

あさきゆめみし Superficial dreams

Original Source: 暁 records — Translated by: Othi

September 1, 2020

Contents

1	Origin	1
2	Summary	1
3	Lyric	2
3.1	Intro	2
3.2	Verse #1	2
3.3	Chorus #1	2
3.4	Verse #2	3
3.5	Chorus #2	3
3.6	Outro	3
4	Translation notes	4

1 Origin

Original game: 東方永夜抄 ～ Imperishable Night

Original title: 竹取飛翔 ～ Lunatic Princess

Theme: Stage 6 BOSS — Houraisan Kaguya's (蓬莱山輝夜) theme

2 Summary

The title of the song is the second to last line in the famous Iroha poem in Japanese literature

It is sung from Houraisan Kaguya's perspective — an immortal princess living on the Moon. The song portrays her life of a princess in foreign land, with immortality being more of a curse than a blessing and the person who understands her the most is also the one that she resents the most — Fujiwara no Mokou.

Princess Kaguya, along with the original game Imperishable Night, takes inspiration from 'Kaguya-hime' in Japanese folklore

The album has both Kaguya's and Mokou's themes separated into two tracks back to back, this is the first part of the two, prior to the song アンフルフィールド・プロミス～果たされない約束. Further details of the two individuals will be stated in Translation notes section

3 Lyric

3.1 Intro

あさきゆめみし ^{こんじょう よいかぜ なが} 紺青 の 宵風 が 流れ
Superficial dreams and the flow of the evening prussian wind
^{deep blue}
さみしやさみし ^{ひと よ かんたん せつな} 人の世は 邯鄲 の刹那よ
Lonely O lonely, the life of a man is but a moment of vanity

3.2 Verse #1

^{であ わか ひと えにし}
出 会 い 別 れ 人 の 縁 は
The fate of a farewell bidding man
^{よ かえ なみ}
寄 せ て は 返 す 波 の よ う
is like the tides that come and go
^{おだ くら はげ}
と き に 穏 や か に 暗 く 激 し く
In moments of respite, as well as the murky and fervent
^{なに の こ}
何 も か も を 飲 み 込 ん で い く
As I gulp down anything I can [1]
^{とき ざんこく お つ}
時 は 残 酷 に 終 わ り を 告 げ
It was the mark of a cruel end
^{お さ}
私 だ け を 置 き 去 り に し て
I'm the only one left behind
^{く たいよう あ よる}
暮 れ な い 太 陽 明 け な い 夜
The never-setting sun and the never-falling night
^{だれ あい}
誰 を 愛 し て も ひ と り
Do I even have anyone to love?
^{なに ちか}
ね え、何 か 誓 っ て
But wait, I am sure that
^{は やくそく}
ず っ と 果 た さ れ な い 約 束 を し て ー。
I'll make a promise I can never fulfill

3.3 Chorus #1

あさきゆめみし ^{こんじょう よいかぜ なが} 紺青 の 宵風 が 流れ
Superficial dreams and the flow of the evening Prussian wind
^{deep blue}
さみしやさみし ^{ひと よ かんたん せつな} 人の世は 邯鄲 の刹那よ
Lonely O lonely, the life of a man is but a moment of vanity

3.4 Verse #2

えいえん くち
「永遠だ」なんて口にしたら
'This is immortality' if you were to utter such thing
しゅんかんうそ
その瞬間 嘘になる
That'll be a blatant lie
い なんど
だから言って、何度だって
That's why, no matter how many times you say it
えいえん
永遠にそばにいと
Immortality will always be by my side
ちか
ねえ、ここで誓って
Hey, I'll swear to you right here, right now
はた やくそく
ずっと果たされない約束を今一。
That I'll make a promise I can never fulfill

3.5 Chorus #2

しゃくねつ おおとり か
あさきゆめみし 灼熱の鳳 翔けてゆく
Superficial dreams and the soaring scorching phoenix [2]
こい こい おも
恋しや恋し あなたはだれを想ふ？
Longing O longing, who might you be thinking of?
ほのおいだ あま よいやみ
あさきゆめみし 炎抱く甘い宵闇
Superficial dreams and the fire bearer in the sweet twilight [3]
ひと よ かんたん せつな
さみしやさみし 人の世は邯鄲の刹那よ
Lonely O lonely, the life of a man is but a moment of vanity

3.6 Outro

だれ き ほし し た くらやみ
誰もが消えて 星も死に絶えた 暗闇
When everyone vanishes and the stars also fading into the darkness
せいじゃく
あなたと私 そして 静寂 だけが
You and me — as still as we can be
えいえん しんじつ ちか
あさきゆめみし 永遠が真実の誓いなら
Superficial dreams; If immortality is the truth of this promise
ふたり まじ
さみしやさみし 二人は交われないままで
Lonely O lonely; Then the two of us can never cross paths again

4 Translation notes

Kaguya and Mokou's backstory: The method that Kaguya used to attain immortality was to drink the Hourai Elixir out of self-interest which was a taboo. Since she can't die from execution, she was then exiled to Earth and spend her immortal life down in Earth. When she was still on the Moon, she held a trial of 'Five Impossible Requests' to seek for the suitable marriage partner, none of the contestants could complete such trial, including Mokou's father. Having her father and consequentially her whole family put to shame by the princess, Mokou bore hatred and later on also drank the Hourai Elixir seeking for revenge.

The full backstory of Kaguya and Mokou can be read in the Touhou Wiki [here](#) and [here](#)

[1]: Very likely to be referencing the Hourai Elixir, as in the very next line, the 'end' is considered the end of her loyal lineage on the moon and the start of her immortality. To quote the Touhou Wiki: 'According to Fujiwara no Mokou, the first taste of the medicine makes the drinker incapable of growing up or aging. The second taste makes them incapable of becoming ill. The third taste makes one completely immortal to the truest sense.'

[2][3]: Direct mention of Mokou who can manipulate fire and often have her spells to resemble phoenixes, as they are the symbol of both fire and immortality.

Also quick note in the next line citing 「想ふ」 instead of 「想う」. This is old Japanese, which is actually quite normal considering that the speaker is Kaguya who is already over a thousand years old and also of loyal descendants.