

C.C.D. J-2039



SHOCHIKU

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KABUKI PLAY

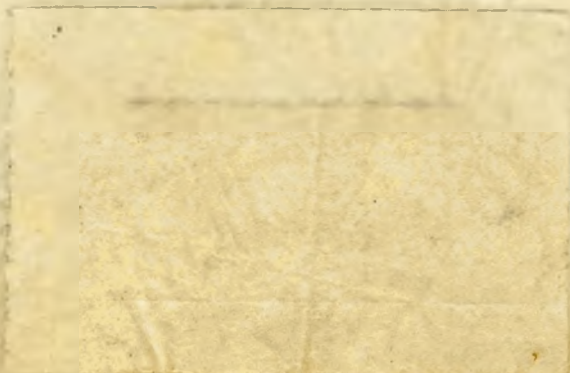
"ADESUGATA-TATSUMI-NO-IRIODORI" (THE LOVE STORY  
OF COSHUBEN-OTAKI AND KOZARU-SHICHINOSUKE)

TWO ACTS

WRITTEN BY: MOKUAMI KAWATAKE

DRAMATIZED BY: KOHSHIN WAKIYA

TO BE PRESENTED BY ENNOSUKE TROUPE AT THE TOKYO  
THEATER FROM JANUARY 2nd to JANUARY , 1897.



----- THE FIRST SCENE -----

The Scene of the Dyke of Susaki.

There is a dyke grown with heap-palms on the main stage with the offing of Susaki for a back scenery.

It is a view of the night. There is a watchman's lodge of one-mat room on the right of the flat stage. The roofs of the lodge are picturesque. Beyond the lodge there is a cottage of several mats surrounded with bamboo palisade, used for construction.

Before the stage are seen stockades for prevention of waves. Everything represents the dyke of Susaki, Fukagawa, Yedo.

With music entitled "Tsukuda," the curtain rises. Instantly a solo starts:

"Looking up at the two stars in the sky, I feel my heart burning like a watch-fire. Tonight's success will be known even to the Milky Way."

The curtain of light blue drops.

Somewhat to the left from the center of the dyke there is placed a decorated palanquin for women. Beside the palanquin Takigawa, a court lady, is looking up at the moon partly covered with the clouds or overlooking the sea off Susaki.

She is standing with her back to the spectators. Nisaburoh, a warrior attached to the inner palace, wearing a ceremonious dress and a pair of clothes, accompanies her.

Nisaburoh: Takigawa-Iono, look! We can see from Tsukudajima Island, Teppozu to Shibaura on the sea. It's a fine night scenery, isn't it?

Takigawa: As you say, Mr. Terajima, the night scenery is different from that of the daytime. Especially the moon partly seen from among the clouds and the surging waves shone by the moonlight are very beautiful.

N: The fishing-boats dimly seen by the moonlight seem to be those in the dreamy world.

"My love is as dim as the moonlight."

(Nisaburoh seems to be in deep thought. Meanwhile, Takigawa looks to have come to herself.)

T: Perhaps owing to the breeze from the river, I've recovered from my headache.

N: That's good.

T: However, the night is far advanced. If we're so late in coming back to the mansion, we shall have some trouble, I'm afraid.

N: (Takes her words honestly)

Is that so? I wonder where the followers are?

(Overlooking the dyke) Oh, they are enjoying themselves on the sand. Shall I call them back right away?

T: Oh, no, it's asking too much of you, I'm afraid. You're an official in the inner palace, so I'm afraid it will be very rude of me to send you there.

N: Oh, don't stand on ceremony.

Since the old master at Sunamura is ill in bed, you've inquired after his health from the main mansion as

proxy of the mistress/. So today you're in the same position as the mistress. Well, then, I'll call them.

(Takes a few steps ~~a~~ slowly.)

T: (Seems not to be satisfied with his attitude)

You needn't be in a hurry. (Overlooking the dyke)

I was allowed to go out after a long time so as to inquire after the old master's health, so I want to dispel my gloom. I should like to forget the closing-time of the mansion here.

No wonder they are enjoying themselves on the sand, Mr. Terazawa.

(Thoughtfully) What do you say to our joining them?

N: Eh?

T: Oh, I'm sorry. You're a gentleman, so you may not be interested in enjoying yourself on the sand like commoners.

N: Oh, no, Takigawa-dono.

Today I'm very glad to be with you.

T: Eh?

N: Well, Takigawa-dono, I've got something to talk to you.

(However, he rather hesitates and says nothing further.)

T: What is it, eh?

(At a distance a sea-song and the sounds of the waves are heard. Both of them keep silent for a while.)

N: Although the moon is covered with the clouds, don't you think you feel as if your mind were purified by the sea-song on a quiet night?

I can hear the chirping of noisy crickets, so on the contrary I feel my mind is disturbed. Well, Mr. Terazawa, please speak your mind.

N: Eh?

T: Well, I should like to hear your talk.

N: Well, then. (Suddenly the sound ~~of~~<sup>of</sup> the wind and the peal of thunder are heard.) Oh, suddenly the sky has become dark.

T: Look! The clouds are gathering

(Looking up at the sky, she notices that it has started raining.)

Oh, it has started raining.

N: Ah, we cannot find any place to take shelter from rain on this dyke, so you'd better get in the palanquin.

(Just then two footmen who have accompanied Takigawa come running with paper lanterns in their hands.)

Footman A: Mr. Terazawa, as we've thought it has started raining. We've got a rain coat for you.

Footman B: You'd better go back to the mansion as soon as possible.

(Just then Kozaru-Shichinosuke hiding his face with a sedge-hat for a footman comes out from behind with a paper lantern in his hand. The footman A carries Terazawa's blue rain-coat and his hat in his hands. In the meantime, with a violent clap of thunder, it gets dark.)

T: Good heavens! (Trembles. Misaburch helps her get in the palanquin.)

N: Hey, Footmen, it is thundering furiously. Hurry up and pass through the dyke right away.

Footman A: (Carries the palanquin)

Although you ask us to hurry up, I'm afraid we cannot, for it's thundering so furiously.

N: (Looking at the right under the dyke) Oh, I shall take shelter from rain at the temple over there and precede you, so follow me. (Goes away ahead of the footmen. However, the footmen are afraid of the thunder and cannot move. During the time, it thunders more violently, so at last the footmen put down the palanquin and tremble.

Something seems to be struck by a bolt of lightning.

The two footmen hurriedly run off to the left.

Meanwhile, Shichinosuke lies face down.

The sound of the thunder gradually goes out.

After a while Shichinosuke rises to his feet.)

Shichinosuke: Well, something seems to have been struck by a bolt of lightning in this neighbourhood.

(The sounds of the waves are heard. Shichinosuke takes off his hat and looks up at the sky.)

S: I know the autumnal sky is very changeable. However, it has showered like summer and now it has cleared up and I can see some stars.

Well, I wonder where Mr. Terazawa and the footmen carrying the palanquin have gone (Looks around and opens the door of the palanquin where

Takigawa swoons.)

Excuse me, Takigawa-sama, but you must have been astonished at the violent thunder.

(A vocal solo is given:

"The shower comes to an end very quickly."

Shichinosuke stands beside the palanquin and crossing his arms, looks closely at Takigawa.)

S.: What a beautiful lady she is!

("It has cleared up and the stars are seen in the sky. Bush-clovers are wet with dew-drops."

Shichinosuke goes to the stream in front and holds water in his mouth. After that, he helps Takigawa to her feet and lets her drink the water.)

S: Takigawa-sama, Takigawa-sama, have you come to yourself?

E: (Opens her eyes and seems to be lost in thought) Well, then, have I swoon for fear of the thunder?

S: Yes, I wondered what became of you and opened the door of the palanquin when I found you swooned. Indeed I was at a loss what to do, for I couldn't find anybody else here.

E: (Leaves Shichinosuke hurriedly) What about Mr. Hisaburo Terayama and the

Palanquin-bearers?

S: Well, they seem to have been astonished with the thunder and run away somewhere, so I couldn't find anybody but myself here.

T: Thank you for the trouble you have taken. When I go back to the mansion, I'll thank you a great deal for your trouble.

S: (Thinking) Do you mean to say that you'll express your thanks to me?

T: Sorry to say I've got nothing with me now.

S: Do you mean money? If you want to express your thanks to me, I've another favour to ask you.

T: What is your favour, then?

S: Well, I want to win your heart.

T: Eh? (gets astonished. The notes of insects are heard. The musical accompanists start playing.)

S: You needn't be astonished at my words. I'm the preserver of your life, so please grant my request.

T: You're a footman, aren't you? Why dare you say such a thing to me? I'm a court lady and go by the name of Takigawa. Since I owe my life to you, I'll never tell your rude words to others, so you ought to behave properly hereafter.

S: No, I cannot behave properly. I haven't said so in joke. I've loved you inwardly for a long time, Takigawa-sama. You may look down upon me, for you're a court lady. But please give me your satisfactory answer right now.

(Shichinosuke takes off his coat and asks her to



answer him, placing his hands on the ground.)

T: (Thinking) Have you loved me for such a long time?

S: You may not know, but I glanced at you for the first time on the thirteenth day of the Bon festival.

T: Did you?

(The insects chirp. Shichinosuke who has taken off his coat takes a seat and seems to be in deep thought.)

S: The place was Eitai-bashi Bridge. It was a moonlight night and as bright as the daytime. I happened to see you then and at first glance fell in love with you. Well, I picked this hairpin from you at the time. (Takes a hairpin out of his tobacco-pouch) I knew your name Takigawa by the name inscribed on the decoration chrysanthemum of the hairpin. Like the moon among the clouds, I dogged you and knew the mansion in which you were living. After few days I was employed as a footman of the mansion through some man and waited for an opportunity. Happily I heard your followers were short-handed, Takigawa-sama, when you were expected to go and inquire after the old master's health, so I've accompanied you, carrying a dark blue signboard, a round wicker-hat and a paper lantern as a footman. Now I'll take a gambler's chance. Takigawa-san, please sympathize with me. (Shichinosuke bares his shoulder, tucks up his clothes and looks at Takigawa. Thereupon his scarlet loin-cloth and hanging mascot attached to a silver chain are seen. Takigawa gets startled

and is lost in thought.)

T: Well, then, you're the pickpocket who picked my hairpin at Eitai-bashi Bridge, aren't you?  
(Gets chocked and looks around.) I wonder where Mr. Terazawa and the footmen have gone.

S: Well, before I'm disturbed by others, I'll realize my love to you. (Takes Takigawa by the hand and draws her close to him.)

T: Ah, let me go!

S: How shall I be able to let you go? During your unconsciousness, I warmed you with my body and put water in your mouth from mine. Now I cannot put up with it. You'd better resign yourself to your fate.

{Shichinosuke is about to seize Takigawa's sash.}

T: (Holds his hand and tries to prevent him from untying her sash.) Help me, anyone.

(Wriggles. Shichinosuke sits on the edge of the sash nearly untied and sposes. The notes of insects are heard.)

S: Even if you cry our, here is the dyke of Susaki far away from the town. Besides it's late at night after the rain. The breeze is blowing. The stars are only dimly seen among the broken clouds. Popular songs are faintly heard from the tea-house in the precinct of the Benten Shrine. Woodmen's voices are heard in the distance.

With grasshoppers and locusts you'd better lie in bed together with me on the street.

F: Are you going to rape me?

(Takigawa is about to run off when Shichinosuke draws her closer to him and takes her into the cottage. During the time the musical accompanists play an amorous tune of music.

The sounds of the waves are heard calmly. Just then a strolling player's song is also heard. From the right Ichibei who has now retired from actual business of a lumber-dealer comes out with a young married couple, Ishiroh and his wife Onui.)

Ishiroh: Onui, the moon is shining brightly after the shower, isn't it?

(Says gently.)

Onui: Indeed the weather is very changeable. I was very astonished with the thunder just now, though. If you hadn't been with me, I should have fainted.

I: (Stretching himself and looking up at the moon.)

Very few people pass on this dyke. I hope you don't flirt with each other so much. Ha, ha, ha! Don't you remember that I was also with you?

O: Oh, yes, I do. Ha, ha, ha!

(The couple laugh.)

I: Father, you mustn't squat down in such a place.

O: (To Ichibei, Although Echigoa-san kindly hired a palanquin for you, you refused his kind offer. We shall soon get Naka-Kiba. Now let's go home right away. (Says like a spoiled child.)

Ichibeh: Although I've sat down, I'm by no means tired. Now I'm trying to compose a poem under the moonlight. You're young people, so you may do anything you like.

I don't want to move away from here, as the moon is so beautiful.

Onui: Don't say such a thing, Daddy.

Ishi.: I'm afraid a drunkard might come here, so we shall precede you.

Ichi.: (Goes near the cottage) You may go away. Oh, there seem to be some people in the cottage.

C: What did you say, Daddy?

Ichi.: Well, I don't want to interrupt young people.

Ishi.: What did you say?

Ichi.: Oh, nothing.

Ishi.: Ah, I feel chilly.

C: Do you? Be careful. After eating macaroni and warming ourselves, let's go to bed early tonight.

Ichi.: Ugh, terribly cold. I can't look up at the moon at such a place. I want to drink rice wine, before going to bed. (Goes away with a smile on his face.)

C: Look out, Daddy! (Follows Ichibeh.)

Ishi.: Be careful not to stumble.  
(Holds her hand and leaves with her.)

----- Dark Change -----

A vocal solo is given :  
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"Love laughs at distance. The notes of insects  
are heard clearly.

A crow flies away. The sound of the bell  
is dimly heard in the darkness of the night."

The bell is rung. After a while from  
the cottage come out Shichinosuke and  
Takigawa, and look around.)

Shi: The night is far advanced, I think. Let's go right  
away.

Ta.: (Places her hands on her dishevelled hair and is  
absorbed in thought) I won't go back to the mansion.

S.: Why not?

T.: Now I ask you to take me/away any-where.

S.: What? (The musical accompanists play music. Both  
of them are lost in thought.)

T.: Now that I've given myself up to you, I cannot work  
in the mansion any more.

S.: Do you mean to say that you'll become my wife, as  
you've been deprived your virginity?

T.: Yes; at first I hated you, but I've been moved by  
your straightforwardness though you're a man of  
humble birth.

S.: Eh?

T.: Please take me away before my followers come back.

S.: Even if you want me to take you away, I've no  
place to go.

At amusement quarters such as Shiba and Asakusa, I'm a notorious pickpocket and go by the name of Kozaru-No-Shichi. I can run as quickly as a rat. Are you really going to become my wife in spite of my criminal record?

(Holds her hand tightly and says so.)

T: Yes; now you're my husband, so it's my duty as your wife to live with you whatever business you're engaged in.

S: (Smiles) Hum, I'm very glad to hear it. From now on I'll caress you even at the risk of my life and will never separate from you throughout my life.

T: We'd better keep house somewhere.

S: If you become my wife, you must change your coiffure.

T: Oh, yes, I'll wear a comb made out of box-wood sideways, though I'm afraid it won't suit me well.

S: You must also change the way of wearing your sash.

T: I know I shall have to wear a sleeved quilt instead of fine dress.

S: Well, then, you'll become my wife. If you work in a public bath-house like a wicked woman in the play together with me, you'll be able to go on a picnic or do anything you like.

T: Okay.

S: Let's elope together.

(The bell of the time is heard. The sounds of the waves are also heard. Both of them get ready for

going away. There is a sign of a man coming. Nisaburoh Terazawa is coming over there. Thereupon Takigawa gets astonished and says so to Shichinosuke in whispers. Both of them hide themselves behind the bush. The moon hides in the clouds.)

Nisaburoh: (Peers through the darkness.)

Takigawa-dono, Takigawa-dono! I wonder where the footmen have gone. I don't know what to do. (Just at the moment from the left Gorohji comes out; he is drunk while from the right comes out a geisha girl named Kumeji who is also slightly intoxicated. Meanwhile, Shichinosuke hides his face with a rush-mat and comes out. Nisaburoh bumps against Shichinosuke.)

N.: Who are you, though you seem to be a footman? (Stands in the way of Shichinosuke and Takigawa. Thereupon Shichinosuke thrusts Nisaburoh away. Nisaburoh tumbles and runs into Gorohji, who tumbles from the dyke and drops in the water. Shichinosuke tries to search for Takigawa and touches Kumeji. In the twinkling of an eye Shichinosuke picks a purse from Kumeji. Takigawa tries to look for Shichinosuke. After all Shichinosuke holds Takigawa's hand and going to the stage passage, lies face down. The sounds of the waves are heard.)

N.: (Mistakes Kumeji for Takigawa) Oh, are you Takigawa-dono?

(The wooden clappers are beaten.)

Kumaji: (Feels in her sash.) Eek! I cannot find my purse. (Seems to be in deep thought. The curtain is about to fall. Both Shichinosuke and Takigawa rise to their feet, and looking at each other, they seem to be in thought. Shichinosuke weighs the purse and grins. With a ditty sung to the accompaniment of musical instruments, both of them go away.)

----- Act Drop -----



----- Second Scene -----

The scene of a Boat-keeper's At Dobashi,  
Fukagawa.

There is a paper sliding-door with the firm-name  
"Funa-Shichi" written on it in front on the left of  
the flat stage. Beyond the room there is a project-  
ing window facing the riverbank.

The view of the riverbank over there is seen. This  
room is an upstairs room facing the riverbank. On the  
right there is also another room closed with paper  
sliding-doors.

On the left there is a standing cherry-tree the  
blossoms of which have started blooming.

"You're a wife, so I cannot love you."

<sup>W</sup>ith the above-mentioned song, the curtain rises.

It is noon on a spring day; it is raining.

Yonosuke, a clerk of a wholesale-dealer's in cotton  
at Yokoyamachon, stands in the room; he seems to have  
been drenched with the rain and is wiping articles  
with a towel.

From the stage passage a geisha girl named Saki-  
matsu who seems to be a slovenly woman comes out with  
Goneiji under the same umorella.

A song is sung:

"A swallow drenched in the spring rain flies  
away under the eaves.

Like the swallow I shelter from rain in Fukagawa."

It stops raining. Sakimatsu leaves Goneiji and  
gesticulates so as to see him again. Sakimatsu goes

away to the left while Gochiiji goes behind the house.

Meanwhile, Takigawa who is now called Goshuden-Otaki and seems to be a charming wife of a boat-keeper comes out with a bath-robe and gesticulates so as to let Yonosuke undress himself, for he is wet to the skin. However, Yonosuke hesitates and refuses her offer when Otaki helps him untie his belt, hangs up the wet clothes on a pole over the window in front and drops Yonosuke's purse under the window. She helps Yonosuke put on the bath-robe from behind. Since Yonosuke hasn't seen much of the world, he blushes and stiffens.

After a while, Otaki brings in a bottle of rice wine and urges Yonosuke to drink.

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Yonosuke: I've been to Kiba by my master's order and I'm in a hurry to go back. As I was caught by the rain, I took shelter under the eaves of this house. I'm a perfect stranger to you, so I'm afraid it's asking too much of you if I sponge on you so much.

Otaki: Oh, it shows lack of affection on your part to say such a thing. I've often seen you going to Kiba, so I've known you by sight.

Y.: Really?

O: Moreover, on the first festival of this year, on my way back from plum-blossoms viewing I went to the shrine-entrance of the Nachiman Shrine through Kiba when I met you before the entrance. Since I saw your figure as a clerk

at the time, I've never forgotten you.

Y: Ah? (Seems to be lost in thought.)

C: Although we're engaged in shipping business and  
associate with men, I know nothing of shipping.

(Thinking) Up to now I've hated any man, but  
I've fallen in love with you.

(Sidling up to Yonosuke) I hope you won't desert  
me.

("Like a pair of plovers I am very happy with you.")

Meanwhile, Yonosuke rises to his feet and taking  
up his clothes, tries to put it on. Otaki shows  
various kinds of coquettish manners and at last  
seems to have had a fit of spasm; she crouches to  
the left. Thereupon Yonosuke nurses her from be-  
hind and his hand happens to touch her breasts  
when Otaki holds his hand with hers. Yonosuke seems  
to be enraptured. All of a sudden Otaki  
thrusts him away and stands at the entrance  
of the room on the right; she seems to be very  
coquettish. Yonosuke goes to the right absent-  
mindedly.

Otaki takes off her short coat, and looking in  
the inner room, changes her mind and enters the  
room. Yonosuke runs after her. During the song,  
the above actions are done. Just then Shichi-  
nosuke's voice is heard.)

Shichinosuke's voice: I've found out your adulterer;  
you mustn't move.

Otaki's voice: Ah, what are you going to do with me?

(The paper sliding-doors of the room are open

where there are spread gay bed-clothes.

Shichinosuke takes Yonosuke by the scruff of the neck and comes out while Boatman Gorohji holds down Otaki and comes out.)

Gorohji: Sis, you've committed adultery, haven't you?

S: Gorohji, take the woman over there. (To Yonosuke)  
Hey, you rascal, come here.

Otaki: Well, the man is -----.

S: Sis, you mustn't be here, so you'd better come downstairs.

O: Ah, he hasn't done anything wrong, you see.

G: Anyway come downstairs, please.

(Takes her away forcibly. Yonosuke gets astonished and feels uneasy. Shichinosuke sends Yonosuke flying roughly in the middle of the room. Yonosuke is trembling.)

S: (Looking at Yonosuke hatefully, Shichinosuke lies down at a proper place.) Hey, young man, bring the pillow.

Y: Certainly. (Tremblingly, Yonosuke brings one of the two pillows on the bed clothes, and placing it before Shichinosuke crouches at the former place; he wants to put on his clothes, but cannot.)

S: In this house this pillow is Otaki's, but do you know whose is another one?

Y: How should I know?

S: Whatever you may say, since you've entered the room together with Otaki, you cannot clear yourself of the charge of being her adulterer.

Y: I've never known that she is your wife. When I was

taking shelter from rain under the eaves, I was forcibly called into this house by her and she dried up my wet clothes. I'm awfully sorry that I've been falsely charged. I'll never come here again, so please excuse me.

S: (Looking closely at Yonosuke) Don't talk nonsense! I know you called yourself Yonosuke, a clerk of the cotton wholesale-dealer's "Yamashiroya" in presence of Otaki just now.

Y: How did you know my name?

S: If / once I hear Otaki's adulterers' name, I cannot forget the name and I feel in mental anguish as if I were in Hades. Hey, have you also fallen in love with Otaki?

Y: Oh, no, I -----

S: Don't tell me a lie. No wonder anyman can be charmed down with Otaki's wink; she is worthy of being loved by men. If you've touched her body, however, I cannot let you.

Y: Eh? (Gets astonished. Just then Goronji stealthily comes upstairs.)

G: Boss, what are you talking about? I think you must get ready for tonight's work.

S: Sure enough! I cannot tease such a young guy for a long time, so I'll let him go home now.

Y: Well, then, may I go home now?

G: If you've put on your clothes, you'd better go home right away.

Y: Thank you very much. (Puts on his clothes gladly.)

S: Although you're a mere clerk of the cotton wholesale-

dealer's, you've touched my wife Otaki's breasts, so you must think you're a happy man.

Y: Yes. (Pats on the clothes tremblingly.)

S: (Looking at Yonosuke) Hey, Garohji, a woman seems to take interest in his naïveté.

G: What did you say?

S: Nothing much. (To Yonosuke) Go away right away.

Y: Just a minute, please. (Is about to go) My word! I cannot find fifty "ryo" in gold coins which I've received from Hamanaya-san at Kiba.

S: (Laughs scornfully) Hey, Mr. Clerk, Fifty ryo isn't too much for expenses for a spree. (Looks aside and dozes off.)

Y: Well, then, you've taken fifty ryo -----

G: We don't know of your money whether it's fifty "ryo" or one hundred "ryo". Hey, go home right away. (Chucks out Shichinosuke.)

You ought to go home without complaint.

Y: If I've been taken fifty "ryo", I cannot make any excuse to my master.

G: Hey, adulterer, do you want to be charged with adultery?

(Yonosuke is chucked outside and looks vexations.)

Y: Without the money, I cannot go back. What shall I do?

(Takes a few steps and is lost in thought. In the meantime, Otaki comes in the room and sits beside Shichinosuke; after that she takes away Shichinosuke's pillows. He smiles, but pretends to be sulky.

Being indifferent to it, Otaki lets him lay

his head on her lap, and putting tobacco in a long pipe, has a smoke and puffs his face. Shichinosuke is choked with the smoke.)

O: My dear, it has been a great success, I should think.  
(In the meantime, Yonosuke runs off to the stage passage.)

G: (Looking at the love scene.)  
I cannot help sneezing. I'm afraid I've caught cold. You love each other, so you're happy even when you lie dozing, I should think.

S: Don't talk nonsense! Get ready for a boat right away.

O: Well, are you going fishing at night again?

R: Oh, it's my hobby to drink with you, cooking the fish caught. Wait for me for a while.  
(Rises to his feet.)

O: If you're late in coming back, I shall have slept.

S: If you're asleep, I'll wake you up.

O: Don't say such a thing before Gorch-san.

S: (To Gorchji) Do you mind hearing such a thing?

G: No, I don't mind it a bit.

S: I'll give you ten "ryo" as your share, but not more.

G: Well, you'd better talk of your love affairs worthy of ten "ryo". What do you say, Sis?

O: Hum, Gorch-san, you're good at joking. I don't think there will be a boat off Susaki. I've heard that you've fallen in love with Pashion at the resignation-house on the riverside.

G: Eek! Have you?

O: Don't pretend ignorance! I don't mind you may love

any courtesan, but I hope you won't let Snichisan do the same thing.

C: (Feels awkward) Boss, I'll wait for you downstairs. (Goes downstairs.)

C: Wait a moment, Gorojji-san!

S: Well, Otaki, I'll never love any other woman but you. The more women I associate with, the better I know your merit and love you.

C: Although you praise me up to the skies, you let me play a badger game with men.

S: Well, I cannot feel at ease when you flirt with another man even in joke for some purpose. I guess you pretend to play a badger game with men, but in fact you're enjoying yourself to do so especially in case of innocent men. (Looks at Otaki's eyes.)

C: Oh, you needn't feel jealous of it. Sometimes I think it would be better if you were more pure-hearted, though.

S: (Brightens up) Ha, ha, ha! (Laughs loudly) Pure-heartedness ----- such a thing would be of no use in case of emergency. (Puts his chin on the pillow) So long as we're living, we can enjoy ourselves in bed. What a beautiful moon tonight! (Draws Otaki closer to him.)

Gorojji: Boss, I'll go.

S: (Gets startled) Oh, don't scare me. (Otaki seems to be displeased.)



THE THIRD SCENE

The Scene of the Dyke of Susaki

It is a spring night. Although the place is the same as the first scene, the position is different. The cottage is under the dyke. There is a standing cherry-tree on the dyke.

At a proper place on the dyke, Nisaburoh Terazawa, now a detached warrior, wearing a sedge-hat and shabby clothes, is angling with a rod and line, showing his back to the spectators.

A quiet music starts. All of a sudden splash is heard in the neighbourhood. Nisaburoh stands up and runs.

Nisaburoh: I heard the splash. Well, I'm sure some person has thrown himself in the water. (Comes out under the dyke. With a song, Otaki, smartly dressed, covering her cheeks with a towel, comes out with a paper lantern in her hand.

Otaki: I wonder how long Shichi-san is fishing. After enjoying himself alone, he goes out in the evening for pleasure. I hardly understand his mind. (Comes to the <sup>dyke</sup> on the main stage.) He said he would be under the dyke near the all-night light. Ah, I must go down a little more.

(Is about to go) Five years ago I was on this dyke of Susaki under the dim moonlight. Then the moon was seen among the clouds. Oh, where is Mr. Terazawa who was so faithful to his duties? Although I couldn't unbosom myself to him, I inwardly loved him. The current of the stream and man's destiny are beyond comprehension.

(Just then Nisaburoh comes up, helping Yonosuke who has been drenched with water. Otaki seems to have taken notice of only Yonosuke.)

O: Oh, he is the clerk of the cotton-wholesale-dealer. What shall I do?

(Gets excited and hides herself behind the bush.)

Nisaburoh: What a coincidence that I've saved you, clerk of Yamagiya-san whom I always owe a great deal.

Yonosuke: I'm awfully sorry to say, but as I told you just now, the boat-keeper is in fact a scoundrel of this place. I couldn't do anything against him, so after all I tried to drown myself.

N: Is it the boat-keeper's shop named Funa-Shichi? All right, I shall have to relieve you from the trouble, taking the matter up with him. I'm a man though I'm a detached samurai. Now take me there, please.

Y: Certainly. Although I wanted to kill myself, I happily met you, as you were fishing. You're like Buddha in hell. I'll place my hands in prayer like this.

N: Oh, you needn't thank me so much. This way?

Y: However, he is a dare-devil rascal, so I'm afraid you'll have a hard time.

N: Don't worry! I'm still single and have no family to support. Now I'll go with you.

(Both of them are about to go away. Just then Otaki comes out of the bush.)

O: Please wait a moment.

Y: (Turns round and gets astonished) Oh, you're the mistress-Funashichi's wife.

- N: Funa-shichi's wife?
- C: (To Yonosuke) I beg your pardon. I'm sure you were astonished then. I'm sorry I caused you trouble.
- Y: Well, we were going to your house. Madam, I ask you to give me back the money.
- C: Well, I may give you back the money, though.  
(Nisaburoh seems to be in thought.)
- N: If you don't give him back the money, he'll have to kill himself, I'm afraid.
- C: Who are you?
- N: (Makes a sign to Yonosuke so as to let him wait and taking off his sedge-hat, takes a seat at a proper place) How do you do? I owe this clerk's master a great deal. Well, I live in a tenement-house at Yokoyama-choh and my name is Nisaburoh Terazawa. I'll ask you in his place. If it's for your amusement, please take out the money. You're a fine mistress of a boat-keeper. I don't think you've played a badger game.
- C: Mr. Terazawa, do you think I'm a mere boat-keeper's wife?
- N: Eh?
- C: No wonder you don't recognize me, as I've changed a great deal. (Says lonesomely.)
- N: Oh, you're the court lady Takigawa-dono.
- C: Mr. Terazawa.
- N: Both of us have changed a great deal.
- Both: And we've met again.  
(Nisaburoh seems to be startled.)

- N: Although even a baby becomes three years old after three years, you've changed so much. I wonder I'm dreaming.
- Y: What a coincidence!
- O: Ha, ha, ha! (Tries to behave herself as before, looking at Nisaburoh) Mr. Clerk, I'm sorry I've joshed you. I'm afraid I'm mischievous by nature. As a matter of fact, I've come out in search of you, as I've been worried about you. Excuse me, Mr. Terazawa, but I hope you'll return the money to him on my behalf. (Looks bashful and acts in a coquettish way.)
- N: I'm very glad to hear it. Anyway, Yonosuke-dono, take this money.
- Y: (Receives the money from Nisaburoh) Oh, this is fifty "ryo". I appreciate your kindness. Well, then, I'll go back to the shop as soon as possible. Mr. Terazawa, I'll call on you to express my thanks tomorrow.  
(Yonosuke gets glad and runs away to the right.)
- O: (Sees him off) Be careful and go home. (To Nisaburoh) I'm glad to see that you're in good health.
- N: (Bashfully) You seem to be wealthy, but I'm now a poor detached warrior, and wear shabby clothes. I'm ashamed to say that I'm as poor as a church-mouse.
- O: That's exactly what I want to say. Sorry to say, I was obliged to give myself up to the footman. Now I've a husband named Kozaru-No-Shichi. Unlike me, your eyes are as pure as five years ago though you may be very poor. Now I've heard that you're still single.

Why don't you marry?

N: Five years ago on this dyke I could happily be with you though we were usually prohibited to meet by the strict regulations of Toda's mansion. When I looked up at the moon partly covered with the clouds, I wanted to speak my mind to you, but I couldn't. (Thinking) Therefore I don't want to have a wife and still I cannot become a grown-up man in the truest sense of the term.

O: Eh? (Gets astonished) Well, then, you've also loved me. (Seems to be in thought.)

N: I'm sure my heart was ~~xxxx~~ burning more strongly than a watch-fire in a fishing-boat on the sea or the dim autumnal moon. However, it was only a happy dream.

O: Mr. Terazawa, why didn't you speak your mind to me at the time? I'm a woman, so I couldn't dare say such a thing. If you had said so then, I shouldn't be in such a condition now.

N: Eh? Then you also --.

O: You too?

(Both of them are lost in thought. A quiet tune of music starts.)

N: It's my nature not to speak my mind in words, so it cannot be helped.

O: Mr. Terazawa, even if you couldn't speak your mind to me then, I'm sure you had time to make love to me in action. Ah, I feel vexatious. (Weeps.)

N: Takigawa-dono.

O: (Makes up her mind) Well, Mr. Terazawa, nay,

Nisaburoh-sama, please take me to your house at  
Yokoyama-choh.

N: What did you say?

O: If I live with my present husband, I shall never be  
able to rise in the world like an eel living in  
a swamp. If I part from you now, I shan't be able to ~~xxxxxx~~  
become happy throughout my life. Before the storm  
blows off blossoms, please save me from my plight.  
Don't you like me? (Clings to Nisaburoh)

N: Takigawa-dono. (Seems to be impressed. Just then  
Gorohji comes out of the right, struggling with  
Yonosuke.)

Gorohji: Hey, come on - Come along.

Yonosuke: No, I shall have to go back to the shop. Please let  
me go.

G: (Seizes Yonosuke by the nape of the neck) Hey, Boss,  
I've brought this guy here.

(Thereupon both Nisaburoh and Otaki rise to their feet  
with astonishment.)

N: Oh, Nisaburoh-dono.

O: What's the matter with you?

(Just then Shichinosuke comes out from under the dyke  
composedly, puts his hand in Yonosuke's pocket, and  
taking the money out of the pocket, puts it in  
his pocket; after that he takes a seat at a proper place  
on the right and glares at Nisaburoh and Otaki.)

O: (Gets astonished.) Oh, you're Shichi-san.

N: (Gets also astonished) Well, then, this man is --.  
(Shichinosuke makes a sign to Gorohji so as to take  
away Yonosuke. Thereupon Gorohji is about to take away

Yonosuke, who feels mortified and bites Gorojji's hand.)

G: Ah, ouch! Darn it!

(Both of them go away to the right while struggling.

The bell of the time is rung.)

Shichinosuke: Hey, Otaki, are you going to forsake me?

You may do so if you can.

N: Oh, you're the footman.

S: No matter one is a footman or a daimyo. There is no discrepancy in social standing so far as love is concerned. The court lady Takigawa has now changed her name to Goshuden-Otaki and become Kozaru-No-Shichi's devoted wife.

N: What?

O: (Comes out from behind Nisaburoh) Shichi-san, from today on I shall lead a quiet life with Mr. Terazawa just like looking up at the full moon. Please forsake me from today on.

S: No, I won't; you are my life, as it were. Without you, I cannot live out. You know I'm in love with you.

N: (Thinking) Takizawa-dono, I think it's one of your ways of living to live as a commoner's wife. I keep my love in my mind to the end of my life. It's one of my ways of living, I should think.

S: Indeed a man has his own way of living. Otaki.

(Gets near to Otaki) We shall live together throughout our life like a pair of mandarin ducks. Now let's go.

O: (Disengages herself from his grasp) We aren't a real married couple, for our minds aren't closely linked.

(To Nisaburoh) though I've become a humble woman, I've loved you up to now. Well, Mr. Terazawa, my mind is at your mercy. Please hold my hand tightly.

S: Shut up! I don't mind that you take to amours from caprice, but I don't want any man to touch even your finger to say nothing of your body. Hey, Mr. Terazawa, give me back Otaki. If not, you'll smart for it.

C: Now that I've known your true mind, I don't want to lead a slovenly life any more, Nisaburoh-sama.

N: Shichinosuke, I hope you'll allow Takigawa-dono to have her own way both in mind and in body.

S: No, I won't. Now two men struggle because of winning one woman's heart. I don't respect you though you're a warrior. If you can take her, you may do so by force. (Suddenly takes a knife out of his pocket and tries to stab at Nisaburoh.)

N: Hey, don't! (Struggles with Shichinosuke for a while. Meanwhile, Otaki crouches.)

C: Shichi-san, what are you going to do with my real lover? If you want to kill him, you'd better kill me first. Now kill me.

S: How shall be able to kill a woman whom I love? Come on, you rascal. (Strikes at Nisaburoh, who draws his sword and gets ready to fight.)

C: Mr. Terazawa, you must be strong.

N: Now I cannot help it. I'll fight with him for us. (Fights with Shichinosuke.)



- S: Even if I'm killed here, I'll never leave Otaki.  
(A rough-tumble starts. The sounds of the waves are heard. After all Misaburoh loses his footing and drops from the dyke. A violent splash is heard.)
- O: (Gets surprised) Ah, Mr. Terazawa.  
(Shichinosuke looks on the surface of the water.)
- O: Mr. Terazawa, Mr. Terazawa. (Is about to go to the water. Shichinosuke quickly draws her closer to him.)
- O: Shichi-san, why have you let my lover throw in the water? Now I'll also throw myself into the water.  
(Thrusts him away and is about to go.)
- S: (Clings to Otaki) Where are you going, deserting me?
- O: You hardly understand the relation between Mr. Terazawa and me. I needn't tell you any more.  
Please let me go for mercy's sake.
- S: No, I won't let you go. You're my life, as it were. Now that I've held your hand, I'll never let you go. I love you more than any other man.
- O: Anyway I keep on loving him instead of you. Now I need a true love. I've heard that you love me because of my good health, so now I'm disgusted with you.
- S: Even if you're disgusted with me, I'll never leave you.  
(Otaki thrusts him away. However, Shichinosuke runs after Otaki; he drops the kitchen-knife.)
- O: Shichi-san, now I'm not what I used to be when I was deprived of my virginity by you. Now I go by the nickname of Yohuden-Otaki. I shan't be able to bloom like a sweet flag out of the muddy water.

S: Otaki, if there is anything lacking in my love, I'll do anything to please you.

I've been in the wrong. I'll apologize to you like this. (Kotows.) Otaki. (Saying ~~softly~~<sup>softly</sup>) Although there is a difference between spring and autumn, this is the same dyke of Kusaki where we had sexual intercourse for the first time. The cottage is also as it used to be. Say, I ask you to remember the past.

O: (Thinks of the past rather unpleasantly.)

Oh, you've talked about it again. If you get near to me, I'll stab at you with this.

(Both of them struggle. After all Shichinosuke pushes her into the cottage. Just then Gorohji comes out, being run after by detectives.)

Gorohji: I don't know what Boss and Mister have done.

Detective A: Don't ~~xxx~~ pretend ignorance! Although he pretends to be a boat-keeper, in fact he earns money by gambling and besides let's his wife play a badger game with ~~her~~<sup>men</sup>. He is such a criminal, so we've kept a sharp lookout for him.

G: Whatever you may say, I don't know anything about it. (Tries to run off to the cottage. A few detectives forestall him. Just at the moment Shichinosuke comes out of the cottage.)

Shichinosuke: What's that sound, I wonder?

Detective A: Oh, Shichinosuke, you're under arrest.

(The moon hides in the clouds. The sounds of the waves are heard. Gorohji cannot escape and after much consideration jumps into the water.)

“The spring wind doesn't suggest the changeable clouds. Above the clouds there may be a sign of raining, though. Every night the moon shines brightly.” The moon comes out. Shichinosuke are held down by two detectives. Just then the sounds of the waves are heard calmly. The sound of a masseur's flute is also heard. The detectives put a rope on Shichinosuke and are about to take him away. At a distance “Shinnai” (a kind of ballad recitation) is being recited. Shichinosuke wriggles and tries to call Otaki, but after all squats down.)

Detective A: Hey, walk on.

(Shichinosuke resigns himself to his fate and rises to his feet. Just then Otaki comes out tottering.)

O: Shichi-san, wait a moment!

Detective A: Oh, you are ---.

S: She isn't Otaki, but a court lady named Takigawa-sama.

O: Are you going to be cast into prison, leaving me alone?

S: I'm to blame, for I've forced you to commit wrongdoings against your will. Now I'll break off with you, so you're the former court lady Takigawa; you'd better go back to Tōda's mansion right away.

Detective C: (Comes out) You're under arrest. (Ropes Otaki)

O: (Being kept down) I've been a fickle woman. But if you desert me, I shan't be able to live out just like a wrecked vessel.

S: Eh? (Seems to be in thought.)

O: Tonight I've known for the first time that you love me from the bottom of your heart. I shan't be able to

leave you throughout my life both in mind and body.

(The detective tries to rope her tightly.)

S: (Thinks, being pushed by the detective) I've thought that money is everything in this world, so I've acquired money ~~by fair means~~ <sup>is or foul</sup> so as to please you. Although I've thought I could keep on winning your heart if I let you lead a luxurious life, I'm ashamed to say that such an idea has been one-sided. Since I've committed lots of evil deeds, I shan't be able to escape from being arrested after all, though. (Cuts off the rope put on him with all his strength and has a rough-tumble with the detectives.)

for you

Well, I shall be willing to go through fire and water.

(Throws a detective who is struggling with Otaki into the water.) Hum! (Stands up, harbouring Otaki.)

O: My dear husband,

S: I'll live out for your sake.

(The wooden clappers are beaten. The orchestra is struck up. Tableau.)

----- Curtain -----