

S H O C H I K U.

"YUKI-NO-YUBE IRIYA-NO-AZEMICHI

"Love-story of Michitose & Naojiro"

In Two Acts

by MOKUAMI.

TOKYO THEATRE, January (2 - 26)

Naojiro Kataoka who has been sought for by the Tokugawa Shogunate as an imposter, was deeply in love with Michitose, the Yujo of the Yoshiwara gay quarters Naojiro, on a snowy night, went secretly to Oguchi-ryo at Iriya to see Michitose who has been recuperating her illness caused by the long silence of Naojiro. On his way there, he met, at a Sobaya, a blind masseur Joga and asked him to deliver his letter to Michitose.

He was very glad to be united with her again after a long separation. Here Ichinojo Kaneko arrives and tells her that as he contracted her redemption she shall no longer meet other men. Hereupon Naojiro gets angry and cuts at him but finally defeated by Ichinojo who bitterly blames Michitose for her betrayal. Now Ichinojo Kaneko is in reality, Michitose's elder brother and her redemption was the result of his kind intention of uniting his sister with her lover Naojiro.

They, however, could no longer enjoy their happy union, because the raiding constables, informed by Ushimatsu, one of the rogves, rushed into the house and arrested Naojiro.

*Degradation
women
Shochiku
18/1/1945*

~~YUKINO YUBĒ~~
IRIYA-MO-AZEMICHI

112

"The Love Story of
Michitose and Kajoiro.
in 2 Acts.



To be presented by Kikugoro Onoue with his troupe at
the Tokyo Theatre from Jan. 2 to Jan. 26, '48.

櫻

Kayo: Now it's ready sir.

(1) There must be Oguchi-Ryo hereabouts.
Don't you know Master?

Ni: That's on the small by-street.

(2) I'm told that a famous Ciran by the name of Michitose is
here. Is it true?

Ni: You're right. She is here these several days recuperating
herself.

(1): If I remember rightly a man in charge of that house is
a gardener?

Kayo: You're right.

(2): The facade is magnificent. Where's the back gate?

Ni: That faces the new road just at the back of the charcoal
dealer.

(1): Is that so?
Now, let's go.

(2): This made me warm. Let's go now.

Ni: The stone-bridge over there is broken. Look out!

(1): Thank you.

Kayo: Be careful.

(Outside)

(1): It's cold.

(2): Let's go now.

Ni: Why did they ask about the Oguchi villa so particularly?

Kayo: I'm afraid they are robbers because they asked about the back entrance.

Ni: If they were, they shouldn't have asked us about it.

Kayo: Let's close the shop early tonight.

Ni: On such a snowy night no more customers will appear. But Joga must come by this time.

Kayo: Yes, but may be the snow prevented him from coming out. He doesn't fail to drop in if he passed this way.

Ni: He's a good customer.

(Naojiro Appears)

Nao: Thanks to this snow few people seem to be out. It's very fortunate of me not to meet many people and the night is so dark.

Let me have Soba as no body is looking at me.

(He enters)

Ni: Welcome sir what can I do for you?

Nao: Give me something fried and a bottle of sake.

Ni: I'm sorry there's no more fried things.

Nao: Anything will do then.

Ni: Thank you, sir.

Nao: It's chilly. I must have a bottle of sake to warm myself.

Kayo: You must have been dreadfully cold.

Nao: O yes.,

Kayo: Sorry to have kept you waiting.

Nao: Master you know where Oguchi villa is?

Ni: Yes, a small by-street near here.

Nao: Quite near.

Kayo: There were others who asked me the same question.

Nao: What were the fellows like?

Kayo: Two rogues in kapna.

Nao: Is that so?

Make it warmer, please.

Kayo: Yes, sir.

Joga: How it snows! What a nasty weather this is!

Is it still open, master?

Ni: Good evening Joga-san, we've been just talking of you.

Jo: Talking of me badly.

Ni: On the contrary.

Jo: You flatter me. Give me sake.

Ni: Yes, sir.

Kayo: We thought you were staying tonight.

Jo: O no.

Michitose in Oguchi-ryo is my best customer. She misses me very much if I don't appear even a night. So I don't fail to go to that house every night.

Kayo: Now ready sir.

Jo: This is delicious.

Kayo: I say, Joga-san, what is Michitose suffering from.

Jo: Nothing particular. Her love Naojiro doesn't appear for some time and that's why she is ill.

Ni: That lover must be a very handsome man.

Jo: I want to be loved by women like him.

Nao: Master, lend me something to write.

Ni: This is a bad brush

Nao: Never mind the brush. lend it me.

Kayo: Yes, sir.

I say Jogo-san, You must be treated well every night.

Jogo: O yes, wine, fish and so on every night.

Ni: Then you need not eat soba here,

Joga: But I like it very much.

Nao: Thanks very much.

Ni: Thank you sir.

Nao: It was very fortunate of me to meet that masseur Joga who goes every night to Michitose. I'll ask him to deliver this letter to her.

Ni: Snow is not so heavy now.

Kayo: Go quickly now.

Joga: See you tomorrow then.

That is the best soba-ya around here.

Nao: I say Joga-san.

Joga: Who is it?

Nao: You forgot my voice?

Joga: Are you Naojirosan then?

Nao: Don't speak so loudly.

Joga: You know she has been recuperating herself since last month at Iriya.

Nao: I heard you say so at the sobaya.

Jo: O were you there too?

Nao: I was with you.

Jo: I didn't see you.

Nao: You're a blind.

Jo: You're right.

Nao: I want to ask you a favour.

Jo: What is it?

Nao: Give this letter to Michitose.

Jo: O.K.

Nao: Thank you very much.

Jo: I want, to take you then but Kubei is strictly watching her.

Nao: Is that so?

Jo: He's on guard I think.

Nao: Be careful please.

Jo: O.K.

Nao: Now I might see her again by Joga's kindness.

Ushimatsu: Is that you, my Joe?

Nao: Whose voice is it?

Ushi: I'm Ushimatsu..

Nao: I thought so.

Ushi: Where are you going now?

Nao: To Asakusa.

Ushi: Better not go in that direction.

Nao: Why:

Ushi: The police is after you now so you'd better give up going in that direction.

Nao: All right I'll give it up.

Ushi: You are I' are ex-convicts so if we were arrested this time' we shall never come out again so I want to make every effort to escape.

Nao: Where do you want to go?

Ushi: To Kusaka.

Nao: I shall not see you then.

Ushi: When shall I see you again will it be in a year or two?

Nao: If you leave Yedo now.

Ushi: Where shall we meet again? Let's have a drink before we part.

Nao: There's no public house except sobaya.

Ushi: What shall we do then?

Nao: Let's postpone it.

Ushi: We have done.

Nao: One had act after another

Ushi: Some day we shall

Nao: Be killed by a sword.

Ushi: Or pierced by a spear.

Nao: We had better escape.

Ushi: Then Joe.

Nao: Be good.

Ushi: It's chilly. I began to snow heavily. I can't go as far as Kusaka tonight. I'll be arrested if I linger here. Wait a moment! Better to go to the police and confess than to escape in vain. If I confess everything my punishment will be lessened. Yes, this is a good idea.

But to betray my friend is too bad.

What shall I do?

Hi: The next door is open. Keep an eye on it lest something should be missing.

Ushi: I'll go to the police.

Act II.

Nao: Fortunately I met Joga and asked him to hand a letter to Michitose. She must have read it by now. Whether the back door is open or not, let's me try.

Haru: Has the bell rang?

Suga: Perhaps Naosan.

Haru: Be quiet.

Is that Nao-san?

Nao: Are you Chiyoharu-san?

Ham: Just a moment. I'll unlock the door.

Suga: I'll tell the rews to Oiran.

Haru: I'm glad to see you Naosan.

Nao: I could manage somehow.

Haru: Oiran has been anxious to see you.

Nao: She is ill, isn't she?

Haru: For quite a long time.

(Michitose appears)

Michitose: How I longed to see you.

Nao: Be quiet!

Haru: Don't be nervous. Everything is O.K.

Mi: I had many many things to tell you. But seeing you, I have nothing to tell.

Nao: It's only about three weeks since we parted.

Haru: It seems as long as 3 years to Oiran.

Suga: Your absence was the cause of her illness.

Haru: Your kind words will do good much better than medicine.

Suga: Make her better.

Nao: I can't.

Haru: Why?

Nao: I must be going immediately.

Mi: Why do you leave so hastily?

Nao: Because.

Haru: Kibei-san will be back soon.

Suga: We will watch him.

Haru: Have a talk.

Two: As long as you want.

Mi: Why don't you let me see your face?

Nao: As you know I'm a rogue and can't escape from the
hands of the police. I came here tonight to say good-bye
to you.

Michi: What?

Nao: What money I have spent up to now was ill-gotten money.
I know I can't escape, so I made up my mind to confess
everything to the police and before that I came here to
say good-bye to you.

Mi: If you made up your mind, kill me before you go to the
police.

Nao: What kill you?

Mi: Even a short separation makes me thus weak.

Nao: You must be wiser to ask me that. you must outlive me,
and pray for my soul's repose.

Mi: Whether you're a rogue or devil. You're my lover all
the same. I'll be your wife until you die.

Kibei: It's been long since I saw you last.

Nao: How are you Kibei-dono?

Ki: I'm well, thanks. Nobody comes on such a snowy night.
Stay as long as you like.

Nao: Have you heard of our talk?

Mi: Did you hear us?

Ki: Yes, You'd better escape together tonight, taking
advantage of the heavy snow.

Nao: It's very kind of you to say so, but you may be
scolded.

Ki: I know that, but I rely on the kindness of Master and
Mistress.

Nao: I can't take her with me as I've been traced.

Mi: You kill me then?

Nao: How can, I?

Ki: If you don't take her, she'll ~~xx~~ kill herself. Is that OK?

Nao: No.

Mi: Then do you take me?

Nao: No.

Mi }
Ki } : Which do you prefer?

Ki: Elope!

Nao: Excuse me, Michitose.

Suga: The last man on such a snowy night came.

Mi: Who is the last man?

Suga: Ishinojo-san.

Nao: What! Ichinojo's here?

Mi: Why did he come on such a snowy night.

Suga: He said that he came to inquire after you.

Nao: I can't see him.

Mi: Hide yourself in the next small room.

Ki: You need not trouble yourself about it.

He can't see in the dark. I'll try him if he comes house.

Ichinojo: Show me in Chiyoharu.

Haru: Come this was please.

Ichii: What a dark room.

Ki: Be careful. Who placed the ash-try here?

Ichii: It was too dark to see.

Haru: Come here Kaneko-san.

Ichii: I have come here for the first time. What a well-constructed house this is?

Ki: Indeed.

Ichii: Well-painted pictures are flowers of the seasons.

Ki: No, they are plum-trees, willows, violets and dandelions.

Ichii: You are a gardener.

Ki: Who is the painter? I can't read it.

Ichii: Buncho, nay Heichi-Shonin.

Haru: No, it's painted by Takatani.

Ichii: Why doesn't Michitose come and see me?

Suga: She is here.

Ichii: Why don't you greet me?

Mi: I didn't like to interrupt you. Why did you come on such a snowy night?

Ichii: I've come here all the way to see you and to please you especially.

Mi: What is it?

Ichii: I freed you. I redeemed you.

Mi: What?

Ki: Did you say "You redeemed me"? The with the permission of guardian Fujigoro.

Haru: Kaneko-san

Suga: Redeemed?

Ichi: Now you're freed. You can do whatever you like.

Do you like it.

Mi: I thank you for your kindness, but I want to be here.

Ichi: You can never see your lover again.

Mi: Why can't I?

Naojiro is traced now. May be he is out of Yedo. If he is arrested this time, he'll never come back.

Mi: Whatever punishment he may suffer I'll die him a grave and I'll lie with him side by side.

Ichi: You want to be notorious then?

Ki: Naojiro may not undergo a capital punishment.

Haru: Money can't buy her heart.

Suga: You're a great fencing-master. You can redeem some other women.

Ichi: I know that well enough. But I can't give my girl to a blackguard Naojiro.

What's that noise?

Mi: That's a cat.

Ichi: Drive it out.

Nao: Drive out whom?

Ichi: You are--

Nao: Naojiro's my name

Ichi: A poor regue!

Nao: Do me anything you like.

Ichi: Do you want to be killed by me?

Nao: Yes, You said you redeemed Michitose. She is my wife.
You must kill her husband?

Nao: Kill me instantly.

Mi: Kill me together with Nao-san.

Ki: You can't kill two at a time.

Ichii: What?

Ki: You can't kill two.

Ichii: You're right.

Nao: You don't kill?

Ichii: I can easily kill you, but there's a professional.

~~Nao: You don't kill?~~

~~Ichii: I can easily kill you.~~

Nao: I don't like to be ordered by you, but I want to be killed
by you who have a grudge on me.

Ichii: A fencing-master as I can't kill such a rogue as you.

Nao: If you don't kill me, I'll kill you.

Ichii: You dare?

Nao: Come on.

Ichii: I can easily kill you but I don't do it now. I leave you
to proper punishment.

Nao: I'm sorry that I'm not your equal in fighting.

Ki: You can't be equal to a fencing-master.

Nao: But---

Ki: Wait for better opportunity.

Mi: Kill me in place of Naosan. I'll not be your concubine.
I'll be Naosan's wife till after death.

Ichii: Even a dog is grateful to it's master when it's feeded
3 days. You're worse than dogs. I don't kill such an
ungrateful bitch as you.

Mi: You don't kill me then?

Ichii: You're a dog and a bitch. A dog may have bitch as its wife.

Otsuka: I've come to fetch you.

Ichii: Thank you.

O: As it began to snow heavily I came here to fetch you with a parawin.

Ichii: Then I'll go with you in a parawin.

Ki: Can you see in the dark?

Ichii: What?

Ki: I thought you couldn't see in the dark.

Ichii: You're right.

Ki: I'm much relieved to here that.

Ichii: I loved her once but as she has no affection with me, I'll give her up. Now I'll give you this letter of redemption which is now no more than waste paper. Take her anywhere you like, you stealing tom-eat.

Nao: Did you call me stealing tom-eat?

Ki: Don't trouble yourself with what he says.

Nao: But.---

Mi: Let him say what he likes.

Ichii: Why weren't you pleased with a windfall? I'll be going now.

Nao: If I were stronger, I would not let him go in such a way.

Haru: Is that redemption.

Suga: Be true, I wonder?

Ki: Let me read it.

Mi: This is a real one.

Nao: Why did he give me this?

Here's another letter attached to it.

Mi: My Goodness! Judging from this letter he is my real brother for whom I've been looking for a long time.

Nao: Is that so. Then he sympathized with you and me and gave me a letter of redemption. What a bad tempered dog was I!

Ki: You're free you.

Nao: Now I'll take her where I like.

Mi: How glad am I to hear it.

(1)(2): Stay there!

Nao: I can see you no more on earth.