

- 3 李守貞 [1477–1504; styled Kanjung 幹仲; sobriquet Kōnch'on 乾村 and Chōngjae 貞齋; ancestral seat Kyōngju 慶州]: scholar-official under Yōnsangun 燕山君 [r. 1494–1506; 1476–1506] and a son of Yi Sejwa.  
 4 「松窩雜說」: miscellany by Yi Ki 李壑 [1522–1604; sobriquet Songwa 松窩].

## 8

## The Loyal Dancing Girl

Vol. I: 12; translated 27 May 1921; Diary XVI, pp. 154–5; 64.

Non'gae was the name of a famous dancing girl of Chinju. She was attached to the Government Bureau. In the year 1592, when the city fell before the Japanese, Non'gae, dressed in her best with rouge and powder, prepared as for her wedding day. She stood on the high cliff just beneath Choksōngnu Pavilion. Here the drop is very great – many hundred feet.

A Japanese, seeing her, was greatly delighted but feared to go near her as she stood in a place of danger. One Japanese, however, of special bravery, came forth and she smiled to meet him. He was a high officer and came forward to put his arms about her. At once she sprang forward and threw her arms about him and with a bound was over the cliff with him.

Many, yes – very many of these dancing girls died rather than be spoiled by the Japanese soldiers. Their names, however, are lost. They were only dancing girls and women given over to a licentious life, not people from whom one could expect loyalty and devotion. They died as though it were as easy as going sweetly home. Thus they escaped dishonour and made a name for themselves.

론 개 자 진 주 관 기 야 계 사 당 성 함 지 일 개 응 장  
 論介者晉州官妓也 癸巳<sub>1</sub> 當城陷之日 介凝粧

성 복 립 우 축 석 루 하 초 암 지 령 기 하 만 장 직 입 파 심  
 盛服 立于矗石樓<sub>2</sub> 下峭巖之巔其下萬 丈直入波心

왜 견 이 열 지 개 막 지 근 독 일 왜 정 연 직 진 론 개 소  
 倭見而悅之 皆莫之近 獨一倭挺然<sub>3</sub> 直進 論介笑