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" TENKA - CHAYA - MURA "

8 x 16 24  
15 16 30 31  
33

: Kabuki play in

4 Acts.

Written by Nagawa-Kamesuke & Namiki-Jusuke.

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To be presented by Shoroku, Hikosaburo,  
Omezo & Fukusuke at the Mitsukoshi Theatre,  
from September 3rd, \_\_\_\_\_, 1948 :-

SYNOPSIS:

Gemba Hayase, retainer of Lord Ukita, was killed and robbed of his family treasure by Saburoamon Toma. The treasure was the autograph of the ancient poet Tsurayuki, testification of his lineage, so that his family came to be broken off.

Iori and Gemba, his left sons, saw many hardships to seek for their enemy, together with their wives Somenoi and Hazue.

Somenoi was forced to sell herself to the gay quarters, to get the money to redeem the treasure.

Motoemon Adachi, servant to the family, betrayed his masters because of alcohol and helped Toma in killing Iori.

Koemon Ikaruga, a merchant in Fushimi was once in Hayase's service, and helped the brothers together with Kyoya-Mansuke.

The chance at last came for them to take revenge at Tenkajaya and to regain the old territory.

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A C T - I :

The Scene before the Gate of the Shitenneji Temple.

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CHARACTERS:

Iori Hayase, son of Gamba Hayase.

Genjiro, Iori's younger brother.

Saburoemon Toma, man who has killed their father.

Daizo, Saburoemon's brother.

Motoemon Adachi, Iori's footman.

Yasuke, his brother.

Somenoi, Iori's wife.

Hazue, Genjiro's wife.

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(A big gate in the main stage. A fortune-teller's kiosk a tea-house and a pot-house on the left.

Several merchants rest on benches. The tea-house girl serves them tea, and the pot-house master, cups of white wine.)

Girl: Have some more tea, if you please.

Merchant I: Both tea and wine are good when served by a young girl.

II: So I've drunk several cups.

III: I'm drunken with tea.

IV: I'd like to have a cup of white-wine.

Girl: No, Tasuke, this gentleman here would like to drink your wine.

Tasuke: Certainly.

Tasuke: My white wine is famous for the quality.

IV: Sure it is. (Drinks.)

Tasuke: Oh, thank you.

I: It's so gay around here.

II: Especially in spring.

III: Shall we go to Takatsu and eat some Yndofu?

I: It's just the time. Well, here's your money, girl.

Girl: Thank you.

(The merchants go out.)

Tasuke: Oh, where has the fortune-teller gone?

Well, I think I'll go home and get my lunch.

Girl: All right.

(Tasuke goes out.)

(Somenoi and Hazue comes in through  
the stage passage.)

Somenoi: Now, Hazue. We've been long following  
our husbands. You must feel very uncertain  
about it.

Hazue: Oh, no, I'm anxious only to meet our hus-  
bands and avenge our father-in-law.

Some: Hush, don't speak of that. Well, the temple  
there must be the Shitennoji. Shall we go?

Hazue: Oh, yes.

Some: Come on.

(The two comes into the main stage.

Taizo Toma comes into stage, sees  
the women and hides himself.)

Some: It's so fine a temple. Well, let's pray that  
we may be able to accomplish our wish.

Hazue: And that our husbands may be safe and sound.

Some: Oh, yes.

(They go into the temple. Soon

Taizo comes in clothed as a fortune-  
teller.)

Taizo: Those women are surely the daughters-in-law of Gamba Hayase, whom my brother Saburoemon killed. They must be in search of him to wander about here. I must hurry to him and tell what they're about.

Tea-house girl: (Coming in) Oh, good day.

Tai: (Absorbed) Well, we'd better make sure where the Hayase brothers are.

Girl: Have you lost anything?

Tai: We'll be damned if we don't.

Girl: Where are you going?

Tai: They cannot have gone far.

(Hurries out.)

Girl: (Surprised) Oh, has he gone mad?

(Iori and Genjiro, attired for a journey, come in followed by Yasuke, the footman.)

Iori: This is such a gay place. It's the day of the Tennoji festival, too.

Gen: Yes, very gay. Isn't it, Yasuke?

Yasu: Sure it is. You had better take a rest, gentleman.

Iori: I think we shall.

Gen: This way, please.

(They come into the main stage.)

Yasu: Some tea, please.

Girl: Certainly. (Carries tea for them.)

Yasu: (To himself) Well, my brother Motoemon started early in the morning. If he returns to the hotel, they'll tell him the way, of course. But I wish he'd find us soon.

Iori: Don't worry about it, for I have sent him on an errand. Last night at the inn, I heard someone talk about going to Senshu to redeem the lord's autograph out of pawn. I thought it may be ours and as it became clear that the traveller who spoke of it started early this morning, I ordered Motoemon to follow him. He may have got some clue not to have come back yet.

Yasu: I hope he'll do pretty well.

Gen: I hope so, too.

Yasu: (Looking out) Look, sir. The ronin coming there with his face hidden in a sedge hut looks very like Saburoemon Toma.

Iori: Very like.

Gen: It must be he.

Yasu: Let's wait here.

Iori: And see if he is.

Gen: That's our long-cherished desire.

Iori: Get ready.

(Genjiro goes into left <sup>and</sup> Iori,  
into right.)

(Shozaburo Sakata comes in Genjiro,  
Iori and Yasuke come in and chall-  
enge him. The three peep into Saka-  
ta's face and apologize for their  
mistake. Sakata goes away self-  
composedly.)

Iori: Genjiro.

Gen: Brother.

Yasui: Gentlemen.

Iori: An awful thing.

(Seen Yasuke comes into stage, seized  
by a drunken footman.)

Yasu: Oh, brother.

Moto: Oh, I was wrong.

Footman: What's wrong?

Moto: I was wrong. I say I apologize.

Footman: All right. I'll allow you, then. Who  
do you think I am? I'm Mr. Sakamoto's foot-  
man. (He shows them his licence, drops it and  
goes out.)



Yasu: The wine's so bad a thing, I'm disgusted even by the smell of it.

Iori: Oh, are you back, Motoemon? And how about the traveller?

Moto: Well, sir, I followed him to Sakai, Senshu, and examined about it. It was all mistake and the labour was lost.

Iori: I'm sorry. Take a rest here while we pay homage to the shrine.

Moto: Thank you, I shall. Now, Yasuke, take good care of the masters.

Yasu: All right. Well, brother,

Moto: Bye.

(The three go out.)

Moto: (Following them with his eyes) I'm so tired. Well, ever since the late master was murdered, the young brothers have had much trouble and yet have not found their enemy. I wish they'd accomplish their desire soon.

(Takes out his pipe) Ah, I've got no light.

(At the tea-house) Let me have a light, please. Shall we go now?

(Udesuke, Toma's footman, comes in and picks up the licence.)

Ude: Shall I rest a little here? (To Motoemon)

May I have a light, please?

Moto: Oh, sure. ----- Why, you're Udesuke ---.

Ude: And you Motosuke----- (About to run away.)

Moto: I'm glad you're here. Now, tell me where  
the Tomas are.

Ude: How can I know it?

Moto: I'll make you, if you won't.

~~Moto: -----~~

Ude: Oh, I will, I will. So loosen my collar,  
please.

Moto: Out with it.

Ude: Well, I was in Toma's service once, but he's  
been missed since he killed your master Gamba.  
I'm now in the service of Mr. Kataoka, chief  
retainer to Lord Sakamoto.

Moto: I'm not to be taken in. How can you enter  
into such big lord's service? You'll be killed  
if you won't tell the truth.

Ude: Oh, don't. I'll show you **the** proof.

Moto: Do, if you can.

Ude: (Showing the licence) Here.

Moto: (Reads) "This is to certify that this man is  
one of the footmen of Kataoka, Lord Sakamoto's  
retainer."

Ude: Now you see? Well, you used to like wine  
very much. Let's drink.

Moto: I've given up drinking.

Ude: You don't say so. It's long since I saw you  
last. Come, girl.

Girl: Yes?

Ude: A few bottles of hot wine.

Girl: Certainly.

Ude: Ah! are you still in Mr. Hayase's service?  
Oh, you are. Not yet, girl?

Girl: Here they are. Well, I'll go and pull water.  
Will you stay here?

Ude: All right.

(The girl goes out.)

(To Motoemon) Oh, it's good wine.  
Have a cup, Motoemon.

Moto: I've given up drinking, I said.

Ude: It's absurd of you. Just have one cup.

Moto: (Trying to conquer the temptation.) Save  
me, Budāhas.

Ude: Don't be so absurd. (Tries to make Motoe-  
mon drink by force, and drops a letter, which  
Motoemon picks up.)

Moto: (Reads the address) "To Mr. Oe. From  
Toma."

Ude: My conscience.

(A fight! Motoemon knocks out Ude-  
suke and is about to read the

letter. When Motoemon Toma appears

letter, when Saburoemon Toma appears. He knocks down Motoemon, puts the letter into pocket and applies the art of resuscitation to Udesuke.)

Saburo: (Whispers into Udesuke's ear.)

(Udesuke nods, goes to the pot-house and returns with a cup of wine and a ladle.

Saburoemon applies the art of resuscitation to Motoemon. Udesuke makes him drink while he is still in a swoon and shakes him hard. Then the two go out separately. Soon Somanoi and Hazue come in from out of the shrine.)

Some: Now, Hazue, I'm sure the warrior we passed by before the temple was Saburoemon Toma.

Hazue: He'll come here soon.

Some: We'll wait here and avenge our father-in-law.

Hazue: Certainly.

(The sisters hide themselves. Soon Sakata reappears. Somanoi and Hazue challenge him.)

Somanoi: ) Prepare to meet your god.  
Hazue: )

Sakata: What does this mean? I've got no reason  
to be called your enemy.

Some: Why, his voice is ---. (Looks into his  
face.) Oh, I'm so sorry.

Hazue: It's an awful mistake.

Some: Do forgive us, please.

Saka: Mistakes must be always forgiven.

Some: It's so kind of you.

Hazue: Good-bye, sir.

Saka: Good-bye.

(The sisters go out.)

Saka: I was mistaken by two ronin some minutes ago  
and then by those women. There must be something.  
I'll hide myself and see. (Hides himself in  
the fortune-teller's kiosk.)

Moto: (Coming to himself.) Oh, where can Udesuke  
have gone, leaving me alone? Now that I've  
drunk some wine, it's the same if I drink  
more. (He goes to the pot-house and mistakes  
a vinegar bottle for wine.)

Moto: Why, it's vinegar. Where's white wine?  
(Finds the bottle of white wine  
and drinks wantonly, Tasuke/  
comes back.)

Tasuke: Hey, man, what do you mean by drinking  
my wine without leave?

Moto: It'll do if I pay you, won't it?

Tasuke: You're welcome then, of course.

Moto: I've got no money with me now. I'll  
pay you next time I come.

Tasuke: What you say! All right. (Strikes Moto-  
emon on the head with the wine-bottle.)

Moto: Struck me on the head! Come, everybody.  
(Calls.)

(A crowd of people come in.)

Yasuke: (Coming out of the shrine.) Why,  
you've drunk, brother.

Moto: Oh, yes.

Yasu: What do you mean by that?

Moto: I'm desperate now.

Yasu: You rascal. (Shaking his brother.)

The wine's your weakness. Have you forgotten  
what the late master did for you? You  
were with him when he was assassinated, and yet  
did nothing for him, being drunken. You re-  
pented yourself when you became sober and  
swore never to drink again. I was so glad at  
it. But today, you've forgotten all and

have drunk much wine. You'll just have to be killed to atone for your sin.

(Just as Yasuke is about to give a cut at his brother, Iori and Genjiro come in.)

Iori: Don't be so hasty, Yasuke.

Yasu: Don't stop me, please. He's so unfaithful to you.

Iori: We've heard and seen all. He's not our vassal now that he's broken his promise with us. Cut your relation with him.

Yasu: That's why I'm ---. (About to kill Motomen.)

Iori: He's your brother, bad as he may be. How dare you?

Gen: I'll do it, then.

Iori: He's a vagabond now. Are you related to a vagabond?

Yasu: A vagabond can't wear a coat with your crest. (Takes off his brother's coat and swords.)

Moto: You're a robber, then? All right. Take all my clothes.

Yasu: How miserable he looks. Well, you'd better go now.

Iori: Yes --- it's nearly sunset, too. Brothers are not like at all. One is going to follow us even to the Hades, and one is indulged in drinking.

Yasu: His conscience will blame him.

Gen: Love, it's sorrow.

Iori: It's all by karma.

Gen:)  
Yasu:)  
But ---.

Iori: Leave the vagabond. (Goes out, Genjiro follows.)

Yasu: It's all for wine, but now he's been ~~expelled~~ expelled. I hope he'll think over when sober again.

(~~Y~~ Puts some money into his brother's pocket.)

Oh, I'm late. (Follows his masters.)

(Seen Udesuke comes in followed by palanquine-bearers. They ~~put~~ put Motosuke into the palanquine and carry him out.

Shosaburo Sakata appears from out of the kiosk, and Sabureemon Tom, from out of the shrine. They both follow the palanquine with their eyes. As



Saburoemon is about to go out,  
Shosaburo checks him. (The  
curtain falls.)

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ACT - II: Scene of Rented Room, in the Campus  
of the Toji Shrine.

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CHARACTERS:

Iori Hayase.

Genjiro, his brother.

Yasuke/ Adachi, their footman.

Motoemon, his brother.

Somenoi, Iori's wife.

Keian, a doctor.

Risuke, a second-hand dealer.

Isaburo, master of Izatsuya.

Okichi, his sister.

Myochin, a nun

etc.

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(A rented room in the campus of the Teji shrine. Genjiro lies in bed, afflicted with an eye-disease. O-Take, the hired woman, is making a medical decoction.)

Take: It's boiling. (Measuring) A little more boiling down. Well, Sister Myochin is so late to come. (Myochin, a nun, comes in.) I've been waiting so long, sister Myochin, I've finished boiling the decoction, too.

Myo: All right. I'll give it to him, so go to my house and take care of my house, please.

Take: All right. The cup's over there.

Myo: I see. Hurry.

Take: All right. (Goes out.)

Myo: I hope he'll recover some day if I take good care of him. With he's awake. (Goes into the inner room with the cup of medicine.)

(Keian, the doctor, comes in.)

Kei: Good day.

Myo: Who's that?

Kei: It's Keian. (Sitting down.) You take care of him very well. You must have got some intention.

Myo: Don't say so. (Calling) Mr. Genjiro,

please. The doctor's here. Will you come?

(Brings Genjiro in.)

Gen: Thank you, Dr. Keian.

Kei: How do you feel?

Genjiro: Better, thank you.

Kei: I'm glad. Well, shall and sound? Ha. How's  
the appetite?

Myo: Several cups of rice, every meal.

Kei: That's too much for him.

Myo: It's not about him. It's me.

Kei: Don't make a fun of me. Well, the tongue ---.

Myo: (Thrusting out her tongue) Yes?

Kei: I've not come for you, I say. (To Genjiro)

Be in bed and keep from the wind.

Gen: Thank you. (Goes behind the screen.)

Kei: See you tomorrow. (Goes out.) (Somenoi,  
attired for a journey, comes in. Two  
ronin follow her.)

Ronin I: Young lady, come with us and pour wine  
for us, please.

Some: I don't know you. Don't make a fun of me,  
please.

Ronin:II: We won't let you escape. Come with us.

Some: I won't.

Iori: (Coming in) Don't be so unreasonable,  
Gentlemen.

Ronin II: Don't interrupt with us. Let's knock  
him down.

Ronin I: O.K.

(Soon the two ronin run off.)

Iori: Aren't you hurt, lady?

Some: Oh, you're Mr. Iori, my husband.

Iori: And you're Somenoi.

Some: Glad you're safe.

Iori: And you, too. Step in, will you? Now,  
Yasuke, I'm home.

Yasuke: (Coming in) Welcome home, sir. Why,  
you're Mrs. Hayase ---.

Some: Oh, Yasuke ---.

Yasu: Step in, please.

Some: Excuse me. (Sits in the room.)

Some: How is Master Genjiro?

Yasu: Well, he's got an eye-disease, after many  
troubles. Both the gentlemen have suffered very  
much.

Some: And have you got any clue about the lord's  
autograph?

Iori: I've got something to consult with you  
about it.

Yasu: You'd better get into the inner room, anyway.

Iori: Come this way. (The two go out.)

Yasu: Master's so tired. I wish he could find the treasure soon. They must have got so many things to talk about. Well, how is my brother Motemon, I wonder? He's my brother ~~after~~ after all.

(Myochin comes in.)

Yasu: Were you still here, Myochin?

Myo: I've been taking care of Mr. Genjaro, but as a strange lady came in ---.

Yasu: She's Mr. Iori's wife.

Myo: Ah, is she. Well, Yasuke ---.

Yasu: Well?

Myo: What I've asked of you the other day ----.

(Seems bashful.)

Yasu: Ah, I see. But he's ill now.

Myo: You're the only one for me to rely upon, you know.

Yasu: I know.

Myo: Oh, thank you so much.

Yasu: That's O.K.

(Myochin goes out of doors.)

Myo: Well, I think I'll dream of him.

(Goes out.)

Yasu: What a shame for a nun.

(Motoemon comes in dressed in a  
dirty suit of clothes. He is  
now a masseur.)

Moto: I'm so tired, walking along all the day.  
But no one has engaged me.

(To Yasuke.) Don't you want to be  
massaged?

Yasu: No, thanks.

Moto: Well, but I've earned no money from the  
morning. Let me massage you, just for heaven's  
sake.

Yasu: I'm poor myself, but as you ask so hard,  
I'll let you. Come in.

Moto: Oh, thank you. (Steps in and stumbles.)

Yasu: You walk so awkwardly. You aren't abind by  
birth, it seems.

Moto: No, sir.

Yasu: Why, you're Motoemon, my brother ---.

Moto: Oh, it's Yasuke's voice ---. What a shame.  
(About to escape.)

Yasu: What a state you are in, brother. It  
serves you right, though. You swore never to  
drink again when the late master died. You  
forgot ~~the~~ it all and acted disgracefully at  
Tennoji shrine. You're punished now.

Moto: You stand reason. But, listen to me for once. The other day, when I followed the masters to Shitennoji, I met Udesuke, Toma's footman. While I was teasing him and trying to make him tell about his master, someone came and kicked me on the stomach. I swooned away and when I came to myself, I found that it was nothing but wine/ that brought me to conscience. I wished to commit a happy despatch, but I had no weapon with me. I tried to drown myself but as I was blind, I just wandered along the shoal. Soon the passers-by came to save me out of water. I came to live as a massear, but I've done everything I could to find the masters' enemy. Do sympathize with me, Yasuke.

Yasu: (Wiping tears) I'm not sure what you intend.

Moto: It's natural you say so, for I've failed/so many times in mending my way. I think I'll drown myself now. (About to go.)

Yasu: Do you mean to die?

Moto: Yes. I'm disgusted of myself. I'm so ashamed.

(Bursts into tears.)

Yasu: How, miserable.

Moto: It's all by karma.



(They weap in each other's arms.)

Yasu: Well, if you're really repentant, I'll apologize the masters for you.

Moto: Do you still think of me as a brother, then?

Yasu: How can I help it?

Moto: Oh, thank you so much.

Gen: (Behind the screen) Yasuke ---.

Yasu: Yes, sir.

(Motoeman tries to run away. Yasuke stops him and hides him in the closet.)

Yasu: Oh, yes, sir. (Goes into his master's room.)

(Tsutsuiya-Isaburo comes in through the stage passage.)

Isaburo: Hello.

Yasu: (Comes out of the room) Yes?

Isa: Is Mr. Iori home.

Yasu: Sure he is. (Calls.) Mr. Iori.

Iori: (Coming in with Somenoi) Oh, Mr. Isaburo. I've heard all from Yasuke. Thanks for your kindness.

Isa: Don't mention it, please. Well, as you told me that autograph of Tsurayuki's, very like yours was found at a second-hand dealers, near Muro-machi, I went there and have found something worth knowing.

Iori: What's that, please?

Isaburo: I've heard that there lives a Toma-Genkaku at  
Uekihara.

Iori: Toma-Genkaku?

Gen: (Appearing) Why, a good news.

Iori: Get ready the lantern, Yasuke.

Yasu: Certainly, sir. (Brings a lantern.)

Some: Where are you going, Mr. Iori?

Iori: I'll go to Uekihara and see if it's true.

Yasu: I'll accompany you, then.

Iori: Take care of Genjiro.

Isa: I'll accompany Mr. Iori.

Iori: It's very kind of you, but I'd rather be alone ~~for~~  
for I may have to violate into the house.

Gen: Be careful, brother.

Some: Good luck.

Iori: Don't worry. I'll be safe until I accomplish  
my desire. (About to start)

(A warrior who has eavesdropped for  
some time gives a cut at Iori just as he  
he is going out of the gate. The latter,  
however, escapes and cuts the former.)

Yasu: Well, Mr. Isaburo, tell me what you know about  
the treasure autograph, please.

Isa: Well, as I told Mr. Iori, Risuke, the second-hand  
dealer, keeps it in his shop. It's for sale, too.

Gen: Oh, is it, true?

Yasu?

Yasu: If my master can regain it, he can return to his lord's service again.

Some: And then the family's to start again.

Gen: And how much does the autograph cost?

Isa: It was first put in pawn, but its owner has been missed. It costs 200 ryo together with the interest.

Gen: 200 ryo? The sum was not a big sum for us once ---.

Yasu: But now you live from hand to mouth.

Gen: But the Hayase family is to go to ruin ---.

Yasu: If you can't regain the treasure.

Gen: What shall we do, then?

Some: (Showing them a piece of paper on which she has written a short poem) Look at ~~this~~ this, please.

Yasu: (Reads) "A fallen leaf,  
Can float on the water (ukabu ---  
(be saved)  
Only when it throws itself,  
In the depth."

Some: Do you understand the meaning?

Gen: You mean to sell yourself to the gay quarters?

Some: Please let me.

Gen: But you haven't got your husband's leave.

Some: He hasn't got any other means to regain the treasure.

Gen: It's just as you say, but ---.

Some: It's a time of urgency. Think over it, please.

Yasu: It's admirable of you, lady. Give her your leave, please, Mr. Genjiro.

Gen: I don't like it, but it can't be helped, it seems.

Yasu: Do you consent then? It's settled now, but I don't know what to do on such occasions. Whom shall I ask?

Isa: It may be too forward of me, but let me help you.

Gen: Oh, will you?

Isa: Well, I once kept a brothel in Gion, and though I've retired, my sister runs the house for me. I'll go and ask her to engage the lady.

Otake: (Who has listened for some time) Oh, you needn't go there, Mr. Isaburo.

Isa: Why, Otake?

Take: Your sister Oyoshi is come to my neighbour.

Isa: Oh, I'll go and bring her here, then.

Take: I'll call her. (Calling) Oyoshi, Oyoshi.

Yoshi: (Coming in) Why, you're Otake.

Take: Yes, Come here, please.

Yoshi: Oh, Brother Isaburo ---. What did you call me for?

Isa: Well, this lady here is in need --- of some money. She's got to enter into the gay quarters.

Yoshi: I see. Well, lady, one is often forced to do so to save her father or husband. It's nothing to be ashamed of you seem to be born noble. All right, I'll engage you.

Some: And how much do you want?

Yasu: 200 ryo.

Yoshi: I see. Your term will be three years. And here's 100 ryo to be given in advance.

Yasu: It's kind of you madam.

Some: Oh, thank you so much. Take care of me please, for I know nothing of the place.

Yoshi: Your life there won't be so awfully bad.

Take: I'm sure of that. And you'll get much money if you get good customers.

Isa: Don't say such a thing, Otake. Now, Oyoshi, there's the palanquin I've ridden. Take the lady with you on it.

Yoshi: Will you let me?

Isa: (Calling) Come, bearers.

Bearers: (Coming in with the palanquine) Yes?

Isa: It has come.

Yoshi: We'd better go at once, then.

Gen: Sister/ Some no, what you do is all for us brothers. I don't know how to thank you.

Some: It's a matter of course to sacrifice oneself for one's husband and family.

Yasu: It's admirable of you to say so. Please

Yasu: It's admirable of you to say so. Please  
put up with it for a while.

Gen: As soon as our desire be accomplished.

Yasu: I'll come for you, ma'am.

Some: I'll be waiting.

Gen: Take care of yourself.

Some: Good-bye, Genjiro and Yasuke. (Rides the  
palanquin.)

Isa: Start, bearers. (The palanquin goes out, Isa-  
buro following.)

Yasu: The money's here.

Gen: 100 ryo. Now, Yasuke, what shall I tell my  
brother about his wife when he comes back.

Yasu: I'll tell him so that he wouldn't get angry.

Gen: You must be tired tonight. Go and rest. I  
shall, too.

Yasu: Thank you.

Gen: I can't feel easy until I see/ brother.

(Yasuke helps Genjiro to his room, and  
puts the money under the pillow.)

Moto: (Calling in the closet) Yasuke, Yasuke.

Yasu: Oh, you must have felt very pinched.

Moto: (Coming out) Oh, no. I've heard all and  
felt very sorry thinking I would have been of  
some use for them if I've not become blind  
because of my misconduct. I'm so much mortified.

Yasu: You may not have been reduced to this if you had thought the same way as now.

Moto: "When the wine goes in, the wit goes out" they say.

Yasu: As you're repentant, I'd like to ask ~~if~~ the masters to pick you up again. But they're in a trouble themselves now. Wait a few more days.

Moto: I shed tears in the closet hearing their story. Blind as I am, I may be of some use if I were in their service. See to it, will you?

Yasu: All right.

Moto: Well, I'll go tonight.

Yasu: Walk carefully.

Moto: See you again.

Yasu: Well, wait a minute.

Moto: Anything else?

Yasu: Well, this is my old coat. Take and use it, please.

Moto: Oh, thank you.

Yasu: I'll fasten it to your back. And this money is only little, but it's for you.

Moto: No, thanks ----- well, then, I'll take.  
Many thanks.

~~Moto~~

(Yasuke gets into the house and bars the door.

Motoemon goes into the stage passage, throws away his cane and blind's hood, goes to the door and tries to open it.)

Yasu: Well, I've had so many experiences to-day.

We've got that 200 ryo through Mrs. Somenei's sacrifice I'll go early tomorrow morning to regain the treasure for my masters.

As to my brother, my dead parents will be very glad if I apologize the masters for him and ask them to take him into their service again. I hope Toma, the enemy, will be found before long and my masters will soon return to their lord's service. How happy we shall be.

Well, it's the Buddha's grace.

But Iori comes home and ask where her lady has gone. I feel very nervous thinking of it. I think I'd feel better if I drink on such occasions --- ah, there's the sacred wine we've offered to the altar this morning.

(Pours the wine at the altar and drinks.)

Yasu: How dreadful. It's not good-tasting at all. It must be by karma that my brother likes such a dreadful thing. Oh, what a pain.



(Meantime Motoemon has crimbed the roof and makes a noise in attempting to peep through the skylight.)

Yasu: Ah, it must be the cat. (He takes up a broom and waves it against the ceiling. Motoemon miews in mimic.

Yasu: How dizzy. I think I'd sleep a little till the master comes home. Well, wine's poison. Let me lie.

(Lays himself in his bed.)

(Motoemon comes in through the kitchen, darkens the light, kills Yasuke and steals the money, when Genjiro calls from his room.)

Gen: Yasuke, Yasuke.

(Motoemon, surprised, puts out the lamp and hides himself. Soon Iori comes home.)

Iori: I'm come home, Yasuke. (Knocks at the door but cannot open the door.)

Gen: My brother's back, Yasuke.

(Iori at last breaks the door and enters the house. Motoemon is about to escape, when Iori takes hold of him. Soon Motoemon gives a cut at

Iori on the thigh. The curtain falls  
with the sound of wooden clappers,  
as Motocemon flourishes his sword in  
the stage passage.)

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A C T - III : The Scene of the Wood in the Campus  
of the Fukushima-Tenjin Shrine.

(A beggars' hut at the back. A fire near it. Four beggars talk at the fire as the curtain rises.)

Beggar I: Have you got much to-day?

B.II: Sure you must.

B.III: We walk at the day long through this neighbourhood without clothes in this cold weather.

B.IV: But there's no one to give us money and things, for the rice's so dear lately.

B.I: Let's hope for better days.

B.II: I've got some wine and fish at Sonezaki's.

Shall we drink?

B.III: That's good.

All: Let's go. (All go out.)

(Iori comes into the stage passage leaving over a cane. Genjiro accompanies and tends him.)

Iori: Now, Genjiro, the field in the autumn is very lonely.

Gen: The insects cry ---

Iori: The grasses weep.

Both: Our fate, too is very uncertain.

(Iori slips in a mire.)

Gen: (Helping him up) Oh, very sorry.

Iori: Oh, no. Aren't you hurt?

Gen: Not at all.

Iori: That's good.

(Denkichi, boss of the beggars, come  
in with some wooden clogs in his  
hand.)

Den: Oh, Mr. Cripple, its a bad day for/ you to  
walk out. And your brother, too, must have  
much pain in leading you.

Iori: Oh, boss, you're very kind to have given  
us the place to sleep.

Gen: And to take so good care of us.

Den: Don't mention it. How do you feel it to-day?

Iori: Better, thank you.

Den: I'm glad of it.

Iori: You're really a friend in need.

Den: Well, I don't yet know much about you. You  
don't seem to be beggars by birth. Well,  
beggars as we are, we've got rules of our own.  
I may be able to be of some use for you. Won't  
you tell me your history?

Iori: You're very kind to say so. It's a shame  
for us, but we're sons of a samurai, disowned  
for our misdeeds.

Gen: We've used up all our money, when beggar troubles came to torture us.

Iori: For a burglar came and hurt me in the thigh to cause me lockjaw. I'm now crippled, but haven't given up my desire.

Gen: Well, sir, we're quite helpless, disowned by our father. Please let us stay with you.

(Udesuke, footman of Toma, comes in disguised as a beggar. Soon he goes out.)

Iori: Is he one of your group?

Den: He's Kawataro, a new comer.

Iori: He's got his face sooted and stared at us with a fierce look. Is that his occupation?

Den: Speaking of occupation, I've made you a pair of wooden clogs. This place here becomes very muddy when it rains and the passers-by are much annoyed. Rent them the clogs and bag for a little money.

Iori: Oh, thank you.

Den: It's just when it rains. Well, see you again.

Iori: Tomorrow.

(Denkichi goes out.)

Iori: We're so unfortunate. We were four in number when we started home, but Motoemon

betrayed us and has been missed.

Gen: And the faithful Yasuke has been killed by  
a burglar.

Iori: It's all for Toma, our enemy.

Gen: We're have to take revenge, whatever troubles  
we may have.

Gen: (After thinking for a while. Well, brother,  
I happened to-day to hear that ronins from ~~the~~/  
our district teaches fencing in Kamimachi.

Iori: "Go abroad for news of home" the proverb says.

Gen: I'll go and inquire into it at once.

Iori: But it's very late. And you're a stranger.  
in that part of the city.

Gen: But he may fly away if he comes to know that  
we're here.

Iori: All right. Go at once, then.

Gen: Well, see you again.

Iori: Come back before midnight.

(As Genjiro is about to cross the  
threshold, the clog-thong fails,  
which is a bad omen.)

Gen: Oh.

Iori: What's wrong?

Gen: Oh, nothing. (Goes out.)

Iori: Take care, Genjiro. Ah, he's gone already.

It's natural he should be so irritated. It's seven years since our father was killed. And I am a cripple now so that I won't be able to do anything if the Enemy Toma appears before reflecting.) Oh, I was wrong to complain in vain. Well, shall I smoke and become gayer?

(A strolling comic-dancer comes along in sandals.)

Dancer: Why, the road's so muddy.

Iori: You'd better take these clogs.

Dancer: Oh, it's very kind of you. You're young and noble-looking. You must be a samurai by birth.

Iori: I'm a fallen ronin. And I've got a desire, too. I wish I could be cured.

Dancer: Then I'll pray god in my ~~Samurai~~ dance cure you.

Iori: Oh, thank you.

(The comic-dancer dances a dance of congratulation.)

Iori: It was so interesting.

Dancer: This money's very little, but it's to thank you for the clogs.

Iori: Oh, thanks.

Dancer: See you again. (Goes out, as lightly as if dancing.)

Iori: How merry he is. Well, it's ~~rather~~ rather late. I think I'll sleep a little before Genjir comes back.

(As he lays himself on his straw coat, Moteemon comes into stage ushered by Udesuke.)

Moto: Have you found where Iori and Genjiro lives?

Ude: Oh, yes. I disguised myself as a beggar and made sure of it.

Moto: And how about Mr. Toma?

Ude: He's coming here in a boat.

Moto: Good. Go and see if the cripple is ~~not~~ asleep.

Ude: Certainly. (Peeps) He's fast asleep.

Moto: Right.

Ude: Shall I stab him at once?

Moto: Oh, he's the son of Gemba the Iron. Let's go carefully and stab him without waking.

(They steal close to Iori and gives him cuts.)

Iori: Who's that? It's cowardly of you to attack me while I'm in bed.

Moto: Do you ask who I am? I'm no one but Moteemon Adachi.

Iori: Why. You're going to kill your master?



Moto: I'm no vassal of your now.

Iori: What?

Moto: You expelled me in the campus of the Shiten-noji shrine. Moreover, I can't afford even to drink if I remain in your service and Mr. Toma lets me do anything I like. But he doesn't believe me in his heart because I was once in your service. So I came and killed my brother Yasuke to make sure that I'm not to be influenced by such relations.

Iori: It was you, then?

Moto: Not only that. I took the 200 ryo, the price of your sold wife.

Iori: Did you do so much?

Moto: That's not all. I made you cripple.

Iori: Oh, in the darkness in Toji?

Moto: The moonlight was dim.

Iori: And you knocked down my lantern.

Moto: You tried to stop me.

Iori: And you gave me a cut at the thigh.

Moto: I was ~~fast~~ quick, wasn't I?

Iori: Then the burglar was ---.

Moto: Motoemon Adachi. Poor cripple.

Iori: What a brute. Yasuke will be pleased if I kill his knavish brother with his dagger.

(Though crippled, Iori gives a cut at Motoemon with Yasuke's dagger. Just then Saburoemon Toma comes in.)

Saburo: It's natural you should be mortified to have had your father killed by me. But you're cowardly to have escaped from my sight. My servant Udesuke has told me that you're here. Come, come on me.

Iori: What you say is quite contrary with what you ~~say~~ do. You've taken in Motoemon and now you're going to fall on me from ambush. You are cowardly. Badly hurt as I am, I'll sure give you a cut of remorse.

(Tries to fight but his legs fail him.)

Saburo: Now, listen to me. I have killed Gamba the strong. You're too rash to challenge me when you're a cripple. Just stand up. Can't you? Oh, poor.

Iori: You rascal. I won't let you live on. (Gives a cut at Saburoemon's right ~~arm~~.)

Moto: Oh, does it ache much, sir?

Saburo: You helped him give me a cut. No doubt, for you once were in his service.

Moto: How suspicious you are. The proverb says.

"A cripple stands just for once."

Saburo: How silly.

Moto: I'll prove you my faithfulness.

Iori: What a shame it is to see the enemy before  
my nose and be unable to do anything. I wish  
my brothers, Genjiro were here to help me.

(Stands up, leaning over his sword.)

Oh, Genjiro.

Saburo: Shut up. He'll soon follow you to the  
Hades. Well, the coup de grace ---.

----- Eyn, He's dead. It's because of you,  
Motoemon.

Moto: Congratulations, sir.

Saburo: It's been settled that I should enter into  
Lord Oe's service as soon as I've disposed of  
him.

Moto: And I, too ---.

Saburo: Shall be my chief retainer.

Moto: Thank you, sir. Well, shall we go now?

Saburo: Well, yes. But his brother Genjiro ---.

Ude: Oh, don't worry about him, sir. The  
beggars around here are to help me kill him when  
he returns.

Saburo: Be sure and kill him.

Ude: Sure I shall. (Hides himself.)

Saburo: Shall we go, Motoemon? The moon's up  
and the clouds are gone.

Moto: This way, sir.

Saburo: Yes ---. (Goes out.)

(Motoemon spits at Iori's body and then  
follows Saburo.)

(The moon hides itself. Soon Genjiro  
comes hurrying in.)

Gen: I've come home, brother. (No answer.) It'll  
hurt you to lie on the ground.

(The moon comes out. Genjiro notices  
that his brother is dead.)

Oh Why brother, cheer up. Brother, brother ---.  
Oh, he's already dead. (Weeps, clinging to  
the body. Soon he comes to himself.) He's  
not yet cold. The murderer cannot have gone  
too far. (About to run out.) Oh, it's unduti-  
ful of me to leave his body here. What shall  
we do? --- He'll be devoured by dogs if I  
leave him here.

(He wraps the body in a mat, digs the ground and buries the body, offers water before the tomb and pays homage.

Meantime Udesuke and many beggars come in and throw Genjiro into the river.)

Ude: Now we're safe. Come with me, folks.

My master will give you prizes. (All go out.)

(The stage changes.)

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The Scene Below the Bank.

(Travellers come in along the bank.)

Mansuke, a traveller: It's nearly dawn, it seems.

Genjiro: (Coming out of the water) I'm to die here  
below the Fukushima bank, for I'm followed  
by so many people. Hail to the Buddha Amitabha  
----- (About to commit a happy dispatch.)

Man: Just a minute, please.

Gen: Oh, leave me alone.

Man: Wait a minute, I say ----. Why, you're Mr.  
Genjiro Hayase.

Gen: And who are you?

Man: I'm a merchant named Kyoya-Mansuke and have  
been favoured by your father Esq. Hayase. Don't  
be so hasty and let me help you.

Gen: It's very kind of you, but I'm seriously wounded  
and am to die anyway.

Man: Be at ease about it, please. I have a friend  
not far from here. You'll soon be able to be  
taken care of.

Gen: But I'm so seriously wounded ----. Why,  
I'm not hurt at all. It's by the virtue of  
Deity Sumiyoshi, my guardian god.

Man: How lucky you are. But you're so badly

clothed. Put on my coat, will you? (Gives his coat.)

Gen: Well, Mr. Mansuke ---.

Man: This way, please.

(The two retire through the stage passage. They pass by Koemon, who follows <sup>them</sup> ~~her~~ with his eyes. As he comes into the main stage, a beggar comes and rushes against him. The curtain falls as he throws the beggar.)

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A C T - IV : The Scene of the Tenkajaya  
Village.

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CHARACTERS:

Saburoemon Tama.

Motoemon Adachi.

Genjiro Hayase.

Somenoi, Iori's wife.

Hazue, Genjiro's wife.

Kosmon Ikaruga, a merchant.

Kambe Akashi, an official.

Etc.

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(It is the entrance of the Tenkajaya Village. A notice-board on the left with the name of the village on it. Pine woods far to the back. Several Suniyoshi pilgrims, all inn maids, speak as the curtain rises.)

Pilgrim I: Well, we've payed homage to the Suniyoshi shrine at the beginning of the year. No doubt we're lucky this year.

P.II: I'll visit the Ebisu shrine on the tenth of this month, for it's said that he gives good luck on that day.

P.III: I'll hurry home and get a big tip from my customers.

P.IV: I'll just drop in at the Daikoku shrine on my way home and ask him to give me a rich customer.

P.V: Oh, you're all so greedy. I've got no desire at all.

P.VI: You mean to say that you've come with us just to keep company? Well, I wonder.

P.I: You were long praying, OTsugi,

P.II: What did you ask for?

P.VI: -Just to keep me safe, sound and rich.

P.IV: And you gave only 4 bu as your offertory.

P.VI: To summarize, yes.

All: It's the same even if not to. (All laugh.)

P.I: The day's not so lon in this sceason of  
the year. Let's hurry home.

P.III: And get good customers.

All: Let's go. (All go out)

(Genjiro comes in through the stage  
passage attired for a journey and  
accompanied by Somenoi and Hazus.)

Gen: Time has at last arrived for us to revenge,  
thanks to Manauke and Koemon's kindness.

Somenoi The only sorrow it that my husband Iori is  
dead and cannot join us in this pleasure.

Hazus: He was killed by the very enemy. It  
pushes me to tears.

Gen: Don't lament in vain. Both my father and  
brother will be pleased if we avenge them.  
Well, Koemon is to see to it and then to  
inform us of it. The place of engagement is  
beside the notice-board.

Some: Shall we go?

Gen: Oh, yes.

(As they go to the notice-board on the left, Koemon comes in and meets them.)

Koemon: Hello, folks.

Gen: And how about the matter?

Ko: Be pleased, Mr. Genjire. I went to Sumiyoshi and watched. I found him as he got off the palanquin before the shrine. It was surely Toma, and Motoemon was with him, too.

Gen: Thanks for your trouble. It's by virtue of the Deity Sumiyoshi.

(Akashi-Kamon, an official, come in & accompanied by four footmen.)

Akashi: Hay, Master Hayase. Glad you're so well after seven years' absence.

Gen: Oh, Mr. Akashi. I had my retainer Koemon *if* inform you of this duel.

Some: It's very kind of you to have complied with our request and have come for witness at once.

Akashi: Our lord is at home ~~now~~ now and having having heard about your brother's being assassinated, is angry of Toma's cowardliness. He gives you leave to avenge your brother.

Gen: Thanks to his honorable wisdom.

Koemon: There comes the enemy, gentlemen.

Gen: Get ready, ladies.

Some: ) Certainly. (The four go out/ for prepara-  
Hazue: ) tion.)

Akashi: We'll stand for guard over there. Come,  
folks.

(Akashi and his footmen go out.)

(Saburoemon Toma comes in on a  
palanquin followed by Motoemon  
and many other followers.)

Saburo: (Coming out of the palanquin) It's  
highly improper of you to attack me on the  
road.

Gen: Listen to me, Saburoemon. I'm Genjiro Hayase,  
second son to Gamba Hayase, whom you assa-  
ssinated because of rivalry in fencing.

Some: I'm Somenci, Iori's wife.

Hazue: And I'm Hazue, Genjiro's wife.

Koemon: Koemon Ikaruga, a hereditary vassal.

Gen: Come upon us.

Moto: It's impertinent of you to challenge  
Mr. Toma when you're detached of service.

Saburo: You, too, shall be killed.

Gen: Motoemon, you brute, you'll be punished  
now.

Saburo: It's daring of you to challenge me.  
Certainly I killed Gamba and Iori. And  
I'll kill you, too.

Some: You, Adachi and Toma ---.

Hazue: Prepare to meet your god.

Saburo: How impertinent. Come! Motoemon.

Moto: All right, sir.

(A fighting scene. Soon Motoemon  
is caught and bound by Koemon and  
Saburoemon is killed by the other  
three.)

Gen: Enemy for my father and brother ---.

Some: Of my husband ---.

Hazue: And of my father-in-law.

All: Have you known your fate?

(They give the enemy a coups de  
grace.)

Gen: Now, Motoemon, you trimmer, come, fight  
with us.

(Koemon unbounds Motoemon.

They fight and soon the latter  
is killed.)

Akashi: It's admirable of you, folks. The Hayase  
family is now to regain its old territory.

Gen: I'm so thankful, sir. Our long-cherished  
desire ---.

Some: Is now to be accomplished.

Hazue: Here in sumiyoshi ---.

Koemon: At the Tenkajaya Villave ---.

Akashi: Even the sky is fine and clear.

(The curtain falls with the sound  
of wooden clappers.)

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