

幽鬼傀儡、あるいはその愛と再生

Spirit puppet, or perhaps love and rebirth

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1 Origin

Original game: 東方神霊廟 ～ Ten Desires

Original title: 古きユアンシエン

Theme: Stage 4 BOSS — Kaku Seiga's (霍 青娥) theme

Original title: リジッドパラダイス

Theme: Stage 3 BOSS — Miyako Yoshika's (宮古 芳香) theme

2 Summary

The song is sung from Miyako Yoshika's perspective, describing her unending circle of life and death bridged by resurrection as a Jiangshi revived by Seiga Kaku as her experiment for Taoism and necromancy. It also portrays the twisted master-servant relationship between the two individuals.

3 Lyric

3.1 Intro

ねむ とき よみがえ
(眠りその時 蘇る よ)
I'm resurrected as I fall to sleep
らいめい ひら め ぬかる つち つか て
雷鳴に開く眼 泥濘んだ土、掴む手
My eyes opened to the thunderclap as you catch my hands on the muddy ground
なが つめ えぐ ふたた はい み いのち
長い爪が抉り 再を肺を満たす 命
These long nails gouging out this life as it fills my lung once again

3.2 Verse #1

のこ おも で あい めいせい
なにひとつ、残せはしない 「思い出、愛に 名声」
I won't leave a single thing behind 「Memories are love's signature」
も だ し うば
なにひとつ、持ち出せない 「死はすべてを奪う」
I can't bring a single thing back 「Death taketh everything away」
たし
ただひとつ、確かなもの 「さあ、私とおいで」
However there's still one thing for certain 「Now come to me」
つ うご しょうどう あなた いと かいらい
私を突き動かす 衝動 「貴女は愛しい 傀儡」
Impelling urges to stab me 「You are my lovely puppet」

3.3 Chorus #1

ひ ひ し いまよみがえ
あの日、いつかの日に、私は死に。そして今 蘇る
Some day, one day I'll be dead. Then soon i'll return to life.
みづか めざ あ うた わす
自ら目指す当てもなく、詩も忘れて。
Your goal is so aimless, just forget your poem already [1]
なんど し
何度でも死ぬために。
Please die for me over and over again

3.4 Breakdown #1

わかい かいらい なんど し
(ああ、可愛いものこの 傀儡) (私のためにキスをして何度でも死ぬがいい)
(Aaa, this cute thing of a puppet) (You can kiss me and die for me as many times as you like)
(ずっと私だけのモノにしてあげる)
I'll have you do everything for me for eternity [2]
こわ むざん ひ かれ ぞうもつ すべ もの
(バラバラに壊れても 無残に引きちぎられても) (彼も 臓物も全ては私の物)
(Even if you break me to pieces, even if you tear me off savagely) (All of her entrails will still be mine)
みと だれ わた
(私は認めない) (誰にも渡さない)
(I won't acknowledge it) (I won't hand her over to anyone)

なに かん もぐ はな
 「何も感じなくていいの 掬がれた華 私のそばにおいでなさい」
 「You don't have to feel anything, O withered flower, please come by my side」
 なに おも だ あなた くさ なおさらうつく
 「何も思い出さなくていいのよ 貴女ってば、腐って 尚更 美しいわね」
 You don't have to think of anything anymore, aren't you even more beautiful when you rot away?
 こうようふ あきぞら みあ
 紅葉 降る 秋空 見上げては
 As I looked up at the falling maple in the autumn sky, [3]
 だれ だれか よ き
 誰か、誰かに呼ばれているような気がして
 came the feeling as if someone was calling out to me
 ねむ な
 きっとここに眠る私のために、ひとり泣いてくれた
 who was surely crying when I was laid to rest here.
 やさ こえ
 優しい人の声なんだろう
 I wonder whose that person's voice was

3.5 Chorus #2

ひ ひ し いまよみがえ
 あの日、いつかの日に、私は死に。そして今 蘇る
 Some day, one day I'll be dead. Then soon I'll return to life.
 みずか めざ あ うた わす
 自ら目指す当てもなく、詩も忘れて。
 Your goal is so aimless, just forget your poem already
 なんと し
 何度でも死ぬために。
 Please die for me over and over again

3.6 Verse #2

し みぞ かいらい うた のが とりかご
 死に見初められた 傀儡の詩 逃れられない 鳥籠
 A poem about the puppet that fell in love at first sight with death. Such is the unescapable birdcage
 ゆめみ ねむ あさ ごろね
 夢見て、その眠り浅く 転寝のよう
 Her dreaming seemingly light as a nap [4]
 ひ の たみしい
 引き伸ばされる 魂
 The ever expanding spirit
 resurrecting

4 Translation notes

[1]: This is the poem usually cited by Miyako. Yoshika Miyako's character design in the Touhou universe is based on Yoshika no Miyako (都良香), a Japanese scholar and poet. Furthermore, various fan-made works 同人 including official comic Wild and Horned Hermit showed in the first chapters Kasen's interest in Miyako's poems, hinting that citing poems is one of Miyako's main activities during the time that she was still alive.

[2]: This section portrays Seiga's possessive mental state and her obsession towards Miyako and Taoism. Even though she seems to be treating Miyako as an experiment for her conceptions of Taoism and a guard,

she was shown deep affection towards Miyako and kept reviving her back to life diligently.

[3]: Signs of Seiga's affectionate relationship with Miyako specifically, even though Seiga is a hermit that only wants to advance her own goal and treat everyone else equally lowly and would rather manipulate them for her own benefits instead. Miyako who is supposedly her servant is the only exception of this.

[4]: A metaphor to Miyako's resurrection process that is seemingly as light as a short nap as life fills her lung again shortly after.

Personal translator's note: Othi here, this is my first attempt at translating a song lyric. This song specifically was my personal favorite Touhou Project arrangement and it gave me the motivation needed to want to know more about the song, the backstory of included characters and their relationships, and furthermore the push I needed to pick up a new language to learn and to translate them in hope to bring this piece of literature to a wider audience. It also shows how beautiful and intricate the Touhou universe can be.

To read until the very end, I thank you and appreciate your time that you've spent and I hope you can find enjoyment in reading my future works.