ordinary days | Gentaro Yumeno

CHAPTER 1

SCENE: Cafe Hana Kasumi. Gentaro watches those around him

GENTARO
・・・
あちらを歩いているのは、男子大学生・・・。3限目に遅刻しそうなのか、やや足早だ
あの席に座っているのは会社勤めの女性もう2時間もコーヒーを飲んでいる。打ち合わせと称したサボりでしょうか
・・・ふぅ、中々案外が浮かびませんね
…
The person walking over there is a male college student, somewhat quick on his feet, as if he’s running late for 3rd period.
The woman sitting in that seat works in an office and has been drinking coffee for two hours. Might she be skipping a meeting?

GENTARO (THINKING)
（次の作品ジャンルは久々のミステリー。主人公の設定でこれほど躓いてしまうとは）
（主人公は物語の要。今回はどのような人物を描こうか・・・）
(The next genre to look at is a mystery that’s been a long time coming. I didn’t realise that I’d run into trouble when setting up the protagonist.)

(The protagonist is the key to the story. So what sort of character should I write this time…)

[GENTARO's phone goes off]

GENTARO
編集からメール･･･
An email from the editor…

GENTARO (THINKING)
（ふむ、打ち合わせの日程調整か･･･。候補日がなかなか直近ですね）
（原稿の締切はまだ先ですが、打ち合わせまでにプロットは固めておきたいところ）
（･･･とはいえ、無理にアウトプットしようとして、出てくるものでもありませんえ。少し脳を緩めるとしますか）
(Hm. Scheduling a meeting… and the proposed date is quite soon.)
(The deadline for the manuscript is still quite far off, but I'd like to have a solid plot by the time of the meeting.)
(... But it won't just flow out if I try to force things. Let's try to relax my mind a little.)

[GENTARO shuts his eyes]

GENTARO (THINKING)
（･･･視覚情報も遮断してみましょう）
･････
･･･すぅ
(...And block out visual stimuli as well.)
…
…Snzzz

[GENTARO eventually falls asleep]

CHAPTER 2

GENTARO
･･･ん
…Mm.

GENTARO (THINKING)
（･･･少し目を瞑るだけのつもりが眠ってしまったようですね･･･）
（ずいぶんと妙な夢を見たような･･･）
(... I thought that I was just going to meditate upon it for a while, but I must have fallen asleep…)
(And I had quite the strange dream…)

GENTARO
･･･何かの役に立つやも知れません。文字に起こしてみるとしましょう
…This may be of some use. Let’s try and put this to paper.

[GENTARO puts on his glasses and starts to jot notes down]

GENTARO
あれは新刊の打合せ終わり･･･急用だと電話で呼び出された小生は乱数の事務所を訪ねた
チャイムを鳴らす。ほどなくして中へ呼ばれると、そこには先客が一･･･そう、同じく乱数に呼び出された帝統の姿がった

遊ぼうと騒ぐ乱数、金の無心をするギャンカス男・・・よく見た光景にも関わらず、どこか違和感を覚える
モヤモヤとした想いを抱えながらも、小生は誘われるまま、缶蹴りをするために裏山へ向かう・・・
獣道を道み、シブヤの街を見下ろせるような山の頂に到着する。その一帯には雑草の1本も生えておらず、何もない
まずは小生が鬼を務めることとなり、乱数がが持参した空き缶を置いた。そして、しゃがみ込んで目を閉じる
1，2，3・・・10と数えて目を開ける。そして缶を蹴られまいと片足を缶に乗せると、突如眩光が降り注いだ
身体が動かない・・・これは一体ー？目だけを必死に動かしてみると、乱数と帝統が歩み寄ってくる
2人が空へと手を掲げると、ぐるりと天地がひっくり返った。重力の理に反して小生の体は宙に浮かび、光の発生源へと吸い込まれていく・・・
成も術もないまま地面を見下ろした小生はようやく違和感の招待に気がつく。乱数と帝統の頭頂部にはアンテナのようなものが生えていたのだ。
察するに2人の正体は乱数と帝統に擬態した宇宙人。正体に気づくと同時に、小生を見上げる2人の目が怪しく歪んだー！
そしてー小生は目を覚ましたのでした
・・・

It was the end of a meeting for the new novel… I was called for an urgent matter and visited Ramuda’s office.
I rang the doorbell. When I enter shortly after, there’s a guest with him… yes, it’s Dice who was also summoned by Ramuda.
Ramuda called the gambler over to play, who in turn begged for money. Despite how many times I’ve witnessed this scene, something feels off about it.

With a clouded mind, I jumped at the opportunity to head for the backwoods mountains when I was invited.
We follow the animal tracks and arrive at the peak of the mountain, overlooking the town of Shibuya. Not a single weed grows in the area. Nothing at all.
First, I was to play the demon, placing an empty can down that Ramuda had brought. Then I squat down and close my eyes.
I count down - 1, 2, 3… to 10, and open my eyes. Then as I prepare my guard foot to prevent it from being kicked, a dazzling light suddenly bears down upon us.

I can’t move my body… What in the world is this? I struggle desperately, only being able to move my eyes, as Ramuda and Dice walk up to me.
When the two lifted their hands to the sky, and the sky and earth were turned upside down.
Against the laws of gravity, my body was lifted into the air and beamed up into the source of the light…
I struggle, looking down helplessly at the ground, and realise why I had felt so discomforted.

Upon observation, there appears to be antenna stemming from atop Ramuda and Dice's heads.
As I guessed, the two were aliens who had disguised themselves as Ramuda and Dice.
As soon as I realised who they were, the eyes of those two men looking up at me became distorted!
And then I woke up.

GENTARO (THINKING)
（荒唐無稽すぎますね。シブヤに裏山などありませんし）
（･･･ですが、王道のミステリーを描よりもSF要素を含めたほうが楽しめるかもしれません）
(It's too absurd, isn't it? There's no such thing as 'backwoods mountains' in Shibuya.)
(...But it might be more fun to add elements of science fiction than to portray just a mystery.)

GENTARO
ふむ･･･
Hm…

GENTARO (THINKING)
（世界観設定から考え直してみるとしましょう）
(Let's rethink this from the worldview setting)

GENTARO
すみません、コーヒーをお願いします
Excuse me, one coffee please

WAITER
かしこまりました
Yes, sir.

GENTARO
どのような作品になるのか皆目見当もつかませんが･･･描楽しみがあるというのは作家冥利に尽きますね。
I've no idea what kind of work this will be but… it's the writer's delight to have the pleasure of actually writing.