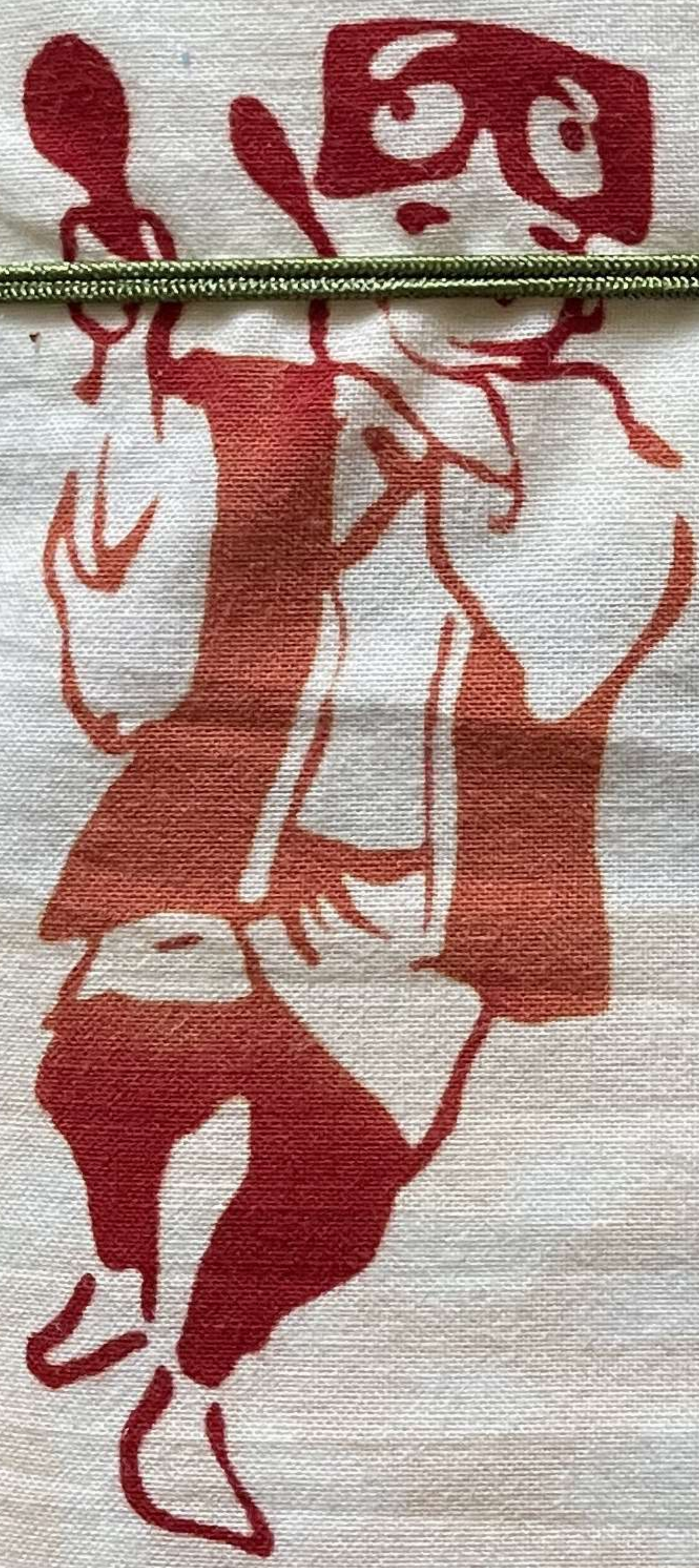




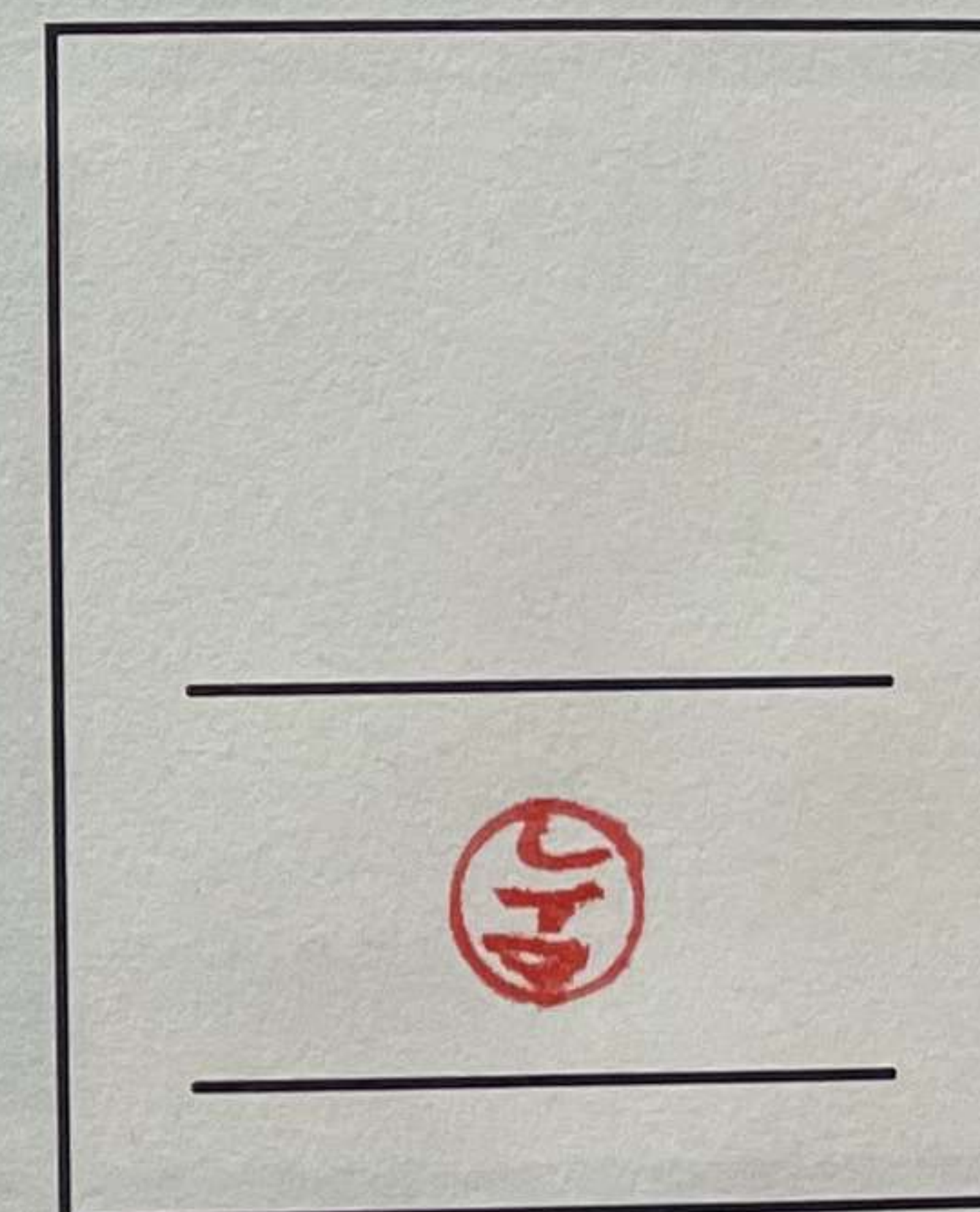
Amaou



a-dontaku

Mizutaki





MD NOTEBOOK COTTON

MADE IN JAPAN

MIDORI®



JET PROGRAMME

ALT

JET#: (664864313)

Rahma WIRYOMARTONO

Fukuoka Pref

CN (191 - 35)

ARRIVED IN FUKUOKA 福岡県 ON NOVEMBER 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021



BEGAN ON:  
2022年8月25日(木)  
Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup> 2022

Rahma Wiryomartono  
ウイリョマルトノ・レイマ  
25 YEARS OLD



and so it seems that Sharpie bleeds

25 YEARS OLD

**PICTURED:** An attempt to trace the postcard on the following page, but stopping because tracing's no fun.



again it bleeds and I forget!

**DAZAIFU TENMANGU**

太宰府  
天満宮

2022年8月27日(土)



# The Beautiful

## FUKUOKA

太宰府 天満宮



DAZAIFU TENMANGU // FIRST VISIT 25歳

Went with Sami on December 2021. Fall colours still blooming, trees hadn't shed yet. We ate umegaemochi.

An impression: delicate maple leaves floating flat in a still pond, the colour of rust. Wind swayed the leaves on the trees but these lay undisturbed.

2022年8月27日 (土)



太宰府天満宮 12/12/2021





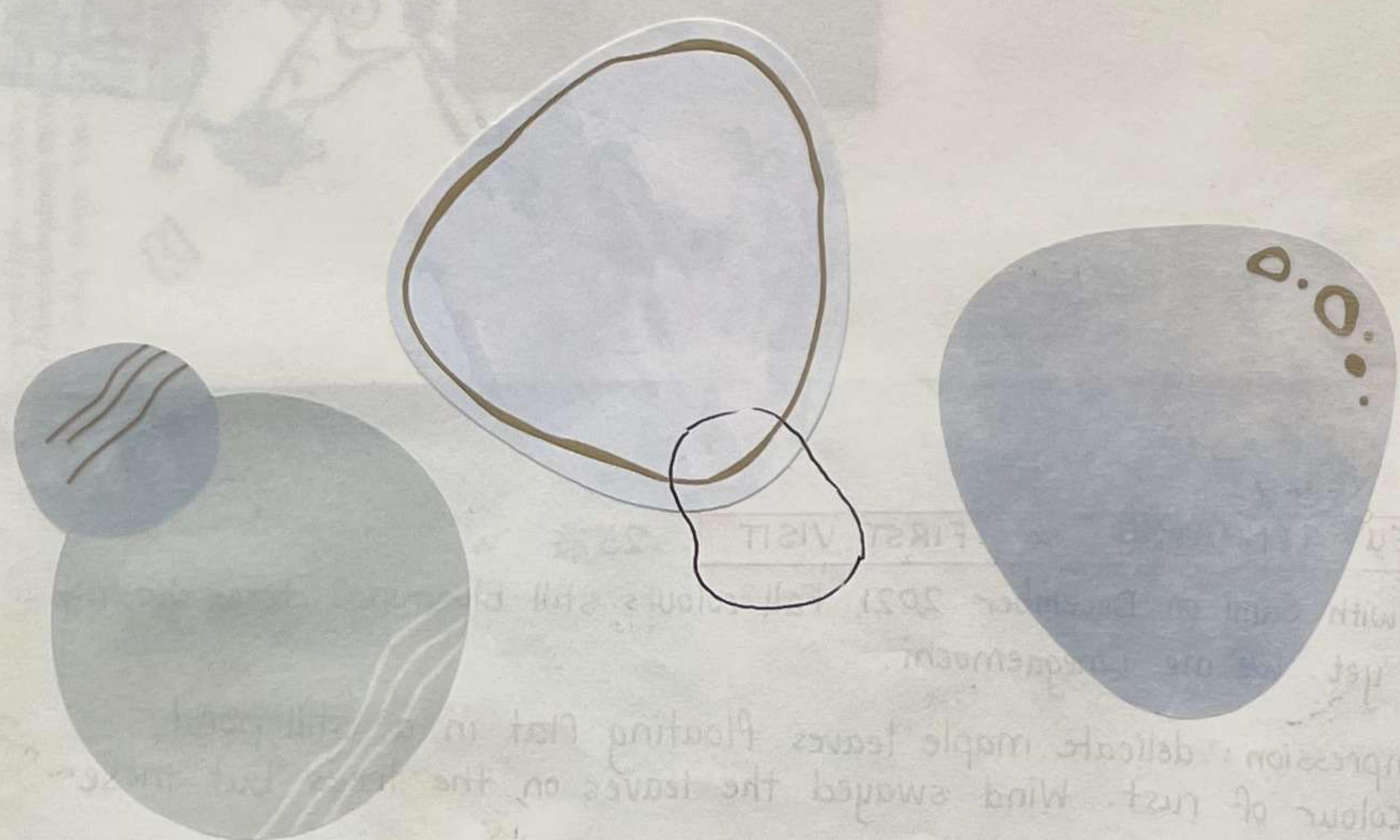


# NOKONOSHIMA ISLAND

FIRST VISIT // APRIL 2022 25歳

Went with a large group of people. Impressions: a manicured dreamland, right out of a Studio Ghibli movie. The weather was perfect and the sun was gentle.

After, we had a BBQ at Imajuku beach (Troy's idea).



能古島  
四月九日

Sami & Nadine  
♡♡



能古島

04/09/2022



能古島

04/09/2022



2022年8月28日(日)





西公園

04/03/2022



西公園

04/03/2022

with  
小宮先生



04/02/2022

*Sakura  
Season*

初めての花見

FIRST HANAMI

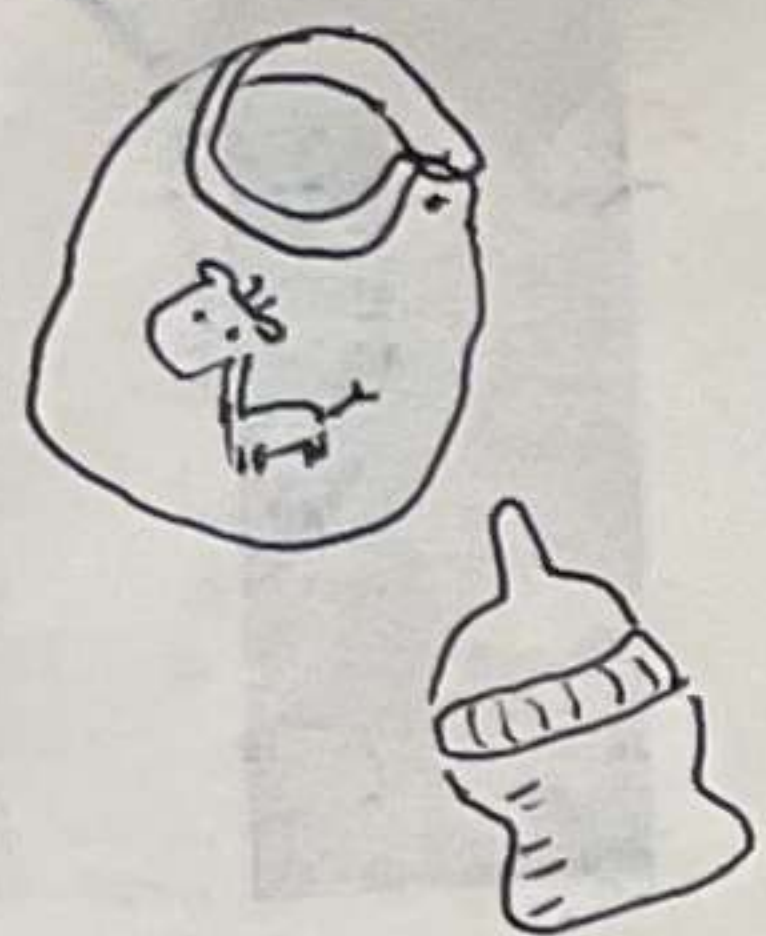
IN 福岡県 FUKUOKA



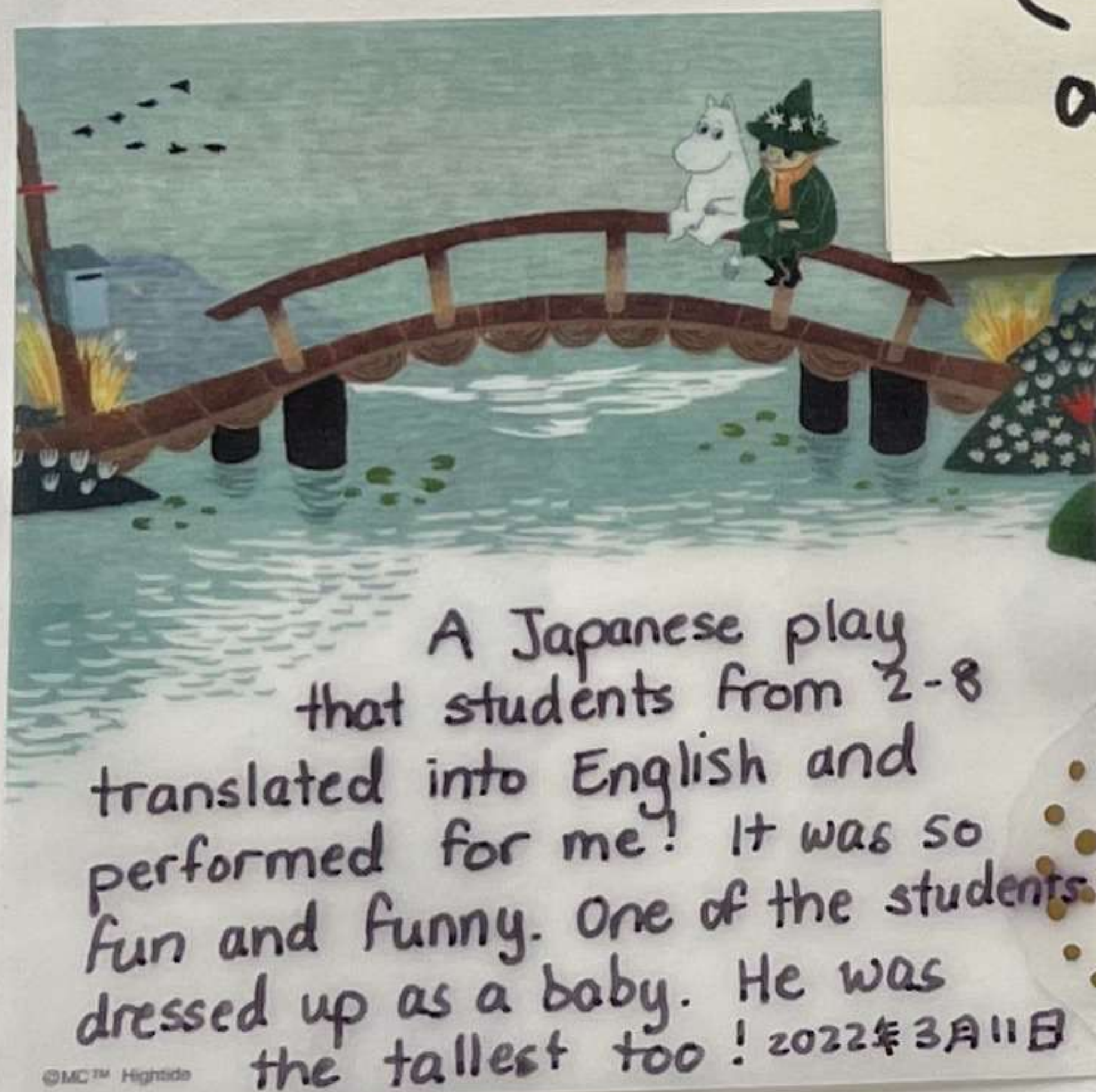
Late March - Early April  
2022

2022年9月1日(木)





To Ms. Rahma  
Welcome to the play  
"Sekigori."  
Students practice  
hard (I hope).  
Date: March 11th.  
place: 402  
(4th floor, on the right and  
at the end.)



A Japanese play  
that students from 2-8  
translated into English and  
performed for me! It was so  
fun and funny. One of the students  
dressed up as a baby. He was  
the tallest too! 2022年3月11日

(End of the school year on my  
first term on JET. The students  
finished their 国語 curriculum).

MARCH 26<sup>th</sup> KIMONO Photoshoot  
@ 北九州 KITAKYUSHU

Organized by the lovely Hiroe-san!



The Story of the  
"HAPPY FURISODE"  
that I wore

IN PEANNA'S WORDS:

"It's just a normal (and beautiful!) navy  
blue furisode, but it's a running theme  
that everyone who has worn it in the last  
few years has gotten married, or been  
very fortunate with love."

... WE SHALL SEE!



With Linden!

2022年9月2日(金)



# Strawberry Picking

IN KURUME 久留米 MARCH 6<sup>th</sup>



\* Ang and Remy's idea! They rented a car. Remy drove.



\* All-you-can-eat strawberries for 1hr



3/6/2022



\* Went with Ang, Remy, Deanna and Gabi!

\* The most delicious strawberries I've eaten



3/6/2022



3/6/2022

2022年9月3日(土)



*Jumping a little back in time...*  
AUTUMN '21 ISSUE I

# The Chojabaru Post

WHEN I FIRST  
ARRIVED IN MY  
APARTMENT, B401

November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

The teachers had stocked my apartment with all the necessities I needed, like cutlery, dishes, soap, a futon, storage items, and — a kotatsu! An item I had only heard about in lore, never before seen in the (plastic, electrical) Alesh. How would I use such an advanced, foreign item? Luckily, personalized instructions would enlighten me.

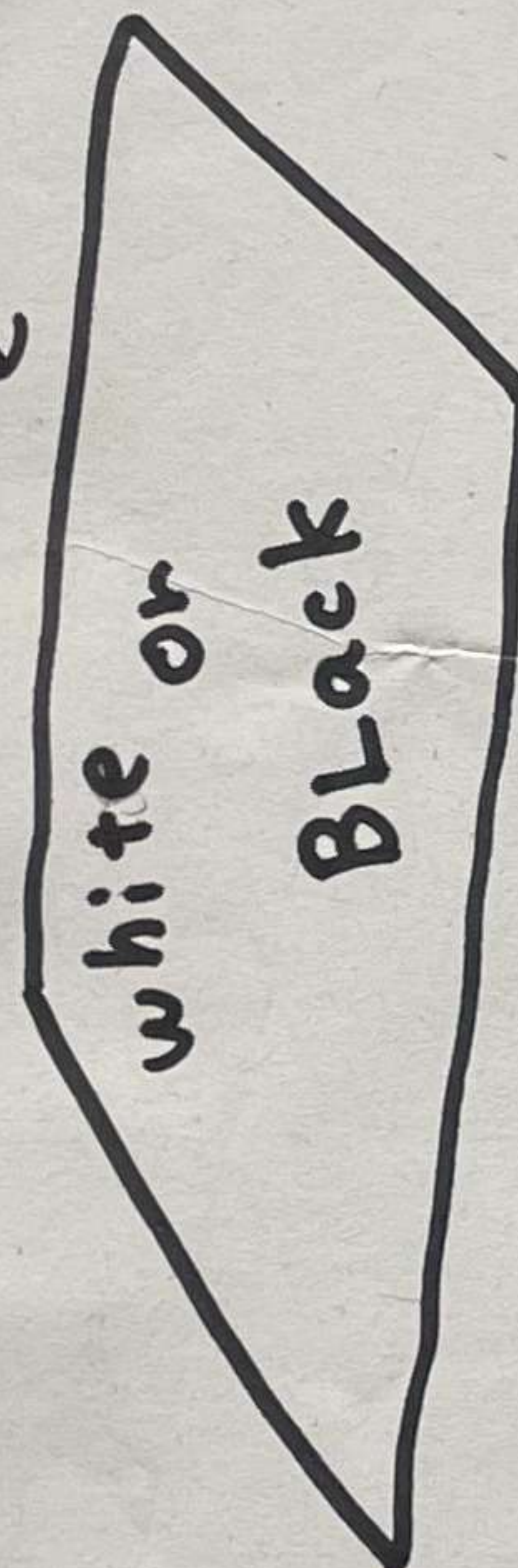
“HOW WOULD I USE  
SUCH AN ADVANCED,  
FOREIGN ITEM?”

— Newly landed, fresh  
and green Kasuga ALT

I remember being so touched by the kindness and thoughtfulness of the welcome. When I first walked into the staff room, I wanted to remember the kindness paid to me. I felt blessed, like the world was giving. I didn't need to buy apartment goods for a while. Whatever I needed I already had. ■

ALT  
Rahman

← Reversible



Brown Cover  
(Futon)



(KOTATSU  
て?)

## OPINION

NOTES ON THE KOTATSU

It changed my life and helped me survive my first winter sans central heating. I quite enjoy snuggling under the kotatsu while eating mikan. It's a new image of winter for me, but I do like how winter is dealt with here. ■

NOTES ON THE  
APARTMENT

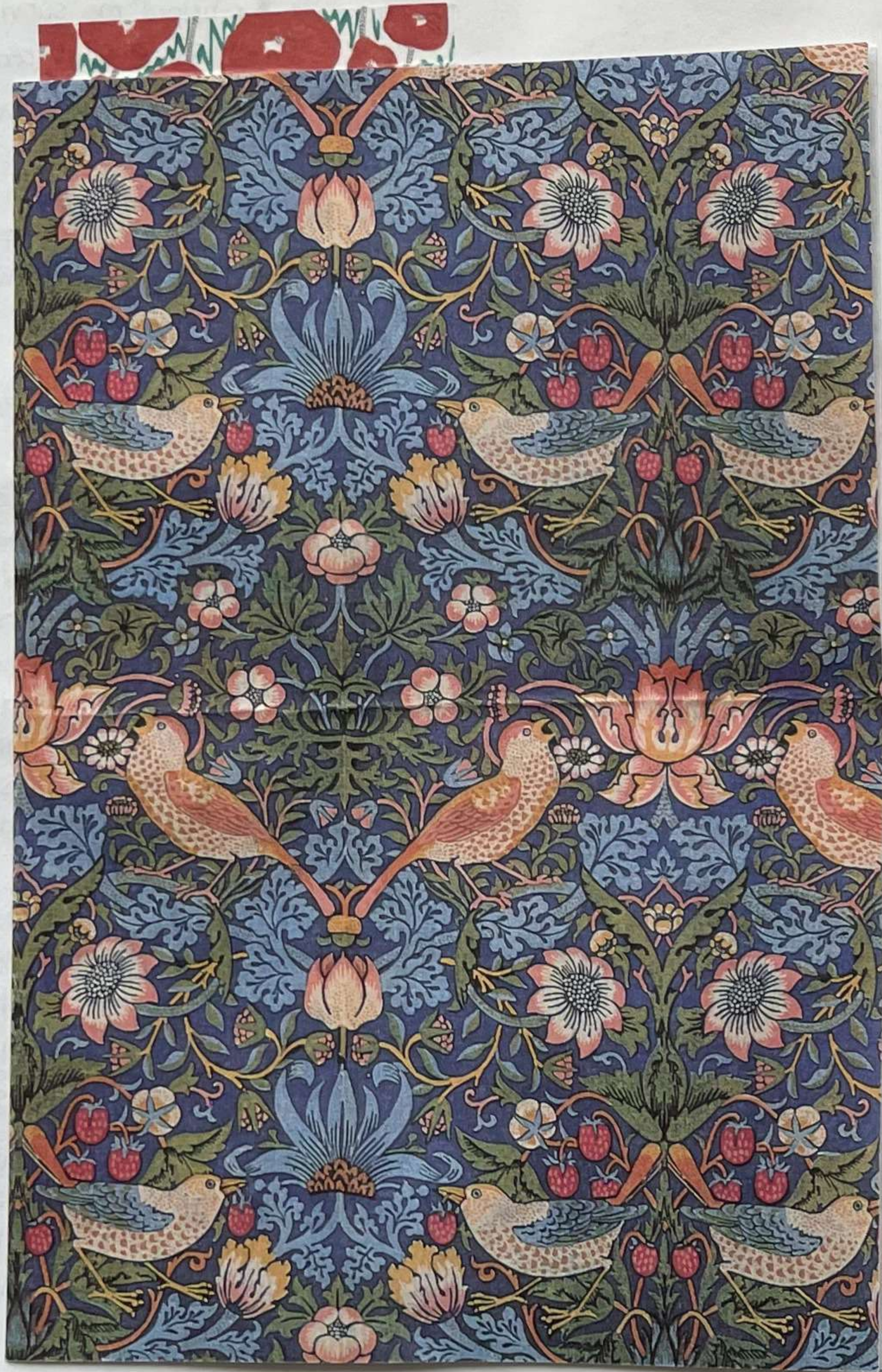
I couldn't believe how large my apartment was. It seemed excessive for one person. Mom (half) joked that I would have to get married and have children in order to fill up the space. From the start I've aimed to keep it minimal. I like the lack of clutter and the open space. It was nice to start from scratch, to decorate and arrange the space just to my tastes and desires.

The one thing of which I have in excess are plants. And perhaps clothes (though that's always been a weakness of mine). ■





# Christmas IN Fukuoka 2021



## ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Went to Ang and Remy's for lunch and cake. Their friend from Tokyo came over and we had a good time. It was bright and sunny and I remember the plants thriving by their windowsill.

Sami came over to mine for dinner. I cooked some festive chili and we had an Uncle Tetsu cheese cake for dessert. We laughed about how Xmas in Japan was usually spent together by couples.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- X The Tenjin Xmas market where Sami and I got a seasonal mug.
- O The Hakata Winter Illumination
- X Free New Year's cup noodles from UNIQLO - unexpected



Hardly any snow falls in Fukuoka, but it's still cold.

Mom's 59th Birthday!  
2022年9月4日(日)



# ITOSHIMA 糸島

## NEW YEAR'S TRIP

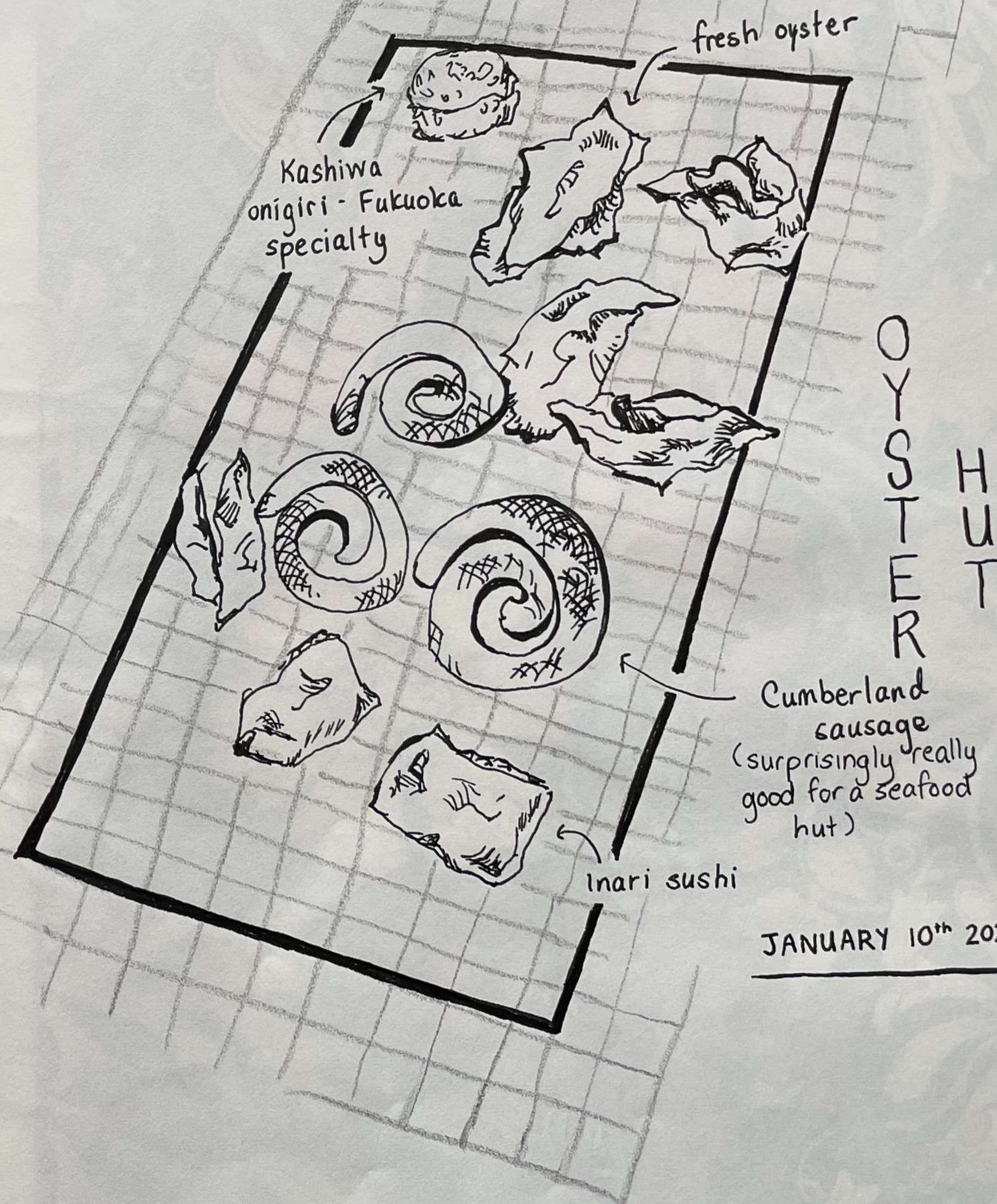
Nadine organized a trip with her, me, Troy, Kristen, Eric and Karl. We used public transportation, which consisted of a small bus driven by one driver - the only one for the whole day.

It was a perfect day. The seafood from the oyster hut were the freshest I've ever tasted. The salt sea air refreshed me and my eyes filled with the most beautiful shades of blue.



2022年9月4日(日)

## ITOSHIMA SEASIDE BBQ



2022年9月5日(月)



Feb. 2022

To: Rahma-sensei

Thank you for your great work.  
I am so happy that you are our ALT.

Happy Valentine  
Day ♡♡

Enjoy your  
chocolate !!

Forest of BANFF is my favorite  
Confectionery.

Love,

Reiko

Miyahara

White Day



March 14th 2022

- ♥ In Japan, women give men chocolates on Valentine's Day (customarily). I gave 校長先生 (Kōchō-sensei) and 教頭先生 (Kyōtō-sensei) some 義理チョコ (giri choco).
- ♥ I forgot it was White Day until 校長先生 and 教頭先生 gave me nice chocolate!



# 宝満山

二月二十三日

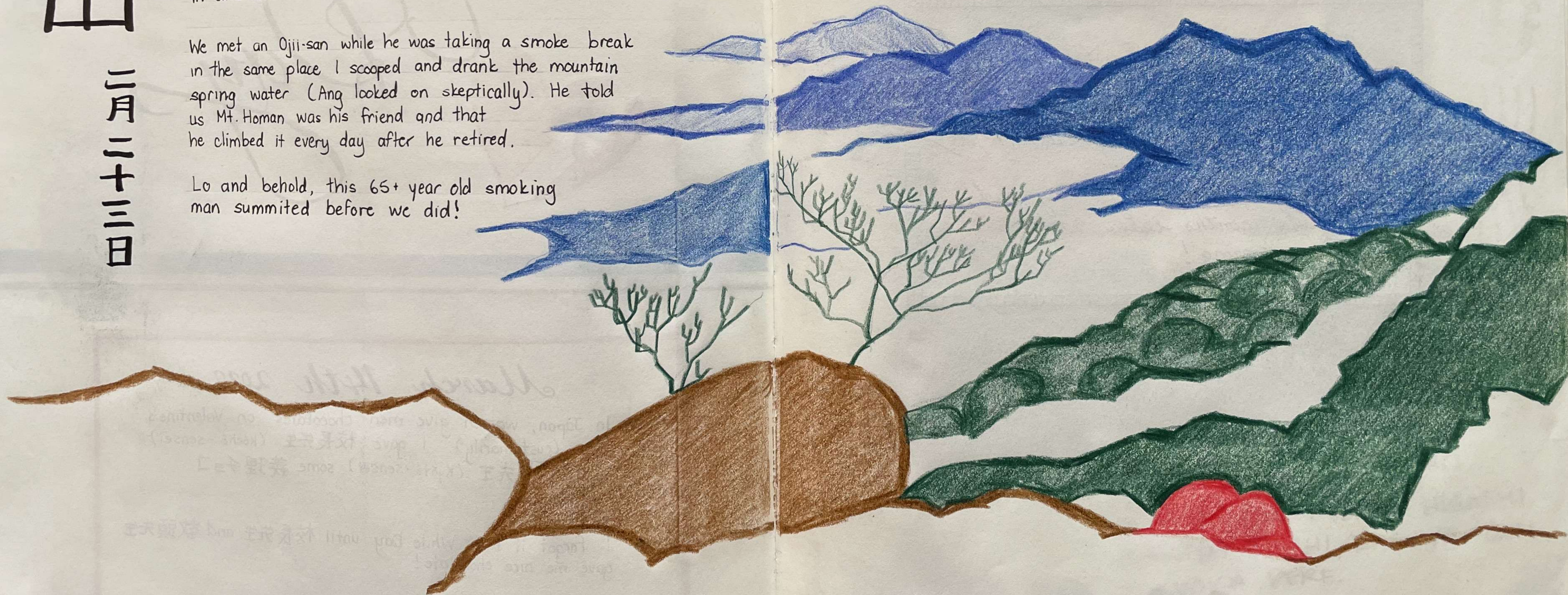
## Mt. Homan

♦ SUMMITED FEBRUARY 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 / 829 m

Hiked with Ang and Remy. Ang was an expert trekker! She said it was her Nepali genes. Remy and I often looked ahead in disbelief.

We met an Ojii-san while he was taking a smoke break in the same place I scooped and drank the mountain spring water (Ang looked on skeptically). He told us Mt. Homan was his friend and that he climbed it every day after he retired.

Lo and behold, this 65+ year old smoking man summited before we did!



2022年9月5日 (月)



## RIYO IN THE MAIL

A late addition to the 'Christmas in Fukuoka' spread.

Fitting because the holiday card arrived months later, well into spring!

1074



SEASON'S GREETINGS

With love from Mike, Arini and Riyo

RAHMA WIRYOMARTONO

It has been a long time since we have seen each other. I hope you are well and happy. I will be in touch soon.

The Farrell Family

2022年9月6日 (火)



Karaoke

IN

Iizuka 飯塚



04/02/2022



04/02/2022

✳ Did a duet of "My Heart will Go On" - Céline Dion with Troy and "Instant Crush" with Casey

✳ Fun night and surprisingly extensive English song selection

✳ Had to run for the last train with Keiko and Michelle but we made it in time

2022年9月6日 (火)

Went with Linden, Casey, Aika and Sami

KAWACHI

河内藤園

WISTERIA

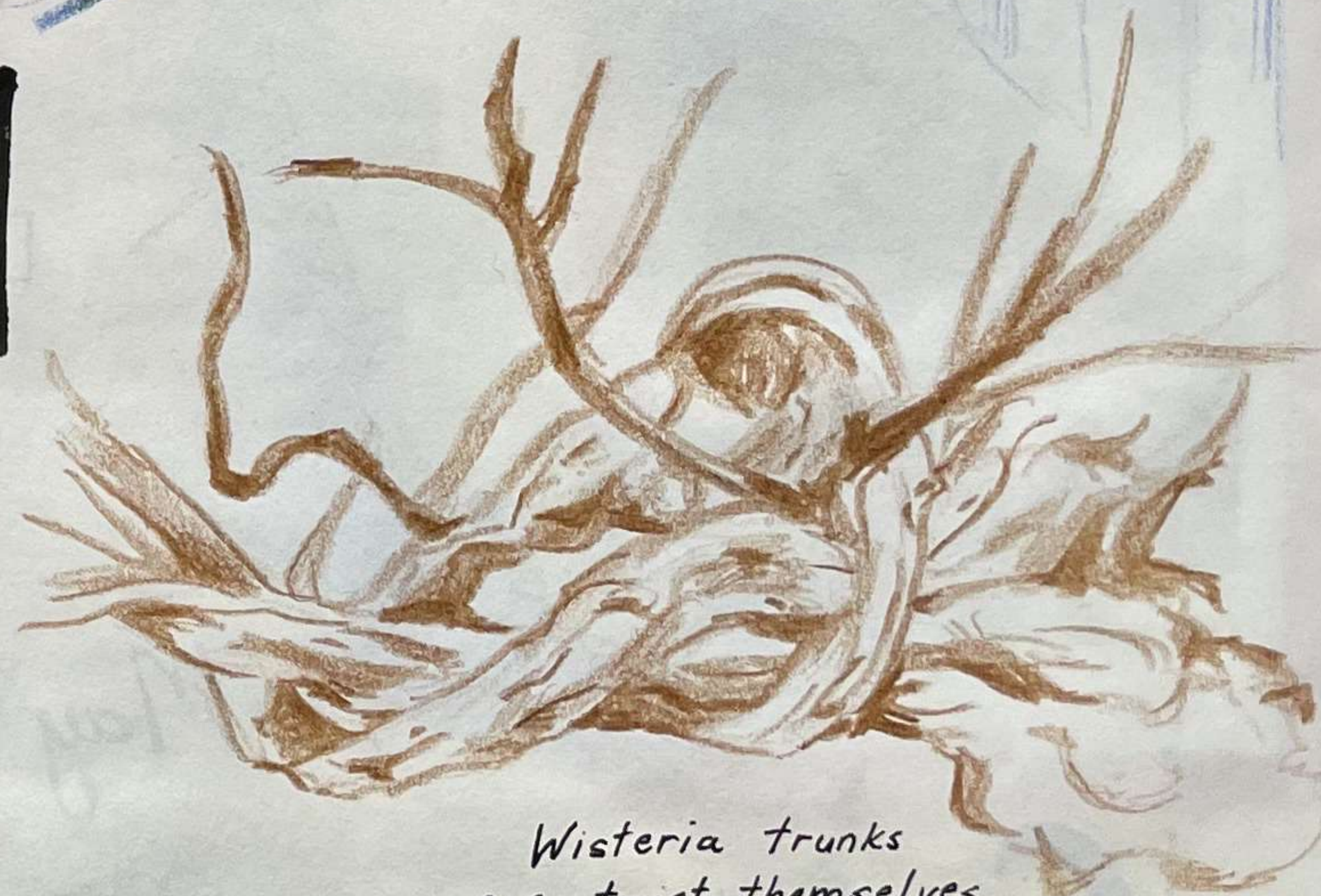
GARDEN

四月二十九日

APRIL 29 2022



Like falling rain



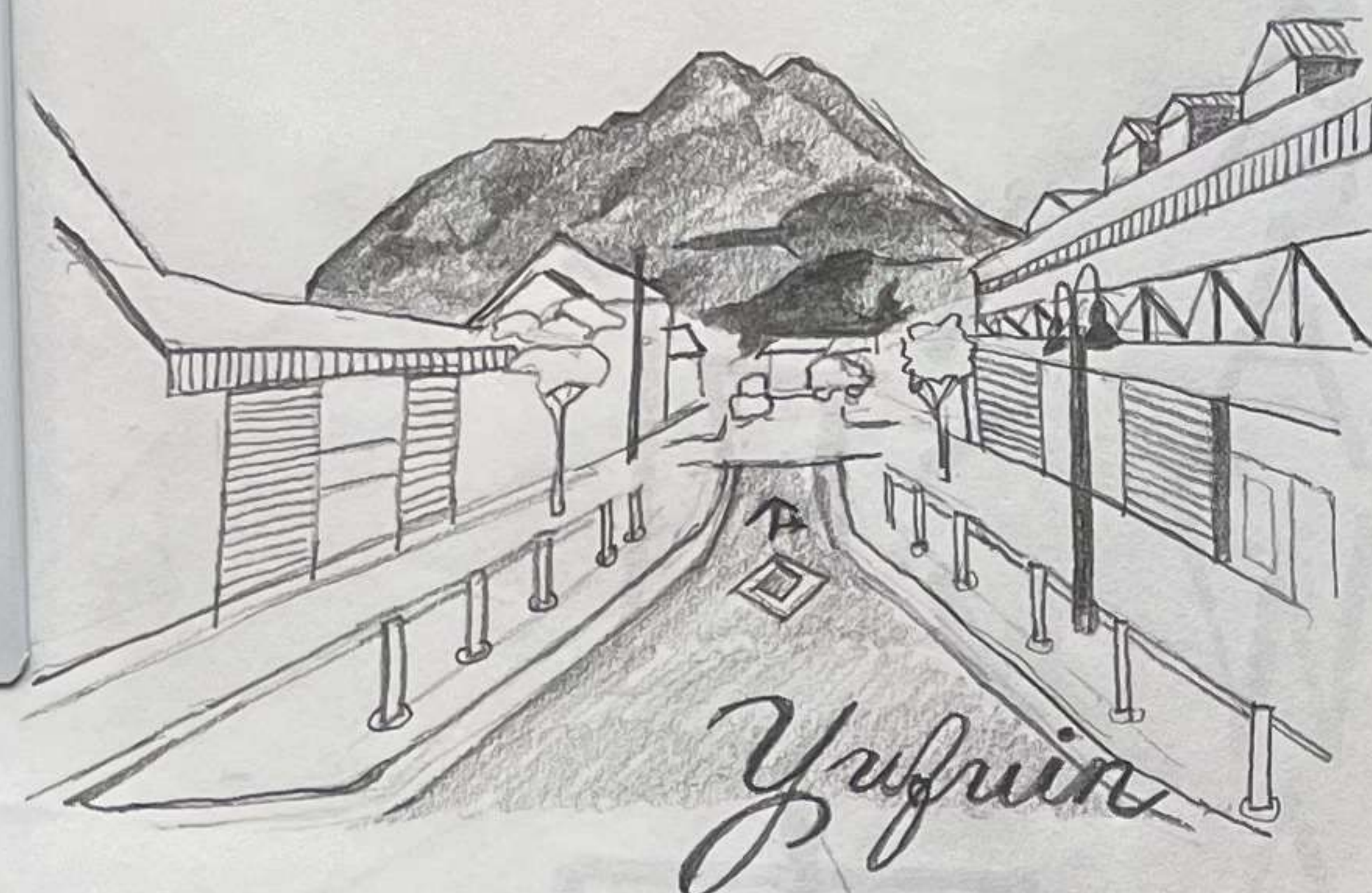
Wisteria trunks can twist themselves into the most exquisite knots...

2022年9月6日 (火)





05/05/2022



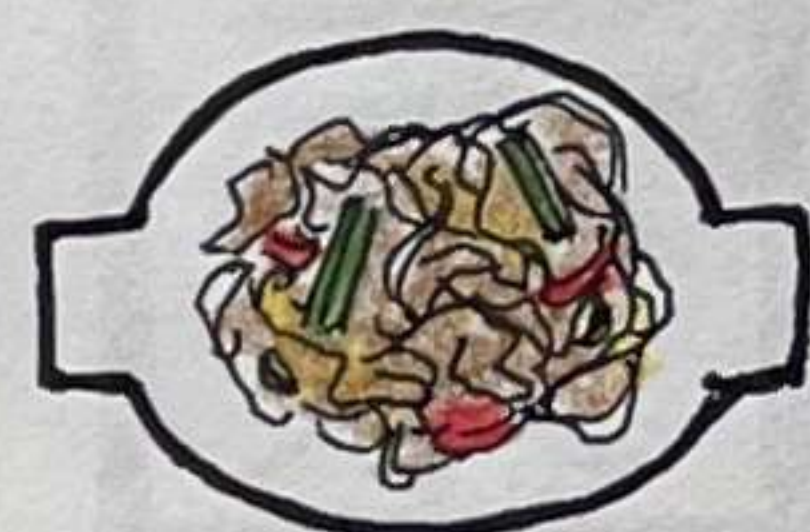
# FOOD HIGHLIGHTS



Yuzu soft serve



Oita karaage



Hita yakisoba



Ume plum wine

May 4 (水) - 7 (土)

2022

# GOLDEN WEEK

FUKUOKA 福岡市

HITA 日田市

YUFUIN 由布院町

BEPPU 別府市

福岡県

大分県

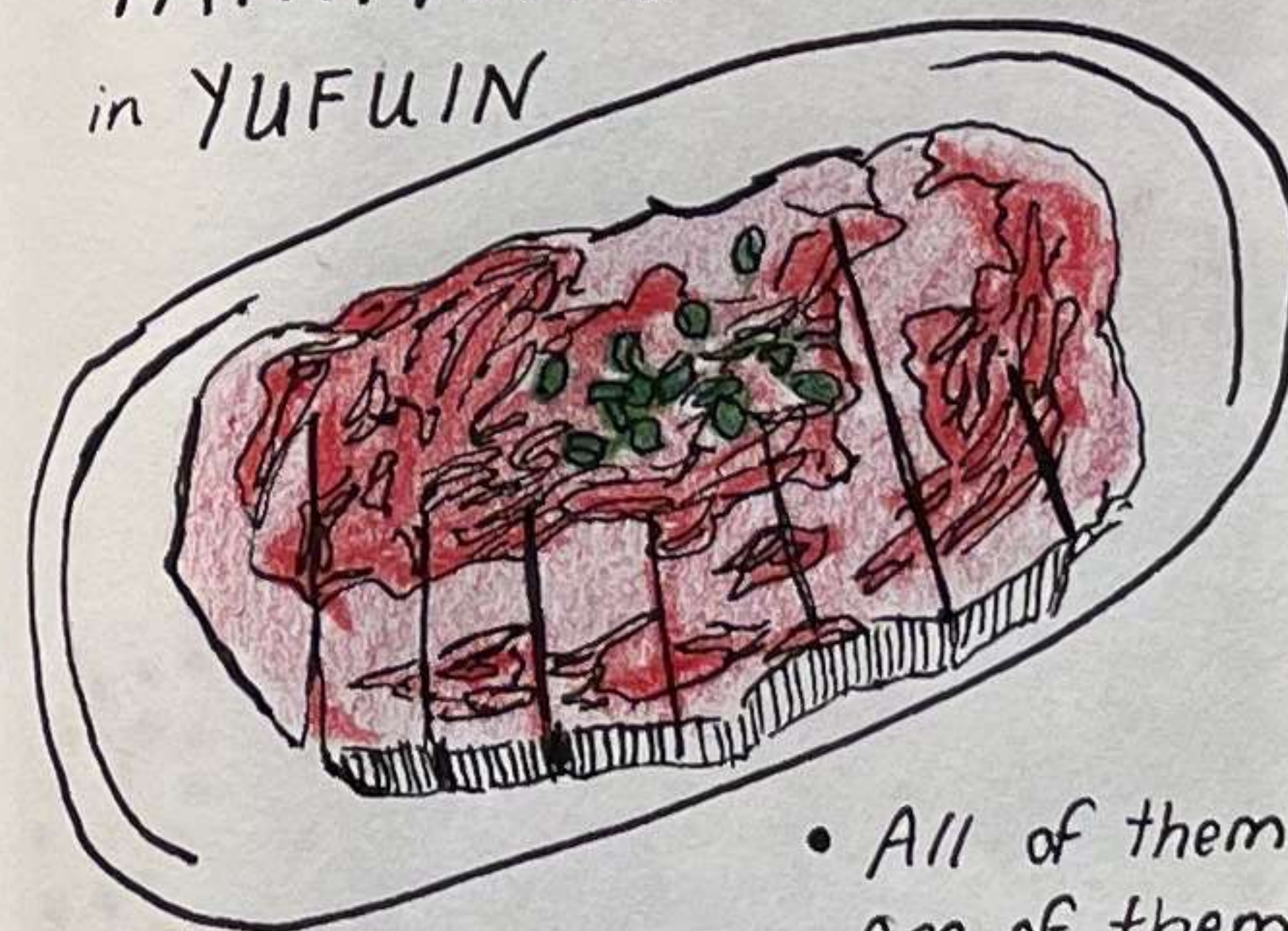
別府の地獄

# Seven Hells of Beppu

WITH NADINE, KARL AND TROY



# YAKINIKU 焼き肉 in YUFUIN



• Really good BBQ and cuts of meat

• Super friendly staff and patrons! It was a local watering hole and a lot of the customers were elderly regulars.

• All of them were big fans of Karl. One of them was a leading Oita shiitake farmer!

# ROAD TRIP ft. Beppu Buddies

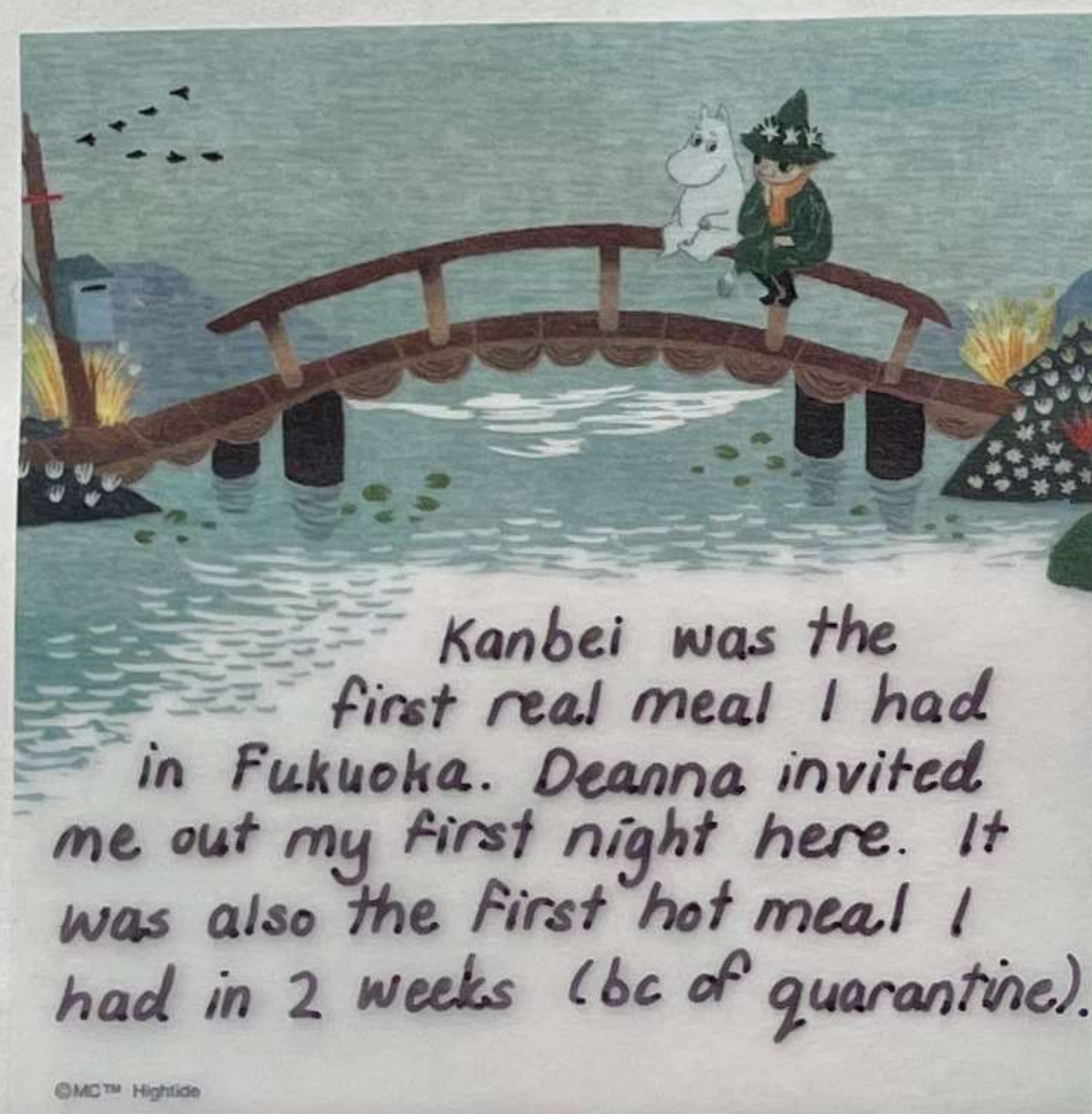


湯布院

05/05/2022

2022年9月7日 (水)





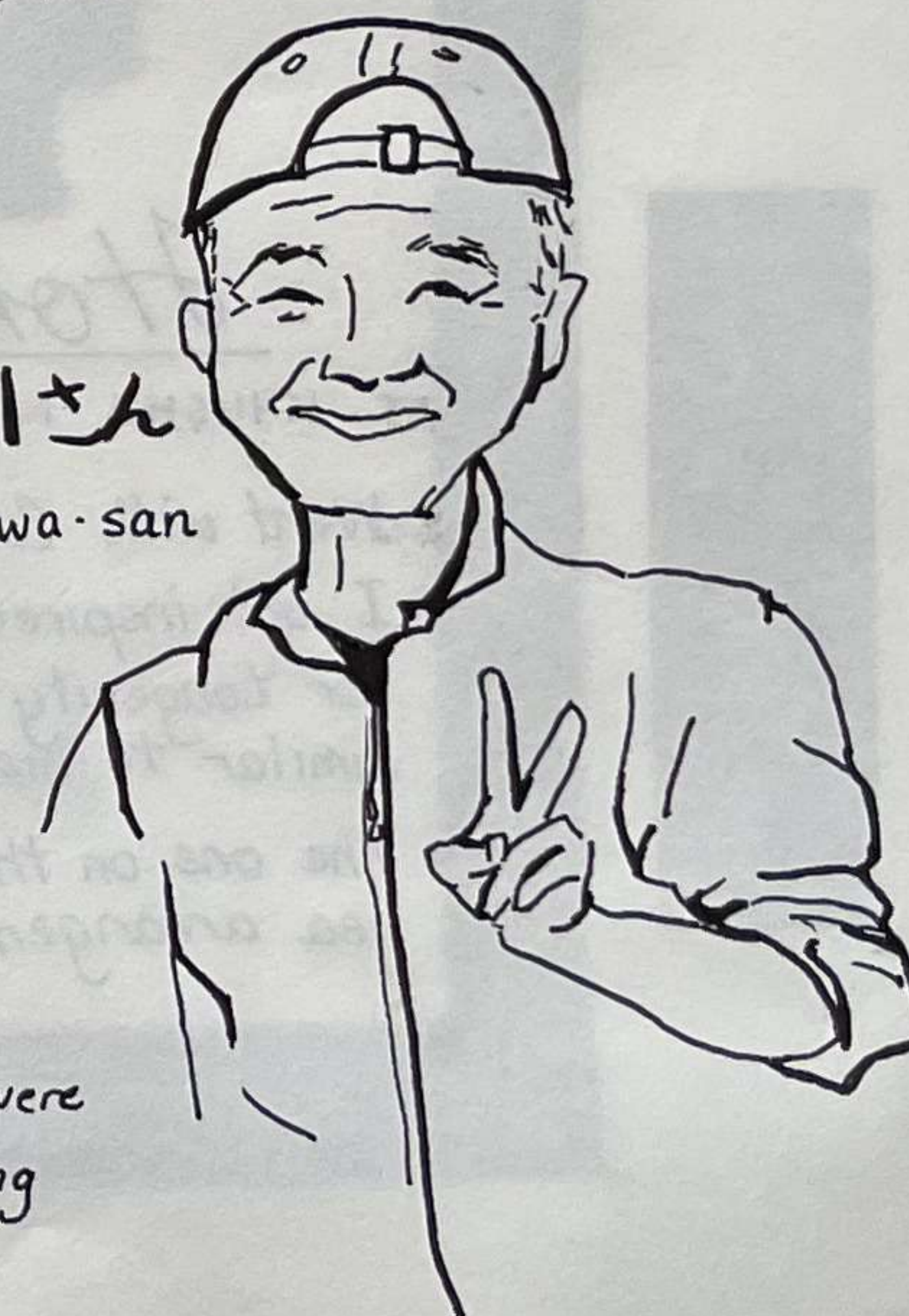
Casey and I made it a tradition to go every Monday (whenever possible). We call it KANBEI MONDAY.



My favourite place in 粕屋町 (KASUYA-MACHI) because of...



小川さん  
Ogawa-san



One day he said 「プレゼント! This is for you!」 They were the flowers growing in the garden.

2022年9月8日 (木)





## Hokusai Exhibit

AT KYUSHU NATIONAL MUSEUM IN DAZAIFU

- Went with Casey. (May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022).
- I got inspired by Hokusai's "Daily Exorcisms for Longevity" and did some ink paintings similar to his. I gave one to Hiroko-sensei.
- The one on the right was a beautiful hydrangea arrangement Nadine gave me.

2022年9月8日(木)





封印解除

苔玉



KOKEDAMA

封印解除

六月十四日

Rehif 2022

KOKEDAMA



Went to a workshop to make kokedama (Japanese moss ball) with Aika and Sami, @ a popup plant shop in Tenjin, right beside Ichiran!

WORKSHOP  
JUNE 5<sup>th</sup>  
2022

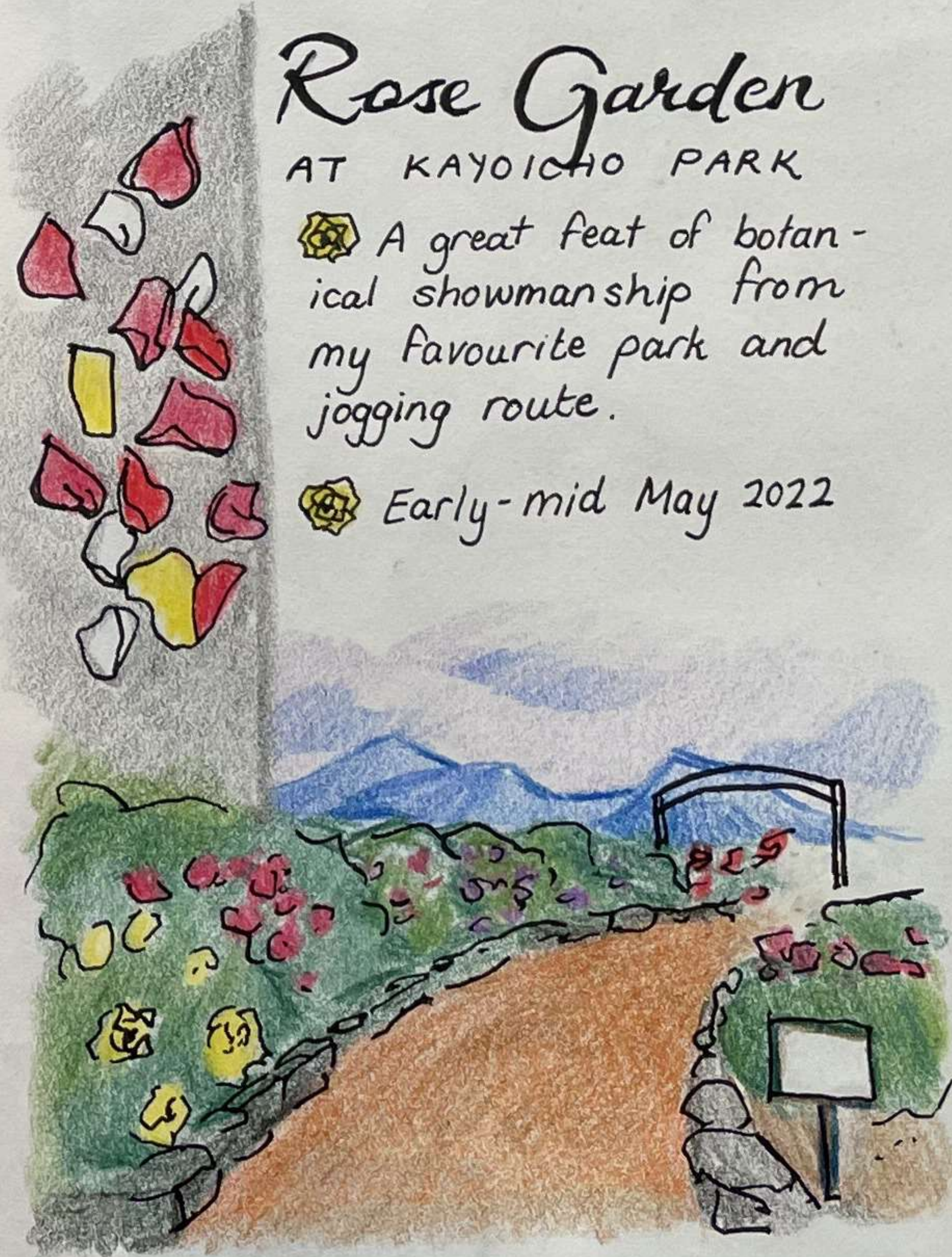


Rose Garden

AT KAYOICHO PARK

A great feat of botanical showmanship from my favourite park and jogging route.

Early-mid May 2022



駕与丁バラ園 05/2022



駕与丁バラ園 05/2022

2022年9月9日(金)



春日祭テーマ <sup>みょう じやう</sup> 明星 Bright Star

第三十五回  
春日祭

明星

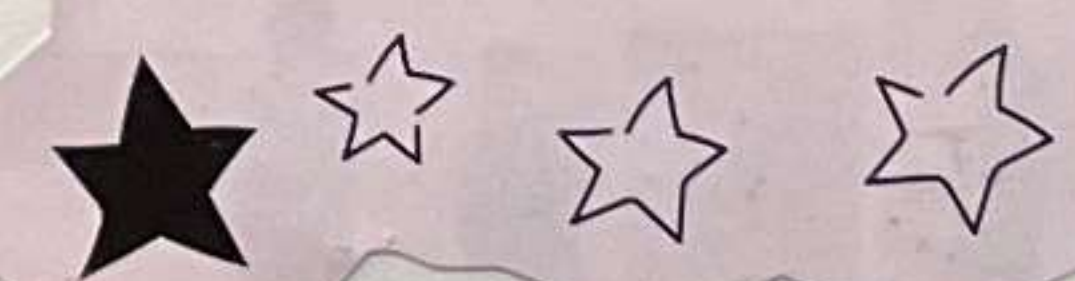


IT WAS MY FIRST <sup>ぶんがさい</sup> 文化祭! (Cultural Festival). I was so impressed by the talents and hard work of the students. I especially loved seeing the stage performances and decorated classrooms. Their exuberance was contagious.

IT WAS ALSO MY FIRST TIME visiting different departments. I met the Biology Dept.'s turtles! The active one was named "Johnson". The shy one was 亀吉. ☺

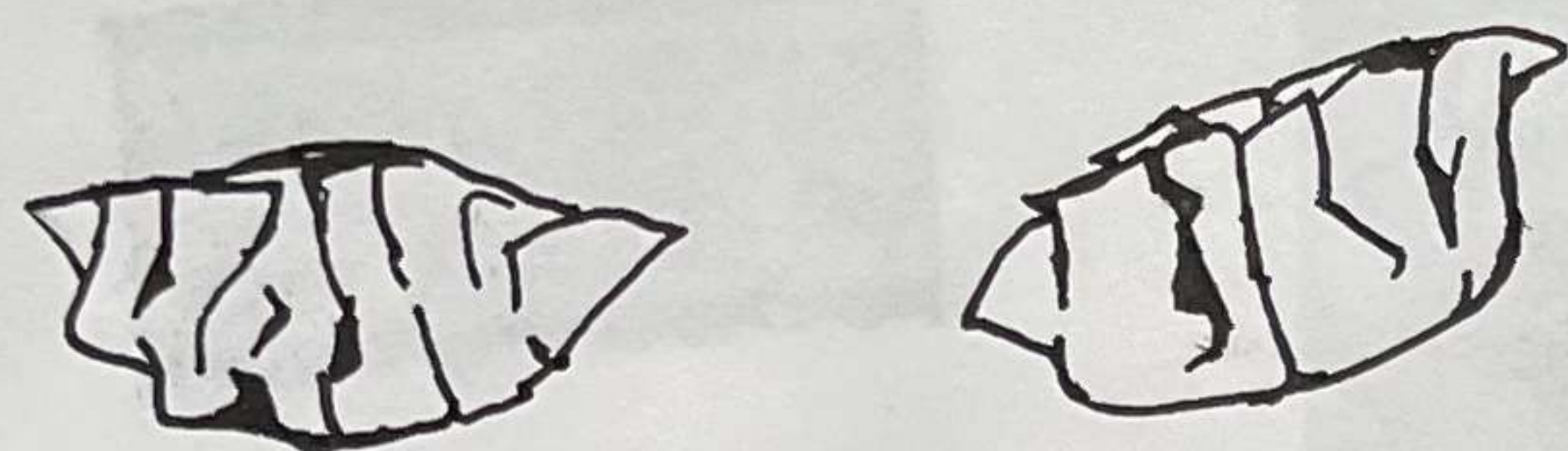


生物室在住「ウーパールーパー」と「亀吉」

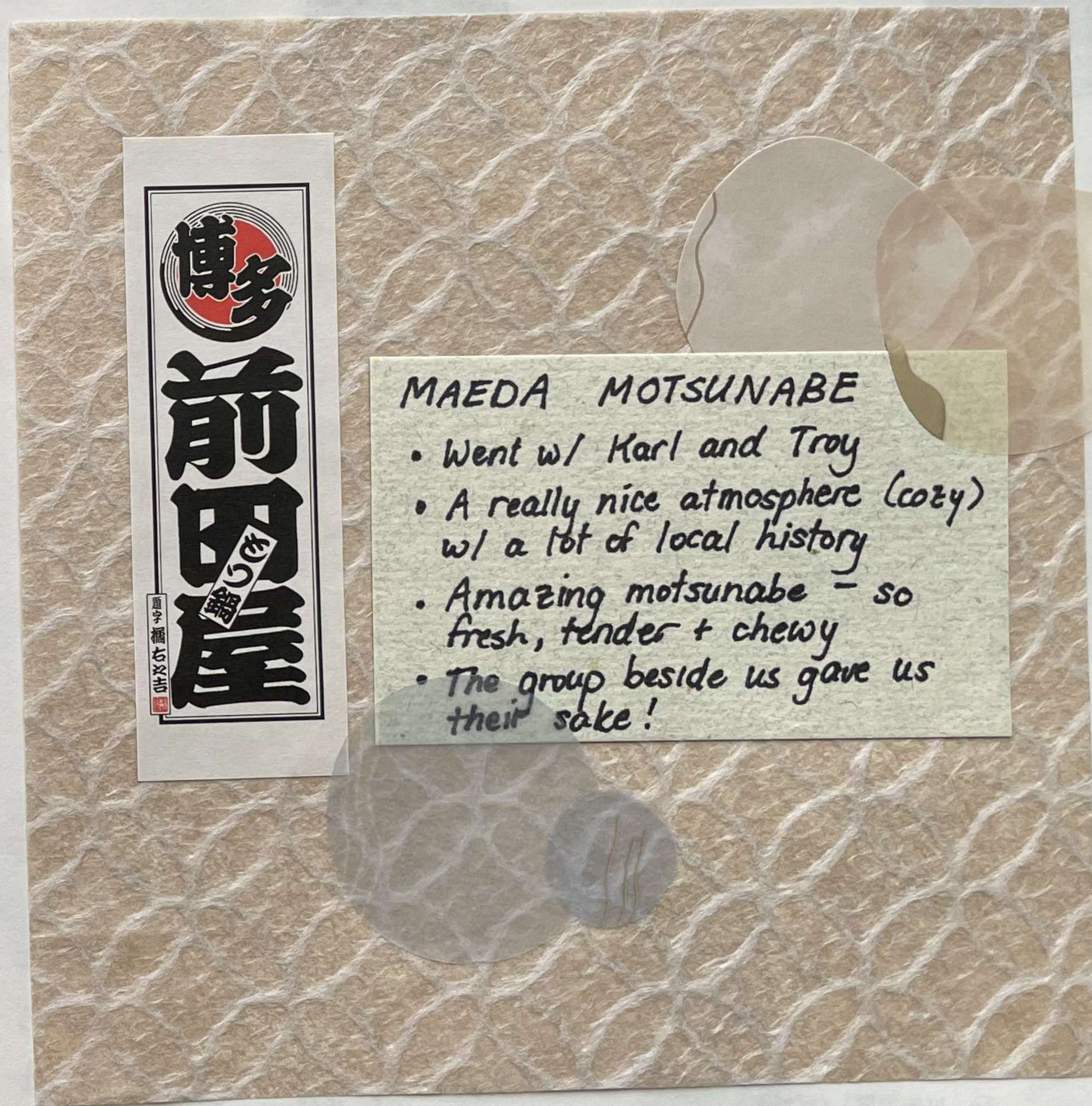
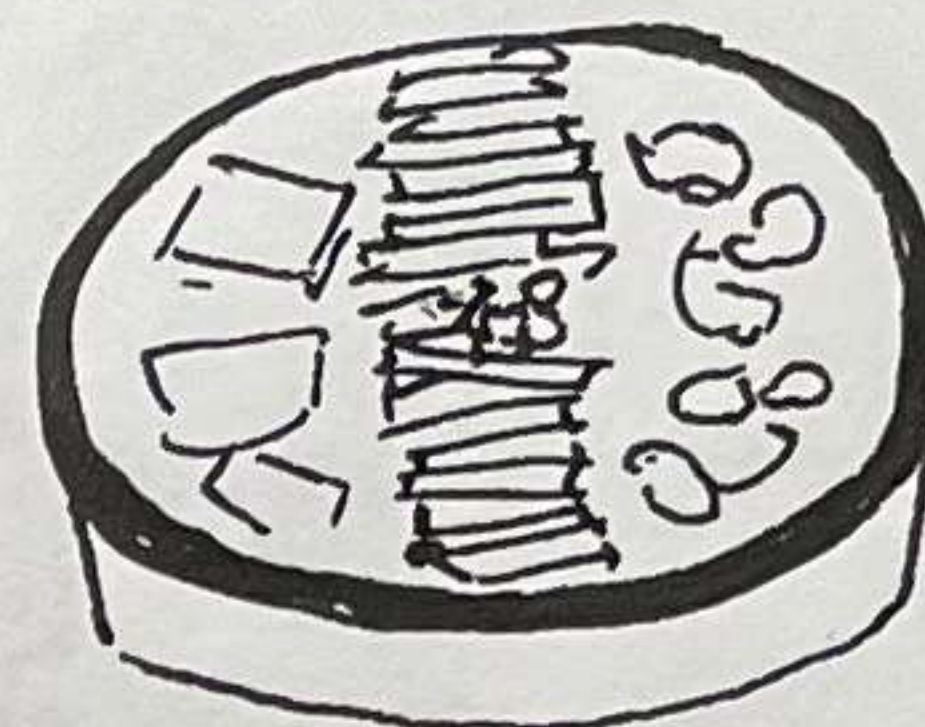


Decorated classroom themes!  
The students were so creative and resourceful.



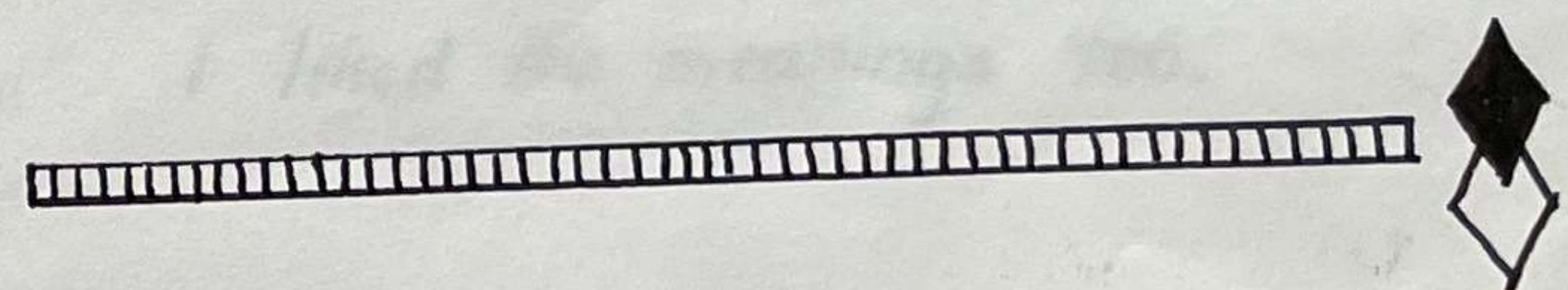


  
 GYOZA in NISHIJIN  
 • Went w/ Troy, Karl,  
 and Casey  
 • Busy place, seemed  
 like a drinking hub.  
 Good food. 

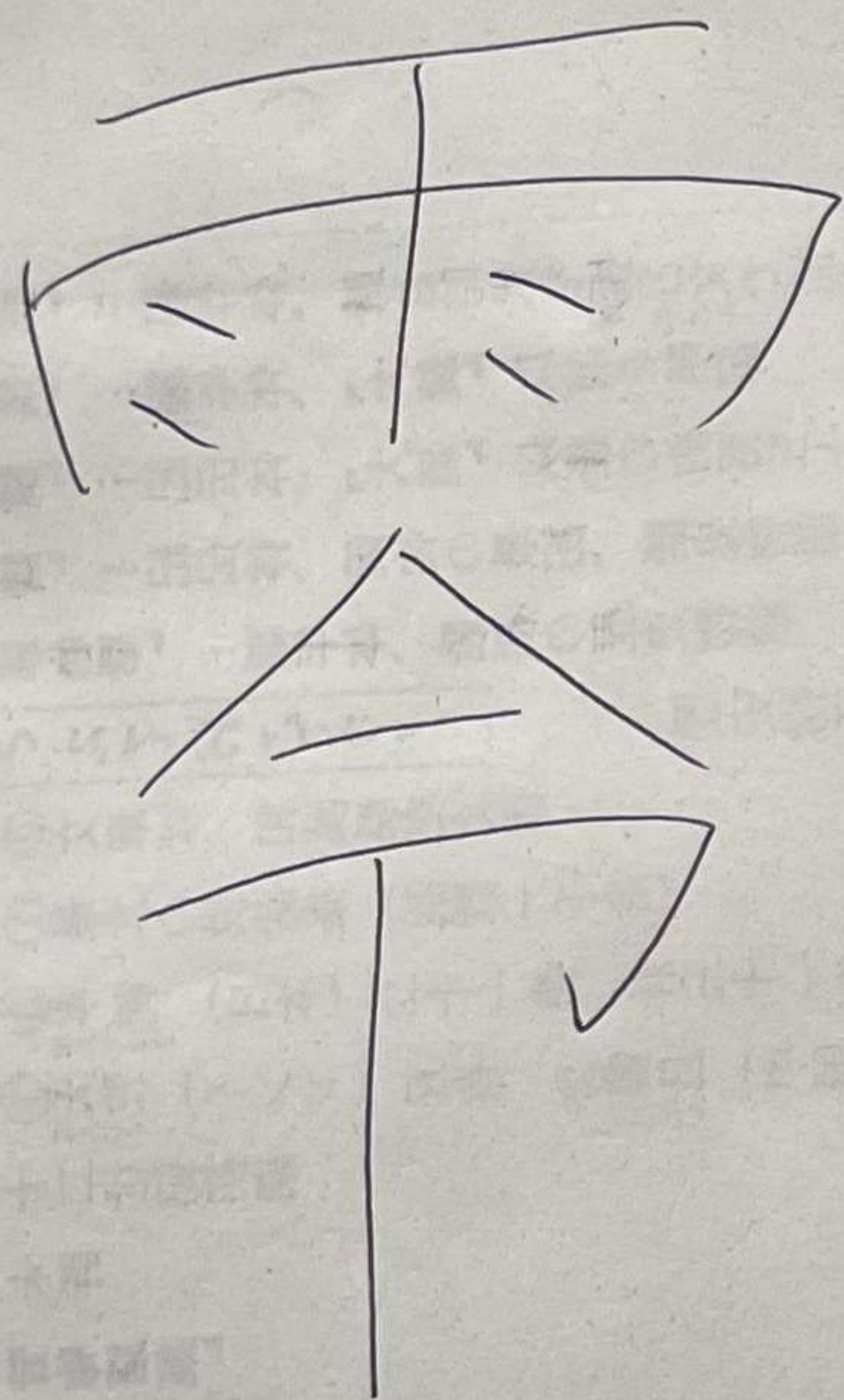


MAEDA MOTSUNABE  
 • Went w/ Karl and Troy  
 • A really nice atmosphere (cozy)  
 w/ a lot of local history  
 • Amazing motsunabe - so  
 fresh, tender + chewy  
 • The group beside us gave us  
 their sake!

# FUKUOKA FOOD RECOLLECTIONS







Rei = rain



MATSU KUMA

松

mean: pine tree

熊

bear



MI SA

美

beautiful

佐

help

please call me

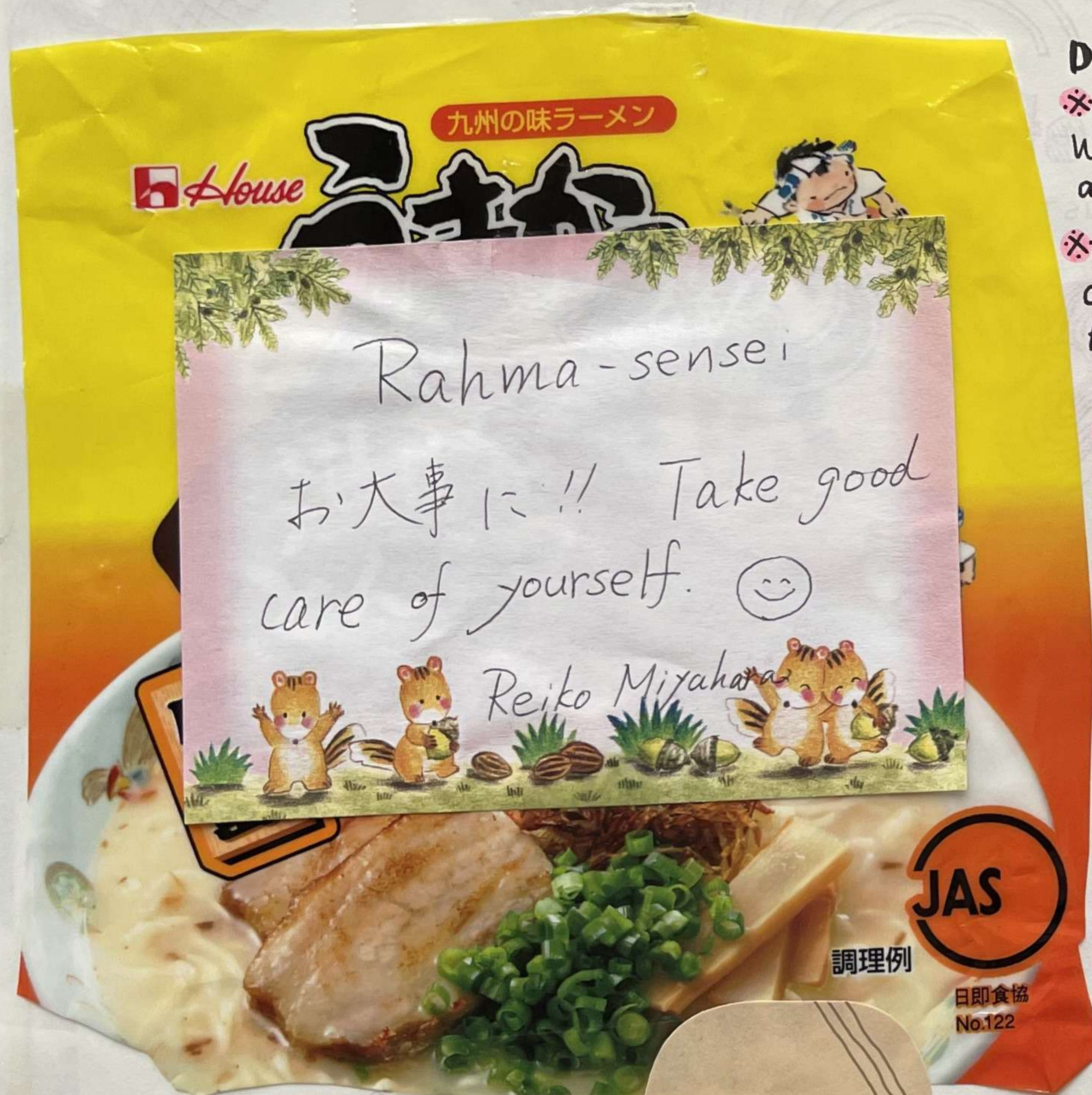
MISA!!

Misa-sensei gave this to me my first day at Kasuga High School! I loved the breakdown of the kanji, which makes sense considering she's a 国語 teacher. I asked her how to write my name in kanji, and she and I decided on the kanji to the left. She said that 零 was rare, but that it was "good kanji". I liked the meanings too.



# THE COVID QUARANTINE DIARIES

AUGUST 30<sup>th</sup> (火) - SEPTEMBER 9<sup>th</sup> (土)



## CARE PACKAGES

On the first day (when I went home from school and tested positive at the hospital) I got the first of many <sup>surprise</sup> care packages!

Miyahara-sensei asked me what food I'd like. I said simple things like instant ramen, tofu, and things to eat with rice. When I asked how much I owed her, she said that Kōchō-sensei paid for everything and to not worry about it. Komiya-sensei delivered the groceries to me later. I was so touched.

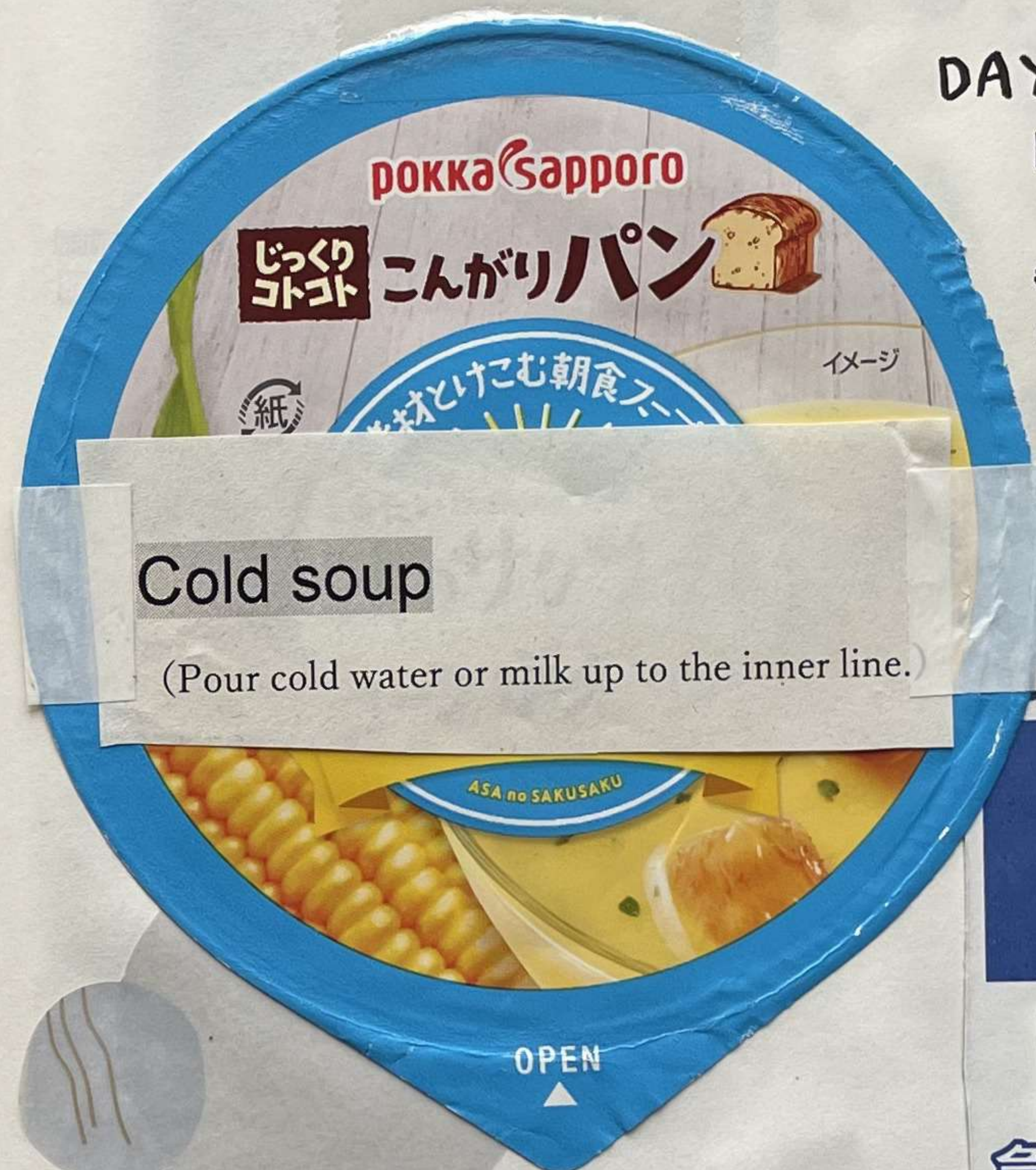
## DAY ①

✖ High fever. Went home after 1<sup>st</sup> period.

✖ Had to sleep a lot. Vivid fever dreams.

✖ The doctor called Miyahara-sensei and told her about the high fever.

✖ Other symptoms: sore throat, coughing, fatigue



## Cold soup

(Pour cold water or milk up to the inner line.)

↙ A sleeping steam eye mask

## Relaxing item

(It must be used immediately after opening.)

STUFF FROM いわさき 岩崎先生 !!  
The instructions were so cute.

## DAY ② AT HOME

Matsukuma Misa-sensei and Iwasaki Satomi-sensei got me stuff that Komiya-sensei dropped off. They're like older sisters! ♥

ワンタッチと貼るだけで、すぐにひんやり。

## 冷却シート Instant Cooling Gel Sheets



おとな用  
For Adults

5cm×13cm

2022年9月12日(月)



# THE COVID QUARANTINE DIARIES (CONTINUED)



Mentaiko baguette from Komiya-sensei



The Postcard Miyahara-sensei got me  
when I got back to Japan

(Received August 29<sup>th</sup> 2022, when I got back to work)





# SPORTS DAY

運動会 (うんどうかい)  
September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022 (土)



THEME:

鷲 翔  
しやう が

Soaring Heights (more or less)

**THOUGHTS:** I had no idea what to expect (it was my first day back at work after quarantine) but I was so impressed by the students' hard work, discipline, and practice - I especially loved the taiko and traditional dance performances. I had never seen such orderly and complex marching before. The bleachers - tile colour performances were so complex (sometimes they spelt kanji)! And watching the games was a lot of fun. I'm glad that Sports Day was able to resume and I was able to watch it.

9月  
大運動会



## KASUGA Senior High School

赤い  
ブロック



Team Red

黄色  
ブロック



Team Yellow

青い  
ブロック



Team Blue

2022年9月17日(土)

FUKUOKA PREFECTURAL KASUGA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

# 第44回大運動会

鷲 翔

令和4年

9月10日(土)

9:00~14:00

福岡県立  
春日高等学校





Dear Rahma,

おつかれさま〜! i'm so glad  
that we've become friends  
over this time at Choj. You  
have such a charming presence,  
that i will miss hearing,  
seeing, and being around.

Please get that へろへろ  
日本語ね〜! Thanks for  
hanging out and having  
really good convos. Enjoy  
home and Japan when  
you come back. Hopefully  
i'll see you next year! Much  
love and peace. Keep  
doing beautiful art! ♡

Remy

July 17, 2022



Dear Rahma, ♡

It was really nice meeting you and getting to know  
you better these past couple of months. Thank you  
for your delicious meals, bright presence, and lovely  
companionship. Truthfully, I'm not sure if we'll ever  
meet again or even stay in touch, but I am thankful  
for the time we did get to spend together here in  
Fukuoka. You'll be a part of my memory of this  
place and JET. You asked yesterday what I'll miss  
most about being in Fukuoka / Japan. People like you  
and other friends here make leaving more bitter than  
sweet. Thank you for being our friend and please don't  
hesitate to contact us if you are in Portland, NYC, Denver  
or wherever we are. I welcome more time <sup>with</sup> you 😊  
Safe trip home and good luck with the rest of your time  
in JET!

xoxo Ang

Farewell letters  
from Ang and  
Remy that greeted  
me when I  
returned to Japan.

(They left Japan  
while I was in  
Canada).

From

Remy & Ang

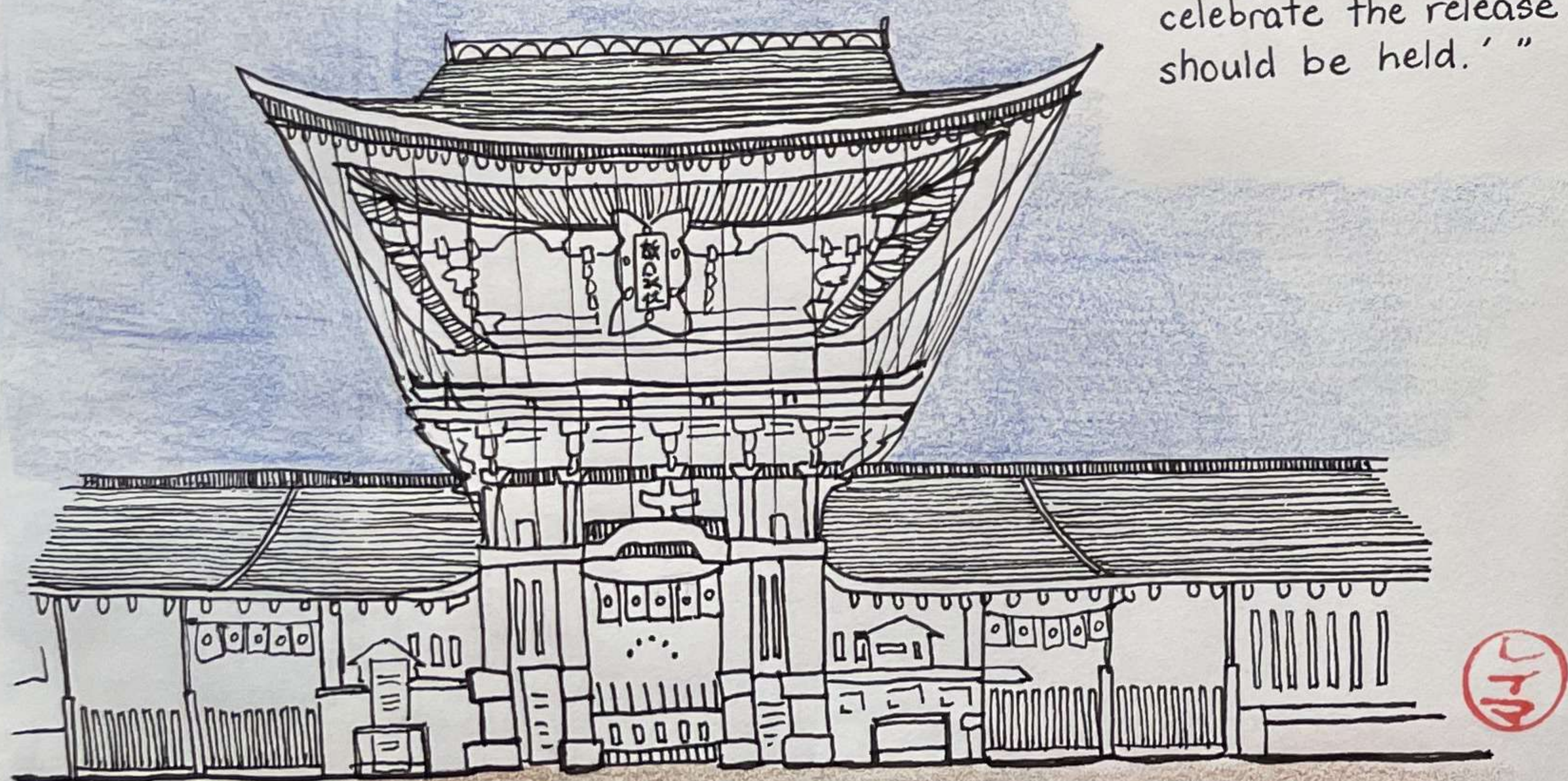




## A BRIEF HISTORY:

"Hojoya Festival is said to have been held in Fukuoka at Hakozaki Shrine since 919 AD. It is also said to have begun after an oracle from a kami:

'Since so much life is taken during war, a festival to celebrate the release of life should be held.'"



# Hakozaki Shrine

# Hojoya Festival

SEPTEMBER 12<sup>th</sup> (月) - 18<sup>th</sup> (日)

## ABOUT:

"Hojoya celebrates life and freedom. It is a festival for people to show appreciation for life itself, warn themselves against needless killing, and express gratitude for the bountiful harvest in autumn."

"During the festival period, various Shinto rituals and shrine events take place along the entrance path to Hakozaki Shrine. About 500 street stalls offer various attractions."



with Matsuoka Misa-sensei (left) and Iwasaki Satomi-sensei (right)!



## 2022 EDITION:

I went with 美佐先生 (Misa-sensei) and 岩崎先生 (Iwasaki-sensei) on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> after work. Before that, 岩崎先生 and I visited 稲吉先生's (Inakage-sensei) koto club and they performed beautiful music. Regardless of the approaching typhoon, it was a great way to end the week.

The festival was so much fun! We ate many different things. I tried my best to communicate in Japanese and they were so helpful and supportive.





10月8日 2022年



10月8日 2022年



10月9日 2022年



10月9日 2022年



# Kumamoto and Miyazaki Trip

熊本県

SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 8



宮崎県



MONDAY  
OCTOBER 10

The TakachiHOES: Linden + Gabe + Casey



KUMAMON IN THE CALDERA // POSTCARD FROM KUROKAWA ONSEN

## Details ↻ Clockwise from left

- ① A viewpoint in Kumamoto on the way to mikan picking. An old man chatted with Linden for a while and told her the story of how a volcanic eruption formed the landscape in our panoramic view.
- ② Persimmons (柿) at the farm.
- ③ The monorail onsen in Tsunagi, Kumamoto.
- ④ Our ryokan in Yatsushiro, Kumamoto, built in the 1800s, with a 700 year old onsen.

2022年  
10月  
16日  
(日)



START:  
OCTOBER 8 (土)  
2022

# Takachihoes Road

長部田海床路【熊本】  
NAGABETA SEABED ROAD



Perfect weather!  
♡♡♡

## Day 1 (土)

- ◆ Fukuoka → Kumamoto
- ◆ Fruits picking at a Kumamoto orchard. Mikan, persimmons & pears
- ◆ Nagabeta Seabed Road at low tide
- ◆ Check-in at Yanagiya Ryokan in Yatsushiro

## Day 2 (日)

- ◆ Breakfast at ryokan
- ◆ Monorail outdoor onsen in Tsunagi, Kumamoto
- ◆ Kirishima Kinkowan National Park (sulphuric air, hardly any reception)
- ◆ Dinner in Hyuga, Miyazaki
- ◆ Check-in at Takachiho Hotel

## Day 3 (月)

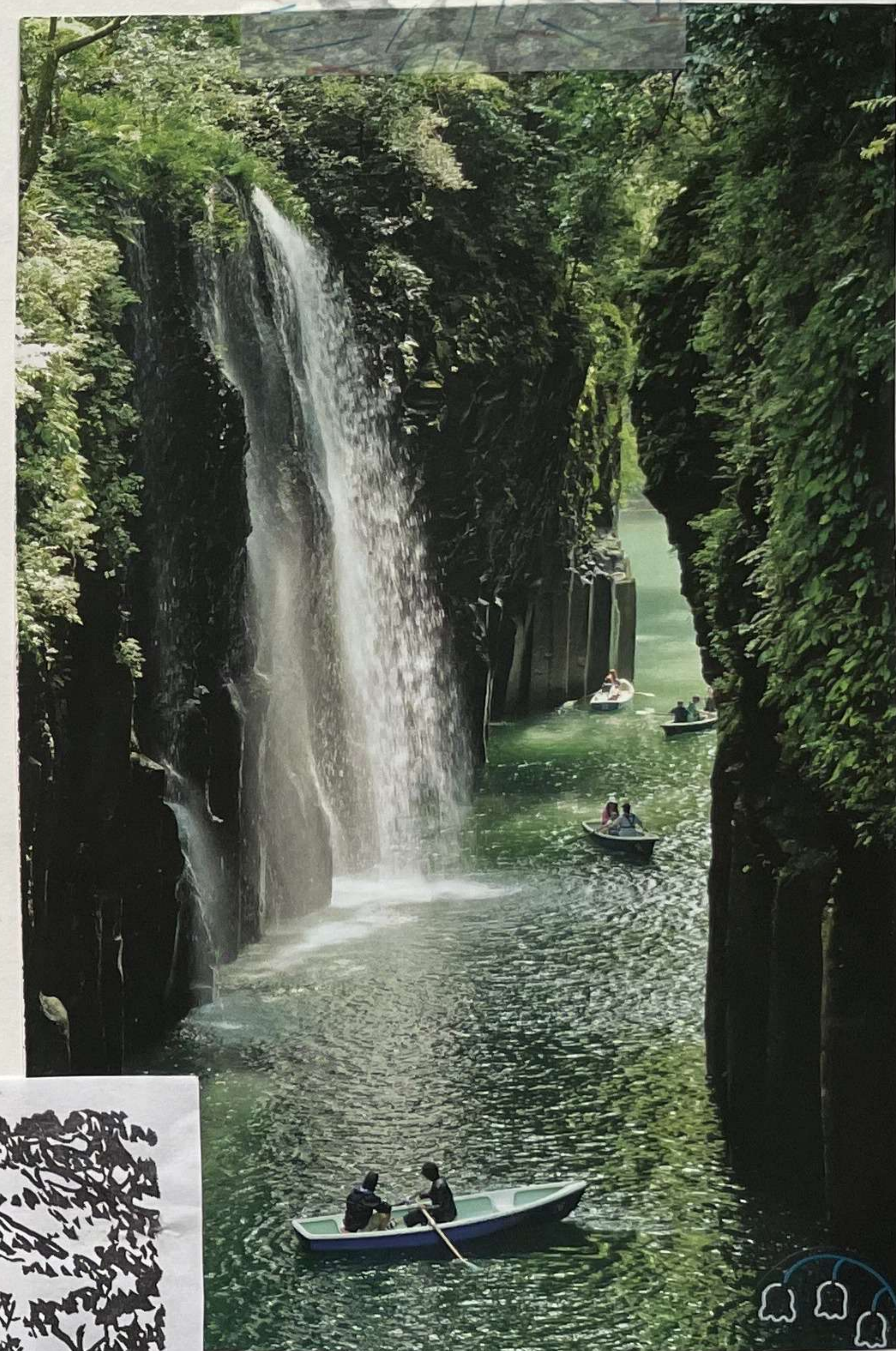
- ◆ Takachiho Gorge (damaged bc of Typhoon 14). Nagashi somen, noodles down a bamboo chute.
- ◆ Mt. Aso and Aso-Kuju National Park. The pastures were so cold! The Aso skyline drive was gorgeous.
- ◆ Kurokawa Onsen & the cave onsen
- ◆ Back to Fukuoka

# Trip (Continued)

FINISH:  
OCTOBER 10 (月)  
2022



10月8日 2022年



↑ Takachiho Gorge (normally)

← Kirishima Kinkowan National Park

2022年10月16日 (日)



# 山口県 Yamaguchi Road Trip



MOTONOSUMI INARI SHRINE 元乃隅神社

Saturday October 22<sup>nd</sup> 2022 — Sunday October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022

WITH: CASEY, EOLANN, HANNAH, KYLE, KARL, NADINE, TROY



元乃隅売店

秋芳洞入洞記念

2022.10.22



AT TRIP  
BASE  
COCONEEEL

山口県

10/22/2022



山口県

10/22/2022

Boys' ROOM  
(SPOT  
CASEY)

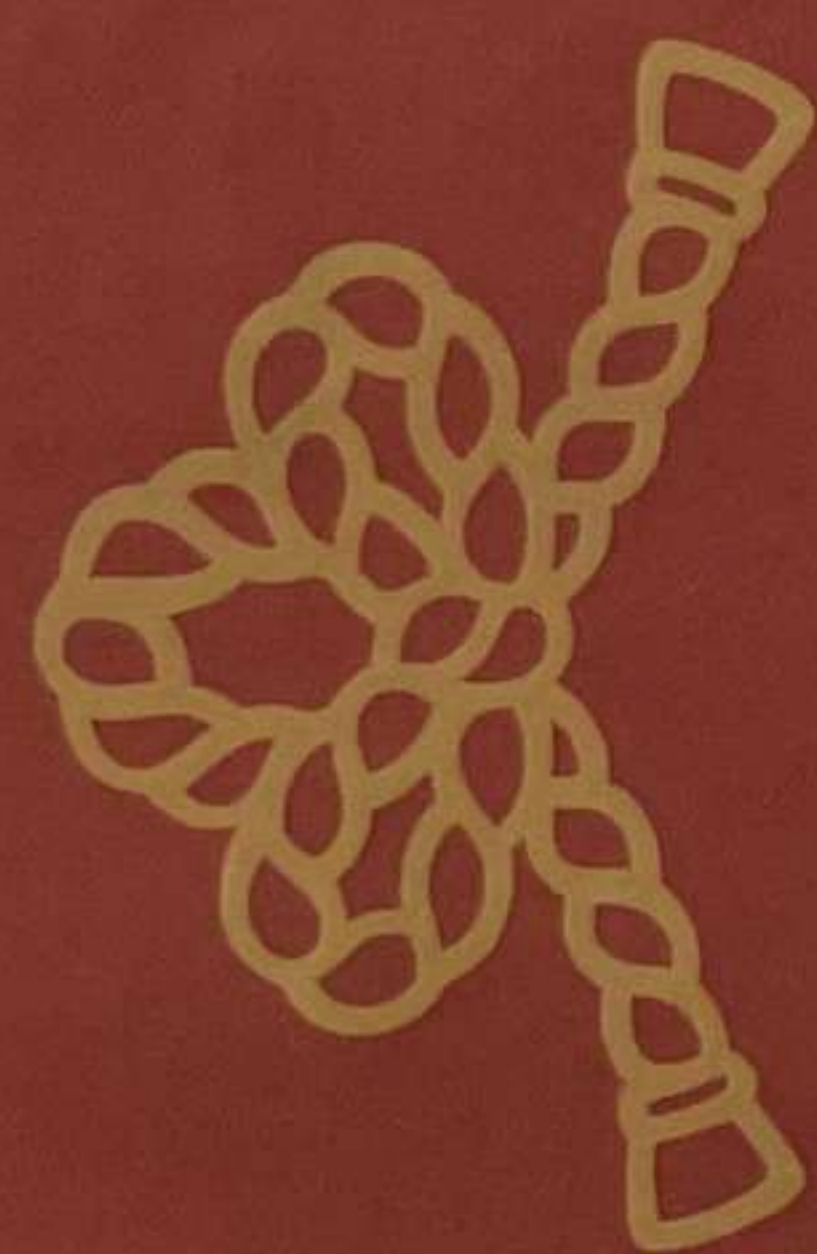


山口県

10/22/2022

A LIVING  
ROOM ALL TO  
OURSELVES





HAKATAZA THEATER

# Recollections

A very fun, comfortable and engaged discussion! The students told me later that they had a lot of fun. We went over the allotted time, but the theatre staff person said it was okay (he was even participating in the discussion and seemed to be enjoying it too!) He told the students and 宮原先生 a lot of production/plot trivia and I asked the students to translate his Japanese into English. They did a really good job and they expressed themselves very well in English.

The theatre had a conference room of sorts that we used as a makeshift seminar room. We arranged the seats in a circle - very egalitarian - and I think I introduced the students to the more participatory, seminar-style of discussion common in Western universities (at least mine). I'm glad they felt at ease and relaxed around me.

*Miss Saigon* Post-Musical Discussion Points  
Hakataza Theater, October 25<sup>th</sup> 2022

## Questions

- Is this your first time seeing a musical?
- What did you think about the musical?
- What was your favorite part?
- Were you surprised by anything?
- Was the musical hard to understand?

# Post-Musical Discussion OF *Miss Saigon*

WITH レイマ先生

OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup> 2022, HAKATAZA THEATER

## ATTENDEES

KAMACHI (CLASS 1)  
SAITOU (CLASS 1)  
SAKAI (CLASS 1)  
SHIROMOTO (CLASS 1)  
HONDA (CLASS 1)  
OKUSU (CLASS 5)  
YUASA (CLASS 5)  
SAKAIDA (CLASS 9)  
MIYAHARA REIKO

2022年10月25日(火)





# 東京 and 日光 Tokyo and Nikko



TOKYO SKYTREE (visible from our hotel's outdoor onsen)

## ASAKUSA TAIKO FESTIVAL

3 November 2022 (Thu)  
Start 12:00  
Asakusa Sumida Park,  
Taito-ku, Tokyo

↑  
A free festival I stumbled upon  
by following the sounds of drum-  
ming on a walk down Sumida Park.



↑ KANMANGAFUCHI  
↓ ABYSS



日光東照宮  
NIKKO TOSHOGU SHRINE



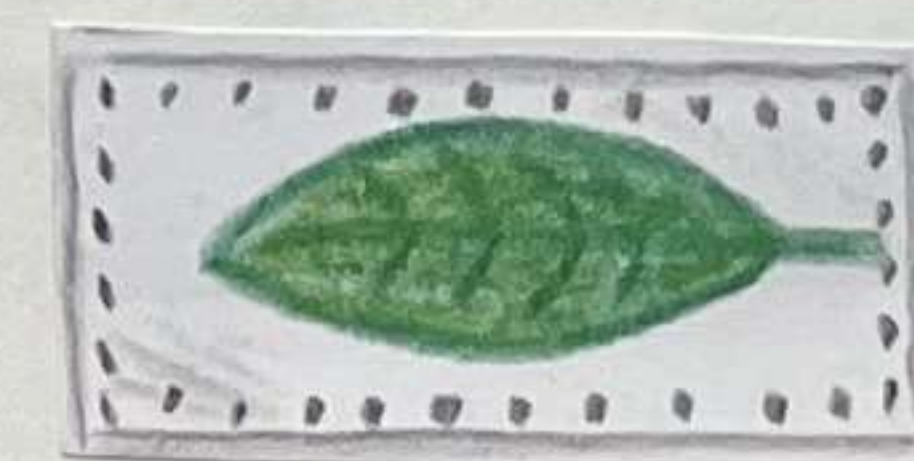
Fast  
Facts

# Birthday 26<sup>th</sup> Trip

DATES: NOVEMBER 3 (木) 2022  
- NOVEMBER 6 2022 (日)

COMPANY: LINDEN, PIERRE, GABE

Ticket to view Kegon Falls



Linden bought me a vase as a 26<sup>th</sup> birthday present when she and Pierre went to Mashiiko (浅草寺) as I spent the day in Asakusa (浅草)



@susumunoutuwa



susumu matsunaga

松永 進





kawaii  
my fav  
my angel



10/30/2022

marbre blanc  
self photo studio



10/29/2022

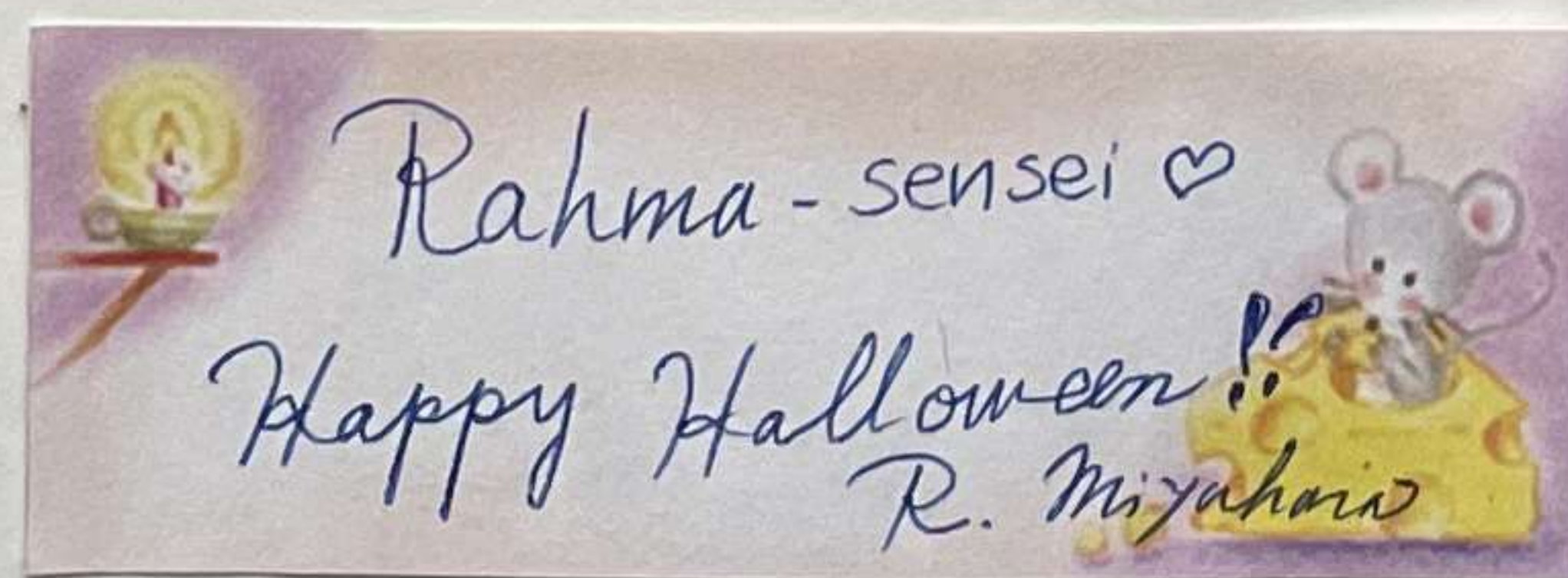
BDAY / HALLOWEEN  
PARTY @ MINE



10/29/2022

LUV

LUV



Nov. 4th 2022

Rahma - sensei

お誕生日 おめでとうございます

Happy Birthday

日本での日々がステキな思い出になります  
ように♡色々なことを体験して楽しんで下さい

Love always,

Reiko Miyahara

2022年11月4日 (金)



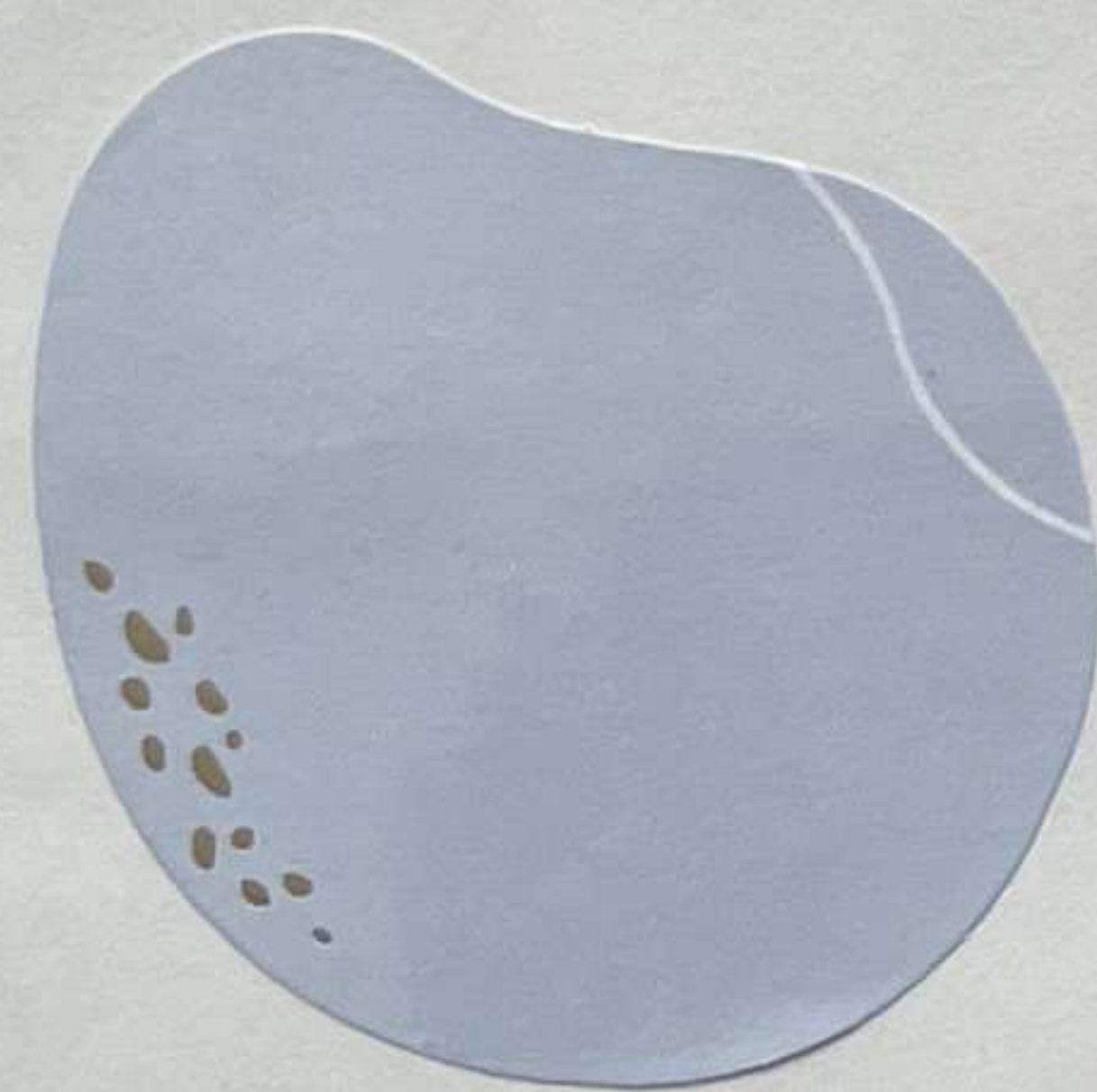


Good morning,  
Rahma-sensei!

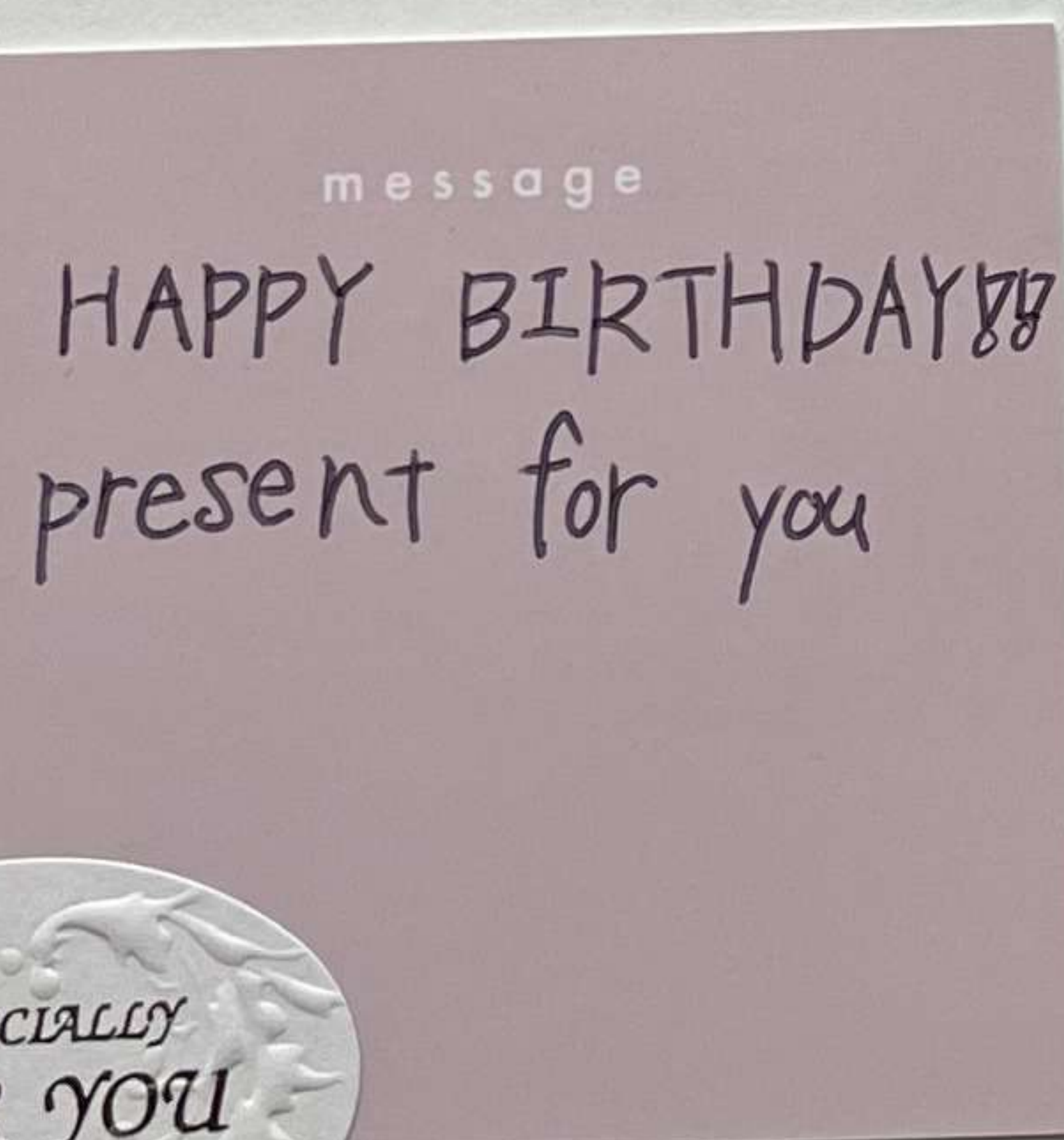
Your crepe is  
in the refrigerator  
behind you. Please  
take it. Miyahara ☺



A morning surprise on my  
desk from Miyahara-sensei  
for my birthday!



Hiroko-sensei gave me a  
seashell resin charm that  
her eleven-year old daughter  
made! I attached it to my keys.



Dearest Raymond Wario ♡

HAPPY HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

We'll miss you so much but we  
hope you have a safe, fun trip  
(and work). You'll be on the  
other side of the planet but please  
remember we're only a call away...  
I love that song.

We love you so much!!!

- ethical peen



The birthday note from Tracy, Cido,  
Robin and Kissy from last year (2021,  
my 25<sup>th</sup> birthday), right before I left  
for Japan...



Sammi's stamp from  
the envelope of the card  
she gave me!





⑦

領収書  
Receipt

Rahma Wiryomartono 様

This is to confirm that we have received your payment of 金 2,000 円 for the Arita English

Tour, on November, 12<sup>th</sup> 2022.

ただし、有田窯のやさしきものまつり 英語ツアー代金として、上記のとおり領収いたしました。

令和4年11月12日

西松浦郡有田町立部乙 2202 番地

陶都有田国際交流協会



会長 松尾 佳昭

International Relations Association of the Porcelain Town of Arita

2202 Tachibane-otsu, Arita Town

Saga Prefecture

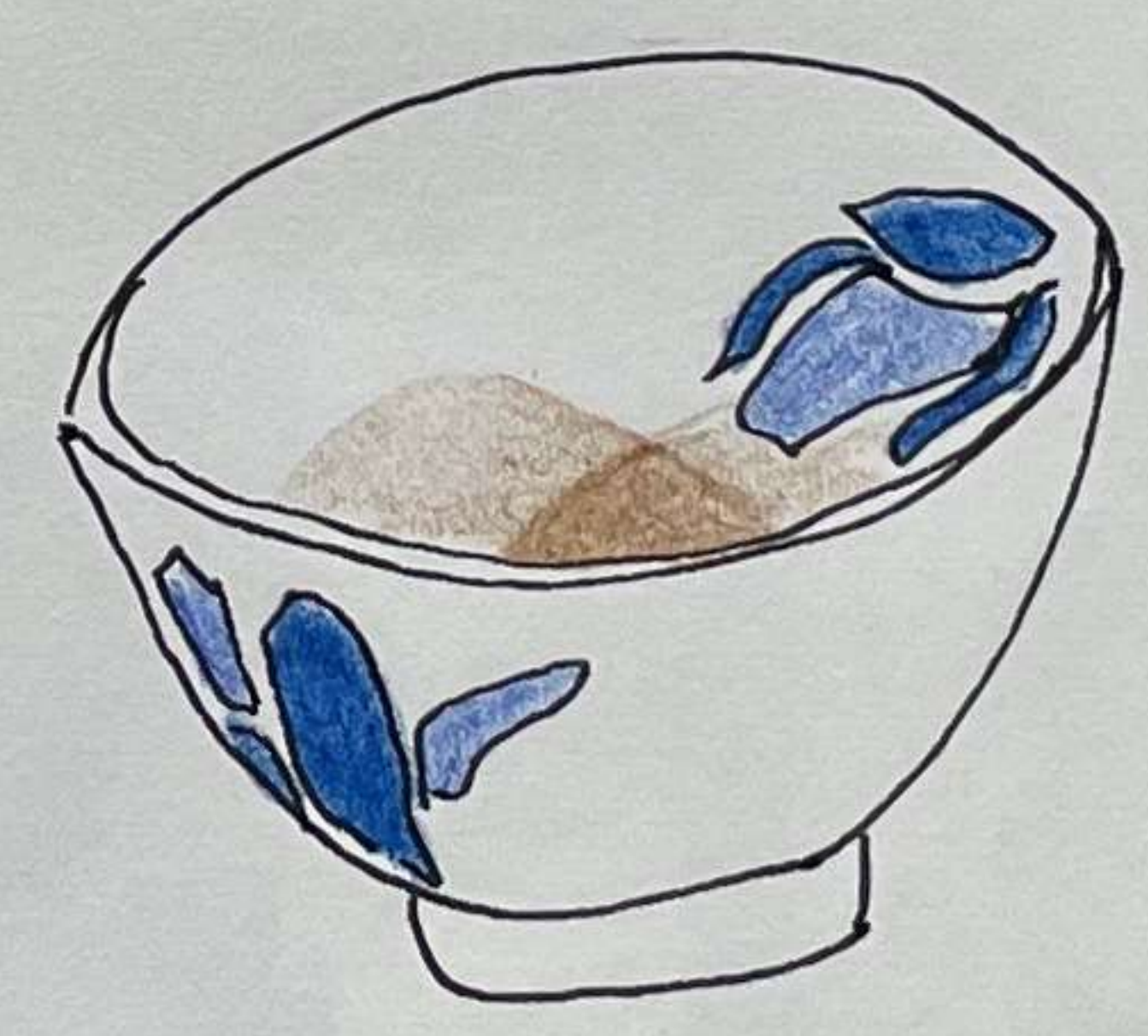
849-4192

President

Matsuo

ABOUT:

- \* An English tour organized by Vincent, a Saga CIR based in Arita
- \* Went with ~15 others, mostly JETs, including Linden, Janeth and Casey



Matching dishes I bought



A new tea cup!  
The colours caught my eye.

# Arita Porcelain Tour

佐賀県 有田町

十二月十二日

HIGHLIGHTS:

- \* A pottery painting experience!
- \* A stop to a kaolin mine (ground level) that used to be a mountain
- \* Learning about the process of making porcelain and the history of Japanese porcelain

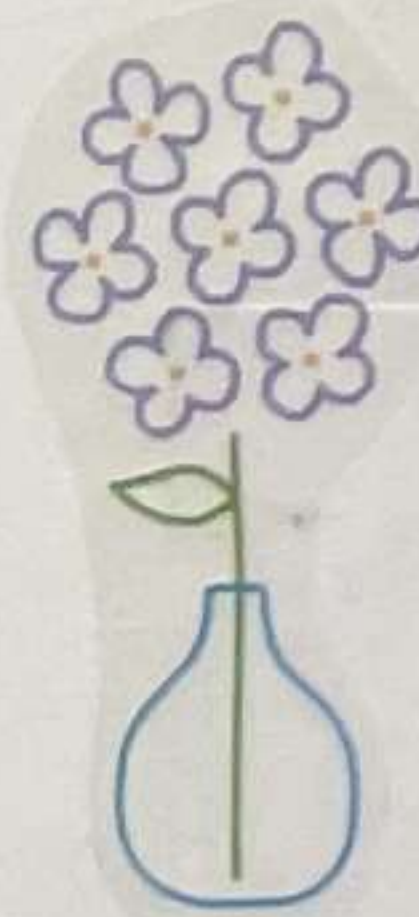
2022年11月13日 (A)





Summer - Autumn 2022, Canada + Japan, 25 years old

A note from Kuboyama-sensei 久保山先生  
checking in on me, with some sweets from Saga 佐賀県.



Dear レイマ.

朝と夕方の気温が 変わりまして  
体調は大丈夫ですか。  
今日午前中、佐賀に行ってきました。  
佐賀のお菓子です。食べてみてください。

2022年11月14日(月)



Red bean  
paste  
filling ♡

おいしかった～!

佐賀  
白玉饅頭  
古湯川上

第二十一回 全国菓子大博覧会金賞受賞

(有) 本家池の家

本社・工場 佐賀県佐賀市大町大字久池井  
TEL 0952-62800268933  
古湯本店 佐賀県佐賀市富士町大字古湯  
TEL 0952-5812027  
鳥栖支店 佐賀県鳥栖市津原字津原  
TEL 0942-853741130

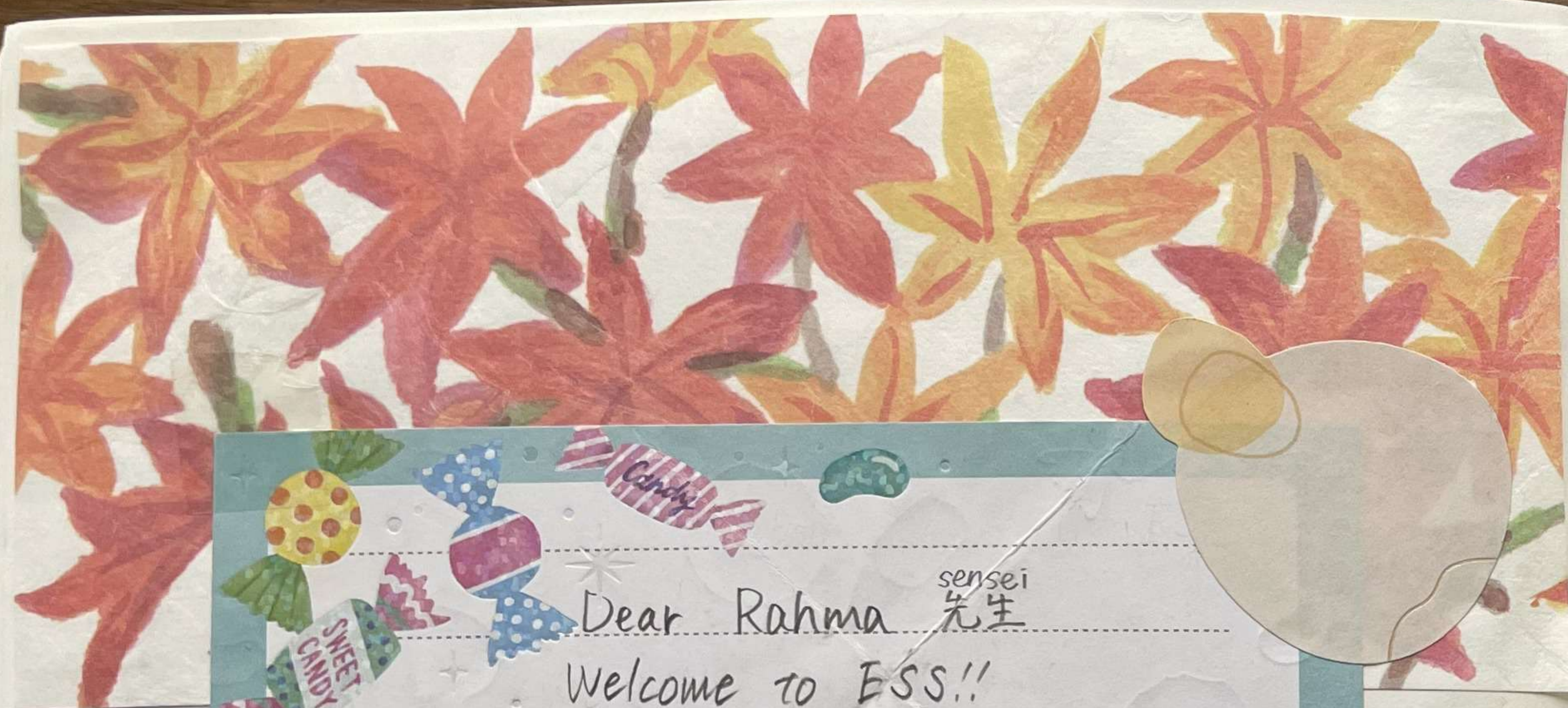
20221114 製造年月日  
消費期限 20221114 (10個入)

生ものですので本日中にお召し上がり下さい。

2022年11月14日(月)

The お菓子 (sweets) from Kuboyama-sensei 久保山先生





Dear Rahma <sup>sensei</sup> 先生  
Welcome to ESS!!

We have some presents for you!

- Sensu (Japanese folding fan)
- Yunomi (Japanese teacup)
- book mark
- Dagashi (Japanese snacks)

Thank you for coming to ESS!

We have been looking forward to seeing you. Let's enjoy speaking English and making a lot of memories.

If you have any question, please feel free to ask us!

From ESS members

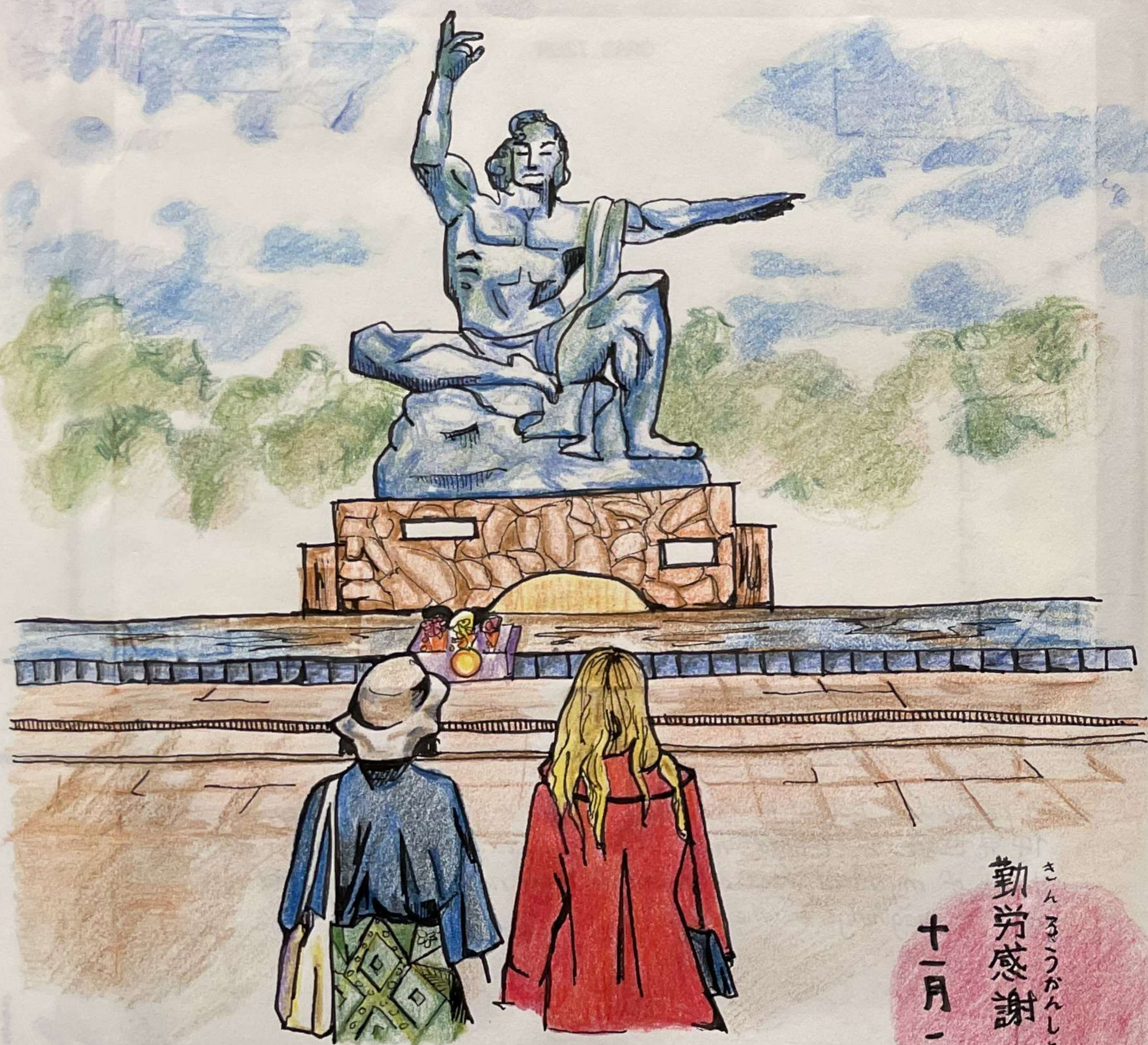


↳ A postcard I bought in Asakusa 浅草 on Nakamise Shopping Street 仲見世通). I liked the blue of the sea. The big fish made me think of mythical foes of a formidable nature, relegated now only in imaginings of the past.





# Nagasaki 長崎



勤労感謝の日  
きんろうかんしゃび  
十二月二十三日

FRIENDS: LINDEN, NOAH, CASEY

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022 (Labour Thanksgiving Day)

\* Linden (right) and me (left), snapped by Noah

2023年1月3日 (火)



11/20/2022



Atomic Bomb Museum ticket

2023年1月3日 (火)



Dear Rahma 先生

Thank you for your cookies  
made in Canada last week! It was very  
delicious! I want to eat Dagashi left in  
ESS clubroom soon.

I'm happy to exchange letters with you  
because I've been longing for a penfriend.  
I want to talk more with you in person, and also  
by letters but you don't have to hurry  
to write back to me.

Once again, it's nice to meet you.

From Rena

宮原先生 gave me beautiful stationery paper  
and a small jingly rabbit! ♡

Merry Christmas ☆☆☆

日本の文化を  
楽しんで下さい  
2023 年の干支は、うさぎ  
zodiac rabbit  
です。

菊は日本の国花です。

レイマ先生

national flower  
chrysanthemum  
I like them.

宮原 玲子

Reiko Miyahara  
MIDORI



日本では古事記の「国璽の白うさぎ」とも  
は、様々な神話で語られている  
馴染みの深い動物で、古来より工芸品  
や縁起物として用いられてきました。

また、五穀豊稔をつかさどる卯は  
「成る」の意味を持ち万物の繁栄を、  
その穏やかな姿は家内安泰の象徴と  
して、跳躍力は飛躍を、足の速さは  
何事にも良い方向に速やかに進むと  
いわれています。

新しい年が皆様の更なる躍進、そして  
進歩ある年になりますように。

日本の心

二人海



12月2022年

Date given 了





↑ A New Year card from Rena  
that was sitting on my desk when  
I returned from the States!

## 謹賀新年

旧年中は大変お世話になりました  
本年も何卒よろしく願い申し上げます

I miss you 

令和五年

May 2023 be a happy and great year  
for you!



2023年1月6日(金)



Rahma Sensei

This is song that I often sing before I have lunch!

「おべんとう」 “Obento”

1

おべんと おべんと うれしいな

Obento, Obento, I feel so glad! (because Obento looks very good and they look forward to eat it.)

おてても きれいに なりました

My hands became so clean (because I washed my hands).

■みんな そろって ごあいさつ (The teacher says)

Everyone let's say ...

●いただきます (Children say)

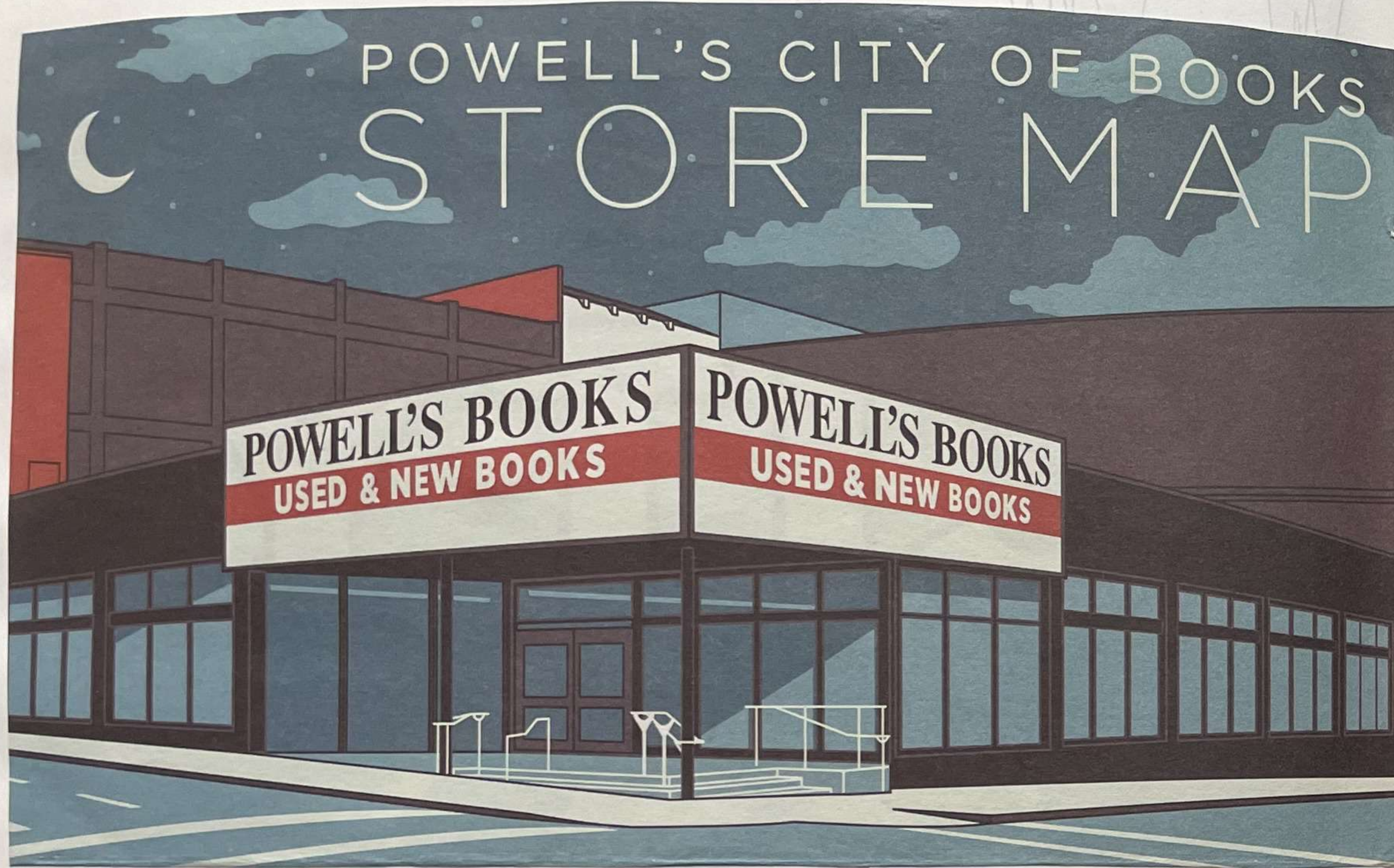
“Itadakimasu!” (The greeting when we start to eat.)

2

おべんと おべんと うれしいな

Obento, Obento, I feel so glad!





Adult  
Friday, December 30, 2022  
Daily Admission

It was my first time meeting Riyo!

We were snowed in the first week I was in Portland because of a once-in-twenty-years kind of winter storm that cancelled Kak Asun's initial flight but in the end, everything worked out.

I was grateful we got to all spend the holidays together.



Portland, Oregon  
USA

WINTER BREAK 2023 冬休み

\* Visited Kak Arini, Mas Mike and Riyo  
\* Cacak Asun and Mas Connor joined too



Columbia River Gorge

2023年1月28日(土)





令和5年1月



しよ どう  
書道

麻 Cannabis sativa

Linen  
Ramie

white  
silky  
shine

from Miyahara-sensei

夢夢夢

## My first calligraphy class

藤井先生 (Fujii-sensei) invited me to an 1年生書道 class and even though everything was in Japanese, I managed to follow along somewhat.

I did three versions of 夢 ("dream") that I based off of a reference book 藤井先生 lent me and the funny thing about them is my signature on each one. The first one I signed in katakana, レイマ, and then 藤井先生 and I decided to choose kanji for my name.

She said 麗 (れい, "lovely, beautiful") was good, but we were struggling to find something for 夫. She said 麻 was good and she told me it was a plant. She signed it for me and I was in awe of the artistry of her handwriting. I signed it next time and mine was so much worse!

Later, I asked 宮原先生 about the meaning of 麻 and she told me it was cannabis! We had a good laugh about it. Overall, I was really grateful for the experience and 藤井先生's invitation!

2023年1月11日(水)



We ate umegaemochi!



My fortune



## Dazaifu Tenmangu Trip

久保田先生 (Kubota-sensei) and 林先生 (Hayashi-sensei) invited me to the 3年生 teachers' trip to Dazaifu Tenmangu when they would pray for the students' success in their university entrance exams.

We went inside the Honden (the most sacred part of the shrine), the resting place of Sugawara Michizane, where a priest guided us through a Shinto ceremony. I thought it was such a special experience.

## Welcome to Dazaifu Tenmangu

Dazaifu Tenmangu is one of Japan's leading Shinto shrines and the head shrine of 12,000 Tenjin shrines nationwide. The shrine has over 1,100 years of history and is built on the burial site of Sugawara Michizane (845-903), a ninth-century court noble, scholar, poet, and politician. He is enshrined here as Tenjin, the deity of learning, culture, and the arts.

The shrine and its surroundings are ancient, but its approach to art is timeless, working with international artists to create a program of art events and blending the spiritual and creative in a unique environment, open to all.

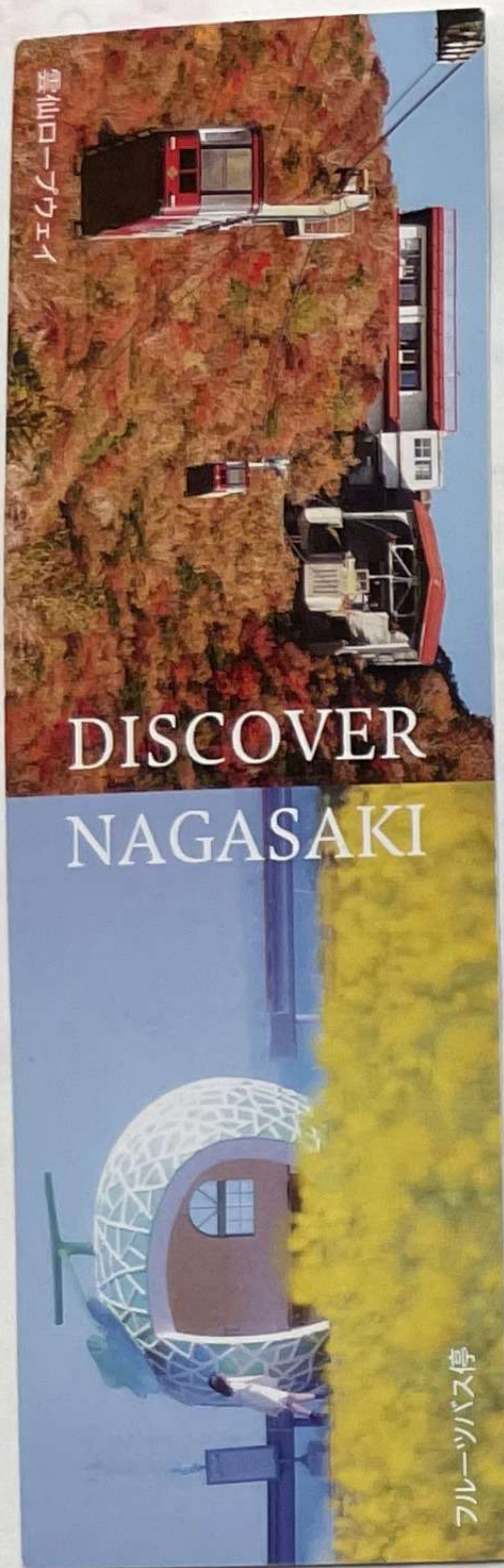
Experience Dazaifu Tenmangu through its beautifully-kept grounds, on-site museums, contemporary artworks, time-wrought traditions, and colorful festivals. Each visit is an experience different from the last.

Watabe-sensei went back to Dazaifu Tenmangu and got me an English info pamphlet because he said he felt bad he didn't know the answers to my questions the first time!

FROM 渡部先生

2023年1月13日(金)





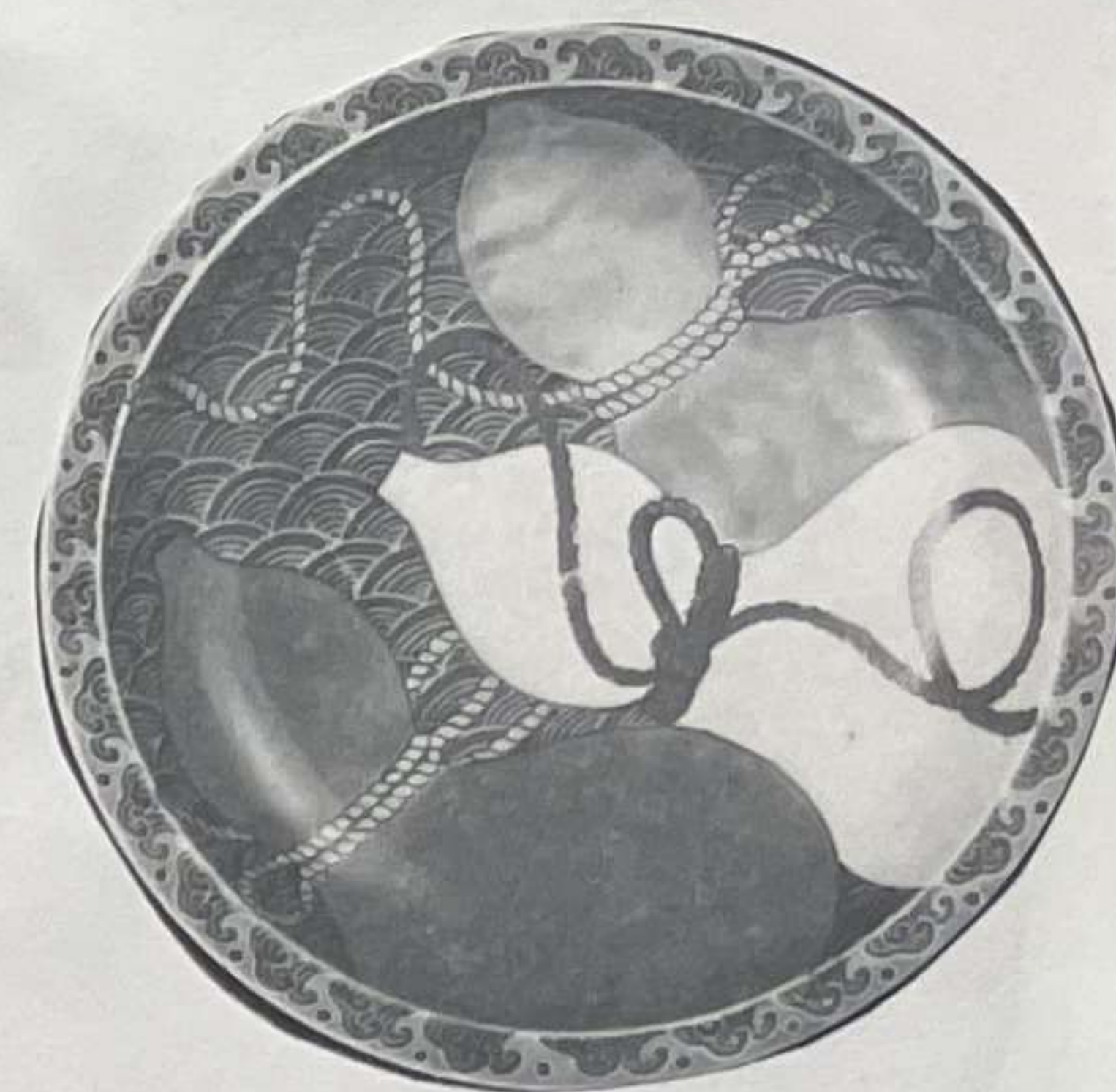
大川内山

OKAWACHIYAMA VILLAGE



A gorgeous cup from a gorgeous kiln

2023年2月4日(土)



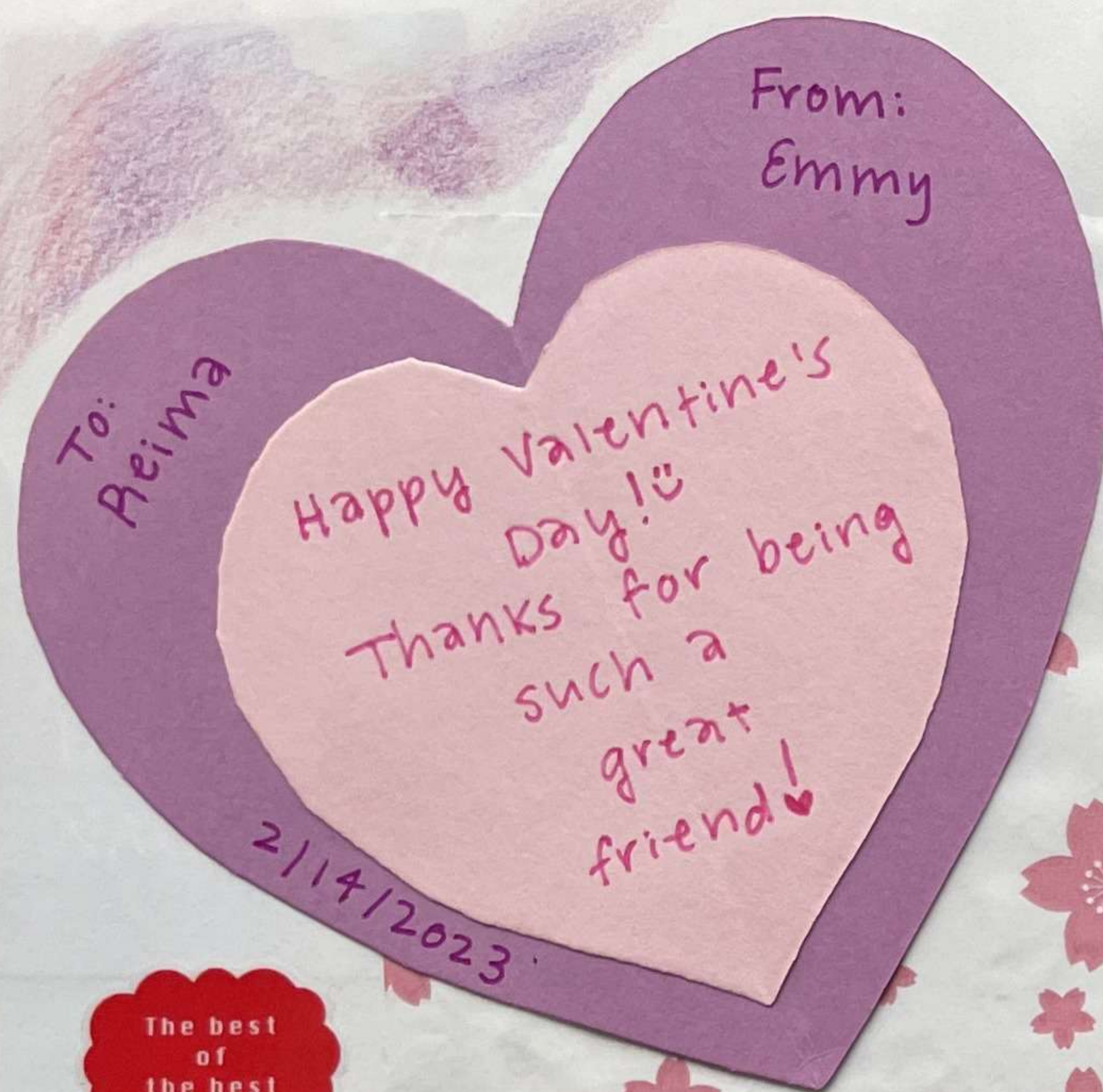
# Saga & Nagasaki

ROAD TRIP WITH LINDEN - FEB 4 (土) - 5 (日) 2023

- \* Highlights: Okawachiyama Village (大川内山) in Imari, Saga (伊万里市) and Obama in Nagasaki (小浜町) Unzen,
- \* In Okawachiyama, we visited a gorgeous kiln, Hataman, where my aesthetic senses were overjoyed. I indulged myself and bought a porcelain mug. The shopkeepers made us coffee as they wrapped the purchase. It was a sunny day and Linden and I took our time sipping the coffee. I felt peaceful.
- \* At the Obama foot bath overlooking the sea, we sat and stayed a while talking to an old man and a boy. The boy was curious and mischievous (he massaged me and asked, "Rimochi?" 「気持ち」). The old man had a lot of stories to tell about his town. He was curious about our countries.

2023年2月4-5日(土)





Sammi & Aika!



kawaii

# Galentine's Day 2023

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
THEME: COWBOY COOKOUT!  
LOVELY COMPANY: SAMMI, AIKA, CANDY, NADINE, HANNAH, SELAH, EMMY

So much fun!!! We had a potluck at mine, Troy threw a boys' party the same night in retaliation. I'm sure my girls' party was better. ☺



Hugs with Emmy!

2023年2月25日(土)

# Sake 日本酒 Brewery Tour

@ TAKAHASHI SHOUTEN 株式会社高橋商店

SATURDAY, MARCH 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 令和5年3月4日(土)

YAME, FUKUOKA PREF. 福岡県八女市



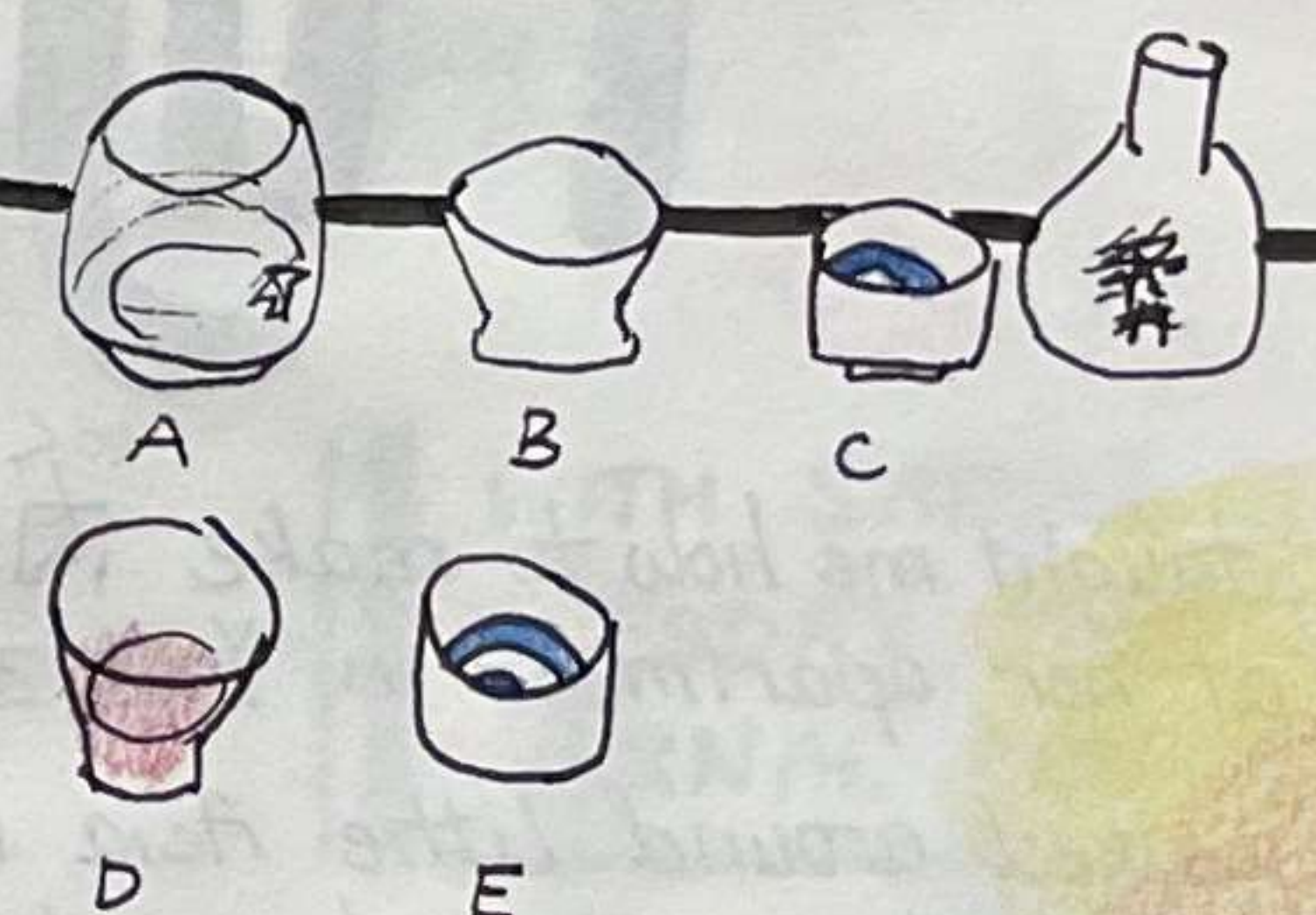
No.17

Organized by : Fukuoka Regional Taxation Bureau



HIGHLIGHT :

O-Bento and o-sake pairings! + A space English-dub anime educational video.



COMPANY: Around 25 other Fukuoka Pref. JETs, many of whom were from Kitakyushu (first time meeting!) We went to karaoke + izakaya after.

2023年3月18日(土)

## SAKE BREWERY TOUR FOR "ALTs"



I couldn't make a reservation for the kimono free event because all dates planned were fully booked. However, we can make nikujaga at my house anytime!

See you then,

Fujikawa

On 18<sup>th</sup>, Saturday  
around 12:00~13:00  
Or so,

At グラン4 博多ベビヨン  
(when you see the whole  
sight of ベビヨン, please  
let me know, then I'll be there)  
If you use subway, please  
take off at Chiyo-ken cho-guchi  
411 411

SATURDAY, MARCH 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023

令和5年3月18日(土)

# Cooking with Fujikawa先生

※ <sup>ふじがわ</sup>藤川先生 taught me how to make <sup>にく</sup>肉じゃが and <sup>たまごや</sup>玉子焼き! We had a nice lunch at her apartment in Yoshizuka.

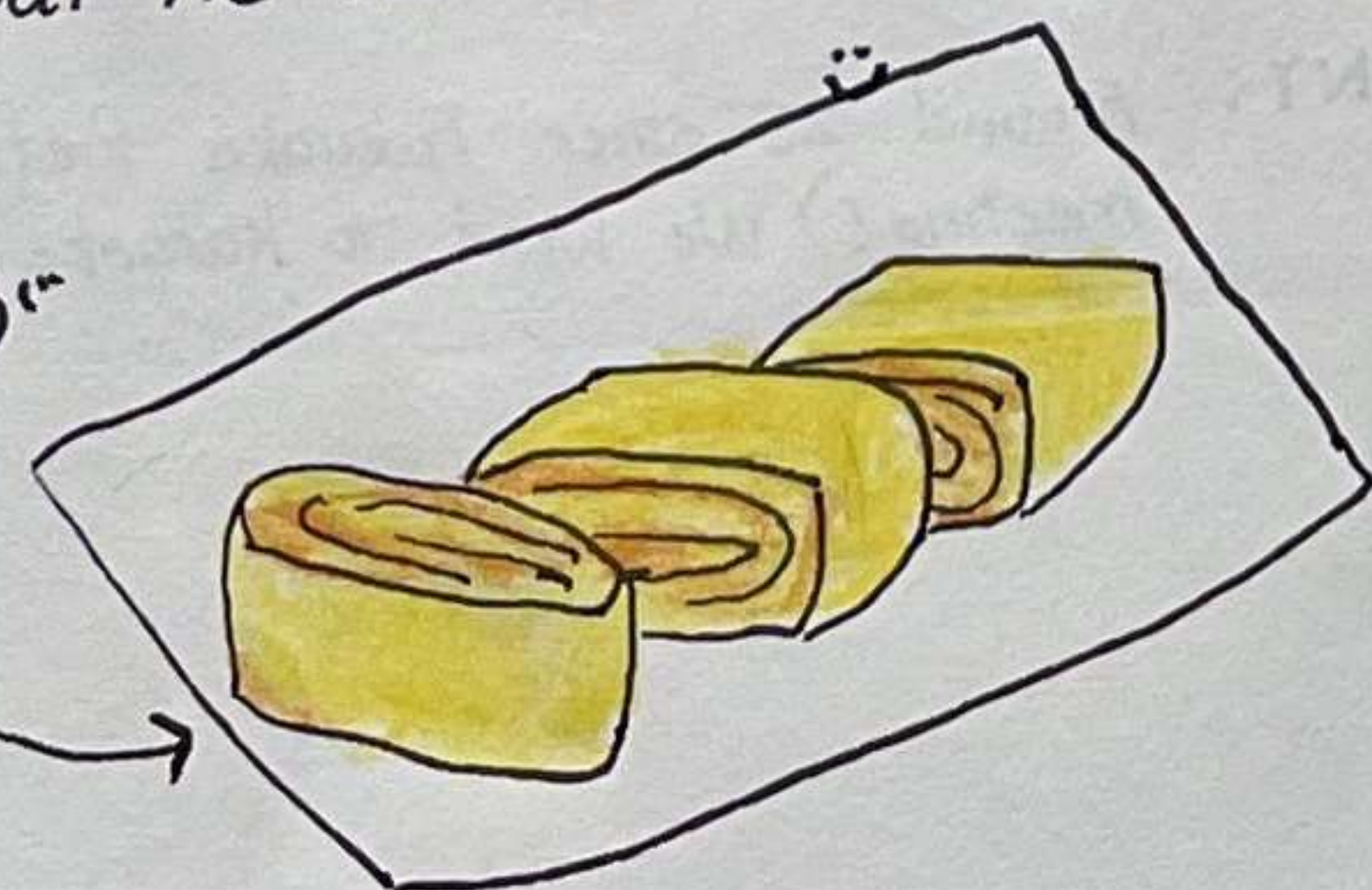
※ Later we walked around Little Asia and the plaza near her place (Papillon). We bought and ate nice sweets and matcha.

※ It was so fun! She said she only had a son but he wasn't fun (面白くない). Boys aren't fun.



NIKUJAGA 肉じゃが

TAMAGOYAKI 玉子焼き



2023年3月21日(火)

## KITAKYUSHU DAY TRIP 北九州



### Mojiko Retro

※ Ate at Bear Curry Restaurant, a great baked curry place.

※ Didn't stay long because the winds and rain were insane! I was wearing a skirt and had a Marilyn Monroe moment Sammi caught on video.



### Vintage Store

※ Bought a cute blazer and the employee who helped was really happy to talk to us. He taught us a lot of new Japanese words.

WITH SAMMI !!

TUESDAY, MARCH 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

VERNAL EQUINOX DAY (休日)



※ Interesting and a fun offset to the Kokura Castle museum we saw first.

※ A lot more swanky/sophisticated than we expected from a toilet museum!

2023年3月25日(土)





ちぎり絵  
Chigiri-e

和紙

The Art of Torn Washi

※ 木村先生 (Kimura-sensei) taught me ちぎり絵 (chigiri-e) when we had fondue at 小宮先生's apartment on Valentine's Day. (Or, the weekend before it).

2023  
年4月16日  
(日)



令和5年2月11日

Lafu  
'23





✿ On Marcus and Tante Mei Ling visited Fukuoka the last few days of March. I took them to Maizuru Park and Nishi Park for O-Hanami.

✿ お花見 was back in full swing! I had picnics with other JETs and 長野先生 and 山崎先生.

2023年5月7日 (日)

# AUTUMN - SPRING 2023

## Birthday, Trips, Friends

FILM ROLL #3 : NOVEMBER 2022 - MARCH 2023 26歳



00A, 2A-4A, 9A : 長者原東、Chojabaru + Home  
 0A : 飯塚市、Iizuka City  
 1A : 八女市、Yame City  
 5A-6A : 長崎県、Nagasaki Prefecture  
 7A-8A : 長崎市、Nagasaki City  
 10A-25A : 日光市、Nikko City (Town)

✿ When I developed this roll, the old couple at the photography store in Hakata recognized me and we spoke in Japanese! They told me it was great I could communicate despite not living here long.

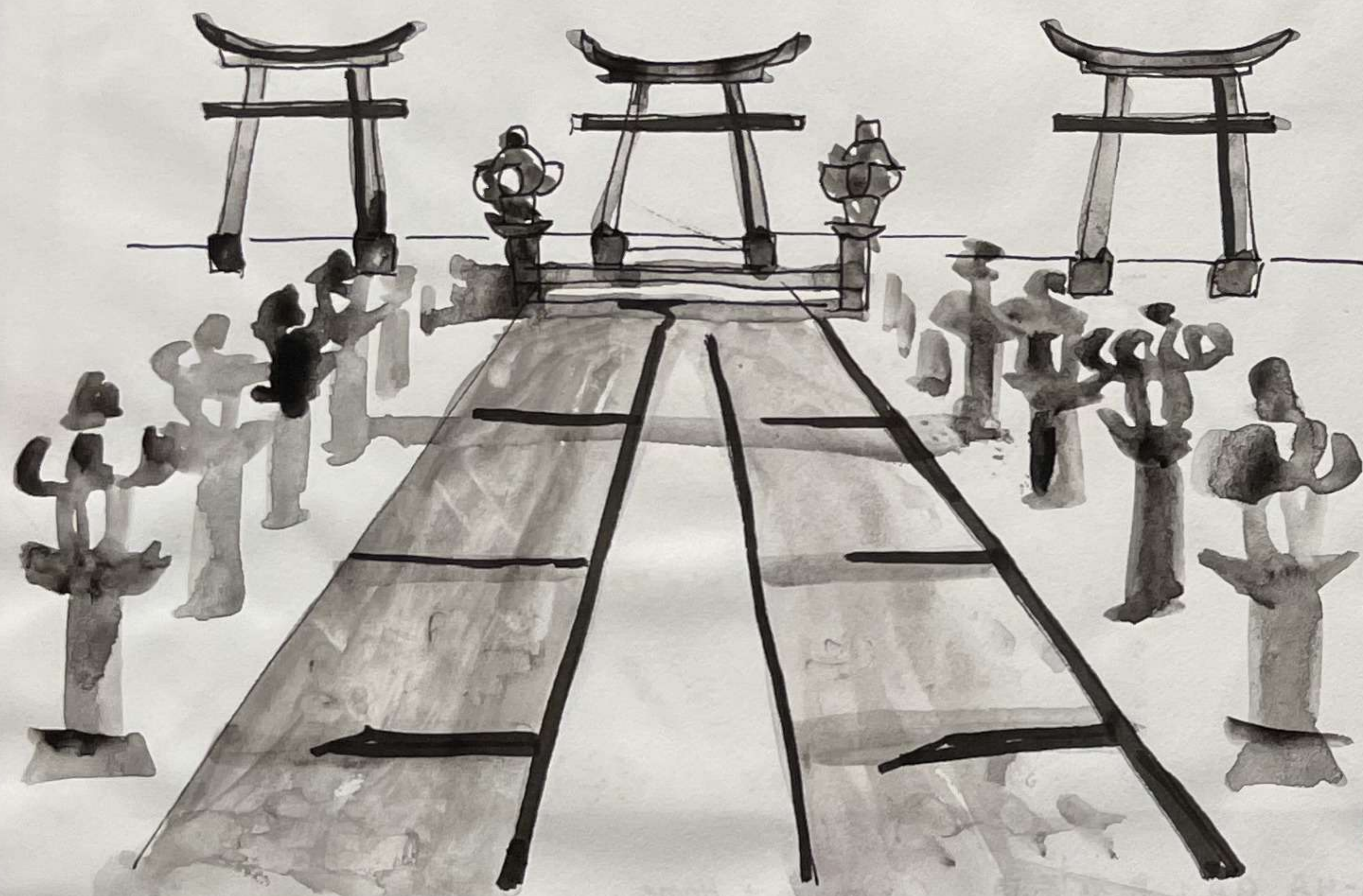
2023年5月7日 (日)



# 萩市山口県

## Hagi, Yamaguchi

GOLDEN WEEK ROAD TRIP  
DAY 2 // MAY 4<sup>th</sup> 2023 (木)



TŌKŌJI TEMPLE (1691)

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- \* Hagi-yaki 萩焼 and Hagi Pottery Festival! I bought a simple mug that quickly became my favourite.
- \* The special thing about Hagi pottery: tea seeps into the cracks of the glaze and changes the colour of the pottery, deepening values and accentuating cracks with time. So beautiful.

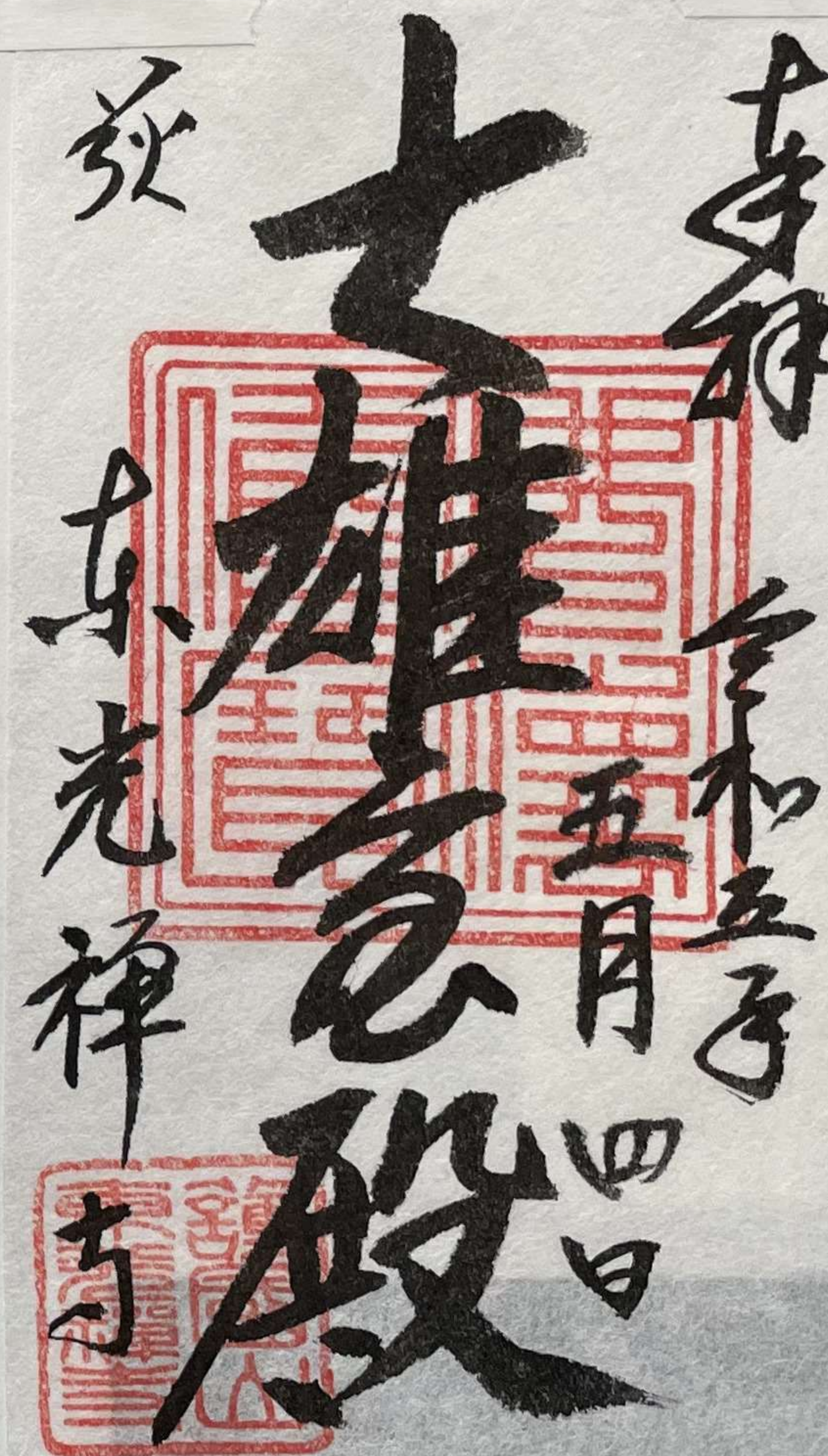
2023年5月21日 (日)

### TOKOJI

毛利

Tokoji is one of the family temples of the Mori feudal clan which was founded by a Priest named Egoku Domyo-Zenji.

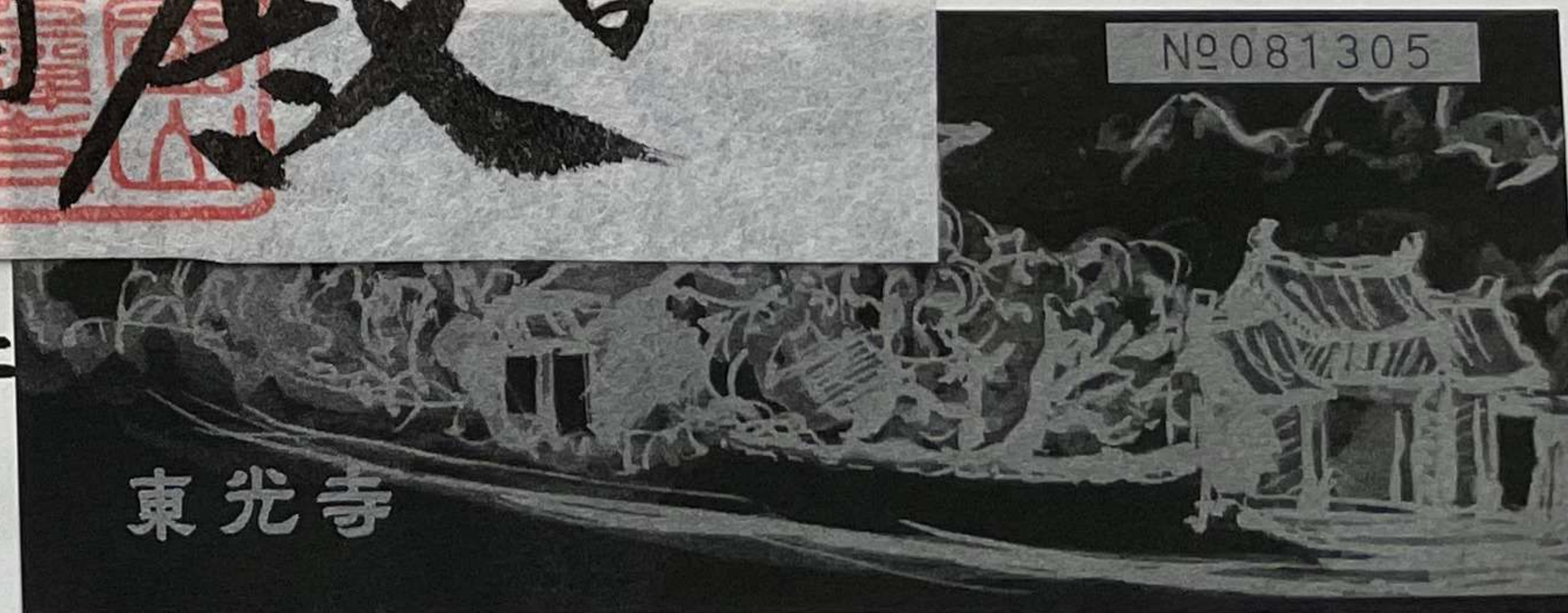
You can see more than 500 stone lanterns which were dedicated by Mori vassals. This temple was founded in 1691 and the construction influenced by Chinese style.



東光寺

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N0081305







↑ The nice café we stopped at in Hagi with a really nice Japanese garden

Izumo Taisha, one of the most ancient and important Shinto shrines, dedicated to the god Ōkuninushi 大国主大神 →

COMPANY: MARY-CATHERINE, GABE, GEETAN

Golden Week 2023 Road Trip

2023年6月4日 (A)

