

「キャビネット」に関する記載

夏目漱石

Cabinet (飾り棚、内閣・収納庫・小部屋)

The "Cabinet" is either passionate or poetic vision—a spiritual gift, which may soon and easily become a spiritual bondage; wherein a man is locked up, with keys of gold indeed, yet is he a prisoner all the same: his prison built by his love or his art, with a view open beyond of exquisite limited loveliness, soft quiet and light of dew or moon, and a whole fresh world to rest in or look into, but intangible and simply reflective; all present pleasure or power trebled in it, until you try at too much and attempt to turn spiritual to physical reality—"to seize the inmost form" with "hands of flame" laid upon things of the spirit which will endure no such ardent handling—to translate eternal existence into temporal, essential into accidental, substantial into attributive; when at once the whole frame work, which was meant otherwise to last out your present life, breaks up and leaves you standard or cast out, feeble and sightless "like a weeping babe." So that whereas at first you were full of light natural pleasure, "dancing merrily" in "the wild" of animal or child life, you are now a child again, but unhappy instead of happy—less than a child, thrown back on the crying first stage of babyhood—having had the larger vision and lost your hold of it by too great pressure of impatience or desire—unfit for the old pleasure and deprived of the new; and the maiden-mother of your spiritual life, your art or your love, is become wan and tearful as you, "pale reclined" in the barren blowing air which cannot again be filled with the fire and the luminous life of vision.

明治40年頃の「断片」から

(対訳: Junko Higasa 2014.1.18 Sat.)

『虞美人草』甲野さん(レオパルディ)の部屋

キャビネットは情熱あるいは詩的明察力—精神の賜物、それはすぐに容易に魂を虜にする; 男はそこに閉じこもる、優れた鍵を用いて、すでに囚人同様だ: 彼の牢獄はその愛あるいは藝術によって築かれる、繊細な美の極限に向かって開かれた眺望と、心地よい静寂と露あるいは月の光りとともに、その聖域をくまなく探求する、けれど捉えがたくただ思索する; 全神経あるいは最高の力を注ぎ、試行錯誤してついに実体を魂へ転じさせる—"本体を捉えるために" 熱烈な手法を持ちこたえる気力の"燃えるような情熱の手"で—時空の永久存在、偶発の本質、属性の本質を転じることによって; 一気に全体が構築されるとき、それは君の現実生活を保つことなく、打ち破って世俗を離れるか捨てるということを意味した、弱々しく人知れず"涙を流す赤子のように。"そのため最初は自然の喜びの光りに満ちていたのに動物や子供みたいに"奔放"に"楽しく飛び回って"、君は今一度子供に戻る、しかし幸福どころか不幸だ—決して子供ではない、いくら泣き叫んでも幼児期に立ち戻ることはできない—大志を抱きながら焦りや希望の強いプレッシャーでそれを維持できなかった—古い歓喜にそぐわず新しさも奪われて; そして君の宗教的な聖母、藝術や愛、それは君のように弱り切って涙ぐみ、"青ざめて横たわった" 情熱と光に満ちた夢のような生活を再び取り戻すことが出来ない不毛の風の中で。