

Itsuki no Komori-uta

Japan

1. O - do - ma bon - giri bon - giri bon kara sa - kya o - ran - do bo -

n ga ha - yo ku - - rya ha - yo mo - do - ru.

Translation

1. It will take until summer,
after then I will no longer be here.
If the summer came earlier,
I could return home sooner.
2. Odoma kanjin kanjin
an hito tacha yoka shi
yoka sha yoka obi
yoka kimon.
2. I'm like a beggar, beggar.
Those people are the wealthy ones.
Wealthy people have fine sashes
and fine kimonos.
3. Odon ga ucchin datokya
darega nyatekuryuka
ura no matsuyama
semi ga naku.
3. Even if I die,
who would weep for me?
Behind the house on the hill of pine trees
at most the cicadas would chirp.
4. Semi ja gozaranu
imoto de gozaru
imoto nakunayo
ki ni kakaru.
4. It would not only be cicadas,
but also my little sister.
Do not weep, my sister,
it would make me anxious about you.

The title literally means "Lullaby from Itsuki". Itsuki is a village on the island of Kyushu. The song gives an account of the hard lives of nursemaids, who were sent to work in foreign parts. They were allowed to take time off and return home for the Bon Festival, which takes place in summer.

Melody and text: from Japan
Sung by Yuka Otsuki for the Liederprojekt.



おどま盆ぎり盆ぎり
盆から先やおらんと
盆が早よ来りや
早よ戻る

おどま勸進勸進
あん人たちや良か衆
良か衆や良か帯
良か着物

おどんがうっ死んだ時や
誰が泣やてくりゆか
裏の松山や
蝉が鳴く

蝉じゃござらぬ
妹でござる
妹泣くなよ
気にかかる

