

1. 須佐之男命の昇天 “Susa-no-o-no-mikoto goes up to High Heaven”

Thereat Haya-susa-no-o-no-mikoto, saying, “So I will go down after I explain the circumstances to Great Ama-terasu,” went up to Takama-no-hara, while on his way every mountain and river was rumbling and all the land was quaking. Informed of and surprised at this, Great Ama-terasu, said, “The reason why he goes up here should not be good. His intention must be to usurp my world.” and on the spot loosened her hair and began to dress herself in male appearance; curling and fastening her hair up over the ears into male style bunches; winding some strings of five hundred great magatama, the comma-shaped beads of precious stones, around the right and left bunches, around her ornament, around her right and left arms; wearing on her back a quiver which contained one thousand arrows; wearing on her sides each a quiver that contained five hundred arrows. Then putting on an archer’s elbow protector which could give a mighty high echoing, putting up the bow, stamping the ground thigh deep into the earth, kicking out the dusty earth fluttering down like flakes of snow, and standing firmly on the ground with a full mighty war cry, now was she ready to ask, “Why on earth dost thou come up here?” Haya-susa-no-o-no-mikoto said to her, “I have no ill ambition. Great Izanaki asked me why I continued to cry and cry all the time and I answered, ‘I wish I could go down to Ne-no-katasu-kuni, where my mother resides, so I have been crying.’ At that, Great Izanaki divinely announced to me, ‘Thou shalt not live in this land,’ and banished me from his land. So I have come up here to explain under what circumstances I have to go down. I have no treachery in mind at all.” At this Great Ama-terasu asked, “Well then, how can I see you are honest and trustful?” At this Haya-susa-no-o-no-mikoto answered, “Let us bear and beget children to seek heaven’s witness.”