春のうららの 隅田川

のぼりくだりの 船人が

Hana 花 (Blossoms, 1900)

Music by TAKI RentarŌ瀧廉太郎 (1879-1903)

Text by TAKESHIMA Hagoromo 武島羽衣 (1872-1967)

1.

はるの うららの すみだがわ

Haru-no urara-no Sumida-gawa (spring of fair weather Sumida-river)

のぼり くだりの ふなびとが

Nobori kudari-no funa-bito-ga

boat- men) down (up

かいの しずくも はなと ちる

Kai-no shizuku-mo hana-to chiru (oar of drops also flower scatter)

ながめを なにに たとうべき

Nagame-o nani-ni tatō-beki

what with compare would) (scenery

櫂のしずくも 花と散る

(Drops from the oars scatter like [cherry] blossoms)

ながめを何に たとうべき

(What could this scenery be compared with?)

(On a fair spring day, on Sumida River)

([rowing] up and down, boatmen)

2.

みずや あけぼの つゆ あびて

Mizu-ya akebono tsuyu abite

(look! dawn dew showered)

われに もの いう さくらぎを

Ware-ni mono νū Sakura-gi-o

(me to something say cherry-tree)

みずや ゆうぐれ てを のべて

Mizu-ya yūgure te-o nobete

(look! Twilight hand extend)

われ さしまねく あおやぎを

Ware sashimaneku ao-yagi-o

young green-willow) (me beckon

見ずやあけぼの 露あびて

(Look, at the dawn, showered with dew drops,)

われにもの言う 桜木を

(A cherry tree that is saying something to me)

見ずや夕ぐれ 手をのべて

(Look, at the twilight, extending its hand)

われさしまねく 青柳を

(A young green willow tree that beckons me)

にしき おりなす ちょうていに

Nishiki orinasu chōtei-ni

(brocade weaving long bank on)

くるれば のぼる おぼろづき

Kurureba noboru oboro-zuki

(night fall rise hazy-moon) 錦おりなす 長堤に

(Above the long riverbank that weaves a brocade,)

暮るればのぼる おぼろ月

(When the night falls, a hazy moon rises.)

げに いっこくも せんきんの

Ge-ni ikkoku-mo sen-kin-no

(indeed one moment even thousand gold)

ながめを何に たとうべき ながめを なにに たとうべき

(What could this scenery be compared with?) Nagame-o nani-ni tatō-beki

げに一刻も 千金の

(Indeed even a moment is worth a thousand gold coins)

what with compare would)

Marking

(scenery

優美に

Gracefully, elegantly

- -This poem is in the 7-5 mode.
- -This poem depicts Sumida River in old Tokyo, where cherry blossoms and young green willow leaves weave a brocade on the long riverbank. It was also known for many boat races.
- -Although this song appears in school music textbooks, it was originally composed as an art song, not as a children's song..
- -This song is often sung as a duet or a two-part chorus piece. (IMSLP score)
- -The IMSLP score uses the traditional Romaji transcription system, which needs to be adjusted for singing. Use the Romaji transcription on this website for singing.
- -All letter q's in the text are pronounced $[\eta]$, soft and nasal sound, except for "Geni" in the 3rd verse where letter q is a hard sound because it is at the beginning of a word.