

# 【源氏物语】中英双语对照



《源氏物语》（日语：源氏物語，Genji Monogatari）是日本平安时代初期的一部古典文学作品，被誉为世界上最早的长篇小说，同时也是一部重要的文学杰作。该作品由日本女性作家紫式部（Murasaki Shikibu，约973年...约1014年或1025年）在约1000年至1012年间创作。紫式部出生于一个学识渊博的家庭，她本人也是当时少有的受过良好教育的女性，她的这部作品展示了她深厚的文学造诣和对人性的敏锐洞察。《源氏物语》共五十四回，讲述

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In a certain reign there was a lady not of the first rank whom the emperor loved more than any of the others. —

在某个朝代，皇帝爱的并不是第一等级的女士，而是另有宠爱的一位。 —

The grand ladies with high ambitions thought her a presumptuous upstart, and lesser ladies were still more resentful. —

那些野心勃勃的贵妇们认为她是一个狂妄的暴发户，而更低一级的贵妇们则更加愤怒。 —

Everything she did offended someone. Probably aware of what was happening, she fell seriously ill and came to spend more time at home than at court. —

她所做的一切都冒犯了某些人。她可能察觉到了正在发生的事情，便严重生病，更多时间都待在家里而非宫廷。 —

The emperor's pity and affection quite passed bounds. —

皇帝的怜惜和感情已经超过了界限。 —

No longer caring what his ladies and courtiers might say, he behaved as if intent upon stirring gossip.

他不再在意他的女官和大臣们可能会说些什么，表现得好像故意要引起闲言碎语。

His court looked with very great misgiving upon what seemed a reckless infatuation. —

他的朝臣们极其担忧这种看似鲁莽的迷恋。 —

In China just such an unreasoning passion had been the undoing of an emperor and had spread turmoil through the land. —

在中国，正是这种无端的热情导致了一位皇帝的覆灭，并带来了混乱。 —

As the resentment grew, the example of Yang Kuei-fei was the one most frequently cited against the lady.

随着怨恨的增长，杨贵妃的例子经常被用来反对这位女士。

She survived despite her troubles, with the help of an unprecedented bounty of love. —

尽管遭遇种种困境，她在空前的爱的慷慨下幸存了下来。 —

Her father, a grand councillor, was no longer living. —

她的父亲，一位大官员，已经去世。 —

Her mother, an old-fashioned lady of good lineage, was determined that matters be no different for her than for ladies who with paternal support were making careers at court. —

她的母亲，一位传统的出身良好的女士，决定让她的命运不同于那些在父亲支持下在朝廷上谋生的女士。 —

The mother was attentive to the smallest detail of etiquette and deportment. —

这位母亲对礼仪和举止的细微之处都非常关注。 —

Yet there was a limit to what she could do. —

然而她所能做的也有限。 —

The sad fact was that the girl was without strong backing, and each time a new incident arose she was next to defenseless.

令人难过的事实是这位女孩没有强大的支持，每当发生新的事件，她都几乎毫无抵抗力。

It may have been because of a bond in a former life that she bore the emperor a beautiful son, a jewel beyond compare. —

也许是前世的羁绊，她给皇帝生了一个美丽无比的儿子，一个无与伦比的珍宝。 —

The emperor was in a fever of impatience to see the child, still with the mother's family; —

皇帝迫不及待地想见到那个孩子，孩子还在母亲家族那里； —

and when, on the earliest day possible, he was brought to court, he did indeed prove to be a most marvelous babe. —

当孩子在尽可能早的一天被带到宫廷时，他的确证明是一个非常神奇的婴儿。 —

The emperor's eldest son was the grandson of the Minister of the Right. The world assumed that with this powerful support he would one day be named crown prince; —

皇帝的长子是右大臣的孙子，世人认为凭借这种强大支持，他有朝一日会被封为太子； —

but the new child was far more beautiful. —

但新生的孩子却更加美丽。 —

On public occasions the emperor continued to favor his eldest son. —

在公开场合，皇帝仍然偏爱他的长子。 —

The new child was a private treasure, so to speak, on which to lavish uninhibited affection.

新生的孩子可以说是一个私人的珍宝，可以毫无节制地倾注爱意。

The mother was not of such a low rank as to attend upon the emperor's personal needs. —

母亲的身份并不低微，不至于伺候皇帝的个人需求。 —

In the general view she belonged to the upper classes. —

在一般的观点中，她属于上流社会。 —

He insisted on having her always beside him, however, and on nights when there was music or other entertainment he would require that she be present. —

然而，他坚持要一直将她放在身边，在有音乐或其他娱乐的夜晚，他也要求她在场。 —

Sometimes the two of them would sleep late, and even after they had risen he would not let her go. —

有时候他们两人会睡到很晚，起床后他也不放手。 —

Because of his unreasonable demands she was widely held to have fallen into immoderate habits out of keeping with her rank.

由于他不合理的要求，她被广泛认为陷入了与她身份不符的放纵习惯中。

With the birth of the son, it became yet clearer that she was the emperor's favorite. —

随着儿子的出生，更加清楚地表明她是皇帝的宠儿。 —

The mother of the eldest son began to feel uneasy. —

长子的母亲开始感到不安。 —

If she did not manage carefully, she might see the new son designated crown prince. —

如果她不小心处理，她可能会看到新生的儿子被指定为太子。 —

She had come to court before the emperor's other ladies, she had once been favored over the others, and she had borne several of his children. —

她比其他女子早来到皇宫，曾一度得宠于皇帝，还生过他的几个孩子。 —

However much her complaining might trouble and annoy him, she was one lady whom he could not ignore.

无论她的抱怨多么让他烦恼和烦恼，她都是一个他无法忽视的女士。

Though the mother of the new son had the emperor's love, her detractors were numerous and alert to the slightest inadvertency. —

尽管这位新儿子的母亲得到了皇帝的爱，但她的诋毁者却众多且警惕，对最轻微的疏忽都有所察觉。 —

She was in continuous torment, feeling that she had nowhere to turn. —

她感到持续不断的痛苦，觉得无处可去。 —

She lived in the paulownia Court. The emperor had to pass the apartments of other ladies to reach hers, and it must be admitted that their resentment at his constant comings and goings was not unreasonable. —

她住在紫薇宫。皇帝必须穿过其他妃子的房间才能到达她的房间，必须承认，她们对他频繁出入的愤怒是合情合理的。 —

Her visits to the royal chambers were equally frequent. —

她去皇室的次数同样频繁。 —

The robes of her women were in a scandalous state from trash strewn along bridges and galleries. —

她的婢女的衣服因为桥梁和走廊上乱扔的垃圾而变得破破烂烂。 —

Once some women conspired to have both doors of a gallery she must pass bolted shut, and so she found herself unable to advance or retreat. —

有一次，一些女人密谋将她必须经过的长廊的两扇门都门上，结果她发现自己无法前进也无法后退。 —

Her anguish over the mounting list of insults was presently more than the emperor could bear.

—

在受到的侮辱越来越多时，让皇帝难以忍受。 —

He moved a lady out of rooms adjacent to his own and assigned them to the lady of the paulownia Court and so, of course, aroused new resentment.

他将一位女子从他自己房间旁边的房间搬走，并将它们分配给紫薇宫的女子，当然，这引起了新的愤怒。

When the young prince reached the age of three, the resources of the treasury and the stewards' offices were exhausted to make the ceremonial bestowing of trousers as elaborate as that for the eldest son. —

当年幼王子到达三岁时，宝库和管家办公室的资源已经耗尽，以使赐裤这一仪式尽可能像长子那样华丽。 —

Once more there was malicious talk; but the prince himself, as he grew up, was so superior of mien and disposition that few could find it in themselves to dislike him. —

再次传出了恶意的传言；但是随着王子长大，他的态度和性情超凡，很少有人能找到理由不喜欢他。 —

Among the more discriminating, indeed, were some who marveled that such a paragon had been born into this world.

实际上，更有眼光的人中有一些人惊叹于这样一个完美的人竟出生在这个世界上。

In the summer the boy's mother, feeling vaguely unwell, asked that she be allowed to go home.

—

夏天，这个男孩的妈妈感到身体有些不舒服，请求允许她回家。 —

The emperor would not hear of it. Since they were by now used to these indispositions, he begged her to stay and see what course her health would take. —

皇帝不同意。因为他们已经习惯了这些不适，他请求她留下来看看她的健康状况会如何发展。

It was steadily worse, and then, suddenly, everyone could see that she was failing. —

情况持续恶化，然后，突然间，每个人都能看出她的体力在衰退。 —

Her mother came pleading that he let her go home. —

她的母亲哀求他让她回家。 —

At length he agreed.

最终他同意了。

Fearing that even now she might be the victim of a gratuitous insult, she chose to go off without ceremony, leaving the boy behind. —

由于担心她现在可能仍会成为一场无妄之灾的受害者，她选择毫不拘礼地离开，把男孩留在了身后。 —

Everything must have an end, and the emperor could no longer detain her. —

一切都有尽头，皇帝再也留不住她了。 —

It saddened him inexpressibly that he was not even permitted to see her off. —

他无法忍受自己甚至不能送她离开。 —

A lady of great charm and beauty, she was sadly emaciated. —

她是一位极富魅力和美丽的女士，但却瘦得让人难以容忍。 —

She was sunk in melancholy thoughts, but when she tried to put them into words her voice was almost inaudible. —

她陷入了忧郁的思绪中，但当她试图付诸言语时，她的声音几乎听不见。 —

The emperor was quite beside himself, his mind a confusion of things that had been and things that were to come. —

皇帝完全失控，他的脑海里充斥着过去和未来的混乱。 —

He wept and vowed undying love, over and over again. The lady was unable to reply. —

他哭泣并发誓永远爱她，一遍又一遍。女士无法回应。 —

She seemed listless and drained of strength, as if she scarcely knew what was happening. —

她似乎无精打采，筋疲力尽，好像几乎不知道正在发生什么。 —



Wanting somehow to help, the emperor ordered that she be given the honor of a hand-drawn carriage. —

皇帝希望以某种方式帮助，下令给予她用手拉的马车的荣誉。 —

He returned to her apartments and still could not bring himself to the final parting.

他回到她的住所，却仍无法让自己结束最后的离别。

“We vowed that we would go together down the road we all must go. You must not leave me behind.”

“我们曾发誓一起走我们都必须走的路。你不能把我抛在后头。”

She looked sadly up at him. “If I had suspected that it would be so —” She was gasping for breath.

她悲伤地望着他。“如果我早知道会是这样——”她喘不过气来。

“I leave you, to go the road we all must go.

“我离开你，走向我们都必须走的道路。”

The road I would choose, if only I could, is the other.”

如果我能选择的话，我会选择另一条路。”

It was evident that she would have liked to say more; —

很明显她想说更多的话； —

but she was so weak that it had been a struggle to say even this much.

但她太虚弱了，甚至这点都很吃力。

The emperor was wondering again if he might not keep her with him and have her with him to the end.

皇帝再次在思考是否能留她在身边，直到最后。

But a message came from her mother, asking that she hurry. —

但她母亲送来了消息，希望她赶紧过去。 —

“We have obtained the agreement of eminent ascetics to conduct the necessary services, and I fear that they are to begin this evening.”

“我们已经得到著名的苦行者同意来进行必要的仪式，我担心他们今晚就要开始了。”

So, in desolation, he let her go. He passed a sleepless night.

于是，他只能在绝望中让她离去。他整夜未眠。

He sent off a messenger and was beside himself with impatience and apprehension even before there had been time for the man to reach the lady's house and return. —  
他派了一个使者去，焦急不安，甚至在使者未回来之前，已经无法忍受。 —

The man arrived to find the house echoing with laments. She had died at shortly past midnight. —  
使者到达时，整个房子都充斥着哀声。她在午夜过后去世了。 —

He returned sadly to the palace. The emperor closed himself up in his private apartments. —  
他伤心地回到宫殿。皇帝闭门不出，独自呆在私人公寓里。

He would have liked at least to keep the boy with him, but no precedent could be found for having him away from his mother's house through the mourning. —  
他希望至少能和孩子在一起，但找不到让孩子离开母亲家中过丧期的先例。 —

The boy looked in bewilderment at the weeping courtiers, at his father too, the tears streaming over his face. —  
小男孩茫然地看着哭泣的朝臣，看着他的父亲，泪水滑过他的脸颊。 —

The death of a parent is sad under any circumstances, and this one was indescribably sad. —  
无论在何种情况下，父母的死都是悲伤的，而这次是难以言喻的悲伤。

But there must be an end to weeping, and orders were given for the funeral. —  
但是哭泣必须有个尽头，便有人开始准备葬礼。 —

If only she could rise to the heavens with the smoke from the pyre, said the mother between her sobs. —  
妈妈在抽搭声中说，希望她的灵魂可以和炉边升上天庭。 —

She rode in the hearse with several attendants, and what must her feelings have been when they reached Mount Otaki? —  
她和几个侍女一起坐在灵车里，当他们到达音羽山时，她的心情是怎样的呢？ —

It was there that the services were conducted with the utmost solemnity and dignity. —  
正是在那里，葬礼以最庄严肃穆的方式进行。

She looked down at the body. "With her before me, I cannot persuade myself that she is dead. At the sight of her ashes I can perhaps accept what has happened." —  
她俯视着遗体。“当我看到她面前时，我无法相信她已经去世。而看到她的遗灰，或许我才能接受发生的一切。”

The words were rational enough, but she was so distraught that she seemed about to fall from the carriage. —

她说的话虽然合情合理，但她的伤心之情几乎让她要从马车上摔下来。 —

The women had known that it would be so and did what they could for her.

女人们早知这将发生，尽力去安慰她。

A messenger came from the palace with the news that the lady had been raised to the Third Rank, and presently a nunciary arrived to read the official order. —

宫中传来消息，夫人被追封为三品，随后一名公使前来宣读官方命令。 —

For the emperor, the regret was scarcely bearable that he had not had the courage of his resolve to appoint her an imperial consort, and he wished to make amends by promoting her one rank. —

皇帝懊悔不已，他没有勇气让她成为皇妃，他希望通过提升她一阶来弥补遗憾。 —

There were many who resented even this favor. —

有许多人甚至对这种恩惠表示愤慨。 —

Others, however, of a more sensitive nature, saw more than ever what a dear lady she had been, simple and gentle and difficult to find fault with. —

然而，更为敏感的人却更加看清了她是多么善良的女士，朴素、温和，难以挑剔。 —

It was because she had been excessively favored by the emperor that she had been the victim of such malice. —

她之所以成为这种恶意的牺牲品，是因为她曾受到皇帝过分的偏爱。 —

The grand ladies were now reminded of how sympathetic and unassuming she had been. —

大家突然想起她当时是多么体贴谦和。 —

It was for just such an occasion, they remarked to one another, that the phrase “how well one knows” had been invented.

他们彼此说，“真是太了解她了”的这句话单独采用确实最贴切。

The days went dully by. The emperor was careful to send offerings for the weekly memorial services. —

日子一成不变地过去了。皇帝细心地送去祭品供奉每周的追悼仪式。 —

His grief was unabated and he spent his nights in tears, refusing to summon his other ladies. —

他的悲痛无法减轻，夜晚泪流满面，拒绝召唤其他的女性侍从。 —

His serving women were plunged into dew-drenched autumn.

他的侍女们陷入了被露水打湿的秋天中。

There was one lady, however, who refused to be placated. —

然而，有一位女士却拒绝平静下来。 —

“How ridiculous,” said the lady of the Kokiden pavilion, mother of his eldest son, “that the infatuation should continue even now.”

“多么荒谬啊，”居住在光启殿的女士，他大儿子的母亲说，“这种痴迷竟然仍在继续。”

The emperor's thoughts were on his youngest son even when he was with his eldest. —

皇帝与大儿子在一起时，心里却惦记着他的小儿子。 —

He sent off intelligent nurses and serving women to the house of the boy's grandmother, where he was still in residence, and made constant inquiry after him.

他派去聪明的保姆和侍女前往孩子奶奶的家里，他仍在那里居住，并经常询问他的情况。

The autumn tempests blew and suddenly the evenings were chilly. —

秋风肆虐，突然间晚上变得寒冷。 —

Lost in his grief, the emperor sent off a note to the grandmother. —

陷入悲痛之中，皇帝派人送去一封信给孩子的奶奶。 —

His messenger was a woman of middle rank called Myōbu, whose father was a guards officer.

—

他派去的使者是一个中等军衔的女人称作妙部，她的父亲是禁卫军队的军官。 —

It was on a beautiful moonlit night that he dispatched her, a night that brought memories. —

在一个美丽的月夜，他送走了她，一个带来回忆的夜晚。 —

On such nights he and the dead lady had played the koto for each other. —

在这样的夜晚，他和那位亡者为彼此弹奏琴。 —

Her koto had somehow had overtones lacking in other instruments, and when she would interrupt the music to speak, the words too carried echoes of their own. —

她的琴音似乎有其他乐器所缺乏的共鸣，而当她中断音乐讲话时，这些话语也带着自己的回响。

—

Her face, her manner — they seemed to cling to him, but with “no more substance than the lucent dream.”

她的面容，她的举止 — 它们似乎粘附在他身上，但“像梦中的虚幻一样”。

Myōbu reached the grandmother's house. —

妙布抵达了祖母的家。 —

Her carriage was drawn through the gate — and what a lonely place it was! —

她的马车穿过大门 — 那是多么寂寞的地方！ —

The old lady had of course lived in widowed retirement, but, not wishing to distress her only daughter, she had managed to keep the place in repair. —

老太太当然是孤孤单单地在这个地方生活过，但是为了不让自己唯一的女儿伤心，她设法保持着房子的修缮。 —

Now all was plunged into darkness. The weeds grew ever higher and the autumn winds tore threateningly at the garden. —

现在所有的一切都笼罩在黑暗之中。杂草丛生，秋风在花园里肆虐。 —

Only the rays of the moon managed to make their way through the tangles.

只有月光勉强能穿越这些乱草。

The carriage was pulled up and Myōbu alighted.

马车停下，妙布下车。

The grandmother was at first unable to speak. —

祖母一开始无法开口。 —

“It has been a trial for me to go on living, and now to have one such as you come through the dews of this wild garden — I cannot tell you how much it shames me.”

“对我来说，活下去是一种磨难，现在你这样穿过这个荒芜花园的露水来到我这里 — 我无法告诉你这是多么让我感到羞愧。”

“A lady who visited your house the other day told us that she had to see with her own eyes before she could really understand your loneliness and sorrow. —

“另外一位女士前几天拜访了你家，她说必须亲眼见过才能真正理解你的孤独和悲伤。” —

I am not at all a sensitive person, and yet I am unable to control these tears.”

“我本来不是一个敏感的人，但是我无法控制这些眼泪。”

After a pause she delivered a message from the emperor. —

在一段沉默后，她转达了皇帝的讯息。 —

“He has said that for a time it all seemed as if he were wandering in a nightmare, and then when his agitation subsided he came to see that the nightmare would not end. —

“他曾经说过，有一段时间，一切都像是在噩梦中徘徊，然后当他的惊骇平息下来，他发现这场噩梦并没有尽头。 —

If only he had a companion in his grief, he thought — and it occurred to him that you, my lady, might be persuaded to come unobtrusively to court. —

如果他的悲痛能有个伴侣，他想——他突然想起，您，我的夫人，也许会被说服悄悄来到皇宫。 —

He cannot bear to think of the child languishing in this house of tears, and hopes that you will come quickly and bring him with you. —

他无法想象孩子在这座眼泪之宫里度过，希望您能快点过来并带着他。 —

He was more than once interrupted by sobs as he spoke, and it was apparent to all of us that he feared having us think him inexcusably weak. —

他说话时多次被呜咽打断，我们都明显看出，他害怕我们认为他无可原谅地软弱。 —

I came away without hearing him to the end. —

我未等听他讲完就离开了。 —

” “I cannot see for tears,” said the old lady. —

“我泪流满面，视线模糊”，老太太说。 —

“Let these sublime words bring me light.”

“让这些崇高的文字为我带来光明。”

This was the emperor’s letter: “It seems impossibly cruel that although I had hoped for comfort with the passage of time my grief should only be worse. —

这是皇帝的信：“虽然我曾希望随着时间的流逝能获得安慰，但似乎极不公平，我的悲痛却愈演愈烈。 —

I am particularly grieved that I do not have the boy with me, to watch him grow and mature. —

我特别悲伤的是没有孩子与我同在，看着他成长。 —

Will you not bring him to me? We shall think of him as a memento.”

您可否将他带来？我们将把他视为一件纪念品。”

There could be no doubting the sincerity of the royal petition. —

皇家的请愿毫无疑问是真诚的。 —

A poem was appended to the letter, but when she had come to it the old lady was no longer able to see through her tears:

信的末尾附上了一首诗，但当老太太看到时，已再也无法辨认，眼泪模糊了她的视线：

“At the sound of the wind, bringing dews to Miyagi plain,

“风声传来，给宫城平野带来露水，

I think of the tender hagi upon the moor.”

我想起了沼泽上的柔嫩的萩花。”

“Tell His Majesty,” said the grandmother after a time, “that it has been a great trial for me to live so long. —

“告诉陛下”，一段时间后，老奶奶说，“长久以来能够活着，对我来说已经是一场巨大的考验。”

—

‘Ashamed before the Takasago pines I think that it is not for me to be seen at court. —

在高砂松林之前感到羞愧，我觉得我不应该出席朝廷。 —

Even if the august invitation is repeated, I shall not find it possible to accept. —

即使那殊荣的邀请被重复，我也不能接受。 —

As for the boy, I do not know what his wishes are. The indications are that he is eager to go. —

至于那男孩，我不知道他的愿望是什么。种种迹象表明他渴望着前去。 —

It is sad for me, but as it should be. please tell His Majesty of these thoughts, secret until now.

—

这对我来说是悲伤的，但也是应该的。请告诉陛下这些想法，直到现在都是秘密。 —

I fear that I bear a curse from a previous existence and that it would be wrong and even terrible to keep the child with me.”

我害怕我背负着前世的诅咒，让他与我在一起是错误的，甚至是可怕的。

“It would have given me great pleasure to look in upon him,” said Myōbu, getting up to leave. —

“我本想去看看他，”妙部说着起身离开。 —

The child was asleep. “I should have liked to report to his royal father. —

孩子已经睡着了。“我本想向他的皇父禀报。 —

But he will be waiting up for me, and it must be very late.”

但他会等我等到很晚的。”

“May I not ask you to come in private from time to time? —

“我能否请你时不时私下来访问？ —

The heart of a bereaved parent may not be darkness, perhaps, but a quiet talk from time to time would do much to bring light. —

一个丧子之心也许不会是黑暗，但不妨打开心扉谈一谈，或许会给予光明。 —

You have done honor to this house on so many happy occasions, and now circumstances have required that you come with a sad message. —

你在许多快乐的场合为这个家庭带来荣誉，而现在情势要求你带来这个悲伤的消息。 —

The fates have not been kind. All of our hopes were on the girl, I must say again, from the day she was born, and until he died her father did not let me forget that she must go to court, that his own death, if it came early, should not deter me. —

命运并不友善。我不得不再次说，从女儿出生那天起，我们所有的希望都寄托在她身上，直到他去世，他也不会让我忘记她必须去朝廷，即使他早逝，也不应该让我退缩。 —

I knew that another sort of life would be happier for a girl without strong backing, but I could not forget his wishes and sent her to court as I had promised. —

我知道另一种生活对于没有强大支持的女孩来说会更幸福，但我不能忘记他的愿望，按照承诺将她送往朝廷。 —

Blessed with favors beyond her station, she was the object of insults such as no one can be asked to endure. —

她被赐予低于自身地位的宠爱，却成为任何人无法忍受的侮辱对象。 —

Yet endure them she did until finally the strain and the resentment were too much for her. —

然而，她忍受了直到最终压力和愤恨对她来说太大。 —

And so, as I look back upon them, I know that those favors should never have been. —

所以，当我回顾它们时，我知道那些好意其实不应该发生。 —

Well, put these down, if you will, as the mad wanderings of a heart that is darkness. —

好吧，如果你愿意，把这些当成一个黑暗的心灵的疯狂漫步。 —

” She was unable to go on.

“她说不下去了。

It was late.

时间已经很晚了。

“His Majesty says much the same thing,” replied Myōbu. —

“陛下也说了类似的话，”妙布回答道。 —

“it was, he says, an intensity of passion such as to startle the world, and perhaps for that very reason it was fated to be brief. —

“他说，这是一种让世界震惊的激情，也许正因为如此，注定是短暂的。 —



He cannot think of anything he has done to arouse such resentment, he says, and so he must live with resentment which seems without proper cause. —

他说，他不明白自己到底做错了什么，因此只能忍受没有明确原因的怨恨。 —

Alone and utterly desolate, he finds it impossible to face the world. —

孤独而极度绝望，他发现无法面对这个世界。 —

He fears that he must seem dreadfully eccentric. —

他担心自己必定显得可怕古怪。 —

How very great — he has said it over and over again — how very great his burden of guilt must be. —

他一遍又一遍地说，他的罪恶负担必定非常沉重。 —

One scarcely ever sees him that he is not weeping.” Myōbu too was in tears. “It is very late. —

他几乎每次见到他都在哭泣。”妙布也泪流满面。“已经很晚了。 —

I must get back before the night is quite over and tell him what I have seen.”

我必须在夜晚结束之前回去，告诉他我看到的一切。”

The moon was sinking over the hills, the air was crystal clear, the wind was cool, and the songs of the insects among the autumn grasses would by themselves have brought tears. —

月亮在山上落下，空气晶莹剔透，清风凉爽，秋草中昆虫的歌声几乎就能让人流泪。 —

It was a scene from which Myōbu could not easily pull herself.

这是一个让妙布难以忘怀的场景。

“The autumn night is too short to contain my tears

“秋夜太短，无法容纳我的眼泪。”

Though songs of bell cricket weary, fall into silence.”

虽然蟋蟀的歌声已经疲倦，渐渐沉默下来。

This was her farewell poem. Still she hesitated, on the point of getting into her carriage.

这是她的离别诗。她犹豫了一下，准备上车。

The old lady sent a reply:

老太太回了一封信：

“Sad are the insect songs among the reeds.

“苇间昆虫的歌声悲伤。

More sadly yet falls the dew from above the clouds.

更悲伤的是云层上的露珠落下。

“I seem to be in a complaining mood.”

“我似乎有些牢骚满腹。”

Though gifts would have been out of place, she sent as a trifling memento of her daughter a set of robes, left for just such an occasion, and with them an assortment of bodkins and combs.

虽然礼物有些不妥，但她送了一套礼服，专门留着这种时刻使用，并附有各种发簪和梳子，作为她女儿的纪念品。

The young women who had come from court with the little prince still mourned their lady, but those of them who had acquired a taste for court life yearned to be back. —

与小皇子一起从宫廷来的年轻女子们仍在为她的离去而悲伤，但其中一些已经对宫廷生活产生了向往。 —

The memory of the emperor made them join their own to the royal petitions.

对皇帝的记忆使她们和其他女官一起为皇室祈祷。

But no — a crone like herself would repel all the fine ladies and gentlemen, said the grandmother, while on the other hand she could not bear the thought of having the child out of her sight for even a moment.

但是，像她这样一个老妇人必然会让所有的贵妇和绅士们望而却步，她又无法忍受把孩子离开自己的视线哪怕一会儿。

Myōbu was much moved to find the emperor waiting up for her. —

妙部发现皇帝在等她，颇为感动。 —

Making it seem that his attention was on the small and beautifully plant garden before him, now in full autumn bloom, he was talking quietly with four or five women, among the most sensitive of his attendants. —

在他似乎把注意力放在面前全是盛开秋花的小型美丽花园的时候，他正轻声与四五名最敏感的侍女交谈。 —

He had become addicted to illustrations by the emperor Uda for “The Song of Everlasting Sorrow” and to poems by Ise and Tsurayuki on that subject, and to Chinese poems as well. —

他迷恋上宇多天皇为《长恨歌》所画插图，以及伊势和源融关于这个主题的诗，还有中国诗歌。 —

He listened attentively as Myōbu described the scene she had found so affecting. —

他认真听着妙部讲述她觉得如此动人的场景。 —

He took up the letter she had brought from the grandmother.

他拿起了妙部从祖母那里带来的信。

“I am so awed by this august message that I would run away and hide; —

“我如此敬畏这尊崇高的消息，以至于我想逃跑并躲起来； —

and so violent are the emotions it gives rise to that I scarcely know what to say.

它所引起的情感如此激烈，以至于我几乎不知道说什么。

“The tree that gave them shelter has withered and died.

“给她们庇护的树木已经枯萎而死。

One fears for the plight of the hagi shoots beneath.”

人们担心着生长在庇护下的神圣芽的命运。

A strange way to put the matter, thought the emperor; but the lady must still be dazed with grief. —

皇帝心想，这种说法有些奇怪；但是这位妇人肯定是悲伤中仍未清醒。 —

He chose to overlook the suggestion that he himself could not help the child.

他选择忽略了自己无法帮助这个孩子的暗示。

He sought to hide his sorrow, not wanting these women to see him in such poor control of himself. —

他努力掩饰自己的悲伤，不想让这些女人看到他情绪如此失控。 —

But it was no use. He reviewed his memories over and over again, from his very earliest days with the dead lady. —

但无济于事。他一遍又一遍地回顾着他和已故女士共度的最初日子。 —

He had scarcely been able to bear a moment away from her while she lived. —

她活着时，他几乎无法离开她片刻。 —

How strange that he had been able to survive the days and months since on memories alone. —

如此奇怪，他竟然能依靠记忆孤独度过这些日子和月份。 —

He had hoped to reward the grandmother's sturdy devotion, and his hopes had come to nothing.

他曾希望回报祖母坚定的奉献，但他的希望化为乌有。

“Well,” he sighed, “she may look forward to having her day, if she will only live to see the boy grow up.”

“唉，”他叹息道，“如果她只能活到看到这个孩子长大，她或许期待着她的一天。”

Looking at the keepsakes Myōbu had brought back, he thought what a comfort it would be if some wizard were to bring him, like that Chinese emperor, a comb from the world where his lost love was dwelling. He whispered:

看着明补带回的纪念品，他想，如果有法师能像那位中国皇帝一样，将她失去的爱人所在世界的梳子送到他手中，那将是多么的安慰。他低声说道：

“And will no wizard search her out for me,

“难道没有法师会为我寻找她，

That even he may tell me where she is?”

甚至只是告诉我她在哪里吗？”

There are limits to the powers of the most gifted artist. —

最有天赋的艺术家的能力也有限。 —

The Chinese lady in the paintings did not have the luster of life. —

画作中的中国女子没有生活的光泽。 —

Yang Kuei-fei was said to have resembled the lotus of the Sublime Pond, the willows of the Timeless Hall. No doubt she was very beautiful in her Chinese finery. —

杨贵妃据说像泾渭不分的莲花，永恒殿的垂柳。毫无疑问，在她的华服装扮下，她是非常美丽的。 —

When he tried to remember the quiet charm of his lost lady, he found that there was no color of flower, no song of bird, to summon her up. —

当他试图回忆起他失去的女子的宁静魅力时，发现没有花的颜色，也没有鸟的歌声能召唤她。

—

Morning and night, over and over again, they had repeated to each other the lines from “The Song of Everlasting Sorrow”:

早晚间，一遍又一遍，他们相互重复《长恨歌》中的诗句：

“In the sky, as birds that share a wing.

“共佩天上书，同擎地上枝。”

On earth, as trees that share a branch.”

这是他们的誓言，而她的生命之短使这不过是一个空洞的梦。