



## Hidemi's Rambling No.101

---

A long time ago, when Japan had the feudal system, my family was a landlord of the area. It has come to a complete downfall over the years, but my family still clings to its past glory. For them, to succeed the family is critical. I'm firstborn and have no brother which meant that I was a successor and destined to spend the whole life in my hometown. But music changed everything. To pursue a career in music, my hometown was too rural and I had to move out. Back then I was a college student and moving to a city meant dropping out of school. My parents fiercely opposed but as usual, they left the matter to my grandfather who controlled the family. Considering his way to keep a tight rein, everybody including myself thought he might kill me. I could have run away, but I wanted to tell him for once what I want to do for my life. He answered right away 'You can go.' He added, 'You earned it by yourself. I've watched you all your life and I know you. That's why I let you do what you want.' Although I had always looked for a way to get rid of him, it was him who made me free and what I am now...

## **Hidemi's Rambling No.102**

---

One day, I saw numbers in my dream. I dream a lot every night, but numbers rarely appear. I thought it was some sort of sign, and bought a lottery ticket. I won \$10. A few weeks later, I dreamed about numbers again, and bought a ticket accordingly. I won \$100. I was convinced this was it. This must be the way for me to become a millionaire. Since then, I've kept buying a lottery ticket every week, but with no luck at all. For the first time in almost a year, I won \$10 yesterday. The sum dropped off. And the total spending for the lottery has become incomparably much more than I gained...

## Hideki's Rambling No.103

---

Speaking of dreams, I have one that foresees something once in a while. Back in high school, I needed to go to school for my extracurricular activity during a summer break. The teacher on duty was randomly selected for the day. I saw a teacher of a Japanese class on duty wearing a peculiar tie in my dream. And the very next day, that teacher was on duty at school, wearing the exact tie I'd seen. I saw the members of my favorite band go away in two separate vehicles, and a few weeks later, the band broke up in the way exactly how I'd seen. A big earthquake occurred and an old Japanese house was flattened in my dream. I saw the future date for it, too. Two weeks earlier than that date, an earthquake actually occurred in northern Japan, and I saw the flattened house on TV. On the date of the dream, instead of an earthquake, the stock market tumbled. In each case, nothing worked for my benefit, because it was too trivial, or happened remotely, or I don't have stocks. Worthless dreams...

## Hidemi's Rambling No.104

---

You must be weary of reading about my dreams by now, but, I had an absolutely shocking dream just last night and have to write about it. I had a gathering with my relatives in a temple. A monk declared to hand out an envelope to the ones whose remaining days of life is 25 years. He handed it to my uncle. He received it cheerfully, saying that it was longer than he had thought. Then, the monk handed the envelope to ME! I choked with shock. I got pronounced that the rest of my life was only 25 years! For some reason, I'd always felt that I would live long and that short life never crossed my mind. I felt devastated and woke up. I can shrug it off as one of scary dreams, but as I've written, some of my dreams do tell the future. None of them has related to me so far, but what if this dream is the first future-telling one that concerns me?...

## Hidemi's Rambling No.105

---

I found an auction website where successful bidders get about 90% off on electronics or gift certificates. They were amazing prices and appealed to me so much, as I'm cheap. A bidder needs to buy the bidding coins beforehand. I'd never seen those low prices even after adding the cost of the bidding coins. I started to bid, and the price was going up steeply. It went well past the average price of the site, and yet, I couldn't stop because I'd already invested too much. When I won the bid, the price soared to an auction record for the item. I didn't get 90% off but rather lost money. Finally I understood. Yes, it was a scam. I was quite confident to have the discerning eye for it and never thought I would fall for it. The time when I was young and stupid should have long gone. I, who is more careful for money than anybody, lost it by a scam. Am I a fool after all...?

## **Hidemi's Rambling No.106**

---

I worked on the effectors and the equalizers for our new song. By trying numerous kinds of combination on the chorus tracks and the vocal track, I found the perfect setting. When I played back with all tracks on, it made blips. The processing data exceeded a CPU load of my PC. I use Cubase SX for my work and my PC's spec was duly enough before I got down to this project. I didn't expect it to be this big and CPU-consumed near the end. It never gives me a break...

## **Hidemi's Rambling No.107**

---

I always carry a folding parasol because I'm afraid of cancer, lines, and spots. My parasol is waterproof so that it turns to an umbrella when it rains. I went shopping after sunset and left my parasol home. And on my way back, it started to snow. On sunny days, I never leave home without a parasol. Yet when it rains, I don't have it. I wound up walking in blowing snow, and came home soaked. According to the news, it was the coldest day of this winter here...



## Hidemi's Rambling No.108

---

The sale of Kindle began in Japan. I wondered what all the fuss was about and looked it up. I had underestimated Kindle. Its features are much more extensive than I thought, and it seems exactly what I've looking for. The prices for download are amazingly low and that really excited me. But after I checked carefully in details, I found that the prices in Japan were much higher than in US although the contents were exactly the same. If so, I tried at least to have my blog registered for it, but the service was available only in US. Maybe it's too soon for me to get it now. Besides, I still have many unread physical books by Stephen King, Time magazines and USA Today that I had brought from US...

## Hideki's Rambling No.109

---

I went to my most favorite supermarket, Carrefour. As I mentioned here, it came from France and is going to withdraw from Japan next month. What I like about it most is its atmosphere. It has such a huge, spacious floor that I feel like shopping at a supermarket in US. Their selection of merchandise is also my liking. They carry items which are popular not in Japan but abroad, such as rotisserie chicken, couscous, paella, pretzel and pesto. Imported food is usually very expensive but their prices are low. On the same floor, they also have kitchen goods, stationery, electronics, books and daily goods so that shopping is fun and convenient. Although it's an ideal place to shop to me, it's going out of business which means Japanese people didn't like it. When I got out of the store, it was already dark outside. Looking at its elegantly glowing neon sign, I thought this would have been my last visit, and I would certainly miss this store. How come they don't like it? I am not getting along well with other Japanese people...

## **Hidemi's Rambling No.110**

---

Lately I've been depressed which is so unlike me. I wonder why. Is it because I fell for a scam of an auction website? Or because the holiday season is past and there is a long way to have the next one? Or because Carrefour is closing for good? I thought I might be simply tired and took the day off two days in a row. I was going to be relaxed, do nothing and refresh my mind. Instead, the free time brought back bad memories and regrets from my past and I felt more negative...