

THE JAPANESE FAIRY BOOK

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The Japanese Fairy Book by Yei Theodora Ozaki & Take Sato

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YEI THEODORA OZAKI & TAKE SATO

**THE JAPANESE
FAIRY BOOK**

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Rendered into English by

YEI THEODORA OZAKI

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TAKE SATO

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TO

ELEANOR MARION CRAWFORD.

I Dedicate this Book

TO YOU AND TO THE SWEET CHILD-FRIENDSHIP THAT YOU GAVE ME
IN THE DAYS SPENT WITH YOU BY THE SOUTHERN SEA, WHEN YOU
USED TO LISTEN WITH UNFEIGNED PLEASURE TO THESE FAIRY
STORIES FROM FAR JAPAN. MAY THEY NOW REMIND YOU OF MY
CHANGELESS LOVE AND REMEMBRANCE.

Y. I. O.

TOKIO.

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PREFACE.

THIS collection of Japanese fairy tales is the outcome of a suggestion made to me indirectly through a friend by Mr. Andrew Lang. They have been translated from the modern version written by Sadanami Sanjin. These stories are not literal translations, and though the Japanese story and all quaint Japanese expressions have been faithfully preserved, they have been told more with the view to interest young readers of the West than the technical student of folk-lore.

Grateful acknowledgment is due to Mr. Y. Yasuoka, Miss Fusa Okamoto, my brother Nobumori Ozaki, Dr. Yoshihiro Takaki, and Miss Kamcko Yamao, who have helped me with translations.

The story which I have named "The Story of the Man who did not Wish to Die" is taken from a little book written a hundred years ago by one Shinsui Tamonaga. It is named *Chosei Furo*, or "Longevity." "The Bamboo-cutter and the Moon-child" is taken from the classic "Takctari Monogatari," and is *not* classed by the Japanese among their fairy tales, though it really belongs to this class of literature.

The pictures were drawn by Mr. Kakuzo Fujiyama, a Tokio artist.

In telling these stories in English I have followed my fancy

in adding such touches of local colour or description as they seemed to need or as pleased me, and in one or two instances I have gathered in an incident from another version. At all times, among my friends, both young and old, English or American, I have always found eager listeners to the beautiful legends and fairy tales of Japan, and in telling them I have also found that they were still unknown to the vast majority, and this has encouraged me to write them for the children of the West.

Y. T. O.

TOKIO.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
MY LORD BAG OF RICE	1
THE TONGUE-CUT SPARROW	12
THE STORY OF URASHIMA TARO, THE FISHER LAD	26
THE FARMER AND THE BADGER	43
THE SHINANSHA, OR THE SOUTH POINTING CARRIAGE	54
THE ADVENTURES OF KINTARO, THE GOLDEN BOY	60
THE STORY OF PRINCESS HASE	74
THE STORY OF THE MAN WHO DID NOT WISH TO DIE	87
THE BAMBOO-CUTTER AND THE MOON-CHILD	98
THE MIRROR OF MATSUYAMA	119
THE GORLIN OF ADACHIGAHARA	140
THE SAGACIOUS MONKEY AND THE ROAR	148
THE HAPPY HUNTER AND THE SKILFUL FISHER	153
THE STORY OF THE OLD MAN WHO MADE WITHERED TREES TO FLOWER	177
THE JELLY FISH AND THE MONKEY	189
THE QUARREL OF THE MONKEY AND THE CRAB	203
THE WHITE HARE AND THE CROCODILES	214
THE STORY OF PRINCE YAMATO TAKE	224
MOMOYARO, OR THE STORY OF THE SON OF A PEACH	244
THE OGRE OF RASHOMON	262
HOW AN OLD MAN LOST HIS WEN	273
THE STONES OF FIVE COLOURS AND THE EMPRESS JOKWA	283