

**KOTTO: BEING
JAPANESE CURIOS,
WITH SUNDRY COBWEBS**

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Kotto: being Japanese curios, with sundry cobwebs by Lafcadio Hearn & Genjiro Yeto

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LAFCADIO HEARN & GENJIRO YETO

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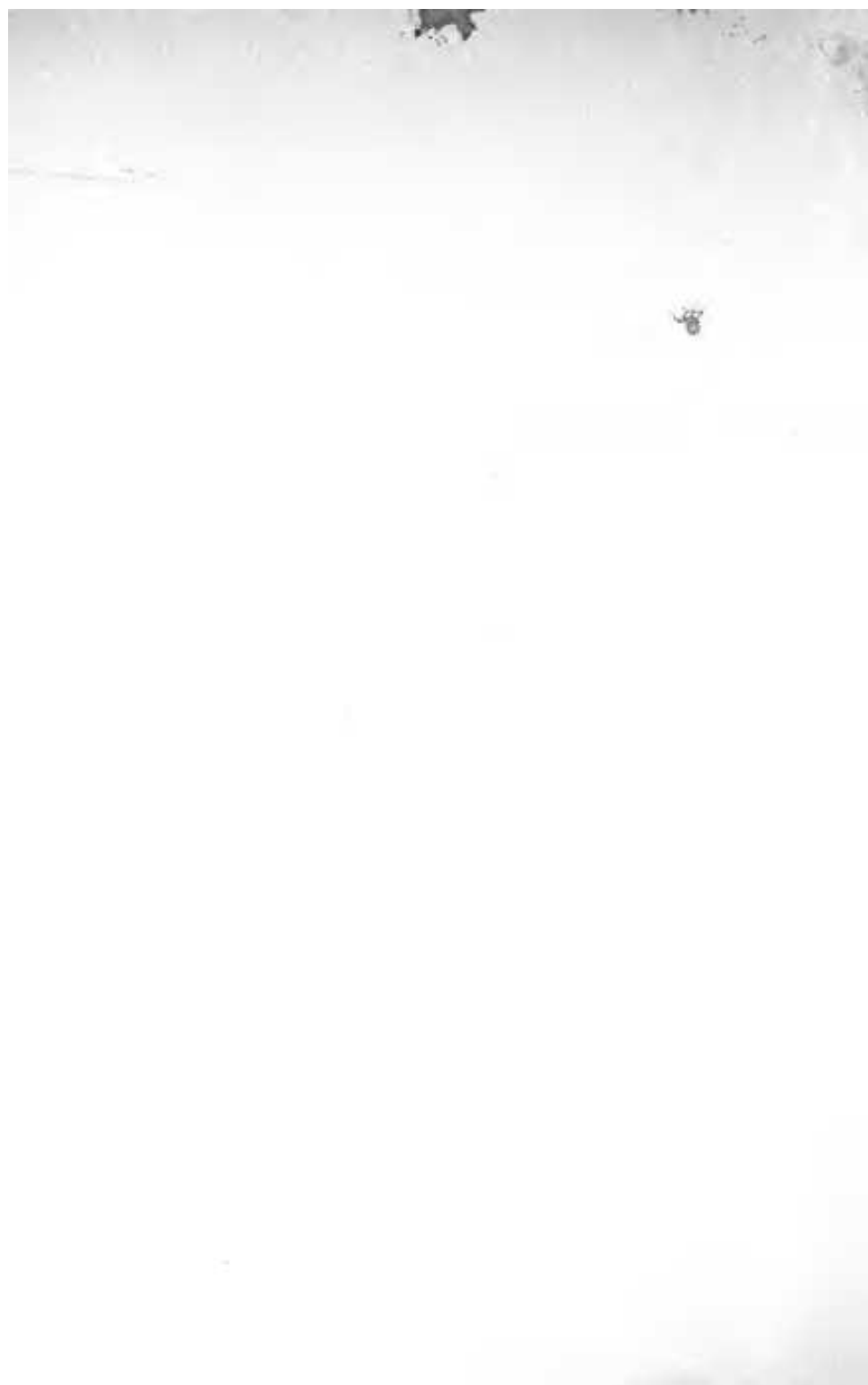
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Old Stories

The following nine tales have been selected from the "Shin-Chomon-Shū," "Hyaku Monogatari," "Uji-Jūi-Monogatari-Shō," and other old Japanese books, to illustrate some strange beliefs. They are only Curios.





THE
LEGEND OF
YUREI-DAKI

The Legend of Yurei-Daki



G. YETU
1902.

The Legend of Yurei-Daki

NEAR the village of Kurosaka, in the province of Hōki, there is a waterfall called Yurei-Daki, or The Cascade of Ghosts. Why it is so called I do not know. Near the foot of the fall there is a small Shintō shrine of the god of the locality, whom the people name Taki-Daimyōjin; and in front of the shrine is a little wooden money-box — *saisen-bako* — to receive the offerings of believers. And there is a story about that money-box.

One icy winter's evening, thirty-five years ago, the women and girls employed at a certain *asa-toriba*, or hemp-factory, in Kurosaka, gathered around the big brazier in the spinning-room after their day's work had been done. Then they amused themselves by telling ghost-stories. By the time that a dozen stories had been told, most of the gathering felt uncomfortable; and a girl cried out, just to