

An Old Man announces to his Friends that a spring of Medicinal Water has just been discovered in the mountains. They all go to drink of the water without telling the old women, saying that when they become young and handsome again they will find beautiful young girls.

They reach the spring which is at the foot of a waterfall, and sing while they drink. As the water begins to take effect, their beards turn from white to black. They jokingly warn each other to be careful not to drink too much, or they will all get so young they will be babies again.

YASE MATSU 瘦松 (Skinny Pine)

(Ōkura title: Kintōzaemon 金藤左衛門)

I O

和 大

Shite MOUNTAIN ROBBER

Ado WOMAN

A Mountain Robber, who is down on his luck, comes to a valley called Skinny Pine to see if he can find someone to rob. When Mountain Robbers have good luck, they say they found a Fat Pine, and when they have bad luck, a Skinny Pine. Since this particular valley is very lonely and they seldom have good luck here, the valley itself has been given the name Skinny Pine.

A Woman comes along, on her way to visit her parents, with a bag full of her personal belongings. The Robber jumps out at her and she drops the bag and runs. While the Robber is examining the contents of the bag, the Woman sneaks back, grabs the Robber's long spear, and threatens him with his life. She forces him to give her not only her own things, but his sword and clothes as well.

In a last attempt at a show of bravery, the Robber grabs the end of the long spear as the Woman starts to leave with her loot, but she is too fast for him. He chases off after her shouting, "Stop that Woman! She has robbed me of everything!"

In the Ōkura script, the Robber introduces himself as Kintōzaemon, and goes to the mountain. He does not give the name of the valley or mention Skinny Pine and Fat Pine. The rest of the story is the same as *Yase Matsu* except that the dialogue is much more detailed, thus making performance time almost double.

YAWATA NO MAE 八幡前  
(Groom with Prompter)

I O  
和 大

Shite GROOM  
Ado MAN FROM YAWATA SANGE  
Koado TARŌ KAJA  
3rd Ado FRIEND (OF GROOM)

A Man from Yawata Sange has a beautiful daughter for whom he wishes to find a suitable groom, so he puts up a sign to that effect specifying that only those with some talent need apply. A prospective Groom sees the sign, and wishing to apply takes down the sign. He has no special talent, but he has a good Friend who, he is confident, will be able to teach him something that will qualify him. He confides in the Friend, and they finally decide he will pose as an archer, but since when he shoots, it will be obvious he is a very poor shot, the Friend tries to teach him a song which if recited well will be the necessary talent. The Groom cannot even remember the