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Japanese texts

Donnel McLean  
*SIL-UND*

Venda McLean  
*SIL-UND*

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Kumo to Ito

(1) A-r-u uraraka na hi no gogo des-ita. (1) 'is' VR-Them.-pres. beautiful Cop. Allom day of afternoon 'Cop.' -pol.-PT
'loose'VR-Ger. (31) sita o mi-ru to, "nam-byaku to mo si-r-e-nu oo-ku no hitobito wa" (31) below Obj.I 'see'VR-pres. when, what-hundreds and even 'know'VR-Them.C-can-not many-Adv.I. of person-person TM (32) 'kare no ato e tsuzu-ite nobo-t-te ku-ru de wa a-r-imas-en ka?' (32) he of after to 'continue'VR-Ger. 'climb'VR-Them.C-Ger. 'come'VR-pres Cop.Ger. TM 'is'-Them.C-pol.state-Neg.question? (33) Kare hitori de no itsu kire-ru to mo si-r-e-nu kono hosoi ito ni (33) he one-person Cop.Ger. even when 'break'VR-pres. when even 'know'VR-Them.C-can-not this thin thread by (34) are dake no ningen ga burasaga-t-ta na-ra, (34) that only of humans Empha.'fall back'VR-Them.C-PT Cop.AlloM-when, (35) moo itsu kire-te mo s-i-kata a-r-imas-on. (35) already when 'break'VR-Ger. even 'do'VR-inf.-way 'is'VR-Them.C-pol.state-Neg. (36) Omowazu Kandara wa sita e muka-t-te dona-t-te 's'imas-ita. (36) Instinctively Kandara TM below to 'face'VR-Them.C-Ger. 'holler'VR-Them.C-Ger. 'do'VR-pol.state-PT. (37) "Ooi, kono ito wa ore ga mitsuke-tai da zo..." (37) Heh, this thread TM I Emph. 'escape'VR-want Cop.pres. exclamation. (38) "Minna te o hanas-ite, o-r-ite, shama-e" to i-u ya-ina-ya (38) Everyone hands Obj. I. 'loosen'VR-Ger., 'go down'VR-Them. C-Ger., 'quit'VR-Imperative "quote" 'say'VR-pres. no-sooner-than (39) Kandara no sugu ue kara kumo no ito wa putsun-to kire, (39) Kan'ara sub.clause TM directly above from spider of thread TM snapped 'break'VR-#incompletive (40) kare-ra wa zembo chi no ike gyaku-modo-r-i des-u. (40) he-plural TM all Blood of lake reverse-'returns'VR-Them.C-Inf. Cop.-pres. (41) Mi-te i-ta o-shaka-sama wa (41) 'see' VR-Ger. 'is'VR-PT H-Budda-honorable TM (42) tada hito-koto tsubuya-ki-mas-ita, (42) only one-thing 'mutter'VR-Them. C-Ing.-pol. state-PT, (43) "Baka na yatsu da!" (43) crazy Cop.AlloM fellow is (Cop.-pres) (44) Aikawarazu uraraka na gokuraku no gogo des-ita. (44) as usual beautiful Cop.-AlloM Paradise of afternoon Cop.-PT.
Explanatory Note

Symbol Guide:

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Japanese Phonemes:

Vowels: i u o e a
Consonants: p t k b d g s h z l m n w y

Free Translation

The spider and the Thread (Title) (1) It was a beautiful afternoon in Paradise. (2) As was his custom the Honorable Budda (3) in the vicinity of Paradise' Lotus Lake (4) was taking a walk (5) happening to look (6) into the endless, deep, distant bottom of the Lotus Lake (7) persons who had committed many crimes (8) was able to see (them) suffering in the Lake of Blood (9) The Honorable Budda one person in there (10) remembered very well (11) He was the many they called Kandara. (12) He had been a very wicked robber (13) One day in front of him on a mountain trail a spider was making a nest (14) (he) thought to kill but passed by (15) The Honorable Budda remembered (16) Kandara who had many sins against him (17) had spared the precious life of one living creature (18,19) In consideration of that, thinking to save him from that suffering (20) took a nearby spider. (21) The spider, lowering a long
thread to the bottom of the Lotus Lake (22) went and hung it without
a hitch. (23) Kandara who was writhing and suffering in the Lake of
Blood (24-25) when he noticed it, (thought) "Wasn't the spider's thread
hanging in front of his eyes?" (26) Immediately he grasped the thread
with his hands (27) and began to climb up steadily, (28) wanting to
escape from this suffering as soon as possible (29-30) Kandara who
was wisely trying (thought) "I'll take a rest." (31-32) When he
looked down (thought) "Were there not more people than he could tell
climbing up after him?" (33-35) "When this thread is so thin that
with just one person hanging on it you can't know when it might break,
how much more with all of these people hanging on it----already if it
should break we would fall back and there'd be no help for it." (36-38)
Instinctively, Kandara, looking below, had no sooner shouted, "Heh,
I want to escape on this thread! Everybody, loose your hands, go
down, stop!" than (39) the spider's thread suddenly snapped just
above Kandara's head, (40) and they all fell back into the Lake of
Blood. (41) The Honorable Budda who was looking on (42) muttered
but one thing to himself, (43) "The crazy fellow." (44) As usual it was
a beautiful afternoon in Paradise.

Saru to Kani

(1) Saru to kani ga aso-n-de i-mas-ita. (1) Monkey and crab Emph.
'tplay'VR-Them.-Ger. 'is'VR-pol,state-PT. (2) Su-ru to kani wa hitotsu
no o-musubi o mitsuke-mas-ita. (2) 'do'VR-pres. when crab TM one of
H-ball Obj.I 'find'VR-pol.state-PT (3) Saru wa kaki no tane o hito-
tsubu o mitsuke-mas-ita. (3) Monkey TM persimmon of seed Obj. I one-grain
Obj. I 'find'VR-pol.state-PT. (4) Kuisimboo no Saru wa o-musubi o
mi-ru to, (4) greedy of Monkey TM H-ball Obj. I 'see'VR-pres. when,
(5) hosu-ku-te, tama-rana-ku na-r-i, (5) 'want'Adj.-Adv.I.-Ger.,
'stand'-Neg.-Adv.I 'become'VR-Them.-Inf., (6) Kani ni i-mas-ita (6) Crab to
'say'VR-pol.state-PT (7) "Kimi no mo-t-te i-ru o-musubi to kaki no tane to
kaeyco." (7) "You of 'hold'VR-Them.-Ger. 'is'VR-pres. H-ball with persimmon
of seed with change." (8) Kani wa nan-nen-ka saki no tanos-m-i o kangaee,
(8) Crab TM what-years-? future of 'happy'VR-Them.C-Inf.- Obj.I 'think'VR-#con­
tinuative (9) Kaki no tane o niwa no sumi ni ma-kimas-ita. (9) Persimmon of
seed Obj.I garden of corner in 'plant'VR-Them.C-pol.state-PT. (10) Ya-gate,
kaki no ki wa ooki-ku na-r-i, (10) In time, persimmon of tree TM big-Adv.I.
'become'VR-Them.C-Continuative (11) oishi-sooo na mi o ip pai tsu-ke-mas-ita.
(11) delicious-looking Cop.AlloM fruit Obj.I full(lots) 'bear'VR-pol.state-
PT. (12) Des-u ga, kani wa ki ni nobo-r-e-nai no de, (12) Cop.-pres. but,
crab TM tree into 'climb'VR-Them.C-can-not of Cop.Ger. (13) to-r-u koto ga
(14) Soko de saru ni to-t-te kure-ru yoo tano-m-imas-ita ga, (14) over-there
at monkey to 'pick'VR-Them.C-Ger. 'give'VR-pres. manner 'request'VR-them.C-
pol.State-PT but, (15) ki ni nobo-t-ta saru wa (15) tree into 'climb'-Them.
C-PT monkey TM (16) makka-ni juku-s-ita oisi-i tokoro o jibun de bakari tabe-
te i-te, (16) complete-ly 'ripen'-do'VR-PT delicious-Adj.I place Obj.I him-
self by only 'eat'VR-Ger. 'is'VR-Ger. (17) Kani ni wa hitotsu mo kure-yoo
to s-imas-en (17) Crab to TM(Emph.) one even 'give'VR-would that 'do'VR-
pol.state-Neg. (18) Tama-r-i-kane-te, kani ga saisoku-su-ru to (18)
'stand'VR-Them.C-Inf.-'cannot do'VR-Ger., crab Emph. urge-'do'VR-pres. when
(19) ki no ue kara saru wa ac.i kata-i mi o nage-ta no de (19) tree of top
(20) Kani wa oo-kega o s-ite sima-imas-ita. (20) Crab TM large-wounds Obj.I
'do'VR-Ger. 'complete'VR-pol.state-PT (21) Kore o ki-ita, usu, hachi, kuri
no san-nin wa kawai soo-ni omo-t-te (21) This Obj.I 'hear'VR-PT, mortar, bee,
chestnut three-persons TM pitiable-ly 'think'VR-Them.C-Ger. (22) Kani no ko
Free Translation

(1) A monkey and crab were playing. (2) Then the crab found a rice-ball. (3) The monkey found a seed of a persimmon. (4) When the greedy monkey saw the rice-ball (5) wanting (it) he couldn't stand it (6) and said to the crab (7) "I'll change the riceball that you are holding for the persimmon seed (8) The crab, thinking ahead of many years of joy, (9) planted the persimmon seed in a corner of the garden (10) In time, the persimmon tree grew large, (11) and bore lots of delicious-looking fruit (12) but, because the crab couldn't climb the tree (13) (he) could not pick (the fruit). (14) At that point (he) requested the monkey to please pick (the fruit) but, (15) the monkey climbed the tree (16) was eating the red ripened delicious fruit all by himself (17) didn't give even one to the crab (18) Being unable to stand it, when the crab urged (19) because the monkey three green hard fruit from the top of the tree (20) the crab was badly hurt. (21) Hearing of this, the Mortar, Bee, and Chestnut, the three of them, thinking it was too bad (22) discussed with the crab's children together how they could punish the monkey. (23) One day, the monkey while eating a delicious persimmon visited the house of the crab. (24) when he approached the entrance (25) first, the Mortar came flying down on top of the monkey from the ceiling (26) Amazed, (the monkey) fled into the house (27) when he approached the fireplace (28) the chestnut who was buried in the ashes (29) suddenly exploded, burning (the monkey), (30) (screaming), "It's hot, it's hot" (31) when he ran to the well (32) the bee who was there waiting for him, stung him. (33) At that point the Chestnut, the Mortar, the Bee and the crab's parents and children attacked the monkey. (34) the monkey apologized. (35) After that these friends got along on the best of terms it is said.