



**Eastern–Western Poets in
Sympathy: Poetry Reading in
Kyoto 2014**

Japan Universal Poets Association

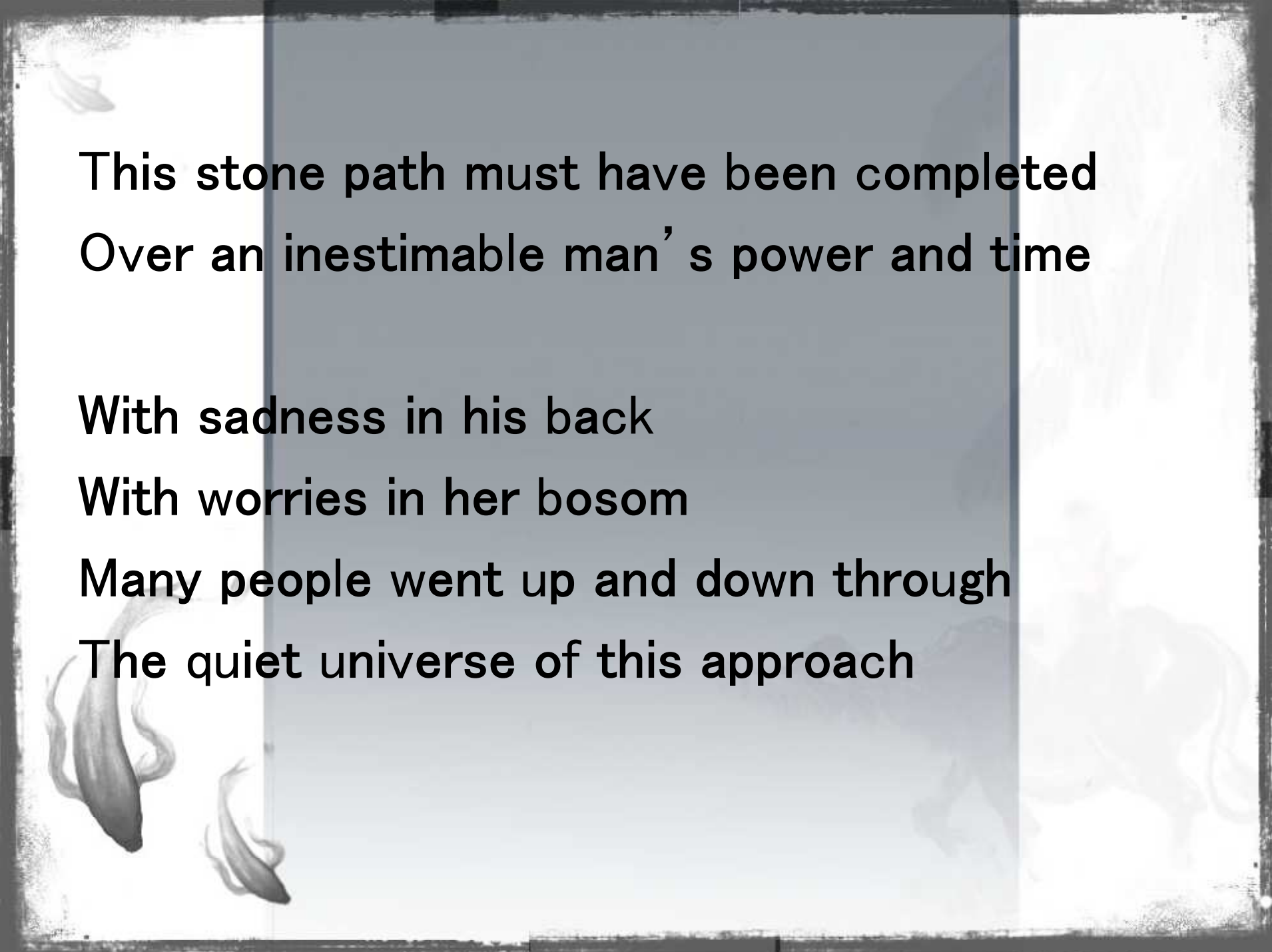
15 Tetsuji Inoue



Stone Path in a Temple

From far ancient times,
More than thousands times
Priests went back and forth
on the stone steps of this temple

Though it was buried in snow, struck to rain
Drought and heavy wind struck it.
The path borne stoically and exists



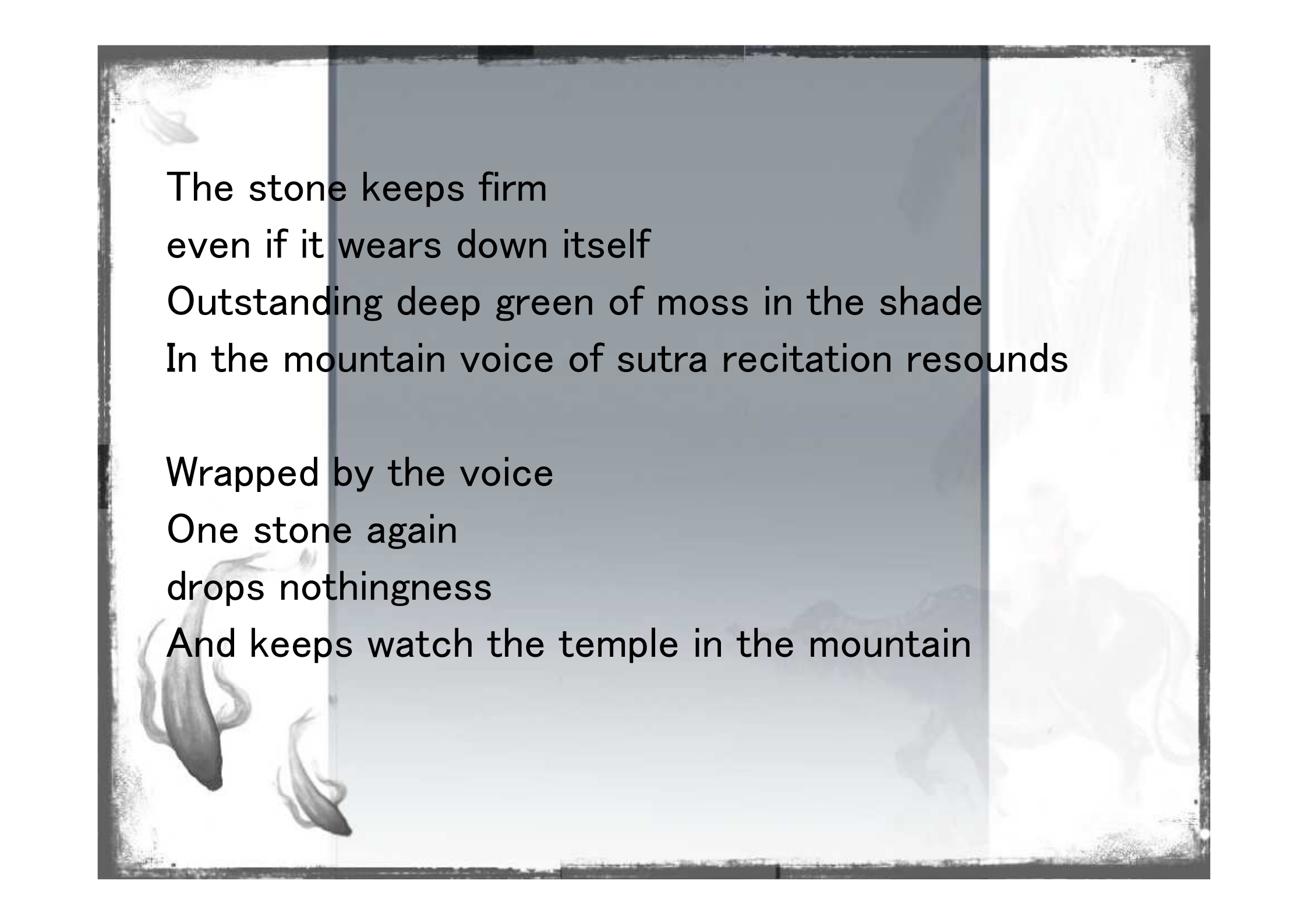
**This stone path must have been completed
Over an inestimable man's power and time**

With sadness in his back

With worries in her bosom

Many people went up and down through

The quiet universe of this approach



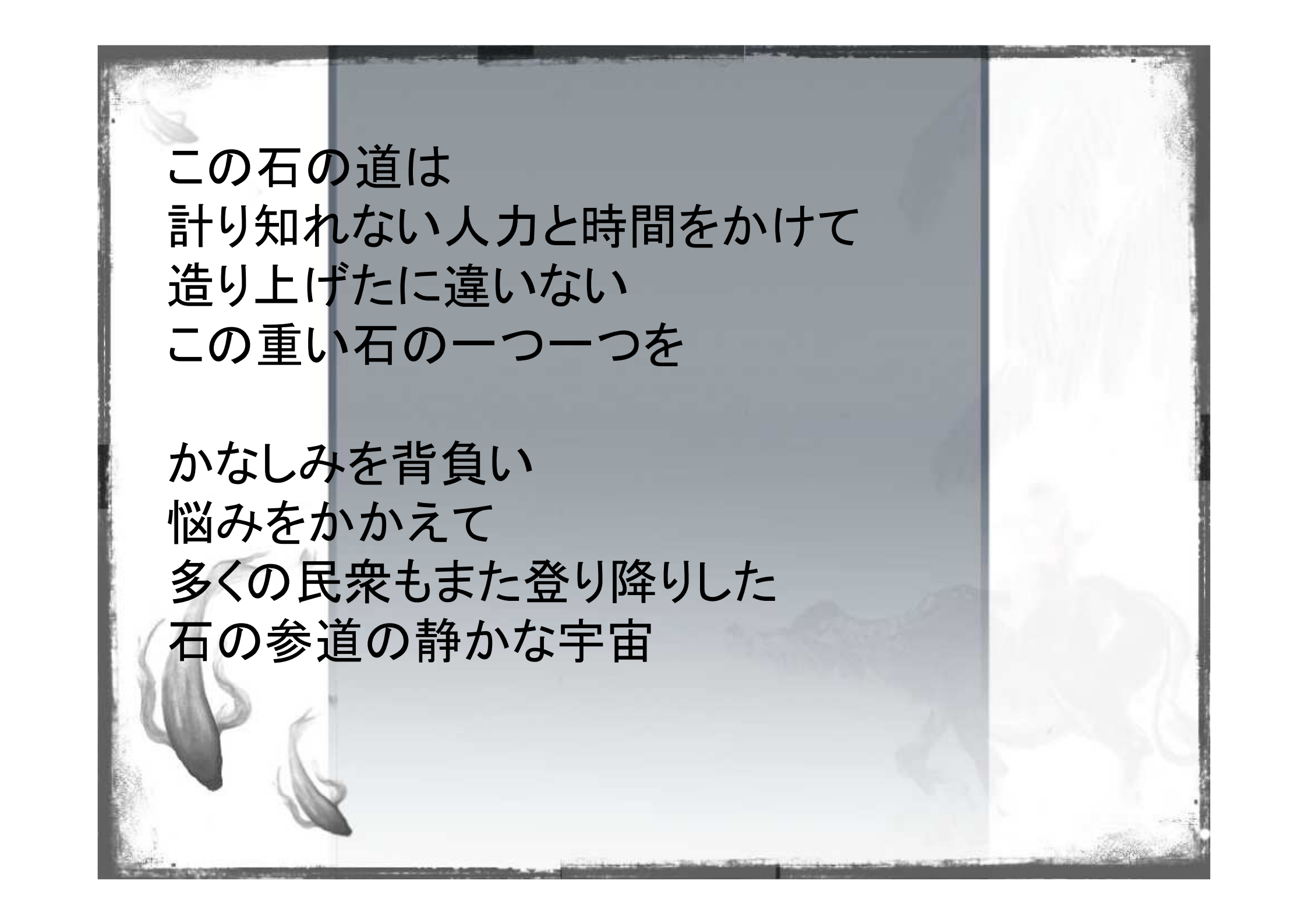
The stone keeps firm
even if it wears down itself
Outstanding deep green of moss in the shade
In the mountain voice of sutra recitation resounds

Wrapped by the voice
One stone again
drops nothingness
And keeps watch the temple in the mountain

石の道

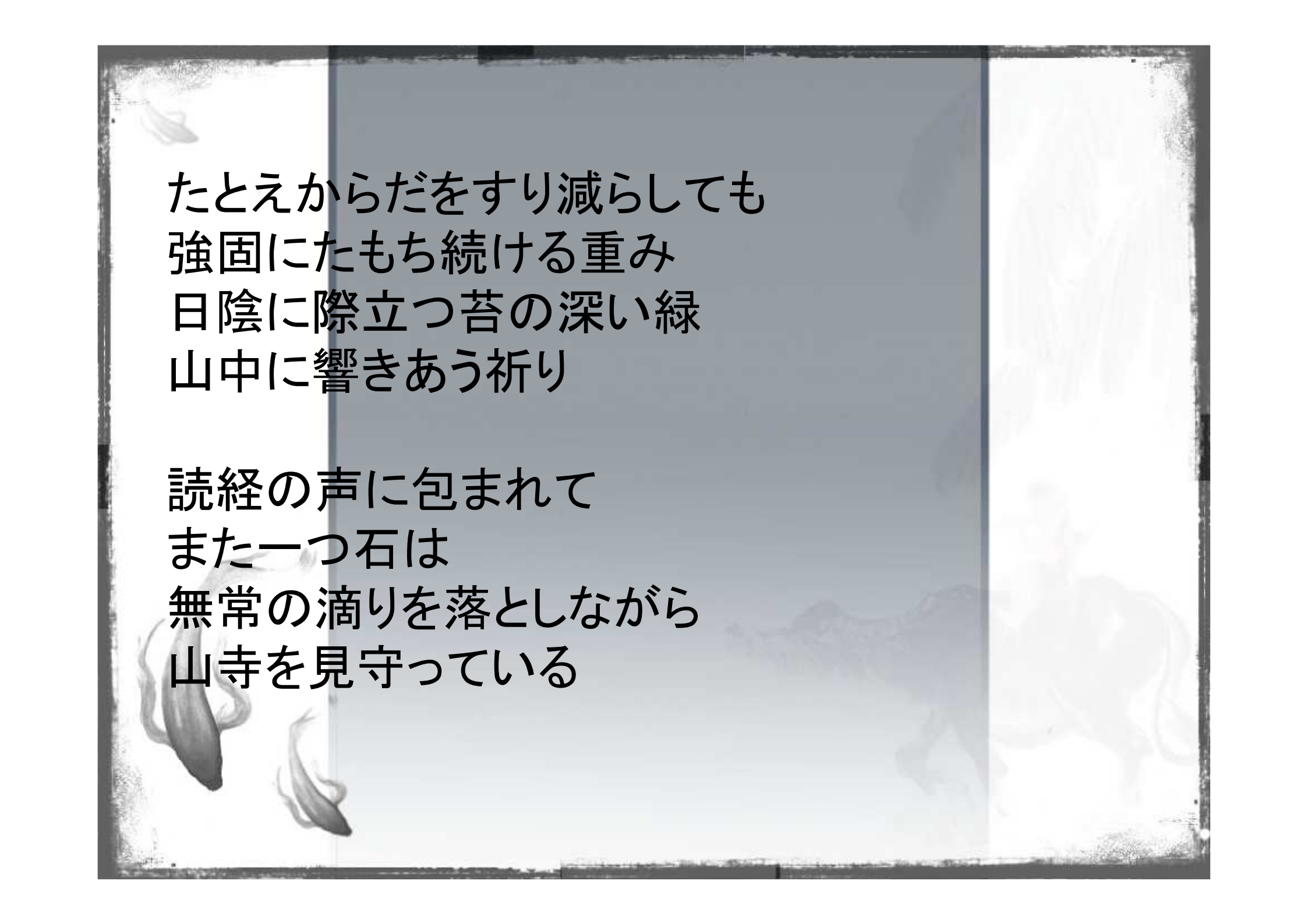
はるかな昔より
幾百、幾千の僧たちが
どれほど行き来したことか
この山寺の石段を

雪に埋もれ雨にうたれ
日照りにも 烈風にも
じっと耐えてここに在る



この石の道は
計り知れない人力と時間をかけて
造り上げたに違いない
この重い石の一つ一つを

かなしみを背負い
悩みをかかえて
多くの民衆もまた登り降りした
石の参道の静かな宇宙



たとえからだをすり減らしても
強固にたもち続ける重み
日陰に際立つ苔の深い緑
山中に響きあう祈り

読経の声に包まれて
また一つ石は
無常の滴りを落としながら
山寺を見守っている