

Cat Wagon (猫車)(6)

- 1) “I am sorry for mistaking your sister for the monster and causing her to fall to the bottom of the valley... please forgive me,” (asks a troubled Akitsuki of the boy). “This Ochiyo, somehow - when we least expect to find her - we might come across her, alive and well.” (Kōshichi responds)...
- 2) “Mr., there’s nothing to be done about it. Mr., you’re not a bad person. But because I am all alone, without my sister, I cannot kill the Lord alone.” (says Kōshichi). “Huh, why? Hhm...” (says a puzzled Akitsuki). Hearing the boy’s reason...
- 3) (Akitsuki responds with resolve), “If that is the case, let me assist you in your quest to kill your father’s enemy!” “You will learn the way of the sword from me.” Kōshichi and Akitsuki decide to hide themselves in the mountains. They build a small hut out of logs...
- 4) From that point on Kōshichi focuses on learning the way of the sword. “Kōshichi, fight me as if I was the Lord, the enemy of your father!” (says Akitsuki to encourage the boy). After the sword training is completed...
- 5) ... the two enjoy a pleasant meal. “I will also educate you.” “You have a good hand, and will certainly make a fine swordsman,” (says Akitsuki encouragingly). While Kōshichi is busy with his practicing...
- 6) In the castle down of the Lord who killed Kōshichi’s father, there have been strange nightly occurrences. On this night, two samurai are passing by...
- 7) “Oh, there’s a young girl weeping underneath that willow tree over there!” (exclaims one of the samurai). “Well, I wonder if she’s going to drown herself in the river or something? Anyway, let’s stop by,” (says the other).

- 8) “Hey, hey, young girl, why are you crying?” “Oi, hey, reply!” “Hey, we’re nice guys. Please show us your beautiful face.” (asks one of the samurai). “Ye-, yes” (responds the weeping girl).
- 9) “Oh! OH MY” (goes the shocked samurai). “Roar, meowrrr!!!” (goes the monster-cat). “Oh, it’s a monster-cat” (screech the samurai in shocked unison). The monster-cat instantly attacks one of the men...
- 10) “Meeowrrr, roar!!!” (goes the monster-cat). “Oh! Whimper!” (goes the samurai). “You, monster-cat, prepare yourself!” (challenges the other samurai). He draws his sword, setting his sights on the cat...

Well...