

Three-Voice Narrative by Yukiko Ikeda

First Voice

Long, long ago, Tottori Prefecture was called Hoki country, and gods and people lived there together. At this time, there wasn't a Yumigahama Peninsula in Hoki country. People in Yonago could see only an Island in the Japan Sea. One day, the gods of Hoki country talked about their territory. One god said, "Our land is very small. Why don't we pull the island above Yonago into our country to make our country bigger?" All the gods around him agreed with him, and they brought a big rope. After a young and strong god swung the rope to the island and tied it fast, all the gods pulled the island to their country, shouting encouragement, "Come, come to us." In this way, the territory of Hoki country became bigger.

Second Voice

Yumigahama Peninsula grew out of the sand that the currents of the Japan Sea carried from Kaike shore. Kaike is south of Yonago city and is famous for its springs and the beautiful scenery of its shore. As the ocean currents carried away the sand, Kaike shore became small. People in Kaike were afraid that they would lose their beautiful shore, so they dropped many tetrapods in the sea. Tetrapods usually prevent water from eroding the sand, but in spite of the efforts of the people, the sand from Kaike shore continued to drift to Yumigahama Peninsula little by little. Even now the sea moves farther from the road that runs across the peninsula.

Third Voice

I have walked on the beach of Yumigahama Peninsula. There are many windbreaks of pine trees. Once my mother told me that before the Industrial Road between Yonago and Sakaiminato was built, she could see only the windbreaks and the beach. When the road was made, some parts of it were very near the sea. But now, the sand from Kaike shore and the areas reclaimed by drainage have enlarged the beach by the road. I couldn't believe that I was standing at a place that was once under the sea. It was like magic for me. The land was changing.

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