

*modern*  
**Five** ✓ **Japanese**  
**Folktales**  
**For the Stage**



Adapted and written by the students  
of Matthew Barbee's English Practicum Class



2020





# Five Modern Japanese Folktales for the Stage

## Blowing Up ..... 5

Yuriko Fujimoto  
Rio Inoue  
Masahiro Terazawa  
Diyun Kong



## Cell Phone Tanuki ..... 13

Kenta Shibata  
Takeru Matsui  
Yukiho Kashimoto



## Overly-Attached Girlfriend .....18

Rin Toyoda  
Taishi Fujiwara  
Kazuha Nakai  
Maika Kawasaki



## Let's Go, Taro .....23

Sean Poole  
Airi Kusaka  
Taichi Nishikawa

## Revenge of the Child Crab 2020 .... 28

Moe Nagasawa  
Soya Suzuki  
Yakutaka Yamaguchi  
Ayuka Tsuzuku



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# Blowing Up

*A modern, English adaptation of the traditional Japanese folktale, Kachikachi Yama (Click Clack Mountain)*

## Authors:

Scene 1 – Yuriko Fujimoto

Scene 2 – Rio Inoue

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Scene 4 – Diyun Kong

## Characters:

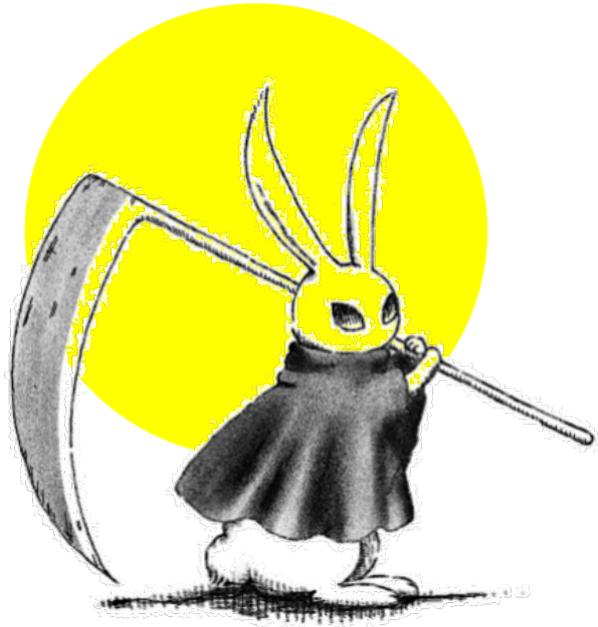
Storyteller

Old man (*Grandpa*)

Old woman (*Grandma*)

Tanuki

Rabbit



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## Scene 1

**Storyteller:** Once upon a time, there lived an old man, an old woman, and a rabbit. They lived together like a real family. Also, they ran a restaurant and cultivated the nearby mountain to increase their land.

**Tanuki:** (*sadly*) We have nothing to eat because an old human couple is cultivating all the land around our dwelling. The only way to live is to steal food from the human fields at the foot of this mountain...

(*Tanuki goes down the mountain and steals the crops from the old couple's field.*)

**Tanuki:** (*secretly*) Just a little...Just a little...

(*The old woman found the Tanuki stealing crops from her field.*)

**Old Woman:** (*calling-out*) What are you doing?!

**Tanuki:** (*frightened*) N-n-no, no, I just...

**Old Woman:** (*angrily*) Don't make excuses! You tried to steal our crops, didn't you?

**Tanuki:** T-t-that's true, but...

**Old Woman:** Get over here, now!

**Storyteller:** The old woman grabbed Tanuki's hands and handcuffed him to a pillar.

**Tanuki:** *(Worried)* That wasn't supposed to happen. How can I get out of here? That old woman should have a key to my handcuffs. I wish I could get that key. Hmm, this is hard... *(gets an idea)* oh, I got it! I hear that old people eat rice cakes a lot. Let's let the old woman eat a rice cake. When the rice cake is stuck in her throat, I can steal the key and get away from here! This is good idea. *(to Old Woman)* Hey, grandma.

**Old Woman:** What?

**Tanuki:** Aren't you hungry? I'm so hungry. Could we eat those rice cakes over there?

**Old Woman:** Hmm...well, okay. Now that you mention it, I am a little hungry. If you're not going to run away, I'll share some of the rice cakes with you.

**Tanuki:** *(Gladly)* Thank you! How sweet of you!

*(They start eating rice cakes)*

**Old Woman:** As soon as the old woman put rice cakes in her mouth, Tanuki held her mouth shut.

**Tanuki:** *(Gladly)* Hot dog!

**Old Woman:** *(choking)* mhmm...mhmm

**Tanuki:** Oh, you poor thing!

**Storyteller:** Sadly, the old woman died from choking on rice cakes as Tanuki had expected.

*(Tanuki searches around in the old woman's pocket for the key)*

**Tanuki:** Let's see...where's the key? ...oh, I got it! *(very happy and jumping for joy.)* I'm free. No one can keep rabbit locked up.

*(Tanuki frees himself from the handcuffs and runs away)*

**Storyteller:** After the tanuki freed himself, the old man and Rabbit returned from working in the fields.

**Rabbit:** Hey, grandma. How was your d... *(finds the old woman dead)* oh, Grandma!

**Old man:** What happened? *(finds the old woman dead)* What the hell...this is unbelievable.

**Rabbit:** *(sadly)* Grandma...what happened to her...

**Old man:** Security camera! Let's check the security camera! I've set it recently. We can see what happened.

**Rabbit:** Got it. *(checks security camera footage)*

**Storyteller:** They all checked the security camera footage, and it showed Tanuki fleeing.

**Rabbit:** It was Tanuki! He killed my dear grandma!

## Scene 2

**Storyteller:** After the old man and Rabbit found the old woman dead, they cried and screamed a lot.

*(They stood up and started to talk.)*

**Old Man:** *(angrily)* I will never forget what Tanuki did to my sweet Grandma. I'll take revenge on Tanuki! Right. Now!

**Rabbit:** No, no, you shouldn't do that. You helped me a lot before. Grandma and you rescued me when I was bullied by Rabbit in my childhood. In turn, it is time to take revenge on him.

**Old Man:** *(sadly)* You will? I don't want you to dirty your hands.

**Rabbit:** Tanuki did such murderous things to me. I've never talked to you about the thing Tanuki did because it would make you sad. All I can tell you is that I will do anything to take revenge on that dirty, murderous Tanuki. Please allow me to do that.

**Old Man:** *(feeling sorry)* But...well...all right. Are you really sure that you can make it? How do you plan to take revenge on Tanuki? I'm so worried about you.

**Rabbit:** *(looks happy)* Thank you! I'll definitely do it.

*(They held their hands together and sat down.)*

**Old Man:** *(beginning to cry)* Oh, my dear Rabbit ....

**Rabbit:** Don't worry, Grandpa. I have thought about plans for taking revenge on Tanuki for several years. I strategized very well, so I am ready to take my revenge.

**Old Man:** I can't believe it. I think you are too kind to hurt anything or anybody.

**Rabbit:** That was true but now that's not the case. I will forget my true nature and sink to Tanuki's level. Poor, sweet Grandma deserves to rest in peace.

**Old Man:** I got it. So, before taking revenge on Tanuki, can you tell me what your plans are?

**Rabbit:** *(sadly)* Sorry, I can't.

**Old Man:** Why not?

**Rabbit:** Because that's what I really hate to do. That's against my policy.

**Old Man:** Are you sure? This is not like you.

**Rabbit:** A long time ago, Tanuki also bullied me terribly.

**Old Man:** Yeah.

**Rabbit:** For example, when I started to run my own restaurant, Tanuki said to me, "Who comes to such an old fashion restaurant? Nobody will. Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha...." He knew my long dream of owning my own restaurant in the future. He also dreamed of having his own restaurant.

**Old Man:** *(comforting Rabbit)* That's too bad. You were envied by him. You are better than him!

**Rabbit:** Yes, thanks. Even though he spoke ill of my restaurant, a few months later he started his own restaurant next to mine! Furthermore, his restaurant was also Japanese like mine.

**Old Man:** What!?! Isn't it against the law?

**Rabbit:** Yeah, I think so. But he never cared about that. From the beginning, his goal was to copy me. Again, he did it.

**Old Man:** What a tanuki! And your plans of taking revenge on him are...?

**Rabbit:** *(with mixed feelings)* Hold on a second. I have another story to tell you.

**Old Man:** Ok, I'll listen to you.  
*(Old man sat up straight.)*

**Rabbit:** *(breathing deeply)* Soon after you arrived here, the animals of the mountains complained that you and the other humans had cultivated our mountains. You destroyed our homes, and we have to leave our beautiful mountains.

**Old Man:** *(shocked)* Oh, what a...

**Rabbit:** Yeah. We had no land for our restaurant gardens, so the running of our restaurants was doomed. Every day, no one came, so Tanuki and I decided to go back up the mountain and to ask you and the other humans to stop cultivating our home.

**Old Man:** *(keep silent)*

**Rabbit:** And arriving at the foot of the mountains, Tanuki changed his mind. He began to say that we should attack the humans' homes. I tried to stop him, but he said that he wanted to do the same thing that they did to us.

**Old Man:** And...?

**Rabbit:** As we were quarreling about whether we would attacked the humans' houses or not, Tanuki began to light a fire wanting to burn the human houses. When I tried to stop him, Tanuki hit me so strongly. I got injured and he burned my restaurant instead. Then. . .

**Old Man:** . . .then Grandma and I saved you? We saw the fire but...

**Rabbit:** *(as determined)* Yes. You save my life. But I couldn't save my restaurant, and that's why I want to get revenge, to let him know the pain and hurt I felt.

**Storyteller:** They stayed up talking about the revenge plan all night.

### Scene 3

**Storyteller:** One morning, Tanuki woke up with a mobile phone notification.  
*(phone notification sound)*

**Tanuki:** *(waking up from bed, yawning)* Umm?... what is going on with my phone?... there are a lot of comments on Instagram and Taberogu, a famous dining blog.  
*(reading cell phone)* It says I have 730 new messages... *(shocked)* Wait, what? Why do I have 730 messages? Maybe my restaurant is going viral. But why? Oh, well. I'll check later. I'm still sleepy. *(Tanuki goes to sleep again.)*  
  
*(phone ringing)*

**Tanuki:** Who called me? It's 6 in the morning... *(phone display call from unannounced)* It's so weird. *(Answer the call)* Hello?

**Rabbit:** *(Rabbit changes his voice)* You are Tanuki, right?

**Tanuki:** Yes, I am.

**Rabbit:** And you are the owner of the restaurant, *The Click*?

**Tanuki:** Yes, I am the manager of *The Click*. What can I do for you?

**Rabbit:** Just remember. *What goes around, comes around*. Take care of yourself, Mr. Tanuki.

**Tanuki:** Um, OK. Thanks. Thank you for your advice. Umm, may I ask your name, sir?

*(Rabbit hangs up the phone.)*

**Tanuki:** Hello? Are you still there? Hmm... I don't like this. How does he know my name and number... What does he want with me...

**Storyteller:** *Tanuki suddenly felt that something was wrong, and he checked his Instagram again.*

**Tanuki:** **What is this... What is going on?!** *(All messages and comments on The Click account smeared and criticized Tanuki and his place. Reading) "The Click is the worst restaurant on the earth. Tanuki, the owner, always serves cheap food and rips me off. You should not visit there." What? It's nothing but a fake story... My food is delicious... (Tanuki checks whole message) Why is everyone criticizing me and liking this comment?! (he also checks Taberogu evaluations and comments) What? The Click's evaluation on Taberogu is 0.03... It couldn't be true... Ok, but this is only on the internet, so everybody will come to my restaurant as usual... It is not a problem. (Tanuki goes to his restaurant and prepares to open) There are no reservations today... Even the reservations made before are all canceled ... What should I do? If there are no guests today, I cannot pay my rent... (suddenly, something breaks through the window) Wow! What was that? Is there somebody outside? Ok, I will call the police. (Tanuki checked the phone but no signal) Hey! Something is very wrong. Help!*

*(someone knocks on the door)*

**Tanuki:** Who is it? Help me!

**Rabbit:** *(walks in the restaurant)* Hey, what's going on in here? You seem confused, can I do something for you? I can help you. How is your business today?

**Tanuki:** Hey, my old friend, something is really wrong today. Help me! My restaurant's page and website have been smeared by many anonymous complaints and bad reviews. Also, I got a strange call, my restaurant's window was broken, and there aren't any guests today. I can't stand this crazy situation.

**Rabbit:** I am very sorry to hear that. You should go home today. Do not come out of your house and keep your windows closed.

**Tanuki:** Thanks, thank you my old friend. Could you stay here at my restaurant today? I feel scared to leave it alone.

**Rabbit:** Sure. I will stay here today, so you need not request the police's help. I'll check everything! You should go home as soon as possible.

**Tanuki:** Thanks, thank you from the my bottom of my heart. If something happens, let me know.

**Storyteller:** Tanuki then left *The Click* and went home.

**Rabbit:** Stay safe my friend!

**Storyteller:** But no sooner had Tanuki arrived home, he heard a fire alarm.

**Tanuki:** Is something on fire? Oh god, what a day... *(look out the window)* Wait... I can't believe this... Is that my restaurant on fire? No, no, this can't be happening. First of all, Rabbit stayed in my restaurant, and no one else was there. Let make call Rabbit and check if my restaurant is safe.

**Storyteller:** Tanuki made a phone call to Rabbit, but Rabbit didn't take the call.

**Tanuki:** What should I do... Alright, I will text Rabbit and ask what is going on. Oh, he just posted an Instagram story... *(shocked)* Wait, WHAT?

**Storyteller:** His Instagram story showed and picture with fire and the caption: "What goes around, comes around."

## Scene 4

**Storyteller:** Now comes the final step of Rabbit's plan. It is a cold morning, so most of the animals and humans are still sleeping. Rabbit comes to Tanuki's home, carrying a bottle of strong alcohol that had been brewed by the late Grandma.

**Rabbit:** *(Concerned)* Tanuki? Are you feeling better?

**Tanuki:** *(Shake his head)* No, it's worse.

**Rabbit:** Oh, poor thing. That's what you get. I warned you to be careful.

**Tanuki:** Yes, and you burned my restaurant, and posted the story on Instagram!

**Rabbit:** What are you talking about? Story? I was robbed and my smartphone was stolen that night. *(acting like a victim)* Poor, poor me.

**Tanuki:** What? Really? Oh no. We are both victims.

**Rabbit:** *(acts oblivious)* Exactly, someone must really hate you a lot to also attack me. Do you still suspect me?

**Tanuki:** Well...oh, you saved me...sorry. You know, the headache and hunger have made me crazy.

**Rabbit:** I see. *(shows the bottle of beer)* I think you need this bottle of delicious beer.

**Tanuki:** Beer! *(hesitantly)* But, are you sure...

**Rabbit:** Sure. Take it! I know you like it. I believe that this special drink could serve as an effective pain reliever. And, you know, it can warm your frozen body up and increase your energy.

**Tanuki:** Oh, thanks. You are so kind.

**Storyteller:** Rabbit passed the bottle to Tanuki, who uncorked it and drank it straight down in one gulp. The alcohol immediately paralyzed his senses. He could barely stand and walk.

**Rabbit:** Are you alright?

**Tanuki:** *(feigning confidence)* Yes, of course! Very good! I can walk! Even run!  
*(Tanuki runs outside his home but soon loses his balance on the slope)*

**Rabbit:** Wait! Where are you going?! *(runs after Tanuki)*

**Tanuki:** *(Sitting on the ground)* Throat...burn...burning!

**Rabbit:** What?

**Tanuki:** My throat's burning! Water...Water! Where's water!

**Rabbit:** Calm down. Don't worry. I know where to find water. Come with me.

**Storyteller:** Rabbit ran in front to lead the way. A while later, they reached a swamp. It was a beautiful undeveloped swamp, but all the sober animals who lived in the mountains know to be careful around the swamp or you can find yourself being swallowed by it, and could find yourself dead. Unfortunately, Tanuki was not sober. Rabbit slowed down when he began to see the swamp and pointed it out to Tanuki. With his throat on fire, Tanuki ran straight into the swamp toward the water, just as Rabbit expected.

*(finally deciding to stop ten meters away from the swamp)*

**Rabbit:** *(asks loudly)* Tanuki! Is the water ok?

**Tanuki:** *(drinking water without restraint)* Yes. Yes, it's so good.

**Rabbit:** *(in a loud voice)* Do you like it here? It's beautiful, isn't it?

**Tanuki:** *(gradually calming down but still not understanding his situation)* Yeah, I think so?

**Rabbit:** *(cheerful)* Great. It's pleasing to know that you like your grave.

**Tanuki:** *(confused)* What? What are you talking... *(sees something approaching him)* wait, what is...?

**Storyteller:** Suddenly, a snake leaped up at Tanuki and bit him as they both fell into the water.

**Tanuki:** *(surprised and scared)* Snake! Help! Help! I can't move!

**Storyteller:** Tanuki, didn't have too much time to yell and struggle. He eventually sank deep into the swamp, gone forever.

**Rabbit:** *(looks on calmly with a slight smile)* Good night, Tanuki. Sleep well.

**Storyteller:** And with that, Rabbit got his revenge. He should have returned to Grandpa's house and led a happy and peaceful life together, but Rabbit didn't feel happy or relaxed at all. He didn't know why. Confused, he didn't return home directly, but instead, he went to Grandma's grave, and stood in front of it silently. He could still feel her with him, and he was reminded of the first time he and Tanuki went to the old couple's house. When Tanuki was about to attack them, Rabbit stopped him. Indeed, Rabbit also hated humans' arrogance, but he also didn't agree with the use of force as a solution.

**Rabbit:** I have insisted that force isn't the answer to everything. But now, to seek revenge, I killed my enemy, choosing the way I once opposed. I succeeded; I'm sure I did a good job. . .but, what did I get?

*(Silence)*

**Rabbit:** No. She's dead. My old friend is dead. And I'm too ashamed to return to Grandpa. Grandma?

*(Silence)*

**Storyteller:** But no one answered Rabbit and he just stayed there alone. In the end, violence solves nothing.

**The End**

# Cell Phone Tanuki

*A modern, English adaptation of the traditional Japanese folktale, Bunbuku Chagama (The Teakettle Tanuki)*

## Authors:

Scene 1 & 2 – Kenta Shibata

Scene 3 & 4 – Takeru Matsui

Scene 5 & 6 – Yukiho Kashimoto

## Characters:

Storyteller

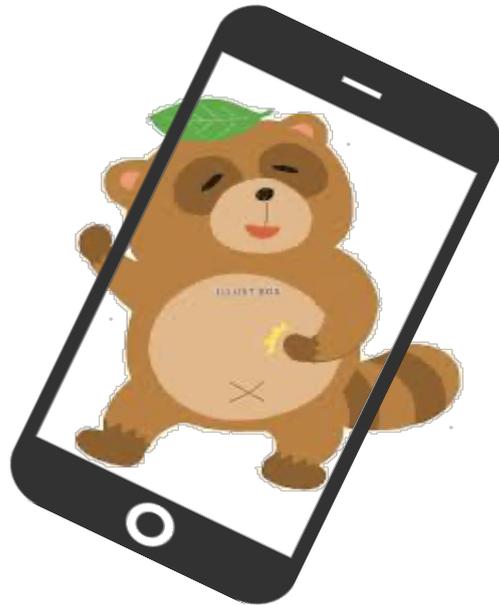
Monk

Clerk

Priestling

Tanuki

Student



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## Scene 1

**Storyteller:** Once upon a time, there was a poor Monk who lived in a temple called Orin temple. One day, the Monk walked far into the city to a second-hand shop because he didn't have much money to spend. He looked around carefully, but he couldn't find what he was looking for.

**Monk:** *(Sadly)* Times are changing and I need an easier way to communicate with the world. I have never trusted technology, but the time has come to buy a smartphone. I can't deny technology any more. Could someone help?

**Storyteller:** With that, the Monk decided to ask for help from the clerk.

**Monk:** *(to the clerk)* Excuse me. I have walked very long distance, and I am looking for a smartphone to make my life more convenient. Can you please help me find the perfect smartphone.

**Clerk:** Of course, sir. We have a huge selection of smart phones, but some of them are very expensive.

**Monk:** Oh no, but I only have a little money. Do you have something cheap and easy to operate? I don't need anything fancy.

**Clerk:** Well, I do have this one. . . *(hesitates)* No. You don't want this one. It's been here a long time and no one wants it. But it's so cheap that it's almost free. It's yours if you want it.

**Monk:** *(excited)* Really? That sounds great. I'll take it.

**Storyteller:** Finally, the Monk found a nice smartphone that looked like what he wanted, so he bought it.

**Monk:** *(content)* I finally found a good one. I'm can't wait to go home and use it.

## Scene 2

**Storyteller:** One week after he ordered his smartphone, he got a package in the mail and was excited to open the box. However, the Monk was old and not good at electronic devices, so he asked his little priestling to help setup the phone.

**Monk:** *(a little frustrated)* I don't know how to setup the phone. I can't do this, priestling, Can you do this for me instead?

**Priestling:** Sure! I usually use a smartphone, so I'm sure I can help you set it up.

**Storyteller:** When he tried to insert the SIM card into the new smartphone, suddenly the new smartphone said, "Ouch! Ouch!" The little priestling was startled and cried.

**Priestling:** *(Very scared)* What was that?

**Storyteller:** The Monk heard his little priestling screaming and came to see what was going on.

**Monk:** What are you doing? Why are you so upset?

**Priestling:** I heard the smartphone speak suddenly, and I was very scared.

**Monk:** *(Angrily)* It is impossible for a smartphone to speak to you directly. They can't. I guess it was just Siri. You are ridiculous!

**Storyteller:** The Monk didn't believe that his smartphone talked, and he scolded the little priestling.

## Scene 3

**Storyteller:** A few hours later, the Monk got a Line notification.  
*(The smartphone rings "Hi")*

**Monk:** *(He looks at it with distrust)* What? What's that sound? This smartphone is broken? But I just bought it. That's why I should never trust technology.

**Storyteller:** He came up with an idea.

**Monk:** *(has an idea)* Siri must know the reason. Siri is so useful. Siri is the best! I love Siri!

**Storyteller:** He tried to talk to Siri.

**Monk:** Hey Siri, when a smartphone makes a strange sound, how can I fix it?

**Storyteller:** But Siri didn't respond.

**Monk:** Hey... Hey, hey Siri!

**Storyteller:** Suddenly his smartphone turned into a Tanuki.  
*(Monk was stunned with his mouth open)*

**Monk:** Wh. . .what? A tanuki? What is a Tanuki doing here? Where is my smartphone?

**Storyteller:** The Monk searched around, but the smartphone was nowhere to be seen.

**Tanuki:** Here.

**Monk:** You are a tanuki. I don't want to have a tanuki-looking smartphone. I just want to have an ordinary smartphone that doesn't make strange sounds and looks like a regular cellphone.

## Scene 4

**Storyteller:** Disheartened, the Monk went and tried to sell his phone at the same second-hand shop where he bought it.

**Monk:** Hey! This smartphone is broken! I don't need it anymore.

**Clerk:** (*very angry*) What are you saying!? You bought it. It's your smartphone!

**Monk:** I know, but it's broken. It's not my fault; it's yours!

**Clerk:** Ok, ok. Please calm down. Because you're a Monk, I will refund half the money. Take it or leave it.

**Monk:** Okay. I just wanted a regular smartphone, not this awful creature that makes funny noises.

*(The Monk throws the phone at the clerk and storms out of the shop)*

**Storyteller:** At that time, there was a student in the store who was also looking for a new smartphone, but like the Monk he couldn't afford to buy a new one.

**Student:** (*disappointed*) Ah, I'm the only one who doesn't have a smartphone yet. Everyone has their own smartphone except for me. Maybe I can find a smartphone at this second-hand shop. There are many smartphones with reasonable prices here. (*to the clerk*) Excuse me, I want to buy a smartphone. Do you have any recommendations?

**Clerk:** (*Nervous, holding an old cellphone*) Ah, ah, this, this smartphone is very reasonable and looks very nice! It's just an **ordinary** smartphone, and it doesn't make strange noise at all. It's **perfect...and it's free.**

**Student:** Free? Is something wrong with it?

**Clerk:** (*panicking a little*) N...n...no, of course not! Just a regular, ordinary phone. And it was even once owned by a monk from the Orin Temple. It might even bring you luck. Do you want it or not?

**Student:** Yes, I want it! I can't get cheaper than free. I'll take it.

**Storyteller:** The student was so happy, but it was getting late. He went home excited to use his new phone.

**Student:** I will wake up at...umm... at 7:00 tomorrow. So, I will set an alarm at 7:00. Hey Siri, wake me up at 7'am tomorrow.

*(In a strange voice, the smartphone talks but it is really the Tanuki)*

**Tanuki:** Okay, I your alarm is set for 7:00 tomorrow morning.

**Student:** That voice is a bit strange sound. I wonder what is wrong with the voice. Hey Siri, why is your voice so strange?

**Storyteller:** Suddenly, the smartphone turned into a Tanuki and the student fell back and passed out.

**Tanuki:** That's because I am a tanuki. I'm sorry to scare you. Hello? Hello? Can you hear me?

## Scene 5

- Storyteller:** The next day, the student woke up slowly with a huge headache. He wasn't sure what he had seen.
- Student:** *(holding his head, in pain)* Ow, what, what happened?
- Tanuki:** Good morning, sunshine. I made you some food *(offers plate to student)*.
- Student:** What? Who? What are you? How did you turn into a smartphone?
- Tanuki:** I came here to get some food, but I was not able to walk in this big city. If someone saw me, I would be caught or shot. So, I decided to change into a smartphone. Everyone has a smartphone, so I thought I would be safe. Now, I have lost my way and need a place to stay.
- Student:** I want to let you stay with me, but I am so poor that I can't pay for you to live with me.
- Tanuki:** Don't worry about money. I have a great idea about that. I think I can make you rich. Actually, I think it would be a great idea to make some funny or interesting videos and become YouTubers! If we could make some good ones, maybe we will be able to earn a lot of money!
- Student:** Are you serious? Do you think it's possible?
- Tanuki:** Yeah, I'm serious. I swear we can make a lot of money!
- Student:** Okay.
- Tanuki:** Let's try anyway.

## Scene 6

- Storyteller:** The student and the tanuki spent all day discussing about what kind of videos that they could make.
- Student:** What kind of videos do you want to make?
- Tanuki:** Actually, I can do really nice performances like dancing, singing, or whatever.
- Student:** Oh, you do? Okay, let's make something like that. Do you want me to be in the video too?
- Tanuki:** Maybe it's better that you introduce me as your friend. And we can make some videos of our lives too. What do you think?
- Student:** Sounds nice! We can make some videos about various kinds of things. YouTube videos with groups of crazy friends are so popular these days. Maybe it'll work.  
*(They work on making videos for YouTube.)*
- Storyteller:** They worked together to make a lot of interesting and funny videos.
- Tanuki:** I will make a dancing video this time, so will you edit it for me?
- Student:** Okay. *(working on computer)* I'm done. Can you check it out?
- Tanuki:** Okay. It's good! Let's upload it.
- Student:** Okay!
- Storyteller:** Their first video was uploaded on their YouTube channel.
- Student:** Hey look! Some people liked our first video! Let's take more videos and upload them!

**Tanuki:** Maybe we can make a vlog this time. Let's introduce who we are and how we became friends.

**Student:** What a great idea. Let's do it.

**Storyteller:** Their YouTube channel became popular little by little.

**Student:** We did it! Look, more than a million people are subscribing to us!

**Tanuki:** I knew from the beginning! I believed this would work.

**Storyteller:** Luckily, they became so popular all over Japan, and they earned a lot of money. They could buy a luxury condominium, and they spend a lot of time together. One day, the poor university student wanted to tell Tanuki that he was grateful for him.

**Student:** Hey Tanuki! Come over here!

**Storyteller:** The student saw that the Tanuki had turned back into the smartphone. He asked the smartphone to turn back into the Tanuki, but it didn't answer.

**Student:** *(nervous and saddened)* Tanuki? Tanuki! Wake up. I know you're fired, but we should celebrate. We made so much money and you earned your keep.

**Storyteller:** But there was no word from the tanuki. Finally exhausted, he had turned back into a smartphone for good. The student was so sad because they had become best friends. He decided to take the smartphone to the Orin Temple, where the shop clerk had told him it was once owned by a monk. The student walked and walked, and finally arrived at the temple. The Monk greeted him and agreed to let the cell-phone tanuki stay there forever. If you visit the Orin Temple, you can still see the famous phone where it is stored as a treasure to this day.

**The End**

# Overly-Attached Girlfriend

*A modern, English adaptation of the traditional Japanese folktale, Shita-kiri Suzume (Cut-tongue Sparrow)*

## Authors:

Scene 1 – Rin Toyoda

Scene 2 – Taishi Fujiwara

Scene 3 – Kazuha Nakai

Scene 4 – Maika Kawasaki

## Characters:

Storyteller

Ben

Tom (*Ben's Friend*)

Kate (*Ben's Girlfriend*)



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## Scene 1

**Storyteller:** In some city in Japan, Ben, a good, young man, was living with his girlfriend, Kate. Kate was very jealous and greedy, and the couple had completely different personalities. Because of those differences, many people couldn't understand why they were still a couple. One day, on the way home, Ben came across his childhood friend, Tom.

*(Ben and Tom are surprised, and greet each other happily)*

**Tom:** Hey Ben!

**Ben:** Oh, long time no see, Tom! How are you doing?

**Tom:** Well, Basically I'm fine, but...

**Ben:** Hey, are you OK? What's up?

**Tom:** Well, you know I'm living with my girlfriend, right?

**Ben:** Yes. How's she doing these days? Is she doing well?

**Tom:** Yeah, she's fine... but too energetic. We just had a little argument, and she kicked me out of our house.

**Ben:** Wow. That's so... awful... I mean, I'm sorry about that.

**Tom:** Please don't worry about us. We'll be fine.

**Ben:** Well, how about my house? You can live with me if you need a place to stay.

**Tom:** Excuse me?

**Ben:** My apartment! For your temporary house!

**Tom:** That's sounds like a very good idea, but... Didn't you tell me that you are living with your girlfriend?

**Ben:** Yes. Well, she's a little jealous, but I think it'll be okay. You're male.

**Tom:** I think maybe that's not the point... However, thank you for your offer, Ben. I appreciate it.

**Ben:** No problem. Here, let's go to my home.

**Tom:** Thanks.

**Storyteller** They both arrive at Ben's home.

**Ben:** I'm home, honey!  
*(Kate, Ben's girlfriend, comes to the entrance smiling)*

**Kate:** Welcome back, Ben!  
*(Tom appears from behind Ben)*

**Kate:** *(suspiciously)* Ah... Who's that guy, Ben? The guy behind you...

**Tom:** Oh, hi Kate, I'm Tom, Ben's friend, and...

**Ben:** He can't go home, so he'll stay here for a while. It's okay, right?

**Kate:** *(trembles and becomes angry)* No... no, no, no! Nothing is okay! What the hell are you thinking?!

**Ben:** *(trying to calm her)* Hey, honey. why are you so mad? He's my dear friend.

**Kate:** I can't believe it... Why did you think it'd be okay? Of course not! I'm your girlfriend. You can't just bring home a friend anytime you want. Are you kidding me? No.  
*(Tom is puzzled, but he tries to participate in arguing)*

**Tom:** *(trying to diffuse the situation)* Hey, um, excuse me.

**Ben:** Okay, okay... Calm down, honey...

**Kate:** Shut up, Ben. I will never take care of him. Never. Keep him away from me, and kick him out of my apartment as soon as possible, got it!?  
*(Ben tries to soothe Kate)*

**Ben:** Okay, I got it, Kate, completely.

**Kate:** Okay, then. Good night, honey.  
*(Kate turns and walks into her room with her shoulders squared)*

**Ben:** Good night, honey.  
*(Ben waves his hand a little, Tom timidly tries to say good night to Kate)*

**Tom:** Good night, mis... *(waving his hand a little)*

**Kate:** *(from the bedroom)* No, nothing from you. You're not welcome here.

**Tom:** *(back to Ben)* You told me it would be okay!

**Ben:** I thought so, but... that was unexpected. By the way, you can stay here for a while, so let's drink for now. I don't care what she says, and plus, I want to hear more from you about what is going on between you and **your** girlfriend.

**Tom:** Um...thanks Ben, and please say sorry to Kate.

**Storyteller:** This is how Tom came to Ben's house and decided to stay for a while. In the beginning, Tom intended to stay at Ben's house for just a few days, but they were truly childhood friends. They really got along with each other, and that led to Kate acting in an even more eccentric and jealous way.

## Scene 2

**Storyteller:** After Tom brought Ben to their house, he agreed to let him stay there with him and his girlfriend for a few days.

**Tom:** Are you Ok, Ben?

**Ben:** Thank you, Tom. If you hadn't found me, I would have been in big trouble now. I can't thank you enough.

**Tom:** Don't worry.

**Storyteller:** Kate does not like his attitude toward Ben because she thinks Tom has run out of time and money since he came.

**Kate:** *(Coldly asks Ben)* How long will you stay in this house?

**Ben:** Maybe 3 or 4 days.....

**Kate:** What? Are you crazy?

**Tom:** Calm down, Kate. Ben doesn't bother me at all.

**Kate:** I cannot believe you! Don't you care about me? Since Ben came to our home, you rarely spend time with me. And don't you care about living expenses? I'm skipping some of my meals to pay for Ben's meals.

**Tom:** Of course, I understand you.

**Kate:** Are you seriously saying that? I cannot trust what you say!

**Storyteller:** She gets in a worse mood day by day. And finally, she kicked them both out of the house. Ben and Tom had no choice but to live in a hotel.

**Tom:** *(depressed)* I'm sorry Ben. No way did I think this would happen.

**Ben:** I'm really grateful to you for making me see who my girlfriend really is.

**Storyteller:** A few days later, they saw something awful. Tom was slandered on SNS with hundreds of posts. The content was filled with complaints about Tom's personal life and the embarrassing things in Tom's past.

*On Social Media:*

*"Tom is a pervert, everyone be careful.*

*Tom complains about his company boss Bob every day.*

*Tom often screams suddenly."*

## Scene 3

**Storyteller:** Tom became sick because of the bullying from Ben's girlfriend. Ben was worried about Tom. Therefore, Ben stayed home from work to cheer him up.

*(Ben enters)*

**Ben:** Hey! Are you OK? Let's hang out together.

**Tom:** I'm OK because you always take care of me. Thank you so much, friend.

**Ben:** (smiling) I'm glad to hear that.

**Storyteller:** While Ben was at the hotel, Kate continued to be jealous of Tom. Kate thought that she didn't have enough time to spend with Ben because Ben was always concerned about Tom. Tom really appreciated Ben. If Tom gave a present to Ben, Ben might be happy, Tom thought. So, Tom prepared a present for Ben.

**Tom:** (*holding two presents*) Hey, Ben. I have two gifts for you.

**Ben:** Really? Why?

**Tom:** I'm so grateful for you. You always cheer me up. Therefore, I feel better than before. I just want to give you a present to show my gratitude.

**Ben:** I see. Thank you.

**Tom:** Please choose one out of the two. Which present do you want, the big one or the small one?

**Ben:** Well...I'll choose the small one. My girlfriend might get angry if she finds out that you gave me such a big present, so maybe I can hide the small one from her.

**Tom:** Alright. Here you are.  
(*Tom gives small present to Ben.*)

**Ben:** Thank you very much.

**Storyteller:** Ben brought it home and opened it. The present Tom gave to Ben was a beautiful watch. Ben was very pleased. Then, Ben started to wear it every day. However, Kate saw the watch Ben wore, and she confronted him.

**Kate:** (*suspiciously*) What's this? Did you have this watch before? When did you get it?

**Ben:** (*lying and pretending to be upset*) Huh!?! I... I bought it the other day.

**Kate:** (*more suspiciously*) Is it true?

**Ben:** (*afraid of Kate*) Sorry. I lied to you. I got this from Tom.

**Kate:** (*so angry*) What?! Are you crazy?

**Ben:** Tom just wanted to give me something for his gratitude.

**Kate:** (*irritated*) That's stupid. I can't believe that he would give you such a beautiful and expensive watch. Are you guys really just friends?

**Tom:** Yes, yes, we're just friends. He just wanted to cheer me up by giving me this as a gift. I even took the smaller of the two boxes that Tom offered me because it didn't want to upset you more.

**Kate:** Just friends? Then he really must be rich if he gave you such a nice present. Wait? Two presents?  
(*Kate think to herself and then exits suddenly*)

## Scene 4

**Storyteller:** On the way to the hotel, Kate became more and more angry. This time it was because Ben chose the small box. You see, the only thing worse than Kate's jealousy was her greed. And after some thought, she decided that she wanted to get the big box that Ben didn't choose. And she resents Tom for depriving her of the time she and Ben spent together. Therefore, she went to the hotel where Tom stayed to yell at him.

**Kate:** Arriving at the hotel, in a loud voice) Tom, I know you are here. Open the door!

**Tom:** Oh my god! Kate's here! She came to see me? Oh! What should I do? She needs to learn a lesson.

**Kate:** *(in a big voice)* Open the door! Open the door! *(She repeats over and over)*  
*(Tom opens the door and Kate barges into the room)*

**Kate:** *(speaking louder and louder)* Tom, you deprived me of the time I spent with Ben. And then you gave him a watch. I cannot believe what you have done. Is it true that you guys are really just friends? You have taken him away from me, he stays with you in this hotel, and you gave him a beautiful present. What's the meaning of all of that?

**Tom:** I'm so sorry. I did not expect it to make you angry. Of course, we're just friends. I love him for helping me and supporting me, but that's all. Nothing is happening between us.

**Kate:** *(shouting)* Well, even if that's true, I will never forgive you.  
*(Kate searches the room with her eyes secretly and finds the big box. Tom realizes that Kate has found the box and knows she wants it)*

**Kate:** *(attitude suddenly changes)* Oh what a big and beautiful box! Oh, well. Never mind. I'm sorry. I have reflected on my actions, and I forgive you.

**Tom:** No, it was my fault. I will give you this big box as my apology. *(hands the box to Kate.)*

**Kate:** Thank you. *(takes the box)* Then I go home now. Please visit Ben anytime, especially if you have more boxes like this.  
*(Tom laughs after she leaves)*

**Storyteller:** Kate achieved her original purpose and received the big box from Tom, so she returned home.

**Kate:** *(greedily)* I really wanted this big box. I can't wait to open it. What could it be? Jewelry, clothes, cash? A lot of cash?... *(suddenly screams)* Ahhh! Bugs! I hate bugs the most in the world. No, no, they're all over me. Nooo...

**Storyteller:** And just like that, a lot of bugs came out of the big box, and Kate scratched at them screaming. As Kate was trying to run away in terror, Ben arrived on the scene and stopped her.

**Ben:** Wow! So many bugs! *(Ben finds the big box.)* Kate? I guess you visited Tom and got the big box. How greedy you are. And you made our house full of bugs. I want to break up! I hate how much you try to control my life and how greedy you are.  
*(Kate continues scratching at the bugs and runs away screaming.)*

**Storyteller:** With that, Ben left and never saw Kate again. Ben and Tom have been getting along well after Ben broke up with Kate, and Kate now reflects on her jealousy and greed. Hopefully, one day she will return over a new leaf.

**The End**

# Let's Go, Taro

*A modern, English adaptation of the traditional Japanese folktale, Urashimataro*

## Authors:

Scene1 – Sean Poole

Scene2 – Airi Kusaka

Scene3 – Taichi Nishikawa

## Characters:

Storyteller

Urashimataro (*Taro*)

Meddling kids (*Kids*)

Turtle

Otohime

Boy



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## Scene 1

**Storyteller:** Once upon a time there was a young man called Urashima Taro. Since he was born, Taro had a wonderful mother that filled his heart with goodness and justice. (*Taro enters*) One day, Taro was walking across the beach when he saw some meddling kids beating and throwing rocks at a turtle.

**Taro:** (*angrily*) What are you doing?! Stop bullying that turtle.

**Kids:** (*surprised*) Ai, it's Urashima Taro! Come on, let's leave the stupid turtle and go.

**Storyteller:** After seeing Taro coming toward them, they ran as fast as they could to escape Taro's fist of justice.

**Taro:** (*sadly*) Poor turtle, not all people are like that, so I hope you forgive us.

**Turtle:** (*happily*) That's okay!

**Storyteller:** Taro was surprised as he had never met a turtle that could speak.

**Taro:** (*surprised*) Y..y..you can speak?!

**Turtle:** (*a bit smug*) Yes. Yes. I can.

**Taro:** Wow, I guess we learn new things every day. Well, I'm glad that you're okay. Gotta go now.

**Storyteller:** Taro walked back to where he came from and continued on his journey of justice.

**Turtle:** (*in a big voice*) Wait! I want to repay your kindness!

**Taro:** Don't worry about it.

**Turtle:** No, please. I have the best way to repay you, and you will only be able to go there once in your life!

**Storyteller:** Hearing about this weird, but mysterious place, Taro was curious to where he was being invited. He had never been satisfied with his small hometown, and he longed to see new places and do new things.

**Taro:** Okay, where is this place?

**Turtle:** Well, it's called Ryugu Castle, and well it's at the deepest part of the sea.

**Taro:** Okay. *(shocked)* Wait, what? Under the sea?! How am I supposed to get there?!

**Turtle:** Well, there is a whirlpool that leads straight to the castle, but you'll need a jet ski to get to the whirlpool. And, of course only creatures who live there know the exact location.

**Taro:** Oh, okay. I thought I had to go on your back or something *(laughing)*.

**Turtle:** *(laughing)* What year were you born in? That's just a pain in the ass.

**Taro:** True.

**Storyteller:** And with that, they sped off on their journey to Ryugu Castle, the mysterious castle under the sea.

## Scene 2

**Storyteller:** Taro and the turtle were in the middle of the sea, but they were getting closer and closer.

**Turtle:** And... we're here! We have to enter the whirlpool, and soon you will see my home, Ryugu Castle. Take this oxygen tank, and put it on.  
*(the turtle hands Taro a tank of oxygen)*

**Taro:** *(happily)* Thanks! Let's go!

**Turtle:** Nobody knows where my home is located except those that live there, but with this google map "waterproof version" you can also find your way!

**Taro:** Wow, great!

**Storyteller:** Taro and the turtle could see many kinds of colorful fish and coral under the sea. Taro was amazed at the wonderful view around him. And after a while...

**Taro:** Oh, now I can see the castle! It's so... huge.

**Turtle:** Welcome to my home, Ryugu Castle!

**Taro:** Wow it's gorgeous! And around the castle, there are so many kinds of lovely fish! This is so beautiful.

**Turtle:** I'm happy to hear that. Okay, so now let me introduce you to my master, the princess, *(with a loud voice)* Otohime.

**Storyteller:** The gate opened automatically with a fanfare music as a beautiful maiden approached them from the castle. "She smells better than any perfume," thought Taro.

**Otohime:** *(Smiling)* I was waiting for you, Mr. Urashima Taro. May I call you Taro? *(Taro nods)* Thank you so much for saving my turtle's life. Please make yourself at home.

**Storyteller:** Taro could say nothing because he had never met such a beautiful woman.

**Otohime:** *(a bit of confused because Taro said nothing)* Okay, let me entertain you.

**Taro:** *(with a nervous voice)* Thank you.

**Otohime:** Oh, and you must be hungry. Here are hundreds of dishes. Pick up whatever you like and please enjoy yourself.

**Taro:** Thank you so much, your majesty. *(eating)* ...Oh I love them! I have never tried so many kinds of delicious foods!

**Otohime:** Tempura, natto, okra, and what you just drunk was bubble tea, which is called tapioca here. You can find it on Instagram. That is popular among the youth.

**Taro:** *(surprised)* Bubble tea, tapioca? I've never heard of it, but it is really nice.

**Otohime:** I am glad to hear that. Okay, let's move on to the concert.  
*(Otohime walks to the center of the stage and the others move to the sides)*

**Taro:** That sounds like a great idea. I love concerts!

**Storyteller:** Now, on the center of the stage appeared Otohime. She was wearing dark glasses and holding a guitar.

**Otohime:** *(in a loud rock voice)* Are you ready, guys?

**Audience:** Yeah!

**Storyteller:** Otohime sang many songs. When Taro saw Otohime at first, he thought she was too bright and too beautiful. However, during the concert, she entertained Taro a lot. It was incredible to him, but deep inside he felt a certain longing.  
*(after the concert)*

**Taro:** I'd never dreamed of you singing rock music, breaking your guitar, headbanging! But that was wonderful. Thank you, Otohime. I have been enjoying my life here for several days, but... *(with a sad voice)* I miss my hometown now. Could you please allow me to return home?

**Otohime:** *(almost crying)* Oh well, I'm a little sad, but then that may be better for you. *(she calls the turtle and he brings something)* Let me give you this precious box as a goodbye present. This will remind you of your stay here. But listen...*(with a serious face)* Never open it. You promise?

**Taro:** *(staring at Otohime)* Of course. Thank you so much, Otohime!

### Scene 3

**Storyteller:** After Taro finished his visit at Ryugu Castle, Taro swam back through the sea, got on the jet ski, and returned to the shore and to his hometown.

**Taro:** *(walking cheerfully)* I'm back!

**Storyteller:** Taro was surprised by what he saw. There had been a lot of changes to the village.

**Taro:** *(confused searching everywhere)* Where am I? I can't find my house.

**Storyteller:** Taro got confused. He had no idea what had happened.

**Taro:** *(still searching)* Where is my mother?

**Storyteller:** Because of all the changes, Taro's mother was not there, and he missed her. Taro decided to call her.

**Taro:** *(typing her phone number and calling)* What? No answer? Hmm, what is she doing?

**Storyteller:** Nobody answered. He tweeted his feelings and his mysterious experiences at Ryugu Castle on Twitter.

**Taro:** *(typing to tweet)* What's happening...? Someone replied to my tweet so quickly?

**Storyteller:** Indeed, a man had replied to Taro's tweet.

**Taro:** *(reading his reply loudly)* "I've heard the story of a man with a sense of justice who helped a turtle who was being bullied by meddling kids. The man dove into the sea with a turtle and disappeared forever, but this story was over 100 years ago." What? Really? *(surprised)* Oh my god. I didn't know I had spent so much time at Ryugu Castle. It means. . .my mother. . . *(crying)* must have died alone. What have I done?! I'm so sorry. . .I'm really sorry, mother. . .I wanted to say "thank you" to you. You were always so kind. I loved you so much.

**Storyteller:** Taro cried all night long until he couldn't cry anymore.

**Taro:** *(stops crying)* It's really strange. Staying for only seven days at Ryugu Castle was about 100 years in the real world. Ryugu Castle must be a magical place!

**Storyteller:** Taro tried to find Ryugu-castle on Google maps.

**Taro:** *(typing)* Ryugu. . .castle!

**Storyteller:** But he could not find it.

**Taro:** *(tired)* Oh.. Nothing comes up. It seems that it doesn't exist. I don't even know the phone number. What can I do?

**Storyteller:** At that time, Taro remembered the box given to him by the princess.

**Taro:** *(Energetically)* I know! The princess' phone number must be in the box! I will open it!

**Storyteller:** Taro opened the box excitedly, even though the princess made him promise to never open it.

**Taro:** *(opening the box)* Her phone number is almost mine! Aaaaaaaa~

**Storyteller:** Suddenly, smoke rose out of the box, and it turned Taro into a turtle.

**Taro:** *(coughing)*. I feel strange, and it's difficult to walk.. *(Looking at his arms, and in shock)* I am a turtle? Oh my god! What happened to me!? I'm a turtle!

**Storyteller:** The next morning, Taro was caught and bullied by meddling kids on the beach.

**Kids:** *(Kicking and yelling at the turtle)* This turtle is so stupid!

**Taro:** Stop hitting me! It hurts.

**Storyteller:** At that time, a boy full of goodness and justice found Taro, the turtle, and scolded the meddling kids to stop bullying him.

**The boy:** *(approaching)* Hey! Stop bullying that poor turtle! Leave him alone and go away.

**Kids:** *(they went away silently)* Let's just go. Come on, let's leave.

**The boy:** Hi, poor turtle, are you ok?

**Taro:** Oh, please call me Taro, and yes, thanks a lot. I would have died without you. I will return the favor someday.

**The boy:** Don't worry, Taro, the turtle, I don't need anything in return.

**Storyteller:** That night, Taro thought deeply. He wanted to return the favor to the boy, but he had no idea what to do. The next day, Taro again saw the boy on the beach.

**Taro:** Hi! Thanks for yesterday!

**The boy:** You're welcome.

**Taro:** I have something to tell you. It's really important.

**The boy:** What?

**Taro:** You should say "thank you" to your mom and to the people around you. Nothing is better than this world and this simple life you live. This world is the best. This life is the best.

**The boy:** I know. I'm going to celebrate my mother's birthday today!

**Taro:** *(happily)* That's amazing. My mother's birthday is today too. She would have turned 150 years old today. But she died long ago, and I have no one.

**The boy:** Oh, I see. But you don't have to be lonely.

**Taro:** But I'm alone now.

**The boy:** Taro, you never have to be alone again. Please go home with me and my mother. It would be our pleasure to be your family.

**Storyteller:** And with that, Taro found a new home and was never lonely or unsatisfied with his life again.

**The End**

# Revenge of the Child Crab

2020

*A modern, English adaptation of the traditional Japanese folktale, Saru Kani Gassen (The Monkey and the Crab)*

## Authors:

Scene 1 – Moe Nagasawa

Scene 2 – Soya Suzuki

Scene 3 – Yakutaka Yamaguchi

Scene 4 – Ayuka Tsuzuku

## Characters:

Narrator

Monkey

Mother Crab

Child Crab

Virus

Smartphone Owner (S.P. Owner)

Uber Eats Driver (Driver)



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## Scene 1

**Narrator:** Once upon a time, there was a sick mother crab and her child. One day, they walked along the beach peacefully, but they were also very hungry.

*(Mother crab and child crab enter.)*

**Mother Crab:** *(Sadly)* I'm sorry. I can't find any food because of my disease. You must be so hungry.

**Child Crab:** Don't worry, mom. I'm fine because I can drink some water.

**Mother Crab:** But you and I haven't had any food for 3 days. Our bodies won't stand it anymore. I wish we could get something to eat.

**Narrator:** They come upon a monkey sitting on a beach surrounded a lot of ripe persimmons.

**Monkey:** How delicious those persimmons look! One, two, three, four ... Oh! I have so many, and they're all mine, mine, mine. I can't wait to eat them all.

**Mother Crab:** *(In a weak voice)* Excuse me. I'm sorry to ask you suddenly, but could you spare some persimmons? We are so poor, and my child is so hungry. Please, we are having a lot of trouble.

**Monkey:** *(feigning sympathy)* Well, I think they may not be ripe enough. If your child eats these unripe persimmons, he will feel sick. I'm a good monkey, so I don't want you

guys to be sick. *(thinking)* OK! I will check first. *(eating quickly)* Mmmmmm. Sweet and delicious. These are good to eat.

**Mother Crab:** Excuse me. Please give us some. My baby is starving to death.

**Monkey:** *(cutting Mother crab off)* High-quality persimmons... Oh, I ate them all. There are only seeds left.

**Mother Crab:** Ah...Don't eat them all...

**Monkey:** Eh? Pardon?

*(Monkey ignores mother crab and goes away.)*

**Mother Crab:** I thought he would share at least one, but...*(Regrettably)* I'm so sorry.

**Child Crab:** It's not your fault. What a mean monkey he is.

**Mother Crab:** Wait. *(Finding something in the sand)* It's a smartphone.

**Child Crab:** Mom, I heard that smartphones are very useful.

*(Monkey approaches them after seeing that they had found a smartphone.)*

**Monkey:** Hello again, mother crab and cute baby. *(reaching for the phone greedily)* What did you find there?

**Mother Crab:** Do you need something from me? Keep away, or I'll pinch you with my claw.

**Monkey:** Don't be so angry, mother. What I'm going to say is good for you too. Anyway, how can you use a smartphone when you only have claws?

**Mother Crab:** Err. *(not knowing what to say)*

**Monkey:** Yeah, you can't. You must know that you can't use a smartphone with only your claws. So, would you like to exchange persimmon seeds for that smartphone? If you grow these persimmon seeds, you and your child can eat a lot of persimmons. You guys are no longer in need of food. I was saving them all for you.

*(Mother crab puts down smartphone, and the monkey grabs it.)*

**Monkey:** Silly crab.

*(Monkey picks it up and throws seeds at her.)*

**Mother Crab:** Ouch, Ouch! Hey! Stop throwing seeds.

**Monkey:** Ha-ha! I got your smartphone now, and you have only worthless seeds instead. Bye bye.

*(Monkey runs away, while someone enters looking for something.)*

**Mother Crab:** Hello? What are you doing here? Did you lose something?

**S.P. Owner:** Do you know where my smartphone is? I lost it earlier, and I've been looking for it everywhere.

**Mother Crab:** Oh! It's yours! Sorry, that monkey took it. *(Pointing to the monkey)*

*(Smartphone owner chases after the monkey. Mother crab and child crab leave sadly. Monkey runs and re-enters.)*

**Monkey:** Who was that man? He suddenly chased after me, but he couldn't keep up with the speed of my feet. Oh, I'm hungry again. Oh, I can order Uber Eats with my new smartphone. What should I eat? Alright, I'll order a hamburger, French fries, noodle, pizza, curry, pasta, bento, and tapioca. And I can charge it all to that man.

## Scene 2

- Narrator:** After the monkey and the owner ran away, the mother crab and her child went back to their home.
- Child Crab:** Although we gave the monkey that smartphone, we got persimmon seeds. These persimmon seeds could allow us to be full! Let`s plant this quickly!
- Mother Crab:** You`re right. We should be able to eat a lot of persimmons. *(Taking seeds and planting them)*
- Child Crab:** Yeah, I`m looking forward to eating a lot of persimmons. I can`t wait!
- Narrator:** They wait for days and days but nothing grew.
- Child Crab:** Hmmm, nothing is growing at all. I don`t know why.
- Mother Crab:** Hey, persimmon seeds, why don`t you come out of the ground!? We will die if we don`t eat something right now. Why do we always have such bad luck?  
*(The monkey passes nearby the crab home.)*
- Monkey:** Ha-ha! You didn`t know it takes a few decades for seeds to grow into trees? You are stupid to exchange the smartphone for those worthless seeds, hee-hee!  
*(The monkey leaves)*
- Mother Crab:** Uhhh! The monkey cheated me! What are we to do!?! *(they begin to cry)*
- Narrator:** Mother crab and her child can fell asleep and their tears poured over the seeds just like rain. Little did they know, the seeds grew into beautiful trees overnight.
- Child Crab:** *(Waking up)* Mom, look! The seeds grew into trees! It must be magic. I don`t understand.
- Mother Crab:** Wow! What good fortune, but we still can`t eat anything because there are no ripe persimmons. What should we do?
- Child Crab:** Hmmm... I know! I`ve heard that when we let plants listen to the music, they can produce a lot of fruit.
- Mother Crab:** Nice idea! Let`s sing together!
- Crabs:** *(Singing)* Simmon tree, Simmon tree, hurry up and give us fruit. If you don`t, I`ll pinch you right in two. *(repeat twice)*
- Narrator:** And just like that, ripe fruit suddenly began to grow on the tree, the most delicious looking persimmons they had ever seen.
- Mother Crab:** Their branches are heavy with ripe persimmons! The persimmons look so tasty.
- Child Crab:** At last, we can eat a lot of persimmons. We are no longer in trouble with food!  
*(The monkey heard this rumor and returned to the crab home.)*
- Monkey:** What happened!? The seeds have grown into a tree so quickly, and there are so many tasty, ripe persimmons hanging from the tree. I want to eat them. *(with an evil smile)* Hey, Mrs. Crab, you`re a genius. However, the fruit you had worked so hard for hangs far over your head, hopelessly out of reach. So, could I help you get your persimmons? *(Standing up respectfully)*
- Mother Crab:** *(confused)* You may be right... Ok, I will ask you to help us, but you know they are ours, right?
- Monkey:** *(climbs the tree and begins to eat persimmons)* Ok, Ok. I`ll choose one for you. *(eats a persimmon)* Mmmm, Dee-licious!
- Mother Crab:** *(Angry)* Stop! Stop eating our persimmons!

**Monkey:** Ha-ha! You are so stupid! All the persimmons are mine because you can't climb!

**Mother Crab:** *(Crying)* Please, Please!

**Child Crab:** *(Crying)* Don't eat all of our persimmons. Please!.

**Monkey:** Ok, Ok. I'll find one just for you. Here, take this.  
*(Monkey throws an unripe persimmon at Mother Crab)*

**Mother Crab:** Ouch! Stop! That hurts. No, no ouch!  
*(Monkey continues to throw the persimmons. Mother Crab falls to the ground)*

**Monkey:** Yes, strike! Aah! As I am full and satisfied, I'll go home. Bye, Mrs. Crab.  
*(Monkey runs away, laughing, Mother crab is lying on the ground)*

**Child Crab:** *(with concern)* Mama! Mama! Are you OK?

**Mother Crab:** *(in the weak voice)* Don't be worried about me. However, I just hope one thing.

**Child Crab:** What's that?

**Mother Crab:** *(in a weak voice)* Please take revenge on the monkey, my son....

**Child Crab:** Sure, we can do it together. I'll definitely do it.

**Mother Crab:** *(with a weak smile, silence)* .....

**Child Crab:** *(beginning to cry)* Mama? Mamaaaaaaa!  
*(Mother Crab dies)*

**Child Crab:** *(wipes away tears and shakes with rage)* I will never forgive or forget the wicked monkey. I will take my revenge.

### Scene 3

**Narrator:** Many years pass after the tragedy. The child crab had grown up and he decided that the time was right to take action.

**Child Crab:** I've grown up enough. Now, it's time to get my revenge.  
*(The child crab leaves the house.)*

**Virus:** Wait! Are you the child of the Mother crab who died so many years ago?

**Child Crab:** Who is it!?! *(looks back surprised)*

**Virus:** I'm the virus which was in your mother's body. I am very sorry for the bad things that I did to her, but I saw what the monkey did also, and I have decided to help you get revenge on him. Please let me go with you.

**Child Crab:** *(Considering)* I cannot fully forgive you, but I'm glad you are on my side. Come with me! I think you can be useful.

**Virus:** I can definitely be useful to you and help avenge your mother. Let's do this!

**Narrator:** After walking for a while, they come across with the Smartphone owner.

**S.P. Owner:** Hi, where are you going?

**Child Crab:** We're heading to the monkey's house to get revenge.

**S.P. Owner:** Really? Actually, I had my smartphone stolen by the monkey. Can I go with you?  
*(In an angry voice)* I want to teach him a lesson.

**Child Crab:** *(a little surprised)* Oh, you are the owner of that smartphone. Of course. Come with us!

**Virus:** Let's get your smart phone back too!

**Child Crab:** And... *(hesitantly)* I must tell you something.

**S.P. Owner:** What?

**Child Crab:** The monkey has ordered a lot of food on Uber Eats with your smartphone...He is charging a lot of money to you.

**S.P. Owner:** I... I'm very afraid of the invoices. Does he expect me to pay for his reckless behavior?

**Narrator:** The child crab and Virus met the Smartphone owner, and they all went on together. Next, they encountered the Uber Eats driver.

**Driver:** *(tired and hot from riding his bicycle all day)* Why am I cycling with this heavy load on my back all day long...?

**Child Crab:** Hello, Uber Eats driver! How are you doing?

**Driver:** *(breathing heavily and frustrated)* Hey. I'm starting to hate my job.

**Virus:** What's wrong?

**Driver:** I often deliver food to the monkey, but he has never paid for it. In addition, he forces me to take out his trash.

**S.P. Owner:** That's terrible. Actually, we are going to get back at the Monkey now.

**Driver:** Wow. What good timing. I'm coming with you. I want to pay back that awful Monkey too. Let's go.

**Narrator:** The child crab, Virus, the smartphone owner, and the Uber Eats driver teamed up and continued their walk toward the monkey's house.

## Scene 4

**Narrator:** All the members of the revenge party, the Child crab, the Virus, the Smartphone owner, and the Uber Eats driver arrived at the monkey's house. They talked about their plan to get revenge on the monkey.

*(Virus, smartphone owner, Uber Eats driver, and child crab enter.)*

**Child Crab:** Ok, what shall we do to get revenge on the monkey? Who has an idea?

**Virus:** Ok. First, I could enter the monkey's body and make him weak.

**S.P. Owner:** Well then, I could take my smartphone back and spread the monkey's wrongdoing on SNS. In fact, when I lost my smartphone on the beach, the camera was still recording. *(In a hopeful voice)* So, the recorded videos could show the monkey's wrongdoing.

**Child Crab:** Surely, that will make him weak physically and mentally. *(full of determination)* When he is sick and embarrassed, I'll pinch the monkey again and again.

**Driver:** OK. and I'll finally throw all of the Monkey's garbage back at him. The monkey will be crushed under the weight of the garbage.

**Child Crab:** *(In a determined voice)* Good. Let's start.

**Narrator:** At last, the revenge of the child crab and his friends started.

*(Monkey is lying on the floor and using the smartphone. They break inside of his house.)*

**Virus:** *(In an angry voice)* I'm a virus. I'll make you be sick.

*(Virus gets near the monkey. Monkey starts coughing and itching.)*

**Monkey:** (coughs) Suddenly, I don't feel so good. I feel sick. I think I'm going to vomit (heaves).

*(Smartphone owner enters the house.)*

**S.P. Owner:** Oh! *(Pointing his finger at his smartphone)* That's my smartphone! *(In an angry voice)* How dare you steal my smartphone! I'm spreading your wrongdoing on SNS. *(clicks the phone)* send, send, send, SEND!

**Narrator:** The Smartphone owner operated his smartphone and spread the Monkey's embarrassing videos all over the internet.

**Monkey:** Stop! Stop! Oh my god! Everyone will blame me, and my life will be ruined. No. Don't destroy my reputation.

*(Child crab enters.)*

**Child Crab:** *(In an angry voice)* Monkey! How dare you kill my mother! I've never forgiven you. *(pinches the monkey)* Take this and this and this and this.

**Monkey:** Ouch! Ouch! *(In a panic)* I'm sorry for my cruel treatment of your mother.

*(Uber Eats driver enters.)*

**Driver:** *(In a slow and heavy voice)* Monkey, your wrongdoing is not only cruel, it's wasteful and greedy. I delivered a lot of food many times, but you never paid. What's more, you made me take your garbage. *(In an angry voice)* I can't stand it anymore. Here, take all your garbage back. You're the king of garbage.

*(Uber Eats driver throws all the garbage on the monkey.)*

**Monkey:** *(In a painful voice)* It's so heavy. Heavy. Take it off! I can't breathe. *(Monkey gives a groan.)*

*(Monkey stops moving.)*

**Child Crab:** *(After a short pause and in a voice as if he doubts the monkey died.)* Did the monkey die? It serves him right.

**Driver:** It looks like it. *(In a very kind voice)* You got your revenge, child crab. I'm sure that your mother is proud of you in heaven.

**Child Crab:** *(In a bright voice)* Thank you, Uber Eats driver. Thank you, everyone, for helping me to get revenge.

**Driver:** No problem. I'm happy to help you. *(After a short pause)* By the way, we beat the monkey, so why don't we have a party?

**Child Crab:** *(Cheerfully)* Yeah!

**S.P. Owner:** That sounds great. Well, leave it to me. I took my smartphone back. I'll order a giant pot from Amazon. Let's cook the monkey.

*(They all cheer.)*

**Narrator:** After the pot was delivered, the group of new friends, who had defeated the Monkey, cooked him in the pot and ate every delicious bite. Finally, the child crab and the crab's friends lived happily ever after.

**The End**



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