

Zohro

Pendal

13182

"IMOSEYAMA ONNA TEIKIN"

SCENE - Mikasayama Mansion

Term of Showing:

Theater: Yuraku Za

Director:

Onoe Kikugoro Troupe

Toyoda Kikine
15th - You
Subaru Za (2)
Coppelia (2)
Michigan
Pelzel - Tuesday
21

Montana

Sp 21
12
15
20

Toho Company, Limited
Theatrical Prod. Dept.



"IMOSEYAMA ONNA TEIKIN"

SCENE - Mikasayama Mansion

Characters:

Iruka Soga

Gemba Miyakoshi

Yatoji Aramaki

Matsu-no-Tsubone, court lady

Ume-no-Tsubone, court lady

Sakura-no-Tsubone, court lady

Kaede-no-Tsubone, court lady

Lady Tachibana, younger sister of Iruka

Eboshiori Kyuma, actually Tankai Fujiwara

Omiwa, daughter of Sugisakaya

Fisherman Fukashichi, actually Iwakuni Kanawa-Goro

Stage:

Mansion. Gold-leafed sliding doors. Lacquered railings. Staircase in center. On both side screened section. Every decoration befitting a grand mansion. Two main-servants are sweeping, carrying a bamboo broom and a pale of water. Curtain opens with Japanese orchestra.

Song:

"Blooming flowers are sometimes spoilt by storms. The mansion now newly built is named Mikasayama, so resembling Abo Palace in old China. The moonlight is obscured by the rising power of Iruka."

(Enter Gemba and Yatoji.)

Gemba: Many a present has been sent from various celebrities in the court.

Yatoji: Horaisan and other various decorations sent in celebration of our lord. Show them to our lord, maids.

All: With much pleasure.

Song: "Replying 'With much pleasure' they spring
Sundry decorations one after another
A pot of Izumi too."

Uma-no-Tsubone: From high nobles in the court.

All: They have been sent.

Song: "Iruka is highly pleased...."

Iruka: I am glad to note that all people, both high and low, wish me a happy and long reign. Send cheers of banzai in my honor.

Song: "At his arrogant word the two bow their head low on the floor beneath..."

Gemba: Not only ourselves but all people and farmers make merry, clapping their hands and dancing in the fields.

Yatoji: This is indeed a glorious reign. Let us congratulate ourselves.

Both: Upon this felicitous reign.

Song: "Rare flattery. Court ladies are looking at the chimpanzee entranced..."

Ume-no-Tsubone: Now fill the cups with sake and start the banquet.

Matsu-no-Tsubone: This is indeed a good entertainment for our lord.

Maede-no-Tsubone: Now make hurry....

Four Ladies: For the banquet.

Song: "In the midst of endless amusement..."

Fukashichi: Excuse me.

Song: "A tall man, half bald-headed, shouting loudly
Enters and approaches right to the lord's seat.
Wearing stiff cotton ceremonial dress
Stands erect.

Meantime from yonder enter Fukashichi,
Clad in cotton ceremonial garb,
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
Wearing two swords, long and short,
Holding a bottle of sake
And steps forward in front."

Is Iruka-dono here? I want to see him.

Song: "At his rude word Miyakoshi gets indignat..."

Gemba: Who are you, you rude fellow.

Yatoji: You fool! You beast!

Two: Get away!

Fukashichi: I am a fisherman in Naniwa (Osaka) named Fukashichi and a messenger hired by Lord Kamatari who has moved to this place.

Song: "Iruka, hearing it, looks down from a distance."

Iruka: I doubt it, I heard that Kamatari, taking a lesson from the old story of Shuyosan (A Chinese legend) hid himself somewhere. Was he at Naniwa? Isn't it lucky for him that he could keep himself alive until today, not starving or falling ill. It is simply due to my favor. He ought to call on me personally to offer his thanks. Isn't it a gross negligence on his part to send a messenger.

Fukashichi: I have nothing to do with what you complain of. You seem a very impatient man. But it gives one a better advantage in a quarrel to keep up a fighting spirit as you do. Kamatari-dono once thought of resisting but is so weakened in his heart that he has asked me to come on his behalf. So pardon him. Too much intimacy often breeds a quarrel. This is a token of peace-making - one shu of sake - he sent this to you.

Song: "Beholding the bottle tied the string of the sword..."

Iruka: I am told there is in China a weapon unknown to Japan. I wonder if it can be a missile. You seem to have a dubious instrument. Say, everyone, beware.

Two: Yes, my lord.

Song: "They stand in readiness, frowning...."

Fukashichi: Oh, far from such a thing. It's a bottle, a bottle of sake. Say, servants, give this to your lord.

(He offers the bottle.)

Gemba: No, it is from Kamatari whose integrity is questioned. It may contain poison.

Yatoji: To give it to our lord....

Two: We cannot allow you.

Fukashichi: Then I will drink it to prove it is genuine.
Can I have a cup. Excuse me. I'll drink from
the bottle.

Song: "So saying he drinks from the bottle..."

Fukashichi: (Drinking it from the bottle) Nice sake! Who can
afford to refuse drinking this? I wonder if there
is any more contained in the bottle.
(Shaking the bottle) Oh! ~~xxx~~

(He looks surprised. The two looking surprised, ejaculate
in the same breath.)

Two: Oh!

Fukashichi: Heavens! I've drunk all. I've made such a silly
mistake. When you see Kamatari please tell him
you have got it and thank him, instead of telling
him I've drunk it all.

Song: "Though he looks rude, he is a simpleton and an
honest guy.
He looks sorry from the bottom of his heart.
It seems he has some other message to hand him.
He searches his pocket,
And producing a letter."

Yes, I have to hand this. Look at this, please.

Song: "Yatoji takes it and opens it."

Yatoji: (Opening the letter, reads it)
"As I am a silly man I have been bewildered, but
now you have got the reigning power over all the
land, which is the will of the God. To revolt
against Lord Iruka is to revolt against Heaven. I
sincerely regret my past error and beseech your
generous pardon. As a token of my allegiance to
you I have the honor to present to you a bottle of
peach wine and wish you a long life with every
happiness to the same old age as enjoyed by Toho
Saku. I have the honor to be your most obedient
servant. Kamaari Fujiwara."

Song: "Thus does he read aloud...."

Iruka: Ha, ha, ha, ha. Lazy Kamatari! He cheats me by
pledging allegiance to me. Impostor!

Fukashichi: Kamatari an impostor? Do you have any proof about
it?

Iruka: Clever fellow, demanding proof! I'll tell what is
really in his mind.

Fukashichi: Do tell me.

Iruka: It is the proof of his ambitious design that he has compared me to Toho Saku in his letter.

Fukashichi: What do you mean?

Iruka: In ancient China during the reign of Wu-ti of Han Dynasty a guy named Toho Saku is said to have attained an age of 9 thousand years by thrice stealing and eating a peach, which bears fruit once in every 3 thousand years. He alludes that I am a thief, usurping the power of all officials, so I construe his reference to Toho Saku.

Song: "Thus he roars indignantly...."

Fukashichi: No, that's unreasonable. That's impossible.

Iruka: Now do you know, you worm!

Fukashichi: I know nothing, but as I have come on his behalf I want to say a word.

Iruka: Oh, if you have come on behalf of Kamatari, get this on his behalf too.

Song: "Taking up a small stand beside him, he throws it at Fukashichi's forehead. The stand flies in pieces, but Fukashichi is not moved."

Fukashichi: (Pauding) Do away with it. You've got angry at being compared to Toho Saku in his wishing you longevity? He refers to his longevity, not to his theft. And yet you give it your arbitrary interpretation, going so far as to refer to theft affairs. Seems you have an experience of stealing, for the way you threw that shows it. People say you are an honest man, but there's a vast difference between what they speak of you and what you really are. Surely I won't have Kamatari be on friendly terms with such a rascal as you. You act in a way unworthy of your name. Do you really mean it?

Song: "He, though a bumpkin, speaks reasonably."

What do you say?

Song: "So demanded, the cunning Iruka smiles bitterly."

Iruka: You distort cleverly. To reward you for your clever speaking I will detain you as hostage until Kamatari's allegiance is confirmed. Now you are like a bird in a cage. You can't go away. Say, Gamba, Yatoji! Let's have a drink at Hagidono. Come on.

All: Yes, my lord.

(Music. Followed by attending ladies, Iruka enters within. Gamba and Yatoji follow. Fukashichi is left.)

Fukashichi: Say, you keep me as hostage just as security? Unlike clothing or utensils mortgaged, a human being eats food. But that greedy rascal won't let me eat enough. I now feel fairly drunk as I drank that sake when hungry. Now let me have a nap somewhere.

(So saying to himself, he rises up.)

Fukashichi: I felt something heavy on my waist. No wonder, for I wear two swords, which I am not accustomed to. I'll take off these heavy loads. How troublesome!

(Fukashichi, taking off his two swords, throw them on the ground. At this instant 2 or 3 spears are thrust up in front of his eyes. Fukashichi looks at them. He picks the spears away.)

Song: "Little children turn out, one after another, to have a look at him out of curiosity. Cakes, tea and tobacco are brought."

(From upstage enter court ladies Ume-no-Tsubone, Sakura-no-Tsubone, Kaede-no-Tsubone and Matsu-no-Tsubone, holding a cup and a bottle of sake, and sit on both sides of Fukashichi.)

Ume-no-Tsubone: Say, I don't know what keeps you there....

Sakura-no-Tsubone: You must feel tired of waiting.

Four: Just have a drink.

Song: "When they offer a drink, he turns round on his belly
And looks at the ladies, with his elbows supporting his head."

Fukashichi: (Awaking, turning on his belly and looking right and left.) Who are you?

Kaede-no Tsubone: We are attendants close to...

Four: Our lord.

Fukashichi: Oh, you are ladies short in stature. Stand up.

(The ladies stand up.)

Four: This way?

(Fukashichi looks at them.)

Fukashichi: ~~What~~ I see. You are all so thin. Are you cooks in this mansion? You wear such funny aprons.

- Matsu-no-Tsubone: Don't be joking. I will ask you a question.
- Four: What is your name?
- Fukashichi: My name is Fuka.
- Four: What? Fuka?
- Fukashichi: When I go out fishing at night, I sleep at any place, no matter it is on the boat or on the beach, so I am called Fukashichi, a ryoshi (fisherman).
- Ume-no-Tsubone: Ryoshi? Then won't you write or draw something for us?
- Kaedeno-Tsubone: I don't like a picture or a poem.
- Matsu-no Tsubone: I prefer the crest of Danjuro or Hanshiro, renowned "kabushi" actor, so popular in Yedo now.
- Song: "Wish you will draw it, so saying Sakura-no-Tsubone draws near."
- Sakura-no-Tsubone: And are all people in lower classes like you? I guess there must be better-looking men among them.
- Ume-no-Tsubone: How I envy those common girls! They can go to a theater at their pleasure and fall in love freely.
- Sakura-no-Tsubone: Who will want to be court ladies like us?
- Song: "They are heavily and tightly dressed, with bends and strings, inconvenient for action..."
- Ume-no-Tsubone: A storm spoils flowers blooming.
- Song: "A cloud hides the moon..."
- Sakura-no-Tsubone: And we part from each other with much regret and sorrow.
- Song: "Kaede-no-Tsubone blushes....."
- Kaede-no-Tsubone: When we fall in love with court officials of high ranks, ohikake (part of a dress) obstructs our view and we cannot with....
- Matsu-no-Tsubone: And when we quarrel, getting jealous, we shall use our fan to beat....
- Song: "Then they will parry it with their stick."
- Kaede-no-Tsubone: It merely irritates us.
- Song: (Translator's note: The wording consists of euphonic words conveying no comprehensible meaning and is well nigh impossible of translation.)

Matsu-no-Tsubone: If water allures me.....

Four: I will gladly flew with it.

Song: "The four ladies embrace Fukashichi. Fukashichi gets irritated."

(Fukashichi, being embraced, gets startled and frees himself.)

Fukashichi: You funny women! Be gone!

Song: "He turns a cold shoulder to them."

Ume-no-Tsubone: A cold man that does not know of love!

Sakura-no-Tsubone: A man like a bottomless cup!

Four: Clumsy guy!

Song: "The four retire within, unwillingly."

(The four ladies exit within.)

Song: "Looking around, Fukashichi fills the cup with sake and pours it on the plants in the garden, when their leaves wither instantly."

(Fukashichi, taking up the bottle left by the court ladies, holding tenugui (a piece of cloth serving as a towel) in his mouth, pours sake on the plants in the garden, when the leaves of the plants wither and droop. Fukashichi pauses. Music starts.)

Fukashichi: On those spears and this poisoned liquor! I must be careful.

Song: "Whilst he is looking at the garden, there come flying arrows when Gemba Miyakoshi appears, followed by his men."

(Gemba makes his appearance with his followers armed with bows and arrows. They get around Fukashichi.)

Gemba: How bold you are! My lord orders me to take you to him as he wants to question you. Come along.

Fukashichi: I am ready to go, even if he does not call me. If you put a finger on my body, I will break the bones of your loins and let your soul part from your body. The instant any of you shoots an arrow, I will wring of his head. Shall I go ahead?

Song: "Daredevil that he is, he does not fear the threatening soldiers."

(Fukashichi descends from the steps and presses the bottle to Gemba. Gemba looks terrified.)

All: Walk on!

Song: "Thus they exit..."

(Music. Fukashichi, led by Gemba and surrounded by his men, exits upstage.)

Song: "Worried is the one who is love-worn. She must go in and out stealthily. Lady Tachibana trots her way through dewladen bushes with a sad heart, and throws a stone at the sliding door."
(Translator's note: This too is an array of euphonic words just to suit the melodies of music and its translation comes out absurd.)

(Meantime Lady Tachibana, wearing long-sleeved kimono covered with katsugi - a sort of overall worn by ladies in ancient days - enters and throws a pebble toward the recess of the room. Voice is heard within.)

Court Ladies: She is back now.

Song: "Every one of them comes down into the garden and lets her in, opening the wicket."

(From within re-appear the four court ladies and pause.)

Ume-no-Tsubone: What a pity! What a pity! That she who has never dared out into the garden is now walking barefooted, simply because of her trouble in love.

Sakura-no-Tsubone: Her skirts must be wet with morning dew. Let her dress be changed with kouchigi (sort of a female dress in old times)
(So saying she looks at her skirts.)
Oh, that red thread stuck to her sleeve!

Matsu-no-Tsubone: That's funny. Let me pull it off.

Song: "She pulls and pulls it which is like a thread of a spider's web, etc....(impossible of translation, it being an array of euphonic words just fit for music.)

(The court lady pulls the thread stuck to Lady Tachibana's sleeve and pauses.

Enter Motome, plainly dressed and wearing a sword. He looks at Lady Tachibana.)

Tachibana: Oh, you are Motome!

Song: "More than the surprised Tachibana, the court ladies are struck with surprise and make a commotion."

Ume-no-Tsubone: Nicely pulled! The lover whom she has been longing for these 7 years!

Four Ladies: Welcome, sir. Step this way.

Motome: Oh, I just happened to pass by here, following up the thread wound round a ball. I know nothing about what you say. Excuse me.

Song: "They interrupt him when he is going away."

Matsu-no-Tsubone: Don't cheat us. Don't be reserved on account of our presence. You can have a tete-a-tete with her.

Kaede-no-Tsubone: We will not disturb you.

Two: But will withdraw from here and go within.

(The court ladies disappear within.)

Song: "The lady utters not a word.
Motome ponders, with his head downcast."

Mtome: You are the young lady of this mansion. I know you are Lady Tachibana, younger sister of Lord Iruka.

Song: "So told she holds her breath."

Tachibana: Now that you know my identity, younger sister of Iruka, it is useless for me to counceal it. So you are Tankai Fujiwara.

Motome: Oh, don't....

(He motions her not to speak it out.)

Motome: Though you are a woman, you are on my enemy's side. Now that you know who I am, which I most feared, I can't spare your life. Be prepared for the worst.

Tachibana: I understand you. When I am alive my heart will be tormented with the love of you. I'd rather die at your hands than live such a hard life. While thus I am speaking, the sight of your face and figure makes me yearn for you. Now kill me at a stroke.

Song: "She clasps her hands, waiting for his sword's stroke."

Motome: Now I see your true heart. But if you want to be my wife, do me a piece of service.

Tachibana: A piece of service for you?

Motome: The sword of Totsuka which Iruka has stolen is one of the sacred treasures. If you restore it to me, I will enter into an engagement, as you wish, but if you fail to consent to it, I cannot fulfil your wishes.

Tachibana: Though a villain he is my brother, and I shall be an ungrateful sister to him if I steal it. But should I fail to follow your direction, I can not be your wife....

Song: "Love outweighs gratitude. Gratitude cannot be thrown away for the sake of love. She finds herself in great dilemma. She grieves over her unhappy lot. But she reflects. She is awakened to the thought that though it may be for the sake of her love it is also for the good of the country. Thus awakened, she pledges to do as she is commanded."

Motome: Fine! And how would you let me know?

Tachibana. At the dancing party held this evening I will make an excuse for taking the sword and will hand it to you. With the sound of flutes and drums as your guide, you steal into the arbor in the recess of the garden.

Motome: Then I will be waiting here until the evening. Don't fail to do as you promised.

Tachibana: I won't to be sure. But if I should be detected and killed, this will be the last I shall see of you. Please call me your wife though I may be dead.

Motome: If unfortunately you are detected and killed, you shall be my wife forever.

Tachibana: I am so happy to hear that. You are my eternal husband.

Motome: I shall be waiting for your good news.

Song: "So pledging to each other they part."

(Lady Tachibana withdraws within. Motome retires to a lower position. They part, pausing a while.)

Song: "Like a stray bird Omiwa enters, running breathless."

(Omiwa, holding a ball, enters running.)

Omiwa: Ahn this ball! Its thread broken and I have missed him.

(She looks around.)

Omiwa: He must have got into this mansion. Let somebody come.

Song: "Hesitating and wondering what to do, fearing if she may not be detected, she looks around when she sees a maid servant Omura enter, carrying a box containing bean curd."

(Meantime a maid servant Omura and a waitress Nari enter, wearing koma-geta (sort of clogs) and an overall, and carrying box of bean curd. Omiwa pauses.)

Omiwa: Hullo!

Song: "So accosted they hastily conclude."

Mura: If you are looking for Okiyo, turn this way, and then turn the other way, and then turn to the opposite direction, go to the right and then straight to the left and go ahead without looking aside.

Omiwa: It is not Okiyo that I am looking for. I ask you if you haven't seen a handsome youngman of about 23 or 24, white complexioned and slender.

Mura: Yes, I have. He is the sweetheart of our Lady Tachibana. He has come all the way from Miwanosato and the court ladies have caught him and taken him to their bed-room in spite of his protest.

Song: "They pressed quilts over him...."

Oh!

Song: "They are making before it gets dark, saying there's an informal wedding ceremony."

I do envy!

Song: "My things ache like roasted beans (sic)"

I must take this bean curd in all haste.

Song: "So chattering they go away."

(Omura runs away. Omiwa pauses.)

Omiwa: Great heavens! We can't be off guard even a second. She has stolen my lover and is holding an informal wedding ceremony. She tramples upon me. Well I will seek Motome wherever he may be hidden and find him out. And I will take him by the hand and go away with him, showing her what I can do. I will get revenged that way.

Song: "Just as she is going...."

Well I fear he may despise me and get disgusted with me. But how can I put up with this and go away?

Song: "Her thought wanders to the steps and the corridors of the mansion. Maids passing by get aware of her presence, and halt one after another until many of them gather from here and there."

(Omiwa, looking pensive, goes up the steps and proceeds to the interior. Music plays and Omiwa is startled. From within appear the court ladies Ume-no-Tsubone, Sakura-no-Tsubone, Kaede-no-Tsubone and Matsuno-Tsubone. Omiwa descends. The four court ladies follow her and pause.)

Ume-no-Tsubone: You seem to be a stranger here.

Four: Who are you?

Omiwa: I am....

Sakura-no-Tsubone: You are....?

Four: What?

Omiwa: Okiyo is an old friend of mine who used to go to the same temple. Since she left home to work as a servant I haven't seen her. I was itching to see her and just dropped in. She showed me such hospitality, offering me tea and tobacco. I was told there was an informal wedding feast going on. Hearing it tears of congratulations welled in my eyes. Wishing to see how grand the feast is, I just stole into this place. I shall feel happy if you will let me see the bridegroom.

Song: "Her look of resentment betrays her words. The court ladies, noticing this, wink at one another, singing to chaff her."

(The court ladies whisper to one another.)

Kaede-no-Tsubone: You are a lucky woman for you can see the interior of the mansion coming at such a good time as this.

Matsu-no-Tsubone: Now that we let her enter the room, what do you think of getting her to do some service to us.

Ume-no-Tsubone: Well let her serve sake.

3 Others: That will be fine.

Omiwa: What? Serve sake? How?

Ume-no-Tsubone: How can you be acquainted with the manner?

Sakura-no-Tsubone: We will teach you here.

(She fetches a tiny sake table and a bottle of sake.)

Now we have a table and a bottle of sake.
Kaede-no-Tsubone will act as the bridegroom and
Ume-no-Tsubone the bride.

Matsu-no-Tsubone: We shall act as attendants.

Sakura-no-Tsubone: Now hold this. Hold this way.

Song: "Sakura-no-Tsubone gives instructions and lets
the reluctant Omiwa hold the bottle."

(Sakura-no-Tsubone lets Omiwa hold the bottle from
behind her.)

Three cups are laid one on another. Pour sake
two times for the bride and proceed two steps
forward. Clumsy woman!

Four Ladies: Now you stand up.

(Sakura-no-Tsubone guides Omiwa all the time.)

Sakura-no-Tsubone: Make it snappy. Learn it well. After pouring
three times for the bride, next pour it for
the bridegroom.

Four Ladies: Oh, you are spilling it.

Sakura-no-Tsubone: Awward woman! Now, next follows free drinking
and singing. You must learn them too.

Four Ladies: Now sing "Shikai Nami". (Old song usually sung
for the occasion of a wedding celebration.)

Omiwa: Eh.

Ume-no-Tsubone: Do you mean "No"? Then we won't....

All Ladies: Let you see the bridegroom.

Omiwa: Well...

All Ladies: If you want to see him, sing it.

Song: "So urged she hesitates."

Omiwa: Treasure case of a thousand autumns and ten
thousand years... (Literally translated.)

Song: "Sobbing with choked breath and shedding tears..."

Matsu-no-Tsubone: Capital! Now to change tones, we might want
Umegaye or Fukigumi.

All Ladies: That's what we wish.

Omiwa: You are asking too much of me.

Song: (Translated as literally as possible) "Like a bush uguisu she babbles. We might rather listen to a muleteer's song."

Omiwa: Don't ask any more of me, but let me have a look at the bridegroom now.

Ume-no-Tsubone: If you want to see him, sing a song. A muleteer's song will amuse us.

Sakura-no-Tsubone: And stand up and dance at the same time, otherwise we won't let you fulfil your wish.

All Ladies: Get away them, be gone.

Song: "She is forced to leave."

Omiwa: How can I say "No."

All Ladies: Sing, then.

Omiwa: I will, I will.

Song: "Saying so with tears in her eyes she rises up, wiping off her tears with her sleeve..."

(Omiwa, in low spirits, holding a tenugui (piece of cloth)...))

Omiwa: (Sings) On bamboo trees the sparrows....

Song: "Often perch. But nobody perches (meaning: halts) on his path of love."

(She sings, dancing)

"This fat bally!" So they say.

Song: "That's what we sing. All clap their hands."

Ume-no-Tsubone: She says "this fat belly"...

Sakura-no-Tsubone: How amusing!

Kaede-no-Tsubone: Indeed we split our "belly" with laughter.

All Ladies: Thank you, muleteer.

Song: "Leaving these words they are about to go. Omiwa is surprised."

(The ladies are about to leave, when Omiwa halts them.)

Omiwa: Now let me follow you.

Song: "Thrown off she falls but clings to their skirts. She cries, being dragged."

(All try to leave her there, but Omiwa clings to them.)

Omiwa: You are heartless. Please take me with you. Have pity on me.

Song: "She entreats them, clasping her hands, but is thrown off."

Ume-no-Tsubone: You stubborn woman! How can you be a match with our Lady in love rivalry? Give up your hope.

Sakura-no-Tsubone: Let's give her a treat in a way she deserves.

All Ladies: That will be fine.

Song: "They pull her ears, tickle her, putting their hands in her arm pits, pinch her, beat her and throw her down."

(The four ladies molest Omiwa in various way.)

Ume-no-Tsubone: Now our Lady is rid of her jealous rival, and can have her felicitous wedding ceremony.

All Ladies: Felicitous young pine! Its branches and leaves will grow luxuriant. How gracious!

(So saying, they tease Omiwa.)

All felicity and glory! Now let's be going.

Song: "The ladies gone, she collapses in tears."

(The four ladies enter within. Omiwa gets conscious of their absence.)

Omiwa: Have mercy. Take me with you.

(So saying she is about to go after them, but finding they are gone look toward the interior with a look of apparent disappointment. At this moment voice is heard within.)

All: An excellent bridegroom she has got. All congratulations!

(She hears it and ponders.)

Omiwa: How cruel! Robbed of my lover and disgraced in this way, how can I endure? I resent him and curse the woman of this mansion.

Song: "She bites and tears her sleeves, her heart broken in agony, and holding her waving hair in her mouth and shaking her body."

My heart burns with wrath and resentment. How should I allow them to sleep together?

Song: "Violently she runs when she meets with the messenger."

(Omiwa pauses and is about to go when Fukashichi, just entering, stops her.)

Omiwa: You interrupt me too? I won't mind whoever stops me. Make way for me.

Song: "She slips away and starts running, but is held by who straddles on her skirts firmly."

Fukashichi: Stay, woman!

Omiwa: No, let me go. Let me loose.

Song: "She struggles, trying to free herself. He holds her by the coiffure and stabs her side with his icy sword. She falls down groaning."

(Omiwa struggles to free herself, when Fukashichi unsheathes his sword and stabs her side with it. Omiwa falls.)

Song: "He throws his sword and looks around. Delightful melodies of music are heard within, befitting a tranquil autumn night."

(Fukashichi looks around. Music.)

Song: "Omiwa rises up. It must be the Lady's order. What cruelty! It is I who have cause for resentment, yet she wants to kill me. Has she the heart of a fiend or a snake? Let her kill me if she chooses. I will be reborn again and get revenged upon her."

"She gazes toward the interior of the mansion with a fierce look. Her voice is now hoarse."

Fukashichi: Rejoice, woman! It is worthy of your name "Kita-no-Kata". By your death you can let your lover achieve an exploit. It serves as a mean to overthrow Iruka.

Omiwa: I am a humble woman. How do you call me Kita-no-Kata?

Fukashichi: The man you love is Lord Tankai, eldest son of Nakatomi.

Omiwa: What do you mean that my death will serve as a means to overthrow Iruka?

Fukashichi: I will tell you. Listen..... His father, Soga-no-Emishi, lamenting he had no son until his old age, consulted a fortune teller and by his advice he took blood from a live female deer and gave it to his wife to drink.

Song: "A healthy son was born and as it had deer's blood in its body it was named "Iruka" - ("iru" means "Enter", "ka" means "deer") So, to charm his heart, it is necessary to mix some blood of a black-hoofed deer with that of a woman with a physiognomy of bigoted suspicion and to pour such mixture of blood on this flute, and to play the flute....."

(He produces the flute.)

"It produces a tune of crying resembling that of a male deer longing to meet his mate. The sound of the music will enchant him senseless. Taking advantage of his delirium, to take back the treasure sword.....this is what Kamatari has designed. Stealing a glance at you I found you have a woman possessed with a physiognomy of bigoted suspicion, so I have resolved to stab you, though I felt a pity on you. When the blood of you who are a slave to jealousy is poured on this flute, the melodies produced from it will work a miracle and reveal where the sword is kept."

"Blood is poured in the six holes of the flute."

(He pours Omiwa's blood on the flute.)

Fukasichi: Now I can let the magic work. This flute will be an instrument to destroy Iruka. Thank Heaven.

Song: "He lifts up the flute and stands up bravely. He is actually a loyal subject to the Fujiwaras, named Imakuni Kanawa-Goro, a trained warrior."

Omiwa: How happy I am! What destiny has brought me into contact with such a celebrity as he is, even for a moment.

Song: "Good fortune to sleep together."

I shall gladly die if it is for your sake.

Song: "But I wish to see him only once again. Though my company with you was brief in this mortal world I wish to to be your wife in the next world. Saying so she crawls about, with a ball in her hand."

Omiwa: How I can't see any more.

Song: "Yearning to see him, she writhes in her dying moments. The thread on the ball is broken. The tragic story is still told today."

(Omiwa weakens and breathes her last. Fukashichi pauses.)

Fukashichi: Poor woman! I will bury her.

Song: "When he draws near her body...."

(Four police soldiers rush on the scene.)

Police S. Don't move, villain!

Fukashichi: You cheeky worms. I'll send you to glory.

Police S. How can you?

(Quick flute music. Fukashichi deals with them. The four get around him and move to center.)

-- Curtain --