KABUKI PLAY

"HANA-FUBUKI TSUKI NO YOKOGUSHI"
(KIRARE OTOMI)

WRITTEN BY MOKUAMI KAWATAKE

TO BE PRESENTED BY ENNOSUKE, TOKIZO,
TOSHI AND SOJURO TRoupes AT THE MINAMIZA
THEATER, KYOTO FROM MARCH 1st, 1948.
THE FIRST ACT

The stage represents a solitary house at the
mountain pass of Satta on the Tokaido Road.
Night.
The sound of waves comes within hearing.
The curtain rises with a folk-song.
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Three travellers are on the stage.

A: Edokko are backboneless; I did not expect we should be overtaken by darkness at the mountain pass.

B: Sorry we have arrived in the evening.
I hear the skirts of Mount Fuji is seen from this pass in the daytime.

C: No wonder this place was called "Fujimi Yama" (Hill commanding the view of Mt. Fuji.)

A: Now let's start hurriedly, because we took a rest for a pretty while.

B: All right. Say, Mistress!

The three: Say, here is the tip. Let's go.
(The travellers exit toward the left side.
Thereupon Izutsu Yosaburo makes his appearance in a travelling attire. The sound of evening bell.)

Yosaburo: That is the tolling of the evening bell.
A light will be necessary in the mountain path.
OUTLINE

Akama Genzaemon's concubine Otomi was tortured almost to death by Genzaemon because her secret meeting with her lover Izutsu Yosaburo was brought to light. Genzaemon's henchman Komori Yasu who had felt tenderly toward Otomi rescued her on the way of his going to throw her into a river, and talked her over into becoming his wife. Thus they came to live together keeping a tea-house at the mountain pass of Satte.

Three years later, Otomi came across her former lover Izutsu Yosaburo. Hearing that Yosaburo was at great pains to raise the money of 200 ryo in search for a treasured sword for the sake of family, Otomi made a cat's-paw of Yasu and blackmailed Genzaemon on her sword-cuts with the object of supplying Yosaburo with money. She, however, came to have to kill herself surrounded by a large number of constables.
Fortunately there is a house overthere.
I will go there to get a light.
(Yosaburo arrives at the stage.)
Good evening!

Otoni: Yes sir. Who is it?

(Yosaburo: Will you please give me a light?
Otoni: Please, please. As ill luck would have it
the spills are wet because of rain.
Please give me your candle.

Yosaburo: Many thanks.
(The two look at each other's face and get surprised.)

Otoni: Oh you are Yosaburo-sama!

Yosaburo: You are Otomi, eh?

Otoni: It's a surprise! (Otomi starts to run away.
Yosaburo takes her by the sleeve.)

Yosaburo: Do you escape because I have greatly
changed since you saw me last?

Otoni: No, but ---

Yosaburo: Then, why are you running away?

Otoni: Well ---- Let me see ----

Yosaburo: Have you been disgusted with me?
Otomí: By no means.

Yosaburo: Then why?

The two: Well ----

Yosaburo: Hey Otomí! Have you changed your mind?

Otomí: No, never. But sorry to say my face has become like this.

(Otomí takes off her towel. Yosaburo gets surprised)

Yosaburo: Oh, what terrible wounds on the forehead! What, on earth, happened to you?

Otomí: Now I should like to tell you the reason.

Listen to me please.

The other day when I went home after having parted with you, I was told of my secret meeting with you. My excuse was of no use because the cut finger testified to it, and the rich merchant Akama, then my patron, got indignant hearing it. He forcibly pressed me for revealing your name and made his followers torture me with swords saying that he would be unable to live, for my behaviour disgraced his name. He was, in fact, a samurai well-known in the provinces of Dewa and Nutsu.
I did not tell him your name, however, and at last I lost my senses on account of the torture. They thought I was dead and went out to throw away my body. On the way I fortunately came to life again and was rescued by Yasuza. Since, then, I came to live in a refuge in the village of Atsugi and earned my daily bread by shinnai (a kind of ballad recitation). In the meantime, Yasuza talked me into getting married to him on the ground that I owed him my life. We have been living here since. Then, but you have never escapes me even for a moment.

Yosaburo: I call to mind the pledge with you at Kisarazu. That was an ill fate to us. If I had not come across you at Kamakura after that, you would not have changed so entirely. What on earth is your father?

Otomi: Now he is a masseur named Kenga, but formerly he was a friend of Izutsu Yosaemon, a retainer of the Chiba family at Shimofusa. Chusuke was his name.

(Yosaburo gets surprised.)
Yosaburo: Then, was he Chusuke the Yozaemon's friend?

Otomi: You know it, then?

Yosaburo: Of course I do, for Izutsu Yozaemon is my father!

Otomi: Very sorry, I did not know it. My father would be glad to hear that I received your sympathy more than once.

Yosaburo: I have not seen your father for more than ten years. If I were a man of former position, I would not put you to trouble like this. But sorry to say I am leading a wandering life without a definite house.

Otomi: How did you come to lead such a life? I hear your family is noble.

Yosaburo: There is a reason about it. I want you to hear it. About five years ago my father had a valuable sword named Hokutomaru stolen which had been left in charge of him. The fault placed him in a sad plight and he had to commit harakiri.

Since then, I came to wander from place to place in search for the sword. After much difficulty I found it to my delight at a certain curiosity shop.
However, the money of 200 ryo is necessary for me to get it. If I cannot raise the money, my house may become extinct and this may be our last meeting. When you call me to mind I wish you would make an offering to my soul. Excuse me for my having disturbed you very much. I must be going now.

Otomi: Wait a moment please!

Yosaburo: What is it? I must make haste.

Otomi: You may well say so, but I wish you will stay for a while, I will raise 200 ryo within this evening and get the sword for you.

Yosaburo: Thank you for your kindness, but I wonder how you can raise such a large sum of money so soon.

Otomi: I will see what I can do for you. As I have an idea, I will surely get it by tomorrow evening at latest.

Yosaburo: Then, you will raise the money for me?
Otomi: Yes sir.

Yosaburo: Many thanks for your kindness.

(The sound of the evening bell comes with hearing)

Otomi: That is the bell of Seigenji temple.

Yosaburo: If Yasuzo come back now, things will become troublesome. So I must be going now. I request you earnestly about the money.

Otomi: Don't be worried. Where are you staying now?

Yosaburo: Back of Sainenji temple in the town of Fuchu. A willow-tree in front of the gate is the mark.

Otomi: It does most excellently. I will drop in on my way back. You had better be waiting there.

Yosaburo: Then, Otomi!

Otomi: Yosaburo-sama!

Yosaburo: I expect a glad news.

(Yosaburo exits)

Otomi: (speaks to herself) From a girl's inconstancy I pledged my love with Yosaburo-sama at Kosarazu. Now I know he is the son of my former master.
This is a chance of showing my gratitude. I must raise the money by tomorrow evening though the sum is so large. The other day I heard of a new prostitute house named Akamonya at Mirokucho. I want to see if the master of the house is Genzaemon. (Thereupon two palanquin bearers Iwa and Matsu appear carrying a palanquin.)

The two: Mistress!

Otomi: What a start you gave me!

Oh you are Iwa and Matsu.

The two: Excuse us for our long silence.

Otomi: I have long been waiting for you. What do you do with that matter?

Matsu: Very sorry to say, but I must ask for two or three days allowance. Instead, I leave with you this article as a pledge of payment.

Otomi: Then, do you request me to give you two or three days on this article as you could not raise money?

Iwa: Yes, Mistress. Instead, I assure you we will bring the money within two or three days.
Otomí: Then, I will give two or three days. Better take a rest and have tea.
(The palanquin bearers drink tea)
You say, you are hard up for money, but I hear palanquin bearers can get very much as the gay quarters are prosperous.

Iwa: It is not always so. Hey Matsu, you got a stroke of business, didn't you?

Matsu: No good. We carried three palanquins as far as Mirokucho and each of us got only one yen to drink. The gay quarters of Mirokucho are very prosperous.

Iwa: They are so prosperous?

Matsu: Yes. And among them Akamaya is doing a splendid business, I hear.

Otomí: Wait a bit, Matsu. I hear Akamaya is a new house. What sort of a man is its master?

Matsu: I don't know well, but they say he is an ex-samurai named Kannon Hisaji from the province of Mutsu.

Otomí: That is what I expected.

Iwa: I hear one can get 200 or 300 ryo without their knowledge.
Matsu: That makes me nervous.

Otomi: May I ask a favour of you?

Iwa: What is it, Mistress?

Otomi: Now I must go to Akamaya. Can you carry me there?

Matsu: It's an easy thing.

Iwa: Now we are just going out to take a meal, so please be waiting for a while.

Otomi: I want you to come back as soon as possible.

The two: All right, Mistress. (exit)

Otomi: Hearing their talk, I am sure he is Akama Genzaemon who injured me like this.

It will be easy to extort 200 ryo from him on his secret past. I will make a cat's-paw of Yasuzo and must speak daggers for the sake of my father and former master.

(Thereupon Yasuzo appears).

Yasuzo: Hallo, Otomi!

Otomi: Oh, it's a surprise!

You have come back so late. Where have you been?
Yasu: I am telling it, to you. I tried to gain much money in gambling, but lost the game completely.

Otomi: You have well done!

Yasu: Don't be cynical please. By the way did you buy wine?

Otomi: There is wine, but nothing to eat.

(Otomi brings wine and Yasu drinks)

Yasu: All things are very bad these days.

Otomi: Just like a bamboo sprout.

Yasu: Is there any good job?

Otomi: Here is a profitable one. Haven't you a mind to go?

Yasu: What sort of work, is it?

Otomi: You know that new prostitute house Akamaya. That is Genzaemon house, I hear.

Yasu: Is he Kannon Hisaji that ex-samurai?

Otomi: Yes he is. They say he is doing a splendid business these days covering up his past.

Yasu: From whom did you hear such a thing?

Otomi: Palanquin bearers Iwa and Tomi told it to me. You can hear it yourself for they will soon be here.
Yasu: Is that so? Then we can extort money from him on his secret past.

Otomí: That is for my master's sake.

Yasu: That is for my master's sake.

Yasu: Eh?

Otomí: I wish to let you lead a comfortable life, you see.

Yasu: Well you say! But have you any good plan to go to Akamaya for extortion?

Otomí: Just lend me your ear.

(Otomí whispers something to Yasuzo's ear. Thereupon a pack-horseman is heard to sing a folk-song. The two get surprised and part with each other.)

Otomí: That he should make a fool of me!

(The sound of waves comes within hearing)

----- Curtain -----
----- THE SECOND ACT -----

Scene 1.

The stage indicates the shop-front of the prostitute-house Akamaga at Mirokucho.

Pullers-in Kisuke and Tasuke with prostitutes Fukuyama and Chidori are on the stage.

When curtain rises a caterer appears from the left side:

Caterer: Sorry to have kept you waiting so long.
Kisuke: Oh, it's all right? Thank you for your trouble.
(Kisuke enters back room with the stand brought by the caterer.)

Caterer: Say, Fukuchan and Chidori-chan, you seem always doing good business don't you?
Fukuyama: Please enter into my feelings. Always I am afraid I may be left unsold.
Chidori: I ask you to tout anybody for me.
Tasuke: Don't be worried so much. A good customer will soon come to you.
Caterer: But I may introduce one if you are indifferent about customers.
Chidori: I ask your favour for mercy's sake.
Caterer: All right. I will find somebody for you.
(Thereupon the sound of a Shampooer's whistle comes within hearing.)
Caterer: Somebody is coming. That will be a good customer.

Chidori: Where is he?

Caterer: There, he is coming overthere. Paint yourself.

Chidori: Is that so? I am glad to hear it.

(She looks toward the left, but cannot find anybody)

There is nobody, eh?

Caterer: All right, all right.

(The blind Shampooer Mekichi makes his appearance from the left side. The caterer holds him by the hand and takes him near Chidori)

There, here is your customer.

(Chidori gets surprised)

Chidori: How can you be so stupid? Don't make a fool of me! Good God!

Caterer: But a customer is a customer.

Shampooer: Is there my customer? Then, take me to the room.

Chidori: You are not my customer.

Shampooer: But somebody said "Here is your customer".

(The blind man holds Chidori by the hand.)

Chidori: Oh, disagreeable blind man! I don't know!

(Chidori exits. Daisuke and caterer burst out laughing)
Shampooer: I am a Shampooer because I am blind!
That ugly woman!
(The Shampooer gets indignant and exits to the right)
Tasuke: Hey, Caterer! Tonight I must make a customer of you as Chidori-san is very angry.
Caterer: Don't talk nonsense!
Tasuke: You might whore occasionally.
(The caterer exits. Fukuyama is waiting for a customer)
Tasuke: Hallo, here is your customer.
(to Fukuyama) That you alone should be left unsold! I hope your patron would come.
Fukuyama: I have been waiting a customer for some time, but the paper strings fall out like this, you see.
Tasuke: It is perhaps a good omen.
(Thereupon Kojuro makes his appearance in a travelling attire)
Kojuro: As I heard before, the gay quarters are doing good business.
(Kisuke appears.)
Kisuke: Good evening sir. What do you think of visiting our house?
Kojuro: Well, I must take a night's lodging anyhow. This is the well-known house Akagiya, isn't it?
Kisuke: Yes, sir.
Kojuro: Then, I ask for a lodging here tonight.
Tasuke: There are many women in the back room. You may choose a good one for you.
Kojuro: No, there is no need of it. I will call in this woman.
Kisuke: All right sir. Say, Fukuyama-san, here comes your customer.
Fukuyama: How glad I am!
Kisuke: We must keep your swords, sir.
Kojuro: What? Must I leave my swords in your care?
Tasuke: Yes, sir. This is the rule of our house.
Kojuro: That you should keep my swords! ------
Then this house ------
The pullers-in: Eh?
Kojuro: No, nothing. I will put up at this house.
Kisuke: Here is a customer.
(Kisuke shows Kojuro into the back room. Iosuke and Fukuyama follow. From the right Genzaemon comes out.)
Genzaemon: Hey, Kisuke!
(Kisuke makes his appearance from the back)
Kisuke: What do you want with me, sir?
Genzaemon: The merchant who came just now must be, in fact, a samurai.
Kisuke: How have you noticed it?

Genzaemon: His way of wearing swords is different.

(whispers to Kisuke) You must take care.

Kisuke: Certainly sir.

(Thereupon Iwa and Matsu make their appearance carrying a palanquin. Yasuzo follows them.)

Iwa: Hey Matsu! That is Akamaya.

Matsu: Shall we put the palanquin in front of the house?

Yasuzo: No, put it aside. I must have a private word with them.

The two: All right.

(They arrive at the stage)

Iwa: Good evening.

Kisuke: Good evening. Please carry the palanquin into this way.

Iwa and Matsu: Just there is a private word with the master.

(They put the palanquin on the left side. Genzaemon and Yasuzo look at each other's face)

Yasu: Excuse me.

(Genzaemon starts to go away pretending to know nothing)

Hallo, Master, wait a bit please!

Genzaemon: (as if noticing for the first time) Who called me?
Yasu: Master, I am Yasuzo.
Genzaemon: Oh you are Yasuzo! It was a surprise to me.
        Better come this way.
        (Yasuzo steps into the room.)
Yasu: I have not seen you for some time, but I am
glad to see you doing good business.
Genzaemon: As my wife was formerly engaged in this business,
        I set up a thing like this.
The business is going on swimmingly thanks to you.
Yasu: I am glad to hear it.
Genzaemon: By the way, you had a strange thing tattooed on
        your face, didn't you?
Yasu: After having left your house, I joined a fire-
        brigade. Then, there were in fashion tattoos of
        butterfly, dragonfly etc., on the face, so I had
        a bat tattooed on my face from inconstancy, but
        now I am sorry for what I have done.
Genzaemon: Is that so? What is your business now?
Yasu: Strange to say, I am a pander while you are the
        master of a prostitute house.
Genzaemon: You are a pander? It is a good thing. I want
        you to bring a good one if any.
Yasu: I know what I am about in those things. I have
        brought a nice one for you.
Genzaemon: You are really a smart fellow as ever.
Kisuke: Say, Yasu-san, what sort of a woman is it?
Genzaemon: Let me see it quickly.
Yasu: All right sir. Hey, Iwa! Carry it into this way.

The two: Okay!

Yasu: Now come nearer.

Otomi: May I appear there?

Yasu: Yes you may. Better get out now.

(Otomi makes her appearance out of the palanquin Genzaemon gets surprised seeing Otomi)

Gen: Oh, you-----!

Otomi: Yes, I am Otomi.

Gen: How did you come here.

Otomi: Master, I am very glad to see you.

Gen: I thought you were dead. I wonder why you have come here, however.

Otomi: Then, I was almost dead owing to serious wounds, but fortunately I came to life again. I am really glad to see you in this world.

Yasu: This is a good one, isn't it?

Kisuke: Well, he is a woman of passable beauty, but it is worthless because of scars like that.

Yasu: For others it is worthless I know, but you may put a high price.

Otomi: I want you to buy me.

Gen: Well, I may----- Anyhow you had better enter the inner room.
Otomi: No thank you. I prefer this place.

Gen: Come into the back room without saying such a thing.

Iwa and Matsu: What shall we do, Mistress?

Otomi: Well, you may go back ahead, it will take time according to our negotiation.

The two: All right.

(Yasuzo takes out money, wraps in a paper and gives it to the bearers.)

Yasu: Here is your tip, though a little.

The two: Thank you.

(Iwa and Matsu leave the house carrying the palanquin.)

Otomi: Then, Master.

Yasuzo: Well let's come to an understanding in the back room.

Gen: Come this way with me anyhow.

(All enters the inner room. Thereupon Kojuro comes out again looks around and blows a whistle. A chief of constables makes his appearance. Kojuro whispers something to him. The constable exits hurriedly with a nod. Kojuro takes out a rope and hackles it. The stage changes.)
Plain stage. To the right a shelf, a bureau and a chest of drawers in the front. To the left is a wall and a distant scene of a passage. At the right a room with paper-sliding screen closed. A charcoal brazier in a suitable place. With Otsue-busi (a kind of Japanese music) stage is fixed.

Genzaemon sits in front of the brazier. To the left O-tomi and Yasuzo take their seats.

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Gen: As I have said just now, I have thought of you dead. What on earth could you get your life?

Tomi: Nothing particular happened, only I am alive resigning myself to fate.

Gen: Don't speak in an affected manner. You must have some request to me, since you have come in palanquin. Tell me plainly what you want?

Yasu: I have nothing particular to request you. Will you please buy this O-tomi for this year.

Gen: You are better to ask me secretly if you need money. It's better than to you
Tomi: Thank you very much for your kindness.
But I must pay for my debt, if I owe from you. It's easier to me to work for the money. I can make hard service easy staying in bed out of spite.
Buy me, please.

Gen: I never press you for the money loan.
Do you think of me such a stingy man?
Trust in me.

Tomi: You, really ----- Master -----

Yasu: It can't be helped.

Tomi: One never thought it possible that you opened this brothel.
(He takes out a bundle of one hundred ryo.)

Gen: Take this with you without any word.

Tomi: Master! how much money have you ready there?

Gen: One hundred ryo. I am never going to give you so little. Take this.

Yasu: Thank you very much.
(He is about to take it. C-tomi holding him by his hand.)
Tomi: Wait a moment. I never expect such a paltry sum of money. I may have all things ---- to the ashes in the kitchen range, in this house.

Yasu: You made a generous gesture.

Tomi: Entrust me.

Yasu: Are you all right to say such a thing.

Tomi: Never mind.

Yasu: Are you sure?

Tomi: Why! Entrust me. I thank you very much for your kindness. But I don't want this money. I still ask you to buy me for this year.

Gen: I can't buy you not only for this year but for many years till you will grow old. You can't serve to any guest, I think. I can't throw out even fifty ryo for you. One hundred is out of the question.

Tomi: If you think that I can't serve to any guest, I will serve you as an old lover. Buy me for this year by two hundred ryo.

Gen: What do you say? Do you say to buy you by two hundred ryo?
Tomi: You look fierce!

(Then Genzaemon's wife O-taki comes out of the passage followed by Tasuke and Kisuke.)

Taki: Say, Kisuke. What is she?
Ki: She is a trial.
Taki: What? Is she a trial?

What a foolish girl she is!
Take her out of this room, and drive her to her service.

Tasuke: O.K.
Kisuke: Say, Yasuzo, come with me to the front.
Yasu: I don't know what you want. But it's no use to go to the front. We can strike our bargain here about O-tomi. Say, O-tomi, Master knows all about your scar, where are them or how many. Mistress does not know about them. Show them to her. Your body is valuable with the scars.

Taki: It's no use to see them now. I see at a glance that you are going to extort, no, that how many the scars or her body or how about them, I can't see by the appearance, but your conspiracy. I know
that you have got scars. But it is my business to buy a girl for prostitute. By my valuation, one ryo for one scar is right. You have got seventy-five scars. So seventy-five ryo is your worth. One hundred ryo is too much. You should never complain for that.

Yasu: What do you say? No complain for that? No, complain for the misdeed of your husband? He injured her chopping up after he played with her to his satisfaction and ordered me to throw her away into the sea. But I could not dare to throw her away alive, and took care of her for the purpose of getting money. And now the chance has come. You see, your husband is a murderer if I threw her away into the sea as he said. But I saved her life and he is safe now. So I have so much to complain for that.

Taki: Oh, you have? Then, tell me all about it, I will listen to you.
Yasu: Oh, of course I will. Your husband, Master of this house is now living honest life, but ------.

(Then Os-tomi)

Tomi: Don't talk about it ------. Keep silent.

Yasu: But she is pig-headed, so I want to tell her ---.

Tomi: My! Entrust me.

Yasu: But you see. ----

Tomi: Can't you agree with me?

Yasu: I have no reason not to agree with you--.

Tomi: Then keep quiet. You are his present wife, aren't you?

Taki: What's the matter with his wife?

(gets angry)

Tomi: Don't speak so harshly. I don't know when you have married to him, but I was his concubine once and he sometimes was about to marry to me. By my fault I was chopped up by seventy-five cuts almost to die, but he couldn't chop up the relation between us as husband and wife. So you must think of me as your sister though you don't like to.
KI: I say, you can't get good result by such a story since he engages in a brothel. It's nothing to wonder about the story of his love affair.

TA: You are but a former concubine, it's enough to get consolation money to you.

KI: Go back right away.

TWO: I am much frightened with you. I am not such a cheap concubine kept by five ryo or three, I can't sign a paper of severance of relation for the sum of twenty-five ryo as they all do. It's different a little in my case. If you want break off with me, say, Mistress, you must dispose of me as well as you can.

TAKI: As he knows his own fault he offers you one hundred ryo. If you asked me, I could offer you but twenty or thirty. Go back with the money which he has offered you quietly.

TOMI: I will go back with the money which he has offered me, if he were poor as a rice-dealer or a master of pawn-shop.
But he is such a prosperous merchant getting money easily with no funds at Miroku-machi that joins to Kyoto. He can offer two hundred ryo when others can offer one hundred. Don't make me impatient.

Taki: Do you think that we can earn with no funds? But the prostitutes are alive. We must feed them and moreover we paid for them at first. Why can you say no funds?

Tomi: I have said the wrong thing. I think you dislike my word "With no funds, he makes easy money", but you married to him lately, and as you never know about his former business you may get angry. He is an honest master of a brothel now. But he had often taken money with no funds in his past days. Hadn't you, Master?

(Draws near to Genzaemon. Genzaemon was frightened with her words. O-tomi takes the pipe which Genzaemon is smoking.)
Ki: Give me a pipe.

You have said as if our master had committed robbery. But I advice you, drive off the fly on your head at first.

Ta: Wounded O-tomi and Yasu of a bat! You both are the robbers.

Ki: We know that well. You have come here to extort money, haven't you?

Yasu: Of course, we have.

Tomi: They all know about our plan of extort even though you don't assure it us.

(With a suitable musical accompaniment, she wastes words.)

If I haven't got any scar.

I could live easily depend on a wealthy master enjoying my own life with my darling. But with these seventy-five scars, how can I enjoy or live my life easily. This is the first time to me to extort. But I never want to rob you of money like somebody you know.

Yasu: As they used to say, "he was but a
murderer, though he was respected, after his past was cleared up." I am but a assistant robber. If I commit a evil thing, they soon find me. I rush into the dirty world openly. I am but a backboneless fellow.

Tomi: We a can't deceive ourselves for long time.

Yasu: I don't want to say the money was earned with no funds, but I can't count them with the seal.

Tomi: It's better not to count. Say, master, lent me the sum I need.

Gen: I say, you are going to take me with you? I am an honest brothel now, but I was a -----. (Kojuro comes in from the passage looking Genzaemon.)

It's a silly thing to say the past. However if you want to tell about my past, to the world you may do as you like. I never sorry for my life. It's my fate.
Tomi: I never want to tell about your past, if you offer me the sum which I asked.

Yasu: Shall I sign a paper that I would never be here any more?

Gen: Oh, that's no use. We are unable to go out publicly. No, paper is but a paper, it can easily be broken. O-taki give them another hundred ryo -----. 

Taki: Then are you going to give them two hundred as they say?

Gen: Yes, money changes hands only. It can't be helped for the scars are big. Now O-taki give them another hundred ryo.

Taki: But -----. 

Gen: Obey me-----. 

(He says decidedly, O-taki does as he has said.)
Taki: Give me the key

Otaki opens the bureau and takes out money.

Here it is. (hands Genzaemon the money.)

Gen: Now I give you 200 ryo as you like.

You have nothing to say any more.

Otomi: Thank you very much. Now that I have got this, my valuable man will be -----

Yasu: What do you mean?

Otomi: No nothing. A man wants to be open-handed like this (receives the money)

Yasu: We shall start an honest business with this money and come again to say thanks.

Gen: No you need not. I don't hope you will come so frequently.

Otomi: I must come sometimes, nevertheless.

Taki: While we gave you as much money as you wanted.

Kisuke: We cannot bear if you come occasionally.

Tasuke: You will be turned away if you come again.

Otomi: When we are hard up for money.

Yasu: We shall come again at any time.

Taki: How detestable!

Gen: Leave them as they are. They will soon be --

Otomi and Yasu: Eh?

Gen: Be careful about yourselves.

Otomi) Sorry to have troubled you much. Excuse me

Yasu) (rise to their feet)
Kisuke
Tasuke
Otomi:
Yasu:
Otomi:
Yasu:
Otomi:
Yasu:
Otomi:
Yasu:
Otomi:
Yasu:
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Otomi:
Yasu:
Otomi:
Yasu:
Otomi:
Yasu:
Otomi:
Yasu:
Kisuke

Go away quickly! (push Otomi away)
They hate me very much.
(Otomi and Yasu leave the house and arrive at the stage passage.)
We have well done. Now give me the money.
I will carry this home.
But I want to have it.

Put it into this purse.
You will have it at home.
But I want to have it now. Give quickly
Then I am giving it now.

(puts 100 ryo into Yasu's purse)
Don't be cold. You might give me all the money.
I also want to have some.
You intend to give that money to somebody?
Eh?
Yours is mine and mine is yours.
Can't you give it to me?
Then you may have it now, but I want you to give it back at home.
All right. I will give it to you when we reach home.
There, here is the money, (puts the remaining money into the purse.)
All right. Thank you.
By the way I want to eat something on the way.
What do you think of Yoakashi Kumi's?

Otomi: They are very slow to get ready.

Yasu: Therefore I will go ahead of you and order something you like. You had better come later, you see. I am going in a hurry

(Yasu exits)

Otomi: Then, I leave it to you, Yasu-san.

(Saying it she seems to think of something and enters.)

Kisuke
Tasuke: What a disgusting woman.

Gen: Sprinkle salt about the gate.

The two: All right, master

(The two exit)

Gen: You perhaps got disgusted with me hearing my past.

Taki: By no means. If you are afraid of such a thing you cannot keep up a cruel business like this even for a moment.

(Thereupon Kojuro makes his appearance)

Gen: I am afraid you mistook your room, sir.

Kojuro: No, I wanted to stay here tonight, but I must be starting now, for I suddenly called to mind an urgent business. Please give my swords back to me.
Gen: Is that so? (to Otaki) Say, bring his swords.
Otaki: Certainly sir. (brings Kojuro's swords)
Kojuro: Another sword please.
Gen: That is all we received in trust.
Kojuro: I mean the treasured sword of the Chibi family, Hokutomaru.
Gen: What?
Kojuro: Listen to me, burglar Kannon Hisaji! The other day you broke into Chiba's house and robbed them of not only money but the sword. Feeling responsible for it Izutsu Yozanmon had to commit harakiri and his son Yosaburo have had hard times in search for the sword. Now that I have known your secret past, you cannot escape from me. Give me the sword and be arrested!
Gen: None of your cheek! I am Kannon Hisaji as you say. Now things have come to such a pass, I am desperate! Hey, wife!
Otaki: Yes sir.
(Otaki brings a sword and hand it to Genzaemon)
Kojuro: Impudent fellow!
(A scuffle begins. Otaki stumbles against the candlestick and the stage gets dark. In darkness Otaki receives a blow and loses her senses.
After fighting Kojuro arrests Genzaemon. The stage changes.)
Scene 3.

The stage represents a bank against a bamboo bush.

Dark night.

There stand many tombstones and willow-trees.

It is raining.

Kisuke and Tasuke appear by way of the stage passage.

Kisuke: I did not expect the master is Kannon Hisaji.

Tasuke: We had better go far away lest we should be involved in the matter.

Kisuke: All right.

(The two exit to the right. Thereupon Yasuzo makes his appearance and stops on the stage passage)

Yasu: The house is very noisy. I am afraid there happened a fighting. (reaches the stage)

The rain held up. I am taking a rest here I wonder why Otomi is so late. Some time ago when I went back home she was talking with a man. Overhearing under cover I found he was Otomi's lover Yosaburo. I intended to be made her tool pretending to know nothing about her plot and to dispose of her after taking up the money, but now I feel a little pity, for she has been my wife for these three years. She did not know that I had changed my mind. Clever as she is a woman is a woman after all. Now that I have got the money of 200 ryo, it would be wiser to escape away as far as Osaka through the Ise Road across the sea of Enshu than to commit a useless
homicide. I must start before she appears.
(Thereupon Otomi makes her appearance from the left side)

Otomi: Wait a moment Yasu-san!
Yasu: Who is calling me?
Otomi: Nobody but Otomi.
Yasu: Then you have been here for some time?
Otomi: I overheard your talk behind you. Down with the money.
Yasu: Don't talk nonsense!

(The black curtain behind them is pulled up.
The red-light district is seen in the distance)

That is the money I extorted for the sake of my master. As I did not think you would willingly give it to me, I stole this kitchen-knife at a public house and reached here ahead of you crossing rice-fields from the back of the house. I overheard your talk in the bamboo-bush. You will be drowned after all on the way of crossing the dangerous sea of Enshu. Therefore you had better be prepared for death now!

Yasu: Then, you overheard me talking to myself?
As things have come to this there is no help for it. You yourself will be killed on the spot. Prepare for death!
Otomí: Breathe your last without grumbling!

(Otomí and Yasu fight with each other. After severe scuffle Otomí kills Yasu and deprives him of the purse.)

Tough fellow more than I expected. That he should escape away after taking up my money!

But two can play at this game.

Yosaburo-san must be waiting for me. I must go as soon as possible.

(Otomí starts to go. Thereupon a constable appears and tries to arrest her. Otomí escapes from him and goes toward the left. Meanwhile a large number of constables appear and surround her.)

All the constables: Otomí! You are under arrest!

Otomí: What do you do with me?

Constables: Don't talk nonsense. You are the notorious burglar Kirare Otomí and Komori/Yasu.

Be arrested without resistance!

(A scuffle begins, a Japanese jazz band starts and the curtain falls with the sound of wooden clappers.)

-------- End ------