ABSTRACT

An Annotated Translation of part 1 of Kokoro: Sensei and I

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Kokoro, by Natsume Sōseki, is a well-loved classic of Japanese literature. Edwin McClellan translated this novel into English in 1957. Though this translation is easy to read, it is not a perfect translation in the sense that it does not offer the reader many notes on the words, grammar, colloquial expressions, etc. that are not easily translated into English. Therefore, the goal of this paper is to present a fresh translation of the first part of the novel, *Sensei and I*, with annotations. This will hopefully broaden the reader's understanding of the text.

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AN ANNOTATED TRANSLATION OF PART 1 OF KOKORO: SENSEI AND I

A Thesis Submitted to the Faculty of Baylor University

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the

Honors Program

By

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Waco, Texas

May 2012

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special thanks to my adviser, Ms. Yoshiko Fujii Gaines, without her constant guidance and support this thesis would not have been possible.

CHAPTER 1

Introduction

The goal of this paper is to present an annotated translation of the first part of Natsume Sōseki's *Kokoro*, entitled *Sensei and I*. The reason for this pursuit is twofold: This paper aims to offer an alternative translation to Edwin McClellan's translation of 1957. This paper also aims to provide more annotations than the current text, which will hopefully help non-Japanese speakers to better grasp the meaning of the novel.

The reason for attempting to present an alternative translation for McClellan's is not due to thinking that his translation was not a good one. On the contrary, McClellan's translation conveys the meaning of the text very well and is easy to read. However, no matter how good a translation is, it is influenced by the translator's perception of the text. Additionally, no translation may be absolutely perfect, because different languages do not commute to that degree. Therefore, I hope that the translation provided here will add, rather than detract, to the meaning of the existing one and give readers a fuller understanding of the book.

As for the annotations, I think that these are a helpful way of circumventing the problem of whether to translate literally, or write well in the target language. Many times during a translation, translators must face a choice between keeping what is written in the original text, and changing it to make more sense to the average reader. For instance, the phrase "one's belly" has a very different meaning in Japanese than it does in English. In

certain contexts, "one's belly" may refer to a place where one holds their feelings. For instance, in *Kokoro*, Sensei asks the narrator: 「はらの底から、真面目ですか。」 Literally translated, this means "Are you sincere from the bottom of your stomach?" In English, this does not make sense. If one translates the phrase "bottom of your stomach" to be "core of your being" one is able to keep most of the meaning behind the phrase. However, this loses its distinctly Japanese point of view. This is a problem because though one wants the readers of another culture to understand what is being said, one does not want them to lose the original meaning and setting of the text. To do so would be to rewrite the text into one's own culture and time, and possibly lose some of what made the text great. Therefore, in instances such as these, I have tried my best to present the easiest to read version within the text, but note the original meaning in the Index.

Another point of concern for translators are when the language they are translating from has a word or phrase that does not directly translate into their target language. An example of this occurs in *Kokoro: Sensei and I,* chapter 11. When the narrator and Sensei's wife are talking about the cause of Sensei's unhappiness, Sensei's wife says: 「わからないから気の毒でたまらないんです。」 I translate this passage as: "Because I do not understand, I feel very sorry for him." Though this translation conveys a strong emotion in English, it fails to carry the overwhelming emotion denoted by the word「たまらない。」 "Tamaranai" means that the speaker has an overwhelming emotion that they cannot control. In speech, this would be easy to catch in the tone of the speaker's voice. However, in written language, Japanese offers a way to ensure the reader catches this strong emotion, while English does not. Therefore, I translated this in a way

that I thought would be easy to read, and convey most of the meaning, but footnoted to give the full meaning.

The overall purpose of this paper is to add to the existing translations and annotations of Natsume Sōseki's *Kokoro: Sensei and I.* I hope that this translation may aid to English-speakers understanding of this great novel.

CHAPTER TWO

Kokoro: Sensei and I

Section One

れないはその人を常に先生と呼んでいた。だからここでもただ先生と書くだけ本名は打ち明けない。これは世間を「でかる遠慮というよりも、その方が私にとって自然だからである。私はその人の記憶を呼び起すごとに、すぐ「先生」といいたくなる。筆を執っても心持は同じ事である。よそよそしい

望く学などはとても使う気にならな

い。

I always called that person "Sensei¹."

Therefore, here as well I will write only
"Sensei," and not say his real name. I do
this not for discretion sake, but because to
me, that person is naturally Sensei. Each
time I bring him to mind, I immediately
want to say "Sensei." With a pen in hand,
the feeling is the same. It does not feel
right to use cold and formal letters initials
to represent his name.

¹ This translation, as in the previous translation, will use the word "Sensei" rather than "teacher," because the word Sensei conveys a greater level of respect than is understood by the English equivalent.

私が先生と知り合いになったのは なまだ。である。その時私はまだ若々し い書生であった。暑中休暇を利用して 海水浴に行った友達からぜひ来いと いう端書を受け取ったので、私は多 少の金を工窗して、出掛ける事にし た。私は金の工面に二、二を含むませ した。

ところが私が鎌倉に着いて三日とた。 をたないうちに、私を呼び寄せた友達は、急に国元から帰れという電報を受け取った。電報には母が病気だからと断ってあったけれども友達はそれを信じなかった。友達はかねてから国元に I first became acquainted with Sensei at Kamakura. At that time I was still a young student². I had received a postcard from my friend inviting me to join him there. He had used the summer vacation to go to the sea. Therefore, I spent a few days to gain the necessary funds, and then joined him.

Three days had not passed since my arrival, when my friend received a telegram demanding that he return home immediately. The telegram was sent to inform him that his mother was sick.

However, my friend did not believe this.

For some time, his parents had been trying to force him to get married. From our

² The word translated as "student" is "書生: shosei," which literally means a student who performs housework in exchange for meals or lodging.

いる親たちに都まない結婚を強いられていた。彼は現代の習慣からいうと結婚するにはあまり年が若過ぎた。それに肝心の当人が気に入らなかった。それで夏休みに当然帰るべきところを、わざと避けて東京の近くで遊んでいたのである。

彼は電報を私に見せてどうしようと相談をした。私にはどうしていいか分らなかった。けれども実際彼の母が病気であるとすれば彼はもより帰るべきはずであった。それで彼はとうとう帰る事になった。せっかく来た私は一人取り残された。

学校の授業が始まるにはまだ だいぶひかず 大分日数があるので鎌倉におっても よし、帰ってもよいという境遇にいた私 は、当分元の宿に留まる覚悟をした。 modern perspective, he was a little too young to get married. More importantly, he was not found of the girl. Therefore, he had purposefully avoided going home as he normally would have, and idled away his time in this place near Tokyo.

He showed me the telegram and consulted me as to what he should do. I didn't know what he should do. However, if his mother really was sick then of course he should go home. Therefore, he finally went home. I, who had taken so much trouble to come join him, was left behind alone.

Because there were still a great number of days before the beginning of the semester, I could stay in Kamakura or I could go back home, either would be fine. For the time being, I decided to stay at the inn. My friend was the son of a wealthy

友達は中国のある資産家のも子で 金に不自由のない男であったけれど も、学校が学校なのと年が年なので、 生活の程度は私とそう変りもしなかっ た。したがってしくりぼっちになった私 は別に合っなするを探す面倒ももたな かったのである。

宿は鎌倉でも辺鄙な方角にあった。たまできたのアイスクリームだのというハイカラなものには長いないでを一つ越さなければ手が届かなかった。車で行っても二十銭は取られた。けれども個人の別荘はそこここにいくつでも建てられていた。それに海へはごく近いので海水浴をやるには至極便利な地位を占めていた。

私は毎日海へはいりに出掛けた。

Chinese household and did not have to worry about money. However, because he was a young student, his standard of living was similar to mine. Therefore, even though I was now alone, I did not have to go through the trouble of searching for a new hotel.

The hotel in Kamakura was a hard to reach place. Stylish pastimes such as billiards and eating ice cream could not be reached unless you took a single, long footpath.

Going by rickshaw would take 20 Sen³.

Though the place was so remote, there were many people who had built their villas there. Furthermore, the inn was quite close to the beach, it was a very convenient location. I would go out to the beach everyday to swim.

³ A sen is 1/100 of a Yen

り抜けて機へ下りると、この一辺にこ れほどの都会人種が住んでいるかと 思うほど、避暑に来た男や女で砂の 上が動いていた。ある時は海の中が せんとう 銭 湯のように黒い頭でごちゃごちゃ している事もあった。その中に知った 人を一人ももたない私も、こういう賑 やかな景色の中に 裹まれて、砂の上 た。 に寝そべってみたり、膝 頭 を波に 打たしてそこいらを跳ね。 響るのは愉 快であった。

Whenever I passed through the old and blackened thatched roofs and descended to the seashore, I wondered how there were so many city dwellers living in this area.

Men and women who had come there for the summer ran along above the sand.

At that time, there was a great jumble of heads covered in black hair in the sea, which now had the appearance of a bathhouse. I did not know even one person there, and was engulfed by that noisy atmosphere. I tried lying on the sand. It felt good to have the waves hit against my knees.

私は実に先生をこの雑沓の間 に見付け出したのである。その時海岸 It was in that crowd that I first discovered
Sensei. At that time there were two
beachside cafes. For no particular reason, I
had made a habit of going to one of them.

には掛茶屋が二軒あった。私はふと した機会からその一軒の方に行き慣 れていた。長谷辺に大きな別荘を構 えている人と違って、各 省 に専有の きがえば こしら 着換場を 拵 えていないここいらの避 暑客には、ぜひともこうした共同着換 所といった 嵐 なものが必要なのであ った。彼らはここで茶を飲み、ここで休 息する 外 に、ここで海水着を洗濯さ せたり、ここで鹹 はゆい身体を清め たり、ここへ帽子や傘を預けたりする のである。海水着を持たない私にも持 物を盗まれる恐れはあったので、私は 海へはいるたびにその茶屋へ一切 ぬす を脱ぎ棄てる事にしていた。

Unlike the people who had set up their large villas In the Hase area, and had set up their own changing areas, other summer visitors had a common changing area.

Here, men drank tea, rested, washed their bathing suits, and cleansed their salty bodies. This is also where they left their caps and umbrellas. I did not own a bathing suit, but because I was afraid my things might be stolen, every time I entered the water I undressed and left all of my things in that teashop.

わないがその掛茶屋で先生を見た時は、先生がちょうど着物を脱いでこれから海へ入ろうとするところであった。 私はその時反対に濡れた外体を風に吹かして水から上がって来た。二人のありだには目をを遮ぎる幾多の黒い頭が動いていた。

特別の事情のない限り、私はついに 先生を見逃したかも知れなかった。 それほど浜辺が混雑し、それほど私 の頭が放っであったにもかかわら ず、私がすぐ先生を見付け出したの は、先生が一人の西洋人を伴れてい たからである。 At the time that I saw Sensei at the cafe,
Sensei had just undressed and was going to
the sea. I was coming up from the sea, and
the wind was blowing over my wet body.
The line of sight between us was
obstructed by many stirring black heads.
If not for special circumstances, in the end
I would have overlooked Sensei and not
been able to become acquainted with him.
However, even though the beach was
extremely congested and my head was
muddled, I immediately saw Sensei,
because he was with a westerner.

その西洋人の優れて白い皮膚の色 が、掛茶屋へ入るや一谷や、すぐ私の 注意を惹いた。純粋の日本の浴衣を しょうぎ 着ていた彼は、それを床 几の上にす ぽりと放り出したまま、腕組みをして 海の方を向いて立っていた。彼は 我々の違くえるまた一つの外何物も肌 に着けていなかった。私にはそれが第 一不思議だった。私はその二日前に ゆい 由井が 浜 まで行って、砂の上にしゃ がみながら、長い間西洋人の海へ入 る様子を眺めていた。私の尻をおろ した所は少し小高い丘の上で、そのす ^{わき} ぐ 傍 がホテルの裏口になっていたの で、私の凝としている^{あいだ}に、だら

This westerner was so conspicuously white that he caught my attention as soon as he entered the cafe. That person was wearing a genuine Japanese *yukata*⁴. He recklessly let this fall down onto a folding stool and stood facing the sea with his arms crossed. Like us, he was only wearing undershorts. This is what I thought was the most strange thing about him. Two days previously, I had gone to Yuigahama. While there, I squatted on top of the sand and watched some Westerners in the sea. I was sitting on a small hill right next to the back door of the hotel. Because of this, while I sat there perfectly still, I saw a great many men come out of the water; all of them had covered their torso, arms, and legs. The women had covered themselves even more. Most had covered their heads with rubber caps. These bright caps of red, blue, and indigo could be seen above the waves. After watching that state of affairs,

⁴ Traditional Japanese clothing

多くの男が塩を浴びに出て来たが、いずれも胴と腕と静は出していなかった。女は「殊」堂内を隠しがちであった。
大抵は頭に護護製の「夢巾をか被」って、海老茶や「針や」整の色を波間に
アかしていた。そういう有様を目撃したばかりの私の観には、猿股一つで済ましてもなの前に立っているこの
西洋人がいかにも珍しく見えた。

the westerner seemed very strange to me, because he was standing before everyone in only shorts.

彼はやがて自分のできを顧みて、そこにこごんでいる日本人に、ひと言いかでいる日本人に、ひと言いかで言いかいった。その日本人は砂の上に落ちた「幸くれを拾い上げているところであったが、それを取り上げる

Before long the westerner looked back and spoke a few words to the Japanese man crouching down next to him. The Japanese man picked up the towel that had fallen on the ground, wrapped it around his head, and walked toward the sea. That person was Sensei.

や否や、すぐ頭を包んで、海の方へ歩き出した。その人がすなわち先生であった。

私は単に好奇心のために、並ん で浜辺を下りて行く二人の ^{うしろすがた} 後 姿 を見守っていた。すると彼 まっむ。 らは 真 直 に波の中に足を踏み込ん とおあさ いそちかだ。そうして遠 浅の磯 近くにわい たにんず あいだ わい騒いでいる多人数の 間 を通り 抜けて、比較的広々した所へ来ると、 二人とも泳ぎ出した。彼らの頭が小さ く見えるまで沖の方へ向いて行った。 それから引き返してまた一直線に浜 辺まで戻って来た。掛茶屋へ帰ると、 井戸の水も浴びずに、すぐ身体を拭 いて着物を着て、さっさとどこへか行っ

てしまった。

Simply in order to satisfy my curiosity, I watched the backs of the two men carefully as they walked side by side to the sea. They stepped straight into a wave. Then, they passed straight through a large and noisy group of people. When they had come to a relatively spacious area, the two men began to swim. They went in the direction of the open sea until their heads became very small to my eyes. After that, they turned back around and swam in a straight line to the shore. When they had returned to the teahouse, they did not bathe in the water from the well, but immediately dried themselves, dressed, and left for somewhere quickly.

り元の余九に腰をおろして烟草を吹 かしていた。その時私はぽかんとしな がら先生の事を考えた。どうもどこか で見た事のある顔のように思われて ならなかった。しかしどうしてもいつど こで会った人か想い出せずにしまっ た。その時の私は屈托がないという よりむしろ業^りいうに苦しんでいた。それ あくるひ で翌日もまた先生に会った時刻を見 計らって、わざわざ掛茶屋まで出か けてみた。

彼らの出て行った後、私はやは

After they had left, I sat still on the base of a folding stool and smoked a cigarette. At that time I absentmindedly thought about Sensei. It was as if I had seen that face before, but I didn't recollect how or where. At that time I did not have many worries, and was mainly concerned with my own boredom. Because of this, the very next day I purposefully went to the cafe at the same time I had first seen Sensei.

すると西洋人は来ないで先生ー 人をでする。かぶってやって来た。 先生は眼鏡をとって台の上に置い I saw Sensei wearing a straw hat. This time he had come without the westerner.

Sensei set his glasses on a table, immediately wrapped a towel around his head, and walked briskly down to the

てぬぐい て、すぐ 手 拭 で頭を包んで、すたす た浜を下りて行った。先生が昨日のよ うに騒がしい浴客の中を通り抜けて、 一人で泳ぎ出した時、私は急にその を 後が追い掛けたくなった。私は浅い 水を頭の上まで 跳 かして相当の深さ の所まで来て、そこから先生を目標 に抜手を切った。すると先生は昨日と 違って、一種の弧線を描いて、妙な 方向から岸の方へ帰り始めた。それ で私の目的はついに達せられなかっ た。私が陸へ上がって、栗の垂れる 手を振りながら掛茶屋に入ると、先生 はもうちゃんと着物を着て入れ違いに 外へ出て行った。

shore. Just as he did yesterday, he walked through the turbulent crowd. As he began to swim alone, I suddenly wanted to chase after him. I ran through the shallows until I could no longer keep my head above the water. Then, I swam towards Sensei. Then Sensei, unlike yesterday, made a kind of arc, and began to return to the beach from his strange path. Because of this, my purpose had finally been thwarted. I ascended the shore and, while swinging my dripping wet hand, I entered the teashop. Sensei had already taken his clothes, and was going out.

ー わたくし 私 は次の日も同じ時刻に浜へ行 って先生の顔を見た。その次の日にも また同じ事を繰り返した。けれども物を いい掛ける機会も、挨拶をする場合 も、二人の間には起らなかった。その 上先生の態度はむしろ非社交的であっ た。一定の時刻に超然として来て、ま た超然と帰って行った。周囲がいくら にぎ 賑 やかでも、それにはほとんど注意を 払う様子が見えなかった。最初いっしょ に来た西洋人はその後まるで姿を見せ なかった。先生はいつでも一人であっ た。

I went to the beach at the same time the next day, and I saw Sensei. The next day I came again, and the same things transpired. However, neither a good opportunity to speak to him, nor a situation to greet each other occurred. Moreover, Sensei's attitude was unsociable. He was always detached, whether he was coming or leaving. Though the surroundings were very lively, he seemed to completely disregard what was around him. The westerner who had come with him the first time never showed himself again. Sensei was always alone.

あ 或る時先生が例の通りさっさと海 から上がって来て、いつもの場所に脱

Once, Sensei came up from the sea as usual, and when he tried to wear the *yukata* that he had thrown down at his usual spot, it had somehow become filled with sand.

ぎ棄てた浴衣を着ようとすると、どうした訳か、その浴衣に砂がいっぱい着いていた。先生はそれを落すために、後ろ向きになって、浴衣を二、三度を振った。すると着物の下に置いてあった眼鏡が板の隙間から下へ落ちた。

先生は「白が新りの上へ兵児帯を締め てから、眼鏡の美くなったのに気が付 いたと見えて、急にそこいらを探し始め た。私はすぐ一腰、掛の下へ首と手を突 ッ込んで眼鏡を拾い出した。先生は有 難うといって、それを私の手から受け 取った。

次の日私は先生のをにつづいて海へ 飛び込んだ。そうして先生といっしょの 方角に泳いで行った。ニ^ちきっほど沖へ 出ると、先生は後ろを振り返って私に In order to get the sand out, he turned his back, and twice, three times, shook out the *yukata*. Then his glasses fell from the *yukata* between the cracks of his seat.

After Sensei had fastened his waistband, it looked like he had realized he lost his glasses. He immediately began to search the area. I thrust my head and hand under the stool, and brought out the glasses.

Sensei thanked me and then accepted his glasses.

The next day I leapt into the sea after

Sensei.Then, I swam in the same direction
as Sensei. When we had come a little ways
into the open sea, Sensei turned his head
around and talked with me. As we floated

話し掛けた。広い 蒼 い海の表面に浮 いているものは、その近所に私ら二人 より外になかった。そうして強い太陽 の光が、眼の届く限り水と山とを照らし ていた。私は自由と歓喜に充ちた筋肉 を動かして海の中で 躍り狂った。先生 はまたぱたりと手足の運動をさめて仰 たみ 向けになったまま 浪 の上に寝た。私も その真似をした。青空の色がぎらぎらと 眼を射るように痛烈な色を私の顔に投 げ付けた。「愉快ですね」と私は大きな 声を出した。しばらくして海の中で起き 上がるように姿勢を改めた先生は、「も う帰りませんか」といって私を促した。

比較的強い体質をもった私は、もっと海の中で遊んでいたかった。しかし 先生から誘われた時、私はすぐ「ええ on the surface of the wide blue sea, there was no one there other than the two of us. And then, the strong sunlight illuminated the water and mountains as far as I could see. My body was roused to move by feelings of freedom and joy, and I danced crazily in the middle of the sea. Sensei stopped and, keeping his face up, floated on top of the water. I did the same. As the blue sky glittered, the scathing color fell on my face as if my eyes were being shot. I shouted out "Isn't this grand?" Presently, Sensei altered his position as if to stand up and prompted me "Shall we go back?"

I, who was a comparatively strong man, wanted to spend more time in the ocean.

However, when I was asked by Sensei, I immediately (and cheerfully) answered

帰りましょう」と快く答えた。そうして二人でまた元の 路を浜辺へ引き返した。

私はこれから先生と懇意になった。しかし先生がどこにいるかはまだ知らなかった。

それからか二日おいてちょうど三日目の午後だったと思う。先生と 対ななどで出会った時、先生は突然私に向かって、「君はまだ大分長くここにいるつもりですか」と聞いた。考えのない私はこういう問いに答えるだけの用意を頭の中に蓄えていなかった。それで「どうだか分りません」と答えた。しかしにやにや笑っている先生の顔を見た時、私は急にを違りが悪くなった。「先生は?」と聞き返さずにはいられなかっ

た。これが私の口を出た先生という言

"yes, let's return." Then the two of us returned to the shore.

From this moment on, I became good friends with Sensei. However, I did not yet know where Sensei was from.

We did not do anything for two days, and I think that it was exactly on the third day that I happened to meet Sensei at the teahouse. Sensei suddenly turned to me and asked: "Do you still plan to stay here long?" I had not thought about this, and did not have plans for leaving. Therefore, I answered, "I do not know how long I will stay." However, Sensei laughed, and I immediately felt embarrassed. I could not help responding "And what about you, Sensei?" At that time, I began to call him "Sensei."

葉の始まりである。

私はその晩先生の宿を尋ねた。宿と いっても普通の旅館と違って、広い寺 の境がにある別荘のような建物であ った。そこに住んでいる人の先生の家 族でない事も解った。私が先生先生 と呼び掛けるので、先生は苦笑いをし た。私はそれが年長者に対する私の くちくせ 口 癖 だといって弁解した。私はこの間 の西洋人の事を聞いてみた。先生は彼 の風変りのところや、もう鎌 倉にいな い事や、色々の話をした末、日本人に ったあまり 交 際 をもたないのに、そう ちかづ いう外国人と近付きになったのは不思 議だといったりした。私は最後に先生 に向かって、どこかで先生を見たように 思うけれども、どうしても思い出せない

That night I inquired about the place Sensei was staying. Instead of a normal hotel, the building was like a villa with grounds that resembled those of a spacious temple. I realized that Sensei did not have any family there. Because I called him "Sensei", he laughed sarcastically. I defended this by saying that I was accustomed to refer to older people this way. I asked about the westerner he had been with. Sensei told me various stories about that man; for instance, he was eccentric, and had already left Kamakura. Sensei also remarked at the end of his stories that he had very few Japanese friends, so it was very strange that he had become close with a foreigner. At the end of the night I turned to Sensei, and said that it was like I had seen him before, but I could not remember why. Being young, I thought that he would have the same feeling. Therefore, in my heart I had expected a certain response from Sensei.

といった。若い私はその時間に相手も私と同じような感じを持っていはしまいかと疑った。そうして腹の中で先生の返事を予期してかかった。ところが先生はしばらくながらしたあとで、「どうも君の顔には覚覚えがありませんね。人違いじゃないですか」といったので私は変に一種の失望を感じた。

However, Sensei, after a little thought, said: "I don't have any recollection of seeing you before. Perhaps you've mistaken me for someone else?" I felt a strange sense of despair.

Section Four

わないは月の末に東京へ帰った。先生の避暑地を引き上げたのはそれよりずっと前であった。私は先生と別れる時に、「これから折々おきへ伺っても登ござんすか」と聞いた。先生はなかがにただ「ええいらっしゃい」といっただけであった。その時分の私は先

I went back to Tokyo at the end of the month. Sensei had left the resort long before then. When I bid farewell to Sensei, I asked: "May I visit your house from time to time?" Sensei responded with the brief words: "yes, you are welcome". I had believed that we had become very good friends at this point. Therefore, I had not expected such a brief response. Because of this, his answer hurt my self-confidence.

生とよほど懇意になったつもりでいたので、先生からもう少し たっかかな言葉を予期してがかったのである。それでこの物足りない返事が少し私の自信を

私はこういう事でよく先生から失望さ せられた。先生はそれに気が付いてい るようでもあり、また全く気が付かない ようでもあった。私はまた軽微な失望を 繰り返しながら、それがために先生か ら離れて行く気にはなれなかった。むし ろそれとは反対で、不安に 揺 か され るたびに、もっと前へ進みたくなった。 もっと前へ進めば、私の予期するある ものが、いつか眼の前に満足に現われ て来るだろうと思った。私は若かった。 けれどもすべての人間に対して、若い 血がこう素直に働こうとは思わなかっ

I was often disappointed by these kinds of things from Sensei. Moreover, sometimes Sensei seemed to notice he had hurt me, and other times he seemed to not notice. Though I suffered repeatedly by these little disappointments, I did not wish to leave Sensei. Rather, it was just the opposite: each time I felt a tremor of anxiety I would wish to make more progress in our relationship. If I pursued our relationship further, I expected that I would find fulfillment. I was young. However, I do not think I would have acted so naively towards just anyone. I could not understand why I had this feeling for Sensei only. In fact, it is only now that Sensei is dead that I

た。私はなぜ先生に対してだけこんな 心持が起るのか解らなかった。それ が先生の亡くなった一今日になって、 始めて解って来た。先生は始めから私 を嫌っていたのではなかったのであ る。先生が私に示した時々の素気ない あいさつ 挨拶や冷淡に見える動作は、私を遠 ざけようとする不快の表現ではなかっ たのである。傷ましい先生は、自分に 近づこうとする人間に、近づくほどの価 値のないものだから止せという警告を 与えたのである。他の懐かしみに応じ ない先生は、他を軽蔑する前に、 まず自分を軽蔑していたものとみえる。

have started to answer this question. It was not that Sensei hated me from the beginning. Sensei was trying to keep me away by showing me his occasional cold remarks and indifference. Sensei was pitiful; he tried to warn people away from trying to become close with him, because he did not see any value in his friendship. Sensei, who would not accept the love of others, seemed to have despised himself before he despised other people.

私は無論先生を訪ねるつもりで東 京へ帰って来た。帰ってから授業の始 まるまでにはまだ二週間の日数があ るので、そのうちに一度行っておこうと 思った。しかし帰って二日三日と経つう かまくら ちに、鎌倉にいた時の気分が段々薄 いろど くなって来た。そうしてその上に 彩ら れる大都会の空気が、記憶の復活に しげき 伴う強い刺戟と共に、濃く私の心を染 め付けた。私は往来で学生の顔を見る たびに新しい学年に対する希望と緊張 とを感じた。私はしばらく先生の事を忘 れた。

I planned on visiting Sensei after I returned to Tokyo. After I returned, it was still two weeks until lectures would begin, so I planned to go one more time during these days. However, two, then three days passed and my feeling of Kamakura waned. Moreover, the atmosphere of a big city brought up old memories and deeply affected my heart. Each time I saw the face of a classmate, I would feel aspirations and anxieties about the new school year. After only a little while, I had forgotten about Sensei.

授業が始まって、一カ月ばかりすると 私の心に、また一種の 他 みができて きた。私は何だか不足な顔をして往来 Classes started, and about a month later I again was able to feel a kind of ease. For some reason, I began to go on walks with a feeling that I was missing something. I would look around my room as if I wanted

を歩き始めた。物欲しそうに自分の 室 の中を見 廻した。私の頭には再び先 生の顔が浮いて出た。私はまた先生に 会いたくなった。

始めて先生の。宅を訪ねた時、先生は留守であった。二度目に行ったのは次の日曜だと覚えている。晴れた空が身に沁み込むように感ぜられる好いひよりであった。

その日も先生は留守であった。鎌倉にいた時、私は先生自身の口から、いつでも大いていっても大い、抵宅にいるという事を聞いた。むしろ外出嫌いだという事も聞いた。二度来て二度とも会えなかった私は、その言葉を思い出して、理由もな

something. Once again, my thoughts drifted to Sensei⁵. I wanted to see Sensei again.

The first time I visited Sensei's house, he wasn't there. As I remember, the second time I went was the next Sunday. The weather was very good; it felt as if the cloudless sky was sinking into my very heart.

On that day as well, Sensei was out.

When I was in Kamakura, he had said that
he was usually at home. Even more, he said
he was a homebody. The second time I
came, I had failed to meet him twice.

Remembering what Sensei had said, I felt
disgruntled. I did not leave the door right
away. I looked at the maid's face, and

⁵ Literally, "...thoughts drifted to Sensei's face." Though this sounds strange in English, saying one wants to see someone's face is a normal expression in the original Japanese.

い不満をどこかに感じた。私はすぐ玄 関先を去らなかった。下安の顔を見て 少しな。 ないでは、 の前名刺を取り次いだ記憶のある下女 は、私を待たしておいてまた。 いった。すると奥さんらしい人が代って 出て来た。美しい奥さんであった。 stood there, hesitating slightly. The maid, who remembered that I had left my calling card to announce my arrival last time, kept me waiting in the archway. Then, another woman came in her stead; she appeared to be Sensei's wife. She was very beautiful.

私はその人からずしに先生の出 先を教えられた。先生は例月その日に なると雑司が谷の墓地にある戴る仏へ 花を手尚けに行く習慣なのだそうであ る。「たった今出たばかりで、十分にな るか、ならないかでございます」と奥さ

I was told very politely⁶ by this person where Sensei had gone. Every month on that day he went to the Zōshigaya⁷ cemetery to offer flowers to a certain grave. "He went out just now, about 10 minutes ago." The wife said, seeming to feel sorry for me. I bowed and then left. When I had walked for a little while

⁶ Sensei's wife regularly uses *Keigo*, which is the style of language the Japanese use when they want to show a great amount of respect to whomever they are talking to/about. Sensei's wife has such polite language that she uses *Keigo* even when talking to her husband.

⁷ Zōshigaya cemetery is very famous. Many authors, including Natsume Sōseki, were buried there.

んは気の毒そうにいってくれた。私は

Nは気の毒そうにいってくれた。私は

Nは気の毒そうにいってくれた。私は

Nな町の方

ハー^{ちよう}ほど歩くと、私も散歩がてら

雑司ヶ谷へ行ってみる気になった。先

生に会えるか会えないかという好奇心

も動いた。それですぐ^{きびす}を向らし

た。

towards the bustling city, and I felt like wandering over to Zōshigaya. I was stirred with curiosity over whether or not I would see Sensei. Because of this, I immediately turned towards Zōshigaya⁸.

Section Five

わないは墓地の手前にあるな話がは墓地の手前にあるな話がは墓がの左側からはいって、両方にかえでを植え付けた広い道を奥の方へ進んで行った。するとその「端」れに見えるなが話の中から先生らしい人がふいと出て来た。私はその人の観鏡の縁

I entered the graveyard from the left side of a field of rice seedlings. I proceeded through the wide road, which had maple trees planted on either side. Then, I saw a teahouse at the end of the road, from which I saw a person coming out who looked like Sensei. I approached nearer to that person until I could see the light reflecting off the rims of his glasses. Then, I suddenly called out "Sensei!" with a loud voice. Sensei

⁸ Literally, I turned on my heel.

が日に光るまで近く寄って行った。そう して出し抜けに「先生」と大きな声を掛 けた。先生は突然立ち留まって私の顔 を見た。

came to a sudden halt and looked at my face.

「どうして…… どうして……」

た生は同じ言葉を二 遍 繰り返した。 その言葉は森りとした昼の中に異 様な調子をもって繰り返された。私は

"Why... why..."

Sensei repeated this twice. These words were seem strange in the midst of the silent afternoon. I could not respond immediately.

「私の後を跟けて来たのですか。どう

急に何とも応えられなくなった。

"Did you follow me? Why..."

して.....」

先生の態度はむしろ落ち付いてい た。声はむしろ沈んでいた。けれどもそ の表情の中には判然いえないよう な一種の曇りがあった。私は私がどう してここへ来たかを先生に話した。

Sensei composed himself. His voice became calmer. However, his expression was clouded. I told Sensei why I had come there.

「誰の墓へ参りに行ったか、妻 がそ

"Did my wife tell you whose grave I came to visit?"

の人の名をいいましたか」

「いいえ、そんな事は何もおっしゃいません」

「そうですか。——そう、それはいうは ずがありませんね、始めて会ったあな たに。いう必要がないんだから」

先生はようやく得心したらしい様子であった。しかし私にはその意味がまるで解らなかった。

先生と私は通りへ出ようとして墓の間を抜けた。依撒伯拉荷をの墓だの、 一様ではいる墓だのというかたから に、いっないしましまった。全権公使 た塔婆などが建ててあった。全権公使 "No, she didn't say anything about it"

"I see. I guess she wouldn't have had a
reason to say such a thing; she had just met
you for the first time. It wouldn't be
necessary to tell you."

Sensei finally seemed relaxed with this state of affairs. However, I did not understand what had just happened at all.

Sensei and I walked in between the graves as we were leaving. Next to the graves that said such things as "Isabella so and so" and "Login, servant of God" were wooden tablets that said things such as "All living creatures have the essence of Buddha". In front of a small carved

何々というのもあった。私は安得烈と彫り付けた小さい墓の前で、「これは何と読むんでしょう」と先生に聞いた。「アンドレとでも読ませるつもりでしょうね」といって先生は苦笑した。

先生はこれらの墓標が現わす
ひとを養ざをの様式に対して、私ほどに
「滑稽もアイロニーも認めてないらしかった。私が丸いながった。私が丸いながった。私が丸いながられたの細長い
つた。私が丸いながらのを指して、しきりにかれこれいいたがるのを、始めのうちは黙って聞いていたが、しまいに「あなたは死という事実をまだ真歯自に考えた事がありませんね」といった。私は黙った。先生もそれぎり何ともいわなくなっ

た。

gravestone with the characters "安得烈", I asked Sensei "What is the reading⁹?"
"It is probably meant to be read 'Andre'"
Sensei answered with a strained smile.

In regard to the customs of people revealed by these gravestones, Sensei seemed to not appreciate the irony or humor of them to the degree that I did. I pointed out that one gravestone was circular, and another was long and granite. At first, he listened in silence to the various things I wanted to say, but in the end Sensei said: "You still have not thought seriously about the reality of death, have you?" I was silent. On that note, Sensei did not say any more.

⁹ He is unsure of the reading because the Chinese characters have been used in attempt to convey a Western name.

墓地の区切り目に、大きな避営が
一本空を隠すように立っていた。その
下へ来た時、先生は高い^{こずえ}を見上
げて、「もう少しすると、熱麗ですよ。こ
の木がすっかり黄葉して、ここいらの
地面は金色の落葉で³埋まるように
なります」といった。先生は月に一度ず
つは必ずこの木の下を通るのであった。

向うの方で活動の地面をならして 新墓地を作っている男が、鍬の手を休めて私たちを見ていた。私たちはそこから左へ切れてすぐ街道へ出た。 これからどこへ行くという首的のない 私は、ただ先生の歩く方へ歩いて行っ The end of the cemetery was in sight, and standing there was a gingko tree so large it seemed to conceal the sky. After we had come below the tree, Sensei raised his eyes to a tall branch and said: "After a little while longer, it will be beautiful. This tree will completely change to autumn colors, and this area will be surrounded by golden leaves." Sensei passed under that tree once a month without exception.

Across from us, a man was evening an uneven piece of ground with a hoe. He rested from this and watched us. We left the cemetery through the left side, and immediately went down the main road. I did not have a particular destination in mind, so I walked in the same direction as Sensei. Sensei spoke less than usual¹⁰.

Nevertheless, because I felt pretty at ease, I

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¹⁰ Lit., "was of fewer words than usual"

た。先生はいつもより口数を剥かなかった。それでも私はさほどの窮屈を感じなかったので、ぶらぶらいっしょに歩いて行った。

たく 「すぐお宅へお帰りですか」

「ええ別に寄る所もありませんから」 二人はまた黙って南の方へ坂を下り た。

「先生のお宅の墓地はあすこにあるんですか」と私がまた口を利き出した。 「いいえ」

「どなたのお墓があるんですか。——ご 親類のお墓ですか」

「いいえ」

先生はこれ以外に何も答えなかった。私もその話はそれぎりにして切り上げた。すると一ない。ほど歩いたをで、 先生が不意にそこへ戻って来た。 wandered with Sensei.

"Are you going straight home?"

"Yes, because I don't have a particular place to visit."

We were silent as we went in the southern direction down a hill.

"Does a relative of yours have their grave at the cemetery?" I suddenly asked.
"No"

With the exception of this, Sensei did not say any more on the matter. I also ended the matter on that note. Therefore, after we had walked a little ways, Sensei suddenly returned to the matter.

"My friend's grave is there."

「あすこには私の友達の墓があるんです」

「お友達のお墓へ 毎 月 お参りをなさ

るんですか」

「そうです」

先生はその日これ以外を語らなかっ

た。

"Do you visit every month?"

"Yes"

On that day, Sensei did not say any more than this on the matter.

Section Six

私はそれから時々先生を訪問するようになった。行くたびに先生は在宅であった。先生に会う度数が重なるにつれて、私はますます繁く先生の玄関へ足を運んだ。

けれども先生の私に対する態度は初めて教をがきるという。 あて教をした時も、懇意になった その後も、あまり変りはなかった。先生は何時も静かであった。ある時は静 From then on I visited Sensei regularly.

Each time I came, Sensei was at home. As
I saw Sensei more and more, I wanted to
visit him more.

However, Sensei's attitude towards me after we became better friends had barely changed at all since the time that we first met. Sensei was always quiet. At times, he was too quiet and seemed lonely. From the beginning, I thought Sensei was strangely

か過ぎて淋しいくらいであった。私は 最初から先生には近づきがたい不思 議があるように思っていた。それでい て、どうしても近づかなければいられな いという感じが、どこかに強く働いた。 こういう感じを先生に対してもっていた ものは、多くの人のうちであるいは私だ けかも知れない。しかしその私だけに はこの直感が後になって事実の上に 証拠立てられたのだから、私は若々し いといわれても、馬鹿げていると笑わ れても、それを見越した自分の直覚を とにかく頼もしくまた。嬉しく思ってい る。人間を愛し得る人、愛せずにはい られない人、それでいて自分ので懐 に入ろうとするものを、手をひろげて抱 き締める事のできない人、――これが先 hard to get close to. Yet, no matter what, I couldn't help drawing near to him. This was a strong urging from I know not where. Perhaps I was the only person who felt this way about Sensei, I do not know. However, because afterwards my intuition was substantiated by truth, though I may be called naive, though I may look foolish and be laughed at, I think of my intuition at this happily as being trustworthy. A person who is capable of loving people, a person who can't help loving people, yet, cannot open their arms to hug another, and cannot allow someone to enter into their trust.... this is the kind of person that Sensei was.

生であった。

今いった通り先生は始終静かであっ た。落ち付いていた。けれども時として 変な曇りがその顔を横切る事があっ た。窓に黒い鳥影が射すように。射す かと思うと、すぐ消えるには消えたが。 私が始めてその曇りを先生の眉間に ぞうしがや 認めたのは、雑司ヶ谷の墓地で、不意 に先生を呼び掛けた時であった。私は その異様の瞬間に、今まで快く流れて いた心臓の潮流をちょっと鈍らせた。し かしそれは単に一時の 結 滞 に過ぎ なかった。私の心は五分と経たないう ちに平素の弾力を回復した。私はそれ ぎり暗そうなこの雲の影を忘れてしまっ た。ゆくりなくまたそれを思い出させら れたのは、小春の尽きるに間のない数

Just as I have said, Sensei was always quiet. He was always composed. However, sometimes strange clouds would pass over his face. It was just as if the shadow of a black bird was seen through a window. Whenever I thought I could see it, it would vanish. The first time I saw the clouds written on Sensei's brow, it was in the Zōshigaya cemetery, when I had suddenly called out to him. At that bizarre instant, my pulse, which had been beating comfortably up until then, became uncomfortable. However, it was just that one time. And my pulse became normal again within five minutes. With that, I completely forgot about that shadow of a cloud that had seemed so black. However, this memory was suddenly brought back into my mind, at the end of the Indian summer.

る晩の事であった。

わざわざ注意してくれた。なきの 大い物を観の前に想い浮かべた。勘 定してみると、先生が報がつかいとして 墓参に行く日が、それからちょうど三日 目に当っていた。その三日目は私の課 業が午で終える楽な日であった。私 は先生に向かってこういった。

先生と話していた私は、ふと先生が

デシルがや 「先生雑司ヶ谷の銀杏はもう散ってしまったでしょうか」

からぼうず 「まだ空 坊 主にはならないでしょう」

先生はそう答えながら私の顔を見守った。そうしてそこからしばし眼を離さなかった。私はすぐいった。

I was talking with Sensei, and suddenly I remembered the great Gingko tree that

Sensei had paid special attention to. When I tried remembering Sensei's custom of visiting the grave, I realized it was exactly three days until his next visit. On this day my classes would finish at noon, and I would be free to go with him. I turned to Sensei and asked.

"Sensei, the Gingko at Zōshigaya has probably lost its leaves already, right?" "Probably not yet¹¹"

As Sensei was answering, he watched my face attentively. For a little while our eyes did not part. I immediately said.

¹¹ Lit., "Probably does not yet look like a Buddhist Priest." Sensei is referring to their baldness, thus noting that the tree will probably not yet be bald.

「今度おとなったりにいらっしゃる時におくなったとしても宜ござんすか。私は先生といっしょにあすこいらが散歩してみたい」

「私は墓参りに行くんで、散歩に行くん じゃないですよ」

「しかしついでに散歩をなすったらちょ い うど好いじゃありませんか」

先生は何とも答えなかった。しばらく してから、「私のは本当の墓参りだけな んだから」といって、どこまでも墓参と 散歩を切り離そうとする一覧に見えた。 私と行きたくない口実だか何だか、私 にはその時の先生が、いかにも子供ら しくて変に思われた。私はなおと先へ 出る気になった。

「じゃお墓参りでも好いからいっしょに

"The next time you visit the grave, may I accompany you? I want to try taking a walk there with you."

"When I visit the grave, it is not to take a walk."

"However, wouldn't it be nice to take the opportunity for a walk?"

Sensei did not say anything in response.

After a short time, he said: "My visit to that grave is very a serious matter." It was apparent by his manner that he was trying to completely separate his visit to the grave and a walk. Whether this was just an excuse because he did not want me to accompany him, or whatever it was, I thought he seemed strangely childish. I wanted to push deeper into the conversation. "Well, it is fine that it is just a visit to a grave, please let me go with you. I will also visit the grave."

ではいますから」 発れて行って下さい。私もお墓参りをしますから」

実際私には墓参と散歩との区別がほ とんど無意味のように思われたのであ る。すると先生の 眉 がちょっと曇った。 眼のうちにも異様の光が出た。それは 迷惑とも嫌悪とも畏怖とも片付けられ かす ない 微 かな不安らしいものであった。 たちま 私は 忽 ち雑司ヶ谷で「先生」と呼び 掛けた時の記憶を強く思い起した。二 つの表情は全く同じだったのである。 「私は」と先生がいった。「私はあなたに 話す事のできないある理由があって、 ひと 他といっしょにあすこへ墓参りには行 きたくないのです。自分の妻さえまだ 伴れて行った事がないのです」

To me, there seemed to be no difference between a visit to a grave and a walk.

Then, Sensei's eyebrows became a little clouded. In his eyes also, there appeared a strange light. Whether it was worry, hate, or fear, I could not sort out. But there seemed to be a faint anxiety behind his eyes. I suddenly had a strong recollection of the time that I had yelled "Sensei!" at Zōshigaya.

Sensei then said, "I cannot talk to you about my reason, because I do not want anyone to accompany me to the grave. I have still never taken even my wife with me."

わたくし 私は不思議に思った。しかし私 は先生を研究する気でその 宅 へ出入 りをするのではなかった。私はただそ のままにして打ち過ぎた。今考えるとそ の時の私の態度は、私の生活のうちで かしろ 草 むべきものの一つであっ た。私は全くそのために先生と人間らし つきあい い温かい 交際 ができたのだと思う。 もし私の好奇心が幾分でも先生の心に 向かって、研究的に働き掛けたなら、 二人の間を繋ぐ同情の糸は、何の容 赦もなくその時ふつりと切れてしまった ろう。若い私は全く自分の態度を自覚 していなかった。それだから 草いの かも知れないが、もし間違えて裏へ出 たとしたら、どんな結果が二人の仲に 落ちて来たろう。私は想像してもぞっと

I thought this was strange. However, I did not visit Sensei in order to study him. Therefore, I just let it go. When I think about my attitude at that time now, it is something that I take special pride in. I think that it is entirely because of this that we were able to create a warm friendship. If I had turned this inquisitiveness to Sensei's heart, and worked at coldly studying him, the thread that tied our sympathies together would probably have had no leniency within it, and would have broken apart completely. My young self was entirely unaware of my own attitude. Therefore I did not know why it was so valuable, if I had accidentally made a mistake, the relationship between us would probably have fallen apart. When I think of this now I shudder. Even without being coldly analyzed, Sensei would survey with cold eyes, constantly afraid of being studied.

する。先生はそれでなくても、冷たい まなこ で研究されるのを絶えず恐れてい たのである。

私は月に二度もしくは三度ずつ必ず 先生の 宅 へ行くようになった。私の足 が段々 繁くなった時のある日、先生は 突然私に向かって聞いた。

「あなたは何でそうたびたび私のようなものの宅へやって来るのですか」 「何でといって、そんな特別な意味はありません。——しかしお邪魔なんですか」

「邪魔だとはいいません」

なるほど迷惑という様子は、先生のどこにも見えなかった。私は先生の交際の範囲のをかめて狭い事を知っていた。先生の元の同級生などで、その頃東京にいるものはほとんど二人か三人

I began to visit Sensei's house two or three times a month without fail. One day, when my visits had become quite abundant, Sensei abruptly turned to me and asked:

"Why do you visit me so often?"

"Why', you say, there is no particular reason. ... However, is it troublesome?"

"I would not call it so."

He didn't seem annoyed with my visits at all. I knew Sensei's relationships were extremely limited. As for his classmates, I knew there were only about two or three in Tokyo. When I saw Sensei with university students from the same village sitting

しかないという事も知っていた。先生と同郷の学生などには時たま座敷で同座する場合もあったが、彼らのいずれもは³皆な私ほど先生に親しみをもっていないように見受けられた。

「私は淋しい人間です」と先生がいっ

た。「だからあなたの来て下さる事を喜 んでいます。だからなぜそうたびたび 来るのかといって聞いたのです」 「そりゃまたなぜです」

私がこう聞き返した時、先生は何とも答えなかった。ただ私の顔を見て「あなたは幾歳ですか」といった。

 together on a tatami rug, they did not seem to hold the same degree of familiarity with him that I did.

"I am a lonely person" Sensei said.

"Therefore, I am pleased at your coming.

That's why I asked you why you come."

"But why does it matter?"

I asked this in return, but Sensei did not say anything in response. He just looked at my face and asked: "How old are you?"

This question was extremely off topic, and I left. Nevertheless, four days did not pass before I called on Sensei again. No sooner than this and Sensei burst into laughter on his tatami rug.

た先生を訪問した。先生は座敷へ出るやながなった。

「また来ましたね」といった。
「ええ来ました」といって自分も笑った。
私は「外の人からこういわれたらきっ
と「鵜^くにを触ったろうと思う。しかし先生
にこういわれた時は、まるで反対であっ
た。癪に触らないばかりでなくかえって

愉快だった。

いのでしょう......」

「私は、淋しい人間です」と先生はその 晩またこの間の言葉を繰り返した。「私 は淋しい人間ですが、ことによるとあな たも淋しい人間じゃないですか。私は 淋しくっても年を取っているから、動か ずにいられるが、若いあなたはそうは 行かないのでしょう。動けるだけ動きた いのでしょう。動いて何かに
対つかりた "You came again, huh?"

"Yes, I came" I also laughed.

I think if any other person had spoken to me in this way, I would have been offended. However, when Sensei spoke that way, it was completely the opposite.

Instead of grating on my nerves, it made me happy.

"I am a lonely person" Sensei repeated
those words again that evening. "I am a
lonely person, and depending on the
circumstances, are you too a lonely person?
Even though I am lonely, because I am old,
I am fine even if I don't change. But for
you, who are young, so it is probably not
the same. You probably want to stir as
much as you can. Perhaps you want to fight
against it?"

「私はちっとも淋しくはありません」
「若いうちほど淋しいものはありません。そんならなぜあなたはそうたびたび
私の^{うち}へ来るのですか」

ここでもこの間の言葉がまた先生の口から繰り返された。

「あなたは私に会ってもおそらくまだ淋
しい気がどこかでしているでしょう。私
にはあなたのためにその淋しさを視光
から引き抜いて上げるだけの力がない
んだから。あなたは「外の方を向いて
今に手を広げなければならなくなりま
す。今に私の宅の方へは足が向かなく
なります」

先生はこういって淋しい笑い方をした。

"I am not very lonely"

"There is no time so lonely as youth, if this were not the case, why would you visit me so often? Though you visit me, I dare say you still feel lonely. I do not have the strength needed to uproot the cause of your loneliness. Before long, you will turn to someone else, and you will not be able to help yourself from stretching your hand out to meet that person. Before long, you will no longer turn your feet in the direction of my house."

Sensei said this and gave a sad smile.

ないにして先生の予言は実現されずに済んだ。経験のない当時のわないは、この予言の中に含まれている明白な意義さえ了解し得なかった。私は依然として先生に会いに行った。その内いつの間にか先生の食卓で飯を食うようになった。自然の結果奥さんとも口を利かなければならないようになった。

普通の人間として私は女に対して冷淡ではなかった。けれども年の若い私の今まで経過して来た境遇からいって、私はほとんど交際らしい交際を女に結んだ事がなかった。それが「ない女」かって多く働くだけであった。先生の奥

Fortunately, Sensei's prediction did not come true. At that time, I was too inexperienced to understand the significance behind his prediction. I still visited him. Before I even noticed, I was eating dinner at his house. The natural result was that I had to speak to Sensei's wife as well.

As any normal man, I was not apathetic to women. However, I was young and my circumstances were such that I had not made anything resembling a friendship with a woman. Whether that was the origin of my inexperience or not, my interest in women was limited to looking at ones I saw by chance. When I met Sensei's wife in the front of their house, I had been struck by her beauty. This was my

さんにはその前玄関で会った時、美しいという印象を受けた。それから会うたんびに同じ印象を受けない事はなかった。しかしそれ以外に私はこれといってとくに奥さんについて語るべき何物ももたないような気がした。

これは奥さんに特色がないというより も、特色を示す機会が来なかったのだ と解釈する方が正当かも知れない。し かし私はいつでも先生に付属した一部 分のような心持で奥さんに対してい た。奥さんも自分の夫の所へ来る書生 だからという好意で、私を遇していたら しい。だから中間に立つ先生を取り除 ければ、つまり二人はばらばらになっ ていた。それで始めて知り合いになっ た時の奥さんについては、ただ美しい という「様か」に何の感じも残っていない。 impression of her each time I met her after that. However, I felt that there was nothing especially interesting to talk with her about.

To say that this was because she did not possess any interesting qualities, or that she simply did not have the opportunity to show them, I do not know which would be the right explanation. However, I had the small feeling that she was simply a part of Sensei's household. And she seemed to think of me, with goodwill, as the college student who came to her husband's house to be entertained. Therefore, if not for Sensei¹², we would fall apart from each other. Therefore, when I first became acquainted with her, I only thought of her as beautiful.

¹² Lit., "Had Sensei not been between us, ..."

れた。その時奥さんが出て来て一傍で しゃく 酌をしてくれた。先生はいつもより愉 快そうに見えた。奥さんに「お前も一つ お上がり」といって、自分の各み干した 辞退しかけた後、迷惑そうにそれを 受け取った。奥さんは綺麗な眉を寄 せて、私の半分ばかり注いで上げた盃 を、唇の先へ持って行った。奥さんと先 生の間に下のような会話が始まった。 「珍らしい事。私に呑めとおっしゃった めった 事は滅多にないのにね」 「お前は嫌いだからさ。しかし 稀には 飲むといいよ。好い心持になるよ」

One time, I was invited by Sensei to drink Sake at his house. At that time his wife was coming in and out serving us the sake.

Sensei seemed happier than usual. He said to wife "You should also have a cup too" and pointed to his emptied glass. His wife said "I..." after trying to decline, she accepted, seeming troubled. She furrowed her pretty eyebrows. I filled the cup half way, and she brought it to her lips. Sensei and his wife began the following conversation.

"This is rare. It is quite rare for you to tell me to drink with you."

"Because you don't like it. However, it is good to drink occasionally. It will put you in a good mood."

"It will not at all. It makes me

「ちっともならないわ。苦しいぎりで。で もあなたは大変ご愉快そうね、少しご 増を召し上がると」

「時によると大変愉快になる。しかしい つでもというわけにはいかない」 「今夜はいかがです」

「今夜は好い心持だね」

「そうはいかない」

しくなくって好いから」

「これから毎晩少しずつ召し上がると宜 ござんすよ」

「召し上がって下さいよ。その方が「淋

uncomfortable. However, you seem very happy, now that you've had a little saké."
"Sometimes it does make me happy.
However, it is impossible for me to be like this always."

"How about tonight?"

"I am in a good mood tonight."

"After this you should drink a little every night."

"I can't do that"

"Please drink. You would stop being lonely, which would be good."

Sensei's household consisted of only his wife and their maid. Every time I came, it was quiet. The sounds of loud laughter and other such things were never heard there.

Sometimes, it felt like it was only Sensei and I in the house.

るものは先生と私だけのような気がした。

「子供でもあると好いんですがね」と奥さんは私の方を向いていった。私は「そうですな」と答えた。しかし私の心には何の同情も起らなかった。子供を持った事のないその時の私は、子供をただえる。

並んは私の方を向いている。

がまれていた。

「一人 貰ってやろ**う**か」と先生がいっ

た。

「^も員"ッ子じゃ、ねえあなた」と奥さんは また私の方を向いた。

た 「子供はいつまで経ったってできっこな いよ」と先生がいった。

奥さんは黙っていた。「なぜです」と私 が代りに聞いた時先生は「天罰だから さ」といって高く笑った。 "It would be nice if we had children" she said, turning to me. I said, "Yes," but in my heart I did not feel any sympathy for her situation. At that time I thought children were simply annoying.

"Shall I adopt one for you?" Sensei asked.

good." She said, again facing towards me.
"No matter how long it takes, we still
won't be able to have a child" Sensei

"An adopted child? That would be no

She became silent. "Why?" I asked. Sensei laughed loudly. "Divine wrath," he responded.

responded.

ったくし わたくし 私の知る限り先生と奥さんとは、仲 の好い夫婦の一対であった。家庭の 一員として暮した事のない私のことだ から、深い消息は無論 解 らなかった けれども、座敷で私と対楽している 時、先生は何かのついでに、下安を呼 ばないで、奥さんを呼ぶ事があった。 (奥さんの名は静といった)。先生は 「おい静」といつでも^{*} 襖 の方を振り向 いた。その呼びかたが私には優しく聞 こえた。返事をして出て来る奥さんの様 ちそう 馳走になって、奥さんが席へ現われる 場合などには、この関係が一層明らか

As far as I knew, Sensei and his wife were a happy couple. Because I was not a member of their household, naturally I could not know the deep secrets of their house. However, when I would sit opposite Sensei on the tatami, if Sensei wanted something, he would not call the maid, but his wife. (His wife's name was Shizu). "Hey, Shizu!" Sensei would call as he faced the sliding doors. Every time he did this, his way of calling her sounded sweet to me. When she would appear, her manner was exceedingly obedient. Occasionally, they would invite me to dinner. On the occasions when she sat with us, their relationship seemed to be portrayed more clearly.

に二人の^{あいだ}に描き出されるようで あった。

先生は時々奥さんを伴れて、音楽会 だの芝居だのに行った。それから夫婦 づれで一週間以内の旅行をした事も、 私の記憶によると、二、三度以上あっ た。私は箱根から貰った絵端書をまだ 持っている。日光へ行った時は紅葉 の葉を一枚封じ込めた郵便も貰った。 当時の私の眼に映った先生と奥さん の間柄はまずこんなものであった。そ のうちにたった一つの例外があった。 ある日私がいつもの通り、先生の玄関 から案内を頼もうとすると、座敷の方で だれかの話し声がした。よく聞くと、そ れが尋常の談話でなくって、どうも

Occasionally Sensei would take his wife to a concert, play, or some other such thing. I also remember that they went on weeklong vacations at least 2 or 3 times according to my recollection. I still have the postcard they sent to me from Hakone. I also received a letter from them when they went to Nikko, which had a maple leaf packed in it.

At that time, this was the sort of harmonious thing I saw in their relationship. There was no more than one exception to this. One day I was in Sensei's entryway as usual, and about to come in, when I heard someone talking in the tatami room. I could hear enough to know that it was not a normal conversation. It seemed like a fight. Because the tatami room was

いさか 言逆いらしかった。先生の宅は玄関の 次がすぐ座敷になっているので、格子 の前に立っていた私の耳にその言逆 いの調子だけはほぼ分った。そうして そのうちの一人が先生だという事も、 時々高まって来る男の方の声で解っ た。相手は先生よりも低い音なので、 誰だか判然しなかったが、どうも奥さ んらしく感ぜられた。泣いているようで もあった。私はどうしたものだろうと思っ て玄関先で迷ったが、すぐ決心をして そのまま下宿へ帰った。

妙に不安な心持が私を襲って来た。 私は書物を読んでも呑み込む能力を 失ってしまった。約一時間ばかりすると 先生が窓の下へ来て私の名を呼んだ。 私は驚いて窓を開けた。先生は散歩し immediately next to the entryway, I could roughly hear the sound of the argument. I understood that one person was Sensei, whose voice occasionally became loud and low. Because the partner's voice was quieter, and I could not make out clearly who it was. But I had the feeling it was Sensei's wife, and it sounded like she was crying. I waivered at the entryway, wondering what was wrong. I suddenly decided to go back to my boarding house.

I was assailed by a strange anxiety. I lost my ability to read. About an hour passed, and Sensei was below my window calling my name. I was quite surprised, and opened the window. Sensei asked me to go for a stroll with him. I took my watch out and realized that it was already past 8. I was still wearing my formal pants. I immediately left as I was.

ようといって、下から私を誘った。先刻

帯の間へ包んだままの時計を出して 見ると、もう八時過ぎであった。私は帰ったなりまだ^{はかま}を着けていた。私は それなりすぐ表へ出た。

その晩私は先生といっしょに麦酒を飲んだ。先生は元来酒量に乏しい人であった。ある程度まで飲んで、それで酔えなければ、酔うまで飲んでみるという冒険のできない人であった。

「今日は駄目です」といって先生は苦笑した。

「愉快になれませんか」と私は気の毒そうに聞いた。

私の腹の中には始終先刻の事が引 っかかっていた。さかなの骨が咽喉に刺 That night Sensei and I drunk beer together. Sensei was the sort of person who did not drink a lot. He would drink up to a certain amount, and if he did not become drunk, he was not the sort of person who would try drinking more.

"Today was no good," he said, with a bitter smile.

"Can't you be happy?" I said, and listened to him with pity.

The thing that had happened before gnawed at my heart. I was so worried it felt as if I had a fish bone stuck in my throat. I

さった時のように、私は苦しんだ。打ち明けてみようかと考えたり、止した方が好かろうかと思い直したりする動揺が、妙に私の様子をそわそわさせた。

thought of trying to speak my mind, but then I would go back on it, I became strangely fidgety.

「君、今夜はどうかしていますね」と先生の方からいい出した。「実は私も少し変なのですよ。君に分りますか」 私は何の答えもし得なかった。

「実は先刻妻と少し喧嘩をしてね。それで下らない神経を記べてさせてしまったんです」と先生がまたいった。

私には喧嘩という言葉が口へ出て来 なかった。

「妻が私を誤解するのです。それを誤解だといって聞かせても承知しないのです。つい腹を立てたのです」 「どんなに先生を誤解なさるんですか」 "Something has happened to you tonight, right?" said Sensei. "As a matter of fact, I feel a little odd tonight as well. Have you noticed?"

I did not know what to say.

"The truth is, I had a small fight with my wife a little while ago. And I allowed myself to become overly agitated"
"Why..."

The word "fight" could not come from my mouth.

"My wife misunderstands me. Although I try to persuade her that she does not understand me, she will not acknowledge it. Just now I got angry about it."

先生は私のこの問いに答えようとは しなかった。

「妻が考えているような人間なら、私だってこんなに苦しんでいやしない」 先生がどんなに苦しんでいるか、これも私には想像の及ばない問題であった。 "How does she misunderstand you?"

Sensei did not offer an answer to my
question.

"If I could just be the sort of person she thinks I am, I would not suffer so."

As to what kind of suffering he was talking about, I could not imagine¹³.

Section Ten

二人が帰るとき歩きながらの沈黙

が一^{ちょう}も二丁もつづいた。その後で

突然先生が口を刺き出した。

「悪い事をした。怒って出たから妻はさ ぞ心配をしているだろう。考えると女は かわいそうなものですね。 わなくし の妻な

どは私より^{ほか}にまるで頼りにするもの

The two of us walked back for some time in total silence. Suddenly, Sensei said, "I have done a bad thing. I left home while I was still angry; my wife is probably worried about me. When I think about it, women are quite pitiable. For instance, my wife has only me to rely on."

¹³ Lit., "It was unattainable for my imagination."

がないんだから」

先生の言葉はちょっとそこで途前れたが、別に私の返事を期待する様子もなく、すぐその続きへ移って行った。「そういうと、夫の方はいかにも心丈夫のようで少しっ滑っだが。君、私は君の眼にどう映りますかね。強い人に見えますか、弱い人に見えますか」「ちゆうぐん」に見えます」と私は答えた。この答えは先生にとって少し案外らしかった。先生はまた口を閉じて、無言で歩き出した。

先生の き へ帰るには私の下宿のつい そば を 通るのが順路であった。私は そこまで来て、曲り角で分れるのが先生に済まないような気がした。「ついで にお を の前までお 倖しましょうか」とい

Sensei paused for a little while, seeming to not expect a response from me, he soon continued in this way:

"When I speak that way, it sounds like husbands are completely independent, which is laughable. I wonder how I am reflected in your eyes. Do you see a strong person or a weak person?"

"I see someone in between." I answered. It seemed that Sensei was surprised by this response. Sensei stopped talking, and we continued to walk in silence.

The route to Sensei's house was near my boarding house. I had gone this far, and was at the street corner where we would part. I felt apologetic towards Sensei. "Shall I walk you back to your house?" I asked. Sensei at once waved away the suggestion with his hand.

「もう遅いから早く帰りたまえ。私も早く きいくん 帰ってやるんだから、妻 君のために」 先生が最後に付け加えた「妻君のた めに」という言葉は妙にその時の私の 心を暖かにした。私はその言葉のため に、帰ってから安心して寝る事ができ た。私はその後も長い間この「妻君の ために」という言葉を忘れなかった。 先生と奥さんの間に起った波瀾が、大 したものでない事はこれでも解った。 めった それがまた滅多に起る現象でなかっ た事も、その後絶えず出入りをして来 た私にはほぼ推察ができた。それどこ ろか先生はある時こんな感想すら私に きした。

"It is already late, so you should return quickly. I will also go back quickly, for my wife's sake."

Sensei added "for my wife's sake," these words strangely warmed my heart. Because of these words, I was able to sleep without anxiety. For a long time afterwards, I did not forget these words: "for my wife's sake." I understood that the trouble that had risen up between Sensei and his wife was not serious. After this, I continued to visit them regularly, and could surmise that the fight was an extraordinarily rare occurrence. In fact, one day Sensei revealed these thoughts to me:

「私は世の中で女というものをたった一人しか知らない。」妻以外の女はほとんど女として私に訴えないのです。妻の方でも、私を天下にただ一人しかない男と思ってくれています。そういう意味からいって、私たちは最も幸福に生れた人間のいっついであるべきはずです」

"I only know one woman in the whole world. Only my wife appeals to me as a woman. I think that I am the only man in the entire world for her¹⁴. From the meaning of this, we should be an extremely happy couple."

私は今前後の名きがいき忘れてしまったから、先生が何のためにこんな自白を私にして聞かせたのか、「対する」という事ができない。けれども先生の態度の真面目であったのと、調子の沈んでいたのとは、いまだに記憶に残っている。その時ただ私の耳に異様に響いたのは、「最も幸福に生れた人間の一対であるべきはずです」という最後の一句であった。先生はなぜ幸福な人

Because I have forgotten the circumstances of this situation, I cannot remember the reason that he gave this confession clearly. However, the memory still remains that he was showing his true character, and that his voice was calm. At the time, the words "we should be an extremely happy couple" reverberated strangely in my ears. Why did Sensei not stop with "a happy couple," and not say, "should"? This is the only thing I didn't understand. Especially since I could not clearly understand his tone. Was Sensei

¹⁴ The helping verb used in this sentence conveys that Sensei's wife is doing something good for Sensei by him being the only man for her.

間といい切らないで、あるべきはずであると断わったのか。私にはそれだけが不審であった。ことにそこへ一種の力を入れた先生の語気が不審であった。先生は事実はたして幸福なのだろうか、また幸福であるべきはずでありながら、それほど幸福でないのだろうか。私は心の²中で²疑²らざるを得なかった。けれどもその疑いは一時限りどこかへ^{ほうむ}られてしまった。

私はそのうち先生の留守に行って、 奥さんと二人をおいで話をする機会に出合った。先生はその日籍はまを は出合った。先生はその日籍はまを はいれがする汽船に乗って外国へ行く べき友人を新格へ送りに行って留守であった。横浜から船に乗る人が、朝 八時半の汽車で新橋を立つのはその really happy? Or, though he should be happy, was he not? In my heart, I could not help wondering. However, this doubt was sent from my mind forever in one moment.

While Sensei was out, I had the opportunity to talk to his wife in their house. Sensei was out to see off a friend of his at Shimbashi, who would be riding a steamboat from Yokohama to a foreign country. People who took the ship from Yokohama had to take the boat train Shimbashi to Yokohama at 8:30 am. Because I had wanted to meet Sensei to discuss a book, we had previously agreed that I would call at 9. Sensei's friend had

でするった。私はある書物について先生に話してもらう必要があったので、あらかじめ先生の承諾を得た通り、約束の九時に訪問した。先生の新橋行きは前日わざわざ告別に来た友人に対する礼が養としてその日突然起った出来事であった。先生はすぐ帰るから留守でも私に待っているようにといい残して行った。それで私は座敷へ上がって、先生を待つ間、奥さんと話をした。

expressly come to take Say farewell to

Sensei the day before, so Sensei went to

Yokohama for the sake of courtesy. Sensei

left a note that said he would return soon,

and I should wait. Then, I talked with

Sensei's wife in the tatami room as I

waited for Sensei.

Section Eleven

その時の^{わなくし}はすでに大学生であった。始めて先生の「宅」へ来た「資から見るとずっと成人した気でいた。奥さんとも「大学懇意になった」後であった。

At the time, I was already a university student. I felt that I had continuously become more mature since my first visit to Sensei's house. I had also become much more acquainted with his wife. I was no longer so uncomfortable around her. Face to face, we discussed various topics.

かった。差がいで色々の話をした。しかしそれは特色のないただの談話だから、今ではまるで忘れてしまった。そのうちでたった一つ私の耳に留まったものがある。しかしそれを話す前に、ちょっと断っておきたい事がある。

先生は大学出身であった。これは始めから私に知れていた。しかし先生の何もしないで遊んでいるという事は、東京へ帰って少し経ってから始めて分った。私はその時どうして遊んでいられるのかと思った。

先生はまるで世間に名前を知られていない人であった。だから先生の学問や思想については、先生と密切の関係をもっている私よりがに敬意を払うもののあるべきはずがなかった。それ

However, because our conversation did not include anything especially interesting, I have since forgotten everything. There is only one thing from the conversation that stayed in my mind.¹⁵ However, before I tell the story, I want to explain a little in advance.

Sensei was a university graduate. This was evident to me from the beginning.

However, It was only after I had returned

to Tokyo and spent a little time there I began to see that Sensei did not do anything other than spend his time in leisure. At that time, I wondered to myself how he was able to do this.

Sensei's name was completely unknown in the world. Therefore, no one honored Sensei's scholarship or ideas other than me, whom he had a close relationship with. I always said that this was a regrettable fact. Sensei would say "It is inexcusable

¹⁵ Lit., "stopped my ears."

を私は常に惜しい事だといった。先生 はまた「私のようなものが世の中へ出 て、口を刺いては済まない」と答えるぎ りで、取り合わなかった。私にはその答 けんそん えが 謙 遜 過ぎてかえって世間を冷 評するようにも聞こえた。実際先生は 時々昔の同級生で今著名になっている だれかれ とら 誰 彼を捉えて、ひどく無遠慮な批評 を加える事があった。それで私は露骨 にその矛盾を挙げて 云 々してみ た。私の精神は反抗の意味というより も、世間が先生を知らないで平気でい るのが残念だったからである。その時 先生は沈んだ調子で、「どうしても私は 世間に向かって働き掛ける資格のな い男だから仕方がありません」といっ た。先生の顔には深い一種の表情が ありありと刻まれた。私にはそれが失

for a person such as me to express themselves in society." Instead of appearing to be too modest, I thought this answer seemed to be Sensei sneering at the world. In fact, occasionally Sensei would voice harsh and cruel criticism about his old classmates who had become well known. Because of this I tried bluntly criticizing this contradiction. This was not because I was of an insubordinate nature, but because for Sensei to be alright with not being known by society was a deplorable thing. At the time, Sensei said with a depressed manner "No matter what, because I do not have the right to influence society, there is nothing that can be done about it." There was a deep expression clearly expressed in his face. I could not tell if it was disappointment, discontent, or sorrow. However, I did not have the courage to say any more.

望だか、不平だか、悲哀だか、や解らなかったけれども、何しろ二の句の継げないほどに強いものだったので、私はそれぎり何もいう勇気が出なかった。

私が奥さんと話している間に、問題が 自然先生の事からそこへ落ちて来た。 「先生はなぜああやって、宅で考えたり 勉強したりなさるだけで、世の中へ出て 仕事をなさらないんでしょう」

「あの人は駄目ですよ。そういう事が嫌 いなんですから」

「つまり下らない事だと悟っていらっし ゃるんでしょ**う**か」

「悟るの悟らないのって、――そりゃ女 だからわたくしには解りませんけれど、 おそらくそんな意味じゃないでしょう。や っぱり何かやりたいのでしょう。それで いてできないんです。だから気の毒で As I was talking with his wife, Sensei's problem naturally came up in conversation. "Why does Sensei only study and think at home, why does he not go out into the world and get a job?"

"That would be no good for him. Because he would hate it."

"That is to say that he thinks it would be no good?"

"I don't know what he perceives. Because I am a woman, I don't understand. However, perhaps it isn't for that kind of reason.

Maybe he does want to do something after all. And yet, he can't. I feel sorry for him."

すわ」

「しかし先生は健康からいって、別にど こも悪いところはないようじゃありませ んか」

「丈夫ですとも。何にも持病はありません」

「それでなぜ活動ができないんでしょ う」

「それが^{わか}らないのよ、あなた。それが解るくらいなら私だって、こんなに心配しやしません。わからないから気の毒でたまらないんです」

奥さんの語気には非常に同情があった。それでも口元だけには微笑が見えた。外側からいえば、私の方がむしろ 真面目だった。私はむずかしい顔をして黙っていた。すると奥さんが急に思い出したようにまた口を開いた。 "However, judging from his appearance, he is not unhealthy, is he?"

"He is in good health. There is nothing wrong with him."

"If that is the case I wonder why he does not do anything."

"That, I do not understand. If I could only understand that, I would not worry. But, because I don't understand, I feel very sorry for him¹⁶."

There was an exceedingly compassionate tone in her voice. And yet, a slight smile could be seen on her lips. If seen from the outside, I was the more grave person. I had a troubled look on my face and was silent. Suddenly, she seemed to remember something and said.

¹⁶ The word at the end of this sentence denotes that the speaker has an extreme feeling that they cannot help.

「若い時はあんな人じゃなかったんですよ。若い時はまるで違っていました。それが全く変ってしまったんです」 「若い時っていつ頃ですか」と私が聞いた。

「書生時代よ」

「書生時代から先生を知っていらっしゃったんですか」

奥さんは急に薄赤い顔をした。

"When he was young, he wasn't this kind of person. He was completely different when he was young. He has completely changed."

"About when in his youth?" I asked.

"When he was a student."

"You've known him since he was a student?"

Sensei's wife blushed.

Section Twelve

奥さんは東京の人であった。それはかつて先生からも奥さん自身からも聞いて知っていた。奥さんは「本当いうと替っ子なんですよ」といった。奥さんの父親はたしかに敬かどこかの出であるのに、お母さんの方はまだ江戸といった時分の市が谷で生れた女なので、奥さんは冗談半分そういったので

Sensei's wife was from Tokyo. I had heard this before from both Sensei and herself. Once, Sensei's wife said: "I am really a crossbreed." Her father had come from somewhere in Tottori, and her mother had been born in Ichigaya when it was still called Edo. She had been somewhat joking when she called herself a crossbreed.

Sensei, however, was from Niigata prefecture. Therefore, it was evident that the reason that Sensei's wife knew him

ある。ところが先生は全く方角違いの 「新が温」県人であった。だから奥さんが もし先生の書生時代を知っているとす れば、郷里の関係からでない事は明ら かであった。しかし薄赤い顔をした奥さ んはそれより以上の話をしたくないよう だったので、私の方でも深くは聞かず においた。

先生と知り合いになってから先生の 亡くなるまでに、私はずいぶん色々の 問題で先生の思想や情操に触れてみ たが、結婚当時の状況については、ほ とんど何ものも聞き得なかった。私は 時によると、それを善意に解釈してもみ た。年輩の先生の事だから、整めかし い回想などを若いものに聞かせるのは わざと^つ慎しんでいるのだろうと思った。 時によると、またそれを悪くも取った。 先生に限らず、奥さんに限らず、二人と when he was a student didn't have anything to do with where they were from. However, because Sensei's wife, who had just blushed, seemed like she did not want to say any more, I left the topic at that.

From the first time that I became acquainted with Sensei until his death, I learned many different things about him, including his philosophy and sensibility. However, he told me almost nothing about when he got married. Sometimes, I explained this with his virtuous sensibility. Because Sensei was late in years, I thought Sensei would want to be discreet about making a youth such as myself listen to his coquettish reminiscences. At other times, I regarded this constrained manner as a bad thing.

も私に比べると、一時代前の因襲のうちに成人したために、そういう 艶っぽい問題になると、正直に自分を開放するだけの勇気がないのだろうと考えた。もっともどちらも推測に過ぎなかった。そうしてどちらの推測の裏にも、二人の結婚の奥に横たわる花やかなロマンスの存在を仮定していた。

私の仮定ははたして誤らなかった。けれども私はただ恋の半面だけを想像に活がき得たに過ぎなかった。先生は美しい恋愛の裏に、恐ろしい悲劇を持っていた。そうしてその悲劇のどんなに先生にとって見惨なものであるかは相手の奥さんにまるで知れていなかった。奥さんは今でもそれを知らずにいる。先生はそれを奥さんに隠して死んだ。先生は奥さんの幸福を破壊する前に、

Both Sensei and his wife, having grown up in the generation before, were closed off when it came to romantic issues. I thought they just didn't have the courage to open up honestly about those things. However, these were no more than my guesses.

However, in each case I assumed that the basis for their marriage had been a brilliant romance¹⁷.

My assumption was not a complete mistake. However, I had only been able to sketch half of their love in my imagination. In the bottom of Sensei's beautiful love was a terrifying tragedy. Just what kind of tragedy, or why Sensei was such a miserable person, his partner was completely unaware. Even now, his wife does not know. This is the secret Sensei kept from her to his grave. Before Sensei destroyed his wife's happiness, he destroyed his own life.

¹⁷ Japanese readers would think of the brilliance or showiness of flowers from the word "brilliant" here, because it uses the character that means "flower."

まず自分の生命を破壊してしまった。

私は今この悲劇について何事も語らない。その悲劇のためにむしろ生れ出たともいえる二人の恋愛については、 たうずいった通りであった。二人とも私にはほとんど何も話してくれなかった。奥さんは慎みのために、先生はまたそれ以上の深い理由のために。

ただ一つ私の記憶に残っている事がある。
ある時花時分に私は先生といっしょに上野へ行った。そうしてそこで美しい一対の第一を見た。彼らはないまじそうに寄り添って花の下を歩いていた。場所が場所なので、花よりもそちらを向いて眼をがだてている人が沢山あった。

I will not say anything about this tragedy at the moment. But just as I have said, it is due to this tragedy that love between these two people was born. They told me practically nothing about it. Sensei's wife was like this for the purpose of modesty, but Sensei did this for a more profound reason. One thing about this remains in my memory. Once, during the flowering season, I went with Sensei to Ueno. There, we saw a beautiful couple. The couple, which seemed serious and affectionate, walked (as they cuddled) beneath the blooming trees. Because the place was public, people looked at the couple rather than the flowers.

「新婚の夫婦のようだね」と先生がいった。

「仲が好さそうですね」と私が答えた。 先生は苦笑さえしなかった。二人の 男女を視線の 外 に置くような方角へ 足を向けた。それから私にこう聞いた。 「君は恋をした事がありますか」 私はないと答えた。

「恋をしたくはありませんか」 私は答えなかった。

「したくない事はないでしょう」 「ええ」

「君は今あの男と女を見て、冷酔しましたね。あの冷酔のうちには君が恋を求めながら相手を得られないという不快の声が受っていましょう」

"They seem like a newly married couple" Sensei said.

"They seem found of each other" I responded.

Sensei did not even give a wry smile. In addition to his gaze, he also turned his gate away from them. Then, he asked me:

"Have you ever been in love?"

I did not answer.

"Do you want to be in love?"

I did not answer.

"You do want to be in love, right?"

"yes."

"When you saw that couple just now, you sneered at them. It is probably that within your sarcasm is the displeasure of seeking love, but finding no partner."

"Did I sound that way to you?"

"That's what I heard, because people who have had their thirst for love quenched use kinder voices. However... however, love is

「聞こえました。恋の満足を味わっている人はもっと暖かい声を出すものです。しかし……しかし君、恋は罪悪ですよ。 ながっていますか」

私は急に驚かされた。何とも返事をし なかった。 a sin. Do you understand?¹⁸,

This immediately surprised me. I did not say anything in response.

Section Thirteen

然聞いた。

我々は群集の中にいた。群集はいずれもった。そこを通り抜けて、花も人も見えない森の中へ来るまでは、同じ問題を口にする機会がなかった。

「恋は罪悪ですか」と 私 がその時突

「罪悪です。たしかに」と答えた時の先

We were in a crowd of people, all of whom seemed to be happy. We passed completely through that place until we reached the forest where we could see neither flowers nor people. Until then I did not have the chance to pursue the question further.

"Is love a sin?" I suddenly asked.

"It is a sin. Most certainly." He said this with the same resolve he had used before.

"Why?"

¹⁸ The word "sin" should not be understood here in the Judeo-Christian sense, where the thing being referred to would be completely evil. Rather, it needs to be understood in the context of Buddhist thought, which is more likely to affirm that something may be both good and bad.

生の語気は前と同じように強かった。「なぜですか」

「なぜだか今に解ります。今にじゃない、もう解っているはずです。あなたの心はとつくの昔からすでに恋で動いているじゃありませんか」

私は一応自分の胸の中を調べて見た。けれどもそこは案外に空虚であった。思いあたるようなものは何にもなかった。

「私の胸の中にこれという目的物は一 つもありません。私は先生に何も隠し てはいないつもりです」

「目的物がないから動くのです。あれば落ち付けるだろうと思って動きたくなるのです」

「今それほど動いちゃいません」 「あなたは物足りない結果私の所に動 いて来たじゃありませんか」 "You will understand soon. In fact, you should already understand. Hasn't your heart been directed by love for a long time now¹⁹?" I tentatively tried to search my heart. However, there was an unexpected emptiness there. I suddenly understood that there was nothing in my heart.

"There is not even one object of love in my heart. I have not hidden anything from you."

"Your heart stirs because you have no object for your love. If you did have an object, I think your heart would be at peace."

"I am at ease now 20."

"Isn't this the reason you began visiting me?"

¹⁹ Lit., "Hasn't your heart been moving based on love?"

²⁰ Lit., "My heart is not stirring at the moment."

「それはそうかも知れません。しかしそれは恋とは違います」

「恋に」とる 楷 段 なんです。 異性と抱き合う順序として、まず同性の私の所へ動いて来たのです」

「私には二つのものが全く性質を」文に しているように思われます」 「いや同じです。私は男としてどうしても あなたに満足を与えられない人間なの です。それから、ある特別の事情があ って、なおさらあなたに満足を与えられ ないでいるのです。私は実際お気の毒

しろそれを希望しているのです。しかし

に思っています。あなたが私からよそ

へ動いて行くのは仕方がない。私はむ

私は変に悲しくなった。

......

「私が先生から離れて行くようにお思い

"Maybe so. However, I think it is different than love²¹."

"It can be the basis of love. You first moved towards me, a friend of the same gender, because you will eventually love a woman."

"The two things appear to me as if they are completely distinct"

"No, they are the same. I am the kind of man such that our relationship will never fulfill your need for companionship. And then, because of some special circumstances, I am all the more unable to be a good friend. In reality, I think that it's too bad. It is inevitable that you will move from me to someone else. Rather, this is my wish. However..."

I became curiously sad.

²¹ The word for "love" used throughout this passage is used exclusively for romantic love.

になれば仕方がありませんが、私にそ んな気の起った事はまだありません」 先生は私の言葉に耳を貸さなかっ た。

「しかし気を付けないといけない。恋は 罪悪なんだから。私の所では満足が得 られない代りに危険もないが、――君、 黒い長い髪で縛られた時の心持を知っ ていますか」

私は想像で知っていた。しかし事実としては知らなかった。いずれにしても先生のいう罪悪という意味は朦朧としてよくなからなかった。その上私は少し不愉快になった。

「先生、罪悪という意味をもっと「対象」 いって聞かして下さい。それでなけれ ばこの問題をここで切り上げて下さい。 私自身に罪悪という意味が判然解るま

で」

"If you think that we will separate, then it is inevitable. However, such a feeling has not yet risen within me."

Sensei did not listen to a word I said.

"However, you must be careful. Because love is a sin. In so far as I am unable to give you a fulfilling friendship, in return there is also no danger. However, do you know the feeling of being bound down by long, black hair?"

I only imagine what he meant. The reality is that I did not know. At any rate, I did not understand the vague meaning of Sensei's word "sin." In addition, I became a little bit unhappy.

"Sensei, please tell me more what you mean when you say 'sin.' If not, please finish off this topic here, until I understand the meaning of 'sin' myself."

「悪い事をした。私はあなたに真実を話している気でいた。ところが実際は、あなたを焦慮していたのだ。私は悪い事をした」

先生と私とは博物館の裏から

うぐいすだに 常 渓 の方角に静かな歩調で歩 いて行った。垣の隙間から広い庭の一

くまざさ ゆうすい 部に茂る熊 笹 が 幽 邃 に見えた。

「君は私がなぜ 毎 月 雑司ヶ谷の墓地に 埋っている友人の墓へ参るのか知

っていますか」

先生のこの問いは全く突然であった。 しかも先生は私がこの問いに対して答 えられないという事もよく承知してい た。私はしばらく返事をしなかった。す ると先生は始めて気が付いたようにこ ういった。 "I have done wrong. I planned on telling you the truth. However, in reality I have annoyed you. I have done wrong."

Sensei and I walked at a calm pace behind the back of the museum, in the direction of Uguisudani. From a gap in the fence, we could see bamboo grass growing thickly in one part of the expansive garden. It seemed peaceful.

"Do you know why I visit my dead friend at the Zōshigaya cemetery every month?"

Sensei's inquiry was extremely abrupt.

Moreover, he was well aware that I could not answer the question. After a little while I still hadn't answered. Then, Sensei seemed to realize for the first time what he had said, and said:

「また悪い事をいった。焦慮せるのが悪いと思って、説明しようとすると、その説明がまたあなたを焦慮せるような結果になる。どうも仕方がない。この問題はこれで止めましょう。とにかく恋は罪悪ですよ、よござんすか。そうして神聖なものですよ」

私には先生の話がますます。解らなくなった。しかし先生はそれぎり恋を口にしなかった。

"Again, I have said something bad. I thought I had done wrong by annoying you, and then I tried to explain, but the explanation seems to have annoyed you even more. It really can't be helped. Let's end the topic at this. Anyway, love is a sin. Also, love is a sacred thing."

I understood Sensei's words less and less.

However, on that note, Sensei said no more about love.

Section Fourteen

年の若い^{わなくし}はややともすると
いちず一図になりやすかった。少なくとも先
生の眼にはそう映っていたらしい。私に
は学校の講義よりも先生の談話の方
が有益なのであった。教授の意見より
も先生の思想の方が有難いのであっ

As a young man, I was a little partial to becoming blindly devoted to something.

Or, at the very least, this is how it appeared to Sensei. I thought that my conversations with Sensei were more beneficial than my college lectures. I thought Sensei's ideas were more beneficial than opinions of my professors. In the end, I thought Sensei,

た。とどの詰まりをいえば、教壇に立って私を指導してくれる偉い人々よりもた だなりを守って多くを語らない先生の 方が偉く見えたのであった。

「あんまり逆上ちゃいけません」と先生 がいった。

「党めた結果としてそう思うんです」と答えた時の私には充分の自信があった。 その自信を先生は ずがってくれなかった。

「あなたは熱に浮かされているのです。 熱がさめると「厭」になります。私は今の あなたからそれほどに思われるのを、 苦しく感じています。しかしこれから先 のあなたに起るべき変化を予想して見 ると、なお苦しくなります」 who was very solitary and never said much, was more admirable than the important teachers that graciously guided me from their podium.

"Don't be such a fanatic²²." Sensei told me.

"I am thinking quite clearly," I said with much confidence. Sensei would not accept this.

"You are delirious. When you wake up from your fever, you will find this disagreeable. Right now I feel pain at how I appear to you. However, when I see your righteous anger when you realize you were wrong about me, I will feel even more pain."

"Do I appear that frivolous? Do you

「私はそれほど軽薄に思われているん

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²² Lit., don't let the blood rush to your head.

ですか。それほど不信用なんですか」
「私はお気の毒に思うのです」
「気の毒だが信用されないとおっしゃる
んですか」

先生は迷惑そうに庭の方を向いた。 その庭に、この間まで重そうな赤い強い色をぽたぽた点じていた^{つばき}の花はもう一つも見えなかった。先生は座敷からこの椿の花をよく^{なが}める癖があった。

「信用しないって、特にあなたを信用しないんじゃない。人間全体を信用しないんです」

その時と対策の向うで金魚売りらしい声がした。その「外」には何の聞こえるものもなかった。大通りから二ちようも深く折れ込んだ小路はでかり、静かで

distrust me this much?"

"I am so sorry for you."

"You feel sorry for me but you will not trust me, is that what you are saying?"

Sensei seemed troubled, and turned towards the garden. The camellias that had until just recently filled the garden with their strong red color were all gone. Sensei had made a habit of looking out from the tatami room to the camellias.

"You say I don't have faith in you... It is not that I have no faith in you especially. It is that I have no faith in humanity."

At the time, the voice of what seemed to be a goldfish peddler could be heard from the direction of the hedge. Besides that, there was nothing else to be heard. The main road was a while away, and we were surrounded by deep silence. The house was usually this silent. I knew his wife was in the room beside ours. Whether she was

あった。家の中はいつもの通りひっそりしていた。私は次の 高事を知っていた。黙って針仕事か何かしている奥さんの耳に私の話し声が 聞こえるという事も知っていた。しかし 私は全くそれを忘れてしまった。

「じゃ奥さんも信用なさらないんですか」と先生に聞いた。

先生は少し不安な顔をした。そうして 直接の答えを避けた。

「私は私自身さえ信用していないのです。 つまり自分で自分が信用できないから、人も信用できないようになっているのです。 自分を^{のろ}うより^{ほか}に仕方

「そうむずかしく考えれば、誰だって確かなものはないでしょう」

がないのです」

「いや考えたんじゃない。やったんで す。やった後で驚いたんです。**そう**して sewing or doing something else, I knew that she could hear us. However, I regrettably forgot this fact completely and asked:

"Well, if that's the case, then you don't trust your wife either?"

Sensei had an uneasy expression on his face. Then, he avoided a direct response. "I don't even trust myself. In other words, because I cannot place trust in myself, I cannot trust anyone. I have no way to avoid cursing myself."

"If you think about it seriously, no one can be sure of anything."

"But it is not that I have simply thought about this, I did it. After what I did, I was

非常に怖くなったんです」

私はもう少し先まで同じ道を 辿って 行きたかった。すると^{ふすま}の陰で「あな た、あなた」という奥さんの声が二度聞 こえた。先生は二度目に「何だい」とい った。奥さんは「ちょっと」と先生を次の ま 聞へ呼んだ。二人の間にどんな用事が 起ったのか、私には解らなかった。そ れを想像する余裕を与えないほど早く 先生はまた座敷へ帰って来た。 「とにかくあまり私を信用してはいけま せんよ。今に後悔するから。そうして自 分が 敷 かれた返報に、残酷な ふくしゅう 復 讐 をするようになるものだから」

「そりゃどういう意味ですか」

astonished. And then I became extremely afraid."

I wanted to pursue this conversation even further with Sensei. But right then, Sensei's wife called 'dear, dear' twice from behind the sliding door. After the second time, Sensei called "What?" Sensei's wife called "Well...²³," from the next room. I did not understand what had just occurred between them. Before I could guess at what had happened, Sensei was back in the room.

"Anyway, you should not put much trust in me. Because you will regret it before long.

Then, after you have been fooled, you will become cruelly vengeful."

"What do you mean by that?"

"The memory that you once knelt before me, in the future domineer over me. In

²³ Sensei's wife uses the word "chotto" here, which has many meanings. Sometimes one says "chotto" when they would rather not explain something. Possibly, this is mean to denote that she is trying to hide her intention from the narrator.

ひざ ひざまず 「かつてはその人の 膝 の前に 跪 いたという記憶が、今度はその人の頭 の上に足を載せさせようとするのです。 私は未来の侮辱を受けないために、今 しりぞ の尊敬を 斥 けたいと思うのです。私 は今より一層淋しい未来の私を我慢 する代りに、淋しい今の私を我慢した いのです。自由と独立とされとに充ち た現代に生れた我々は、その犠牲とし てみんなこの淋しみを味わわなくては ならないでしょう」 私はこういう覚悟をもっている先生に

order to not receive these insults in the future, I reject your current respect. Rather than suffer through the greater pain of loneliness later, I want to be lonely now. We, who were born in this age into freedom, independence, and selfishness must all feel this loneliness."

In regard to Sensei, who possessed this kind of resignation, I did not know what I should say.

Section Fifteen

その後^{わなくし}は奥さんの顔を見るたびに気になった。先生は奥さんに対しても始終こういう態度に出るのだろう

対して、いうべき言葉を知らなかった。

After this, each time I saw Sensei's wife I had this feeling. In regards to her, did Sensei always have that same attitude? If this was the case, did Sensei's wife find

か。もしそうだとすれば、奥さんはそれで満足なのだろうか。

奥さんの様子は満足とも不満足とも をめようがなかった。私はそれほど近く 奥さんに接触する機会がなかったか ら。それから奥さんは私に会うたびに 尋常であったから。最後に先生のいる 席でなければ私と奥さんとは滅ぎに顔 を合せなかったから。

私の疑惑はまだその上にもあった。 先生の人間に対するこの覚悟はどこから来るのだろうか。ただ冷たい眼で自分を内省したり現代を観察したりした結果なのだろうか。先生はずかって考えるが質の人であった。先生の頭さえあれば、こういう態度は坐って世の中を考えていても自然と出て来るものだろうか。 私にはそうばかりとは思えなかった。先 fulfillment in their relationship?

I could not decide if she seemed satisfied or dissatisfied with her life. I was not close enough to her to have the chance to find out. Moreover, each time she saw me acted the same. In the end, if it were not for Sensei, she and I would never see each other.

On top of that, I had other concerns.

Where did Sensei's resignation towards humanity come from? Was it because he surveyed himself and these times with an icy eye? Sensei was the kind of person who would sit and think. If one had a mind such as Sensei's, and sat in that manner thinking about the world like he does, is this the sort of idea that would naturally come about?

This did not appear to be the full explanation to me. Sensei's resolution seemed to have been brought about by life.

生の覚悟は生きた覚悟らしかった。火に焼けて冷却し切った 若 意家屋の いいた。私の眼に映ずる先生はたしかに思想家であった。けれどもその思想家のを め上げた主義の裏には、強い事実が織り込まれているらしかった。自分と切り離された他人の事実でなくって、自分自身が痛切に味わった事実、血が熱くなったり脈が止まったりするほどの事実が、畳み込まれているらしかった。

これは私の胸で推測するがものはない。先生自身すでにそうだと告白していた。ただその告白が雲のみなのようであった。私の頭の上に正体の知れない恐ろしいものを被いが被せた。そうしてなぜそれが恐ろしいか私にもながら

It was different than the outline of a house that had been burned and then cooled. The Sensei that was reflected in my eye certainly was a thinker. However, at the bottom of this thinker's compiled doctrines, it seemed that there was a strong reality interwoven in them. This was not the reality from being detached of oneself and others, this was the reality that was acutely felt by oneself, this was reality to such a degree that one's blood became hot and one's pulse would cease. This reality seemed to be buried deep in his mind. This was not my own conjecture. Sensei had already confessed to me that his attitude was the result of his life experiences. Nevertheless, this confession stood like a mountain of clouds. Above my head, the true form of the horrible thing that did not become known was covered up by them. I did not know why it was terrifying. And yet, it clearly shook my nerves.

なかった。告白はぼうとしていた。それでいて明らかに私の神経を覚わせた。

私は先生のこの人生観の基点に、或 る強烈な恋愛事件を仮定してみた。 (無論先生と奥さんとの間に起った)。 先生がかつて恋は罪悪だといった事か ら照らし合せて見ると、多少それが てがか 手掛りにもなった。しかし先生は現に 奥さんを愛していると私に告げた。する と二人の恋からこんな 厭 世 に近い覚 悟が出ようはずがなかった。「かつては その人の前に 遊 いたという記憶 が、今度はその人の頭の上に足を載 せさせようとする」といった先生の言葉 は、現代一般の誰彼について用い

I tried hypothesizing that in Sensei's view of life, there had been a passionate love affair. (Of course, one that had risen up between him and his wife). This would completely illuminate Sensei's expressing that love is a sin, and then no question would be left. However, Sensei had in fact told me that he was still in love with his wife. Therefore, his pessimism did not come out of their love.

"When you recall how you once knelt before me, you will want to domineer over me²⁴." These words from Sensei, which seemed to be meant to apply to anyone in the modern era, but not to his relationship with his wife.

²⁴ Lit., "You will want to place your foot over my head."

られるべきで、先生と奥さんの間には 当てはまらないもののようでもあった。 ぞうしがや 雑司ヶ谷にある 誰 だか分らない人 の墓、――これも私の記憶に時々動い た。私はそれが先生と深い縁故のある 墓だという事を知っていた。先生の生 活に近づきつつありながら、近づく事の できない私は、先生の頭の中にある いのち 生命の断片として、その墓を私の頭の 中にも受け入れた。けれども私に取っ てその墓は全く死んだものであった。 こ人の間にある生命の扉を開ける 鍵 にはならなかった。むしろ二人の間に 立って、自由の往来を妨げる魔物のよ

そうこうしているうちに、私はまた奥さんと差し向いで話をしなければならない時機が来た。その頃は日の話って

うであった。

The person whose grave was at

Zōshigaya also came into my mind from
time to time. I knew that this grave had a
profound connection to Sensei. Despite
having become such a familiar part of his
everyday life, I could not become close to
him. In his mind, and mine as well, we
accepted this grave as a piece of his life.

However, to me, that grave was an entirely
dead thing. The life between these two was
not the key to unlock the door that lead to
Sensei. Instead, the relationship between
these two people stood, like a goblin
preventing our free correspondence.

I had another opportunity to talk with Sensei's wife. It was around the time that the days began to end early in restless autumn. Sensei's neighborhood had been 行くせわしない秋に、誰も注意を惹か れる 肌 寒 の季節であった。先生の がか 附近で盗難に権ったものが三、四日 続いて出た。盗難はいずれも宵の口で あった。大したものを持って行かれた ^{うち}家 はほとんどなかったけれども、はい られた所では必ず何か取られた。奥さ んは気味をわるくした。そこへ先生があ る晩家を空けなければならない事情が できてきた。先生と同郷の友人で地方 の病院に奉職しているものが上京した ため、先生は外の二、三名と共に、あ る所でその友人に飯を食わせなけれ ばならなくなった。先生は訳を話して、 私に帰ってくる間までの留守番を頼ん だ。私はすぐ引き受けた。

suffering from robberies for three or four days. All of the robberies had been in the early evening. Though nothing extremely important had been taken, every place that had been entered had had something stolen. Sensei's wife had a bad feeling. One night, Sensei had to leave the house. His friend, from the same town as he, had a job at a hospital that was moving to Tokyo. Sensei and two others, three all together, were to take him to dinner. Sensei told me this, and asked if I would come over while he was away. I immediately agreed to the responsibility.

お気しの行ったのはまだ外の高くか 点かない暮れ方であったが、 ・ ではいると思いって、つい今 しがた出掛けました」といった奥さんは、私を先生の書斎へ案内した。 書斎には「洋」がと格字の「外」に、沢 山の書物が美しい「背を並べて、 ・ ででいるの光で照らされてい た。奥さんは火鉢の前に敷いた産業句

の上へ私を坐らせて、「ちっとそこいら

にある本でも読んでいて下さい」と断っ

て出て行った。私はちょうど主人の帰り

を待ち受ける客のような気がして済ま

なかった。私は^{かしこ}まったまま烟草を

When I arrived, it was the time of evening where one is unsure of whether or not to light a lamp. Sensei, being always punctual, had already left home. "He said it would be bad to arrive late, so he left just a moment ago" Sensei's wife said. She showed me to Sensei's study.

There was a western style table, a chair, and many books, which had beautiful covers. These were illuminated through the glass by an electric light. Sensei's wife had bid me sit on the cushion she had laid out before the fire. "Please read here for a little." She excused herself, and left the room. I could not help feeling as if I was a guest waiting for the return of the master of the house. I sat rigidly and smoked. I could hear Sensei's wife in the family room talking to the maid. Because the study was at the end of the hallway that was

飲んでいた。奥さんが茶の間で何か 「大安に話している声が聞こえた。書斎は茶の間の縁側を突き当って折れ曲ったが、たっちにあるので、「棟の位置からいうと、座敷よりもかえって掛け離れた静かさをり負うしていた。ひとしきりで奥さんの話し声が亡むと、一後はしんとした。私は泥棒を待ち受けるような心持で、「凝としながら気をどこかに配った。

connected to the family room, the quiet in the study was different from that of the tatami room. When his wife stopped talking for a little while, it was silent as a grave. I felt as if the burglar might come any moment. As I sat motionlessly, I paid extreme attention to everything.

三十分ほどすると、奥さんがまた書
斎の入口へ顔を出した。「おや」といっ
て、軽く驚いた時の眼を私に向けた。そ
うして客に来た人のように虚っからしく
控えている私をおかしそうに見た。
「それじゃ窮屈でしょう」
「いえ、窮屈じゃありません」
「でも退屈でしょう」

After 30 minutes, his wife's face appeared again at the entryway to the study. "Oh my" she said. She seemed both amused and surprised when she saw me. I was sitting solemnly, like a guest felt that he was encroaching on her hospitality.

"You seem uneasy"

"Not at all, I'm not uneasy."

"Then you are bored."

"No. I think the burglar could come at any

「いいえ。泥棒が来るかと思って緊張しているから退屈でもありません」

奥さんは手に 紅 茶 茶 碗 を持った
まま、笑いながらそこに立っていた。
「ここは隅っこだから番をするには好く
ありませんね」と私がいった。

「じゃ失礼ですがもっと真中へ出て来て
ちょうだい。ご返屈だろうと思って、お
茶を入れて持って来たんですが、茶の
間で宜しければあちらで上げますか
ら」

私は奥さんの後に足いて書斎を出た。茶の間には綺麗な長火鉢に

ながいばちに

ながいばちに

ながいばちに

ながいがいがいない

ながいばちに

ながいばちに

ながいばちに

ながいばられた。私はそこで茶と

東子のご馳走になった。奥さんは寝られないといけないといって、茶碗に手を触れなかった。

moment, so I am very tense, and I am not bored."

She stood there and laughed with a teapot in her hand.

"Because this is far removed area of the house, it is not good to keep watch here." I said.

"Well, I can receive you in a more centralized location. I thought you were bored, so brought you tea. However, if you don't mind, you can have it in the family room."

I followed Sensei's wife out of the study.

In the living room, an iron kettle was singing on top of a pretty, long brazier.

There, I was treated to tea and pastries.

Because she said she wouldn't be able to sleep, she didn't drink tea herself.

"Sensei does go out on the occasional outing after all?"

「先生はやっぱり時々こんな会へお ごか 出掛けになるんですか」

「いいえ滅多に出た事はありません。

ちかごろ 近頃は段々人の顔を見るのが嫌い

になるようです」

こういった奥さんの様子に、別段困ったものだという 風も見えなかったので、私はつい大胆になった。

「それじゃ奥さんだけが例外なんです か」

「いいえ私も嫌われている一人なんです」

「そりゃ 嘘 です」と私がいった。「奥さ ん自身嘘と知りながらそうおっしゃるん でしょう」

「なぜ」

「私にいわせると、奥さんが好きになったから世間が嫌いになるんですもの」

"He goes very seldom. Recently, it seems that he doesn't like to see people even more."

As she said this, her manner did not seem particularly troubled. I became bold.

"Then, you are the only exception to this distaste?"

"No, he dislikes me just like the rest."

"That is not true," I said. "While you know it is a lie, you are just speaking that way."
"Why do you think that?"

"From my perspective, he has come to dislike the world because of his love for you."

「あなたは学問をするがだけあって、なかなかおとずね。空っぽな理屈を使いこなす事が。世の中が嫌いになったから、私までも嫌いになったんだともいわれるじゃありませんか。それとおかなじ理屈で」

「両方ともいわれる事はいわれますが、この場合は私の方が正しいのです」

「議論はいやよ。よく男の方は議論だけなさるのね、面白そうに。 空の 益 でよくああ飽きずに 献 酬 ができると思いますわ」

奥さんの言葉は少し手痛かった。しかしその言葉の す 障 からいうと、 決して猛烈なものではなかった。自分 に頭脳のある事を相手に認めさせて、 "You are simply saying the educated thing.

And you are very educated. However, you only have command of empty theory.

Wouldn't it also make sense to say that because he hates me, he has come to hate the world? They are the same kind of reasoning."

"They are the same reasoning, but in this case mine is correct."

"Let's not argue. It is often the way of men to do nothing but argue. It seems interesting to me. I often consider how they exchange meaningless cups of sake without getting bored."

Her words were a little severe. However, I did not feel at all like they were mean. She was not so modernistic of a woman that she took pride in forcing her partner to notice her intellect. Rather, she seemed to think

そこに一種の誇りを覚出すほどに奥さんは現代的でなかった。奥さんはそれよりもっと底の方に沈んだ心を大事にしているらしく見えた。

important that which was at the very bottom of a heart.

Section Seventeen

わたくし 私 はまだその後にいうべき事を いたず もっていた。けれども奥さんから 徒 らに議論を仕掛ける男のように取られ ては困ると思って遠慮した。奥さんは こうちゃぢゃわん のぞ 飲み干した紅 茶 茶 碗の底を覗い て黙っている私を外らさないように、「も う一杯上げましょうか」と聞いた。私は すぐ茶碗を奥さんの手に渡した。 「いくつ? 一つ? ニッつ?」 妙なもので角砂糖をつまみ上げた奥 さんは、私の顔を見て、茶碗の中へ入 れる砂糖の数を聞いた。奥さんの態

I still had more I wanted to say after that.

However, I thought it would be troublesome for me if I appeared like one of those vainly argumentative men she had mentioned, so I restrained myself. "Shall I fill your glass again?" She asked in such a way as to not take my attention from the teacup that I was staring into. I immediately put my cup in her hand.

"How many lumps? One? Two?"

She seemed strange as she picked up the cube of sugar. And, looking at my face, had asked how much to put into the tea.

Her attitude towards me did not go so far

度は私に媚びるというほどではなかったけれども、充刻の強い言葉を力めて 打ち消そうとする。愛き嬌っに発ちていた。

私は黙って茶を飲んだ。飲んでしまっても黙っていた。

「あなた大変黙り込んじまったのね」と 奥さんがいった。

「何かいうとまた議論を仕掛けるなんて、叱り付けられそうですから」と私は答えた。

「まさか」と奥さんが再びいった。

二人はそれを緒口にまた話を始めた。そうしてまた二人に共通な興味のある先生を問題にした。

「奥さん、先刻の続きをもう少しいわせ

as to attempt to be a flirt. However, she seemed to be using her charm to negate the strong words from before²⁵.

I was silent and drank my tea. After I finished my tea, I remained silent.

"You've completely sunken into the silence, eh?" She said.

"If I say something, you will accuse me again of commencing argument." I answered.

"By no means" she said twice.

We began to talk again where they had left off²⁶. And, again talked about their common interest, Sensei.

"Ma'am, would you allow me to continue to say a little about what we were talking about a while ago? I don't know if it will

²⁵ Lit., "She seemed to be using her manner, which was overflowing with charm,

²⁶ Lit., "The two people began to talk again at the end of their original thread."

て下さいませんか。 奥さんには 空 な理 屈と聞こえるかも知れませんが、私は そんな 上 の 空 でいってる事じゃない んだから」

「じゃおっしゃい」

「今奥さんが急にいなくなったとしたら、 先生は現在の通りで生きていられるで しょうか」

「そりゃ分らないわ、あなた。そんな事、 先生に聞いて見るより 外 に仕方がな いじゃありませんか。私の所へ持って 来る問題じゃないわ」

まじめ 「奥さん、私は真面目ですよ。だから逃 げちゃいけません。正直に答えなくっち や亅

「正直よ。正直にいって私には分らない のよ」

「じゃ奥さんは先生をどのくらい愛して

sound like empty theory to you, but I am not speaking without care"

"Well, go ahead"

"Right now, if it happened that you were suddenly disappeared, do you think Sensei would be able to go on living just as before?"

"I do not know about that. That kind of thing, you should probably ask Sensei, right? It is not a question to be brought to me."

"Ma'am, I am serious. Therefore, you should not shy away from the question. You must answer me honestly."

"I am being honest. I honestly don't know."

いらっしゃるんですか。これは先生に聞くよりむしろ奥さんに伺っていい質問ですから、あなたに伺います」
「何もそんな事を開き直って聞かなくっても好いじゃありませんか」
「真面目くさって聞くがものはない。分り切ってるとおっしゃるんですか」

「まあそうよ」

"Well, how much are you in love with Sensei? Surely this is a better question for you than Sensei, therefore I'm asking you." "Why do you ask such a thing so seriously?²⁷"

"I cannot ask this any less seriously. Is it that obvious to you?"

"More or less"

「そのくらい先生に忠実なあなたが急にいなくなったら、先生はどうなるんでしょう。世の中のどっちを向いても面白そうでない先生は、あなたが急にいなくなったら後でどうなるでしょう。先生から見てじゃない。あなたから見てですよ。あなたから見て、先生は幸福になるでしょうか、不幸になるでしょうか」

"If you, who are so faithful to Sensei suddenly disappeared, how would Sensei fare? Sensei does not see anything worthwhile in the world. If you suddenly left, how would he be afterwards? I do not want to hear Sensei's perspective, but yours. Would he be happy? Would he be sad?

²⁷ Lit., "Isn't it no good to ask such a thing so seriously?"

「そりゃ私から見れば分っています。 (先生はそう思っていないかも知れませんが)。先生は私を離れれば不幸になるだけです。あるいは生きていられないかも知れませんよ。そういうと、 を一様になるようですが、私は今先生を人間としてできるだけ幸福にしているんだと信じていますわ。どんな人があっても私ほど先生を幸福にできるものはないとまで思い込んでいますわ。それだからこうして落ち付いていられるんで

「その信念が先生の心に好く映るはず だと私は思いますが」 「それは別問題ですわ」 「やっぱり先生から嫌われているとおっ しゃるんですか」

す」

「私は嫌われてるとは思いません。嫌

"I do not know if this is what Sensei thinks. But from my point of view, if Sensei were separated from me, he would be unhappy. It is possible that he couldn't continue to exist, I do not know. Saying this, it might seem like I am flattering myself. However, I believe that right now I am the only person who can make him happy. No matter what kind of person, I am under the impression that there is no one other than me who can make him happy. Because of this, I am able to ease my worries."

"I think Sensei must feel the same way²⁸."

"That is a different question entirely"

"Do you still think that Sensei dislikes
you?"

"I do not think that I am disliked. There is no way that I am disliked. However, Sensei

²⁸ Lit., "I think this is reflected well in Sensei's heart."

われる訳がないんですもの。しかし先生は世間が嫌いなんでしょう。世間というよりがですでは人間が嫌いになっているんでしょう。だからその人間のいちに分として、私も好かれるはずがないじゃありませんか」
奥さんの嫌われているという意味がやっと私に呑み込めた。

dislikes the world. These days rather than the world, he has come to dislike people.

Therefore, as a member of the human race, he can't love me either, right?"

I finally swallowed the meaning of her saying that she was disliked by Sensei.

Section Eighteen

わないは奥さんの理解力に感心した。奥さんの態度が旧式の日本の女らしくないところも私の注意に一種のしばを与えた。それで奥さんはそのでは、着り始めたいわゆる新しい言葉などはほとんど使わなかった。

I had admiration for her capacity for reason. The part of her that did not seem to have the manner of an old-fashioned

Japanese woman stimulated my interest.

She seldom used the so-called 'new expressions' as was the fashion of those times.

た経験のない迂闊な青年であった。 男としての私は、異性に対する本能か どうけい ら、憧憬の目的物として常に女を夢 みていた。けれどもそれは懐かしい春 の雲を眺めるような心持で、ただ ばぜん 漠 然と夢みていたに過ぎなかった。 だから実際の女の前へ出ると、私の感 情が突然変る事が時々あった。私は自 分の前に現われた女のために引き付 けられる代りに、その場に臨んでかえ って変なり、一般である。奥さん に対した私にはそんな気がまるで出な かった。普通男女の間に横たわる思 想の不平均という考えもほとんど起ら なかった。私は奥さんの女であるという 事を忘れた。私はただ誠実なる先生の 批評家および同情家として奥さんを眺

I was a careless young man who had never had the experience of close friendship with a woman. As a man, from my instinctive attitude towards the opposite sex, I constantly dreamt of women as the object of my longing. However, this was merely a vague dream that gave a feeling similar to gazing nostalgically at a cloud floating in the spring sky. Therefore, sometimes when I appeared before an actual woman, my emotion would suddenly change. Instead of being fascinated by the woman who had appeared before me, I would feel a strange repulsion. When I was with Sensei's wife, however, I never felt that repulsion. Between us, there was not the same gap in intellectual understanding that is normally the main complaint of relationships between normal men and women. In fact, I forgot that she was a woman. I viewed her simply as a critic and sympathetic person of Sensei.

めた。

「奥さん、私がこの前なぜ先生が世間 的にもっと活動なさらないのだろうといって、あなたに聞いた時に、あなたはおっしゃった事がありますね。元はああじゃなかったんだって」

「ええいいました。実際あんなじゃなかったんですもの」

「どんなだったんですか」

「あなたの希望なさるような、また私の希望するような頼もしい人だったんです」

「それがどうして急に変化なすったんですか」

「急にじゃありません、段々ああなって来たのよ」

「奥さんはその^{あいだ}始終先生といっし はにいらしったんでしょう」

「無論いましたわ。夫婦ですもの」

"Ma'am, when I asked before why Sensei does not do more in society, you said that he was not originally like that."

"Yes, I said that. The truth is he was not that way."

"What was he like?"

"Just as you hope, just as I hope, he was a trustworthy and hopeful person."

"Then, why did he suddenly change?"

"It was not sudden, it came gradually."

"You were probably always with him then"

"Of course I was. We are married."

"Then you should know exactly what brought on the change?"

「じゃ先生がそう変って行かれる

げんいん
源 因 がちゃんと 解 るべきはずです

がね」

「それだから困るのよ。あなたからそういわれると実に辛いんですが、私にはどう考えても、考えようがないんですもの。私は今まで一一道あの人に、どうぞ打ち明けて下さいって頼んで見たか分りゃしません」

「先生は何とおっしゃるんですか」 「何にもいう事はない、何にも心配する 事はない、おれはこういう性質になった んだからというだけで、取り合ってくれ ないんです」

私は黙っていた。奥さんも言葉を逸
あいた。下女部屋にいる下女はことりとも音をさせなかった。私はまるで泥棒の事を忘れてしまった。

"That is what troubles me. When you speak thus it is truly heartbreaking. No matter how I think, I cannot think of what it was.

Up until now, I do not know how many times I have begged him to be frank and tell me."

"What does he say?"

"He says that there is nothing to say, that there is nothing to worry about, that it is because of his nature, he does not let me in."

I was silent. She abruptly stopped speaking. There was no noise from the maid's room. I completely forgot about the burglar.

「あなたは私に責任があるんだと思ってやしませんか」と突然奥さんが聞いた。

「いいえ」と私が答えた。

「どうぞ隠さずにいって下さい。そう思われるのは身を切られるより辛いんだから」と奥さんがまたいった。「これでも私は先生のためにできるだけの事はしているつもりなんです」

「そりゃ先生もそう認めていられるんだから、大丈夫です。ご安心なさい、私が保証します」

奥さんは火鉢の灰を掻き薊らした。それからみずさしの水を鉄瓶に注した。 れから水 注の水を鉄瓶に注した。 鉄瓶は^た葱^まち鳴りを沈めた。

「私はとうとう幸」的し切れなくなって、 先生に聞きました。私に悪い所がある なら遠慮なくいって下さい、改められる "Do you think it is my fault?" she suddenly asked.

"No" I answered.

"Please, speak without concealing anything from me. To appear that way is as painful as being cut into pieces." She said again. "Even though it may appear that I am the cause, I try to do what I can to help him." "I am sure Sensei is aware of this, so it is fine. Have peace of mind, you have my assurance."

She tamed the ashes in the brazier with a shovel. Then, she poured the water from the water jug into the iron kettle. The kettle's ringing sound suddenly ceased. "Finally, my patience snapped, and I asked Sensei to please tell me what I had done wrong. Because if it was something I could change, I would change it. Then, Sensei said the fault wasn't in me, but in him.

欠点なら改めるからって、すると先生は、お前に欠点なんかありゃしない、欠点はおれの方にあるだけだというんです。そういわれると、私悲しくなって仕様がないんです、涙が出てなおの事自分の悪い所が聞きたくなるんです」

奥さんは眼の^{うち}に涙をいっぱい溜

Having been told this, I became very sad that it couldn't be helped, I cried and wanted to hear that it was all my fault."

Her eyes were filled with tears.

Section Nineteen

めた。

始めったくしは理解のある「安したっとして奥さんに対していた。私がその気で話しているうちに、奥さんの様子が次第に変って来た。奥さんは私の頭脳に訴える代りに、私の心臓を動かし始めた。自分と夫の間には何のわばかまりもない、またないはずであるのに、やはり何かある。それだのに眼を開けて

At first, I had regarded Sensei's wife as a woman of understanding. However, While I talked with her, her manner changed gradually. Rather than appealing to my intellect, she began to move my heart.

There were no ill feelings between her and Sensei. And though they were an unparalleled couple, there was something between them. Though this was so, when she tried to find what it was, she did not find anything. This was her main point of concern.

覚極めようとすると、やはりが にもない。 奥さんの苦にする要点はここにあった。

奥さんは最初世の中を見る先生の眼 えんせいてきが 厭 世 的 だから、その結果として 自分も嫌われているのだと断言した。 そう断言しておきながら、ちっともそこ に落ち付いていられなかった。底を割 ると、かえってその逆を考えていた。先 生は自分を嫌う結果、とうとう世の中ま で 厭 になったのだろうと推測してい た。けれどもどう骨を折っても、その推 測を突き留めて事実とする事ができな かった。先生の態度はどこまでも良人 らしかった。親切で優しかった。疑いの かたま 塊 りをその日その日の 情 合 で包 んで、そっと胸の奥にしまっておいた奥 さんは、その晩その包みの中を私の前

She asserted that because Sensei looked at society with a pessimistic eye, the result was that she was hated by him as well. While she gave such an assertion, she could not stick with it. She thought the very opposite. She guessed that the result of him hating her was that finally he went so far as to hate the world. However, no matter how hard she tried, she couldn't determine if this conjecture was true. Sensei's attitude towards her was always appeared to be that of a good husband. He was kind and gentle. She had completely wrapped up her lump of distrust with her everyday affection and placed it in her heart. That night she opened the bundle before me and showed it to me.

で開けて見せた。

「あなたどう思って?」と聞いた。「私からああなったのか、それともあなたのいうしんせいないとかいうものから、ああなったのか。隠さずいって なまった。こと聞いた。「私からああなったのか。隠さずいって

私は何も隠す気はなかった。けれど も私の知らないあるものがそこに存在 しているとすれば、私の答えが何であ ろうと、それが奥さんを満足させるはず がなかった。そうして私はそこに私の知 らないあるものがあると信じていた。

「私には解りません」

奥さんは予期の 外 れた時に見る あわれな表情をその
「はずれな表情をその
「こまに現わした。
私はすぐ私の言葉を継ぎ足した。
「しかし先生が奥さんを嫌っていらっし
ゃらない事だけは保証します。私は先

"What do you think?" She asked. "Is it my fault he has become this way, or is it because of his view of life, or whatever you call it, that he became so? Please do not hide anything from me."

I was not trying to hide anything from her. However, if there were anything I didn't know about, no matter how I answered, my answer would not be able to satisfy her. I believed that there were things that I did not know, so I said: "I do not know"

Her expression was pitiful; it showed that what I had said had not met her expectations. I immediately extended these words.

"However, I can guarantee that Sensei does not dislike you. I heard this from Sensei's 生自身の口から聞いた通りを奥さんに 伝えるだけです。先生は 嘘 を吐かな い 方 でしょう」

奥さんは何とも答えなかった。しばら くしてからこういった。

「実は私すこし思いあたる事があるん ですけれども……」

「先生がああいう風になった 源 因に

「ええ。もしそれが源因だとすれば、私 の責任だけはなくなるんだから、それ だけでも私大変楽になれるんですが、

「どんな事ですか」

......

ついてですか」

奥さんはいい渋って 膝の上に置いた

自分の手を眺めていた。

「あなた判断して下すって。いうから」
「私にできる判断ならやります」

own mouth. It is not his way to tell lies."

Sensei's wife did not say anything. After a short time, she spoke thus:

"To tell you the truth, a small thing has come to mind..."

"Is it about the origin of the change in Sensei?"

"Yes. If this is the origin, because my responsibility would disappear, if it were just this, I would be able to be put very much at ease..."

"What is it?"

She hesitated, and gazed at her hands that she had placed on her lap.

"Please judge for yourself, I will tell you."

"I will judge as best as I can."

"I cannot say everything. If I said

「みんなはいえないのよ。みんないうと しか 叱られるから。叱られないところだけ よ」

私は緊張して唾液を呑み込んだ。 「先生がまだ大学にいる時分、大変仲 の好いお友達が一人あったのよ。その

かた 方がちょうど卒業する少し前に死んだ んです。急に死んだんです」

声で、「実は変死したんです」といった。 それは「どうして」と聞き返さずにはいら れないようないい方であった。

奥さんは私の耳に私語くような小さな

「それっ切りしかいえないのよ。けれどもその事があってから。後なんです。先生の性質が段々変って来たのは。なぜその方が死んだのか、私には解らないの。先生にもおそらく解っていないでし

everything, I would be scolded. I will only say the things I would not be scolded for."

I was extremely strained, and gulped down my own saliva.

"Sensei was still in college at the time, he had one very good friend. That person died just a little bit before their graduation. It was a sudden death."

She whispered this in my ear, "As a matter of fact, he died unnaturally." After this, I could not help asking "why?"

"That is all that I can say. However, it was after that event that Sensei's disposition began to change gradually. Why that person died, I do not know. Perhaps Sensei does not know either. However, when I think that Sensei began to change after this, it seems that he does know."

ょう。けれどもそれから先生が変って来たと思えば、そう思われない事もないのよ」

「その人の墓ですか、雑司ケ谷にある のは」

「それもいわない事になってるからいいません。しかし人間は親友を一人亡くしただけで、そんなに変化できるものでしょうか。私はそれが知りたくって^{たま}らないんです。だからそこを一つあなたに判断して頂きたいと思うの」 私の判断はむしろ否定の方に傾いて "This person's grave, is it at Zōshigaya?"

"I am not allowed to speak about that either. However, could a person change so much simply because he lost his best friend? I want to know so much it is unbearable. Therefore, I very much would like to know your judgment on this."

I was inclined to say that this was not the reason for his change.

Section Twenty

いた。

わなくしは私のつらまえた事実の許す 限り、奥さんを慰めようとした。奥さんも またできるだけ私によって慰められた そうに見えた。それで二人は同じ問題 I tried, as far as the limits of reality allowed, to comfort Sensei's wife. It seemed that she wanted to be comforted by me. Thereupon, we discussed our common problem. However, I could not grasp the

をいつまでも話し合った。けれども私は おおね つかもともと事の大根を攫んでいなかっ た。奥さんの不安も実はそこに^{ただよ}う 薄い雲に似た疑惑から出て来ていた。 事件の真相になると、奥さん自身にも 多くは知れていなかった。知れていると ころでも 悉 皆 は私に話す事ができな かった。したがって慰める私も、慰めら れる奥さんも、共に波に浮いて、ゆらゆ らしていた。ゆらゆらしながら、奥さん おぼつか はどこまでも手を出して、 覚 東 ない もの判断に 縋 り付こうとした。

十時頃になって先生の靴の音が玄関に聞こえた時、奥さんは急に今までのすべてを忘れたように、前になっている私をそっちのけにして立ち上がった。そうして格子を開ける先生をほとん

root of the issue. Her anxiety as well seemed to float above us like a thin cloud. About the circumstances of the event, there was much that she herself did not know. About what she did know, she could not tell me everything. Because of this, I, who was comforting her, and she, who was being comforted, floated on the same wave, going back and forth. While we went back and forth, no matter what, she stretched her hand out to me and clung to my uncertain judgment.

Around 10 o'clock the sound of Sensei's shoes could be heard in the entryway.

Sensei's wife stood up, seeming to have completely forgotten about our conversation and me. Sensei entered and

ど出各いが頭らに迎えた。私は取り残されながら、後から奥さんに尾いて行った。下安だけはででもしていたとみえて、ついに出て来なかった。

先生はむしろ機嫌がよかった。しかし 奥さんの調子はさらによかった。今しが た奥さんの美しい眼のうちになった涙 の光と、それから黒い着りどの根に寄 せられた八の字を記憶していた私は、 その変化を異常なものとして注意深くない。もしそれがいまかりでなかったならば、(実際それは許りとは思えなかったが)、今までの奥さんの訴えはなかったが)、今までの奥さんの訴えはながったが)、今までの奥さんの訴えはないったが)、今までの奥さんの訴えばないったが)、今までの奥さんの訴えばないったが、今までの奥さんの訴えばないったが、今までの奥さんの訴えばない。 the two almost ran into each other. I followed after Sensei's wife. The maid, who appeared to be taking a nap, did not come.

Sensei was in a rather good mood. His wife, however, seemed to be in an even better mood. I, who remembered that just a moment ago her beautiful eyes were filled with the light of tears, and that her black eyebrows were gathered together, viewed this change with caution²⁹. If this had been a lie (though truly, it did not appear to be a lie), her complaints up until could be taken as having been manufactured for the sake of playing on my sympathy. They could also be seen as her playing games that fickle women like to play.

At the time, I would certainly not have seen her with that degree of criticism.

 $^{^{29}}$ Lit., "...furrowed together like an 8..." Though this makes no sense in English, the character for 8 in Japanese is: ${\cal N}.$

戯と取れない事もなかった。もっともその時の私には奥さんをそれほど批評的に見る気は起らなかった。私は奥さんの態度の急に輝いて来たのを見て、むしろ安心した。これならばそう心配する必要もなかったんだと考え直した。

先生は笑いながら「どうもご苦労さま、泥棒は来ませんでしたか」と私に聞いた。それから「来ないんで「張った」が 抜けやしませんか」といった。

帰る時、奥さんは「どうもお気の毒さま」と会釈した。その調子は忙しいところを暇を漬させて気の毒だというよりも、せっかく来たのに泥棒がはいらなくって気の毒だという冗談のように聞こえた。奥さんはそういいながら、先刻出した西洋菓子の残りを、紙に包んで私の

Rather, when I saw how her manner suddenly shined, I was relieved. Simply because of this, I reconsidered the necessity of my earlier worry.

Sensei laughed, and said: "Thank you for your trouble, did the burglar not come?"

Then he asked, "Were you disappointed³⁰?"

When I was leaving, his wife said, "I am very sorry for you." Rather than saying she was sorry to take me away from my busy life, she sounded as if she was joking that it was pitiful the robber did not come. While she said this, she passed to me the remnants of the western pastry from before, which she had wrapped in paper. I put this in my sleeve³¹, and hurried through the winding and nearly deserted lanes of

³⁰ Sensei literally asks the narrator if he missed the exhilarating feeling of competition, because the burglar did not come.

³¹ Kimono sleeves are very wide, so it was regular practice to store things in them.

手に持たせた。私はそれを^た表とへ入れて、人通りの少ないを実の小路を曲折して「臓 やかな町の方へ急いだ。

私はその晩の事を記憶のうちから抽 き抜いてここへ詳しく書いた。これは書 くだけの必要があるから書いたのだ が、実をいうと、奥さんに菓子を貰って 帰るときの気分では、それほど当夜の 会話を重く見ていなかった。私はその よくじつひるめし 翌日午飯を食いに学校から帰って ゆうべ きて、昨夜机の上に載せて置いた菓 子の包みを見ると、すぐその中からチョ とびいろ コレートを塗った 蔦 色 のカステラを出 ほおば して頬張った。そうしてそれを食う時

に、必 意 この菓子を私にくれた二人

that cold night towards the busy city.

I have written here the events of that night as are within my memory with full detail. I have written these things because they are essential. Though, as a matter of fact, my feeling when I was returning with the pastry was that our conversation had not been extremely important. The following day, when I returned from school for lunch, I saw the wrapping of the pastry that I had left on top of my desk. I immediately picked out a reddish brown sponge cake that was covered in chocolate stuffed my face with it. Then, as I was eating, I thought that the couple that had given me the pastry must exist in society as a happy couple after all.

の第一ない。幸福ないっつかとして世の中に存在しているのだと自覚しつつ味わった。

秋が暮れて冬が来るまで格別の事も なかった。私は先生の 宅 へ出はいり をするついでに、衣服の洗い張りや した かた 仕立て 方 などを奥さんに頼んだ。それ まで 繻 絆 というものを着た事のない 私が、シャツの上に黒い襟のかかった ものを重ねるようになったのはこの時 からであった。子供のない奥さんは、そ ういう世話を焼くのがかえって たいくつしの 退 屈 凌ぎになって、結句身体の薬 だぐらいの事をいっていた。

「こりゃ手織りね。こんな地の好い着物は今まで縫った事がないわ。その代り 縫い悪いのよそりゃあ。まるで針が立 Fall ended and winter began without any exceptional instance. While I happened to be visiting their house, I asked Sensei's wife to tailor my clothes, let them dry out, etc. Up until then I was a person who did not even bother to wear undershirts.

However, from then on I even cared enough to layer my clothes with a black collar. Sensei's wife, being childless, said that rather than bothering her, it helped her stave off boredom, and was like medicine to her body.

"This is hand woven. I've never sewn on such good material before now. However, it is difficult to sew. My needles cannot stand it at all. Thanks to you, I've broken two of my needles.

たないんですもの。お 陰 で針を二本 折りましたわ」

こんな苦情をいう時ですら、奥さんは 別に 面 倒 くさいという顔をしなかっ た。

At the time she complained like this, her face showed no actual annoyance.

Section Twenty-One

冬が来た時、わたくしは偶然国へ帰らなければならない事になった。私の母から受け取った手紙の中に、父の病気の経過が面白くない様子を書いて、今が今という心配もあるまいが、年が年だから、できるなら都合して帰って来てくれと頼むように付け足してあった。

At the beginning of winter, I suddenly had to go back home. In a letter I had received from my mother, she wrote that my father's illness had gotten worse. And, though there was no need to worry just now, the letter added that, considering his age, I should come home if I was able.

父はかねてから 腎 臓 を病んで いた。中年以後の人にしばしば見る My father had been suffering from kidney trouble for a long time. As seemed to be the way with people past middle age, my

がまい 通り、父のこの 病 は慢性であっ た。その代り要心さえしていれば急 変のないものと当人も家族のものも 信じて疑わなかった。現に父は養生 かげ のお 蔭 一つで、今 日 までどうか こうか 凌いで来たように客が来る と 吹 聴 していた。その父が、母 の書信によると、庭へ出て何かして はずみ めまいいる 機 に突然眩暈がして引ッ繰 り返った。家内のものは軽症の のういっけつ 脳 溢 血 と思い違えて、すぐその あと 手当をした。後で医者からどうも そうではないらしい、やはり持病の 結果だろうという判断を得て、始め て卒倒と腎臓病とを結び付けて考え るようになったのである。

father's illness was chronic. However, he and the rest of my family believed without a doubt that if he just lived carefully, his condition would not drastically change. Actually, my father had boasted to visitors that it was only because of his clean living that he had managed to survive until this day. My father, so my mother's letter said, went out to the garden, suddenly became dizzy, and fell over. The family misunderstood this as a stroke caused by a minor illness, and immediately had it treated as such. However, the doctor said that it did not seem to be as they had thought, but was probably the result of my father's kidney disease. For the first time, the family began to associate the fainting with his disease.

冬休みが来るにはまだ少し間があ った。私は学期の終りまで待ってい ても 差 支 えあるまいと思ってー 日二日そのままにしておいた。する とその一日二日の間に、父の寝てい る様子だの、母の心配している顔だ のが時々眼に浮かんだ。そのたびに -種の心苦しさを嘗めた私は、とう とう帰る決心をした。国から旅費を てかず 送らせる手数と時間を省くため、 私は 暇 ラ いかたがた先生の所へ 行って、要るだけの金を一時立て替 えてもらう事にした。

There was still a little bit of time before winter break. I thought that it wouldn't be a problem for me to wait until the end of the semester to go home. I stayed in this frame of mind for 1 or 2 days. Then, I began to think of my father lying ill, my mother's worried face, and other such things³².

Because of this, I, feeling a certain kind of guilt, decided to go home at last. In order to avoid the time and trouble of getting my parents to send me the money to go home, I asked Sensei to lend me just what I would need when I came to his house on my farewell visit.

³² Lit., "...these things floated before my eyes."

かぜ 先生は少し風邪の気味で、座敷へ 出るのが 臆 劫 だといって、私を その書斎に通した。書斎の硝子戸 から冬に入って 稀 に見るような懐 かしい和らかな日光が机りの 上に射していた。先生はこの日あた りの好い 室 の中へ大きな火鉢を置 いて、五徳の上に懸けたかなだらい あが ゆげ いきから立ち上る湯気で、呼吸の苦し くなるのを防いでいた。

「大病は好いが、ちょっとした風ボなどはかえって 能なものですね」といった先生は、苦笑しながら私の顔を見た。

Sensei had a slight cold, and said it would be troublesome to come to the tatami room, so I met him in his study. Soft sunlight, such that had been truly missed that winter, shone through the glass door and onto Sensei's desk. Sensei had placed a large brazier in the room, a metal basin was hung above the kettle, and from it vapor rose to defend against painful breathing.

"Serious illness is fine, but little things such as a cold are much more painful" he said. Sensei smiled bitterly as he looked at my face.

先生は病気という病気をした事の ない人であった。先生の言葉を聞い た私は笑いたくなった。

「そうかね。私は病気になるくらいなら、死病に を りたいと思って る」

私は先生のいう事に格別注意を払 わなかった。すぐ母の手紙の話をし て、金の無心を申し出た。

「そりゃ困るでしょう。そのくらいなら今手元にあるはずだから持って 行きたまえ」

先生は奥さんを呼んで、必要の金額を私の前に並べさせてくれた。そ

I remembered that Sensei had never been seriously ill. Hearing his words, I wanted to laugh.

"I can handle a mere cold, but by no means anything more than that. For Sensei it is probably the same. Once you experience a worse illness, you will understand well."

"I guess so. But I think that if I must be ill,
I should like to suffer from a fatal disease."
I did not pay any special attention to these
words. I immediately told the story of my
mother's letter, and asked for the money.

"That is troubling. If that is all, because we should have that much on hand, please take it."

Sensei called his wife, and had her lay out the necessary amount in front of me. She れを奥の茶^な草^が一 か何かの猫 出 から出して来た奥さんは、白い半紙 の上へ^変。に重ねて、「そりゃ ご心配ですね」といった。

「竹一溢 も卒倒したんですか」と 先生が聞いた。

「手紙には何とも書いてありませんが。——そんなに何度も引ッ繰り返るものですか」

「ええ」

先生の奥さんの母親という人も私 の父と同じ病気で亡くなったのだと いう事が始めて私に解った。

「どうせむずかしいんでしょう」と 私がいった。

「そうさね。私が代られれば代って あげても好いが。——^{はきけ}あるんですか」 brought it out of her tea chest, or some
other kind of chest, piled it politely on top
of white paper, and said: "You must be
worried."

"How many times has he fainted?" Sensei asked.

"The letter did not say how many times...

However, in these cases, is it normal to
faint often?"

"Yes"

I was told for the first time that Sensei's mother-in-law died of the same disease my father had.

"Anyhow, it is probably not easy for my father" I said.

"Yes. If I could take his place, I would...

Does he have nausea?"

"The letter did not say anything about it, perhaps he hasn't had any."

"If he just hasn't had nausea yet then he is

「どうですか、何とも書いてないか ら、 大 方 ないんでしょう」

「吐気さえ来なければまだ大丈夫で すよ」と奥さんがいった。

私はその晩の汽車で東京を立った。

still fine," his wife said.

That night left Tokyo on a train.

Section Twenty-Two

父の病気は思ったほど悪くはなかった。それでも着いた時は、徐の上に が望をかいて、「みんなが心配するから、まあ我慢してこう疑としている。なにもう起きても好いのさ」といった。しかしその望行からは母が止めるのも聞かずに、とうとう床を上げさせてしまった。母は常常難怪に楽織りの舗付 My father's illness was not as bad as I had thought. When I arrived, he was sitting cross-legged on his futon. "Because everyone is worrying, I endure staying still like this. However, I am already well enough to get up," he said. The next day he stopped listening to my mother and left his bed. My mother unwillingly folded up his thick quilted futon. She said to me, "Because you have come back, he feels he has suddenly gotten better." I watched my father's behavior, and he didn't seem to be bluffing.

を畳みながら「お父さんはお前が帰って来たので、急に気が強くおなりなんだよ」といった。^{わなくし}には父の挙動がさして虚勢を張っているようにも思えなかった。

私の兄はある職を帯びて遠い九州に いた。これは万一の事がある場合でな ければ、容易に交替の顔を見る自由 の利かない男であった。妹は他国へ とつ 嫁いだ。これも急場の間に合うよう に、おいそれと呼び寄せられる女では なかった。兄妹三人のうちで、一番 便利なのはやはり書生をしている私だ けであった。その私が母のいい付け通 り学校の課業を放り出して、休み前に 帰って来たという事が、父には大きな 満足であった。

My older brother had a job in distant
Kyushu. Therefore, unless there was an
emergency, he did not have the freedom to
come see our parents when he wanted. My
younger sister lived with her husband in a
different province. Therefore, she also
couldn't easily come home at such short
notice. Amongst the three of us, I was the
student who could most easily come home.
The fact that I had abandoned my classes
and come home before the break gave my
father immense satisfaction.

「これしきの病気に学校を休ませては 気の毒だ。お母さんがあまり^ぎ山っな 手紙を書くものだからいけない」 父は口ではこういった。こういったば かりでなく、今まで敷いていた。床を上げさせて、いつものような元気を示した。

「あんまり軽はずみをしてまた。逆 値 すといけませんよ」

私のこの注意を父は愉快そうにしか しをかめて軽く受けた。

「なに大丈夫、これでいつものように らじん 要 心さえしていれば」

実際父は大丈夫らしかった。家の中を自由に往来して、息も切れなければ、眩暈も感じなかった。ただ顔色だけは普通の人よりも大変悪かったが、これはまた今始まった症状でもないの

"I feel bad that we have caused you to abandon your studies for such a little illness. Your mother shouldn't write such exaggerated letters," my father told me.

Not only did he say these things, but he had left his sick bed, and always seemed very healthy.

"If you are so rash, you will be sick again,"

I told him.

At these words, my father seemed happy, but received them very lightly.

"I will be fine so long as I just take caution, just as I always do."

Truly, my father did seem well. He walked freely about the house, his breathing was not hard, and he didn't experience any dizziness. The only symptom of his disease was that his face was not its usual color. But because this

で、私たちは格別それを気に留めなかった。

私は先生に手紙を書いており、借ぐの 礼を述べた。正月上京する時に持参す るからそれまで待ってくれるようにと断 わった。そうして父の病状の思ったほど 険悪でない事、この分なら当分安心な ま、眩暈も鳴気も皆無な事などを書き 連ねた。最後に先生の風 邪について いちごん う 見舞を附け加えた。私は先 生の風邪を実際軽く見ていたので。 私はその手紙を出す時に決して先生 の返事を予期していなかった。出した 後で父や母と先生の。噂などをしな がら、遥かに先生の書斎を想像した。 「こんど東京へ行くときには 椎 茸 でも

was not a new symptom, we didn't pay any particular attention to it.

I sent a letter to Sensei thanking him for the loan. I asked him to please wait on the money, and that I would bring it to him when I came back to Tokyo in January. I told him that, at the moment, my father's illness did not seem very serious, and for now we had peace of mind. I also told him that my father did not have any dizziness or nausea amongst other things. Afterwards, I enquired about his cold. Truthfully, I did not see his cold as a serious concern.

When I sent the letter to Sensei, I did not think at all that he would actually reply.

After I sent the letter, I talked with my mother and father about Sensei. As I did this, I imagined Sensei's far off study.

"You should bring him mushrooms next time you go to Tokyo³³."

³³ The narrator's mother's suggestion is not as strange as it sounds. Shiitake mushrooms were used in many recipes, and were therefore a common gift.

持って行ってお上げ」

「ええ、しかし先生が干した椎茸なぞを食うかしら」

「言くはないが、別に嫌いな人もないだろう」

私には椎茸と先生を結び付けて考える のが変であった。

先生の返事が来た時、私はちょっと 驚かされた。ことにその内容が特別の 用件を含んでいなかった時、驚かされ た。先生はただ親切ずくで、返事を書 いてくれたんだと私は思った。そう思う と、その簡単な一本の手紙が私には大 層な喜びになった。もっともこれは私が 先生から受け取った第一の手紙には 相違なかったが。

第一というと私と先生の間に書信の 往復がたびたびあったように思われる が、事実は決してそうでない事をちょっ と断わっておきたい。私は先生の生前 "But, I don't know if he will eat dried mushrooms."

"They may not be delicious, but surely no one particularly dislikes them."

To me, it was strange to think of Sensei and mushrooms at the same time.

I was a little bit surprised when I received a response from Sensei. I was especially shocked when I found that the contents of the letter did not contain a definite purpose. It seemed that Sensei had written a reply simply out of kindness.

When I thought this, I was delighted at the simple letter. This was the first letter I had ever received from Sensei.

When I spoke of this first letter, it may appear that Sensei and I sent many letters to each other. However, the truth is that I must dismiss this idea as completely

にたった二通の手紙しか 覚っていない。その一通は今いうこの簡単な返書で、あとの一通は先生の死ぬ前とくに私でで書いた大変長いものである。

父は病気の性質として、運動を慎まなければならないので、床を上げてからも、ほとんど声外へは出なかった。一度天気のごく穏やかな日の午後庭へ下りた事があるが、その時は万一を
「気って、私が引き添うように「傍に付いていた。私が心配して自分の肩へ手を掛けさせようとしても、父は笑って応じなかった。

incorrect. While Sensei was alive, I received only two letters from him. The first was the letter I received at this time as a response to my letter. The second was the very long letter Sensei wrote to me before his death.

Because of his illness, my father had to refrain from exercising. Even after he was no longer bedridden, he could not go outside. Once, in the afternoon of a very beautiful day, he went into the garden. I felt anxious that something might happen to him, so I stayed by his side. I was very worried. When I tried to get him to put his hand on my shoulder, he laughed and would not comply.

わたくし 私 は退屈な父の相手としてよく しょうぎばん 将 碁 盤 に向かった。二人とも無精な たち作者なので、炬燵にあたったまま、盤 をもの上へ載せて、駒を動かすた びに、わざわざ手を掛蒲団の下から 出すような事をした。時々持篇を失く して、次の勝負の来るまで双方とも知 らずにいたりした。それを母が灰の中 から見付け出して、火箸で挟み上げ こっけい るという 滑稽もあった。

「碁だと盤が高過ぎる上に、足が着い ているから、炬燵の上では打てない As partner to my bored father, we often played *shogi*³⁴. Because we both had lazy dispositions, we placed the board on top of the *kotatsu*³⁵, so that we could play while sitting at the *kotatsu*. Each time we made a move, we would purposely take our hands from underneath the table. Sometimes we would lose a captured piece, and neither of us would realize this until the next game. My mother would find the lost pieces in the ashes, and would pick them up with tongs. This also we found amusing.

"The table for go^{36} is too high, because it has legs, we would not be able to put it on the *kotatsu*. For this reason, *shogi* is good,

³⁴ Japanese chess.

³⁵ A kotatsu is a table used in the winter, because it has a heater attached to the bottom of it.

³⁶ Another Japanese board game. This board has long legs attached, and therefore would be quite cumbersome to place atop of a kotatsu.

が、そこへ来ると将碁盤は好いね、こう して楽に差せるから。無精者には持っ て来いだ。もう一番やろう」

父は勝った時は必ずもう一番やろう といった。そのくせ負けた時にも、もう 一番やろうといった。要するに、勝って も負けても、炬燵にあたって、将碁を差 したがる男であった。始めのうちは珍し いので、この隠居じみた娯楽が私に も相当の興味を与えたが、少し時日が た 経つに伴れて、若い私の気力はそのく しげき らいな刺戟で満足できなくなった。私は きん きょうしゃ こぶし を頭の上 へ伸ばして、時々思い切ったあくびをし た。

because we can play comfortably. It is just right for lazy people like us. Let's play another round."

Every time my father won he would say we should play another game. And yet, when he lost, he would also say we should play another game. To put it simply, whether he won or lost, he was the kind of man who was content to stay affixed to the kotatsu and play shogi. The first time we played had been a novel occasion, so the pleasure that had a touch of being a retired person gave me a befitting interest. However, with the passing of a little time, my young spirit could no longer find satisfaction in this dispirited stimulus. Sometimes, I became so bored that I would give a great yawn, raising my fists that were clasping *shogi* pieces over my head.

私は東京の事を考えた。そうして^{みなぎ} る心臓の血潮の奥に、活動活動と打ち つづける鼓動を聞いた。不思議にもそ の鼓動の音が、ある微妙な意識状態 から、先生の力で強められているよう に感じた。

私は心のうちで、父と先生とを比較して見た。両方とも世間から見れば、生きているか死んでいるか分らないほどを大しい男であった。他に認められるという点からいえばどっちもなっであった。それでいて、この将碁を差したがる父は、単なる娯楽の相手としても私には物足りなかった。かつて遊興のために発素をしたりでえるい先生は、歓

I thought of Tokyo³⁷. Then, in my heart's pulsing blood, I heard the continuous throbbing of "*katsudou*, *katsudou*³⁸."

Strangely enough, I felt like Sensei's strength was reinforcing the sound of this beat.

In my heart, I tried comparing my father and Sensei. If both were looked at from society's perspective, these men were so unknown that society would not know if they were alive or dead. From the perspective of people who did not know them, both men amounted to nothing.

And yet, my chess-playing father, who I only spent time with for the purpose of leisure, did not fulfill me. But Sensei, who I had never met with for the purpose of merrymaking, had influenced my thoughts

³⁷ Lit., "The things of Tokyo," or "The essence of Tokyo."

³⁸ The Japanese term is left in the text because it sounds more like pulsing than the English equivalents. A close translation would be "Action, Action."

楽の交際から出る親しみ以上に、いつ か私の頭に影響を与えていた。ただ頭 というのはあまりに 冷 やか過ぎるか ら、私は胸といい直したい。肉のなかに く 先生の力が喰い 込んでいるといって も、血のなかに先生の命が流れている といっても、その時の私には少しも誇 張でないように思われた。私は父が私 の本当の父であり、先生はまたいうま でもなく、あかの他人であるという明白 な事実を、ことさらに眼の前に並べて みて、始めて大きな真理でも発見した かのごとくに驚いた。

more than the affection that comes from having a relationship simply for fun.

Because "thought" is a little too cold of a word, I want to correct this to say heart³⁹.

To say that Sensei's strength was living in my flesh, that his life force was flowing in my veins, seemed to not be an exaggeration at all at the time. The obvious truth that my father was indeed my true father, and Sensei was, needless to say, a complete stranger... I tried to make sense of this truth. And for the first time, I was surprised by it.

私がのつそつし出すと前後して、父 や母の眼にも今まで珍しかった私が 段々陳腐になって来た。これは夏休み

I slowly became strange in my parents eyes. I think everyone who comes back to his or her home during the summer vacation or otherwise have a similar

³⁹ The word translated as "thought" also means brain, head, or intellectual.

などに国へ帰る誰でもが一様に経験す る心持だろうと思うが、当座の一週間ぐ らいは下にも置かないように、ちやほ もてな や歓待されるのに、その峠を定規通 り通り越すと、あとはそろそろ家族の熱 が冷めて来て、しまいには有っても無く っても構わないもののように粗末に取 り扱われがちになるものである。私も滞 在中にその峠を通り越した。その上私 は国へ帰るたびに、父にも母にも解 らない変なところを東京から持って帰っ た。昔でいうと、儒者の家へ切支丹 の臭いを持ち込むように、私の持って 帰るものは父とも母とも調和しなかっ た。無論私はそれを隠していた。けれ ども元々身に着いているものだから、 出すまいと思っても、いつかそれが父

experience. For about a week, you are given a kind of royal welcome, and although you are pampered and given a warm reception, after you pass over a certain point, your family's fever slowly cools. In the end, the rough way in which you are treated seems as if it doesn't matter if you exist at all. I also go over this ridge when I stay. Furthermore, every time I come home, neither my father nor my mother understood the parts of me that had changed due to living in Tokyo. In the old days, one might say the disharmony of my parents and myself was like bringing the smell of Christianity into a Confucian home. Of course I hid that I had changed. However, because it was in me from the beginning, even though I tried not to show it, these things caught my parents' attention⁴⁰. I did not find this amusing. I wanted to return quickly to Tokyo.

⁴⁰ Lit., "...stopped their eyes."

や母の眼に留まった。私はつい面白くなくなった。早く東京へ帰りたくなった。

父の病気は幸い現状維持のままで、 少しも悪い方へ進む模様は見えなかった。念のためにわざわざ遠くから相当 の医者を招いたりして、慎重に診察し てもらってもやはり私の知っている以 外に異状は認められなかった。私は冬 休みの尽きる少し前に国を立つ事にした。立つといい出すと、人情は妙なもの で、父も母も反対した。

「もう帰るのかい、まだ早いじゃないか」と母がいった。

「まだ四、五日いても間に合うんだろう」と父がいった。

私は自分の極めた出立の日を動かさなかった。

Fortunately, my father's illness was staying the same, and it did not seem that it was getting worse at all. Just to be sure, we invited a good doctor from far away, and he examined him. Just as expected, he did not find anything that we did not already know about. I decided to leave a little before the end of the winter break. When I tried to tell my parents this, my parents objected. Humanity being the strange thing that it is.

"Leaving already? Isn't that hasty?" my mother said.

"Surely you could stay another four or five days" said my father.

I was not shifted from my decided departure date.

東京へ帰ってみると、松が飾りはいつか取り払われていた。町は寒い風の吹くに任せて、どこを見てもこれというほどの正月めいた景気はなかった。

わたくし きるく 私 は 草 速 先生のうちへ金を返し に行った。例の 椎 茸 もついでに持っ て行った。ただ出すのは少し変だから、 母がこれを差し上げてくれといいました とわざわざ断って奥さんの前へ置い た。椎茸は新しい菓子折に入れてあっ た。鄭 寧 に礼を述べた奥さんは、次 った。 の間へ立つ時、その折を持って見て、 軽いのに驚かされたのか、「こりゃ何の おかし 御菓子」と聞いた。奥さんは懇意になる と、こんなところに極めて淡泊な こども 小供らしい心を見せた。

When I returned to Tokyo, the New Year's decorations had been cleared away. Due to the blowing of the cold wind, the city showed no signs of New Years, no matter where I looked.

I immediately went to Sensei's house to return the money. Taking the opportunity, I also brought the ordinary mushrooms. Because it would be a little strange to simply take out mushrooms, I expressly told Sensei's wife that my mother had given them something, and placed them before her. The mushrooms had been put in a new cake box. Sensei's wife politely expressed her gratitude, and when she rose to go to the next room, she picked up the box and seemed was surprised at its light weight. She asked "What kind of candy is this?" As I became acquainted with Sensei's wife, I could see that on occasions such as this she had the heart of a simple child.

二人とも父の病気について、色々 けねん 掛念の問いを繰り返してくれた中に、 先生はこんな事をいった。

「なるほど 容 体 を聞くと、今が今どうという事もないようですが、病気が病気 だからよほど気をつけないといけません」

先生は腎臓の 特別 について私の 知らない事を多く知っていた。

「自分で病気になかっていながら、気が付かないで平気でいるのがあの病の特色です。私の知ったある士食は、とうとうそれでやられたが、全く嘘のような死に方をしたんですよ。何しろくばに寝ていた細者が看病をする暇もなんにもないくらいなんですからね。夜中に

When the two people asked about my father's condition, Sensei said this:

"Indeed, when I hear of such a condition, it seems that he is fine for now. However, because an illness is an illness regardless, one must take extreme caution."

Sensei knew many things about kidney disease that I did not know. "The mark of that disease is that while a person has it, they are unaware that they have it. I knew an officer who died of it, and he was completely unaware of the disease⁴¹. His wife, who had been sleeping next to him, did not have time to do anything for him. In the middle of the night, he woke her up and told her he was in a little pain. The next morning he was already dead. Worse yet, his wife thought he had gone back to sleep."

 $^{^{41}}$ Lit., "he had been deceived by the disease."

ちょっと苦しいといって、細君を起した ぎり、翌る朝はもう死んでいたんです。 しかも細君は夫が寝ているとばかり思 ってたんだっていうんだから」

今まで楽天的に傾いていた私は急に 不安になった。

「私の^{お交じ}もそんなになるでしょうか。 ならんともいえないですね」 「医者は何というのです」

「医者は到底治らないというんです。けれども当分のところ心配はあるまいともいうんです」

「それじゃ好いでしょう。医者がそういうなら。私の今話したのは気が付かずにいた人の事で、しかもそれがずいぶん乱暴な軍人なんだから」

私はやや安心した。私の変化を凝と 見ていた先生は、それからこう付け足 I, who had been inclined to be positive until then, suddenly became anxious.

"The same thing will happen to my father, then? At least, no one can't say it won't happen."

"What did the doctor say?"

"The doctor said it couldn't be cured.

However, at present he said we probably don't need to worry."

"He is probably fine then. If that is all that the doctor said. My story just now was about a person who did not take care of himself. Moreover, he was a very reckless soldier."

I was a little relieved. Sensei, who steadily watched this change in my manner, added to his words.

した。

か」

「しかし人間は健康にしろ病気にしろ、どっちにしても能いものですね。いつどんな事でどんな死にようをしないとも限らないから」

「先生もそんな事を考えてお出です

「いくら丈夫の私でも、満 更 考えない 事もありません」

先生の口元には微笑の影が見えた。 「よくころりと死ぬ人があるじゃありませんか。自然に。それからあっと思う間に 死ぬ人もあるでしょう。不自然な暴力 で」

「不自然な暴力って何ですか」
「何だかそれは私にも 解 らないが、自
殺する人はみんな不自然な暴力を使う

"However, even if a human is healthy or has a disease, he is still fragile. When, by what kind of thing, what kind of death, he will have, is not something that he can know."

"That kind of thing comes into even your mind?"

"No matter how healthy I am, I do think about it."

I saw a trace of a smile on Sensei's face.

"Are there not often people who die suddenly of natural causes? And then, are there not also people who die suddenly of unnatural violence?"

"What do you mean by unnatural violence?"

"Somehow, I don't understand either, however, surely everyone who commits suicide uses unnatural violence."

"If that's the case, the one who is murdered also dies of unnatural violence, right?"

「すると殺されるのも、やはり不自然な 暴力のお 蔭 ですね」

「殺される方はちっとも考えていなかっ た。なるほどそういえばそうだ」

その日はそれで帰った。帰ってからも 父の病気はそれほど苦にならなかった。先生のいった自然に死ぬとか、不 自然の暴力で死ぬとかいう言葉も、そ の場限りの浅い印象を与えただけで、 をとは何らのこだわりを私の頭に残さなかった。私は今まで幾た度か手を着けようとしては手を引っ込めた卒業論文を、いよいよ本式に書き始めなければならないと思い出した。 "I had not thought of that. But of course, it is as you said."

After this, I returned home. After I returned, I was not troubled by my father's disease to the same extent as I had been before. Sensei's words about dying suddenly of natural causes or by unnatural violence also only made only a superficial impression on my mind. At this time, there was only one thing that was on my mind. My graduation thesis, which I had up until that day tried innumerable times to start, only to give up again. I realized that I needed to be more serious in my writing.

Section Twenty-Five

その年の六月に卒業するはずの

わたくし 私 は、ぜひともこの論文を I was set to graduate in June. By all means, I had to have my thesis completely written by April. I counted the remaining days on my fingers. I slightly distrusted my

せいきどお 成 通り四月いっぱいに書き上げて しまわなければならなかった。二、三、 四と指を折って余る時日を勘定して見 た時、私は少し自分の度胸を^{うたぐ}っ た。他のものはよほど前から材料を あつ 恵 めたり、ノートを溜めたりして、 よそめ いそが 余所目にも 忙 しそうに見えるのに、 私だけはまだ何にも手を着けずにい た。私にはただ年が改まったら大いに やろうという決心だけがあった。私はそ の決心でやり出した。そうして^{たちま} 動けなくなった。今まで大きな問題を空 に描いて、骨組みだけはほぼでき上 っているくらいに考えていた私は、頭を ^{おさ} 抑えて悩み始めた。私はそれから論

own ability. Other students had been collecting material and notes for a long time. From an outsider perspective, though my peers seemed very busy, I alone had yet to do anything. All I had done was resolve to do my thesis in the New Year. I followed through with that determination. And then, suddenly, I could not work on it. Up until then, I sketched large questions in the empty air, and, having only an outline, thought my thesis was more or less complete. With my head in my hands, I began to despair. Then, I began narrowing my thesis topic. In order to curtail the trouble of systematically summarizing my own polished ideology, I simply set up the material from books, and added a befitting conclusion⁴².

⁴² This passage denotes casualness to the narrator's action in writing a conclusion. Something along the lines of "threw one together" might sum it up.

文の問題を小さくした。そうして練り上げた思想を系統的に 纏める手数を省くために、ただ書物の中にある材料を並べて、それに相当な結論をちょっと付け加える事にした。

私の選択した問題は先生の専門と縁 故の近いものであった。私がかつてそ の選択について先生の意見を尋ねた 時、先生は好いでしょうといった。

る。 が関した気味の私は、 対した気味の私は、 対した気味の私は、 対した気味の私は、 対しまなければならない をおき書を聞いた。 先生は自分の知 っている限りの知識を、快く私に与えて くれた上に、必要の書物を、二、三冊貸 そうといった。 しかし先生はこの点について に いて に も私を指導する任に当ろうとしなかった。 My chosen topic was related to Sensei's specialization. When I had once asked Sensei about my topic selection, Sensei said that it sounded good. I was panicking, and soon went to Sensei's home to ask about what reference books I should read. Sensei cheerfully and graciously conferred all the information he could within the limits of his understanding. Furthermore, he said he would lend me books. However, he said that he couldn't help me any further than that.

「近頃はあんまり書物を読まないから、新しい事は知りませんよ。学校の先生に聞いた方が好いでしょう」

先生は一時非常の読書家であったが、その後どういう訳か、前ほどこの方面に興味が働かなくなったようだと、かつて奥さんから聞いた事があるのを、私はその時ふと思い出した。私は論文をよそにして、そぞろに口を開いた。「先生はなぜ元のように書物に興味をもち得ないんですか」

「なぜという訳もありませんが。......つまりいくら本を読んでもそれほどえらくならないと思うせいでしょう。それから」

「それから、まだあるんですか」 「まだあるというほどの理由でもないが、以前はね、人の前へ出たり、人に 聞かれたりして知らないと恥のようにき "Because I don't read much nowadays, I do not know about the new scholarship. You should ask your professors."

For a while Sensei had been an extraordinary bookworm, but somehow, he did not hold the same interest in books that he had before. I suddenly thought of the time his wife had told me about this. I was suddenly indifferent to my thesis, and without knowing why, asked:

"I do not know why...However, it is probably that no matter how many books I read; I think I will not become admirable.

And then..."

"Why are you no longer interested in

"And then...?"

reading?"

"...Well, it is not exactly a reason, but before, I was embarrassed to appear ignorant in front of others. However, these days, I am not ashamed to not know まりが悪かったものだが、近頃は知らないという事が、それほどの恥でないように見え出したものだから、つい無理にも本を読んでみようという元気が出なくなったのでしょう。まあ早くいえば老い込んだのです」

先生の言葉はむしろ平静であった。
世間に背中を向けた人の苦味を帯び
ていなかっただけに、私にはそれほど
の手応えもなかった。私は先生を老い
込んだとも思わない代りに、偉いとも感
心せずに帰った。

それからの私はほとんど論文にたい られた精神病者のように眼を赤くして 苦しんだ。私は一年がに卒業した友 達について、色々様子を聞いてみたり した。そのうちのいちにかは締むの日 something. That is probably why I don't have much vigor for reading. In a word, it is because I have become weak with age."

Sensei's words were rather calm. His response did not seem to me to simply carry the bitterness of one who has turned his back on the world. I did not think Sensei had become weak with age, but I also went home without thinking he was extraordinary or admirable.

After a while, I was so worried my eyes became red, as if my thesis had been cursed with mental psychosis. I tried asking my friends who had graduated the previous year about various things. One person told me he took a rickshaw to the office the day of the deadline and barely made it on time. Another person said that

に車で事務所へ馳けつけて 漸く間に 合わせたといった。他の一人は五時を +五分ほど後らして持って行ったた あ^{やう}は め、危 く跳ね付けられようとしたとこ ろを、主任教授の好意でやっと受理し てもらったといった。私は不安を感ずる ま と共に度胸を据えた。毎日机の前で精 根のつづく限り働いた。でなければ、薄 暗い書庫にはいって、高い本棚のあち みまわらこちらを見、廻した。私の眼は好事家 が 骨 董 でも掘り出す時のように背表 紙の金文字をあさった。

梅が咲くにつけて寒い風は段々できると、桜のうゆった。それが一仕もりを向った。それが一仕もりなった。それが一仕もりなった。とれが一仕もりなった。とれば一古いまではいる。それでも私は馬車馬の

because he came fifteen minutes late, his
thesis was not accepted. It was only due to
the goodwill of the department director that
his thesis was accepted in the end. I felt
anxiousness as well as courage. Everyday I
sat in front of my desk and continued to
work as far as possible. If I was not at my
desk, I went to the gloomy library, and
surveyed the tall bookcases here and there.
I looked for the gold lettering on the spine
of books as if I was a dilettante picking
through antiques.

When the plums bloomed, the cold wind gradually shifted south. After a while, I heard a rumor that the cherry blossoms had also begun to bloom. And yet, I was like a workhorse, looking only straight forward, and being whipped forward by my thesis.

ように正面ばかり見て、論文に載うたれた。私はついに四月の下旬が来て、やっと予定通りのものを書き上げるまで、先生の敷居を誇がなかった。

Finally, the end of April came, and before I finally finished writing my thesis, I did not visit Sensei

Section Twenty-Six

れるいの自由になったのは、 がですなように伸び始める初夏の季節であった。私はなでを抜け出した小鳥の心をもって、広い天地をひとりに見渡しながら、自由に対すきをした。私はすぐ先生のなった。、結びなり、に、いていたり、私間の枯れた幹から、つ

I was free at last. Before I knew it, the double cherry blossoms had all fallen from their branches, and the hazy green leaves began to grow in their place. It was the beginning of summer. I felt like a bird that had snuck out of its cage, and freely flapped its wings as it surveyed the spacious heavens. I immediately went to Sensei's house. Along the way, my eyes were attracted to the flowers atop the black branches of orange trees that had begun to bloom, and were flowing in the wind. I also noticed the reddish-brown leaves of the withered glossy pomegranate trees reflected the soft sunlight. These things

やつやしい茶褐色の葉が、柔らかそう に日光を映していたりするのが、道々 私の眼を引き付けた。私は生れて初め てそんなものを見るような珍しさを覚え た。 seemed so curious; as if it was the first time I had ever seen them.

先生は 嬉しそうな私の顔を見て、

「もう論文は片付いたんですか、結構ですね」といった。私は「お 蔭 でようやく 済みました。もう何にもする事はありません」といった。

実際その時の私は、自分のなすべきすべての仕事がすでには話っていても構わないような時やかな心持でいた。私は書き上げた自分の論文に対して充分の自信と満足をもっていた。私は先生の前で、しきりにその内容をないっちなるほた。先生はいつもの調子で、「なるほ

Seeing my happy face, Sensei said:
"You're already done with your thesis?
Splendid."

"Thanks to you, I am finally finished. I already have nothing more to do." I said.

In all reality, I thought at the time that I had done completely what was expected of me, I was proud of what I had done, and had a sunny feeling, like it wouldn't matter if I simply enjoyed myself. I was satisfied in regards to my completed thesis, which I confidently thought was satisfactory. I went on and on about it to Sensei. In his usual manner, he would graciously say, "I see," "Is that so?" However, he would not say anymore than this. Rather than being

ど」とか、「そうですか」とかいってくれたが、それ以上の批評は少しも加えなかった。私は物足りないというよりも、

い前さか拍子抜けの気味であった。それでもその日私の気力は、 因 循 らしく

見える先生の態度に逆襲を試みるほど

いきいき に生々していた。私は青く蘇生ろ

うとする大きな自然の中に、先生を誘 い出そうとした。

「先生どこかへ散歩しましょう。外へ出ると大変好い心持です」

「どこへ」

私はどこでも構わなかった。ただ先生っ っ を伴れて郊外へ出たかった。

一時間の後、先生と私は目的どお り市を離れて、村とも町とも区別の付か ない静かな所ををしまるく歩いた。私は unsatisfied, I felt a little disappointment.

And yet, that day I had so much vitality that I went so far as to try to counteract

Sensei's apathy. I tried to lure him into the large green and reborn world outside.

"Sensei, let's take a walk somewhere. It is such a beautiful day outside."

"Go where?"

I didn't care where we went. I simply wanted to go out with Sensei.

After one hour, we left the city, and walked in a quiet place that was somewhere in between a village and a town. I plucked up a young and tender leaf from a point on a fence, and began to use it as a whistle. I had learned how to do this from a friend of

かなめの垣から若い柔らかい葉をぎ取ってとざいを鳴らした。ある鹿児島人を友達にもって、その人の真似をしつつ自然に習い覚えた私は、この芝笛というものを鳴らす事が上手であった。私が得意にそれを吹きつづけると、先生は知らん顔をしてよそを向いて歩いた。

やがて若葉に顕ざされたように

「新野した小高い」と称素えの下に細い

ないいいないがいいです。

「はいってみようか」といった。私は
すぐ「植木屋ですね」と答えた。

うえこみ ひと うねりして奥へ上

ると左側に家があった。明け放った

mine who lived in Kagoshima. I had become very good at leaf whistling. When I continued to triumphantly blow into the leaf, Sensei turned his indifferent face away as we walked.

Before long, a thin road at the bottom of a small hill opened up. The grass of the hill was so thick that the leaves seemed to be interlocked. Because the sign that had been posted to the gate's pillar that it was such and such a garden, we knew immediately that it was not a private residence. Sensei leisurely gazed at the entrance at the top and said, "Shall we try going in?" I immediately responded "It is a landscaper."

doors had been left open, and we did not

We ascended the winding path, which

was surrounded by thick vegetation. And

then the house was on our left. The sliding

なかった。ただ。軒 先 に据えた大きな 鉢の中に飼ってある金魚が動いてい た。

しょうじ 障子の内はがらんとして人の影も見え

「静かだね。断わらずにはいっても構わないだろうか」

「構わないでしょう」

二人はまた奥の方へ進んだ。しかし そこにも人影は見えなかった。躑躅が 燃えるように咲き乱れていた。先生は そのうちで権。色のための高いのを指 して、「これはショーでしょう」といった。 はないであまり一面に植え付け られていたが、まだ季節が来ないので 花を着けているのは一本もなかった。

この芍薬 畠 の 傍 にある古びた縁

even see the shadow of a person on the inside. There were only goldfish swimming in a large bowl that had been placed in front of the house.

"It is certainly quiet. I wonder if it's alright to come in without being invited."

"Surely it isn't a problem."

We advanced further inside. However, we did not see anyone there either. The azaleas were blooming so brilliantly they seemed to be on fire. Among these, Sensei pointed out a tall reddish yellow one, and said "This is probably Kirishima⁴³."

There were also Chinese peonies planted on one side. However, because it was not their season, not even one of them was flowering. Next to this field of peonies was an old bench that Sensei sprawled on top of

⁴³ Lit., foggy island.

台のようなものの上に先生は大の字な りに寝た。私はその余った端の方に腰 多い。 をおろして烟草を吹かした。先生は 蒼 い透き徹るような空を見ていた。私は 私を包む若葉の色に心を奪われてい た。その若葉の色をよくよく眺めると、 ー々違っていた。同じ 楓 の樹でも同 じ色を枝に着けているものは一つもな かった。細い杉苗の 頂 に投げ 被 せてあった先生の帽子が風に吹かれ て落ちた。

to rest. I sat on the little bit of the bench that remained and smoked. Sensei looked up at the sky, which was so blue it seemed transparent. I was captivated by the color of the new leaves that surrounded me.

When I gazed at the color of one after the other, every one of them was different. On the same branch of the same tree, there were no two leaves that had the same color. Sensei's hat, which he had placed on a slender Japanese cedar, was blown by the wind and fell.

Section Twenty-Seven

わないはすぐその帽子を取り上げた。ところどころに着いている赤土を「爪」で弾きながら先生を呼んだ。

I immediately picked up the hat. As I flicked off the bits of red clay that had become attached here and there, I called to Sensei.

"Sensei, your hat fell down."

「先生帽子が落ちました」
「ありがとう」

り体を半分起してそれを受け取った 先生は、起きるとも寝るとも片付かない その姿勢のままで、変な事を私に聞い た。

「突然だが、君の 家 には財産がよっ ぽどあるんですか」

「あるというほどありゃしません」 「まあどのくらいあるのかね。失礼のよ うだが」

「どのくらいって、山と田地が少しあるぎりで、金なんかまるでないんでしょう」 先生が私の「家の経済について、問いらしい問いを掛けたのはこれが始めてであった。私の方はまだ先生の暮し向きに関して、何も聞いた事がなかった。先生と知り合いになった始め、私は "Thank you"

Sensei halfway raised himself up and accepted the hat. He stayed in this posture that was neither upright or lying down, and asked me this strange thing:

"This is a bit sudden... but is your family very wealthy?"

"Not really."

"About how much wealth do you have? Please excuse me..."

"How much, you say? We have some woods and fields. But I don't think we have any money."

This was the first time Sensei had asked me about my family's finances. As for me, I had still never asked Sensei about his own circumstances. Since I met Sensei, I had wondered how he was able to spend his time so idly. Afterwards, I had always

先生がどうして遊んでいられるかを
うなぐった。その後もこの疑いは絶えず
私の胸を去らなかった。しかし私はそ
んな露骨な問題を先生の前に持ち出
すのをぶしつけとばかり思っていつでも
控えていた。若葉の色で疲れた眼を休ませていた私の心は、偶然またその疑いに触れた。

「先生はどうなんです。どのくらいの財産をもっていらっしゃるんですか」
「私は財産家と見えますか」
先生は平生からむしろ質素な服装を

していた。それに家内は小人数であった。したがって住宅も決して広くはなかった。けれどもその生活の物質的に豊かな事は、内輪にはいり込まない私の眼にさえ明らかであった。要するに先

wondered about this⁴⁴. However, I always restrained myself from asking this question, because I thought to ask such a frank question would be impolite. I gave my tired eyes a rest from staring at the colors of the leaves, and this same question unexpectedly came into my mind again.

"What about you? About how much of a fortune do you have?"

"Do I seem wealthy?"

Sensei usually dressed simply.

Furthermore, there were few people in his house, and his home was by no means large. However, his affluent lifestyle was clear even to myself, who was not a member of his household. In a word, though Sensei could not have been said to live in luxury, he also lived with an

⁴⁴ Lit., "There was continuously a question about this in my heart."

生の暮しは^{ぜいたく}といえないまでも、あたじけなく切り詰めた無弾力性のものではなかった。

「そうでしょう」と私がいった。

「そりゃそのくらいの金はあるさ、けれ ども決して財産家じゃありません。財産 家ならもっと大きな 家 でも造るさ」

この時先生は起き上って、縁台の上に関連をかいていたが、こういい終ると、竹のでなの先で地面の上へ円のようなものを描き始めた。それが済むと、今度はステッキを突き刺すように

「これでも元は財産家なんだがなあ」 先生の言葉は半分強り言のようで あった。それですぐ後に尾いて行き損なった私は、つい黙っていた。 adaptability that did not denote being in need.

"I guess so," I said.

"Though I do have some money, I am by no means wealthy. If I was, I would build a larger house."

At this time Sensei rose up, and sat with his legs crossed on the bench. When he was done speaking, he began drawing something that looked similar to a circle with a bamboo rod in the dirt before him. When he had finished, he thrust the stick into the ground, so it stood up straight. "Even though I am not rich now, I used to be a wealthy person."

Sensei's words seemed to be halfway directed at himself. Then, immediately afterwards, I was at a loss for what to say next, I became quiet. "Even though I am

「これでも元は財産家なんですよ、君」 といい直した先生は、次に私の顔を見 て微笑した。私はそれでも何とも答えな かった。むしろ不調法で答えられなかっ たのである。すると先生がまた問題を が、移した。

「あなたのお父さんの病気はその後どうなりました」

私は父の病気について正月以後何にも知らなかった。月々国から送ってくれる為替と共に来る簡単な手紙は、例の通り父の「学」であったが、病気の訴えはそのうちにほとんど見当らなかった。その上書体も確かであった。この種の病人に見る「愛」えが少しも筆の「愛」びを乱していなかった。

「何ともいって来ませんが、もう好いん でしょう」 not rich now, I used to be a wealthy
person." Having said this, he looked at my
face and smiled. To this also, I did not have
a response. Rather, I could not think of
anything to say that would not be impolite.
Thereupon, Sensei changed the subject.

"How is your father's illness doing?"

I did not know anything about the progression of my father's illness since

New Year's. Every month, I received an allowance and a letter from home. My father's handwriting had been the same as usual, and did not show any signs of illness at all. It had been definite and clear. It did not look like his handwriting was shaken like that of a sick person.

"I haven't heard anything, However, surely he is well."

「好ければ結構だが、――病症が病症なんだからね」

「やっぱり駄目ですかね。でも当分は持ち合ってるんでしょう。何ともいって来ませんよ」

「そうですか」

私は先生が私のうちの財産を聞いたり、私の父の病気を尋ねたりするのを、普通の談話――胸に浮かんだままをその通り口にする、普通の談話と思って聞いていた。ところが先生の言葉の底には両方を結び付ける大きな意味があった。先生自身の経験を持たない私は無論そこに気が付くはずがなかった。

"If that is so, then splendid. ...But that is the nature of that illness."

"As expected, it is no good. But, for the present, perhaps he has not changed. I have not heard anything."

"Is that so?"

Sensei asking me of such things as my family's fortune and my father's illness, seemed to me to just be normal conversation, where one says whatever comes to their mind. However, at the bottom of Sensei's words, both of the things we talked about were deeply connected. Of course, I, who did not know about Sensei's experience, did not understand this at the time.

Section Twenty-Eight

「君のうちに財産があるなら、今のうち によく始末をつけてもらっておかないと いけないと思うがね、余計なお世話だ "If there is any wealth in your family, I think you must receive your inheritance immediately. However, it is none of my business. But while your father is well,

けれども。君のお父さんが達者なうちに、 に、 したらどうですか。 方一の事があった あとで、 一番面倒の起るのは財産の問 題だから」

wouldn't it be better to have it settled
exactly what you are to receive? After all,
if an emergency occurs, wealth is a
foremost difficulty that arises."
"Sure"

「ええ」

わたくし 私 は先生の言葉に大した注意を 払わなかった。私の家庭でそんな心配 をしているものは、私に限らず、父にし ろ母にしろ、一人もないと私は信じてい た。その上先生のいう事の、先生とし て、あまりに実際的なのに私は少し驚 かされた。しかしそこは年長者に対す る平生の敬意が私を無口にした。 「あなたのお父さんが亡くなられるの を、今から予想してかかるような ことばづか 言葉 遣いをするのが気に触ったら 許してくれたまえ。しかし人間は死ぬも のだからね。どんなに達者なものでも、

I did not pay considerable attention to
Sensei's words. In my household, I
believed there was no one with that kind of
concern, not even myself. Furthermore, I
was surprised at Sensei's words, which
seemed exceedingly pragmatic. However, I
was quiet about this in order to show the
respect to Sensei as my elder.

"Please excuse me if I hurt your feeling just now, talking as if I'm expecting your father to die. However, people are mortal.

No matter how healthy, we do not know when we will die."

Sensei's tone was unusually unpleasant.

"That sort of thing does not bother me at

いつ死ぬか分らないものだからね」

こうき 先生の口気は珍しく苦々しかった。

「そんな事をちっとも気に掛けちゃいません」と私は弁解した。

「君の 兄 弟 は何人でしたかね」と先 生が聞いた。

先生はその上に私の家族の人数を聞いたり、親類の有無を尋ねたり、 おどや叔母の様子を問いなどした。そ うして最後にこういった。

「みんな善い人ですか」

「別に悪い人間というほどのものもいないようです。大抵田舎者ですから」

るいきゅう 私はこの 追 窮 に苦しんだ。しかし

「田舎者はなぜ悪くないんですか」

先生は私に返事を考えさせる余裕さえ 与えなかった。 all." I defended him.

"How many siblings do you have?" Sensei asked.

Sensei also asked how many people there were in my family, inquired as to the presence of other relatives, and inquired about my uncles and aunts. In the end, he said this:

"Are they all good people?"

"None of them seem to be bad people.

After all, they are mostly country people."

"Why do you think country people are not bad?"

This question made me feel uncomfortable. However, Sensei did not even give me time to think of a response.

"On the contrary, country people are

「田舎者は都会のものより、かえって悪 いくらいなものです。それから、君は 今、君の親戚なぞの中に、これとい って、悪い人間はいないようだといいま したね。しかし悪い人間という一種の人 間が世の中にあると君は思っているん ですか。そんな鋳型に入れたような悪 人は世の中にあるはずがありません よ。平生はみんな善人なんです。少なく ともみんな普通の人間なんです。それ が、いざという間際に、急に悪人に変る んだから恐ろしいのです。だから油断 ができないんです」

先生のいう事は、ここで切れる様子もなかった。私はまたここで何かいおうとした。すると後ろの方で犬が急に吠え出した。先生も私も驚いて後ろを振り返った。

generally worse than city people. Just now, you said that none of your relatives seem like bad people. However, do you think that there is a certain kind of people in the world that are bad? There is no bad person in the world that you can place into the stereotypical mold of a bad person. On normal days everyone is a good person. At the very least, everyone is an ordinary person. But when opportunity arises, they suddenly change into bad people, and that is what is terrifying. Therefore, you must not be unprepared."

It did not seem that Sensei was ready to end what he was saying. I also tried to say something at this point. But at that point, we suddenly heard a dog bark behind us.

Sensei and I were both surprised and looked behind us.

 $^{^{\}rm 45}$ Lit., "When something is about to happen." In this context, something advantageous.

縁台の横から後部へ掛けて植え付けてある杉苗のでは、「熊を並が空」がほまが出るでは、「熊をが空」がほまと地を隠すように茂って生えていた。犬はその顔と背を熊笹の上に現わして、盛んに吠え立てた。そこへとがらいの「大人はかいけて来て犬を心り付けた。」
小供は微なの着いた黒い帽子をかば、ったまま先生の前へもつって礼をした。

Behind the bench, and next to the

Japanese cedars, bamboo grass grew
thickly, completely covering the ground.

The dog's face and back emerged from the
bamboo as it stood up and barked
vigorously at us. Then, a boy of about 10
came running up and scolded the dog.

While still wearing his school cap, the boy
turned to Sensei and bowed.

「叔父さん、はいって来る時、家 に 誰 もいなかったかい」と聞いた。

「誰もいなかったよ」

「姉さんやおっかさんが勝手の方にいたのに」

「そうか、いたのかい」

「ああ。叔父さん、今日はって、断って

はいって来ると好かったのに」

"Sir, when you came, was there no one in the house?" he asked.

"There was no one."

"But, my mother and sister were in the kitchen."

"Is that so? They were there?"

"Yes. Sir, you should have said 'good afternoon', and entered."

Sensei gave a wry smile. From his breast pocket, he took out a coin purse, and

先生は苦笑した。懐中から暴口

を出して、五銭の白 銅を小供の手に握らせた。

「おっかさんにそういっとくれ。少しここ で休まして下さいって」

小供は怜悧そうな眼にやいを^{みなぎ} 水供は怜悧そうな眼にやいを^{みなぎ} 浅 らして、首情いて見せた。

「今芹 候 長 になってるところなんだ よ」

小供はこう断って、躑躅の間を下の 方へ駈け下りて行った。犬も尻尾を高 く巻いて小供の後を追い掛けた。しば らくすると同じくらいの年格好の小供が 二、三人、これも斥候長の下りて行った 方へ駈けていった。 placed 5 sen in the boy's hand.

"Please go tell your mother we would like to rest here for a little while."

The boy's clever-seeming eyes overflowed with laughter, and he nodded his head in assent.

"Right now, I am the leader of your scouts."

The boy left us at that, and ran down the hill through the azaleas. The dog as well, with its tail rolled up high, chased after the boy. A short time later two or three other children of about the same age ran down the hill.

先生の談話は、この犬と小供のため に、結末まで進行する事ができなくなっ たので、私はついにその要領を得ない でしまった。先生の気にする財産 うんぬん けねん 云 々の掛念はその時の 私に は全くなかった。私の性質として、また 私の境遇からいって、その時の私に は、そんな利害の念に頭を悩ます余地 がなかったのである。考えるとこれは 私がまだ 世間に出ないためでもあり、 また実際その場に臨まないためでもあ ったろうが、とにかく若い私にはなぜか 金の問題が遠くの方に見えた。

先生の話のうちでただ一つ底まで聞きたかったのは、人間がいざという間際に、誰でも悪人になるという言葉の意味であった。単なる言葉としては、これだけでも私に解らない事はなかっ

Because of the boy and the dog, we were unable to reach the bottom of our conversation. At that time, I was totally without the cares that Sensei had for wealth and so forth. Due to my nature and my circumstances I did not make space in my head to worry about those kinds of things. Whether because I had not been out in the world much, or that I had not yet gone through the experience of my father dying, at any rate my young self saw money concerns as far away.

There was one thing in particular that I wanted to hear all of Sensei's opinion on:

His meaning in saying that anyone can be evil. Taken simply, it is not that I didn't understand. However, I wanted to know more about this one thing.

た。しかし私はこの句についてもっと知 りたかった。

犬と小供が去ったあと、広い若葉の もと 園は再び故の静かさに帰った。そうし て我々は沈黙に鎖ざされた人のように しばらく動かずにいた。うるわしい空の 色がその時次第に光を失って来た。眼 の前にある樹は大概 楓 であった が、その枝に 満 るように吹いた軽い 緑の若葉が、段々暗くなって行くように 思われた。遠い往来を荷車を引いて行 く響きがごろごろと聞こえた。私はそれ を村の男が植木か何かを載せて えんにち 縁 日 へでも出掛けるものと想像し た。先生はその音を聞くと、急に瞑想 から呼息を吹き返した人のように立ち

上がった。

After the boy and the dog left, silence returned to the garden for a second time. Then, we sat there for a while, almost as if we were locked down by the silence. The light slowly faded in the beautiful sky. The leaves on the trees that were in front of our eyes, which were almost entirely maple trees, blew in the wind as if they were water drops dripping from the branches. The leaves slowly became dark. The plundering sounds of a distant cart coming and going could be heard. I guessed that a man from the village was carrying shrubs or something to a fair. When Sensei heard this sound, he seemed to be suddenly called out of a meditation, and stood up.

「もう、そろそろ帰りましょう。 大学 が日が 永くなったようだが、やっぱりこう安閑と しているうちには、いつの間にか暮れ て行くんだね」

先生の背中には、さっき縁台の上に あおむ 仰向きに寝た痕がいっぱい着いてい た。私は両手でそれを払い落した。

「ありがとう。 脂 がこびり着いてやしませんか」

「綺麗に落ちました」

「この羽織はつい。此間、拵っえたばかりなんだよ。だからむやみに汚して帰ると、妻にいられるからね。有難う」

二人はまただらだら 坂 の中途にある

^{うち} 家 の前へ来た。はいる時には誰もい

な気色の見えなかった。縁に、お上さ

"It's about time to go back. It seems the days are becoming very long, and of course with this easy going atmosphere, it gets dark before you notice."

There were many marks on Sensei's back from before when he lied on the bench. I cleared these off with my hands.

"Thank you. There aren't any resin marks, are there?"

"It's all gone."

"This coat was made only a few days ago.

Therefore, If I had come home having recklessly made it dirty, I would have been scolded by my wife. Thank you."

We came to the house that was halfway down the gentle slope. At the veranda, where earlier there did not seem to be any sign of people, there was the mistress of the house, and a girl of fifteen or sixteen

んが、十五、六の娘を相手に、糸巻へ糸を巻きつけていた。二人は大きな金魚鉢の横から、「どうもお邪魔をしました」と教育した。お上さんは「いいえお構い申しも致しませんで」と礼を返した後、羌勢小供にやった皆ずの礼を述べた。

作行を出て二、三^ち的・来た時、私はついに先生に向かって口を切った。「さきほど先生のいわれた、人間は^だ誰でもいざという間際に悪人になるんだという意味ですね。あれはどういう意味ですか」

「意味といって、深い意味もありません。——つまり事実なんですよ。理屈じゃないんだ」

「事実で差 支えありませんが、私の

spinning thread together. "Pardon our intrusion." We said, as we stood next to the large goldfish bowl. The lady said "Not at all, pardon me for not having more hospitality" and returned our bow. She then expressed her thanks for the money we had given the boy a little while ago.

When we had gone a little ways, I finally turned to Sensei and said.

"What you said a little while ago, that anyone will become a bad person if given the opportunity, what did you mean by that?"

"'Meaning', you say. There wasn't any profound meaning... But it is the truth, not simply conjecture."

"There is no impediment to it being true, but what I wanted to ask was, what is the reason behind it? What kind of situation were you referring to?" 伺いたいのは、いざという間際という意味なんです。一体どんな場合を指すのですか」

先生は笑い出した。あたかも時機の 過ぎた今、もう熱心に説明する張合い がないといった演

「金さ君。金を見ると、どんな君子でも すぐ悪人になるのさ」

私には先生の返事があまりに平凡過ぎて言いなかった。先生が調子に乗らないごとく、私も拍子抜けの気味であった。私は澄ましてさっさと歩き出した。いきおい先生は少し後れがちになった。先生はあとから「おいおい」と声を掛けた。

「そら見たまえ」

「何をですか」

「君の気分だって、私の返事一つです

Sensei laughed. It was as if he no longer wanted to seriously discuss the matter.

"Money. If he sees money, even a man of virtue will immediately become a villain."

To me, Sensei's answer was too
commonplace and dull. Sensei seemed
depressed, and I felt disappointed. I looked
unconcerned and began to walk quickly.
Sensei fell behind. From behind, Sensei
called out "Hey!"

"Look at this."

"What?"

"Did my response change your mood so quickly?"

In order to meet back up with him, I was standing turned around towards him, and as he looked at my face as he spoke thus.

ぐ変るじゃないか」

待ち合わせるために振り向いて<u>た</u>ち

ど 留まった私の顔を見て、先生はこういっ

た。

Section Thirty

その時の^わ私^{くし}は腹の中で先生を 憎らしく思った。肩を並べて歩き出して からも、自分の聞きたい事をわざと聞 かずにいた。しかし先生の方では、そ れに気が付いていたのか、いないの か、まるで私の態度に拘泥る様子を見 せなかった。いつもの通り沈黙がちに 落ち付き払った歩調をすまして運んで 行くので、私は少し業になった。何 とかいって一つ先生をやっ付けてみた くなって来た。

「先生」

At that time, I hated Sensei from the very core of my being. Even after we began walking together again, I purposefully did not ask the things I wanted to ask.

However, as for Sensei, whether he had noticed or not noticed, he seemed completely unaware of my behavior. Just as always, he was his usual quiet self and carried on. Because of this I became slightly spiteful. I suddenly wanted to try saying something that would attack him.

"Sensei"

「何ですか」

「先生はさっき少し 昂 奮 なさいました ね。あの植木屋の庭で休んでいる時 に。私は先生の昂奮したのを滅多に 見た事がないんですが、今日は珍しい ところを拝見したような気がします」 先生はすぐ返事をしなかった。私はそ てごた れを手応えのあったようにも思った。ま ためが外れたようにも感じた。仕方 あと がないから後はいわない事にした。す ると先生がいきなり道の 端 へ寄って行 った。そうして綺麗に刈り込んだ いけがき 生 垣の下で、裾をまくって小便をし た。私は先生が用を足す間ぼんやりそ こに立っていた。

「やあ失敬」

先生はこういってまた歩き出した。私

"What is it?"

"Sensei, you became a little high-strung a little while ago, huh? When we were resting in the garden. I have rarely seen you get excited, but today I feel like I saw something very rare."

Sensei did not reply. I felt that I had beaten him. But again, I felt as if I hadn't won. Because it couldn't be helped, I did not say anything after that. Thereupon, Sensei suddenly approached the edge of the street. Then, below a prettily trimmed hedge, urinated. I stood there foolishly waiting on Sensei.

"How rude of me."

Sensei spoke thus and began walking. I

はとうとう先生をやり込める事を断念し た。私たちの通る道は段々賑やかに なった。今までちらほらと見えた広い はたけ の斜面や平地が、全く眼に入ら いえなみ そろ ないように左右の 家 並 が 揃ってき た。それでも所々宅地の隅など えんどう つる に、豌 豆の蔓を竹にからませたり、 かなあみ にわとり 金 網 で 鶏 を囲い飼いにしたりす るのが閑静に眺められた。市中から だば 帰る駄馬が仕切りなく擦れ違って行っ た。こんなものに始終気を奪られがち な私は、さっきまで胸の中にあった問 題をどこかへ振り落してしまった。先生 が突然そこへ後戻りをした時、私は 実際それを忘れていた。

finally gave up cornering Sensei into an argument. The street we were walking on was gradually becoming busy. Up until now we had seen expansive fields and slopes, but now all the eye could see was rows of houses. And yet, here and there, in the corner of a building lot, etc. were green pea sprouts entangled in bamboo, or a chicken in a wire enclosure. We were able to gaze at these things in silence. Horse drawn carts from the city were passing by us without end. I was liable to be very distracted by these kinds of things, and had completely forgotten my question earlier⁴⁶. Suddenly Sensei backtracked, to the thing that I had forgotten.

 $^{^{46}}$ Lit., "...the question that had been in my heart..."

「私は先刻そんなに昂奮したように見えたんですか」

「そんなにというほどでもありません が、少し......」

「いや見えても構わない。実際「見っか」 するんだから。私は財産の事をいうとき っと昂奮するんです。君にはどう見える か知らないが、私はこれで大変執念深 い男なんだから。人から受けた屈辱や 損害は、十年たっても二十年たっても 忘れやしないんだから」

先生の言葉は元よりもなお昂奮していた。しかし私の驚いたのは、決してその調子ではなかった。むしろ先生の言葉が私の耳に訴える意味そのものであった。先生の口からこんな自白を聞くのは、いかな私にも全くの意外に相違な

"Did I really seem that high-strung a little while ago?"

"Not that much, but a little..."

"It's okay that it seemed that way. Because I really was high-strung. When I spoke of my wealth I undoubtedly became agitated. I don't know if it seems this way to you, but I am an incredibly bitter man. The disgrace and damages I suffered from humanity, although it be 10 years, 20 years, I will not forget⁴⁷!

Sensei's words were even more agitated than before. However, the really shocking part was not by any means the tone. Rather, the meaning of his words caught my attention. Given Sensei's nature, I had never even imagined such tenacity from him until now. I believed Sensei was an

⁴⁷ Though the words are already quite strong here, there is further emphatic attitude added by an emphasis word in the sentence.

かった。私は先生の性質の特色として、こんな「教う」着くり方くをいまだかつて想像した事さえなかった。私は先生をもっと弱い人と信じていた。そうしてその弱くて高いと処っに、私の懐かしみの根を置いていた。一時の気分で先生にちょっと「たてを突いてみようとした私は、この言葉の前に小さくなった。先生はこういった。

extremely weak person. And, I valued this weakness as well as his pride⁴⁸. I, who a short while ago felt like picking a fight with Sensei, became small before these words. Sensei spoke thus.

「私は他にあずかれたのです。しかも 血のつづいた親 歳のものから欺かれ たのです。私は決してそれを忘れない のです。私の父の前には善人であった らしい彼らは、父の死ぬや 谷 や許しが たい不徳義漢に変ったのです。私は彼らから受けた屈辱と損害を下儀の時か

"I was deceived by other people.

Moreover, I was deceived by my own relatives. I have not forgotten this at all.

The people who seemed like such good people before my father died changed from honorable people to immoral people the moment he was dead. I will have carried the burden of the humiliation and injury I received from them since my childhood, and I will continue to carry it until I die. I

⁴⁸ Rather than "valued," the literal meaning is "was the root of my dear feeling"

ら考日まで背負わされている。恐らく死 ぬまで背負わされ通しでしょう。私は死 ぬまでそれを忘れる事ができないんだ から。しかし私はまだ。後しかををしずに いる。考えると私は個人に対する復讐 以上の事を現にやっているんだ。私は 彼らを憎むばかりじゃない、彼らが代表 している人間というものを、一般に憎む 事を覚えたのだ。私はそれで沢山だと 思う」

いしゃ 私は慰藉の言葉さえロへ出せなかっ

t=.

cannot forget this until I die. However, I
have not taken revenge. When I think about
it, I have actually done something more
than take revenge on individuals. I have not
simply hated them; I have taken them as
representatives of the human race, and
thereby have come to hate all people. I
think with that I have said quite enough.

I could not even say any words of consolation.

Section Thirty-One

その日の談話もついにこれぎりで発展せずにしまった。わないしはむしろ先生の態度に関縮して、先へ進む気が起らなかったのである。

At last, we were finished with that conversation for the day. I cowered before his manner, and did not feel like trying to go further.

二人は市の外れから電車に乗った が、車 内ではほとんど口を聞かなかっ た。電車を降りると間もなく別れなけれ ばならなかった。別れる時の先生は、 また変っていた。常よりは晴やかな調 子で、「これ から六月までは一番気楽 な時ですね。ことによると生涯で一番 気楽かも知れない。精出して遊びたま え」といった。私は笑って帽子を脱っ た。その時私は先生の顔を見て、先生 ははたして心のどこで、一般の人間を 憎んでいるのだろうかと^{うたぐ} 疑った。そ の眼、その口、どこにも厭世的の影 は射していなかった。

私は思想上の問題について、大いな る利益を先生から受けた事を自白す る。しかし同じ問題について、利益を受 We got on a train at the edge of the city, and inside the car we barely spoke. Soon after we got off the train, we had to separate. At this time, Sensei seemed to have changed again. Using a tone brighter than usual, he said: "From now until June you will be very at ease. Perhaps this will be the most easygoing time in your life, enjoy it to the fullest." I smiled and took off my hat. At that time I looked at Sensei's face. As I had expected, I doubted that anywhere in his heart, he hated all of humanity. Those eyes, that mouth, they did not seem to belong to a misanthrope.

I confess that I received great amount help with philosophical problems from Sensei. However, about the same topics, although I tried to learn, sometimes I couldn't learn anything from him.

けようとしても、受けられない事が高麦 あったといわなければならない。先生 の談話は時として学行要なに終っ た。その日二人の間に起った郊外の談 話も、この不得要領の一例として私の 胸の^{3.5}裏に残った。

無遠慮な私は、ある時ついにそれを 先生の前に打ち明けた。先生は笑って いた。私はこういった。

「頭が鈍くて要領を得ないのは構いませんが、ちゃんと解ってるくせに、はっきりいってくれないのは困ります」
「私は何にも隠してやしません」
「隠していらっしゃいます」

「あなたは私の思想とか意見とかいうものと、私の過去とを、ごちゃごちゃに考 えているんじゃありませんか。私は貧 Sometimes Sensei's conversations ended vaguely. The conversation that had occurred between us that day was one of these, and it remained in my heart as an example of this ambiguity.

As a rude and outspoken individual, one day I finally spoke my mind about this to Sensei. Sensei laughed. I spoke thus: "It wouldn't be a problem if you were slow and you didn't get the point, but you understand perfectly. It is hurtful that you won't say anything."

"I am not hiding anything"

"Yes you are."

"I think that you have confused my opinions and ideology with my past.

Though I am a poor thinker, I will not unreasonably hide my own ideas from

弱な思想家ですけれども、自分の頭で まと 纒め上げた考えをむやみに人に隠し やしません。隠す必要がないんだか ら。けれども私の過去を * 悉 くあなた の前に物語らなくてはならないとなる と、それはまた別問題になります」 「別問題とは思われません。先生の過 去が生み出した思想だから、私は重き を置くのです。二つのものを切り離した ら、私にはほとんど価値のないものに なります。私は魂の吹き込まれていな い人形を与えられただけで、満足はで きないのです」

先生はあきれたといった。
遠に、私の 顔を見た。
を烟草を持っていたその 手が少し
ジョンナ。 people. Because they are not necessary to conceal. However, whether or not I tell you the complete story of my past is a different matter."

"It does not appear to be a different matter to me. Your ideology was brought forth by your past. Therefore, I place importance on that. If you detach those two things, they become virtually worthless to me. It is like being given a doll that has not had a soul breathed into it, and I cannot gain fulfillment from that."

Sensei was disgusted⁴⁹, and looked at my face. His hand that was holding a cigarette shook a little.

⁴⁹ This word means both disgusted and shocked

「あなたは大胆だ」

から教訓を受けたいのです」
「私の過去を計れてもですか」

計くという言葉が、突然恐ろしいで
きをもって、私の耳を打った。私は今私の前にすかっているのが、一人ので
であって、不断から尊敬している先生でないような気がした。先生の

節は着かった。

「ただ真面目なんです。真面目に人生

「あなたは本当に真面目なんですか」と 先生が念を押した。「私は過去の因果 で、人を^{うたぐ}りつけている。だから実 はあなたも疑っている。しかしどうもあ なただけは疑りたくない。あなたは疑る "You are bold."

"I am just honest. I honestly want to learn from your life."

"Even to go so far as revealing my past?"

The word "reveal," suddenly hit my ears
with a terrifying sound. At that moment I
felt that the person sitting before me was
not the Sensei that I had constantly
respected, but a criminal. Sensei's face was
pale.

"Are you really serious?" Sensei emphasized. "Due to my past, I distrust people. Therefore, I distrust even you. However, you alone 50 I do not want to distrust. You seem too simple to distrust. I want to die knowing that I can trust even just one person. Can you be that person?

⁵⁰ Sensei makes use of an emphasis word here to make an even stronger "you alone."

にはあまりに単純すぎるようだ。私は 死ぬ前にたった一人で好いから、他を 信用して死にたいと思っている。あなた はそのたった一人になれますか。なっ てくれますか。あなたははらの底から 真面目ですか」

Can you become that person for me? Are you sincere from the very core of your being⁵¹?"

「もし私の命が真面目なものなら、私の 今いった事も真面目です」 私の声は顫えた。

"If I have ever been sincere, I am sincere now."

My voice shook.

「よろしい」と先生がいった。「話しましょ う。私の過去を残らず、あなたに話して 上げましょう。その代り.....。いやそれ は構わない。しかし私の過去はあなた に取ってそれほど有益でないかも知れ ませんよ。聞かない方が増かも知れま せんよ。それから、---今は話せないん

だから、そのつもりでいて下さい。適当

"Good" Sensei said. "I shall tell you. I shall tell you my entire past. But... No, it does not matter. However, I don't know hearing of my past will be that good for you. I don't know if it would be better that you not hear⁵². And then... Because I can't tell you now, please leave it for now. Because the right time to tell you has not come."

⁵¹ Anytime the phrase "core of ... being" appears in this text, it is translating the phrase "from the very bottom of ... stomach" The Japanese have traditionally used the analogy of the stomach much like we use the analogy of the heart.

⁵² The word for "better" here denotes that neither option is a really good one, one is just less bad than the other.

の時機が来なくっちゃ話さないんだか ら」

私は下宿へ帰ってからも一種の圧迫 を感じた。 Even after I returned to my boarding house, I had a certain kind of tense feeling.

It seemed that my professors were not as

Section Thirty-Two

私の論文は自分が評価していたほどに、教授の眼にはよく見えなかったらしい。それでも私は予定通り及第した。卒業式の日、私は微いくなった古い冬服を行李の中から出して着た。式場にならぶと、どれもこれもみな暑そうな顔ばかりであった。私は風の通らないを可え終の下に密封された自分の

学権を持て余した。しばらく立っているうちに手に持ったハンケチがぐしょぐしょになった。

impressed by my thesis as I was.

Nevertheless, I passed just as planned. On the day of the graduation ceremony, I took my old and musty winter uniform from my suitcase and put it on. When I lined up in the ceremony hall, it seemed that everyone around me was hot. Because the thick woolen cloth of the uniform did not allow for any breeze, my body seemed hermetically sealed. After only a short time of standing, the handkerchief in my hand

was sopping wet.

私は式が済むとすぐ帰って裸体にな った。下宿の二階の窓をあけて、 とおめがね 遠 眼 鏡 のようにぐるぐる巻いた卒業 証書の穴から、見えるだけの世の中を 見渡した。それからその卒業証書を机 の上に放り出した。そうして大の字なり になって、室の真中に寝そべった。私 は寝ながら自分の過去を顧みた。また 自分の未来を想像した。するとその間 に立って一区切りを付けているこの卒 業証書なるものが、意味のあるような、 また意味のないような変な紙に思われ た。

私はその晩先生の家へ御馳走に招かれて行った。これはもし卒業したらその日の「焼んきん」はよそで喰わずに、先生の食卓で済ますという前からの約束

Immediately after the ceremony, I returned to my apartment and stripped myself bare. I opened the second floor window of the boarding house and, using my rolled up graduation diploma as a telescope, looked out over all I could see. Then, I tossed my diploma on top of my desk and stretched out in the middle of my room⁵³. While I was lying down, I thought of my past. I also imagined my future. The graduation diploma seemed to stand between them, separating my past and my future. It seemed to have some deep meaning, but then it seemed like a strange bit of paper wholly without meaning.

That night I was invited to Sensei's house for dinner. We had agreed earlier that if I graduated, I would have dinner at Sensei's dining table and not anywhere else.

 $^{^{53}}$ Lit., "Stretched out like \pm ." The character " \pm " means large.

であった。

食卓は約束通り座敷の縁近くに据 えられてあった。模様の織り出された のり こわ テーブルクロース 厚い 糊 の 硬 い 卓 布 が美しく かつ清らかに電燈の光を射返してい た。先生のうちで飯を食うと、きっとこ の西洋料理店に見るような白いリンネ ルの上に、著や茶碗が置かれた。 そうしてそれが必ず洗濯したての まっしろ 真 白なものに限られていた。 「カラやカフスと同じ事さ。汚れたのを いっそはじ 用いるくらいなら、一層 始 めから色の 着いたものを使うが好い。白ければ純 白でなくっちゃ」

こういわれてみると、なるほど先生は

潔癖であった。書斎なども実に整然と

Just as promised, the dining table had been placed at the edge of the tatami room, which was near the walkway. The embroidered and heavily starch tablecloth reflected the light of the electric light beautifully. Whenever I ate there, the chopsticks and bowls, etc. were placed on top of the white linen, so that it looked almost certainly like a western style restaurant. Then, the linen had always been laundered, and was pure white.

"It is the same with collars and cuffs. If you make use of it after it is stained, it would have been better to have started with a colored one. But if it is white, it must be perfectly clean."

Sensei really was fastidious. His study
was exceedingly well organized, and
everything had its proper place. Because I
did not care about such things, this

片付いていた。無 頓 着 な私には、先 生のそういう特色が折々著しく眼に留まった。

かんしょう 「先生は 癇 性 ですね」とかつて奥さ んに告げた時、奥さんは「でも着物など は、それほど気にしないようですよ」と そば 答えた事があった。それを 傍 に聞い ていた先生は、「本当をいうと、私は精 神的に癇性なんです。それで始終苦し いんです。考えると実に馬鹿馬鹿しい しょうぶん 性 分 だ」といって笑った。精神的に 癇性という意味は、俗にいう神経質と いう意味か、または倫理的に潔癖だと いう意味か、私には解らなかった。奥 さんにも能く通じないらしかった。

characteristic of Sensei would sometimes catch my attention.

"Sensei is quite fastidious." I once told his wife. She responded, "However, when it comes to clothes, he does not seem to care to that extent." Sensei, who was sitting nearby, said: "Truthfully speaking, I am mentally peevish. Because of that, it is constantly difficult. When I think about it, I have a truly absurd nature." He laughed.

Whether by the words "mentally peevish" he meant slang for nervousness, or he meant ethically fastidious, I did not know. It seemed that his wife also did not understand well.

その晩私は先生と向い合せに、例の 白い草希の前になった。奥さんは二 人を左右に置いて、独り庭の方を正 面にして席を占めた。

「お目出とう」といって、先生が私のた めに 杯 を上げてくれた。私はこの 起さなかった。無論私自身の心がこの 言葉に反響するように、飛び立つ嬉し さをもっていなかったのが、一つの げんいん 源 因 であった。けれども先生のいい 方も決して私の 嬉 しさを 唆 る 浮 々 した調子を帯びていなかった。先生は 笑って * を上げた。私はその笑い のうちに、些とも意地の悪いアイロニ 一を認めなかった。同時に目出たいと

That night I sat opposite Sensei with the usual table in front of us. His wife sat with us on either side, and occupied the only seat facing the garden.

"Congratulations" he said. Sensei raised his cup of sake for me. This did not awaken a happy feeling in me. One reason for this was that I didn't have the happy feeling of having graduated that the word "congratulations" conveys. Additionally, Sensei's tone when he said this did not by any means incite happiness. Sensei smiled and raised his glass. To me, his smile was not sarcastic. But at the same time, it did not seem to convey a genuine "congratulations." Rather, his smile seemed to say: "In this sort of situation, the world tends to want to say 'Congratulations.'"

いう真情も汲み取る事ができなかっ

た。先生の笑いは、「世間はこんな場合によくお目出とうといいたがるものですね」と私に物語っていた。

奥さんは私に「結構ね。さぞおくうさん やお 母 さんはお喜びでしょう」といって くれた。私は突然病気の父の事を考え た。早くあの卒業証書を持って行って 見せてやろうと思った。

「先生の卒業証書はどうしました」と私 が聞いた。

「どうしたかね。——まだどこかにしまってあったかね」と先生が奥さんに聞いた。

「ええ、たしかしまってあるはずですが」 卒業証書の 在 処 は二人ともよく知

らなかった。

His wife said, "wonderful, I am sure your mother and father are delighted." I suddenly thought of my sick father. I decided I should quickly bring home my diploma and show it to him.

"What has become of Sensei's diploma?" I asked.

"I wonder... didn't you put it away somewhere?" he asked his wife.

"Yes, I definitely put it away"

Neither of them knew where his diploma
was.

能になった時、奥さんはではない。 っている下安を次へ立たせて、自分で 整社の役をつとめた。これが表立たない客に対する先生の家の住棄りらしかった。始めの一、二回はわないも窮屈 を感じたが、度数の重なるにつけ、 ななった。

「お茶? ご飯? ずいぶんよく食べ るのね」

奥さんの方でも思い切って遠慮のない事をいうことがあった。しかしその日は、時候が時候なので、そんなに調戯われるほど食欲が進まなかった。

When it was time for the meal, his wife told the maid who had been sitting nearby to stand outside. Then, his wife diligently served us. This seemed to be the custom of Sensei's house for private visitors. The first one or two times his wife served us I felt uneasy, but as my visits piled up, I was able to ask Sensei's wife to refill my bowl without any concern.

"More tea? Rice? You certainly eat a lot."

Sensei's wife's manner was totally unreserved. However, on that day, being that time of the year, the appetite that she made fun of was not very large.

"Already done? Recently, you haven't been eating much."

しょうしょく 小食になったのね」

「小食になったんじゃありません。暑いんで食われないんです」

奥さんは下女を呼んで食卓を片付け させた後へ、改めてアイスクリームと みずがし 水菓子を運ばせた。

「これは 宅 で 拵 えたのよ」

用のない奥さんには、手製のアイスクリームを客に振舞うだけの余裕があると見えた。私はそれを二杯更えてもらった。

「君もいよいよ卒業したが、これから何をする気ですか」と先生が聞いた。先生は半分縁側の方へ席をずらして、 「たきない。」と表生が聞いた。先生は半分縁側の方へ席をずらして、

私にはただ卒業したという自覚があ るだけで、これから何をしようという "It is because of the heat that I cannot eat a lot."

His wife called in the maid, and after she had her clean up the table, she had her carry in ice cream and jelly dessert.

"I made this myself."

It seemed that Sensei's wife had so little to do that she even had time to treat guests to homemade ice cream. I had two bowls. "Now that you have graduated, what do you plan to do?" Sensei asked. Sensei had shifted his seat halfway towards the veranda, and was leaning his back against the sliding door at the edge of the threshold.

I had been solely occupied with my graduation, and did not have a plan for what to do next. Seeing me hesitate, his

を見た時、奥さんは「教師?」と聞いた。それにも答えずにいると、今度は、「じゃお後に人?」とまた聞かれた。私も先生も笑い出した。

「本当いうと、まだ何をする考えもないんです。実は職業というものについて、全く考えた事がないくらいなんですから。だいちどれが善いか、どれが悪いか、自分がやって見た上でないと^わ解らないんだから、選択に困る訳だと思います」

「それもそうね。けれどもあなたは
ひっきょう
必 竟 財産があるからそんな呑気な
事をいっていられるのよ。これが困る人
でご覧なさい。なかなかあなたのように

wife asked: "How about a teacher?" When
I did not reply to this either, she asked:
"Then, a government official?" Sensei and
I both laughed.

"To speak truthfully, I have not yet thought about what I want to do. Because I have yet to think about occupations.

Mostly, I think that I will make a bad decision about what job to get if I have not tried it for myself first."

"That is also true. However, it is because you are a wealthy person that you are able to be so carefree. If you were not so fortunate, you would not be so at ease."

落ち付いちゃいられないから」

私の友達には卒業しない前から、中 学教師の口を探している人があった。 私は腹の中で奥さんのいう事実を認め た。しかしこういった。

「少し先生にかぶれたんでしょう」 ろく 「碌なかぶれ方をして下さらないのね」 先生は苦笑した。

「かぶれても構わないから、その代りこの間いった通り、お父さんの生きてるうちに、相当の財産を分けてもらってお置きなさい。それでないと決して油断はならない」

私は先生といっしょに、郊外の植木屋 の広い庭の奥で話した、あの躑躅の咲 いている五月の初めを思い出した。あ Some of my friends had been searching for positions as teachers in middle schools before we had graduated. I recognized in the very core of my being that what she was saying was true. However, I said:
"Perhaps I have been a little influenced by Sensei."

"Please don't be wholly influenced by him."

Sensei gave a bitter smile.

"If I have influenced him that's not a problem. On the other hand, just as I have said recently, while your father is alive, you must receive your inheritance. To not do this is indisputably negligent on your part."

I recalled the conversation Sensei and I had together in the expansive garden at the nursery in the suburbs, in the beginning of May when the Azaleas were in bloom. I

の時帰りをに、先生が記した語気で、私に物語った強い言葉を、再び耳の底で繰り返した。それは強いばかりでなく、むしろ凄い言葉であった。けれども事実を知らない私には同時に徹底しない言葉でもあった。

「奥さん、お宅の財産はよッぽどあるん ですか」

「何だってそんな事をお聞きになるの」 「先生に聞いても教えて下さらないか ら」

奥さんは笑いながら先生の顔を見 た。

「教えて上げるほどないからでしょう」
「でもどのくらいあったら先生のようにしていられるか、 宅 へ帰って一つ父に
談判する時の参考にしますから聞かして下さい」

heard his strong words in my ears again.

Those words that I had heard in that agitated tone on our way back. These had not only been strong words, but dreadful words. However, I did not know the full reality of them, and the words did not fully explain what he had meant.

"Ma'am, is there a great amount of wealth between you and Sensei?"

"Why do you ask such a thing?"

"Though I asked Sensei, he would not tell me"

She laughed, and looked at Sensei's face.
"Perhaps because he doesn't have enough
to tell you about."

"But I wish to know how much money I would need to live as Sensei does, when I ask my father about my inheritance."

Sensei was facing the garden, and looked untroubled as he smoked a cigarette.

Naturally, his wife had to answer for him.

先生は庭の方を向いて、澄まして タンフ 烟草を吹かしていた。相手は自然奥さ んでなければならなかった。

「どのくらいってほどありゃしませんわ。まあこうしてどうかこうか暮してゆかれるだけよ、あなた。——そりゃどうでも宜いとして、あなたはこれから何か為さらなくっちゃ本当にいけませんよ。先生のようにごろごろばかりしていちゃ……」

「ごろごろばかりしていやしないさ」 先生はちょっと顔だけ向け直して、奥 さんの言葉を否定した。 "We don't have much. But somehow we are able to get along, but that doesn't matter. You must not be idle like Sensei. "I am not idle."

Sensei turned his head a little bit, and negated his wife's words.

Section Thirty-Four

わたくし 私にはその夜十時過ぎに先生の 家を辞した。二、三日うちに帰国するは ずになっていたので、座を立つ前に私 I left Sensei's house a little past 10 o'clock. Because I was supposed to go home in a few days, I said some words of farewell before I left my seat.

はちょっと暇をごいの言葉を述べた。
「また当分お目にかかれませんから」
「九月には出ていらっしゃるんでしょうね」

私はもう卒業したのだから、必ず九月 に出て来る必要もなかった。しかし暑い 盛りの八月を東京まで来て送ろうとも 考えていなかった。私には位置を求め るための貴重な時間というものがなか った。

「まあ九月頃になるでしょう」

う」

「じゃずいぶんご機嫌よう。私たちもこの夏はことによるとどこかへ行くかも知れないのよ。ずいぶん暑そうだから。行ったらまた絵端書でも送って上げましょ

"I probably will not see you for awhile..."

"You will probably be back in September,
right?"

Because I had already graduated, it was not at all necessary that I come back in September. However, I also did not think I would come back before August, in the hottest part of the summer. I also didn't think I would have time to find a job before that time.

"Yes, probably about September"

"Well then, that sounds good. We might go somewhere this summer, depending on the circumstances. Because it seems it will be very hot. If we go, we will send you a postcard." His wife said.

「どちらの見当です。もしいらっしゃると すれば」

先生はこの問答をにやにや笑って聞いていた。

「何まだ行くとも行かないとも極めてい やしないんです」

席を立とうとした時、先生は急に私を つらまえて、「時にお父さんの病気はど うなんです」と聞いた。私は父の健康に ついてほとんど知るところがなかった。 何ともいって来ない以上、悪くはないの だろうくらいに考えていた。

「そんなに容易く考えられる病気じゃありませんよ。「戻うどくしょうが出ると、もうな自なんだから」

尿毒症という言葉も意味も私には 解 らなかった。この前の冬休みに国で医 者と会見した時に、私はそんな術語を "If you do go somewhere, where do you think you will go?"

Sensei grinned as he answered.

"We have not yet decided whether or not we are going anywhere."

As I was trying to get up from my seat, Sensei suddenly asked,

"By the way, how is your father's illness?"

I didn't know anything about my father's
current condition. I hadn't heard of
anything bad, so I thought he was probably
okay.

"It is not a disease you can think about so lightly. Once there is uremia, there will already be no hope."

I did not know the meaning of the word 'uremia.' When I talked to the doctor at home over break, he did not use any such technical term.

まるで聞かなかった。

「本当に大事にしてお上げなさいよ」と
奥さんもいった。「毒が脳へ動」るよう
になると、もうそれっきりよ、あなた。笑
い事じゃないわ」

無経験な私は気味を悪がりながら も、にやにやしていた。

「どうせ助からない病気だそうですから、いくら心配したって仕方がありません」

「そう思い切りよく考えれば、それまでですけれども」

奥さんは昔同じ病気で死んだという 自分のお母さんの事でもだい出した のか、沈んだ調子でこういったなり下を 向いた。私も父の運命が本当に気の毒 になった。

すると先生が突然奥さんの方を向いた。

"Really, you must take very good care of him." his wife said. "When the poison has reached his brain, it will be all over. It is no laughing matter."

Inexperienced as I was in these matters, I did feel bad. However, I smirked at her words and said,

"Anyway, because it is a disease that cannot be cured, no amount of worrying can help."

"If you think with that much resignation, worrying is all you can do..."

It seemed that the memory that her mother had died of the same disease had come to mind, her manner became depressed and she bowed her head to the ground. I began to truly feel pity for my father's fate.

Then, Sensei suddenly faced his wife, and said:

しず 「静、お前はおれより先へ死ぬだろう

かね」

「なぜ」

「なぜでもない、ただ聞いてみるのさ。

それともされの方がお前より前に片付く

かな。大抵世間じゃ旦那が先で、

されるが後へ残るのが当り前のように

なってるね」

きま 「そう 極った訳でもないわ。けれども

男の 方 はどうしても、そら年が上でしょ

う

「だから先へ死ぬという理屈なのかね。

すると己もお前より先にあの世へ行か

なくっちゃならない事になるね」

「あなたは特別よ」

「そうかね」

「だって丈夫なんですもの。ほとんど

"Shizu, I wonder if you will die before me"
"Why?"

"No reason, simply wondering. Then, I wonder if I will die before you. It does seem that the husband usually goes first, leaving his wife behind."

"It is not set in stone. However, the man is normally older."

"Therefore, you reason that the husband will die first. Then, I will probably leave this world before you."

"You are an exception."

"Is that so?"

"After all, you are healthy. You never get sick. Therefore, I will definitely go first."

わずらった^{ためし}がないじゃありませんか。そりゃどうしたって私の方が先だわ」

「先かな」

「え、きっと先よ」

先生は私の顔を見た。私は笑った。 「しかしもしおれの方が先へ行くとするね。そうしたらお前どうする」 「どうするって……」

奥さんはそこで口籠った。先生の死に対する想像的な悲哀が、ちょっと奥さんの胸を襲ったらしかった。けれども再び顔をあげた時は、もう気分を更えていた。

「どうするって、仕方がないわ、ねえあ なた。 老 少 木 定っていうくらいだか

奥さんはことさらに私の方を見て

ら」

"You?"

"Yes, surely I will be first."

Sensei looked at my face. I smiled.

"However, what if I did go first. What would become of you?"

"What would become of me..."

Here, she faltered. To imagine Sensei dying seemed to be an assault upon her very soul. However, she raised her head once again, and her mood had changed. "What would become of me?', there would be nothing to do about it. As they say, death comes to the old and the young."

______ じょうだん 変 談らしくこ**うい**った。

She spoke pleasantly, and looked deliberately at me as she spoke.

Section Thirty-Five

が」

わたくし 私 は立て掛けた腰をまたおろし て、話の区切りの付くまで二人の相手 になっていた。

「君はどう思います」と先生が聞いた。 先生が先へ死ぬか、奥さんが早く亡く なるか、皆より私に判断のつくべき問題ではなかった。私はただ笑っていた。 「寿命は分りませんね。私にも」 「こればかりは本当に寿命ですから ね。生れた時にちゃんと養った年数を もらって来るんだから仕方がないわ。 先生のおくなさんやお母さんなんか、ほとんど^お尚ないる。 とんど^{お尚な}じよ、あなた、亡くなったの I started to get up, but stayed to keep them company until the end of the conversation.

"What do you think?" Sensei asked me.

From the beginning, I knew question of
whether Sensei or his wife would die first
was not within the limits of my judgment,
So I simply smiled.

"I also don't know how long your life span is."

"Truly, it is only a matter of life span.

From the time we are born we are given an exact number of years to live, it cannot be helped. Sensei's father and mother, died at almost the same time."

「亡くなられた日がですか」

「まさか日まで同じじゃないけれども。 でもまあ同じよ。だって続いて亡くなっ ちまったんですもの」

この知識は私にとって新しいものであった。私は不思議に思った。

「どうしてそう一度に死なれたんですか」

奥さんは私の問いに答えようとした。
先生はそれを $\overset{さえぎ}{=}$
先生はそれを $\overset{$

「そんな話はお止しよ。つまらないか

ら」

先生は手に持った団扇をわざとばた ばたいわせた。そうしてまた奥さんを顧 みた。

「静、おれが死んだらこの 家 をお前

にやろう」

奥さんは笑い出した。

"Did they die on the same day?"

"They did not die on the same day.

However, it was the same time. One died shortly after the other."

This was completely new information to me. It seemed very strange.

"Why is it that they died simultaneously?"

She was trying to answer my question
when Sensei interrupted:

"Quit that story. It is dull."

Sensei was purposefully flapping his fan loudly. Then, he again looked back at his wife. "Shizu, when I die this house will be yours."

His wife laughed.

"While you are at it, why don't you give me the land?"

"I cannot, because it belongs to somebody

「ついでに地面も下さいよ」

「地面は他のものだから仕方がない。

その代りおれの持ってるものは³皆な お前にやるよ」

「どうも有難う。けれども横文字の本な んか 貰っても仕様がないわね」

「古本屋に売るさ」

「売ればいくらぐらいになって」

先生はいくらともいわなかった。けれども先生の話は、容易に自分の死という遠い問題を離れなかった。そうしてその死は必ず奥さんの前に起るものと仮定されていた。奥さんも最初のうちは、わざとたわいのない受け答えをしているらしく見えた。それがいつの間にか、感傷的な女の心を重苦しくした。

else. But, I will give you everything I do have."

"Thank you very much. However, I wouldn't have any use for your English books."

"Sell them at a secondhand bookstore."

"How much would I get for them if I did?"

Sensei did not say how much they were worth. However, he talked as if he was separated from the far off question of his death. Additionally, he always assumed that his death would occur before his wife's. At first, she seemed to respond to it as though it were a trifling matter. Then, before one noticed, her sentimental female heart became gloomy.

「おれが死んだら、おれが死んだらって、まある」。 後望だからもう好い加減にして、おれが死んだらは止してない。 るべぎでもない。 あなたが死んだら、何でもあなたの思い通りにして上げるから、それで好いじゃありませんか」

先生は庭の方を向いて笑った。しかし それぎり奥さんの「厭」がる事をいわなく なった。私もあまり長くなるので、すぐ 席を立った。先生と奥さんは玄関まで 送って出た。

だいじ 「ご病人をお大事に」と奥さんがいっ た。

「また九月に」と先生がいった。

 "How many more times will you say 'when I die, when I die'? For goodness sake, you have said that quite enough. Please stop talking so. If you die, I will do exactly as you wished, then isn't that enough?"

Sensei turned towards the garden and smiled. However, on that note, he ceased talking about it. Because I had already been there a while, I immediately got up from my seat. Sensei and his wife walked with me to the entryway.

"Take care of your father," she said.

"Again in September" Sensei said.

I said my farewells and stepped outside.

In between the entryway and the gate, there was one dense olive tree. It spread its branches into the dead of the night, as if to block my path. As I took a few steps

した木犀の一株が、私の行手を いた。私は二、三歩動き出しながら、黒 ^{おお}ずんだ葉に 被 われているその 梢 を 見て、来たるべき秋の花と香を想い浮 べた。私は先生の 宅 とこの木犀と を、以前から心のうちで、離す事ので きないもののように、いっしょに記憶し ていた。私が偶然その樹の前に立っ て、再びこの宅の玄関を跨ぐべき次 の秋に思いを馳せた時、今まで格子の 間から射していた玄関の電燈がふっと 消えた。先生夫婦はそれぎり奥へはい ったらしかった。私は一人暗い表へ出 た。

forward, I looked at the tips of the branches covered up by the dark leaves. I imagined the fragrance and aroma that would come in the fall. For a while, I had remembered Sensei's house and this fragrant olive together, as if they were an inseparable entity in my heart. Suddenly, as I stood there before the tree, thinking about the next time I would again visit that house, the light that had been shining through the lattice of the entryway suddenly went out. The couple had gone inside, and I was left alone in the dark.

私はすぐ下宿へは戻らなかった。国 へ帰る前に 調 える買物もあったし、 たそう ご馳走を詰めた胃袋にくつろぎを与え る必要もあったので、ただ、賑やかな町 の方へ歩いて行った。町はまだ宵の口 であった。用事もなさそうな男女がぞ ろぞろ動く中に、私は今日私といっしょ に卒業したなにがしに会った。彼は私 が... を無理やりにある酒場へ連れ込んだ。 ビール 私はそこで麦酒の泡のような彼の きえん
気を聞かされた。私の下宿へ帰った

I did not immediately turn back to the boarding house. Before I went back home, I needed to do some shopping, and I needed to relax my stuffed stomach, so I walked to the busy streets. It was already early evening. In the midst of men and women that did not seem to have any tasks to do, I ran into a friend of mine that had graduated with me that day. He forced me to go to a bar with him. I was made to listen to my friend's high spirits, which were as frothy as beer. When I returned to the boarding house it was past midnight.

Section Thirty-Six

のは十二時過ぎであった。

わないはその望日も暑さをむし て、頼まれものを買い集めて歩いた。 手紙で注文を受けた時は何でもないよ The next day I braved the heat again in order to buy some things I had been asked to get by my family. When I had received the letter with the request, I thought it was

うに考えていたのが、いざとなると大変 はっくう に感ぜられた。私は電車の中で 汗を拭きながら、他の時間と手数に気 の毒という観念をまるでもっていない いなかものを 出される。

私はこのできると無為に過ごす気はなかった。国へ帰ってからの日程というようなものをあらかじめ作っておいたので、それを履行するに必要な書物も手に入れなければならなかった。私は半日を丸でった。です。一階で漬す覚悟でいた。私は自分に関係の深い部門の書籍棚の前に立って、隅から隅まで一冊ずつ点検して行った。

買物のうちで一番私を困らせたのは 女の単一禁であった。小僧にいうと、い くらでも出してはくれるが、さてどれを選 not a problem. However, I began to feel extremely irritated. As I wiped sweat from my forehead on the train, I thought hatefully of pathetic countrymen, wholly without sense, who took up other people's time.

I did not plan to spend the summer in idleness. I had made a daily schedule for myself beforehand for how to spend my time at home. I had to obtain the necessary books to fulfill the schedule. I was determined to kill half of my day on the second floor of the bookstore. I examined each individual book in the shelves before me that was related to my field of study.

The most difficult thing I had to buy was a decorative collar to go under a woman's kimono. The salesman brought out a great many of them, but I could not tell which to

んでいいのか、買う段になっては、ただ 迷うだけであった。その上^{あ伝い}がを めて不定であった。安かろうと思って 聞くと、非常に高かったり、高かろうと 考えて、聞かずにいると、かえって大変 安かったりした。あるいはいくら比べて 見ても、どこから価格の差違が出るの か見当の付かないのもあった。私は全 く弱らせられた。そうして心のうちで、な ぜ先生の奥さんを^{わずら}わさなかったか を悔いた。

私は^{かばん}を買った。無論和製の下等な品に過ぎなかったが、それでも金具やなどがぴかぴかしているので、田舎ものを威嚇かすには充分であった。この鞄を買うという事は、私の母の注文であった。卒業したら新しい鞄を買って、そのなかにいっぱいの発達ものを入

choose. When it came time to buy one, I did not know what to do. Additionally, I was uncertain about the pricing. When I thought one was cheap, I asked and found that it was extremely expensive. If I thought it was expensive, I went without asking, but it was extremely cheap. Even if I compared them, I did not connect where the difference in price came from. I was completely downtrodden. Then, I really regretted not having troubled Sensei's wife to come with me.

I bought a briefcase. Of course, It was just a lowly Japanese made article. But nevertheless, because it had metal fixtures that sparkled, it was enough to impress countrymen. Buying this briefcase had been my mother's request. She had expressly written that if I were to graduate, I should buy a new briefcase, and fill it with souvenirs when I returned. When I

れて帰るようにと、わざわざ手紙の中に書いてあった。私はその文句を読んだ時に笑い出した。私には母の が対うばかが解らないというよりも、その 言葉が一種の 滑稽として訴えたのである。

had read this, I broke out laughing. It was not that I did not understand my mother's intention, but that I found it amusing.

私は能をいをする時先生夫婦に述べた通り、それから三日目の汽車で東京を立って国へ帰った。この冬以来父の病気について先生から色々の注意を受けた私は、一番心配しなければならない地位にありながら、どういうものか、それが大して苦にならなかった。私はむしろ父がいなくなったあとの母を想像して気の毒に思った。そのくらいだから私は心のどこかで、父はすでに亡くなるべきものと覚悟していたに違いなかった。九州にいる兄へやった手紙の

Just as I had expressed to Sensei and his wife when I said goodbye, I left for my home on a train three days later. I, who had received various cautions from Sensei regarding my father's disease since winter, was in a position to be the most worried I had been so far about my father. However, somehow I was not extremely worried. Rather, I thought of how pitiful my mother would be without my father. Somewhere in my heart, I was resigned that he would certainly die. In a letter I wrote to my elder brother in Kyushu, I told him that it would be impossible for our father to regain his previous health. Once, I wrote that

なかにも、私は父の到底故のような健 康体になる見込みのない事を述べた。 一度などは職務の都合もあろうが、で きるなら繰り合せてこの夏ぐらい一度 顔だけでも見に帰ったらどうだとまで書 いた。その上年寄が二人ぎりで田舎に いるのは定めて心細いだろう、我々も 子として遺憾の至りであるというよう な感傷的な文句さえ使った。私は実際 心に浮ぶままを書いた。けれども書い たあとの気分は書いた時とは違ってい た。

私はそうした矛盾を汽車の中で考えた。考えているうちに自分が自分に気の変りやすい軽薄もののように思われて来た。私は不愉快になった。私はまた先生夫婦の事をもい浮べた。ことにこ、三日前晩食に呼ばれた時の会

considering the circumstances, it would be good if he could arrange to see our father again that summer if he could.

Furthermore, I used such sentimental phrases such as that we, as their children should feel dutiful to the old couple that certainly lived hopelessly in the country. I had written these things down just as they had come to my mind. However, after I wrote the letter, my mood would change.

I thought about this inconsistency when I was on the train. It seemed that my feelings changed so easily they were frivolous. I became uncomfortable at this thought. I thought again of Sensei and his wife. I especially thought of the evening a few days ago that I had dinner with them.

_____ おも 話を 憶 い出した。

「どっちが先へ死ぬだろう」

私はその晩先生と奥さんの間に起っ た疑問をひとり口の内で繰り返してみ た。そうしてこの疑問には誰も自信をも って答える事ができないのだと思った。 しかしどっちが先へ死ぬと判然分っ ていたならば、先生はどうするだろう。 奥さんはどうするだろう。先生も奥さん も、今のような態度でいるより 外に仕 方がないだろうと思った。(死に近づき つつある父を国元に控えながら、この 私がどうする事もできないように)。私 は人間を果敢ないものに観じた。人間 のどうする事もできない持って生れた 軽薄を、果敢ないものに観じた。

"Which one of us will die first?"

That night I repeated the question that had come up between Sensei and his wife silently. Then, I thought that nobody could give a confident reply to this question. However, if Sensei did know clearly who would die first, what would he do? What would his wife do? I thought Sensei and his wife would probably not have anything to do but act just as they do now. (Just as I can't do anything but wait for my dad to die.) I contemplated how transient human beings are. They can't do anything about the frivolous nature they are born with. I contemplated how short-lived a human life is.

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