

Mukō Yokochō 向こう横丁 (Mukō Yokochō)

Traditional Children's Song from Edo period (1603-1868)

Arranged by MOTOORI Nagayo 本居長世 (1885-1942)

むこう よこちょうの おいなりさんへ
Mukō yokochō-no oinarisan-e
(other side alley of Inari shrine to)

向こう横町のお稲荷さんへ
([I went] to the Inari shrine on the alley on the other side,)

いっせん あげて
Issen agete
(one cent gave)

一錢上げて
(Offered one cent,)

ざっと おがんで おせん の ちゃやへ
Zatto ogande Osen-no chaya-e
(briefly prayed Miss Sen's tea shop to)

ざっと 拝んで お仙 の 茶屋へ
(Prayed briefly and [I went] to Miss Sen's tea shop.)_

こしを かけたら しぶちやを だして
Koshi-o kaketara shibucha-o dashite
(hips put down bitter tea presented)

腰を かけたら 渋茶を出して
(As I sat down, bitter tea was served)

しぶちや よこよこ よこめで みたらば
Shibuca yokoyoko yokome-de mitaraba
(bitter tea side side side eye by when I saw)

渋茶よこよこ横目で見たらば
(Bitter tea side side, when I saw with my sideways glance)

こめの だんごか つちの だんごか
Kome-no dango-ka tsuchi-no dango-ka
(rice of sweet dumplings or soil of dumplings)

米の団子か 土の団子か
(Sweet rice dumplings or soil dumplings?)

おだんご だんご
Odango dango
(dumplings dumplings)

お団子 団子
(Dumplings, dumplings)

この だんごを
Kono dango-o
(these dumplings)

この団子を
(These dumplings)

いぬに やろうか ねこに やろうか
Inu-ni yarō-ka neko-ni yarō-ka
(dog to give or cat to give ?))

犬にやろうか 猫にやろうか
(Shall I give them to a dog or to a cat?)

とうとう とんびに さらわれた
Tōtō tombi-ni sarawareta
(in the end black kite by was taken away)

とうとうとんびにさらわれた
(In the end they were snatched by a black kite.)

-This was a traditional children's song, which was sung while (usually) girls were playing with a ball (*mari*).

-All letter *g*'s in the text are pronounced [ŋ], soft and nasal sound. But it must be short. However, "dango" will have a double ŋ sound [da ŋ ŋo].

-Inarisan (Inari shrine) is a popular type of Shintō shrine and associated with fox and rice.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inari_shrine

-Osen (Miss Sen) (1751-1827) worked in a tea shop in Edo (Tōkyō) and famous for her beauty.