

September 20, 1895, afternoon

Shiki

I was feeling better than usual today, so I urged Rokudō, who had just called on me, to go on my first walk. We left Gudabutsuan. Soon I felt the autumn wind was softly blowing on my back, and it wasn't too hot. Through Tamagawachō, we reached the outskirts of town. Everything I saw pleased me.

杖によりて町を出づれハ稲の花

tsue ni yorite machi o izureba ine no hana

going out of town
using a cane
rice in flower

秋高し鳶舞ひ沈む城の上

aki takashi tobi maishizumu shiro no ue

high autumn sky —
a kite dipping and soaring
above the castle

Rambling Walks Collection

大寺の施餓鬼過ぎたる芭蕉かな

ōdera no segaki sugitaru bashō kana

the large temple

after the *segaki* service

Japanese banana plant

秋晴れて見かくれぬべき山もなし

aki harete mikakurenu beki yama mo nashi

clear autumn day

even the mountains usually hidden

can be seen

秋の山松鬱として常信寺

aki no yama matsu utsu toshite jōshinji

autumn mountain —

dark with pine trees

Jōshinji Temple

segaki: An annual Buddhist service, usually held in late August, for the repose of the dead.

Rambling Walks Collection

草の花少しありけば道後なり

kusa no hana sukoshi arikeba dōgo nari

flowering autumn grasses

it's a short walk

to Dōgo

高縄や稲の葉末の五里六里

takanawa ya ine no hazue no gori rokuri

Mt. Takanawa

twenty kilos beyond

fields of rice blade tips

砂土手や山をかざして櫨紅葉

sunadote ya yama o kazashite hazemomiji

embankment —

red wax trees

decorating the hills

Rambling Walks Collection

砂土手や西日を受けて蕎麦の花
sunadote ya nishibi o ukete soba no hana

embankment —
flowering buckwheat
in the setting sun

蜻蛉の御幸寺見おろす日和哉
tombō no miyukiji miorosu hiyori kana

fine day
a dragonfly looks down on
Miyukiji Temple

露草や野川の鮒のささ濁り
tsuyukusa ya nogawa no funa no sasanigori

dayflowers —
a crucian stirring
the stream

Rambling Walks Collection

虫鳴くや花露草の晝の露

mushi naku ya hana-tsuyukusa no hiru no tsuyu

insects singing —

afternoon dew

on the dayflowers

肥溜のいくつも並ぶ野菊哉

koedame no ikutsu mo narabu nogiku kana

several night soil pits

in a row

wild asters

秋澄みたり魚中に浮て底の影

aki sumitari uo naka ni ukite soko no kage

autumn clarity

a fish floating midwater

its shadow on the bottom

Rambling Walks Collection

底見えて魚見えて秋の水深し

soko miete uo miete aki no mizu fukashi

I can see the bottom

I can see the fish

deep autumn water

飛びハせて川に落ちたる蝻哉

tobi wa se de kawa ni ochitaru inago kana

without flying

a locust fell

into the river

蓼短く秋の小川の溢れたり

tade mijikaku aki no ogawa no afuretare

low knotweeds

the autumn stream

is full

Rambling Walks Collection

兀山をこえて吹きけり秋の風

hageyama o koete fukikeri aki no kaze

blowing over
the bald mountain
autumn wind

五六反叔父がつくりし糸瓜哉

go roku tan oji ga tsukurishi hechima kana

my uncle farms
about an acre
sponge gourds

馬の杓換ふるや櫨の紅葉散る

uma no kutsu kauru ya haze no momiji chiru

changing straw horseshoes —
red wax tree leaves
are falling

Rambling Walks Collection

六尺の竹の梢や鶇の声

rokushaku no take no kozue ya mozu no koe

bamboo treetops

six feet high

a shrike's call

We climbed up the bank and turned toward Ishiteji Temple.

野径曲がれり十歩の中に秋の山

nomichi magareri jippo no naka ni aki no yama

turning from the field path

the autumn mountain is

within ten steps

ほし店の鬼灯吹くや秋の風

hoshimise no hōzuki fuku ya aki no kaze

autumn wind —

blowing into a lantern plant pod

at the open market

Rambling Walks Collection

南無大師石手の寺よ稲の花

namu daishi ishite no tera yo ine no hana

merciful Daishi

the temple in Ishite

flowering rice

二の門は二町奥なり稲の花

ni-no-mon wa ni chō oku nari ine no hana

the second gate

is 200 meters further

flowering rice

Resting in the teahouse in front of the temple gate, I
refreshed my tiredness with a cup of bitter tea.

駄菓子売る茶店の門の柿青し

dagashi uru chamise no mon no kaki aoshi

the persimmons are green

selling snacks

by the gate of the teahouse

Rambling Walks Collection

人もなし駄菓子の上の秋の蠅

hito mo nashi dagashi no ue no aki no hae

nobody around —

an autumn fly

over the snacks

裏口や出入りにさはる稲の花

uraguchi ya deiri ni sawaru ine no hana

the back entrance —

brushed by the flowering rice

going in and out

Crossing the bridge, I prayed at the temple. This is the 51st
temple of the pilgrimage.

見あぐれば塔の高さよ秋の空

miagureba tō no takasa yo aki no sora

looking up at

the height of the pagoda

autumn sky

Rambling Walks Collection

秋の山五重の塔に並びけり

aki no yama gojū no tō ni narabikeri

autumn mountain

in line with

the five-story pagoda

通夜堂の前に粟干す日向哉

tsuyadō no mae ni awa hosu hinata kana

drying foxtail millet

in front of the Tsuyadō hall

in the sun

When I sat on the edge of the veranda of Daishidō hall to catch my breath, I noticed a piece of white paper nearby. Curious, I opened it and saw “unlucky”, #24 of the temple’s fortune papers. It said, “Illness would be prolonged, but not life-threatening”. It was strange that it perfectly fit me.

Rambling Walks Collection

身の上や御鬮を引けば秋の風

minoue ya mikuji o hikeba aki no kaze

my lot indeed

as the fortune-paper says

autumn wind

山陰や寺吹き暮るゝ秋の風

yamakage ya tera fuki kururu aki no kaze

the shade of the mountain —

an autumn wind blowing through

the darkening temple

I left the temple and headed for Dōgo to go home.

駒とめて何事問ふそ毛見の人

koma tomete nanigoto tou zo kemi no hito

a tax officer

reining in his horse

what is he asking?

Rambling Walks Collection

芙蓉見えてさすがに人の声ゆかし

fuyō miete sasugani hito no koe yukashi

cotton roses in view
the people's voices
are suitably genteel

にくにくと赤き色なり唐辛子

nikuniku to akaki iro nari tōgarashi

those chili peppers
are
terribly red

We walked along the moat of Otakeyabu.

古濠や腐った水に柳ちる

furubori ya kusatta mizu ni yanagi chiru

the old moat
willow leaves falling
on stagnant water

Rambling Walks Collection

水草の花まだ白し秋の風

mizukusa no hana mada shiroshi aki no kaze

flowers of the water grass

still white

autumn wind

秋の山御幸寺と申し天狗住む

aki no yama mikiji to mōshi tengu sumu

the autumn mountain

called Mikiji

where *tengu* lives

四方に秋の山をめぐらす城下哉

yomo ni aki no yama o megurasu jōka kana

the castle town

surrounded by autumn mountains

in all directions

Rambling Walks Collection

稲の香や野末ハ暮れて汽車の音
ine no ka ya nozue wa kurete kisha no oto

rice plant scent —
far-off fields are getting dark
the sound of a train

鶏頭の丈を揃へたる土塀哉
keitō no se o soroetaru dobei kana

earthen wall
the cockscombs
are the same height

稲の香に人居らずなりぬ避病院
ine no ka ni hito orazu narinu hibiōin

the scent of rice plants
no one is in
the isolation hospital

Rambling Walks Collection

秋風や何堂彼堂弥勒堂

akikaze ya nanidō kadō mirokudō

autumn wind —

one hall, another hall

and Mirokudō hall

護摩堂にさしこむ秋の日脚哉

gomadō ni sashikomu aki no hiashi kana

in the Gomadō hall

a shaft of

autumn sunlight

September 21, 1895, afternoon

Shiki

The sky was a little cloudy, but it was not raining. Urged to go out by the three fellows — Aishō, Rokudō, and Baioku —, we passed below the hospital and turned back at the foot of Mt. Mikiji. I composed haiku on the way and back.

秋の城山は赤松ばかり哉

aki no shiro yama wa akamatsu bakari kana

the castle in autumn
nothing but red pine
on the mountain

牛行くや毘沙門阪の秋の暮

ushi yuku ya bishamonzaka no aki no kure

an ox moving along
Bishamonzaka hill road
autumn evening

Rambling Walks Collection

社壇百級秋の空へと登る人

shadan hyakkyū aki no sora e to noboru hito

a man going up
a hundred steps to the shrine
toward the autumn sky

Two haiku at Jōrakuji Temple

狸死に狐留守なり秋の風

tanuki shini kitsune rusu nari aki no kaze

the raccoon dog is dead
the fox is away
autumn wind

松が根になまめき立てる芙蓉哉

matsugane ni namameki tateru fuyō kana

cotton rose
standing amorously
beside the pine tree

Rambling Walks Collection

箒木の箒にもならず秋暮ぬ

hōkigi no hōki ni mo narazu aki kurenu

the broom cypress

not yet made into brooms

late autumn

ところところ家かたまりぬ稲の中

tokorodokoro ie katamarinu ine no naka

here and there

clusters of houses

in the rice fields

稲の花四五人かたりつゝ歩行く

ine no hana shigo-nin kataritsutsu ariku

flowering rice

four or five men

walking and talking

Rambling Walks Collection

道の辺や荊かくれに野菊咲く

michi no be ya ibara gakure ni nogiku saku

beside the road
wild asters blooming
through thorny bushes

堂崩れて地藏残りぬ草の花

dō kuzurete jizō nokorinu kusa no hana

broken-down shrine
only a Jizō statue left standing
wildflowers

道はたに蔓草まとふ木槿哉

michibata ni tsurukusa matou mukuge kana

by the roadside
creepers entwine
rose of Sharon

Rambling Walks Collection

叢やきよろりとしたる曼珠沙花

kusamura ya kyorori to shitaru manjushage

thick growth

red spider lilies

unconcerned

蓼の穂や裸子桶をさげて行く

tade no ho ya hadakago oke o sageteyuku

flowering smartweed —

a naked boy goes

holding a wooden tub

I will select one of the two autumn water haiku.

静かさに礫うちけり秋の水

shizukasa ni tsubute uchikeri aki no mizu

in the silence

I threw a stone

autumn water

Rambling Walks Collection

投げこんだ礫沈みぬ秋の水

nagekonda tsubute shizuminu aki no mizu

the stone I threw

sank

autumn water

山本や寺は黄檗杉は秋

yamamoto ya tera wa ōbaku sugi wa aki

at the foot of the mountain

an Ōbaku temple

autumn cedar

画をかきし僧今あらず寺の秋

e o kakishi sō ima arazu tera no aki

the priest who painted

is no longer here

autumn of the temple

Rambling Walks Collection

秋の水天狗の影やうつらん

aki no mizu tengu no kage ya utsuru ran

autumn water
a *tengu* might be
reflected there

松山の城を載せたり稲むしろ

matsuyama no shiro o nosetari inamushiro

fields of ripened rice
topped by
the castle of Matsuyama

稲の香の雨ならんとして燕飛ぶ

ine no ka no ame naran to shite tsubame tobu

swallows flying
the scent of rice plants
it looks like rain

Rambling Walks Collection

秋の日の高石懸に落ちにけり

aki no hi no takaishigake ni ochinikeri

autumn sun

setting over

Takaishigake Wall

草の花練兵場は荒れにけり

kusa no hana rempeijō wa arenikeri

flowering autumn grass

the drilling field is

overgrown

武家町の畠になりぬ秋茄子

bukemachi no hatake ni narinu akinasubi

growing in a field

of the samurai quarter

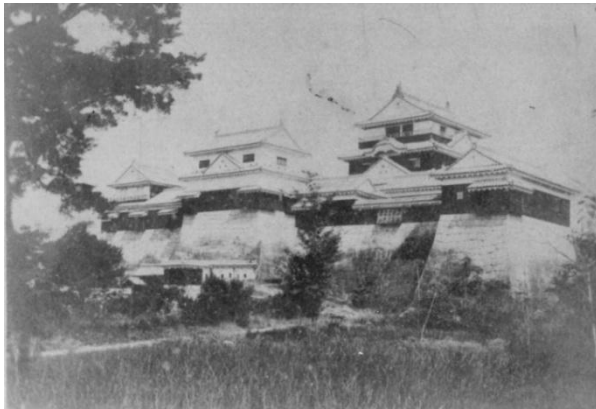
autumn eggplants

Rambling Walks Collection

人もなし杉谷町の藪の秋

hito mo nashi sugitanimachi no yabu no aki

no one to be seen
in Sugitanimachi
autumn grove



Matsuyama Castle

(Taken sometime in the Meiji Era 1868-1912)

October 2, 1895

Shiki

The rain has increased day by day since the end of last month. For a few days I was very excited and kept getting up and going back to bed, concentrating on the gathering for linked verse. I had a heavy nosebleed on the morning of the 25th. Soon it stopped and I spent the rest of the day in a linked verse gathering as usual. The next morning, the 26th, I wrote this haiku.

逆上の人朝がほに遊ぶべし

gyakujō no hito asagao ni asobu beshi

this frenzied man
should be enjoying
the morning glories

I enjoyed writing haiku, but I had a terrible nosebleed like yesterday. Yet, my condition was not so bad as to turn away visitors. So, in the afternoon, I was explaining this and that about linked verse to the participants and having a pleasant chat with them. But then I started having a slight nosebleed, just a few drops. Finally, I was afraid I had to end the session. Everyone stayed to take care of me. On the 27th, I had a light intermittent nosebleed which didn't stop, so I stayed quiet in

Rambling Walks Collection

bed and the bleeding stopped completely on the 28th. Four or five days have passed since then, and as the weather gradually improved and I got better, I wanted to go out for a walk. So I left my house alone in the afternoon on October 2nd. I rested at Fujino's house, again at Ōhara's, crossed the Nakanokawa River to go out into the suburbs, passed Hakkenya, followed the train tracks and climbed the bank of the Ishitegawa River. The following haiku were composed along the way.

木槿咲く塀や昔の武家屋敷

mukuge saku hei ya mukashi no buke-yashiki

a wall

with a rose of Sharon in bloom

an old samurai house

朝顔や裏這ひまはる八軒家

asagao ya ura haimawaru hakkenya

morning glories

spreading all over in the back

Hakkenya

Rambling Walks Collection

大根の二葉に秋の日さしかな
daikon no futaba ni aki no hizashi kana

daikon sprouts
in the light
of the autumn sun

真宗の伽藍いかめし稲の花
shinshū no garan ikameshi ine no hana

dignified
the Shinshū temple
rice flowers

A statue of the Goddess of Mercy called Taki no Kannon

線香の煙に向ふ蜻蛉かな
senkō no kemuri ni mukau tombo kana

going toward
the incense smoke
a dragonfly

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汽車道をありけば近し稲の花

kishamichi o arikeba chikashi ine no hana

it's closer

if you go by the railroad track

flowering rice

Passing the house of Mr. Uraya

花木槿雲林先生恙なきや

hanamukuge unrin sensei tsutsuganaki ya

rose of Sharon

is Unrin sensei

still healthy?

稲の花今津の海の光りけり

ine no hana imazu no umi no hikari keri

flowering rice

the sea of Imazu is

shimmering

Rambling Walks Collection

I went west along the levee for two or three hundred meters.
Then from the ferry dock near the crematory I came to the
back of the prison. Having passed west of Yakushiji Temple, I
came back to Hakkenya.

代る代る礫うちたる木の実哉

kawaru gawaru tsubute uchitaru konomi kana

one after another
nuts are dropping
like pebbles

Countless red spider lilies are blooming beside a herd of
grazing cows...

ひょっと葉は牛が喰ふたか曼珠沙華

hyotto ha wa ushi ga kūta ka manjushage

red spider lilies
did the cow
eat the leaves?

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四本五本はてはものうし曼珠沙華

shihon gohon hate wa monoushi manjushage

four, five, finally

I'm so weary

red spider lilies

草むらや土手ある限り曼珠沙華

kusamura ya dote aru kagiri manjushage

grassy fields

as far as the levee goes

red spider lilies

砂川や浅瀬に魚の肌寒し

sunagawa ya asase ni uo no hada samushi

sandy river

fish in the shallows

autumn chill

Rambling Walks Collection

花瘦せぬ秋にわづらふ野撫子

hana yasenu aki ni wazurau nonadeshiko

the flowers have faded
under the weather in autumn
wild pinks

馬士去て鵂鳴て土手の淋しさよ

mago satte mozu naite dote no sabishisa yo

the horse and handler have gone
a shrike is crying
deserted levee

石塔の沈めるも見えて秋の水

sekitō no shizumeru mo miete aki no mizu

a sunken gravestone
can be seen
clear autumn water

Rambling Walks Collection

豊年や稲の穂がくれ雀鳴く

hōnen ya ine no ho-gakure suzume naku

an abundant year —
from under the rice ears
sparrows' chirps

秋風や焼場のあとの卵塔場

akikaze ya yakiba no ato no rantōba

autumn wind —
after the crematory
a graveyard

庄屋殿の棺行くなり稲の中

shōya-dono no hitsugi yuku nari ine no naka

the casket of the village headman
passing through
the rice field

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Two haiku at Yakushiji Temple

我見しより久しきひよんの木実哉

ware mishi yori hisashiki hyon no konomi kana

it's been ages
since I saw them
nuts on the *hyon* tree

寺清水西瓜も見えず秋老いぬ

tera shimizu suika mo miezu aki oinu

not even watermelons
to be seen in the temple spring
deepening autumn

October 6, 1895

Shiki

Today was Sunday. The weather was fine. I felt better. I had a sudden desire to go out and went to Dōgo with Soseki. There was an unceasing stream of travelers going to bathe in the grand three-story building.

The view from the top of the hot spring building

柿の木にとりまかれたる温泉哉
kaki no ki ni torimakaretaru ideyu kana

the hot spring
surrounded by
persimmon trees

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Heading for Sagidani

山本やうしろ上に蕎麦の花

yamamoto ya ushiroagari ni soba no hana

the foot of the hill
buckwheat flowers
on the slope

黄檗の山門深き芭蕉哉

ōbaku no sanmon fukaki bashō kana

Japanese banana trees
the Ōbaku temple gate
deeply recessed

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Looking back at Dōgo

稲の穂に温泉の町低し二百軒

ine no ho ni yu no machi hikushi nihyakken

ripened rice

the hot spring town lies below

two hundred houses

Although I looked for the tombstone of a person I knew, in the end I couldn't find it. Since several years had passed since she died, the number of tombstones in the cemetery had increased.

花芒墓いづれとも見定めず

hanasusuki haka izure tomo misadamezu

flowering Japanese pampas grass

I couldn't find the tombstone

anywhere

Rambling Walks Collection

We turned back and had a good time at a place called
Kagetsutei in the Akei ravine.

柿の木や宮司か宿の門がまへ
kaki no ki ya gūji ga yado no mongamae

persimmon tree —
at the chief priest's house
a stately gate

百日紅梢ばかりの寒さ哉
sarusuberi kozue bakari no samusa kana

crape myrtle
the top all bare —
coldness

Rambling Walks Collection

亭ところどころ溪に橋ある紅葉かな
tei tokorodokoro kei ni hashi aru momiji kana

the restaurant and
bridges here and there in the ravine
red maple leaves

We visited Hōgonji Temple after passing through Matsugaechō. This temple is said to be the sacred birthplace of St. Ippen, who was the greatest figure to ever come from this area. I feel sad to see the willow in front of the gate of the red-light district, not inviting people but hanging sadly over the ancient stone monument marking the birthplace of St. Ippen.

古塚や恋のさめたる柳散る
furuzuka ya koi no sametaru yanagi chiru

ancient monument —
willow leaves fall
love gone cool

Rambling Walks Collection

Sitting on the base of the temple gate of Hōgonji.

色里や十歩はなれて秋の風

irozato ya juppo hanarete aki no kaze

the red-light district

ten steps away

autumn wind

On the way back, Soseki stopped in front of a theater on Ōkaidō and said, “Let’s watch *Teniwa Kyōgen*.” It was in the middle of *Ebira* when we got in. Just for fun, I wrote one haiku for each play.

紅梅のちりちりに敵逃げにけり

kōbai no chirijiri ni teki nigenikeri

red plum blossoms

the enemy scattered

in all directions

Rambling Walks Collection

Kyōgen: Shidōhōgaku

狂ひ馬花見の人を散らしけり

kurui uma hanami no hito o chirashikeri

a raging horse
cherry blossom viewers
scattered

Noh: *Kanawa*

蟬燭にすさまじき夜の嵐哉

rōsoku ni susamajiki yo no arashi kana

candlelight
a cold night
storm

Rambling Walks Collection

Kyōgen: Jishaku

長き夜や夢にひろひし二貫文
nagaki yo ya yume ni hiroishi ni-kanmon

a long night
I found two coins
in my dream

Noh: *Ataka*

剛力になりおほせたる若葉哉
gōriki ni nariōsetaru wakaba kana

young leaves
the mountain porter disguise
worked well

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Kyōgen: San'nin katawa

三人のかたはよりけり秋の暮

san'nin no katawa yorikeri aki no kure

three disabled people
banding together
autumn evening

Noh: Tsuchigumo

蜘蛛殺すあとの淋しき夜寒哉

kumo korosu ato no samishiki yosamu kana

after killing a spider
I'm lonely
cold night

Though Kosaku is a woman, she is an excellent actor.

男郎花は男にばけし女哉

otokoeshi wa otoko ni bakeshi on'na kana

otokoeshi

is a woman

disguised as a man



The theater on Ōkaidō

The flower name, *otokoeshi*, has the word for man, *otoko*, in Japanese. It was used as a play on words.

October 7, 1895

Shiki

Seigetsu in Imazu asked me to visit him for a day and I promised to do so. When the time came, it kept drizzling for some days, which put me back in bed. For more than ten days after that, Seigetsu kept sending letters inviting me to come. Today, the 7th, the fine weather raised my spirits and on impulse I decided to hire a rickshaw and go to Imazu. On the way I visited Isshuku at Shōjūji Temple and asked him to accompany me, but he didn't for some reason.

朝寒やたのもとひびく内玄関

asazamu ya tanomo to hibiku uchigenkan

morning chill
my “anybody home?” echoes
in the entry

I drew near to Ogurijinja Shrine.

男ばかりと見えて案山子の哀れなり

otoko bakari to miete kakashi no aware nari

the scarecrows
all seem to be men
what a pity

Rambling Walks Collection

稲筵あさひわつかにのぼりけり
inamushiro asahi wazuka ni noborikeri

over the ripened rice field
a sliver of
the rising sun

鉄砲のかすかにひゞく野菊かな
teppō no kasuka ni hibiku nogiku kana

the faint echo
of guns —
wild asters

御所柿に雄郡祭の用意哉
goshogaki ni ogurimatsuri no yōi kana

goshogaki persimmons
preparing for
the Oguri Festival

Rambling Walks Collection

秋茄子小きはものゝなつかしき

akinasubi chisaki wa monono natsukashiki

autumn eggplants

even a small one

brings back memories

稲の穂やうるちはものゝいやしかり

inenoho ya uruchi wa monono iyashi kari

ears of rice

even regular rice

is humble

六尺の庭にふさがる芭蕉かな

rokushaku no niwa ni fusagaru bashō kana

the two-meter square

taken over by

a Japanese banana plant

Rambling Walks Collection

When my uncle lived in Yōgo, as a child I usually took this road to come and go. The *otabisho* pine tree, the Kishibojin Shrine, the shrines in Homen and Doida, are all the same as in the old days so I felt nostalgic.

鳩麦や昔通ひし叔父が家

hatomugi ya mukashi kayoishi oji ga ie

pearl barley

I used to visit

my uncle's house

That reminded me of my playfulness when I was a child. In Takenomiya, the two pine trees with joined branches were still alive, and it looked like they had grown no bigger than 20 years ago.

行く秋や手を引きあひし松二本

yuku aki ya te o hiki aishi matsu nihon

departing autumn

two pine trees

hand in hand

Rambling Walks Collection

Beyond Yōgo, the road went straight on.

渋柿の実勝になりて肌寒し

shibugaki no migachi ni narite hada samushi

feeling chilly

only fruit

the bitter persimmon tree

村一つ渋柿勝に見ゆるかな

mura hitotsu shibugaki gachi ni miyuru kana

the whole village

bitter persimmon trees

seem to be everywhere

山尽きて稲の葉末の白帆かな

yama tsukite ine no hazue no shiraho kana

the mountains end

over the tips of the rice leaves

a white sail

Rambling Walks Collection

I arrived at Seigetsu's house. It was an imposing dwelling
across from a shrine facing the storehouse and backed by a
pine grove.

粟の穂に鶏飼ふや一構

awa no ho ni niwatori kau ya hitogamae

drying millet ears
and raising chickens
a great house

鴟木に啼けば雀和するや蔵の上

mozu ki ni nakeba suzume wasuru ya kura no ue

when the shrike sings in the tree
the sparrows harmonize
on the storehouse

Rambling Walks Collection

萩あれて百舌啼く松の梢かな

hagi arete mozu naku matsu no kozue kana

withering bush clover
a shrike is calling
from the pine treetop

When we went up the hill in the garden, we could see the sea in the distance. We were so engrossed in our conversation about *tanka* and haiku that it was already past noon, so we decided to go for a walk. This is where the ikat fabric known as *Imazu-gasuri* is woven.

花木槿家ある限り機之音

hana mukuge ie aru kagiri hata no oto

rose of Sharon
as far as there are houses
the sound of looms

Rambling Walks Collection

汐風や瘦せて花なき木槿垣

shiokaze ya yasete hana naki mukuge-gaki

sea breeze

the rose of Sharon hedge

spindly and flowerless

Standing on the seashore, we saw Gogoshima Island rising on the right and Yurishima Island in front of us. The peninsula of Iyo couldn't be seen today.

見ゆるべき御鼻も霧の十八里

miyuru beki ohana mo kiri no jūhachi ri

the 70km distant peninsula

should be visible —

fog

Rambling Walks Collection

夕栄えや鰯の網に人だかり

yūbae ya iwashi no ami ni hitodakari

evening glow —

around the net of sardines

a large crowd

Then, going south along the coast and turning east, we went
around Imazu Village and headed back home.

鵲鵲や波うちかけし岩の上

sekirei ya nami uchikakeshi iwa no ue

on a rock

washed by waves

a wagtail

新田や潮にさしあふ落とし水

shinden ya shio ni sashiau otoshimizu

new rice fields —

the drainage

meets the tide

Rambling Walks Collection

薯蕷積んで中島船の来りけり

imo tsunde nakajimabune no kitarikeri

carrying sweet potatoes
a boat from Nakajima
has arrived

浜荻に隠れて低し蟹が家

hamaogi ni kakurete hikushi ama ga ie

hidden by
beach silvergrass
a diver's low house

Suddenly a wind came up.

方十町砂糖木畠の野分哉

hō jicchō satogibatake no nowaki kana

a large swath
of the sugarcane field
strong autumn wind

Rambling Walks Collection

稲の穂の嵐になりし夕かな

ine no ho no arashi ni narishi yūbe kana

ears of rice plants —
it turned stormy
in the evening

牛蒡肥えて鎮守の祭り近づきぬ

gobō koete chinju no matsuri chikazukinu

the burdock grew well
the shrine festival
is nearing

賤か家に花白粉の赤かりき

shizugaya ni hanaoshiroi no akakari ki

at the humble dwelling
the four o'clock flowers
are red

Rambling Walks Collection

山城に残る夕日や稲の花

yamajiro ni nokoru yūhi ya ine no hana

mountain castle —
in the remaining sunset
flowering rice

藪寺の釣鐘もなし秋の風

yabudera no tsurigane mo nashi aki no kaze

not even a bell
at the abandoned temple
autumn wind

In the evening, I left Imazu, hired a rickshaw and visited Mr. Mori in Yōgo. I was asked to write something for a pillar hanging.

Rambling Walks Collection

粃干すや鶏遊ぶ門のうち

momi hosu ya niwatori asobu mon no uchi

unhulled rice out to dry
chickens running free
inside the gate

I wrote a Chinese-style poem there.

鶏犬孤村富 松菊三逕閒

南窓倦書起 門外有青山

many houses
in a remote, prosperous village
pine trees and chrysanthemums
in the quiet garden

southern window
tired of writing, I stand up
beyond the gate
lush green mountains

Rambling Walks Collection

Then I left his house.

白萩や水にちぎれし枝のさき

shirahagi ya mizu ni chigireshi eda no saki

white bush clover

a broken branch tip

in the water

On the rickshaw, I was lost in thought, not knowing what to do.

行く秋や我に神なし仏なし

yuku aki ya ware ni kami nashi hotoke nashi

passing autumn

no gods, no Buddha

for me

As lights were appearing, I returned to the house where I was staying.