Why Don't You Do Your Best? なぜベストを尽くさないのか

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Preface

Legal Disclaimer

This work is a translation of a copyrighted book. It is provided "as-is" and no copyright infringement was intended by the author. If you enjoy reading this translation, then please buy the original book¹.

Japanese Text

Needless to say, due to the nature of the original document, there will be some Japanese text peppered throughout this document. If you've gotten this far, then your pdf reader has already told you about the Japanese characters that are found in this document, usually in the form of footnotes. If the document reader program that you are using is a good one, then it will have already installed the necessary font packs required to display these characters (if they were missing from your computer to begin with).

Whenever ruby text² is used throughout this document, the exact reading is placed above the characters. This can, in some instance, lead to words that are made up of Hiragana and Katakana. This was done deliberately.

Most Asian characters have more than one reading, and they are separated (in Japanese) into three categories:

- Konyomi
- Onyomi
- Nanori

Dependant on the reading that is used, different characters are used for the ruby text. This all changes the way that the characters are read. The original reading for each character has been included as the Ruby text, so that readers can learn the correct reading for each character in the given context.

¹Performing a web search for the ISBN will yield a plethora of online stores that sell hard copies of this book

²Ruby Text is the text placed near to Asian character to aid the reader in understanding which reading to use. More information on Ruby Text can be found here: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruby_text

A Note From The Translator

Reasons for Translating This Book

Firstly, hi. I'm Jamie and I'm a fan of the Japanese TV show Trick. When I found out that the books, written by the character Ueda Jiro, that are referenced in the show had actually been released I decided to make it my mission to purchase a copy of one of them.

Who Are All These People?

Trick is a Japanese comedy starring 阿部寬 (Abe Hiroshi) and 仲間由紀恵 (Nakama Yukie) as 上面次郎 (Ueda Jiro) and 山面奈緒子 (Yamada Naoko), respectively.

Ueda is a professor of Physics at Tokyo University and uses logic and physics as a basis for his understand of the world and the people within it. Whereas Naoko is a down on her luck, and (mostly) out of work magician, who uses intuition and her magical training to see through most illusions.

Ueda is contacted by people to help them to understand or debunk paranormal phenomena (for instance: curses, good luck charms, psychic abilities and miraculous feats of strength). He usually chickens out when he witnesses said phenomena and implores Naoko to help him explain what's happening.

Naoko is insulted by many of the characters due to her small breasts. She usually fights back with a jibe about Ueda's gigantic penis, or the fact that the wig that 失部議主 (Yabe Kenzo) wears is has fallen off.

Yabe Kenzo is an inept Assistant Detective, usually, sent from Tokyo to investigate the crimes that are related to the phenomena that Ueda and Naoko are trying to debunk. Yabe (also the Japanese word for "stop") is played by 生瀬勝艾 (Namase Katsuhise).

Naoko's Mother, 山田さとり (Yamada Satori) is a calligrapher who teaches the children of her home town about the power of the written word. She has an often hinted, but rarely explained, psychic connection with Naoko, and will often find a way of helping her daughter when she is in trouble. She is played by 野際原子 (Nogiwa Yoko).

More information about Trick can be found at the D-Additcs wiki page: http://wiki.d-addicts.com/Trick

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Chapter 1

Introduction

 ${\bf Welcome!^1}$

These 13 characters² will change your life.

I find the existence of belief in witchcraft and sourcery to be a false faith.

¹Ueda writes in a very informal manner. The original opening is はじめに, which is quite informal

²In the original Japanese, なぜベストを尽くさないのか is 13 characters