Story

indicate the phrase differs by schools.

1. Group of Traveling Monks Arrives Akogi-ga-ura Beach

A monk from Hyuga Province in Kyushu enters the stage with his accompanying monks. They are traveling to Ise Shrine and have arrived in Akogi-gaura in Ise Province.

Usually a traveler plays the role of the group of traveling monks in the Kanze school (occasionally performed by a traveling monk).

Traveling Monk and His Accompanying Monks (or a Traveler)

The autumn wind immerses me deep in thought. Weak are the few rays of moonlight that fall between the trees.

Traveling Monk (or Traveler, hereinafter explanation omitted)

I am a monk (or a man) from Hyuga Province in Kyushu. As I have never been to the Ise Grand Shrine, now I have decided to make a pilgrimage there.

Traveling Monk and Accompanying Monks

On a boat from Hyuga Province, we sailed out.

Accompanying Monks

*The parts highlighted in grey

On a boat from Hyuga Province, we sailed out.

Traveling Monk and Accompanying Monks

The boat travels between waves all the way on the ocean route. In Awaji-gata, we wake up with the song of plovers flying over the bay in the morning.

州日 世流では主に、 向 は流儀によっ \mathcal{O} 僧 行 が (旅 従僧と一 旅僧 人 て異なる場合を示す。 が 一行が 緒 に 阿漕が浦に着く 現 旅人となる(旅僧の場合もある)。 n 伊勢神宮を目指す。

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Traveling monk

We came quickly, already arriving at Akogi-ga-ura Beach in Ise Province. For a while, we will see the local sights.

Passing Suma Beach, we travel further when the checkpoint gate

is opened. The sun sets around the time that the gate of the next

checkpoint is closed. Passing the days like this, we arrive at Akogi-

2. The Group of Monks Meets an Old Fisherman

An old fisherman appears in front of the traveling monks. The Traveling Monk talks to the old man, and they discuss the ancient poem about Akogiga-ura Beach.

Old Man Not by waves but by tears are my clothes wet. They are never dry, even for a moment. For me, autumn has no end, so all of my days are spent in autumnal sadness. I am not the only person who must work to live, but I was unable to be born into a good profession like that of a farmer. I was born into a family with the sordid work of taking life. By day and by night, I kill living beings, how very sad.

> Although I know that the misdeeds of my past lifetimes cause me to kill animals, in order to survive in this distressing world, again today I leave for fishing.

Traveling Monk

Excuse me, but I would like to ask you something.

Old Man Are you talking to me? Yes, what is it?

Traveling Monk

Where in Ise Province is this place?

Old Man Oh, this is Akogi-ga-ura.

Traveling Monk

I see. So this is the famous Akogi-ga-ura Beach. An old poem says, "In Ise's waters, / He who repeatedly poached in Akogi-gaura, / Was exposed in the end." This is the beach, isn't it? How impressive.

Old Man You are very refined, traveler. I know the poem, of course, as it is associated with this place. In the famous Kokin Waka Rokujō (Six-Book Anthology of Poems New and Old), there is a poem saying, "Lovers' trysts, / And poaching at Akogi-ga-ura Beach, / Are discovered if they happen many times." Although these poems describe them so, please do not assume that the people who work the ocean have unrefined minds, or make light of them for gathering seaweed from the waters of Ise.

Traveling Monk

People who live for long time in a scenic place do not perceive its beauty and allure.

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Old Man The divers, the fishermen, and the salt-makers working the ocean see the smoke of baking salt rising to the evening sky,

Traveling Monk

and though not the type whose hearts burn for love poems,

Old Man naturally experience beauty and refinement. Waves washing the shore

Traveling Monk

even sounds different-

Old Man Listen.

Group Reciters

Name of a thing changes from one locality to another, changes from one locality to another. The reeds are called "ashi" in Naniwa, but "hamaogi" in Ise. Even the wind on the beach sounds different. Listen. "The smoke of baking salt / Does not rise these days, / As the people living by the sea stopped enjoying the moon while baking salt." Just as this poem says, some people working the ocean are quite refined, the equals of those pursuing the Way of poetry, so do not dismiss them.

3. Fisherman Talks about the Legend of Akogi-ga-ura

Responding to the monk's request, the old fisherman talks about the legend of Akogi-ga-ura Beach.

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の蜑(海人のこ帰風の音も変われ

れ、 浦風 、ださい

えてしまった。 月を見たい

の道を志す人たちに等しくて、 海人が塩焼きをしないのだから)」 のけ者にされるい と詠まれ われはない たように、

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ながら、 密漁 の罪を重ね 7 しまっ た。 重ね 重 ね 0 罪科を受け て、 苦しみは死後まで

それ でなく てさえ、 伊 勢 0 漁 師 は 殺 生 0 罪 13 者で あ る。 そん な罪 深 3 に 苦

今も 苦は絶え間なく なお 生 前 0 続き、 阳 苦 0 悪名 しみも度重なる を負 13 け 7 ے 61 の罪を弔っ ること が てください 恨 8 L 61 地 獄 で 0 責

Traveling Monk

Would you tell me why this beach is called Akogi-ga-ura?

Old Man I will tell you the story.

This beach is called Akogi-ga-ura, mainly for the following reason. Since the Ise Grand Shrine was established, this has been the place where the fish offered to the gods of Ise have been caught. Perhaps it is thanks to the gods that so many fish come into this bay. Fishermen living nearby were eager to fish in this bay, but because these gods were held in such awe, fishing here was strictly prohibited. However one day, a fisherman, named Akogi, full of the desire to fish even more, came here to cast his nets night after night. For a while, no one noticed, but eventually his deeds became known to the public as he repeatedly poached in this bay. People caught Akogi and sent him to the ocean, off shore of this beach.

Even without poaching, the fishermen of Ise commit the heavy offense of killing living beings. Already suffering from such a heavy offense, he only added to it with the crime of poaching. Having committed crime upon crime, he suffers even after the death.

Reciters

How regrettable to still be burdened with the infamous name of Akogi, the name he had when alive. His tortures in the hells continue, never ceasing for even a moment. His agony only increases. Please perform a memorial service to expiate his crimes.

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4. Old Man Implies that He Is the Ghost of Akogi

The old man has implied that he is the ghost of the fisherman Akogi, which the Traveling Monk has surmised. In the evening, the lights of the fishing boats come into view. Suddenly, a violent wind rises and the ocean turns dark and cloudy, its surface rough. The old man disappears beneath the waves.

Reciters

This ancient story is too shameful to speak of. He left behind the infamous name of Akogi, and people still talk of him, even after his death, in their gossip. They spread rumors about those involved in a tryst—love letters exchanged one after another, piling up until their number reaches one thousand—that the deed becomes known through repetition, just like the crime of Akogi. For example, when the poet Norikiyo (i.e., Monk Saigyo) visited his secret wife many times, she expressed her anxiety about the affair coming to light by saying, "Akogi, Akogi." When people repeat the same offense time and again, they blame it Akogi, but I am only one person, and am truly saddened to be accused by so many.

How incredible! It seems that the ghost of Akogi has shown himself in order to talk about the bitter feelings caused by his worldly attachments. What a pitiful man I have encountered.

Old Man Even taking shelter from the rain under a tree is said to happen due to the karma accumulated in previous lifetimes. You, too, must have a little karma from previous lifetimes. So please take some rest under this pine tree and feel pity for me.

さを感じて

・ださい

たとも 不思議 死 何 0 つ 数を積 本 とも哀 た隠 るとい んだ後 る \mathcal{O} 前 木 0 なことだ。 こう 妻が み重 世 \dot{O} に れな人と出 は本当に悲 うたとえ 下 B で ね 13 度重 わ 聝 て重 さて ず 0 宿 会 ね な 通 東 か ろ Ŋ な は す に及 つ 61 重 と世 つ n たも 阿漕 が る ね て 表ざた 噂 3 5 蕳 \mathcal{O} 0 罪を、 ほど忍 も縁 ₽́ が 0 \mathcal{O} で だ 幽 77 \mathcal{O} 霊 に 噂 付 つ が 阿 なることを懸念 ぶ逢瀬を行 とな 61 2 幻 漕 7 重 0 0 たとえば歌 ね つ 61 一姿で現 た 名に負わ 7 0 き 61 た る。 で つ た身は、 n 前 世 され 人の L 7 \mathcal{O} 木ぎの 心 憲の (木片に色づ 0 私が 呵 阿 \mathcal{O} 恨みごとを語 漕 0 10 (西行法師) ただ 0, 松陰で少 え だと言う 回 度重 漕 Ú した恋文の と言 が忍 な る 責め れば が 0 つ だな 露見 あ たと で通 <u>V</u> 種

をす る \mathcal{O} は あ ま \$ 恥ず か 61 呵 を残 です身 0 上と Ŋ

だし は た頃 自分 急 が 漁師 に 疾 風 が 呵 次吹き 漕 だとほ 海 面 \mathcal{O} は 8 暗く曇り 旅僧 荒 もそれ n るなか、 を察する。 老人 の姿は波間に消える。 夕暮れ たとなっ

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[Interlude]

5. A Villager Tells the Monks about Akogi

A villager who comes to the beach finds the Travelling Monk and begins talking to him. The monk asks him about the death of Akogi. The villager explains that Akogi was caught because he had breached the fishing ban many times.

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Story Akogi

He was wrapped in a straw mat with a large, heavy rock and dumped in this bay. Since then, this beach has been called Akogi-ga-ura. The villager encourages the monk to pray and console Akogi's soul, and then takes his leave.

6. The Ghost of Akogi Appears and Shows His Sufferings

While the Traveling Monk holds a memorial service for Akogi, his ghost appears in the form he had when alive in this world. After the ghost demonstrates how he committed the offense of fishing in the sanctuary, he reveals the various tortures he undergoes in the hells. With a shout of "Save me, traveler!" he sinks beneath the waves.

Traveling Monk and Accompanying Monks

We shall perform a memorial service. Among the numerous...

Accompanying Monks

We shall perform a memorial service. Among the numerous...

Traveling Monk and Accompanying Monks

sutras, we untie the scrolls of the Lotus Sutra, as it leads all living beings to attain buddhahood. If Akogi hears this sutra and learns that he possesses in himself the buddha-nature, he will be freed from the darkness of delusions and attain bright enlightenment. He will be freed from the darkness of illusions and attain bright enlightenment.

Ghost of Akogi

"Just like the name of the insect, warekara (a homonym, literally, 'from myself'), / That lives in the seaweed cut by people working the ocean, / Everything starts from myself. Although I cry out and shed tears, I harbor no grudge against this world." This is so true.

This evening, the ocean is a bit rough, and the fishing net, set to

網 姿を見 と声をあげて波 元せた後、

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Akogi Story

> catch the fish to be offered to the gods, has not yet been pulled in. This is a good chance. Under the evening moon and with the tide full, I change my route, hide from the eyes of the public, and quietly pull in the net before anyone notices. I see no boat on the shore or in the ocean. I am alone in this beach. I will never learn...

Reciters and many times, I will throw the net of delusory attachments.

[kakeri (anguish dance)]

Shite performs a series of movements to the music of a Japanese flute, and large and small hand drums. This dance describes, in quick changes of pace, the ghost suffering from delusory attachments.

Ghost of Akogi

On the clean and sacred beach in Ise, I was fortunate...

Reciters that the precious sutra was recited to console me.

Ghost of Akogi

Even after hearing it, within my heart,

my offenses remain. The waves washing over the net turn into the Reciters fierce flames of the hells, sweeping over my body. Oh, it's so hot, I cannot bear it!

> In the dream You had at midnight, in the dream You had at midnight—Look, I have to face the retribution of my karma.

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阿漕の亡霊

世霊 思えば恨めしい

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Made to ride on the burning carriage of my wrongful deeds, I am tortured. Hellish scenes spread out before your very eyes, vivid and truly dreadful.

Ghost of Akogi

Considering my situation, I feel bitterness and resentment. As in olden times...

Reciters

Considering my situation, I feel bitterness and resentment. As in olden times, my mind is still attached to pulling in the fishing net in this Akogi-ga-ura Beach, the place where my name is infamously known in this saha world. The fish I used to pull in are now transformed into poisonous fish and venomous snakes that attack me. The ice of the Crimson Lotus Hell and the Large Crimson Lotus Hell hurts my flesh and crushes my bones. The air that comes out when I shout turns into the flames and smoke of the Scorching Hell and Great Scorching Hell, rising as densely as clouds and fog. I can neither stand nor sit, as I am tortured repeatedly in the lower realms. Traveler, please save me from the crimes I repeatedly made at Akogi-ga-ura Beach. Please help me, traveler! So shouting, the ghost slips beneath the waves and sinks to the bottom of the ocean.

ともままならず えば つ てくる。 つ が引 7 恨 大焦熱地獄 き込 1/2 8 った。 け 紅蓮 ま 給えや旅 13 冥途 地獄 の焔、 網を引く。 の責 煙 大紅蓮地 となっ 娑婆世 8 苦は 厂を上げ 獄 度重なる。 て雲や霧 0 (この 氷に身を痛 亡霊は 0 阿 ように立ち たち 漕 め、 が浦 今、 を で重 5 ね 8 砕 た罪科 た阿 つ か n て 立. ٤ つ つことも座 が 叫 つ 浦 3 7 け給えや 息 は焦熱 るこ 61

前 が \mathcal{O} 地 獄 0 有 7 は 生 \mathcal{O} 悪業 々 0 ま 恐ろ た 火 0 61 車に乗せら 苦しめ

目

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Akogi

Synopsis

A monk and his accompanying monks (or merely a man) from Hyuga Province in Kyushu (present-day Miyazaki Prefecture) depart on a pilgrimage to pray at Ise Shrine. On their way, they arrive in Akogi-ga-ura (the beach near Akogi-cho, in Tsu City, Mie Prefecture in present-day Japan). The group encounters an old fisherman on the beach and discusses with him an old poem describing Akogi-ga-ura Beach. When the traveling monk (or merely the traveler) asks why the beach is called Akogi-ga-ura, the old man tells the story of a fisherman named Akogi who was discovered fishing in the sanctuary where fishing is prohibited, and was executed by drowning off the shore of this beach. He encourages the monk to console the spirit of Akogi, who is still suffering in the hells due to the serious crime he committed. Having finished the story, the old fisherman implicates that he is the ghost of Akogi, and disappears with a sudden gust of wind in waves in the ocean.

After again hearing the story of Akogi's final moments from a villager, the traveling monk (or the traveler) performs a memorial ceremony for Akogi. Then the spirit of Akogi appears and shows the scene of how he fished in the banned area. He further shows his misery of being tortured in the hells. He then sinks under the waves while shouting "Save me, traveler!"

Highlight

This Noh play is composed of calm, yet extremely frightening scenes that describe the tragic death of a fisherman who broke a fishing ban. His suffering after death, due to karmic retribution, is described in finely honed expressions of chanting and music that dramatically change the pace, as well as in the well-controlled movements of performers.

Akogi-ga-ura Beach used to be a sanctuary reserved exclusively for fishing by Ise Shrine, and therefore the public was prohibited from fishing there. But one fisherman secretly caught fish there under the cover of night. He poached repeatedly, and eventually his misdeeds were discovered. He was caught and executed. It is thought that this ancient legend was first spread among the people. The legend became the source of a poem, which in turn became the basis of this Noh play. The poem is introduced in this dramatic piece.

The first half of the drama, with the conversation between the monk and the old fisherman, proceeds calmly. However, the scene changes suddenly before the intermission. In the second half, the ghost of the fisherman reveals his terrifying state of helplessness in the hells. Finally, this drama ends with the ghost disappearing in the ocean while crying out for help—a note of hopelessness that will leave a chilling, gruesome impression etched deeply into the viewer's mind.

Waki is a traveling monk in this play; however, in Kanze school, he is usually not a monk but merely a traveler.

Incidentally, there is also a word, "akogi (unscrupulous)," in Japanese. It used to mean "the deed will reveal itself if done repeatedly," based on the legend and poem introduced in this piece. This concept is explained in this drama. In later days, the word also took on such meanings as merciless, inhuman, and cruel; impudent and importunate; and sordid, greedy moneymaking. Such are the meanings of the word in modern usage.

Schools All five

Category The fourth group Noh, shūshin-otoko-mono

Author Unknown (traditionally attributed to either Kawakami Kannushi or

Zeami)

Subject Unknown Season Autumn

Scenes Akogi-ga-ura in Ise Province

Characters Mae-shite Old Man

Nochi-shite Ghost of Akogi

Waki Traveling Monk (or Man from Hyuga Province)

Waki-tsure Accompanying Monks (two)

Ai Villager

Masks Mae-shite Sankōjō, Asakuranojō, Waraijō, etc.

Nochi-shite Yase-otoko, Kawazu

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

of knee-length *kimono*), *kitsuke/muji-noshime* (short-sleeved *kimono* with no pattern, worn as the innermost layer of the costumes of male characters of lesser standing), *koshi-obi* (belt), and a fishing pole

Nochi-shite a long black wig, mizugoromo, kitsuke / muji-noshime,

koshi-obi, koshimino, a fan and a fishing net

Waki (in the case of Traveling Monk)

sumi-bōshi (a hood for Buddhist monks), mizugoromo, kitsuke / muji-noshime, koshi-obi, a fan and Buddhist prayer

beads

Waki (in the case of Traveler)

tops and bottoms of $su\bar{o}$ (A long-sleeved unlined hemp kimono with matching top and bottom worn by male characters), kitsuke/dan-noshime (short-sleeved kimono with very wide stripes, worn as the innermost layer of the costumes of male characters of lesser standing), a small

sword, and a fan

Waki-tsure (Accompanying Monks of the Traveling Monk)

Same as the Waki (Traveling Monk)

Ai tops and bottoms of kimono for kyogen-kata, koshi-obi,

and a fan

Number of scenes Two

Length About 1 hour and 20 minutes

あらすじ

九州日向国の旅の僧と従僧(または日向国の人)が、伊勢神宮参詣 の旅に出ます。途中、阿漕が浦(今の三重県津市阿漕町あたりの海岸) に着きます。旅僧一行(旅人)は、そこで一人の老いた漁師に出会います。 老人は旅僧たち(旅人)と阿漕が浦にまつわる古歌について語り合いま す。旅僧(旅人)が、阿漕が浦の名前にどんな謂れがあるのかと尋ね ると、老人は、昔、阿漕という漁師が禁漁区で魚を取り、見つかってこ の裏の沖に沈められたことを伝えます。そして、阿漕の霊は罪の深さに より、地獄で苦しんでいる、弔いをなされよ、と語り、自分がその亡霊 であることをほのめかし、急に吹いてきた疾風のなか、波間に消えてい きました。

近隣の里人から改めて、阿漕の最期を聞いた旅僧たち(旅人)は、 法華経を読んで阿漕の跡を弔います。すると夜半に阿漕の霊が現れ、 密漁の様子を見せ、さらに地獄の責め苦にあう自らの惨状を示します。 行き場のない苦しみを訴えながら、阿漕は「助けてくれ、旅人よ」と言 って、波の底へ入っていくのでした。

みどころ

禁漁を破った漁師の悲惨な死と、その罪業により死後もなお苦し む姿を、緩急鋭い謡や囃子、抑制された型を伴う、能の研ぎ澄まさ れた表現により、静かに、そしてたとえようもなく恐ろしく描き出し た曲です。

阿漕が浦は昔、伊勢神宮に供える魚のみを取るよう決められた禁 漁区でした。ところが、夜中に忍んで、魚を取る漁師がいました。 何度も密漁した彼の行為は露見し、捕えられ、処罰されました。古来、 そのような伝説が伝わり、その伝説を下敷きに歌も詠まれ、歌をも とに能ができたと考えられています。その歌は能のなかに出てきます。

前半では、僧と漁師の会話を中心に静かに進行しますが、突然に 急転して中入りし、後半は漁師の亡霊が出て、逃げ場のない恐ろし い地獄の有様を見せます。最後は「助けてくれ」と声を上げながら 海に消えるという、救いのないかたちで終わり、凄惨さが心に深く刻 まれます。

ワキは旅僧ですが、観世流では旅僧としてよりも、旅人として登 場するのが普通です。

ところで日本語には「あこぎ」という言葉がありますが、この能で も取り上げられる伝説や和歌をもとに、昔は「度重なれば露見する」 といった意味で使われていました。このことは、能の中でも触れられ ています。ところが後に、「あこぎ」という言葉には「無慈悲な、人 情のない、ひどい」「ずうずうしく、しつこい」「浅ましく、金品をむ さぼる」といった意味が加わり、現在では主に、こちらの意味で使 われるようになりました。

流儀 五流にあり

分類 四番目物、執心男物

作者 不明 [一説に河上神主(かわかみ・かんぬし)、別の一説に世阿弥]

題材 不明 季節

場面 伊勢国阿漕浦

登場人物 前シテ

後シテ 阿漕の霊

ワキ 旅僧または日向国の男

ワキツレ 従僧二人 アイ 里人

前シテ 三光尉、朝倉尉、笑尉など

> 後シテ 痩男、河津

装束 前シテ 尉髪 (じょうがみ)、水衣 (みずごろも)、着付・無地熨斗目(むじのしめ)、

腰带、釣竿

後シテ 黒頭、水衣、着付・無地熨斗目、腰帯、腰蓑、扇、網

ワキ (旅僧の場合)

角帽子(すみぼうし)、水衣、着付・無地熨斗目、腰帯、扇、数珠

ワキ (旅人の場合)

素袍上下 (すおうかみしも)、着付・段熨斗目、小刀 (ちいさがたな)、

ワキツレ (旅僧の従僧)

旅僧と同じ装束

狂言上下(きょうげんかみしも)、腰帯、扇

場数 二場

上演時間 約1時間20分

阿漕 (あこぎ)

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