### 1. Retainer Calls Out Yamashina no Shōji

A retainer of Shirakawa-in (Retired Emperor Shirakawa) heard that a gardener, Yamashina no Shōji, who takes care of the chrysanthemums for Shirakawa-in, fell in love with a consort of Shirakawa-in. He calls out for Shōji.

Retainer of Shirakawa-in

Man before you is attending on Shirakawa-in.

His Retired Majesty loves chrysanthemums. He plants and grows many chrysanthemums every year. In this mansion, there is a lowly retainer, whose name is Yamashina no Shōji. I ordered him to pick up the bottom leaves of the Shirakawa-in's chrysanthemums, so I will tell him to do it again. Well, I also heard a rumor that this man, on one occasion, had a chance to take a glance at a consort of Shirakawa-in and he fell in love with the consort. I shall call him and ask about it too.

Hello, is anyone around?

At your command, my master. Servant

Retainer Tell Yamashina no Shōji to visit my office.

Story

白川院の臣下 Щ 科 0 荘司にここへ来るように伝えなさい

前

おります

お 61 か 61 、るか

臣 下 山科荘司を呼び出す

Ш 院

の臣下が、

菊の世話をする山科荘司が、

白川院の臣下 そもそもこの私は、 白河院にお仕えする臣下である。

我が君 は、 菊を大層ご愛好され 毎年数多 0 菊を植え、 お育 てに も菊 つ 7  $\mathcal{O}$ 

てい ます 0 で、 申 つ け ようと思っ 7 17 ます。 また聞 17 た話ではあ

h

ということです。 下葉を取らせ 0 61 だ か  $\mathcal{O}$ お姿を拝

ますが

この者を召 は 山 の荘 司と 11 、う賎 ね てみようと思 61 分 の者が 心います。 お ŋ 、ます。 61

女御に恋をしたと聞きつけ 荘司を呼び出す。

Yes, master. Servant

Hello, is Mr. Yamashina no Shōji here?

Yamashina no Shōji

Yes, he is. May I ask who came to my door?

My master calls you to hurry to his office.

Shōji I certainly will.

### 2. Retainer Shows the Package to Shōji, who is in Love

The retainer of Shirakawa-in confronts Shōji about his love. He then delivers the message from the consort whom Shōji loves, that reads: "If Shōji can carry a designated package and walk around the garden hundreds of times, she will appear before him." The retainer shows the package to Shōji.

Well, Shōji, I haven't seen you sweeping the garden lately. Is Retainer

anything wrong with you?

Yes, I have been quite ill recently and had to neglect my duty. Shōji

I see. It's reasonable. By the way, I overheard that you are falling in Retainer

love with someone. Is this true?

Story

白川

院

0

戸下は、

荘

司の恋を問い

詰め、

恋

0

相手である女御から

0

重荷を持って百度、

千

度庭を廻れば姿を見せよう」

という言葉を伝え、

重荷を見せる。

# どなたが でおい 61 でなさいと言われています。

山科荘司

たの

で

しょうか

B か

山科の荘司

は、

おりますか

しこまりました。

山科荘司 しこまりました

臣下、 恋 す る 荘 司 に 重 一荷を 見せ

白川院の臣下 さて荘司よ、 最近はお庭を清めて 7) ない が どうしたの

山科荘司 は 1, このところ甚だしく患っており、 怠ることとなっておりました。

なるほど、 それ はもっともなこと。 さてお前 は、 恋をし てい 、るとい ・うが それ

白川院の臣下

当か。

能楽ポータルサイト the が.com

は

白川院の臣下 早くも様子に思 61 が 表 n 7 77 、るとい うではな 61 か

とも有難い 0 度廻るな いことを、 お言葉では 5 ば か な そ か 0 け に姿をお見せしまし 女御 様 が お聞きに ようとお な Ď, つ 0 Þ 荷 を持 つ 7 11 つ てお庭を

山科荘司 何 間 17 わ に お n 姿をお る  $\mathcal{O}$  $\mathcal{O}$ で 私 見 す 0 せになると か とをお耳 百 度、 にさ 千 17 度と n n るの は ま そ です 5た……。  $\mathcal{O}$ 荷 か を持 つ 7 お 庭を百 -度も持 つ 7 度 廻 廻 n Ŋ なさ ば、 そ 17 Ō

白川院の臣下 そうだ、 しめ なさ 61 ま つ たく有難い ことでは 61 か

山科荘司 それならば、 その荷をお見せください

白川院の臣下 こちらへ お 77 でなさい

これこそ

「恋の

重荷」

だぞ。

ま

っ

たく美

41

荷ではな

61

いい 荷でございます。

山科荘司 本当に美 たとえ無理なことであ っ 7 仰 せに になるの

であ n

Story

Shōji

Yes indeed, this is a beautiful package. Although it is an impossible task, if she says so, I should follow her directions. In addition,I have been doing menial labor for many years. My life is a life of physical labor. Even only the name...

This package is indeed "the burden of love." What a beautiful

Koi no Omoni (The Deadweight of Love)

titude.

didn't she?

unusual opportunity.

Come this way.

Then, may I see the package?

package it is! Don't you think so?

Shōji

Shōji

Retainer

Shōji

Retainer

Retainer

How did you know such a thing?

I also heard that your love is already demonstrated in your at-

Recently, this rumor has reached the ears of Her Grace. She said if

you carry this package and walk around the garden hundreds and

thousands of times, she will come out to the garden while you are

What!? Did Her Grace hear about me and tell me to walk around

Well, what a request... she said hundreds and thousands of times...

Hmmmm.... But she said that she will appear before me if I carry

the package and walk around the garden for hundreds of times,

Yes. You must deeply appreciate her offer. She gives you such an

the garden hundreds and thousands of times with the package?

doing it. What a wonderful offer she makes for you!

it sounds heavy. Even though it sounds heavy, I feel it will be heavy only until I meet her. I will become a laborer carrying the burden of love.

### 3. Shōji, Who Failed to Lift the Burden, Despairs and Dies

With a faint hope to see the consort, Shōji tries to lift the heavy package, but it is too heavy to lift. Exhausting all his energy, a despairing Shōji holds a grudge against the consort and dies.

Who was the first man who decided to go in to the world of love? Shōji

Because of him, many men, like me, are now lost in love. Reciters

Appropriate for how it is called, the burden of love, this burden is Shōji very heavy.

Reciters I cannot lift it at all.

Story

山科莊司

0

恋のうまくい

き難

61

0

は

高

61

Ш

に登ることと同じだが

思

61 0

深さは大海

0

まったく持つことができな

山科莊司

その名にふさわ 恋は重荷であり、

この荷も重く

て多くの 人が恋に迷うようになっ

41

る

のだが

地

7

山科荘司 61 つ 61 誰が 初 8 恋とい のに 踏 2 入 つ た のだろうか

か 絶望した荘司 な希望を持った荘司 は 女御を恨み は、 重荷を持とうとするが つつ死ぬ あまり の重さに持てな

精根尽き

果

Ξ

荘

司、

重

荷を持ち上げられ

ず

絶望

b

て

死

ぬ

仕 重そうな荷ではあっ 事 には縁があります。 7 名を聞くだけでも 重そうな荷であっ ても、 逢えるまでのことだ。

地

を担う人夫になろう

してや私は下働きを続けてきた身です。 そういうこと (力

ば、そうすべきですね。 ま

0 重

Koi no Om	oni (The Deadweight of Love)
Shōji	To be successful in this love is as difficult as climbing a high mountain. But this love as deep as the oceans makes it difficult to fulfill and to give up. Although my shallow self cannot think deeply,
Reciters	I have been lost in meaningless thought, living in this transient world which is as fragile as dust.
	I give totally useless words to console myself even a little, to console myself even a little. The evening hours when blooms of calabash flowers have already passed. How can I carry this heavy burden of love?
Shōji	Although it is heavy, I will not abandon this heavy love. Chinese legends say that men could even pierce rocks with arrows when they shot with the belief that the target was a tiger. I shall believe and gently lift the burden.
Reciters	Just as a man who carries offerings to the graves of great forefathers for the sake of emperors, you will carry the burden to show the consort the great depth of your love. Even though it is heavy, do the task faithfully, man. Do your task faithfully, man.
Shōji	Whatever I say, whatever people say, I am merely a lowly man. Even though I vainly become a slave of love and die, I will not regret it.
Reciters	It is meaningless if you die. Where there is life, there is hope. Rely on your life.
Shōji	I am angry.
Reciters	This unrequited love keeps me awake on a coarse grass mattress.

地 山科荘司 地 山科荘司 まあ言っ 腹の立 報 死んでしまうのは、 え死んでも悔い われ ない恋をし ても、 はない まあ言っ て、 空しいことだぞ、 菅莚に寝てみても、 て Ŕ たかが 命あってこそ、 知れた身だ、 寝られるものではない。 徒に恋の虜になり果てて、 だぞ。 命を頼りにせよ、 苦しい独り寝を

地 山科荘司 荷 湾 前 重くとも、 葉を言う。 たという話もあるようだ。 61  $\mathcal{F}$ (朝廷から先祖へ 少し慰められようかと、 思いを捨てはしない。 夕顔の咲く黄昏は早くも過ぎた。 の捧げ物) いかにも軽々と持ってやろう。 思 を帝のために運ぶ者のように、 中国では、 いも少し慰められようかと、 虎と思って射掛けたら、 恋の重荷を持つの かどうか。 露ほどのは 女御に 心 かない言

石に矢が立 つ

の深さを

示すのだから、 重くとも、 心を尽くして持てよ、 持てよ、 下人。 たと

塵のような浮世に生き永らえて、 無意味に物思いにふけることだよ

地

ようで、

成就するのも諦めるのも、

無理に思える。

まったく考えの浅い身で、

Using the same arms that I used to rest my head during those lonely nights suffering from love, I switch sides and try many times. But I cannot raise the heavy burden. Alas, how heavy love is!

Although the sound of sighing was the only thing that consoled Shōji and encouraged me, now I cannot say even a word to calm my mind which is disturbed by love burden.

Damn it! I die now. If I will be rewarded for this love, my great Reciters obsession will bring the reward for me. With this heart disturbed by the love, I will let the consort go crazy and teach her a lesson!

[Interlude]

### 4. A Servant Notifies the Death of Shōji to Retainer

A servant who noticed the death of Shōji narrates the reason why he passed away. Mourning his death, the servant goes to inform the news to the retainer.

# 5. Consort Cannot Stand Up After Seeing the Corpse of Shōji

The retainer who was informed of the death of Shōji narrates the consort's real intention of requesting him to carry the heavy package and how Shōji died. Then, he informs the consort about the death and leads her to the garden to show his body. The consort, lamenting his death, finds out that now she cannot stand up.

Story

そ

て荘

司

0

死を女御

知ら

せ、

死体を見せに庭に導く。

女御

は、

荘司を悼む

が

立てなく

司

0

死を知

がらされ

た臣下は、

女御

が重荷を持たせた真意や、

莊司

が死に至った経緯を語る

匹

従

者、

荘

司

の

死

を臣下

に伝え

司 の死を知った従者は、 死の背景を語 ŋ 死者を悼んだ後、 臣下 に知らせに 61

荘

荘 司 の 死 7体を見 ζ, 女 御 は 立て なく

五

中

に乱

いるこの

のままに

(女御を)

狂

わ

せて

思

61

知らせてやる。

恋

も出な 61 61  $\mathcal{O}$ ま ま 死 で ま ぶおう、 61 が あ る そ n こそ我 が 執念 0 10

つ 持 7 恋は何と重荷

山科荘司

ああ、

とため

息を

つ

声

だ

け

が

慰め

に

な

つ

て

61

た

が

B

は B

恋

 $\bar{O}$ 

乱

n

を鎮

8 る

なことか

する手枕

その 肩を入れ替えて、 何度も重荷を持

http://www.the-noh.com

つ

てしまう。

0

者

0

心

は

本当に可哀想だ。

Retainer

What did you say? Shōji has passed away? Outrageous! How pitiful! Neither class nor status can separate a man from falling love with a woman. It is true, we know that, but Her Grace dared to make a strategy and tried to make him give up his love. She made the heavy burden, wrapped it beautifully and decorated it gorgeously to make it look lighter, and let Shōji try to lift it. Her Grace thought that when the man acknowledges that the package which seems very light is actually too heavy to lift, he would learn that that experience is the indication of his love, which appears to have hope but is actually too difficult to fulfill. Her Grace considered that he would then give up his love for her. However, perhaps this is the tragedy of a man of humble origins with a shallow mind – that man was delighted that he got a chance to see Her Grace if he could successfully walk around the garden carrying the burden. He therefore tried to lift the burden with all his energy. But it was made to be extremely heavy, so he could not lift it. He bore a grudge against how he was treated, lamented, and chose to end his life. It is very very pitiful. I am going to report this story to the consort.

Your Grace, Yamashina no Shōji could not lift the burden and he passed away in the garden. The obsession that a lowly man like him had is a terrible thing. Please come out to the garden and see him once in order to prevent his obsession and curse from harming you.

Love, O love. No one shall fall in love on the spur of the moment. Because people can die for love.

I really feel pity for his love.

たため 持ち上 うなのだ 何 すも不憫と 者 ろう、 たせる を作 n 科 0 お いよそ、 身 7 0 たことを喜び 莊司 0 が 司 ŋ 念は は重荷 悲 女御 らな が あ ように が 心しさか 恋と 0 11 う そ 死 ことは 者 う 様は 17 0 6 恐ろ を持 の者 ほ の姿を一 0 仕 7) だと は、 向け · う か そう配慮なさ にきら できず これ は つ 莊 恋が たのだ。 17 な 力を尽 61 0 目ご覧ください を持 は、 ٤ 司 B 61 Ú 0 成就 が 0 や それ でござ できず、 身分の高 つ  $\mathcal{O}$ かな装飾 0 7 そうす 恋心を諦 つ とん 顛末を女御様に申 を恨 お庭を廻れ た て持 な 0 61 いことを示して でもない ます ち上げ である。 ればあ お庭で み、 61 を施 低 めさせようとい 嘆き、 61 し美しく ば、 差 死  $\mathcal{O}$ に隔 、ことだ。 ところが W こう お姿をお見せ てら で は し上げよう。 13 n 包み、 これ ると納得 が ま して自ら死 まっ う るも あ 0 13 だ。 あの ま ると大変です ほど軽そうに見える たく つ 0 か ではな B 者 0) にも軽そうに見せ、 不憫なことだなあ に至っ は、 ださると やり方とし 恋の心を諦 考え と重荷 61 0 た。 それはそ お庭 7)  $\mathcal{O}$ う希望 返す 浅 て、 な で 8  $\mathcal{O}$ に

17

3

扳

つ

恋よ恋 はずみで恋などしてはならな 61 が 死 ぬこともある Ŏ だ か

H

Consort Although I try to stand up, I feel like a huge rock presses me down.

I cannot stand up.

Retribution is the law of this world. Reciters

### 6. Ghost of Shōji Appears

The ghost of Yamashina no Shōji appears before the crouching consort. He blames the cruel treatment on the consort and shows his deep grudge. However, he tells her at the end that he will forgive her if she consoles his soul and becomes her guardian spirit. He then disappears.

### Ghost of Shōji

I kept my love in my heart so that just as the sound of water running between the rocky banks of the Yoshino River would not be made, no one would talk about my love. And I died for my love. I have held onto my love and became an evil spirit bearing a bottomless grudge. But how meaningless it is. Unfaithful...

Unfaithful, sweet words that my beloved gave me. It all happened because I relied on her empty words.

Truly it was meaningless, I had a foolish heart. Reciters

地

まことに無意味で、

愚か

な心を持

つ

て

1/2

たものだよ

甘言を弄した恋人

虚

いり

言葉を頼りにしてしまったゆえのことだ。

荘司の亡霊 最後 女御 61 ・を胸 恨 野川 は 0 み 前 を持 に 0 弔うならば 抱 岩 つ鬼となっ 17 7  $\mathcal{O}$ 科荘 切 り通 司 許 に の亡霊が た 死 L を水 0 2 女御 É で が 現 0 無意味なことよ。 ま n 守 つ る。 h た。 女御 こう 0 水音 0 ť も立た 61

地

せんよ

や立とうとす

巌に押され

えられ

てい

るようで、

まったく立つことが

っできま

は、

あまりにかたじけな

17

お言葉です。

さあ、

お立ちください

のごとに報 慣わ

# 六 山 科 荘 司 の 亡 が 現 ħ

座

か n 込む 神になろうと言 17 打ちを責 して去っ か、 7 61 61 みを表す。

な いほどに、 8 る う に 思

て恋の 念を通 7 は

か

n

知

誠実さのない

Ghost

I can bear to sleep alone if I have a hope to get together with her after living in this world, then another world, and then even in the other world. I can undergo the suffering even though it is as hard as sitting on a rock. On the spur of the moment, I fell in love with a woman whom I cannot even see, and she forced me to carry a heavy burden like a rock. No one can lift such a heavy burden. Woe be me!

Like the leaf of the kuzu plant...,

## [tachimawari]

With the music the performer walks around the stage to express the unstable emotion disturbed by his grudge.

Ghost

...a beautiful *tasuki* band. The manager of Mount Unebi, who tucks up his sleeves with a tasuki band whose name is associated with the mountain, even he cannot hold this heavy burden.

Heavy burden means a deep feeling of love.

Reciters

Burned by the fire of love, clouds of smoke come out of my body. This lowly self is now seriously suffering from torture in Uniting Hell (the hell which sinners who committed murder, theft, or adultery go). (I will punish you.) That will show you. Learn it!

Being ablaze with love, smoke comes out of my burning love. Like being blown by the winds of Mount Inaba, my heart is truly disturbed. Although my heart is disturbed and I am lost in the darkness of love, if you console my soul, my grudge will completely vanish like frost, like snow, like mist. The time has come. Your Grace, I will become your guardian spirit and protect your prosperity for good.

やろう)

さあ

懲り

たか

懲り

囃子に乗っ

荘司の亡霊

つ

5

17

独

H

でも

る望

3

が

あるなら耐えら

[立廻り] 恨 みに迷う心 0 揺 n を表すように舞台上を廻る

葛

0

0

ような……

0

よう

重

荷

を持

たされ

この

重荷

が

持

てるも

0

ああ、

恨

8

いぞ

\$

耐 ŋ

えら

n

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 $\mathcal{O}$ 

だ。

は

わ

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\$

逢うことも

か

61

荘司の亡霊 玉襷に縁 0 あ 傍 Ш  $\mathcal{O}$ Ш 守り こんな重荷は持 ては しま

61

重荷とは恋 0 思 13 を表す。

邪淫 0 炎に 0 罪 を犯 か 者 が もう 陥 ると と煙を立 41 う 7 る、 0 ま 重 61 61 苦しみを受け 0 身は 7 合 61 地 る。 (懲ら 生 盗 8) 4

2 7 は、 61 る から n か 雪 は 5 か 霰 ú 13 あ 0 0 なた は 0 立.  $\mathcal{O}$ 守 一ち昇 り神 迷 になり つ は 7 61 る Ш なく消 末長 が 61 えるだろう 栄えを守ろう を弔 つ てく 吹 か n ださるなら やこ う n までだ

### **Synopsis**

There was a gardener, Yamashina no Shōji, who was taking care of the Retired Emperor Shirakawa's (Shirakawa-in) beloved chrysanthemums in Shirakawain's garden. One day, Shōji took a glance at a consort of Shirakawa-in and fell in love with her. The consort, who recognizes his romantic affection for her, has a retainer deliver a message to Shōji that says she will appear before him if he can complete a certain task. (During the Heian period, noble women were always hidden behind screens in their rooms and rarely appeared before unfamiliar people). The required task is to carry a beautifullydecorated package and walk around the garden hundreds of times. The package looks so light. Shōji is delighted with this slender opportunity to meet with the lady. Confident that it must be an easy task for a man like him whose body has been trained by gardening, Shōji tries to lift the package with all the might in his body. It is, however, incredibly heavy and he cannot lift it at all. Although he tries again and again, he is never successful. Exhausting all his energy, the despairing Shōji holds a grudge against this raw deal. As he passes away, he curses that the consort will pay for it.

The consort hears about Shoji's death from the retainer. She goes out to the garden, finds his body, and mourns his death. When she tries to stand up, she cannot move just as if there were a rock on her body. Then, the ghost of Shōji appears before her. The ghost, who is infuriated at her bitter treatment, repeatedly expresses his resentment and blames her for his suffering in Hell.

In the end, however, the ghost says that he will forget the grudge and act as a guardian to protect the consort to realize her happiness for good, if the consort gives memorial services for him. Then he disappears.

### Highlight

This is a story describing woe and animosity of an old man who fell in love with a beautiful woman. Another Noh piece, Aya no Tsuzumi, also has a similar story line.

The woman is a consort of a retired emperor. The old man is a lowly man sweeping and maintaining a garden. Although people say class and status cannot prevent love, there are status and age gaps between these two. In the first place, the consort does not have any special feeling for the old man, and the man also knows that there is no hope for him. The terrible tragedy starts when the consort offers him hope which he should not have. Imagine the misery of the old man clinging to a thread of hope and tackling an impossible task to lift the heavy burden. The old man's love is crushed by her bitter treatment. He dies of a grudge against her and he turns into an evil ghost. This piece vividly expresses the old man's emotional moves with the character's limited movements, accompanied by the chorus which quickly changes its singing speed. The sophisticated expressions easily grab the audience's hearts and quickly enchant them.

The old man does not hold his bitter feeling but announces at the end that he will become the guardian spirit of the consort. Although his love will never be rewarded, he chooses to stay close to his beloved one and support her, rather than keep blaming her. His earnest and undistracted heart strikes our hearts.

Schools the Kanze and Komparu schools

Category the fourth group Noh, shūshin-otoko-mono

Author Zeami Subject Unknown

Season Autumn (September in the lunar calendar)

Scene Shirakawa-in Mansion in Kyoto

Tsukurimono Omoni (heavy package)

Characters Mae-shite Old Man

Nochi-shite Ghost of Yamashina no Shōji

Tsure Consort

Waki Retainer of Shirakawa-in

Ai Servant

Masks Mae-shite Akobujō, Waraijō, etc.

Nochi-shite Omoni-akujō, Hanakobu-akujō, etc.

Tsure Ko-omote

Costumes Mae-shite jō-gami (wig for old man's character), mizugoromo (a type of

knee-length kimono), kitsuke / kogōshi-mehiki-or muji-noshime (short-sleeved kimono with small check pattern and fine lines or without patterns, worn as the innermost layer of the costumes of male characters of lesser standing), koshi-obi (belt), and jō-ōgi

(a fan used by monks or old characters)

Nochi-shite shiro-gashira (long white wig worn by roles such as aged spirits),

shiro-mizugoromo (white mizugoromo kimono), kitsuke/ ironashiatsuita (thickly-woven kimono with no rouge color used), koshi-obi, hangire (a type of hakama worn by strong characters such as demons, gods and warriors), happi-style kimono, and

kase-zue (T-shape cane)

Tsure kazura (wig), iroiri-kazura-obi (band for a wig with rouge color),

tengan (crown for celestial bodies and female court ladies), kitsuke / surihaku (short-sleeved kimono, worn as the innermost layer of the costume of a female character), hi-ōkuchi (hakama in ōkuchi-style (scarlet)), akaji-karaori (a red short-sleeved kimono outer robe worn by female characters) wore in tsuboori-style, koshi-obi, and kazura-ōgi (a fan used by a young female

character)

Waki kazaori-eboshi (eboshi-style headdress), mizugoromo, kitsuke/

dan-atsuita (thickly woven kosode type of kimono with very wide stripes), hakama in ōkuchi-style (white), unlined kariginu-

style kimono, koshi-obi, and kami-ōgi (a fan)

Ai naga-kamishimo (tops and bottoms of kimono with long hakama

style trousers)

Number of scenes Two

Length About one hour

### あらすじ

菊を愛好する白河院の庭で、菊の世話をする山科の荘司という者が いました。荘司は白河院の女御の姿を見て、恋心を抱きます。女御は 荘司の懸想を知り、臣下を通じて荘司に、あることを行えば、思いに 応え、姿を見せてあげようと伝えます。あることとは、美しく装飾され、 いかにも軽そうに見える荷を持って、庭を百度、千度廻ることでした。 荘司はわずかな望みができたと喜び、下働きで鍛えてきたからやりや すいと、精一杯の力を込めて持ち上げようとします。しかし、それは 大変な重荷で、まったく持ち上がりません。何度も何度も頑張ってみ ますが、持ち上がることはありませんでした。力を使い果たし、絶望 した荘司は、この仕打ちを恨み、女御に思い知らせてやると言いながら、 死んでしまいます。

臣下から荘司の死を知らされた女御は、庭に出て、荘司の死体を見 て、その死を悼みます。ところが、立ち上がろうとしても巌に押さえ つけられるように、身動きできません。すると、そこへ荘司の亡霊が 現れます。亡霊は、女御のひどい仕打ちに憤り、さんざん恨み言を語り、 地獄で苦しんでいることを伝え、女御を責め立てます。

しかし最後に荘司の亡霊は、弔いをしてくれるなら、恨みを消し、 女御の守り神となって、幸せを末長く守ろうと言い、去っていきました。

### みどころ

美しい女性に恋をしてしまった老人の、悲哀と恨みを描いた作品で、 よく似た曲に「綾鼓」があります。

女性は高貴な女御、老人は庭掃きの賎しい身分の男。恋に隔てはな いといいながら、階級も違い、年齢の差もあったでしょう、そもそも女 御は老人のことなど、何とも思っておらず、老人も望みのない恋だとわ かっていたようです。ところが女御が、老人にあらぬ希望を持たせたこ とが、恐ろしい悲劇を生み出しました。わずかな希望にすがり、決して 上げることのできない重い荷を持とうとする老人の哀れな姿。老人は女 御の仕打ちに、恋心を無残に砕かれ、恨みの末に死に、怨霊となって しまいます。能では、老人の心の揺れが、緩急鋭い謡と、ごくわずか な所作とで見事に表現され、観る人の心のなかに、ぐんぐん入り込ん できます。

また老人は恨みとおすことなく、最後は女御の守護神になると言いま す。恨み通すよりも、報われずとも、愛した人の側で支える道を選ん だ老人の、けなげさも印象深いものがあります。

流儀 観世流、金春流にあり 分類 四番目物、執心男物

作者 世阿弥

不詳 季節 秋(旧暦9月)

場面 京都・白河院

作り物 重荷

題材

登場人物 前シテ 老人

> 後シテ 山科荘司の亡霊

ツレ 女御

ワキ 白河院の臣下

アイ 下人

前シテ 阿古父尉 (あこぶじょう)、笑尉など

> 後シテ 重荷悪尉(おもにあくじょう)、鼻瘤悪尉(はなこぶあくじょう)

ツレ 小面

装束 前シテ 尉髪(じょうがみ)、水衣(みずごろも)、着付・小格子目引また

は無地熨斗目(むじのしめ)、腰帯、尉扇

後シテ 白頭(しろがしら)、白水衣(しろみずごろも)、着付・無紅厚板、

腰帯、半切、法被、鹿背杖(かせづえ)

ツレ 鬘、紅入鬘帯、天冠、着付·摺箔、緋大口、赤地唐織壷折、腰帯、

ワキ 風折烏帽子、水衣、着付・段厚板、白大口、単狩衣、腰帯、

アイ 長上下(ながかみしも)

場数 二場 上演時間 約1時間

恋重荷 (こいのおもに)

Koi no Omoni (The Deadweight of Love) ©2012 the-noh.com

発行: 2012年12月5日 (ver 1.0)

編集: the 能ドットコム編集部 http://www.the-noh.com (e-mail:info@the-noh.com)

発行:(株) カリバーキャスト

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『能楽手帖』権藤芳一 著 駸々堂

『能楽ハンドブック』戸井田道三 監修 小林保治 編 三省堂

『能・狂言事典』 西野春雄・羽田昶 編集委員 平凡社