

Plagiarism Song Translations (by Loafer)

Hirutonbi (Daytime Thief)

Kiryō, saikaku, kachikan
Hone no zui made zenbu netamashii
Kokoro zenbu mitashitai
Sonemu nōri wa shitauchi bakari

Good looks, wits, a sense of values
I envy it all down to the bone
I wanna fill my whole heart
But my jealous mind keeps on clicking its tongue¹

Kodai kōkoku masari, yo wa shinitei no ongaku bakari
Kimi no zenbu netamashii
Asamashii kono kokorone ga uzuku bakari

Even better than false advertising, the world is filled with nothing but hopeless music²
I'm envious of everything about you
This wretched nature at my heart keeps on aching

Tsumaranai mono dake ga mitai no sa
Yoru no zenbu ga boku wa hoshii
Tada yarusenai kara uta ni shitai
Kono kawaki wo iiwake ni saa

I just wanna look at only the boring things³
All of the night is what I want
I can't help that desire, so I wanna put it to song
Turning this thirst into an excuse, ya see

Yakei, daiya no hikari, emi de jūtakugai o mikudashi
Subarashiki sono kurashi
Saa, shiawase wa oikura bakari?

Night skyline, the light from a timetable, looking down on the residential district with a smile

¹ In case this is culturally lost, clicking your tongue is a sign of general annoyance. In this case it is because of envy.

² This is wordplay. Spoken it's "dead music" (or rather, "music resembling death"), the written meaning is "music about a hopelessly losing position". What I wrote down is the middle ground between the two.

³ The particle here, のさ (or really just さ), is often used by the Plagiarist and is a bit hard to translate in its entirety. It has the particular nuance of knowing something isn't seen favorably, but asserting it anyways. In this case, it means "I know I shouldn't be fixated on the boring things, but I am."

What a wonderful living they have
Well now, is happiness something they pay for?

Kono netami wa utomashii bakari

This envy is nothing but alienating

Tsumaranai mono dake ga mitai no sa
Hito no zenbu wo baka ni shite
Wasuretai noni mune ga itai
Tada nani mo nai kara boku wa hoshii

I just wanna look at only the boring things
Making fun of everyone else
Even though I wanna forget, my chest hurts
I want it *because* it's nothing special

Tsumaranai mono dake ga mitai no sa
Kimi no zenbu ga boku wa hoshii
Tada nani mo nai kara boku wa hoshii
Kono kawaki wo iiwake ni saa

I just wanna look at only the boring things
All of you is what I want
Because it's nothing special, I want it
Turning this thirst into an excuse, ya see

Haru Hisagi (Spring Selling)⁴

Daijōbu da yo daijōbu
Netereba nantoka naru shi
Dō shita n dai sonna kao shite saa
Betsuni dō to mo nai yo

Everything's ok, it's fine
If you sleep it'll work itself out, so
What's up with you making that face, hey
It's nothing special you know

Ekimae de ai wo machibōke

⁴ The official translation is “Prostitution”, and that’s absolutely correct, but the phrase used is a euphemistic and archaic way of saying it which doesn’t make it nearly as obvious as simply “prostitution”. I tried to find an English equivalent and failed, so it stays “Spring Selling” for me.

Hoka ni suru koto mo nai shi
Fuseijitsu no kachi mo oshiete hoshii wa

Waiting in vain for love in front of the station
I got nothing better to do anyway
I wanna be taught the value of insincerity as well

Kotonakare ai nado wasureteoku n namashi
Kurushii koto datte nan demo oshiete okure
Sayōna kagerou no hitotsu ga ii nara wasureta hō ga mashi
Sen no nai koto bakari kiiterarenai wa
Iitakunai wa

Say no more⁵, release yourself from the bonds of love⁶
Let me know about anything, even if it's something painful
If one mayfly such as that should suffice, I would have rather forgotten it⁷
I can't just listen to worthless things all the time
I don't want to say it

Daijōbu dore dake mo haite mo
Kotoba wa ii tarinai shi
Dō shita n dai anta ni wakaru kai
Kono urei ga

It's fine, no matter how much you spit it up
There won't be enough words to say, so
What's up with you, do you even get it
This anguish, that is

Genkan de ai wo machibōke
Sasayaku koe de aeide
Kōkai no kai wo oshiete hoshii wa

Waiting in vain for love in the entryway
I gasp in a whispered voice
I wanna be taught the "penance" of repentance⁸

⁵ The written phrase is 言勿れ which is indeed "Say no more", but there's a spoken phrase with the same pronunciation which means something like "Don't rock the boat". This refers to the Plagiarist's mindset here.

⁶ This phrase, and others, is spoken like a yuujo, a.k.a. a classical Japanese prostitute.

⁷ There is a ridiculous amount of wordplay going on here. "Mayfly" and "heat haze" are homophones (both are "kagerou"). A strange phrase is also used here, "sayou na", which is part of the phrase "sayounara". The meaning of it all is explained in the full analysis document.

⁸ This is even more wordplay. It's explicitly "I want to learn the 'kai' of 'kukai' (kukai means regret)". The kanji here, 後悔, is "after" (kou) + "repent" (kai). You may interpret what this means.

Kagerō ya kyō nado dōka wasureteoku n namashi
Kanashii kotonashi no ai dake utatte okure
Shimai wa kuchizuke hitotsu ga ii no mo iwanai hō ga mashi
Sen no nai koto demo wasurerarenai wa
Shiritakunai wa

By all means, release yourself from the bonds of today and the heat haze
Sing to me about just love without the sadness, please
I would also rather not say that, for the finish, a lone kiss should suffice
I can't forget even the worthless things
I don't want to know

Kagerō ya kyō nado itsuka wasureteshimau no deshō? kurushii no
Sayōna tamerai no hitotsu ga ai nara shiranai hō ga mashi
Sen no nai koto datte kikasete motto

Will I one day forget about things like today and the heat haze? It's painful
If a moment of hesitation such as that is love, then I would rather not know of it
Tell me worthless things, more

Kotonakare asu nado wasureteoku n namashi
Kurushii koto datte nando oshiete okure
Busuina kagerou no hitotsu de ii kara, oboreru hodo ni hoshii
Sen no nai koto datte kikasete motto
Aishite hoshii wa

Say no more, release yourself from the bonds of tomorrow
Let me know about the painful things over and over
One boorish mayfly is enough ok, I'm drowning in how much I need it
Tell me worthless things, more
I want to love

Bakudanma re-recording (Compulsive Bomber)

Shinda me de bakudan katate ni kuchi o hiraku
Sayonarada jinrui, minna fukitonjimae

With dead eyes and a bomb in one hand, I open my mouth
It's farewell humanity, I'm blowing everyone all away

Naita kao de bakudan katate yoru ga kurushii
Yasuppoi naito shou no wan shiin mitaina yume ga mitai

With a crying face and a bomb in one hand, the night is painful
I wanna have a dream that's like a scene from a shitty late night show

Kyō mo dekimasen deshita
Kyō mo yaremasen deshita
Seishun no zenbu o bakuhashitai
Kimi no koto wo uta ni shitai

I was not able to do it today again
I was not willing to do it today again
I wanna destroy all of youth
I want to turn you into song

Kono hibi o bakuhashite
Kokorogoto bakuhashite
Zurui yo, yasashisa tte yatsu chiratsukasete sa zurui yo zenbu

Blowing up these days,
Blowing up my emotions,
It's so unfair, you dangeling your kindness in front of me, it's just so unfair, all of it

Kono heya o bakuhashitai
Yume ga nakya ikirarenai
Dakara ima, sayonara da
Fukitonjima

I wanna blow up this room
You can't live without dreams
And that's why now, it's farewell
Blow it all away

Shinda me de bakudan katate ni machi o aruku
Dare mo mimuki mo shinai n da bakudan o kazashita tote

With dead eyes and a bomb in one hand, I walk down the street
No one's even looking at me, even though I'm holding up a bomb

Zutto nakemasen deshita
Zutto waraemasen deshita
Seishun no zenbu ni kimi ga iru
Kaze ga fukeba hana ga saku

I have never been able to cry

I have never been able to laugh
You're there within all my youth
If the wind blows, flowers will bloom

Ano natsu o bakuhashite
Omoide o bakuhashite
Hidoi yo, kimi jishin wa damatte kieta kuse ni
Hidoi yo zenbu

Blowing up that summer
Blowing up my memories
It's so cruel, all because you silently disappeared all on your own, it's so cruel, all of it

Kono machi wo bakuhashitai
Kono mama ja ikirarenai
Dakara ima, sayonara da
Fukitonjima

I wanna blow up this town
I just can't keep living like this
And that's why now, it's farewell
Blow it all away

Motto waraeba yokatta
Zutto modoritakatta
Seishun no zenbu ni chireba sake
Chireba sake yo sarusuberi

I would have liked to smile more
I always wanted to go back
If all my youth is scattered, then bloom
If it's scattered then bloom, oh crape myrtle

Kono hibi o bakuhashite
Kokorogoto bakuhashite
Tsurakute mo ii kurushisa mo zenbu boku no mono da wakatteru n da

Blowing up these days,
Blowing up my emotions,
I don't care if it's heartbreaking, the suffering and everything else are mine, I get it!

Kono hoshi o bakuhashitai
Kimi o keseru dake ii
Ima shika nai, inaku nare

I wanna blow up this planet
So long as I can erase you
It's now or never, disappear!

Kono hibi o bakuhashite
Kokorogoto bakuhashite
Zurui yo, yasashisa tte yatsu chiratsukasete sa zurui yo zenbu

Blowing up these days,
Blowing up my emotions,
It's so unfair, you dangeling your kindness in front of me, it's just so unfair, all of it

Kono yoru o bakuhashitai
Kimi dake wo oboeteitai
Dakara ima, sayonara da
Fukitonjima

I want to blow up this night
I want to remember only you
And that's why now, it's farewell
Blow it all away

Replicant

Kimi wa eiga o zutto miteiru
Dare hitori mo inai gekijō de
Ima omoeba chi-pu na setto de hito no yoku shinu SF eiga⁹

You're always watching a movie
In a theater with no one in it
If you think about it now, it's a sci-fi movie with a cheap set where many people die

Itsuka sekai ga matomo ni natte, hito no jumyō sae zuibun nobite,
Shinenai sekai ni nareba ii noni ne

If one day the world would become decent, and people's lifespans expand considerably,
If only it could become a world where you can't die, right

Soshitara kokoro igai wa nise mono da
Kotoba igai wa nise mono da

⁹ This could potentially be a reference to Blade Runner, the movie that the title of the song comes from.

Kamisama datte sakuhin na n da kara
Bokura minna repurika da
Itsuka kisetsu ga sugisatte
Tsumetaku natte toshioite
Sono tokini

And then everything but the heart¹⁰ would be fake
Everything but words would be fake
God's just a work of fiction after all
We're all just replicas
In due time the seasons pass
Getting colder and growing older
At that moment

Boku wa eiga o zutto miteiru
Tsumaranai hodo ni usui eiga
Seki o tatte kara yatto kizuku
Kore wa boku o egaita dorama da

I'm always watching a movie
A boringly shallow film
Only after I leave my seat do I finally realize
This is the drama I wrote

Itsuka bokura wa otona ni natte,
Te ni ireru mono mo ōkiku natta
Tsugi wa ai de mo kaereba ii noni ne

As we grow up in due time,
The things we could get also grew
If only we could next buy love, right

Anta no kachikan nante nisemono da
Omoide datte nisemono da
Kokoro wa nō no shingō na n da kara
Ai mo minna repurika da
Itsuka kisetsu ga sugisatte
Omoide bakari ga tsunotte
Sono tokini

¹⁰ The word for heart, 心 (kokoro), actually refers to both the mind and the heart, as well as the soul/spirit. In Japanese, the distinction between the two isn't clear like it is in most western languages. In most instances sticking with heart works fine, but as this song almost directly touches on solipsism, I chose to translate it to "mind" when I thought it more appropriate. But know that whenever either heart or mind is said the original word is kokoro.

Your values are just fucking fakes
Even memories are just fakes
The mind is just brain signals, after all
Love and everyone are just replicas
In due time the seasons pass
Nothing but memories growing stronger
At that moment

Mitasareru nara sorede yokatta
Uta wo utau noni riyū mo nai wa
Tanin no tameni ikirarenai
Sayonara igai zenbu gomi

If only I could have just been satisfied
Even though I sing songs, there's really no reason to
I can't live for the sake of others
Everything beyond goodbye is trash

Hito wo norou uta ga egakitai
Sorede dare ka wo korosereba ii ze
Natsu no nioi ni mune ga tsumatteita

I want to create songs that curse people
If that can kill someone, it'd be great
The smell of summer was stuck in my chest

Bokura no kokoro igai wa nisemono da
Kotoba igai wa nisemono da
Kono yo no zenbu wa shukan na n da kara
Kimi mo minna repurika da
Sayonara datte nagedashite
Kono mama tōku nagedashite

Everything but our hearts is fake
Everything but words is fake
Everything in this whole world is subjective after all
You and everyone are just replicas
Throw out your farewells
Run far away like this

Kotoba de zenbu arawashite
Kokoro mo ai mo kaki tashite
Soredemo sora wa hidoku aoi n da kara

Sore wa kitto mahō da kara
Itsuka kisetsu ga sugisatte
Tsumetaku natte toshioite
Sono tokini yatto wakaru
Boku mo sono aosa ga wakaru

Reveal everything with words
Write down your heart and love too
But even so, the sky really is terribly blue
That surely must be magic
In due time the seasons will pass
Getting colder and growing older
At that moment I'll finally understand
I'll also understand that blueness

Hanamotase (Flower Scheme)¹¹

Sayonara wo oite boku ni hanamotase
Obotsukanu mamani yo ga akete
Dare mo inai heya de okita
Sono nukumori hitotsu nokoshite

Put down farewell and let me have a flower¹²
While still in doubt, dawn breaks
And I awoke in a room with no one in it
Leaving me a lone¹³ warmth

Kinō no yoru no koto wa sukoshi mo oboetenai keredo
Hoka ni dareka ga ita, sonna ki ga tadashiteiru
Futsukayoi ga nokoru atama wa mawachainai keredo
Wakaranai mama demo maa, sore wa soredemo kirei da

¹¹ The title is a modification of 美人局 (tsutsumotase), which means “badger game”, which itself is probably a word you don’t know. It refers to a scheme in which a woman and a man prey on another man by having the woman sleep with the other man, and then have their partner in crime walk in on them or otherwise discover the affair in order to extort him. It’s also common to have no sex involved actually. The team (or lone woman) can get their victim dead drunk or otherwise drug them, then simply have the woman “wake up” in bed with them, to the victim’s surprise of course, and from there the extortion can occur. This is really what nbuna was thinking about when he wrote this. The modification comes in the first kanji, changing it from 美 (beauty) to 花 (flower). It also makes the phrase resemble 花を持たせる (hana wo motaseru, “to have someone hold a flower) which is also used in the song recurrently.

¹² Title is referenced (and it is again in other similar spots); refer to footnote above.

¹³ Throughout the song there is atypical usage of the word 一つ (hitotsu, “one of”). The effect is really to highlight solitude, lonesomeness. Therefore I translate it as “a lone” to also call to mind “alone”.

I don't remember the slightest bit of yesterday's night, however
I'm correcting the feeling that there was someone else there
I'm still hungover and not thinking too well, however
Still not being able to understand it, well, that in itself is beautiful

Senmendai no haburashi, dare ka no koppu, tana no keshōsui.
Oboe no nai mono bakari da
Makura wa hana no nioi ga suru

A toothbrush on the bathroom counter, someone's drinking glass, skin lotion on the shelf.
It's all things I have no memory of
The pillow smells like flowers

Sayonara wo oite boku ni hanamotase
Obotsukunu mamani yo ga akete
Dare mo inai heya de okiru
Sono nukumori hitotsu nokoshite

Put down farewell and let me have a flower
While still in doubt, dawn breaks
And I awake in a room with no one in it
Leaving me a lone warmth

Kinō no yoru no koto wa soko made oboetenai keredo
Tsutsumotase o utagau, sonna ki mo shinaideiru
Futsukayoi mo sameta atama de kangaeteita kedo, wakaranai mama demo ii
Mushiro sono hō ga ii

I don't really remember yesterday's night that well, however
I continue to remain without suspecting a badger game
My hangover's cleared and I've thought about it, but I'm fine with not understanding it
In fact, I'd like not to

Madogiwa saku rabenda-, yogoreta shinku, amikake no mafura-,
Oboe no nai koto bakari da
Heya ni wa haru no nioi ga suru

Lavender blooming at the window, a dirtied sink, a knitted scarf,
It's all things I have no memory of
The room smells like spring

Ukigumo tsukamu yōna hanamotase
Dare mo konai mama hi ga kurete
Yūhi no sashita mado hitotsu

Nani mo shiranai boku o nokoshite

A flower scheme like trying to grab a floating cloud
While no one comes, the sun sets
A lone window the setting rays shined upon
Leaving me alone without knowing anything

Kinō no yoru no koto mo hontōu wa sukoshi oboeteru n da
Anata no inai kurashi, sore ga tsuzuku koto mo
Ima demo kono atama hitotsu de kangaeteiru bakari
Hana hitotsu motasete kieta anata no koto

Honestly, I remember a little bit about last night too
About life continuing without you as well
Even now I keep on thinking about it with this lone head
About you who disappeared, letting me have a lone flower

Ashita ni wa kitto modottekuru
Nanigenai kao de kaettekuru
Imani doa ga hiraite kikoeru
Gomen ne, osoku natta tte
Kotoba dake wo zutto matteiru
Yūyake wo jitto matteiru

Tomorrow you'll surely come back
You'll come back home with a casual look on your face
I can hear the door opening now
And you saying "Sorry I'm late"
I'm always waiting for just words
Patiently waiting for the afterglow of the sunset

Wasureteshimau mae ni hana egake
Kyō mo hitori mata yo ga kite
Dare mo inai heya de nemuru
Sono nukumori, boku ni nokoshite

Before I forget completely, picture the flowers
All alone, today another night will come
I'll sleep in a room with no one else in it
That warmth alone, left to me

Baka mitai ni ai wa hanamotase
Kono heya ni mo mata haru ga kite
Anata no inai machi o ikiru

Sono nukumori, boku ni nokoshite
Boku ni hitotsu, hana o nokoshite

Ridiculously, love is an entrusted flower
Spring will come again to this room as well
I'll live in this town without you
With that warmth, left to me
Left to me, a lone flower

Kotoba dake wo zutto matteiru
Yūyake wo jitto matteiru

I'm always waiting for just words
Patiently waiting for the afterglow of the sunset

Tousaku (Plagiarism)

"Ongaku no kikkake wa nan da kke.
Chichi no motsu reko-do datta ka na.
Oto o kiku koto wa kimochi ga ii.
Kiku dake nara doryoku mo iranai.

"Why was it that I started music again.
I wonder if it was the records my father had.
Listening to the sound feels good.
Just listening doesn't take any work.

Maeoki wa ii kara hanasou.
Aru toki, omoitsuita n da.
Kono uta ga boku no mono ni nareba, kono ana wa umaru darou ka.

Let's start with a preface.
One day, I thought of this.
If this song could become mine, would this hole be filled.

Dakara, boku wa nusunda"

And so, I stole"

ā, mada tarinai. zenbu tarinai.
Nani hitotsu mo mitasarenai.
Kono mama hito jā boku wa ikirarenai.

Motto shiritai. ai o shiritai.
Kono kokoro o mitasu kurai utsukushii mono o shiritai.

Aah, it's not enough. It's all not enough.
I'm not fulfilled¹⁴ one bit.
I can't keep on living if I'm alone like this.
I want to know more. I want to know love.
I want to know something beautiful enough to fulfill this heart.

"Aru tokini, machi o nagareru uta ga boku no kyoku datte kotoniki ga tsuita.
Ureta nante atarimae sa.
Meisaku o nusunda mono da kara saa!

"One day, I realized that the song popular around town was in fact my own.
Of course it would sell well.
I stole it from a masterpiece after all!

Aitsu mo baka da. koitsu mo baka da.
Homechigiru yatsura wa minna baka da.
Muragaru ugō no shū, hontō no kachi nante wakarazu ni.
Maa, sore wa boku mo onaji ka"

That guy's an idiot. This guy's an idiot.
All the dumbasses showering it with praise are idiots.
The senseless masses roused, without even understanding its true value.
But well, am I not the same"

ā, nani ka ga tarinai.
Kore dake nusunda noni sukoshi mo mitasarenai.
Uwatsura no kotoba hitotsu ja mitasarenai.
Ai ga shiritai. kane ga tarinai.
Kono netami o mitasu kurai utsukushii mono o shiritai.

Aah, something's not enough.
I stole this much yet I'm not fulfilled in the slightest.
I'm not fulfilled with one superficial word.
I want to know love. Money's not enough.¹⁵
I want to know something beautiful enough to satisfy this envy.

"Ongaku no kikkake ga nan nano ka,

¹⁴ The verb here, 満たす, primarily means "to satisfy, to fulfill", etc. but also has the secondary meaning of "to fill (e.g. **a hole**)". To be consistent with the translation of the novel I went with fulfill.

¹⁵ Minor wordplay in that the phrase in Japanese can mean "I don't have enough money", when in context it's clear that he means money is not enough to "know love" or to fulfill him.

Ima ja mō wasurechimatta ga yoku janai koto wa oboeteru.
Nani ka kireina mono datta na.

"By now I've already long forgotten why I started music, but I remember it wasn't for want.
It was for something beautiful wasn't it.

Bakenokawa nante itsuka hagareru.
Mimuki mosarenai yoru ga kuru.
Sono tokini mirareru keshiki ga shinsoko tanoshimi de.

My mask will eventually come off.
Night will come without me even noticing it.
I'm looking forward from the bottom of my heart to the view that can be seen then.

Sō da.
Nani hitotsu mo nakunatte, chii mo ai mo zenbu nakunatte.
Nanimokamo ushinatta ato ni mieru yoru wa hontōni kirei darou kara,
Hontōni, hontōni kirei darou kara,

Right.
Losing every last bit, losing status and love and it all.
The night you can see after you've lost anything and everything must truly be beautiful,
Truly, truly beautiful, and so,

Boku wa nusunda"

I stole"

ā, mada tarinai. motto kakitai.
Konna uta ja mitasarenai.
Kimira no batō jā boku wa mitasarenai.
Mada shiranai ai o kakitai.
Kono kokoro o mitasu kurai utsukushii mono o shiritai.

Aah, it's not enough. I want to write more.
I'm not fulfilled with this kind of song.
All your condemnations won't fulfill me.
I want to write about the love I still don't know.
I want to know something beautiful enough to fulfill this heart.

Mada tarinai. mada tarinai.
Mada tarinai. mada tarinai.
Mada tarinai. boku wa tarinai.
Zutto tarinai mono ga wakaranai.

Mada tarinai. motto shiritai.
Kono karada wo tokasu kurai utsukushii yoru o shiritai.

It's not enough. It's not enough.
It's not enough. It's not enough.
It's not enough. I'm not enough.
I don't know what I've always been missing.
It's not enough. I want to know more.
I want to know a night beautiful enough to melt away this body.

Shisouhan (Thoughtcrime)¹⁶

Hito ni yasashii anta ni kono kokoro ga waku mono ka
Hito o norou no ga kokochi ii, dakara uta wo kaiteita
Asa no hōdō nyu-su ni itsuka noru koto ga yume datta
Sono tame ni hōchō wo toideru

As if you, who's kind to others, could fucking understand this heart
Cursing others feels good, that's why I wrote songs
It was my dream to one day be on the morning news
That's why I'm now sharpening my knife

Garasu o tatakitsukeru oto, nani ka no kami o yabuku koto,
Sayonara no ato no yūhi ga utsukushii tte, kimi datte waku daro

The sound of smashing glass, the ripping of paper,
And the setting sun after goodbye are beautiful, even you must understand that!

Karasu no uta ni akane
Kono kodoku mo ima oto ni kawaru
Omokage ni sashita higure
Tsumasakidatsu, kumo ga yakeru, sayonara ga kuchi o suberu

The crow's song goes to red¹⁷
This loneliness changes now to sound too
Twilight, shined upon lingering face

¹⁶ The title is, of course, a reference to George Orwell's incredibly famous novel, 1984.

¹⁷ Much of this song is simply impossible to translate due to its brevity in its attempts to imitate Japanese poetry. To give an example, this line's literal meaning is "To crow's song, madder (meaning a red dye)". The others are similarly unequivocal, but in the interest of not making all of this just TL notes I simply attempted poetic equivalents.

Standing on tiptoes¹⁸, clouds glow red, goodbye slips from my mouth

Mitomeraretai, aishitai
Kore ga yume tte yatsu ka
Nani mo shinakute mo kanaeyo, hayaku, boku o mitashitekure
Hito ni yasashii seken ni kono netami ga wakaru mono ka
Itsumo dareka wo nagureru kikai o sagashiteru

I want to be recognized, I want to love
Is this that thing they call dreams
Just grant them without doing anything, c'mon, hurry up and fulfill me
As if society, that's kind to others, could ever really understand this envy
I'm always looking for an opportunity to beat someone up

Bi-rubin de naguru gairotō, nageru gita- no oreru oto,
Modoranai kōkai no zenbu ga utsukushii tte, sōiu no saa, boku datte wakaru noni

A beer bottle striking a streetlamp, the sound of a flung guitar snapping,
And the regret of not going back are all beautiful, these kinds of things, even though I know it!

Kotoba no ame ni utare
Aki oshimu mama fuyu ni ochiru
Haru no yama no ushiro kara mata hitotsu kemuri ga tatsu
Natsu kaze ga hoho wo suberu

Struck by rain of words
While fall is sparing, winter falls
From behind the spring mountain, another lone smoke rises¹⁹
Summer wind slips across my cheek

Hito ni yasashii anta ni kono kodoku ga wakaru mono ka
Shinitakunai ga ikirarenai, dakara uta wo kaiteiru
Batō mo shitsubō mo ken'o mo boku e no kyōmi da to omou kara
Hito wo kizutsukeru uta wo kaiteiru
Konna nakami no nai uta wo kaiteiru

As if you, who's kind to others, could fucking understand this loneliness
I don't want to die but I can't live, that's why I'm writing songs
I think condemnation, disappointment, and disgust are all interesting to me so

¹⁸ This is wordplay. The original phrase is "tsumasakidatsu", which does mean to stand on your tiptoes. However, it can also be heard as "tsuma sakidatsu", which means "my wife goes ahead of me", as in dying first.

¹⁹ This is pulled from a haiku of the 20th century poet Ozaki Housai, written at the end of his life. The original is "haru no yama no ushiro kara kemuri ga dedashita", which means "From behind the spring mountain smoke came out".

I'm writing songs to hurt others
I'm writing these hollow songs

Kimi no kotoba ga nomitai
Iremono mo nai ryōte de ukete
Itsushika nodo ga uruou
Sono toki o machi nagara

I want to gulp down your words
Without a container, I'll take them in cupped hands²⁰
My throat dries before I realize it
And while waiting for that moment,

Karasu no uta ni akane
Kono kodoku yo ima uta ni kaware
Sayonara, kimi ni akane
Boku wa ima, yoru o matsu
Mata ashita. kuchi ga suberu

The crow's song goes to red
Oh this loneliness, turn now to song
Goodbye, you to red
Now, I wait for night
See you tomorrow. My mouth slips

Toubou (Running Away)

Natsu no nioi ga shiteta
Azemichi, hitosu nyuudougumo
Yoru ga chikazuku made kyō wa aritemiyou yo
Tonari no machi no yomatsuri ni iku n da

It was smelling like summer
A footpath in the rice field, one summer cumulonimbus
Today let's try walking until the night comes
We're going to the nighttime festival in the town over

Nurui yoru, yūgatō no higurashi, hanauta, nokisaki no fūrin,
Sakamichi o orita mukōgawa, matsuri yatai no dōkei
Yoru ga chikazuku made kyō wa aritemiyou yo
Ue o muite aruita, hana ga yozora ni saiteru

²⁰ This is another reference to Ozaki Housai. The original line is “Iremono mo nai ryōte de ukete”, which means “Without a container, I accept them in both hands”

Lukewarm night, light trap twilight²¹, humming, wind chimes on the eaves,
Down the other side of the street hill, yearning for the festival stall
Today let's try walking until the night comes
We looked upwards and walked, flowers are blooming in the night sky

Natsu no nioi ga shiteta
Azemichi no zutto mukō e
Dare hitori hito no inai machi o sagasu n da
Nee, konna seikatsu wa gomen da

It was smelling like summer
Towards far beyond the footpath
I'm searching for a town without a single person living in it
Hey, I can't stand living like this

Sayōnara, te o furu kage hitotsu, yoru machi, hanasaki no basutei
Omoide no naka no fūkei wa tsumaranu hodo kirei de
Yoru ga chikazuku made kyō mo aruiteita n da
Mabuta wo tojireba mieru, natsu no nioi ga suru

Goodbye, a lone shadow of a waving hand, waiting for night, the bus stop right in front of me
The scenery inside my memory is, well, boringly pretty
You know, today as well I was walking until night comes
If I close my eyes I can see it, it smells like summer

Saa, motto tōku ikou yo
Saa, motto nigeteikou ze
Saa, bokura tsumaranai koto wa zenbu hottoite
Michi no mukō e

Come on, let's go farther away
Come on, let's run away more
Come on, leave behind all our boring things
Towards the other side of the road

Natsu no nioi ga shiteta
Azemichi, hitotsu nyūdōgumo
Dare hitori hito no inai machi de kizuku n da
Kimi mo inai koto ni yatto

It was smelling like summer

²¹ When sung it's "cicadas in a light trap", but in the written lyrics it's the given translation. And in case you don't know, a light trap is a bug zapper. Summer stuff.

The footpath in the rice field, one summer cumulonimbus
I notice it in the town with not a single person living in it
That you aren't there either, finally²²

Nukui yoru, yūgatō no higurashi, hanauta, nokisaki no fūrin,
Sakamichi o orita mukōgawa, matsuri yatai no dōkei
Otona ni natte mo zutto oboeteru kara
Nee tōku e ikou yo, ano oka no mukō e

Lukewarm night, light trap twilight, humming, wind chimes on the eaves,
Down the other side of the street hill, yearning for the festival stall
Because I'll always remember it even when we grow up
Hey, let's go far away, towards the other side of that hill

Saa, motto tōku ikou yo
Saa, motto nigeteikou ze
Saa, bokura tsumaranai koto wa zenbu hottoite
Michi no mukō e

Come on, let's go farther away
Come on, let's run away more
Come on, leave behind all our boring things
Towards the other side of the road

Yakou (Night Journey)²³

nee, kono mama yoru ga kitara, bokura dou narun darou ne
ressha ni demo notte iku kai. boku wa dokodemo ii kana

Hey, if night comes like this, I wonder what'll become of us
So you're going to ride the train. As for me, I guess anywhere is fine

kimi wa mada wakaranai darou kedo, sora mo kotoba de dekiterunda
souka, tonarimachi nara tsuite ikuyo

You probably don't understand yet, but the sky is made of words too, you know
Oh right, if it's the next town over I'll go with you

hara hara, hara hara, harari
haruru hara, kimi ga yomu uta ya ichirinsou

²² Since it might be unclear, the “finally” here means “I finally notice”, not “you finally aren’t there”.

²³ Also means “night train”.

hoka ni wa nan ni mo iranai kara

Gently, gently, gently falling
Across the clear field, the poems you write and anemones²⁴
After all, I don't need anything else

namidatsu natsuhara, namida tsukinu mama naku ya higurashi wa yuu, yuu, yuu
natsu ga owatte ikunda ne
sou nanda ne

Billowing summer field, whilst tears fail to run dry crying and sunset²⁵ is evening, evening,
evening²⁶
Summer is reaching its end isn't it
That's right isn't it

nee, itsuka otona ni nattara, bokura dou narundaro ne
nanika shitai koto wa aru no kai. boku wa sore ga mitai ka na

Hey, if we one day become adults, I wonder who we'll grow into
So there's something you'd like to do. As for me, I guess I'd like to see that

kimi wa wasureteshimau darou kedo omoide dake ga hontou nanda
souka, michi no saki nara tsuite iku yo

You'll probably forget, but only memories are real you know
Oh right, if it's up ahead of the road I'll go with you

sara sara, sara sara
sara sara, sara sara
hanakaze, yurare ya ichirinsou
kotoba wa nani ni mo iranai kara

Smoothly, smoothly
Smoothly, smoothly
Flower wind, being swayed and anemones
After all, I don't need words or anything else

kimi tatsu natsuhara, kami wa nabiku mama, naku ya amamoyoi yuu, yuu, yuu
natsu ga owatte ikunda ne

²⁴ In the language of flowers (a code of poetic metaphors in Japanese literature) anemones signify remembrance.

²⁵ Same wordplay as in Toubou with 日暮れ (higure, "twilight") being pronounced as "higurashi" (cicada). So spoken it's "...whilst tears fail to run dry crying cicadas are evening, evening, evening".

²⁶ The phrasing is just as weird in Japanese as it is in English. You can think of the "evenings" as poetic language to indicate fading, treat it as a verb.

sou nanda ne

You standing in summer field, whilst your hair waves, crying and the threat of rain evening,
evening, evening
Summer is reaching its end isn't it
That's right isn't it

souka, otona ni nattanda ne

Oh right, I grew up didn't I

hara hara hara hara, harari
haruru hara, kimi ga yomu uta ya ichirinsou
hoka ni wa nani ni mo iranai kara

Gently, gently, gently falling
Across the clear field, the poems you chant and anemones
After all, I don't need anything else

namidatsu natsuhara, namida tsukinu mama naku ya higurashi wa yuu, yuu, yuu
natsu ga owatte ikunda ne
boku wa koko ni nokorunda ne

Billowing summer field, whilst tears fail to run dry crying and sunset evening, evening, evening
Summer is reaching its end isn't it
And I'll be left here won't I

zutto mukou e ikunda ne
sou nanda ne

Always heading in the other direction aren't I
That's right isn't it

Hana ni Bourei (The Ghost in the Flower)

mou wasurete shimatta ka na
natsu no kokage ni suwatta mama, aisu wo kuchi ni hoorikonde kaze wo matteita

Had I forgotten already
While sitting under the summer shade of the tree, we stuffed our faces with ice cream and
waited for a breeze

mou wasurete shimatta ka na yononaka no zenbu usodarake

hontou no kachi wo futari de sagashi ni ikou to waratta koto

Had I forgotten already, that the world is riddled with lies
And that, while laughing, we promised to go search for true value in it

wasurenai you ni iroasenai you ni
katachi ni nokoru mono ga subete janai you ni

So that I won't forget, so that it won't fade
So that things with form aren't everything

kotoba wo motto oshiete natsu ga kurutte oshiete
boku wa egaiteru me ni utsutta no wa natsu no bourei da
kaze ni sukaato ga yurete omoide nante wasurete
asai kokyuu wo suru, ase wo nugutte natsumeku

Tell me more words, tell me that summer will come
I'm picturing it now, the summer ghost is reflected in my eyes
Your skirt fluttering in the wind, forgetting all about memories
I take a shallow breath, then wipe off my sweat; it feels like summer

mou wasurete shimatta ka na
natsu no kokage ni suwatta koro, tooku no oka kara kaodashita kumo ga atta janai ka
kimi wa sore wo tsukamou to shite, baka mitai ni kuu wo kitta te de
boku wa kami ni kumo hitotsu wo kaite, waratte nigitte misete

Had I forgotten already
When we were sitting under the summer shade of the tree, the clouds surfaced from across the
faraway hill didn't they
You tried to catch them, with your hand grasping at the sky like an idiot
I drew down a cloud on paper, laughed, grabbed it, and showed you it

wasurenai you ni iroasenai you ni
rekishi ni nokoru mono ga subete janai kara

So that I won't forget, so that it won't fade
Because what's left to history isn't everything

ima dake kao mo nakushite
kotoba mo zenbu wasurete
kimi wa waratteru
natsu wo matteiru bokura bourei da
kokoro wo motto oshiete
natsu no nioi wo oshiete

asai kokyuu wo suru

Only now letting down my mask
Forgetting words and everything else
You're smiling
We're ghosts waiting for summer
Tell me more about the heart
Tell me what summer smells like
I take a shallow breath

wasurenai you ni
iroasenai you ni
kokoro ni hibiku mono ga subete janai kara

So that I won't forget
So that it won't fade
Because what resonates within my heart isn't everything

kotoba wo motto oshiete
sayonara datte oshiete
ima mo mirun da yo
natsu ni saiteru hana ni bourei wo
kotoba janakute jikan wo
jikan janakute kokoro wo
asai kokyuu wo suru, ase wo nugutte natsumeku

Tell me more words
Tell me goodbye
I'm looking at it now too
The ghost in the blooming summer flower
Instead of words, give me time
Instead of time, give me your heart
I take a shallow breath, then wipe off my sweat; it feels like summer

natsu no nioi ga suru

It smells like summer

mou wasurete shimatta ka na
natsu no kokage ni suwatta mama, aisu wo kuchi ni hourikonde kaze wo matteita

Had I forgotten already
While sitting under the summer shade of the tree, we stuffed our faces with ice cream and
waited for a breeze