

~~Under a lamp post~~ *Minoyuki*

Under a street-lamp softened by the fog, a solitary figure paused, tenderly smoothed a cigarette stub and carefully lit it. He took a long meditative puff then walked heavily to the railings of the bridge nearby, where he made a dark mass in the shadows. He watched the inky waters slowly flowing under him.

Ten years ago, he, *Min* Hiroyuki Shinohashi, had been a jolly young man. He had walked over this same bridge hundreds of times to and from the gay quarters. He had laughed and joked and frolicked *to the* without any *serious* thought of the future. But that was ten years ago.

He dropped the cigarette over the railings and watched the red trail disappear into the darkness. Ten days without food! For ten days his pride had kept him from begging. Now he had to get food. How? Stealing? No! Begging? Yes, why not? To hell with pride! He had to live. To live he had to eat!

He turned to go back to the center of town but a bad spell of coughing overtook him and left him very weak. He leaned against the railings for support. His coughing ceased but he *felt* was too weak to walk. He slumped down. His hat was knocked off but he did not feel like *retrieving it* ~~getting it~~ just then.

A few minutes passed when a skinny dog trotted by and sniffed the lamp-post. At that time a middle aged man who appeared to be in a jovial mood whistled for the dog and gave it some food. Hiroyuki watched the brief scene *vizz/vizz/hungry/eyes*. hungrily.

He tried to call for help but no sound escaped his lips. He *helpless* ~~tried~~ *hand* tried to stand but his feet were cold and numb. He saw through *hand* ~~his~~ *hand* dim eyes the dog and the man walk slowly away. He became very cold. Once in a while he heard the shuffling of feet and the

clinking of metal., ~~which~~ reminded^{ing} him of the times when he used to toss nickels into collection plates. . .

The next day in a small corner of the morning newspaper appeared a short article with ~~this~~ caption:

'Man found dead on Nihombashi with hatful of coins'.