

E4 - Strange Stories of the High Tower

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

Translator:

Editor:

Timer:

QC:

(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

[00:06] woman

...throat...

[00:09] woman

...moon...

[00:26] Takuboku

This is such a great help! But...

[00:29] Takuboku

You were saving this to buy an unabridged dictionary of Japanese history, right?

[00:33] Kyouusuke

No, it's all right.

[00:34] Kyouusuke

If you can use it, that's enough.

[00:37] Takuboku

Then I'll be sure to use it well.

[00:42] Kyouusuke

You were playing Humoresques, weren't you?

[00:44] Takuboku

Yes.

[00:45] Takuboku

The truth is, I want to play Wagner, but I just can't play well enough,

[00:49] Takuboku

and Nomura-san recommended it so ardently, I decided to try it...

[00:49] (Flashback) Nomura; bakground

Have you gotten used to it yet?

[00:52] (Flashback) Nomura; bakground

That part where it changes keys is particularly tricky, right?

[00:58] Takuboku

The rain's stopped.

[01:01] Takuboku

Come with me to the Twelve-stories.

[01:03] Kyouusuke

What? Now?

[01:06] Takuboku

The thing is... I received
a detective request, you see.

SIGN Maichou Shimbun

Demon's Hour at the Skyscraper

[01:12] Kyouusuke

In these modern times,

[01:14] Kyouusuke

something like that couldn't possibly exist.

[01:17] Takuboku

Oh! Looks like a crowd is gathering!

[01:20] Takuboku

7:30, huh? It's just about
the right time for...

[01:36] Kyouusuke

That's...

[01:39] Takuboku

The phantom of the demon tower...

SIGN Woodpecker Detective's Office

SIGN Poem 4

Strange Stories of the High Tower

[03:13] Man 1

Summer's long over already...

[03:15] Man 2

It must be holding a grudge.

[03:16] Man 3

Namandabu, namandabu, namandabu...

[03:17] Kyouusuke

I-It really appeared... A ghost!

[03:20] Takuboku

Yes...

[03:22] Takuboku

It did appear, but...

[03:23] Yamaoka

Ishikawa-san!

[03:26] Yamaoka

It's me. Yamaoka.

[03:29] Takuboku

It's been a long time!

Have you been well?

[03:32] Yamaoka

Yes.

[03:34] Takuboku

Oh, this is Kindaichi Kyouusuke-san.

My talented investigative assistant.

[03:40] Takuboku

Kyousuke-sa—

[03:41] Takuboku

Kindaichi-kun.

[03:42] Kyousuke

Huh?

[03:43] Takuboku

This is a reporter for the *Maichou Shimbun*, Yamaoka-kun.

[03:47] Takuboku

Oh. I've just started proofreading for the *Asahi*.

[03:51] Yamaoka

Really?

SIGN Maichou Shimbun Demon's Hour at the Skyscraper

[03:55] Takuboku

Well, let's not stand around talking.

[03:57] Takuboku

How about a little refreshment?

[04:07] Takuboku

Three orders of your finest kabayaki eel, and three bottles of sake, too.

[04:11] Kyousuke

I'm not very hungry, so... just two of each.

[04:16] Kyousuke

I'm not feeling very well either, you see.

[04:18] Takuboku

Really?

[04:19] Kyousuke

Really.

[04:20] Takuboku

That's all.

[04:21] Takuboku

Oh! Maybe we should have had monkfish instead.

[04:26] Takuboku

Oh. Your nails.

[04:29] Takuboku

Did you do that with the person you mentioned?

[04:31] Yamaoka

No, these aren't really...

[04:43] Yamaoka

I was wondering. You said something about investigating?

[04:47] Takuboku

That's right.

[04:48] Takuboku

I recently started working as a detective.

[04:52] Takuboku

My talent flowers best, you see,
when confronted by reality.

[04:57] Takuboku

Poems, tanka, and novels
are all just fictions in the end.

[05:00] Kyousuke

Still, saying that poets and
detectives are alike is...

[05:04] Yamaoka

So... what are you looking into?

[05:08] Takuboku

The ghost at Ryouunkaku.

[05:12] Takuboku

Are you here gathering material, too?

[05:15] Yamaoka

No...

[05:17] Takuboku

The manager of the Twelve-stories
asked me to reveal the truth behind it.

[05:23] Takuboku

He said it was just too eerie.

[05:25] Yamaoka

To tell the truth... it's causing
me problems, too.

[05:30] Yamaoka

I work at the sumo hall next
to the Twelve-stories.

[05:33] Takuboku

What?

[05:34] Takuboku

Did you end up quitting the newspaper?

[05:36] Yamaoka

Yes. At the end of September.

[05:39] Takuboku

The end of September...

SIGN Eel

[05:43] Takuboku

Keep the change!

[05:44] Kyousuke

What?

[05:47] Yamaoka

Thank you for treating me.

[05:49] Takuboku

It doesn't even come close
to repaying your kindness.

[05:52] Yamaoka

As conscientious as ever, I see.

[05:56] Takuboku

And you... you've changed a little, I think.

[06:04] Yamaoka

I haven't changed at all.

[06:08] Takuboku

Three years ago, when
I was moving back to Kozukata,

[06:11] Takuboku

he really helped me out.

[06:13] Takuboku

Speaking of which...

[06:14] Takuboku

Kyousuke-san, you haven't
been home in a while.

[06:17] Takuboku

Aren't you starting to miss your hometown?

[06:20] Kyousuke

Ishikawa-kun.

[06:22] Takuboku

Is something wrong? That's quite
a frightening expression.

[06:25] Kyousuke

I'm not... lending you any more money!

[06:29] Kyousuke

I feel you need to grow up a little.

[06:37] girl

Oh! The moon is so pretty!

[06:40] mom

You're right. It's beautiful.

[06:42] girl

Isn't it?

[06:45] Yamaoka

Throat...

[06:47] Yamaoka

...moon...

[06:57] Takuboku

So, you're saying all the ghost
commotion at Ryouunkaku

SIGN Woodpecker Detective's Office

[07:00] Takuboku

is because of a trick being played
by an entertainer in the area?

[07:03] Rokurou

People are turning away from the
Twelve-stories and the moving pictures.

[07:09] Rokurou

The traditional entertainers
are all excited.

[07:13] Takuboku

I see.

[07:15] Kyousuke

Ishikawa-kun?

[07:17] Takuboku

Kindaichi-kun!

[07:18] Takuboku

This is Asakusa's Rokurou-san.

[07:20] Takuboku

He's notorious in Asakusa,

[07:22] Takuboku

If he sets his sights on you,
you're as good as dead in Asakusa.

[07:25] Takuboku

A very scary person.

[07:26] Rokurou

No, no. Nothing like that.

[07:28] Kyousuke

My name is Kindaichi Kyousuke.

[07:30] Takuboku

Sorry, but could you make some tea for us?

[07:32] Kyousuke

What?

[07:34] Takuboku

And if you could put these golden
lace flowers I bought in a vase?

[07:38] Takuboku

I remembered the way they bloom at the foot
of Mount Iwate, and I couldn't help myself.

[07:43] Takuboku

Now then.

[07:44] Takuboku

If we assume that the ghost is a trick
being played by the entertainers,

[07:47] Takuboku

then exposing the truth behind it
might be simpler than I thought.

[07:51] Takuboku

For example... a magic lantern?

[07:55] Rokurou

That sounds like a good line of inquiry.

[07:58] Rokurou

If I make a move, people get upset,
so I'll just ask around a bit.

[08:03] Kyousuke

Here you go.

[08:05] Rokurou

Sorry for the trouble.

SIGN Kikunyuusha Milk

Newspapers

SIGN Milk Newspapers Kikunyuusha

[08:14] Takuboku

Thanks for waiting.

[08:15] Yamaoka

Um... Is it true?

[08:18] Yamaoka

You've discovered the truth
behind the ghost?

[08:21] Takuboku

The articles on the ghost
in the *Maichou Shimbun*...

[08:24] Takuboku

You wrote them, didn't you?

[08:26] Yamaoka

What?

[08:27] Takuboku

You quit at the very end of September.

[08:29] Takuboku

And the daily ghost articles also
stopped abruptly on September 30th.

SIGN Maichou Shimbun

Demon's Hour at the Skyscraper

[08:34] Kyousuke

W-Wait, hold on a minute.

[08:35] Kyousuke

There were articles about it after
that, too, weren't there?

[08:38] Takuboku

Yes.

[08:39] Takuboku

Even major papers who hadn't
reported on it at all before

[08:42] Takuboku

started reporting on it simultaneously
starting on October 10th.

[08:47] Takuboku

What do you think about that?

[08:49] Kyousuke

What do we think?

[08:50] Kyousuke

You can't mean... There's no reason for

the *Maichou Shimbun* to print a false story.

[08:54] Takuboku

That's exactly what I mean.

[08:56] Takuboku

Just what I'd expect from you, Kyouzuke-san.

[08:59] Takuboku

In short, up until that point,
no ghosts had appeared.

[09:03] Takuboku

That's why the big papers had
no reason to write about it.

[09:06] Takuboku

To put it a different way, the ghost
began to appear on October 10th.

[09:11] Takuboku

And the one who made it appear...

[09:13] Takuboku

was you, wasn't it, Yamaoka-kun?

[09:17] Takuboku

Come to think of it, Rokuro-san
got in touch with me recently.

[09:21] Takuboku

He told me a gentleman
named Koiso Matsukichi

[09:23] Takuboku

used to be a magic lantern operator.

[09:28] Takuboku

Yamaoka-kun, you wouldn't
know him, would you?

[09:31] Yamaoka

I have no idea what you're talking about.

[09:34] Yamaoka

I have work, so...

[09:37] Takuboku

Your nails!

[09:38] Takuboku

Crimson nails, right?

[09:41] Takuboku

"In the pale crimson

[09:42] Takuboku

lingering emotions of balsam flowers

[09:45] Takuboku

a breath blown across

[09:47] Takuboku

nails waiting for snow."

[09:50] Takuboku

There's a poem about it.

[09:52] Takuboku

The ghost wouldn't have anything to do
with those crimson nails of yours, would it?

[10:00] Takuboku

You can't tell me about it?

[10:03] Yamaoka

Throat. Moon.

SIGN Woodpecker

Detective's
Office

SIGN Three Years Earlier

[10:20] (Flashback) Yamaoka

What time is your train?

[10:22] (Flashback) Takuboku

Three o'clock.

[10:24] (Flashback) Takuboku

I'll leave once I've finished this.

[10:26] (Flashback) Yamaoka

It's a shame.

[10:28] (Flashback) Yamaoka

A talent like yours...

[10:31] (Flashback) Yamaoka

Actually, I'm going to start working
at the *Maichou Shimbun*.

[10:35] (Flashback) Takuboku

Oh, that's great news.

[10:37] (Flashback) Takuboku

So you can write your novel
while you're working.

[10:39] (Flashback) Yamaoka

No. I won't be writing a novel...

[10:43] (Flashback) Yamaoka

There's someone
I've grown very fond of,

[10:46] (Flashback) Yamaoka

but right now, there
isn't any way for me to...

[10:51] (Flashback) Takuboku

To live for love... that's life, too.

[10:57] (Flashback) Takuboku

Well then, let's meet again one day.

[11:01] (Flashback) Yamaoka

I like your poetry.

[11:05] (Flashback) Takuboku

In that case, I'll accept.

[11:11] Takuboku

I'll leave the money here.

[11:13] waitress

Thank you!

[11:14] Takuboku

The dango here really are exceptional.

[11:18] Takuboku

After seven, is it?

[11:20] Takuboku

We should arrive at the prearranged spot right on time.

[11:25] Kyouusuke

This is crazy, isn't it?

[11:28] Takuboku

What is?

[11:29] Kyouusuke

You never have money, and you just went and paid without any prompting!

[11:33] Takuboku

Kyouusuke-san.

[11:35] Takuboku

I simply want to be honest with myself, that's all.

[11:39] Kyouusuke

Honest?

[11:42] Kyouusuke

Why are we meeting in a place like this?

[11:48] Kyouusuke

What's wrong?

[11:50] Takuboku

It seems we're being followed.

[11:52] Kyouusuke

What?

[11:53] Takuboku

Don't look back.

[11:55] Takuboku

See?

[11:59] Kyouusuke

You're right!

[12:01] Kyouusuke

Now that I think about it, they say a woman was killed here not long ago.

[12:07] Takuboku

Kyouusuke-san!

[12:13] Kyouusuke

I wonder who was following us.

[12:16] Takuboku

The only ones who knew we'd be in Asakusa at this time were...

[12:22] Kyousuke

Rokurou-san,

[12:23] Kyousuke

and the man he introduced us to,
Matsukichi, makes two.

[12:26] Kyousuke

Oh, but Rokurou-san is helping you, so...

[12:30] Takuboku

Yamaoka-kun?!

[12:32] man

Someone's dead over here!

[12:34] crowd

That's Mattsan!

[12:36] crowd

It's old man Koiso!

[12:36] Kyousuke

This man is Matsukichi-san?

[12:39] Kyousuke

An artificial leg!

[12:43] Kyousuke

Wait!

[12:44] Kyousuke

You shouldn't just go touching things...

[12:50] Kyousuke

This is from over two months ago.

[12:52] Takuboku

"In a copse behind Sensou-ji,

[12:55] Takuboku

*an unidentified young woman,
collapsed and bleeding from the head,*

[13:00] Takuboku

was discovered by a man
named Koiso Matsukichi.

[13:03] Takuboku

With her last breath,

[13:06] Takuboku

the woman was heard to say these
mysterious words: 'throat moon.'

[13:11] Takuboku

Throat moon...

[13:13] Takuboku

Throat... moon...

[13:24] Takuboku

Throat moon, huh?

[13:27] Takuboku

That's what it was, Kyousuke-san!

[13:29] Takuboku

The ghost of Ryouunkaku. This newspaper article is what caused it to rise.

[13:38] Takuboku

A throat moon...

[13:44] Nomura

Did you hear? About the man who worked the magic lanterns getting killed.

SIGN Kikunyuusha Milk

Newspapers

SIGN Milk Newspapers Kikunyuusha

[13:48] Yoshii

The man on the run is named Yamaoka.

A friend of Ishikawa-kun's I believe.

[13:53] Sakutarou

About two months ago,

[13:56] Sakutarou

the woman he loved was killed behind Sensou-ji.

[13:59] Sakutarou

He thought the magic lantern operator who found her had done it,

[14:01] Sakutarou

and this crime was the result.

[14:05] Yoshii

Oh, right. Are you feeling better?

[14:08] Kyouusuke

Huh?

[14:09] Kyouusuke

There's nothing particularly wrong with me...

[14:10] Yoshii

Well, Ishikawa-kun came to me recently saying you weren't feeling well,

[14:14] Yoshii

and to build your stamina, he wanted to feed you monkfish,

[14:17] Yoshii

so could I please help.

He was quite persistent.

[14:19] Sakutarou

Really?

[14:20] Sakutarou

With me he said that Kyouusuke-san was always helping him,

[14:23] Sakutarou

and wanted to give him a history dictionary,

[14:24] Sakutarou

but he didn't have the means, so...

[14:26] Nomura

Hold on!

[14:27] Nomura

With me he said he wanted to
help him go back home for a visit

[14:30] Nomura

and could I help with travel expenses...

[14:31] Takuboku

This is where you were!

[14:33] Kyousuke

Ishikawa-kun!

[14:34] Kyousuke

Feeding me monkfish! Buying me
a dictionary! Sending me home!

[14:37] Kyousuke

What were you think—

[14:37] Takuboku

This is no time for that!

[14:39] Takuboku

Come on! Hurry up!

[14:40] Kyousuke

Wh-What? Wait!

[14:42] Nomura

My, my...

[14:51] Takuboku

It just won't focus correctly,
but that's part of the fun.

[14:55] Kyousuke

Where did you get something like this?

[14:58] Takuboku

To expose the truth of the ghost,

[15:00] Takuboku

I asked the client to borrow it for me.

[15:02] Kyousuke

But, there wasn't really a need
to try it yourself, was there?

[15:05] Takuboku

In addition to the client's request,

[15:07] Takuboku

I thought I'd try reeling in
the Matsukichi-killer.

[15:10] Kyousuke

You're saying Yamaoka-san will come here?

[15:14] Kyousuke

Oh. That's right!

[15:16] Kyouusuke

You went and made out I was sick so
you could borrow money, didn't you?

[15:19] Kyouusuke

And you said you wanted to buy me
a dictionary and send me home...

[15:23] Takuboku

But... Kyouusuke-san, you *did* seem unwell,
and you wanted that dictionary,

[15:28] Takuboku

and said you wanted to go home
for a visit, didn't you?

[15:30] Kyouusuke

But you ended up using the money
you borrowed on yourself, didn't you?

[15:33] Takuboku

It just happened to turn out that way.

[15:35] Kyouusuke

Happened to?

[15:37] Takuboku

Yes.

[15:38] Takuboku

I wasn't lying when I said
I wanted to feed you monkfish,

[15:42] Takuboku

but it so happened that on the way back
I caught sight of the golden lace flowers.

[15:46] Kyouusuke

But, that's...

[15:47] Takuboku

That's right.

[15:49] Takuboku

Now that I think about it,

[15:51] Takuboku

Wagner, and Wordsworth, too...

[15:53] Takuboku

all the geniuses were
burdened by tremendous debt!

[15:58] Kyouusuke

You're just so...

[16:02] Takuboku

Someone's here.

[16:13] Takuboku

It was you, wasn't it?

[16:18] Takuboku

Asakusa's Rokurou-san.

[16:20] Rokurou

Wh-Why are you here?

[16:22] Takuboku

And you, Constable Sahara. We've met before.

[16:26] Sahara

You're... from that other case...

[16:28] Sahara

Wasn't Yamaoka supposed to be here?

[16:30] Rokurou

Well...

[16:31] Takuboku

The person who killed
Matsukichi-san wasn't Yamaoka-kun.

[16:35] Takuboku

Rokurou-san. You killed him and tried to
frame Yamaoka-kun for it, didn't you?

[16:41] Rokurou

D-Don't be stupid.

[16:43] Rokurou

Why would I do something like that?

[16:45] Takuboku

The thing that made me suspicious

[16:48] Takuboku

was that despite you profiting
from the uproar about the ghost,

[16:51] Takuboku

you offered to help me in trying
to expose the truth behind it.

[16:56] Takuboku

And when you even offered to
introduce me to Matsukichi-san,

[16:58] Takuboku

I was certain my suspicions were right.

[17:02] Rokurou

And why would I need to kill Matsukichi?

[17:05] Takuboku

Because... there was a certain fact
regarding the origins of this ghostly uproar

[17:10] Takuboku

that Matsukichi-san had figured out.

[17:19] (Flashback) Rokurou

Kicking up a fuss...

[17:21] (Flashback) Matsukichi

Is someone there?

[17:29] (Flashback) woman

...throat... moon...

[17:33] Takuboku

It's very likely that Matsukichi-san

realized that you were the killer,

[17:38] Takuboku

but as an entertainer in Asakusa,

[17:40] Takuboku

crossing Asakusa's Rokurou-san
was strictly forbidden.

[17:44] Takuboku

*On the other hand... he felt sorry for
Yamaoka-kun, who had lost his beloved,*

[17:49] Takuboku

*and to expose the killer, he agreed
to help create the ghost.*

[17:54] Rokurou

If that's the case, then it
would be even stranger

[17:57] Rokurou

for me to help you meet
Matsukichi, wouldn't it?

[17:59] Takuboku

You made sure Matsukichi-san knew of us,
while keeping your name out of it,

[18:05] Takuboku

in order to test his loyalty.

[18:09] Takuboku

*Matsukichi-san brought the newspaper
article about the murder,*

[18:13] Takuboku

intending to meet with us, so...

[18:15] Takuboku

You decided he meant to betray you, and...

[18:20] Takuboku

you killed him.

[18:22] Kyousuke

But, then... What about
when you saw Yamaoka-san?

[18:26] Takuboku

Rokurou-san used Matsukichi-san's
name to call him out,

[18:30] Takuboku

intending to frame him for the murder.

[18:33] Sahara

What are you talking about?

[18:35] Kyousuke

Well...

[18:36] Kyousuke

*When we were on our way
to the meeting place,*

[18:39] Kyousuke

we were followed by Matsukichi-san...

[18:41] Sahara

By Matsukichi?

[18:43] Takuboku

I'm sure he must have agonized
to the very last moment.

[18:49] Rokurou

This is hilarious.

[18:51] Rokurou

So, you're saying that just before
Matsukichi's body was found,

[18:55] Rokurou

the man was following you, right?

[18:58] Kyousuke

Well, I suppose so.

[19:01] Rokurou

But, you see...

[19:03] Rokurou

I was drinking in a place on Nakamise
when I got word that he'd died.

[19:08] Rokurou

If Matsukichi was out by the haunted
jizo statue playing tag with you,

[19:13] Rokurou

then I couldn't have killed him.

[19:15] Takuboku

How did you know we were
near the haunted jizo?

[19:19] Takuboku

I'm asking you how you knew where we were
when Matsukichi-san was following us.

[19:27] Takuboku

It's because the one following us...

[19:36] Takuboku

was you.

[19:39] Rokurou

I don't know what you're talking about.

[19:42] Takuboku

Rokurou-san.

[19:43] Takuboku

Would you mind taking off your scarf?

[19:47] Takuboku

"Throat moon."

[19:49] Takuboku

The strange words in the article
Matsukichi-san was holding,

[19:54] Takuboku

are referring to your neck, right?

[19:56] Takuboku

Not "throat moon," "throat *wound*."

[19:59] Rokurou

This is stupid. I'm leaving.

[20:06] Rokurou

You're...

[20:10] Yamaoka

Show us.

[20:11] Yamaoka

Your neck! Show us!

[20:24] Yamaoka

Throat wound...

[20:27] Takuboku

Yamaoka-kun!

[20:43] Kyousuke

He'd been searching this whole time

[20:45] Kyousuke

for someone with a scar
on their throat, hadn't he?

[20:49] Kyousuke

He started by writing
an article about the ghost,

[20:51] Kyousuke

then he made the ghost appear,
making everyone look up.

[20:57] Kyousuke

Oh! It's the first snow.

[21:02] Takuboku

"In Asakusa

[21:04] Takuboku

atop the tower that scrapes the clouds

[21:06] Takuboku

arms crossed, I ponder the day

[21:08] Takuboku

a long journal entry, perhaps?"

[21:11] Takuboku

It's a little... too late, isn't it?

[21:14] Kyousuke

Too late?

[21:16] Takuboku

Crimson nails... it's another name
for balsam flowers.

[21:20] Takuboku

You crush the petals
and paint your fingernails,

[21:23] Takuboku

and if the color lasts
until the first snow falls,

[21:26] Takuboku

then your love will endure.
That's what they say.

[21:32] Takuboku

Living for love... and dying
for love the way he did...

[21:37] Takuboku

I believe I'm a little bit jealous.

[21:44] Kyousuke

What do you say to some
monkfish on the way back?

[21:46] Takuboku

What?

[21:47] Kyousuke

I'll pay, of course, so if you'd
just feel greatly indebted to me...

[21:53] Kyousuke

It's true. You are a very honest person.

[21:56] Kyousuke

You eat what you want to eat,

[21:57] Kyousuke

wax nostalgic when you
want to wax nostalgic,

[22:00] Kyousuke

when you feel something,
you compose a poem...

[22:03] Kyousuke

In short, you are a genius...

[22:05] Kyousuke

and a child.

[22:08] Kyousuke

And I... I want to help you,
just the way you are.

[22:14] Takuboku

Somehow... I don't feel the need
to fight you on that.

[23:38] Takuboku

What's this? Hagiwara-kun, are you lovesick?

[23:40] Sakutarou

What? It's... um...

[23:42] Takuboku

*Yoshii-kun and Nomura-san
were looking dazed, too.*

SIGN Next Time: "Accursed Beast"

[23:44] Takuboku

Ah, the season of love!

SIGN Illustration: Saki Kaoru

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