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S H O C H I K U

TRAVELLING TROUPE

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"SHIMPAN UTAZAIMON" (NEW PLAY LED BY SONGS)

NOZAKI MURA

ONE ACT

KABUKI PLAY

SUMIZO TROUPE

C.C.D. J-2036



*Koshino Troupe at Shinjuku. Embassy Theatre*

## SYNOPSIS:

Osome is a daughter of an oil-dealer at Osaka. She fell in love with Hisamatsu, the apprentice, but they were separated and Hisamatsu was sent back to his parent Kyusaku, the peasant. Osome, under the plea of visiting the Kozaki Temple, where a goddess of Buddhism is enshrined, called on Hisamatsu. Omitsu, the fiancee of Hisamatsu, having felt for the lone between Hisamatsu and Osome, gave up her love for Hisamatsu and cut her black hair to show her decision to get them married. Osome and Hisamatsu thanked very much for Omitsu's kind sympathy, and went back to the oil-dealer separately Osome by boat and Hisamatsu rode in a sedan-chair, to avoid public attention.

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## CHARACTERS:

Peasant-Kyusaku  
The widow of the Aburaya's, Omine  
Apprentice Hisamatsu  
Clerk           Kosuke  
Aburaya's daughter, Osome  
Peasant Sakuju, Hataroku  
Omitsu, Kyusaku's daughter  
Osayo, Omitsu's mother  
Maid-servant, Oyoshi  
Two sedan-chair bearers  
Boatman

The stage is the house of Kyusaku at Nozaki village. Double stage. There is a house of thatched roof and with a corridor. A shop-curtain is hanging. At the right part of the house there's a family Buddhist altar. A hanging picture, a candlestand, a little table on which a vase with a pine bough, and an incense-burner. At the left part of the house, there's a broken paper-screen a kettle on a fire braizer, a cup and a pack of medicine are on a tray. At the right part of the stage there's a gate, near it stands a plum-tree. Two peasants are smoking there. Curtain draws up with a country-song.

SONG: A girl looks happy -----

(Omitsu behaves as if she is really happy)

Mitsu: It's all owing to the favour of the "Tenjin-sama" (spirit of ancient ~~xxx~~ Hero, Michizane deified) and the "Kannon-sama" (a goddess of Buddhism) that my long cherished desire has been realized-----

SONG: Firstly <sup>owing</sup> ~~xxxxx~~ to the favour of the parents I should have done up my hair -----

SONG: She knows little about tooth-dyeing and greetings at the marriage ceremony but is gaily cutting radish for salad -----

SONG: On the other hand, Osome, couldn't give up her love and came to Nozaki Village to see beloved Hisamatsu, looking for a plum-tree as it's a sign of his dwelling place.

There appear Osome in full costume of long-sleeved Kimono and Oyoshi in ordinary Kimono style carrying with something wrapped by cloth-wrapper.

Osome: Oyoshi! Well----- Where's Hisamatsu's house?

Oyoshi: Yes, your ladyship. You've come to this Nozaki village in spite of the cold weather simply because you wanted to see your sweetheart under the plea of ~~xxxxxi~~ visiting the shrine ----- And there we can find a plum-tree which people at the landing-place told us as a sign of his house, so that may be his house.

Osome: Oh! Be quiet. We've come here to see Hisamatsu, but here's the village where he is living. So we shouldn't make ourselves conspicuous. Go and wait at the landing-place.

Oyoshi: No, no ----- Your ladyship, why we can let you be alone?

Osome: That's his house. Don't worry any more.

Oyoshi: Then I'll accompany to the gate of his house.

Osome: No, it's not necessary. Go to the landing-place in a hurry.

Oyoshi. Yes, lady.

SONG: Maid hurriedly goes back to the river-bank.  
(Oyoshi turns back and enters inside)

SONG: Osome approaches the gate, hesitates to enter owing to the lovesick girl's feeling.  
(Osome peeps inside from the entrance and somehow thinks hesitatingly)

Osome: Hallo, Hallor. I beg your pardon. Is this Kyusaku-san's house?

Mitsu: Yes. That's right.

Osome: Then a person named Hisamatsu has just come back from Osaka to-day and now he should be in, I'm sure. Let me see him, will you?

SONG: From the wording and personal appearance of this stranger, now she becomes aware of this lady to be famous Osome of the Aburaya's whom she heard of frequently and on a sudden becomes jealous. She comes to the entrance, putting aside the cooking-board.

(Omitsu is somewhat jealous, looking at Osome, and comes to the entrance-gate, putting the cooking-board aside.

Omitsu: Oh, she is really beautiful, and is dare to request to see Hisamatsu-san by the pretty voice! I don't know such a person! Go somewhere else and ask it, would you?

SONG: What a silly girl, she murmurs, but Osome doesn't understand.

Osome: Well, I should have brought some souvenir ----- Will you receive this, my dear?

SONG: She hands over gold coins wrapped by an ornamental cloth-wrapper to her  
(Omitsu receives it)

Omitsu: What do you mean by? Your ladyship, daughter of the rich, cannot understand us. You musn't think little of the village girl. I don't want.

SONG: Omitsu is somehow getting angry, throws away the wrapped thing and gold coins scatters about (At this time, Kyusaku, Father of Omitsu, and Hisanatsu appear from the interior

Kyusaku: Omitsu! Have you finished cooking? Just now I've told your old mother the marriage ceremony and she is greatly pleased with it. By the way it's so basy for me and I feel headachy, stiff in my shoulders heavily ----- I'm so old -----

Hisanatsu: Will then, shall I massage?

Ryusaku: Thank you, Hisanatsu. I think, old parents should leave everything in goung one's hands. Well, both of you will render the service, I hope. Omitsu! You'll cauterize my skin with moxa.

Mitsu: Certainly yes. It is should not be windy in the room -----

SONG: She gives a glance at outside, shuts the door of the entrance and puts moxa on a tray lights a incense stick - fire somehow symolizes her flame within.

(at the entrance-door, Osome sees it.)

Kyusaku: Come on, come on. Don't hesitate! Cauterize with moxa and massage all at once!

(Hisamatsu massages Kyusaku's shoulders

Hisamatsu: Yes, yes ----- I'll do my best.

Kyusaku: Ya -- all right ----- go on, go on -----

Oh, oh, it's painful-----

Mitsu: Father, I'll do now.

Kyusaku: Oh, Hurry up-----

(Omitsu begins to cauterize his skin with moxa)

Ah! Painful, painful ----- I won't to be cremated

even if I die to-morrow. Though I look healthy,

my bones and muscles have been worn out-----

In the meantime, Osome peeps into the house.

Hisamatsu looks at her and is surprized Omitsu

again lights moxa.

Ah! I cannot stand any more!

Omitsu: Well Father, you needn't say any more. Just  
finished. Oh I see why it's windy in the room  
----- someone opens the door, I'll shut

SONG: Kyusaku holds of her

Kyusaku: Wait! Don't shut the door. Otherwise the interior  
would be gloomy. Don't you think so Hisamatsu?

(During his, Hisamatsu looks at the entrance and  
seems melancholy. Kyusaku becomes aware of it)

Hisamatsu! Hisamatsu! (In a loud voice)

Hisamatsu: Eh - yes, yes --- (He is frightened).

Kyusaku: Don't look away and massage well!

Hisamatsu: No, I'm not looking away --- but it's bad to  
peep into, really bad chance to -----

Kyusaku: What are you saying? Omitsu doesn't peep at,  
simply does cauterize -----

Hisamatsu: Ya ----- It's the blazing moxa that murmurs bad -----

Kyusaku: How silly you are! It's due to moxacauterization that I'm so healthy. Silly chap! You'd better take care of yourself by cauterizing with moxa!

Mitsu: Oh, yes! Hisamatsu-san has got an old disease of that beautiful long-sleeved Kimono, which now and then calls on him ----- let's cauterize the threshold of this house with big moxa for preventing it-----

Hisamatsu: Omitsu-dono! You are talking of an old disease, long-sleeved Kimono -- something like a sly hint. Don't talk nonsense!

Mitsu: A trifle displeases you, eh?

Hisamatsu: Why not?

Mitsu: What's wrong with me?

Hisamatsu: Of course I'll tell it!

SONG: Their quarrels are going on bitterly and make the person nervous, who is listening to it.

Kyusaku is also at a loss what to do.

(Hisamatsu strongly massages Kyusaku's shoulders, Omitsu cauterizes Kyusaku's soles with big moxa)

Kyusaku: Ah ---- painful, painful!

(He pushes both of them aside)

What's the matter? My shoulders and soles are so painful. Before the wedding ceremony, both of you want to have a couple-squabble, don't you? Do you mean that you wish to let me arbitrate in return for your moxa cauterizing service?

Don't be silly!

Mitsu: Don't care of us, please. I'm sure he is abusing me purposely because of his delusion.

Hisanatsu: Still talking nonsense!

Kyusaku: What's matter? You shan't talk any more. Be at ease! And let's exchange nuptial cups. Omitsu, you ought to dress your hair, to finish your tooth-dyeing in a hurry - at first to take a bath.

Mitsu: Eh.

Kyusaku: Make up well at you best, you see.

SONG: He takes Omitsu away to a back room by force, but humorously talking. At this moment, Osome hurriedly runs in the room and clings to Hisanatsu.

Hisanatsu: Be silent, please (He looks about)  
Unexpected! Will you tell me the reason why you've come to the village?

SONG: By his request, she raises her eyes.  
Osome: You know the reason well, don't you?  
You left the letter for me saying that it would be better to give up you and marry the son the Yamaieya ----- here's the letter ----- do you intend really?

SONG: I can't give up. As I wanted to see you wholeheartedly, I've come out from my house on the plea of visiting the "Kannon-sama". However humble our home may be, I don't mind, if I could be with you. But do you intend I should

have another husband? I have to protest you -----  
I'm hopeless. Hisamatsu hears her speaking gloomily  
and speaks in a low voice.

Hisamatsu: Of course I see your grudge, but I'm deeply indebted  
to your parents who have brought me up from my  
childhood as my master ----- I can't requite my  
master's Kindness with evil.

SONG: It's my honour to have you as my wife, but,  
as I've told you my intention in detail by the letter,  
you'd better marry the son of the Yamaieya because  
it is good for your mother, for your family. I  
hope you'll consider the circumstances.

But she replies in robbing.

Osome: No, I won't, I won't. If you force me to marry  
that man, I've made up my mind already -----

SONG: Osome takes out a razor, prepared before-  
hand, from her Kimono pocket. Hisamatsu tries  
to stop it, abusing her short-sightedness.

(Osome is going to commit suicide.)

Hisamatsu, frightened, clings to her to stop it)

Hisamatsu: What are you doing? Wait, wait!

Osome: Life is not worth living without you -----  
let me die!

SONG: She seems to be in despair

Hisamatsu: Though I'm doing my best to explain the circumstances,  
you can't understand me -----

Osome: I've sworn that it's the only way left for me if  
I can't marry you.

Hisamatsu: Do you really love me from the bottom of your heart?

Osome: Why not? I'm your wife.

Hisamatsu: Oh! If I can't marry you, I'll die with you -----

Osome: -- together with me ----

Hisamatsu: --- go to the Heaven -----

Osome: --- in order to live together -----

Hisamatsu: Osome-sama!

Osome: Hisamatsu!

SONG: They take hand in hand as if they are  
guided by strange fate. Father, during this, hears the  
whole story behind them.

Kyusaku: That's wrong idea!

Both of them: What!

SONG: They are frightened but keep quiet.

Kyusaku: Don't be surprised!

(He comes down on the floor of the stage)

Osome-sama, Hisamatsu! Wait a moment. Sit down  
beside me.

Both of them: Eh -----

(They sit down beside)

Kyusaku:

He was the son of Sagara-Zyodayu, a samurai lived at Ishizu, Izumi country. That family was ruined for some reason. As my younger sister was the wet-nurse of him, I brought him up from three to ten as his temporary father. I made him work at your shop as an apprentice, for I thought it would be better for him to live among others than to live in such a remote village. Now he has grown up as a businessman and even learned how to read and write. These owe all to you master. But he does realize neither obligation to you nor your favor. Look at this! (taking out a book from his dress-boson) This is a book about Onatsu and Seijyuro, which I bought some time before.

Seijyuro tempted Onatsu, his master's daughter. How shameless he was! But this is not the story about Seijyuro. I have advised you sometimes so that you might never do such an act. If you throw off obligation and marry this lady, people will always abuse you that Hisamatsu is an ungrateful fellow, he left his wife and married the daughter of the rich Aburay-ya's for gain, he is nothing but an animal in reality though he looks like a human being, and people at ~~Osaka~~ Osaka will all laugh at you and you will never be able to have an intercourse with them. Please try to understand the obligation and give up her. I entreat you, I beg you like this. Now Hisamatsu, do you like to have a bad reputation of adultery, and not only disgrace your true father's fame but treat the obligation to the world and the master's favour with contempt? Are you, the son of a samurai,