

浮珠形ノ運命線

Twisting yin-yang orbs of fate — White Spirit, Ultra Red

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1 Origin

Original game: 秋霜玉

Original title: 二色蓮花蝶～Red and White

Theme: 蓬莱人形 ～ Dolls in Pseudo Paradise

(Original source: 二色蓮花蝶 ～ Ancients — Reimu Hakurei's theme)

2 Summary

Reimu Hakurei, who also is the game franchise's protagonist whose job is to keep the barrier between the fantasy world (Gensokyo) and the real world afloat and to exterminate harmful youkai (spirits) in the spiritual realm. This song seems to portray Reimu as just a vessel without mind nor consciences for the Hakurei God, mindlessly obeying her duty rather than a normal human shrine maiden.

3 Lyric

3.1 Intro

ちょう ちょう ゆび
蝶々、蝶々 この指とまれ
Butterfly, butterfly, rest on these fingers of mine
ちょう ちょう そら
蝶々、蝶々 空へとのぼれ
Butterfly, butterfly, flutter away to the sky

3.2 Verse #1

せつな すみいろ なが ぼし あか はね そら ま
刹那 墨色の流れ星 紅の羽が空を舞う
At this moment, jet back shooting star and crimson feathers fluttering in the sky
ま ぼがさい しゆくめいあらが ちょう
混ざる 極彩のスケイル 宿命 抗えない蝶よ
Blended in vivid scales, a butterfly that can't defy its fate [1]
あた しんじつ
与えられた 真実と
The truth that's been bestowed upon
しん ことわり つか さきもり
信じるべき 理に仕えし 防人
and the trustworthy man of reason

3.3 Chorus #1

うくたまがた うんめいせん らくえん みこ
浮珠形 ノ 運命線 楽園の巫女 Ultra Red
The spinning yin-yang orbs of fate; O shrine maiden of paradise — Ultra Red [2]
ひつじかい まよい しゆくめい い
羊飼 いに 迷いはなく その 宿命 を生きる Never End
The lost shepherd cries; Accept your fate — Never End
うくたまがた きょうかいせん め あや きんこう
浮珠形 ノ 境界線 揺れる危うい均衡に
The spinning yin-yang orbs of boundary; The dangerously wavering balance [3]
ひと いんが うえ
いつまで人でいられると、この因果の上で？
For how long can man still live, with this karma from above?
White Spirit, Ultra Red

3.4 Verse #2

ちょう ちょう そら
蝶々、蝶々 空へとのぼれ
Butterfly, butterfly, flutter towards the sky
ちょう ちょう ふた さ
蝶々、蝶々 二つに裂けた
Butterfly, butterfly, torn in half
じゆ いし せんたく さず しんたいかんじょう
自由意思の選択も 授かりし身体感情も
Freedom of choice, as well as a body blessed with emotions [4]

すべて 与えられた 予 定調和 の理想郷
 The sung harmony in this utopia has brought peace to everything
 あた 与えられた 真実 が
 The truth that's been bestowed upon
 ちなが うたがい とき
 血と流れて 疑いをもたらす時まで
 is this stream of blood, and the skepticism that comes with time

3.5 Chorus #2

うくたまがた うんめいせん らくえん みこ
 浮珠形 ノ 運命線 楽園 の巫女 Ultra Red
 The spinning yin-yang orbs of fate; O shrine maiden of paradise — Ultra Red
 く かえ てんち にわ かぎ
 ロールプレイを繰り返す天地 その箱庭の鍵は Butterfly
 Repeat the roles of heaven and earth, with butterfly as the key to this miniature garden — Butterfly
 うくたまがた きょうかいせん め あや きんこう
 浮珠形 ノ 境界線 揺れる危うい均衡に
 The spinning yin-yang orbs of boundary; The dangerously wavering balance
 ひと いんが うえ
 いつまで人でいられると、この因果の上で？
 For how long can man still live, with this karma from above?
 White Spirit, Ultra Red

3.6 Verse #3

あた 与えられた 真実 は
 As for the truth that's been bestowed upon
 ひ しょうじょ えいえんたく
 いつの日にか 少女に永遠託すだろう
 Maybe one day, a girl will be entrusted with it for eternity [5]

3.7 Chorus #3

うくたまがた うんめいせん らくえん みこ
 浮珠形 ノ 運命線 楽園 の巫女 Ultra Red
 The spinning yin-yang orbs of fate; O shrine maiden of paradise — Ultra Red
 い つ さき どこ あた みちい
 行き着く先が何処だって 与えられた道生きて Conviction
 Even when where I go and move forward is unknown, even then, To pave the road to live with conviction
 まも し あした
 守るべきものがあるから 知りたい明日があるから
 to protect those in need, (conviction) to look forward to what tomorrow brings
 ひと す
 私が人であるうちは 好きにさせないからね
 As for what I possess as a human, love won't be one of them, isn't it?
 White Spirit, Ultra Red

4 Translation comment

[1]: the mentioned butterflies in these verses are possible attempts to compare Reimu to the butterflies; one being trap in a birdcage called Hakurei Shrine with no escape, the other can fly wherever they want. There will later be implication and/or references to duality (yin-yang, herself and butterflies, duties as a Hakurei Shrine maiden and freedom of choice) to further emphasize the importance of Reimu's state of mind

[1][3][4][5]: repeated implications of Reimu either being bound to her duties or her not being able to make the decision or draw the distinction between being a human being who is a shrine maiden or just 'the entity that is only there to keep the balance between Gensokyo and the real world'

[2]: a reference to one of Reimu's possession: floating yin-yang orbs that can also be used as weapons.