

PIPED IN WINE

(Hi no Sake)

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Cast of Characters

Taro Kaja (Shite)

Master (Ado)

Jiro Kaja (Koado)

MASTER: I am a resident of this neighborhood. Today I have a matter to attend to, for which I must travel beyond the mountain. I will call my two servants and order them to watch the house while I am gone.

Servants, are you there?

TARO KAJA & JIRO KAJA: Here.

MASTER: There you are.

TARO KAJA & JIRO KAJA: At your service, Sir.

MASTER: You came quite quickly. There matter I have called you here about is of no great import. Today I have a matter to attend to, for which I must travel beyond the mountain. Both of you must stay and watch the house.

TARO KAJA: As you say, Sir, But one of the two of us. . . (To JIRO KAJA.) Right, Jiro Kaja?

JIRO KAJA: Oh, oh!

TARO KAJA & JIRO KAJA: . . . will be most happy to attend you.

MASTER: No, no. Today I have a particular reason for not requiring an attendant. Both of you must stay here and watch the house with care.

TARO KAJA: If that is the case. . .

TARO KAJA & JIRO KAJA: . . . we will do as you say, Sir.

MASTER: Well now, Taro Kaja, I leave you in charge of the rice cellar. And, Jiro Kaja, I leave you in charge of the wine cellar. And I order to not to leave your respective cellars and to watch them with care.

TARO KAJA & JIRO KAJA: We will with all our hearts.

MASTER: I will presently return.

TARO KAJA & JIRO KAJA: We urge you to return as quickly as you can.

MASTER: With all my heart.

TARO KAJA: He is gone.

JIRO KAJA: He is gone indeed.

TARO KAJA: Now just what do you think? Is it not a most unusual thing for us to be left together to watch the house.?

JIRO KAJA: It is a most unusual thing indeed.

TARO KAJA: But since we have have been ordered to watch the cellars, and that we must both remain inside our respective cellars, there is no way we can enjoy conversing with each other.

JIRO KAJA: No, I know a way we can.

TARO KAJA: What is it?

JIRO KAJA: We can peer through the cellars windows at each other and converse.

TARO KAJA: That is a fine idea. Now I will enter my cellar.

JIRO KAJA: I will enter my cellar too.

BOTH: (Miming the unfastening the latch and opening the cellar doors.) Pin. Gii. Gwara, gwara, gwara.

TARO KAJA: (Entering the rice cellar.) Well, I must say, since last I looked inside some time ago, this cellar has become filled to overflowing with rice.

JIRO KAJA: (Entering the wine cellar.) Now matter how often you enter this wine cellar, it always has a fine fragrance.

TARO KAJA: (Peering through the window.) Here, here, Taro Kaja!

JIRO KAJA: (Peering through the window.) What is it?

TARO KAJA: How jealous I am that you were left in charge of the wine cellar.

JIRO KAJA: Indeed while rice is the greatest treasure of all, it serves no immediate purpose, while one can drink wine any time just as it is.

TARO KAJA: Oh, how jealous, how jealous of you I am. But with all the rice there is in here, no one will ever know if we take a little for ourselves. So when our master comes home, I will sneak out some for us.

JIRO KAJA: For that I will be most grateful. I beg you not to forget to do so.

TARO KAJA: I will remember, I'll remember. (They sit down in their respective cellars.)

JIRO KAJA: (To himself.) Suddenly I feel very lonely. I will have one cup of wine. I wonder which wine is best.

I'll have some from this jar covered with wax paper.
(Pulling off the paper cover.) Muri, muri, muri. What
a fine fragrance. Well then, now I will have a drink.
Oh, I must say, what fine wine this is. I will have one
more drink.

TARO KAJA: (To himself, overlapping the above.)
Suddenly I feel very lonely. I wonder what Jiro Kaja is
doing. He is making no noise. I'll just have a look. (He
gets up and peers through the window again.) What is
this? Here, here! Are you drinking?

JIRO KAJA: Taro Kaja, are you jealous?

TARO KAJA: You just go on drinking bravely as I
watch you.

JIRO KAJA: If you want to drink too, just come one
over here.

TARO KAJA: There is no way I can leave the cellar of
which I have been left in charge.

JIRO KAJA: I would really like to somehow let you
drink too. Oh, I just remembered something. Here,
here. Here is a bamboo pipe. I will just pass it from
this window here through the window of your rice
cellar, and I will pour wine through it from here, so you
drink it from your end.

TARO KAJA: You have come up with a most brilliant
idea. Pour it quickly.

JIRO KAJA: With all my heart. Put your mouth to the
end of the bamboo pipe.

TARO KAJA: That I will, that I will.

JIRO KAJA: Well then, now I will pour. Here it comes, here it comes, here it comes.

TARO KAJA: M, m, m. You're pouring too fast. Pour more slowly.

JIRO KAJA: With all my heart. Here it comes, here it comes, here it comes.

TARO KAJA: M, m, m. Well, I must say, what delicious wine.

JIRO KAJA: See how clever I am.

TARO KAJA: Give me another drink.

JIRO KAJA: With all my heart. I will pour for you now. Here it comes, here it comes, here it comes.

TARO KAJA: M, m, m. The more I drink, the better this wine tastes.

JIRO KAJA: Is it not fine wine indeed.

TARO KAJA: But this is such an uncomfortable way to drink. Our master will not come home for some time yet. I will come over to your cellar and drink with you.

JIRO KAJA: That is a fine idea. And I will put the bamboo pipe away.

TARO KAJA: Put it away, put it away. Well, I must say, this is the first time I have been in this wine cellar for quite some time. What a great lot of wine has been brewed and stored here.

JIRO KAJA: It is indeed a great lot of wine.

TARO KAJA: Well now, I will pour for you to drink too.

JIRO KAJA: Please pour for me. Oh, it is full, it is full. Next, I will pour for you.

TARO KAJA: Sing a little as you do.

JIRO KAJA: With all my heart. (He sings and both laugh when he is finished.)

TARO KAJA: This has become quite a drinking party.

JIRO KAJA: It is as you say indeed.

TARO KAJA: Here, here, dance to entertain me.

JIRO KAJA: If that is the case, I will dance, so you sing to accompany me.

TARO KAJA: With all my heart.

JIRO KAJA: (He sings and dances.)

TARO KAJA: Well done, well done.

JIRO KAJA: I was most awkward.

TARO KAJA: That was most amusing.

JIRO KAJA: How could that be.

TARO KAJA: (He sings as he pours wine for JIRO KAJA and they laugh when he is through.) This is becoming a truly jolly party.

JIRO KAJA: It is as you say indeed. Now you must dance a dance too.

TARO KAJA: I will indeed dance, so you sing to accompany me.

JIRO KAJA: With all my heart.

TARO KAJA: (He dances.)

JIRO KAJA: Well done, well done.

TARO KAJA: I was most awkward.

JIRO KAJA: That was most amusing.

TARO KAJA: Well now, we have drunk quite a lot, but there is still as much wine in the jars and barrels as when we began.

JIRO KAJA: It must have decreased some, but since there is so much, it just seems that there is still as much as when we began.

TARO KAJA: Oh, no. Since our master is a most fortunate man, this wine of his is what is known as the true everflowing spring.

JIRO KAJA: It is as you say indeed.

TARO KAJA: I will dance and sing about his good fortune, so you sing too.

JIRO KAJA: With all my heart.

TARO KAJA: (Singing and dancing.) Never ending, never ending. . .

BOTH: (Singing.)

The medicinal waters also come from a spring,
From which you may draw out and draw out,
But the chrysanthemum nectar flows increasingly,
The more one drinks of this sweet dew,
The more cheerful becomes one's heart,
And one leaps with joy in pleasure that never ends
though it be night or day.

Of all the glory, all the glory in the world,
Nothing gives more pleasure than this wine.

TARO KAJA: (He laughs.)

MASTER: I have just now come back home. No doubt my servants are eagerly awaiting my return. What is this? There is no one in the rice cellar. Now I see why. They are drinking together in the wine cellar. Oh, I must say, what hateful rascals. Here, here! I have come back home!

TARO KAJA & JIRO KAJA: Oh, he's come back home.

MASTER: Oh, I must say, how angry I am.

TARO KAJA & JIRO KAJA: What a vexing spot we are in.

MASTER: Hey, you rascals!

JIRO KAJA: Oh, forgive me, please forgive me.

MASTER: You are a hateful rascal.

TARO KAJA: I'll just have one more drink.

MASTER: Hey, hey! Hey, you rascal!

TARO KAJA: Oh, please wait.

MASTER: Wait for what?

TARO KAJA: As this is a bottomless jar, you can drink and drink, but it always stays full.

MASTER: What are you still jabbering about?

TARO KAJA: Oh, forgive me.

MASTER: You are a hateful rascal!

TARO KAJA: Please forgive me!

MASTER: I'll catch you yet, I'll catch you yet.

TARO KAJA: Oh, forgive me, please forgive me.

MASTER: I'll catch you yet, I'll catch you yet.

TARO KAJA: Oh, forgive me, please forgive me.

MASTER: I'll catch you yet, I'll catch you yet.

TARO KAJA: Oh, forgive me, please forgive me.