

THE LOVE OF AZALEA

Azalea looked interested.

"I wish," said she wistfully, "he would pay me something."

"Perhaps he will," said Fuji, nodding her head slowly; "my honorable father says he is rich—very rich."

"And my honorable father says so, too," said Ume.

"Oh, all foreign devils are," declared Koto conclusively.

"Well, but Matsuda Isami says he is not," said Azalea. "And Matsuda knows surely."

"Matsuda is jealous," said Koto. "He wants to be always the richest. The gods despise avarice."