

Stillness Papers #1

Dear Friend,

While I have never had the pleasure of meeting you in person, certain mutual acquaintances of ours have assured me that you and your associates are experienced and capable in the matters of which I am writing. If this is indeed not the case, I offer my humble apologies for disturbing you, and wish that you trouble yourselves no further on my behalf.

My daughter, Kay, is missing. Five weeks ago, she left San Francisco for the village of Still Mountain, where she was to stay with my brother, Nakamura, who is a beekeeper there. I have just received word from my brother that Kay has not been seen for three weeks. He did not mention it before, assuming that she merely had returned home.

But what truly troubles me is that two weeks ago, a man called me from Still Mountain, asking personal questions about Kay's childhood, her fears and her mother. When I refused to answer these questions, he grew angry and a chill came over me. I have never known true evil before, but somehow I knew I was hearing the voice of a demon. He never told me his name. It was then that I contacted my brother.

I spoke to a wise woman about these things, and she confirmed that there are dark forces at work, threatening my daughter. I am no longer a young man, and in no condition to climb mountains and fight demons. Yet I fear for Kay's life, and in desperation I turn to you.

I am not a wealthy man, but I am willing and able to pay for your travel expenses. Time is short, and I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Ken Hito