen a sheves, about three feet long. Under it a bureau fixed in. Next of it a closet, joined to the wall. A samisen on the wall. To the right a room with paper sliding screens closed. To the left, the bamboo lattice-windows, lattice-door with a lantern dedicated to a god, inside of it. Outside of the door, a board fence. Everything is set up as a geisha-house by the Yanagibashi-bridge a paper framed night-light is set in proper place. Odedeko Denji, a gambler dressed in a quilted dressing-gown is about to go to the inner room. Oho stops him.

Oko: I can't allow you to go in while I am keeping the house.

Denji: You talk at random. You are making use of this house for your advantage while they are out. You take my sister and her sweetheart Tomijiro in and let them meet secretly getting something good.

I have just heard their talking. So I want to go in to assure them. Why do you stop me. Bring them out right away.
The talking you have heard is of the guest of this house. I never intended to do such a wrong you guessed.

Then you can allow me to go in.

No, I can't.

(There is a trifle fight between them.

Tomohei comes out of the paper sliding screens in common dress with swords)

Shut up! What do you want to do coming in here?

Then, I made mistake?

You see? Therefore I stopped you.

I am awfully sorry. Excuse me.

I made a great mistake.

(He is about to go)

Just a moment!

Have you any business with me?

Do you say you misunderstood that your sister were meeting with her sweetheart here. There must be something secret, I guess. Tell me all about the details.

The details? That is, my sister O-Naka has an archery-ground, you see. There Yoshinoya Tomijiro, an easy-going son of a draper's shop from Menjaku-cho,
Kanda has happened to come to play and has fallen in love with my sister Naka and meet secretly through this woman's good offices frequently. So I make mistake of she acted as a go-between in their love affair while she looks after this house this evening. I am sorry for my mistake.

Tomo: Oh! You said Yoshinoya? He is my tradesman. I am have something to talk about him secretly with you. Come in with me.

Ko: No, you must not. I don't know what do you to talk, you must not go in, for the mistress of this house is not home ----

Tomo: Never mind, since I am with him nothing wrong would happen to you.

Den: I don't know what do you want to talk with me secretly, but I will accept whatever you offer if you would give me much money.

Tomo: Oh! You said that. I have something to ask in expectation of you.

Den: Now, let's go in.

Tomo: O.K. I have something to talk. With you, secretly. Come in ---- (Both of them goes in.)

Ko: What would they talk about secretly?
The wicked! I will listen them here.

(Draws to the paper sliding-screen.
O-tetsu comes out from the left and comes into the house.)


Ko: Oh! Are you?

Tetsu: How about Mr. Kurata? Is he here? I am afraid he might go while I am out.

Ko: Yes, he is here and is talking something secretly with Denji who had just come on some pretext from his misunderstanding.

(Tomohei comes out)

Tomo: Otetsu, you are too late, aren't you?

Tetsu: Take pleasure. For I have found a good clue to break with Koito and Sahichi.

Tomo: And what's that?

Tetsu: I will tell you in the inner room.

Say, O-ko-san, you may go home now, for you have some business at your home, I guess.

Ko: Then, see me at any time you want.

Tetsu: I see. (O-tetsu goes in/
Ko:

Something wrong would be talked among them. For Denji is wicked as they say and that samurai has a crafty looking, too. Moreover the greedy mother Otetsu takes a role among them. Now I take my role at home, however.

(She retires from the left. Bonsuke comes out.)

Bon:

Say, Koito-san, the sandals don't fit to you?

Aoi:

No. They are not made by Katoriya's in Yoshicho. So I never feel good.

(Coming to the doorway)

Bon:

Koito-san is here home.

(Tomohei. Denji and Otetsu come out.)

Tetsu:

Oh! Are you home, Koito?

Tomo:

Koito, I am waiting for you.

Koi:

Oh! Mr. Kurata, are you waiting me?

Tomo:

Oh, yes. I was waiting for you at the inner room secretly. For I must see you not only for my love but for my uncle, Umede Hachidayuu.

Tetsu:

What do you say?

Tomo:

My uncle, Umede Hachidayuu had loved a maid and got a daughter twenty years ago. He was ashamed for his false love so much that he gave his baby a certain unknown merchant with much money. But now, as he is old, he wants to see her
before he die. However he knows nothing about her. He does not know whether she is alive or not. If she is alive, how he would like to see her as her own father.

As he talked about her very often on rainy days or in dull cold winter nights, I never forget and have tried to look for her for these years, for I have given good chance to visit this gay quarter on my business so often, and now fortunately I heard something about Koito's birth the other day from Bonsuke. Do you know that?

Tetsu: Yes. I have kept her secret in my heart for long time. But I will tell you the truth. I have brought her up from her five years old since I got her from her foster-mother who told me that she was Born at samurai's home in Kaga.

Den: It's no good for you to marry to the mean fireman, Sahichi, I say since you are such a well-born girl.

Bon: I am sorry for her. If she married to you, she could get good fortune, for you are cousin to each other.

Tomo: Therefore I was taken with her. However she has fallen in love with Sahichi
who stood against us once. I can't tell about her to my uncle now. I have to give up to tell.

Tetsu: Undutiful! Not to see the real father!
Koito: I can't believe the story, for I never heard the story like that.
Tetsu: Can't you believe? Then I will show you the evidence which I have kept secretly for these long years in your charm bag.

(She takes out the note with a naval-string)

Koito: Ryu, Umeda's daughter, was born March 8th in 6th year of Bunsei. Is this true? Are you sure?

Tomo: Oh, surely. Since the note identifies your birth, there is nothing to doubt. Samurai never tells a lie.

Koito: Oh! What shall I do?

(She throws down in tears.)

Den: And the said Umeda is still alive?

Tomo: Yes, he is. He is very well in spite of his old age. He is sixty-two years old now. I am sorry for him for he can't see his own daughter for his old fault.
Tetsu: I need chastise her no more, since the fact is brought out light. I want to present you a cup of sake. Come on with us Denji san.

Tomo: There is something made me sad.

Let's have a drink. Now Denji ---

Den: Oh, that's good, I never fail to drink. I shall have much of drink.

Bon: I will warm sake and help myself to it.

Tetsu: It's nog good for me if you drink so much.

Tomo: How about Koito? Won't you have some drink with me?

Koito: No thank you for I am so sad that I can't have any drink.

Tomo: Poor girl! You said you are sad. (The four look each other in their face and go in smiling. Koito in deep thought.)

Koito: This Umeda Machidayu is the very foe of Sahichi san's father I have just heard from him. Then we are the bitter enemies to each other, me and Sahichi san. So I must leave him throwing away my honest vow.

However, I can't leave him if I meet him. So I will write a letter to him telling my condition what has been brought out just now.

(By solo)
"Her hand which is about to write"
(Takes out an ink-case from the closet and begins to write. Sahichi comes out from the stage passage)

Sahi: I am afraid of myself is looked a blockhead to go after the girl whom I have just sent back. However, as she is a geisha-girl, I must take care of her, as well as I can, as Sankichi said. He urged me to come to see her, and I am here now. But it seems so hard to me to visit her now.
"is stopped by her feeling"
(While the song is sung Sahichi comes to the stage.)

Sa: Hollow, Koito!

(Hearing him, Koito)

Koito: Oh! Are you there, Sahichi-san?

Come in!

(Sahichi comes in. Koito hides her letter and is in the blues.)

Sa: What's the matter with you?

You seem so sad.
Koito: A great trouble has fallen on me just now.

Sa: What kind of trouble is it?

I will help you. Tell me the detail.

Koito: I have to leave you for that unspeakable trouble.

Sa: What do you say? Are you leaving me?

Are you crazy to say such a thing unexpectedly?

Koito: I am not crazy. For some reasons which I can't tell now, but you will be told later whole details, I must ----

Sa: Ah! I understand now. You gave up me for my poor future and made up your mind to follow that samurai, don't you?

Koito: Oh no, I don't.

Sa: Yes, you do. You must be persuaded by that old wicked woman.

Koito: I beg you, Sahichi san! Read this.

(She holds out the note.)

Sa: Ryu, Umeda Hachidayuu's daughter, was born on March 8th in 6th year of Bunsei. Whose is this note?

Koito: Mine ----

Sa: Then you found your father by this?

Koito: Yes. But it makes me sad only for he is your parent's foe whom you hated very much.
Sa: Eh? (very much startled)

Koito: It's the woman's fate to follow his husband instead of her family as many Joruris tell us. I never hesitate to go with you. However I wish for once in my life. I could see my real father who has been far away for these long years.

Please allow me to see him.

Sa: Well. You want to leave me with that false report that you were born as a daughter of the retainer of the Lord Kaga whom I have born a grudge for my parents' death.

Koito: Oh no, I never mean to ----

Sa: No, you mean to leave me. You see. You have told me a few minutes ago that you could not know anything about your birth. And now you show me this note. How could it be? You can't get it so suddenly. How did you get this note, or who gave this to you?

Koito: My mother-in-law has kept this for long time secretly.
Oh, I see. You are leaving me in conspiracy with your mother-in-law.

(He seems angry. Otetsu and Bonsuke come out of the paper sliding screen)

Oh, my! They take advantage of our unguarded moments.

Oh! That poor guy has appeared already!

(Aoito breaks down in crying at the right.)

Whom do you call poor guy?

I gave you some money a few minutes ago but I owe nothing from you.

You haven’t owe me money but you have kept my daughter at your home for two days without good cause. So I say you are a tempter, and called you a poor guy. Have you anything to say for that?

Then you have taken her home by your trick from me?

Of course I meant to trap you.

For, you see there is no other way to stand against an unruly person like you. So I beg you to give her back by pretended weakness.
Oh! I understand you now. You see?

(He is about to stand up snatching a fire-pan, but with a deep thought he looks them.)

You think you have done well, I think.

But it's unbearable to me.

You have given me disgrace to my favour for her not to give her notoriety by keeping her at my home secretly but politely.

I have done nothing to ashamed before public though we exchanged the written pledges to each other for our love.

I believed her in spite of her gay calling she knows what is her duty to me.

But now she has laid bare her mean greedy mind by following a samurai who has brought out false report before her.

She betrays me by your trick. What can I do against her breach of good faith to my satisfaction?

(Saying this he breaks the written pledge and was about to stand. Otetsu and Bonsuke holds him down. Tomohei, Denji come out of the paper sliding screens.

Koito goes into the inner room with ink-case. Tomohei stands straight.)
Tomo: Dare-devil! Poor mean Sahichi!
You contended with Lord Kaga's retainer for your life.
You blamed me the other night at Kanda.

Den: She is parting you since she could know about
her birth throwing away the pledge which
she had exchanged before she knew it.
She is a daughter of Lord Kaga's
retainer who is your foe. Now go back for
your safety manfully.
(Sahichi takes out the written pledge from
the pocket and breaks it.)

Sa: Prepare for your death! You have driven me to run amuck desperately as they call me
by the nickname "Omitsuri."

Tetsu: Oh! he screamed like that.

Tomo: Take him out.

Den: To the outdoor ----

Den
Bon: Come on ----(takes him to)

Sa: Don't make yourself ridiculous!
(There is a rough-tumble among the
three, Sahichi Denji and Bonsuke, and at last
Sahichi was beaten severely by Tomohei and
Otetsu. They thrust him out of the lattice-
door.)

Bon: Come again the day before.
(Saying he shuts the door. Sahichi seems vexing.)
Sa: Oh! Don't forget this treatment to me.

Bonsuke peeps out of the lattice-door.

Bon: I am glad for I could revenge him.

Tetsu: Are you? But I am afraid if he would come back to break my house.

Den: Never mind. Though he is such a reckless guy, Kanemon, his Head never allow to do such an unreasonable thing.

Tomo: Even if he would break this house, I will rebuilt it smartly for you.

Tetsu: I am satisfied with your words.

Oh! Where has Koito gone. Bonsuke don look for her.

Bon: Oh, yes.

(He goes into the paper sliding screen.)

Tomo: False report of the naval-string note favours me.

Tetsu: And Koito is about to follow you.

Den: It's ridiculous to create the name of Umeda Nachidayu from the family crest of "Ume-hachi."

(Bonsuke cries coming out of the paper sliding screen.)

Bon: Koito isn't home. She might escape from the rear door.
Tetsu: What do you say?

Has Koito escaped from the rear door?

Tom: In this confusion ----

Den: No good.

Getzu: Look for her, everybody!

San: I hope she is not far from here.

(Dark change.)

(The main stage shows the dike of Yanagihara. The light of Kanda is seen in the distance. Several willow-trees in proper places. A restaurant with a smart gate is to the right. On the board fence of the house a lantern is hung properly. Yoshimatsu and Sankichi are holding Onaka and Tomijiro who are going to escape.)

San: I am afraid that you are to ----

So I have come after you.

Yoshi: It's no good to arrange a suicide pact.

San: To us ---

San' Yoshi: Entrust yourselves.

Tomi: I have owed to much to you both, but now we must go, for O-naka told me that everything goes wrong to us. We will be unable to see each other for a while by closing
of the shop caused the confusion which Sahichi gave rise to trouble against a samurai. O-Naka hear the samurai had talked to the mistress secretly that the shop must be closed for a while. 

And moreover my wicked brother has planned something wrong to trap my Tomijiro san to ruin with that samurai for the satisfaction of his greedy heart. As some one told me all about the plan, we decided to arrange a suicide pact for the lost hope of our future. We would not be able to marry to each other. We can't bear the sorrow of parting. So we are going to die hoping to marry in the coming world.

Tomi: I beg you to leave uw ---

O-Naka: And go home.

Tomi, naka: Please.

San: No, we can't leave you.

We can't fulfil our duty to our Head or Mistress if we leave you.
Yoshi: Anyway come back to my head's home with us now.

Tomi: But we can't be back.

San: Don't mention it. Come on with us.

(They go in to the right. Then Sasuke rushes out dressed up lightly with a kitchen knife.)

Sa: I saw Koito took a palanquin by the gate of Bokuro-cho. She must be here soon.

She shall realize my grudge in a minute.

(He hides himself behind a tree.

A palanquin in which Koito is comes to the stage. Sahichi cuts down their lantern with the knife.)

Palanquin-bearer: Oh! Thief!

(They run away Sahichi opens the palanquin)

Koito: Oh! Sahichi san!

Sa: Shut up, this brute! Prepare for your death.

(Pierces her at her armpit with the knife.

Koito clings to his hand)

Koito: Oh, please read this.

Sa: Shut up!

(There are a set-to with the musical accompaniment by the palanquin, and at last Koito was knocked down.)
Sa: You brute! You were too bad to treat me so cruel a while ago.
(He gives her a finishing stroke.)
You asked me to read your letter just now, but I never want to read it written with your wicked heart.
(He is about to go, but on second thoughts) Well, I am afraid that she might write me badly for my rough deed. If it is so, it will be my shame being seen some body. I will take it to my home and burn.
(Taking it up, he reads holding it to the light.)
Sa: A farewell message! What? A farewell message? Well, I will write to you ---
As it comes to pass to me, I am sorry for my fate. I was a daughter of your foe's retainer. What a sad fate has fallen on me suddenly by bringing out the note which my mother-in-law has hidden for long time. I have given up to marry you for my sad fate. But you never forgave me against my entreaty. Moreover you scolded me so severely doubting the note, and Mr. Kurata, Denji and Bonsuke drove you into the great rage by their abuse. So I can't find any other better way but to die for my apology to you.
Leaving this farewell message
I will die. Please pray for the repose of
my soul. I have so much to speak you,
but I must hurry now. Please read my sad
heart from this/ good-bye, dear.
Dahichi same from your Koito.
Wasn't the note false? I see now by this
farewell message. But it can't help me to
repent now. I have committed murder.
I must give myself up to the police now.

(He makes up his mind. Then Tomohei comes
out leading Denji and Bonsuke.)

Tomo: You need not to give yourself
up to the police. I will kill you now.

Sa: Oh, you came at the right time.
I will take you to the hell.

Den: You are dying at all, I will tell
you the truth for my parting gift.

Bon: We wrote a false note about Koito's
birth intending to make her leave you.

Tomo: Now prepare for your death.

Sa: Then, you say you trapped me?
Den: Yes, you fell in our trick.
Bon: Don't complain any more and ready to die.
(Sahichi stands against the three and fights.
Sankichi and Yoshimatsu come out from the right.)
San & Yoshi: You are there, Brother?
Sa: Oh, you have come here at the right time.
Help me, Sankichi, Yoshimatsu!
San & Yoshi: O.K./O. K.
(There is a melee among them.
Sankichi and Yoshimatsu drive Denji and Bonsuke
in to the right. Sahichi knocks down
Tomohei. Then a sheriff comes out followed
by many followers.)
Sheri: Oh, arrest him!
Follower: You, murderer!
(They gather around Sasuke)
Sa: I never intend to resist you.
Arrest me now.
(He is arrested calmly. The sheriff sees the corp
of Tomohei.)
Shéri: Oh! This is the Inuyama Gozo's corp. We have looked for him for long time.
Sa: Well how about the retainer of Lord Kaga?
Sheri: He was an imposter of the name.
(O-tatsu, Tomijiro and O-naka come out from the right.)
Tatsu: Oh, what's the matter with you being arrested?
Tomi: You are arrested by murder, I guess.
Naka: Unexpected matter----
Sa: Please give my sincere.
(Standing up. First wooden clapper.)
Regard to my Head.