

Cast Party 2015



Told by Ryusui Seiryoin, Agent Kunugi, and Tanya

Character Illustration by Kai Chamberlain and Polka D

Cover design by Tanya

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The BBB website

<http://thebbb.net/>

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Agent Kunugi

<http://thebbb.net/cast/agent-kunugi.html>

Tanya

<http://thebbb.net/cast/tanya.html>

0. About Cast Party 2015



Ryusui Seiryoin: Hello everyone. I'm Ryusui Seiryoin, the chief editor of The BBB. First of all, we would like to thank you for the interest for reading or listening to this talk. We launched The BBB: Breakthrough Bandwagon Books in December 2012. At our first and second anniversaries in 2013 and 2014, we at The BBB invited some of the readers and held an event titled "Cast Party with YOU". In 2014, Agent Kunugi attended it, didn't you?

Agent Kunugi: Right. I hardly appear in front of an audience because I'm a backstage personnel. But at that time, I could mingle with other Casts and readers and had a really pleasant and fulfilling time.

Tanya: Due to another matter to attend to, I couldn't attend it, though ...

Ryusui: Yeah. I feel guilty about gathering people in December because everyone is very busy during this period, as Tanya was last year. Consequently, we couldn't gather as large an audience as anticipated. So, I have decided to have this year's Cast Party as a free e-book, not a real party, and actually held this gathering with you two. Today, in this occasion, the people who are talking about The BBB are only the three of us. However, we imagine as if the readers are listening to us here as an audience. And in fact, we are planning to upload this recording on You Tube at a later date.

Kunugi: I see. It's some kind of virtual event. Got it.

Tanya: The number of people who can attend a real event is limited, but an e-book can be read by those who live in distant areas in Japan and those who live outside Japan.

1. About the three of us

Ryusui: Actually, I had more Casts attend our Cast Party in the past. But this time I limit the participating speakers to only the three of us. I am here as the chief editor of The BBB, Mr. Kunugi as the chief proofreader, and Tanya as the chief designer. Honestly, I wanted Mr. K.G., the chief system engineer, to be here. But he is still developing his English-speaking skills. Since we are planning to record this talk in English, I hope Mr. K.G. will be here next time.

Tanya: Yeah. We hope other Casts will join us next time as well.

Kunugi: I don't know if I should say such a thing, but I think a real face-to-face interactive talk like this is valuable because we usually do our respective jobs in different physical places and cannot meet each other so frequently. Oh, this occasion is still virtual for our readers.

Ryusui: Right. By the way, first, we would like you two to introduce yourselves briefly. Mr. Kunugi, can you talk to us about your self-introduction and how you got the chance to know and joined The BBB?

Kunugi: In my case, I had been working as a freelance agent in the English-speaking world and didn't have any connection with the Japanese publishing industry. But one day, suddenly, I got an email from a mysterious one named Doctor Decide. Although I didn't even know whether this one was a male or a female, the one claiming to be the author asked me to transfer the manuscript titled "Towerld" to The BBB.

Ryusui: Isn't there any possibility that Mr. Kunugi is the very being named Doctor Decide? I have been suspecting so, actually ...

Kunugi: Oh, no, no, no, no, no! I am far from such an enigmatic entity with the creative charisma. The only way to contact Doctor Decide is via an email, so I doubt that the author is an actual human. We don't know the author's gender, age, or nationality. The author might not even be a human at all ...

Tanya: Well ... it would be fun if all of what you just said are figments of Mr. Kunugi's delusions (Laughter).

Ryusui: I agree (Laughter). Surely, Doctor Decide has strong charisma as a creator. I am a big fan of Doctor Decide and am interested in the author, so I want the mystery to be solved someday. Alright, next. Tanya, how did you join The BBB?

Tanya: To begin with, I have been a costume player, and have been in love with Japanese animations and games for a long time. I am a friend of Kai Chamberlain, a Canadian cartoonist, and he invited me to join when "bbbcircle", the predecessor to The BBB, was launched. That was the start.

Ryusui: Ah, I remember. Tanya, you have been the staff since the days of "bbbcircle". Although Mr. Kunugi and Mr. K.G. joined after The BBB was launched. Shall we not talk about Tanya's nationality?

Tanya: It's a secret because it's a little complicated.

2. Talks about all The BBB Works: 2012-2015

Ryusui: Then, let us start talking about the e-book contents of The BBB. We would like to comment on all the authors participating in our project. For several serial works we have, we will talk about them altogether. For example, in the case of “Towerld”, we won’t comment on each volume of the series, but we will talk about the whole series as one.

Kunugi: Understood.



Ryusui: The BBB was launched with my work titled “King In the Mirror”. In fact, I had previously published the printed, Japanese version in 2010. At that point, I had already decided to make the English version. I needed time for the preparation and it took about two years, though. After we published the English version, there weren’t many readers’ feedbacks to it for a while. But I began receiving lots of feedbacks after I made Vol.1 free at the end of 2014. Since then, the work has been downloaded in many countries every day, which gave me a sense of achievement to a certain extent. But as a typical case of our works, while Vol.1 for free is downloaded every day, paid Vol.2 is not selling well yet. It is the common case in which there is a large gap between the downloading of free works and that of paid works. About “King In the Mirror”, many English native speakers including Mr. Kunugi praised the quality of translation. I am so happy about that.

Kunugi: It was the second year in junior high school when I first bought a record of so-called “Western pop music”. I was living in Chicago back then. I was just starting to listen to Western pop music through radio, and one day I was suddenly urged to buy a song titled “Say Say Say”, which Michael Jackson and Paul McCartney sang together. But I couldn’t get the song, because I didn’t know the fact that it was included in Paul’s album, “Pipes of Peace”. It was when Michael’s “Thriller” was selling unbelievably well and in fact, it was the album that I bought by myself for the first time in my life. In this respect, Michael is special to me, too.

Ryusui: It’s interesting to me. By the way, when Tanya designed the cover of “King In the Mirror”, she applied the technique of horizontal inversion so that the pictures of Michael, mirroring each other, would combine to assume the shape of a cross once the covers of Vol.1 and Vol.2 are lined up, side by side.

Kunugi: Oh, is it what she aimed at? I mistakenly thought that the covers were designed to be lined up side-by-side to assume the letter H.

Ryusui: If you switch the positions of the books, placed side-by-side, the letter H is what you get. Why is it the letter of H? (Laughter)

Kunugi: I didn't notice that at all ...

Ryusui: I guess many readers don't recognize the fact. So, today I would like to introduce as many inside stories as possible. Because I hope readers are interested in our works. Tanya, do you have anything else pertaining to the cover art?

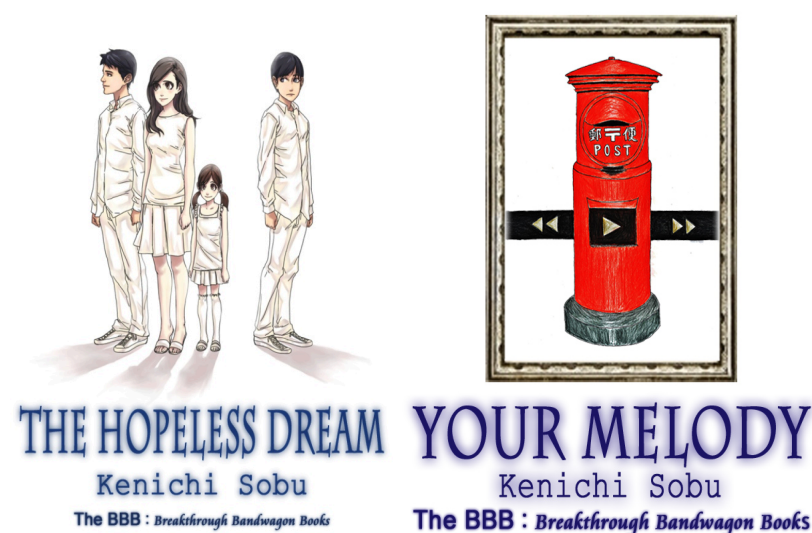
Tanya: Originally, it was the four-color illustration that Mr. Kai Chamberlain drew. Since I love more photographic versions of Kai's artworks, I converted it into a monochrome picture, added more light to it, and gradated it to make it appear photographically fuzzier. Because the book title has two volumes, I decided to apply the horizontal inversion ... Then, the combination of the two pictures ended up looking like a cross ...

Kunugi: Do not tell me that you got the cross by accident! (Laughter)

Tanya: Since I ended up making it appear like a cross, I decided to add more and more light to it.

Kunugi: Surely, it is very brilliant and divine. It's just like Michael.

Ryusui: Then, I had Tanya play a piano suite, Clair de Lune in Suite Bergamasque by Claude Debussy, in a YouTube movie featuring "King In the Mirror" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jXXaQObNscs>). I selected the suite because Michael himself said it was his favorite tune in classical music.



Ryusui: After that, we published Mr. Kenichi Sobu's "The Hopeless Dream" at the end of 2012 as the second work from The BBB. Also, we published Mr. Sobu's "Your Melody" in March, 2014.

Kunugi: About "The Hopeless Dream", I couldn't see the illustration at the end of the story because I read it on a smartphone and the display was very small. The reader can get to understand the explanation of the story only by seeing the illustration on the final page, right? So, at first I didn't understand what was up with that. I remember well that I was confused and kept on gasping, "What? What?"

Ryusui: Mr. Sobu's style is roughly divided into two types. One is an orthodox mystery that is designed for surprising the readers. There are many of his works, in which the illustration on the final page of each story surprises the readers. It is his own original style. We can say it's a visual trick.

Kunugi: He fuses tricks with illustrations very skillfully.

Ryusui: "The Hopeless Dream" is just like that and the readers can understand the truth only by seeing the final illustration. Even if you manage to see the illustration, it is too shocking for the readers to understand

the truth immediately. So, I would like to make the statement, by saying loudly, “This is a really unexpected and surprising mystery!” If we don’t announce that, many readers will end up finishing reading the story without understanding the truth, because there is no other work in the world as surprising as this. They end up missing too much. What a waste!

Kunugi: Actually, I didn’t know the truth when I read it on the smartphone.

Ryusui: Right, so, I would like people who didn’t know the system to read the story. I would like them to experience the surprise. The magnitude of the shock is to the level that you are going to feel fortunate if you experience it at least once in your life. If you don’t understand the meaning of the last illustration, please examine it carefully and think carefully about the meaning until you understand it. You can send the inquiry to The BBB via email. “The Hopeless Dream” is the greatest, the most shocking masterpiece among Mr. Sobu’s numerous works. Another style of Mr. Sobu’s works is to emotionally move the hearts and souls of the readers. The masterpiece in this style is “Your Melody”.

Tanya: “Your Melody” is the first free-of-charge work available from The BBB, right?

Ryusui: Yes. Mr. Sobu proposed that it was to be published for free in Cast Party 2013. Thanks to this work, other free works can be published. It is an important work that was the turning point of The BBB.

Kunugi: A native speaker wrote a favorable Amazon review.

Ryusui: It gave pleasure to us. Mr. Kunugi participated in proofreading the work. I remember an impressive episode. One major league baseball game that is mentioned in “Your Melody” is the one to which Mr. Kunugi felt a special attachment. So, after getting permission from Mr. Sobu, Mr. Kunugi, you added to the translated English version the descriptions of additional details, didn’t you? (Laughter)

Kunugi: I felt Mr. Sobu was really gentle and I was emotionally moved. Other authors might just beat me up physically after hearing such a proposal from me ...

Ryusui: He graduated from the Department of English Literature in college. He loves Major League Baseball and foreign movies in English. So, I think he is very suitable to our project. To begin with, I originally intended to publish only my works through The BBB. However, at a party exclusively for Mephisto Prize winners, Mr. Sobu showed his strong interest in joining the project. Then, other authors followed suit. So, Mr. Sobu is one of the most important persons without doubt. I want to publish Mr. Sobu’s works one after another continuously, but he said, “I would like to have my other works published after first two works sell more than the current sales.”

Kunugi: Oh, but it might be difficult for them to sell unless other works are published, I suppose.

Ryusui: I agree. Mr. Sobu might be too gentle. Anyway, if you (our readers) want to read Mr. Sobu’s works in English, please get his first two English works. Tanya, do you have any episode regarding the covers of Mr. Sobu’s works? Why did you decide to keep the backgrounds white?

Tanya: In the case of “The Hopeless Dream”, at first, I put the background picture on the cover. But Ryusui said it looked weird. In the case of “Your Melody”, Ryusui said the frame was not necessary ...

Ryusui: Ah, yes. Indeed, I felt the frame looked somewhat strange. But after Tanya took away the frame, the cover ended up looking even stranger. So, I asked her to bring back the frame.

Tanya: I still love the first cover of “The Hopeless Dream”.

Ryusui: In fact, the background picture of the You Tube movie

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6-xzY-T8lKU>) is the same as the original background of the cover for “The Hopeless Dream”. We would like our readers to watch and judge it for themselves.

Tanya: Then, actually, the bark of a shiba dog Momo was recorded in the movie. I play the piano and record it on a regular basis. During the recording session for the You Tube movie, Momo was beside me.

Ryusui: At 02:29 in this movie, Momo barks. Check it out, if you have time.

Tanya: Since I was concentrating on playing the piano, I didn't notice it.

Ryusui: I noticed that when I was playing back the recording. I decided to keep it, because it sounds lovely.

Kunugi: I agree with the decision. I have to mention that Ms. Momo is the best-selling author of The BBB!

Tanya: In another video footage for Mr. Yano's work, I remember that a similar thing happened.

Ryusui: Alright, then, let's move on to the next content.



Ryusui: The BBB published two of Mr. Ryuoh Yano's works, both of which belong to the "Ryuoh's Mysterious Blog" series. We would like to talk about a funny part in the You Tube movie for the first work "The Loach" (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JImvFLD2BWg>). In case of "The Hopeless Dream", Momo's bark was recorded. This time the sound of Momo sipping water was recorded at 00:48 of the video. In fact, as Tanya was playing the piano, Momo was sipping the water beside her.

Tanya: Furthermore, the sound was recorded about when the loach's picture was shown in the video.

Kunugi: What an impeccable timing (Laughter)! Just like a sound effect in a movie ... I knew Ms. Momo was great ... because popular authors tend to have the 'it' factor.

Ryusui: The noteworthy characteristic of Mr. Yano's series is that the author plays multiple roles. He writes the story in English, not in Japanese, from the beginning. Although the covers were designed by Tanya, the cover illustrations were drawn by Mr. Yano himself. Among the works for The BBB, this is the only such case.

Kunugi: I'm impressed by the fact that the author himself draws the cover illustration.

Ryusui: Tanya, what did you try to do with these cover designs?

Tanya: I thought I would design them like good old-fashioned books when I heard that Mr. Yano's works were in blog-style. Mr. Yano's illustrations were modern and graphically digital, so I chose a design like ancient books because I thought digital backgrounds would weaken the impact of his digital illustrations. Like a bible in Latin. I graphically processed it to make it appear weathered.

Ryusui: “The Loach” is a really wonderful mystery. The story is about Mr. Yano’s experience in which he once fed loaches, and it has a great trick. When Mr. Kunugi first read it, you said, “I think it is a really great mystery!” So, I hope more and more readers enjoy this splendid mystery.

Kunugi: That rings my bell. I was really surprised by that. I recall it with nostalgia. Seems like a long time ago.

Ryusui: Then, the second work is “Hepatitis”. I don’t know up to what part of the story is fiction, though. While reading it, I thought Mr. Yano might have actually suffered from hepatitis. This work has a shocking ending as well. I was worried about Mr. Yano, like, “Is it okay that he confessed such a naked truth?” (Laughter) Mr. Kunugi, this is the work which you participated in the proofreading of for the first time as a staff of The BBB.

Kunugi: In the work, technical terms appear one after another. It was tough for me to verify the medical terms consisting of three alphabet letters. But in fact, I spent the longest time on learning the correct translation for the Japanese word “love hotel”. (Laughter)

Ryusui: I see your point. (Laughter) The concept of love hotels is found only in Asia.

Tanya: Oh, really? I didn’t know that.

Ryusui: I want Mr. Yano’s series published more often. However, Mr. Yano has been super-busy, and the series is now halted for the time being.

Kunugi: Since this is an attractive series, we would like to read more, if possible. Additionally, the more the series continues, the more chances the readers would get to know the stories.



Ryusui: Next one is “The Gifted” series, written by Mr. Ryosuke Akizuki. The author, Mr. Akizuki, is one of my companions who learn English with me. He’s great without doubt because he continues to write his works. Doctor Deicide and Mr. Akizuki have been consistently writing.

Kunugi: I think that is a start. But ... I don’t have the right to say such a thing, of course. You know, I am an agent, not an author. (Laughter) Certainly, Doctor Deicide keeps on writing and sending his works to me.

Ryusui: Yeah. I appreciate the fact that they keep writing. More than that, their works are interesting. In addition, Mr. Makoto Sakuma, who draws the covers for “The Gifted” series, is an amazingly talented, potentially world-class painter. I’m really happy and honored that he joined the project.

Kunugi: Mr. Sakuma deliberately changes his style every time, right? When I first saw the cover of “The Gifted Vol.4”, I wondered how he could draw such an artistically mystifying picture. I wanted to know what gave him the idea and the inspiration.

Ryusui: About the beginning of “The Gifted” series. Mr. Akizuki loves “Jojo’s Bizarre Adventure”, a Japanese legendary comic series. He loves Jojo so much that I proposed he should write a story like Jojo. That is how “The Gifted” series started. So, I can say this is Mr. Akizuki’s version of “Jojo’s Bizarre Adventure”.

Kunugi: Ah, excuse me. I haven’t read Jojo yet. Is it okay ...?

Ryusui: Okay, of course. (Laughter)

Tanya: But, you may want to read it to Part 3 (Stardust Crusaders) of Jojo. It is a classic.

Kunugi: How far into the comic series would that be equivalent to, if I were to use the example of another legendary comic series “Fist of the North Star”?

Tanya: It is equivalent to reading from the beginning to the end of the first part.

Kunugi: Until Raoh’s death?

Ryusui: Well, we may want more than that. I personally love the series involving the Kingdom of Shura.

Kunugi: Personally, I think the manga series should have ended when the battle with Falco ended. The Shura series should have been an independent, different story for another day, involving different characters, later generations, and all-new settings.

Ryusui: Okay, that’s that. By the way (Laughter). Mr. Kunugi, do you have any episode regarding “The Gifted” series? We already heard it about Mr. Sakuma’s picture. After all, Mr. Kunugi has been participating in the proofreading of the series since Vol. 2.

Kunugi: This might be similar to Jojo. I think it might be difficult to establish the views and the settings of the world because characters have preternatural powers. In the case of “Towerld”, no character has such an ability, for the characters living in the world of the gigantic construction seem to be a bunch of degenerate subhumans. Which type of stories is easier or more difficult to create might depend on each author’s style. I don’t know what Doctor Deicide is trying to express with the “Towerld” series, but I am getting the impression that he is trying to describe what human characters without superpowers can do.

Ryusui: I think both of those methods are legit and will do just fine. Neither way of creating stories is wrong, and each author can stick to his or her own way.

Kunugi: Sure. I too think that both ways will do just fine.

Ryusui: By the way, Mr. Akizuki also wrote “The Sifted” series, a spin-off product of “The Gifted”. We hope you like the spin-off series as well.



Ryusui: Next one is “Samurai Purchasing”. Actually, the work was once published in the past by Mr. Takanori Sakaguchi, my friend, and his six buyer companions. It’s a real legit business book.

Kunugi: I agree. It’s legit business.

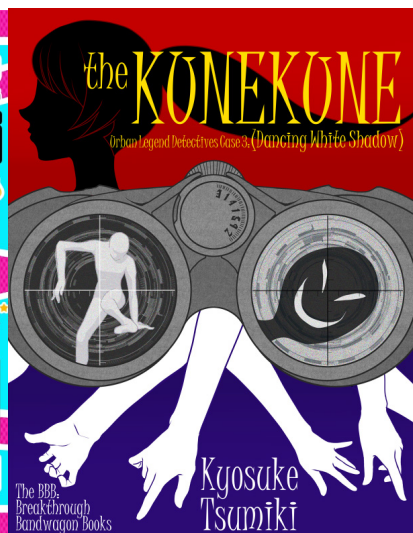
Ryusui: In terms of the length, this work is the longest among the lineups for The BBB. I divided the work into two volumes. Still, each one is almost too long.

Kunugi: In my estimation, Mr. Tsumiki’s “Urban Legend Detectives Case 3: The Kunekune” is really long ...

Ryusui: Right, “The Kunekune” is the longest work as a single e-book. But considering the total of Vol. 1 and 2, “Samurai Purchasing” is the longest. The proofreading of this work was unbelievably tough, because Mr. Kunugi had yet to join our project back then. Also, an illustrator Ms. Maki Takeuchi first participated in The BBB on this “Samurai Purchasing”. I had thought Ms. Takeuchi drew unique, impressive pictures. Personally, I love her art style.

Tanya: I love them, too!

Kunugi: Surely enough, her pictures have the unique artistic style.



Ryusui: Next, Mr. Kyosuke Tsumiki’s “Urban Legend Detectives” series. While Mr. Akizuki also is interested in urban legends in general, Mr. Tsumiki and I have been talking about urban legends. In the past,

Mr. Tsumiki contributed an interpretative article to my book featuring urban legends. The “Urban Legend Detectives” series is exactly the story which I would like him to write. When the series concludes, it will become the masterpiece of his life. I’m sure of that.

Kunugi: I didn’t know the urban legends connect the chief editor with Mr. Tsumiki. The artist who draws the cover illustrations is Ms. Maki Takeuchi again.

Ryusui: Only the cover of the first work, “The Merry’s Mail”, was designed by Tanya. But for the second work “Solitary Hide and Seek” and the third work “The Kunekune”, Ms. Takeuchi designed the covers in addition to drawing the illustrations.

Kunugi: Ms. Takeuchi seems to be a versatile player. I heard she was active in various creative fields.

Ryusui: Right. I really appreciate the fact that talented people are gathering at The BBB. Especially, Mr. Tsumiki has been taking this quite seriously from the launch of The BBB to the present. So, I cannot thank him enough. He has been needing more time than before as of late to finish his new work. But, the other day, he finished writing “Urban Legend Detectives Case 4: The Samejima Case”. It was beyond my expectations and overwhelming. I hope we will publish “The Samejima Case” between March and May, 2016.

Tanya: I can’t wait!

Kunugi: Me neither! But, umm ... How long is it, actually ...? Don’t tell me that it is going to be very long.

Ryusui: Mr. Tsumiki is so powerful as a writer that he writes long stories at a mere whim. No thanks to the work of “The Kunekune”, Mr. Kunugi and I experienced the hell. It was about five times as long as what we usually deal with. We were pressed for time, and almost suffered from nervous breakdowns. It was dangerous ... I asked Mr. Tsumiki to have “The Samejima Case” a little shorter. So, it isn’t as long as “The Kunekune”.

Kunugi: Do not get me wrong. We welcome his dense, long stories. But if it happens to be way too long, we should just divide it into two volumes ...

Ryusui: Yeah. In that case, we should divide it like we did for “Samurai Purchasing”. Because we want to keep the quality of our translation and proofreading intact. We actually divided “The Merry’s Mail” into two volumes from the start. But the format of separating a story into two volumes might be more difficult to sell than selling the story as one volume, so we later republished the bound-up version of “The Merry’s Mail” when we published “Solitary Hide and Seek”. Both of these works were already long, and “The Kunekune” became even longer ...

Kunugi: “Solitary Hide and Seek” was also long, but not as long as “The Kunekune”.

Ryusui: “The Kunekune” was far beyond the amount that we can translate or proofread within one month, while maintaining our standard of quality. At the time, both Mr. Kunugi and I were at the very edge of sanity. Just think about how dreadful Mr. Tsumiki’s world can be! Because it has the occult power that can drive the translator and the proofreader insane. (Laughter)

Tanya: Oh, to such an extent ...?

Kunugi: We should split his upcoming works in the future.

Ryusui: Definitely. But after I said so, Mr. Tsumiki’s writing pace became slower. I am sorry about that. I might have put a damper on his writing. Mr. Tsumiki has a plan in which he concludes the series with six stories, so I’m looking forward to the rest of the series.

Kunugi: In the story, “White Friend” is wearing all black and “Black Friend” is wearing all white. That confuses me a lot.

Ryusui: Even Mr. Tsumiki, the author himself, was confused about that issue, too. (Laughter)

Kunugi: C’mohn! Puh-leeeezel!! (Laughter) I don’t even know whether they are males or females ... In the English text, it was translated as “he”.

Ryusui: When I asked Mr. Tsumiki about it, he said those characters are not females.

Kunugi: Not females? I suspected so.

Ryusui: In English, the distinction between “he” and “she” is more strict than in Japanese. So, it might be difficult to make a trick involving gender.

Kunugi: Conversely speaking, it could be the strength that can be found only in Japanese crime/mystery novels, or books of any format for that matter.



Ryusui: Next, let’s talk about “Shinobi: Real 01” written by an anonymous author named Shiro. In fact, the true identity of this author is a very popular novelist in Japan ...

Kunugi: Is he or she an author whom I know the name of?

Ryusui: Of course, Mr. Kunugi should know the author’s other pseudonym. But this author wants to hide the identity. So, I cannot tell you who the author is.

Kunugi: Even I cannot know the truth, eh ...? Ms. Tanya, do you know who Shiro is?

Tanya: I do know, actually.

Kunugi: Oh, you do? Then, Could you tell me ...?

Ryusui: No, we cannot tell the truth yet. Even Mr. K.G. doesn’t know the identity.

Tanya: That’s right. It’s a secret. (Laughter)

Ryusui: Anyway, this work is a page-turner. We got a fan letter from an English native speaker. In the message, he requested the sequel for the “Shinobi: Real” series. However, Shiro is very busy, and the author cannot spare time to write this series unless it sells more. In the end, many of the writers stop writing for The BBB for that reason.

Kunugi: Ah, I know who that one is! Definitely, I'm sure!

Ryusui: I can say nothing about that. (Laughter) Anyway, unless the first work “Shinobi: Real 01” wins the hearts of more readers, Shiro won't write the sequel. So, if you really want to read the sequel, please introduce “Shinobi: Real 01” to people around you. If you do not do so, it will be likely that the sequel won't come out. It's true. The author Shiro has a talent to write many sequels if many people crave for them.

Kunugi: Then, as for me, I should have Doctor Deicide keep writing whether “Towerld” sells well or not.

Ryusui: I would like to express my gratitude to Doctor Deicide and Mr. Akizuki for their continuous support of writing. If we don't have such authors, we cannot continue The BBB. By the way, Ms. Torica Shimuzu, who drew the illustrations for “Shinobi: Real 01”, is a friend of Ms. Maki Takeuchi. Because of this relationship, Ms. Takeuchi created a special You Tube movie (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wXNPxGE87Jc>). The quality is at such a high level that I want it to be made into an animation production movie while maintaining this quality.

Kunugi: Ms. Takeuchi is so mysterious because she is multitalented. I can say the same thing about Doctor Deicide and other Casts. This might be a mysterious bunch of talented people ...



Ryusui: Next one is an interview with Mr. Yohei Hayakawa. We started a series featuring interview sessions titled “The BBB Interview Selection”. As the first work, we interviewed Mr. Hayakawa, who has been a “professional interviewer”, or an expert in conducting interview sessions. He has been my close friend for years. He is really aiming to become a world-class ‘interviewer’. He actually works around the globe as a cosmopolitan. The thing is that the job title “professional interviewer” doesn't exist in English and can't be easily understood. I consulted with Mr. Kunugi about this issue. So, Mr. Hayakawa recently started using a job title “media journalist”. While taking into the account this deal about the proper way of describing the profession, we published the second edition of Mr. Hayakawa's interviews.

Kunugi: Generally, an “interviewer” means “the potential employer who interviews job candidates”.

Ryusui: If “The BBB Interview Selection” had created a great sensation, I would have introduced a lot of people whom I would like to interview. But unfortunately, we didn't get much response and we have been halting this interview series since then.

Tanya: But after we made the interview-related contents available for free, the interview selections have been downloaded more frequently since then.

Kunugi: Hmm, I know. “Free” rules

Ryusui: We got approvals from the authors and have made many of their works free of charge. After that, the works of “The BBB Interview Selection” have been downloaded more than ever than any of other fictional titles.

Kunugi: I want the fictional titles to sell more ...

Ryusui: About Mr. Hayakawa, he has been working on an interview series named “Memories of War”, in which he talks with people who experienced World War II. We have started publishing this series from The BBB as free downloadable contents since July 2015.

Kunugi: I think to record war survivors’ voices is a very valuable activity.

Tanya: I agree with that.



Ryusui: Next, finally, we now talk about the “Towerld” series. I think the entrance of Doctor Deicide has had a great impact. Now the author has published the largest number of e-books among The BBB contents.

Kunugi: What do you mean by the “largest number”? Do you mean the gross amount of book titles being sold? (Laughter)

Ryusui: Actually, the highest frequency of book releases, I mean. (Laughter) In fact, I think the “Towerld” series is the pop, and the centerpiece series.

Kunugi: I hope the amount of sales will become worthy of being the centerpiece of The BBB ... As an agent, I am concerned about it.

Ryusui: I hope that will be the case. I made the first three volumes of “Towerld” available for free, after Doctor Deicide made the request. I would like the readers to become interested in the subsequent volumes after reading the first three volumes. By the end of the third volume, the key characters will be introduced. Although the first work features only the main character and not much else, I hope the readers still manage to keep the motivation for reading the subsequent volumes.

Kunugi: As of the first volume, characters are males only. That does not look or sound sexy, does it? Doctor Deicide seems to want to rebel against the very notion of the trend in which the authors stick cute cookie-cutter ‘cookies’ into the storylines just for the sake of using female characters to bolster the popularity. Doctor Deicide seems to believe that real and legit stories don’t need bells and whistles such as attractive female characters, and he wants to write such hard-core stories. As of now, the writing style has become quite different, I think.

Ryusui: No, not really. I do feel the author’s consistent style.

Kunugi: I want to ask you this. Do you think it is difficult to sell the “Towerld” series if the style of the first volume continues to subsequent volumes?

Ryusui: I don’t think so. I believe there is a lot of demand to “Towerld”. Generally speaking, I feel it is difficult for us to deliver the works to the people who really want them. This difficulty is not limited to just the “Towerld” series. The reason is that the world is flooded with e-books nowadays. Since now is the age in which anyone can easily publish his or her works, they all can become authors. E-books are flooding into the e-book stores more than into real brick-and-mortar bookstores. How can we assert ourselves into the market?

Kunugi: I guess, we need the difference from others.

Ryusui: I think we are now in the era in which it is meaningless for us just to write masterpieces and to do nothing else. It is difficult to circulate unless we have an extra point of topic or the edge. We can say the same thing about other titles as well, for it’s a general problem for The BBB. Each author has already written wonderful stories, but we cannot deliver the works to a wide range of readers just by doing so. Our free contents are read by more and more readers, but paid e-books aren’t read by many yet. Since the world is flooded with free e-books, I understand some readers might think that all they have to do is to read only free e-books. Our issue is about how we can appeal to the readers, to convince them to pay for our contents. We end up talking about this issue in every Cast Party. (Laughter).

Kunugi: Yeah, it just comes down to that point.

Tanya: We want to hear the readers’ opinions. If you have any opinions, please tell us through our Contact page (<http://thebbb.net/contact/>).

Ryusui: I really love the “Towerld” series and I have just started thinking that it might be my most favorite series of all time in my life. For that reason, I want it to become more popular. I want Doctor Deicide to be encouraged by the good sales and to use it as the motivation for keeping on writing the series.

Kunugi: In “Towerld Level 0008”, Doctor Deicide goes overboard. No female character appears and most of the characters are handicapped. Is this style risky?

Ryusui: I think it depends on how the author describes and presents the story.

Tanya: I think it is favorable. The concept of going barrier-free is important.

Kunugi: In “Towerld Level 0009”, five female characters appear.

Ryusui: I don’t know how native English speakers in general feel. Mr. Kunugi, how do you think the “Towerld” series appeals to the native English speakers? In short, we don’t know which of The BBB contents appeal to the English native speakers most. We cannot find any examples in which Japanese literary contents are welcomed in the Western countries. Because there is almost no successful case in which Japanese publications sell well in the West. I am wondering to what extent Mr. Kunugi, or Doctor Deicide for that matter, thinks the “Towerld” series may have a chance to prevail. Of course, I myself think the possibility of the chance is really interesting. I just wonder how English native speakers perceive this.

Tanya: Since I am a female, I want more female characters to be added to the story. I don’t want or need males, actually.

Ryusui: But, some female readers want to be immersed in the fictitious settings that feature males only, right?

Tanya: I can accept the world consisting of just males and absolutely no female. I love gays, in the end.

Ryusui: I am not sure if your opinion can be used as a typical reference. (Laughter)

Tanya: I want more females if the setting of the world is normal. I am not talking about the fictitious settings just for gays.

Kunugi: The fact is that only two female characters appear before “Towerld Level 0008”. The world of “Towerld” is surely full of males, males, and more males.

Ryusui: But, we should understand that Tanya has a little strange tendency (Laughter). I doubt that her perception and viewpoints are considered normal.

Tanya: In addition, I want more animals, like Momo!

Ryusui: Oh, animals. Dogs are in it, right? They are the guard dogs of the Drug Lord.

Tanya: Birds, Wombats, Owls. Anything is okay, though. For example, they can be the guides for the main characters in the journey.

Kunugi: Do you mean that the animals in the story can speak human languages?

Tanya: Crows, or something like that will just do.

Kunugi: The introduction of animals speaking human languages will make “Towerld” become too similar to the magical kingdom in Disney. I say that “Disneyfied” “Towerld” ain’t no real “Towerld”.

Tanya: Since I am a Disney fan, Mr. Kunugi and I share the exactly opposite tastes.

Ryusui: By the way, both Mr. Kunugi and Tanya are into Marvel Universe and professional wrestling.

Tanya: But I wouldn’t have been hooked to WWE without divas. I love divas.

Kunugi: Ah, that’s the difference between you and me. I flip the channel when the divas make the appearances. I prefer enjoying such beautiful people in different occasions outside the canvas.

Ryusui: Oh, you two seem to have really different tastes. Just the exact opposite?

Tanya: In the Marvel Universe, my favorite is Psylocke.

Kunugi: Psylocke is your favorite, eh? ... Not Phoenix?

Tanya: I mean Psylocke, not Phoenix. And I was into Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, too.

Kunugi: What the heck? You just like anything that is related to animals.

Tanya: In the “Towerld” series, bull-headed and pig-headed characters appear.

Ryusui: They are humans wearing masks, not animals. Oh, can we expect an animal floor in the future?

Tanya: I will welcome deer. Bambi will just do.

Kunugi: Do they have to speak human languages?

Tanya: They don’t have to do so. They can let their eyes do the talking as an alternative, for example.

Ryusui: I am not so sure if it is a good idea for the author to suddenly add such new details of the settings to the ongoing storyline. It may be a bit too late to alter its course at this point of the story.

Kunugi: No problem. Animals will make the appearances. A bear. Is it good enough?

Tanya: The thing I want to point out is that Wendy is the only character who is little and cute.

Kunugi: Yeah, I guess you can say that ... Wendy is such a cute critter.

Tanya: Probably, I want characters that are even tinier than Wendy.

Ryusui: I am not sure if that issue of character sizes has anything to do with the popularity of the series.

Kunugi: Well, I welcome the opinion. Although the height of the main character Hector is less than 180 centimeters (approximately 6 feet), I wonder if it is still too tall. Gideon and the Theriocephalic Thugs are all at around two meters (slightly less than 7 feet) in height.

Tanya: It is okay if the enemies are gigantic. But main characters are a bit too huge, right? In addition, I want to read the scenes in which the characters are eating food.

Kunugi: Ouch! Is that what you say? Right, I guess the author isn't too crazy about describing scenes involving eating food.

Tanya: For example, Hector, the main character, might dislike color pink or might not accept anything in purple. I want to know such details. If the characters speak of their personal preferences, we would feel a sense of closeness or attachment to the characters. I like the scene in which Stairway Shieldian is smoking a cigar.



Ryusui: Then, next topic is about Mr. Nobuo Yonekawa. He is an expert on kaiten-sushi (revolving sushi), a high authority in Japanese kaiten-sushi industry. He is an interesting sort of person, and he is interested in global strategy. The other day, we made the documentation of interview on Mr. Yonekawa available for free. After that, many people started showing great interest and attracted much attention from the readers.

Tanya: At one point, it was among the top ten e-books in the general category being sold at Amazon, wasn't it?

Kunugi: As far as I know, kaiten-sushi has already spread throughout the entire world.

Ryusui: Yeah. It seems to be very popular all around the world.

Kunugi: The question is, is it the sushi itself or the conveyor belts that have gained popularity? For example, I heard that, sushi is on a conveyor belt at night, but cups of espresso are on it during the daytime at a kaiten-sushi restaurant in UK. I may be talking about a kaiten-sushi restaurant in Italy. I think we can say that the very concept of using a conveyor belt in a restaurant like that is a Japanese invention.

Ryusui: It is like karaoke. Kaiten-sushi is currently called “revolving sushi”, “sushi train”, etc. Mr. Yonekawa would like to make the Japanese word “kaiten-sushi” a worldwide term like karaoke. He aims for it. In the case of karaoke, the pronunciation by Japanese differs from that by Western people. Karaoke is pronounced like “Carry OH Key” in Western countries, and “Carla O Kay” in Japan.

Kunugi: We hope kaiten-sushi will be on the Oxford English dictionary one day.

Ryusui: Mr. Yonekawa exactly aims for the achievement. As of now, an English word indicating kaiten-sushi has yet to be established.



Ryusui: Next author is, finally, Dr. MORI, Hiroshi.

Kunugi: Wow, we have reached today's main event, eh?

Tanya: I have been waiting for this!

Ryusui: Dr. MORI joined The BBB in December 2013, our 1st anniversary. It was really important to us because Dr. MORI was selected as a Hall of Fame Japanese Author by Amazon Japan and is one of the most popular novelists in Japan. The great point of Dr. MORI is that he doesn't get upset even when his works do not sell well in the early phases. Instead, he strongly emphasizes that we should never give up and must continue to work on our project consistently and thoroughly.

Kunugi: So, we can say that, at least in terms of the aspect of the continuation of writing stories, Dr. MORI, Mr. Akizuki, and Doctor Decide are on the same page of the same book and are facing the same direction, correct?

Ryusui: Yes. In cases of Dr. MORI and Doctor Decide, even the months in which we publish their works have already been determined. For Dr. MORI, in February, June, and October every year. For Doctor Decide, in April, August, and December every year. Furthermore, for the case of "Momo Meets the World Heritage Sites" series, which we regularly post on our Facebook page, they are published in March and September every year. And for the case of Mr. Akizuki's "The Sifted" series which is a spin-off of "The Gifted" series, they are published in May and November every year. So, we can say we already have 10 fixed slots out of 12 monthly periodical publications for each year. Of course, extra contents are to be added as surpluses.

Tanya: Now we are finding ourselves with many periodical publications on the list, aren't we?

Kunugi: I agree with the notion that periodical publications are important. The number of titles of free downloadable works is increasing, so we'd like our readers to be interested in paid e-books after reading free e-books.

Ryusui: About the works of Dr. MORI, English native readers have already praised his works. Some native speakers have written favorable reviews. Then, the problem is how we can legitimately make a breakthrough abroad. As of now, we have published single, short works of Dr. MORI, not stories from long series. How

is this format of releases affect the sales? On the other hand, Doctor Deicide is creating a long series of masterpieces. I think both styles of publishing works will just do. Mr. Akizuki's "The Gifted" is in the middle, for the works are serially connected, as much as each work can be read as an independent title. There is no surefire successful case in the young history of The BBB so far, so everything is in the stage of trial and error for the time being.

Kunugi: Is publishing single works Dr. MORI's wish? In case of publishing serial works that have already been published, is it difficult to handle the publishing rights?

Ryusui: If there is any problem with the method of publishing e-books, then that seems to be the only problem. I guess Dr. MORI thinks we have to try and enter the global market in English, whether the story is long or short. He has achieved as much success as possible in Japan, to the level that he has nothing more to prove. So, his next challenge is about how much success he can achieve in the English-speaking countries and all over the world.

Kunugi: Is it like what Pink Lady and Seiko Matsuda, Japanese legendary pop singers, tried to do in the past?

Ryusui: Or, Ichiro Suzuki in Major League Baseball. He was overly dominant, was like no other without any comparison, and won the batting title every year in the top professional baseball league in Japan. There was nothing more for him to prove in Japan. Then, he crossed the Pacific Ocean to play in Major League Baseball in America, to prove how well he could play in the top league of the world. I think the situation that Dr. MORI is dealing with is similar to that.

Kunugi: The example of Ichiro is easy to understand. Ichiro has proven that he is just as prolific in the top league of the world (MLB). He is a sure future MLB Hall-of-Famer.

Ryusui: I believe that Dr. MORI's works and the uniqueness of the author himself will be well-received all around the world. But almost all Japanese novelists, including Dr. MORI, are not known in the world. So, we at The BBB have to spread the news and the popularity.

Kunugi: As the chief proofreader of The BBB, I feel the responsibility.



Ryusui: The next author is Mr. Takafumi Takada. Mr. Takada's works have a unique feature. The feature is the hybrid of logical puzzles and mystery fictions. But the English versions of his works are not widely popularized. I think arranging many watermelons in the cover of "Three Little Bonzes" might be our mistake. I noticed one thing after we published it. Native English speakers in Western civilization might not like such graphical patterns featuring many dot-like objects lined up in all directions. Many of them don't like salmon caviars and herring roes.

Tanya: To begin with, I didn't like the illustrations of little bonzes. Since I felt they were too simple, I adopted watermelons as a motif ... Honestly, I myself wasn't satisfied with that cover.

Kunugi: Honestly, in my opinion, that cover is the best one created by Polka D, the cover artist. Anyway. You mean you might substitute the cover with a new one in the future.

Ryusui: I think that is a viable option.

Tanya: But I love the cover of "A Goat On a Boat to Float" because the goat on the cover is so lovely.

Ryusui: I too think this is a good cover because it indicates its characteristics as a logical puzzle novel. The author Mr. Takada praised this cover, too.

Tanya: Anyway, this goat is really cute.

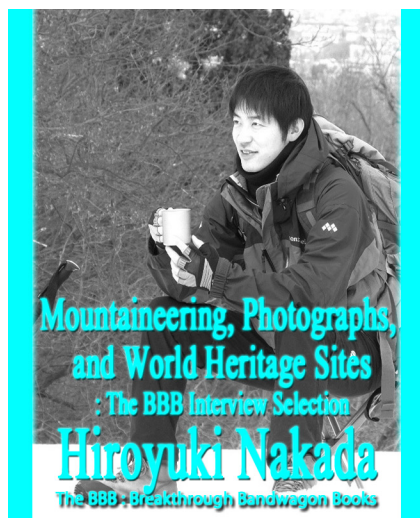
Kunugi: That is the point that you want to emphasize, eh? (Laughter)

Tanya: As a designer, I'm influenced by whether the picture is good or bad.

Kunugi: Do you mean you would like to replace the current cover of "Three Little Bonzes" with the new one?

Ryusui: I have been thinking about how we could produce these "Chinami-kun" series a little more effectively. If these works don't sell well, it is difficult for us to release the sequels. We already have many "Chinami-kun" stories available in Japanese, though. Mr. Takada expects the English version to attract more readers.

Tanya: Anyway, I want to renew the cover for "Three Little Bonzes". After all, cover is very important.



Ryusui: Next one is the interview with Mr. Hiroyuki Nakada, a mountaineer and photographer. He is one of my English learning companions as well as Mr. Akizuki is.

Kunugi: I think there are many types of mountaineers. Those who climb with others by forming a team and applying the expedition style or the siege style ...

Tanya: He is a solo climber.

Kunugi: Oh, is he? Personally, I think the one who climbs alone, by employing the method such as the Alpine style, is a real mountaineer.

Tanya: Since he climbs alone, he was once about to be lost in the mountain.

Kunugi: I read about the episode in his interview.

Ryusui: Mr. Nakada attended Cast Parties in both 2013 and 2014. So, Mr. Kunugi, you met him last year, didn't you?

Kunugi: Yeah, I remember that very well, of course. He is a really nice guy.

Ryusui: Not only he has the good looks, but also his talks in the interview are really interesting. After we had the document available for free, Mr. Nakada's interview has been downloaded by lots of readers to date. We got a positive review from an English native speaker. It seems that the keywords such as "mountaineering", "photographs", "world heritage sites", are very effective.

Kunugi: By the way, does he specialize in mountains only in Japan?

Ryusui: Actually, he has been abroad many times and he says he wants to climb the mountains abroad one after another in the future. He also says he wants to associate with mountaineers in many countries. It is the reason why he is learning English very hard.

Kunugi: I am getting the impression that he is trying to conquer "100 Famous Japanese Mountains".

Ryusui: Yes, you're right about that. Mr. Nakada regularly posts his reports of climbing "100 Famous Japanese Mountains" on his blog. I plan to publish his articles from The BBB in the future.

Tanya: I can't wait for that!

Kunugi: I wonder if it is impossible to climb an Everest-class mountain alone. The number of those who have reached the summit of Mount Everest is probably more than 2,000. I think there are a bunch of spoiled brats and profligate children from rich families among them. I also heard that an army of Sherpas, hired with quite a bit of dough, carried a rich kid all the way to the summit. After hearing such stories, I end up questioning the value of mountaineering ... I wonder if someone has succeeded in conquering the peak of Mt. Everest alone in the past.

Ryusui: I know the mountaineer named Nobukazu Kuriki has been trying to achieve just that, without oxygen.

Kunugi: Perhaps, that is what Mr. Nakada is aiming for in the future ...

Ryusui: Judging from my impression of him, he is not interested in pursuing such a tremendous goal. What is so good about him is that he possesses the down-to-earth character of common mountaineers. He is the person who can talk about the appealing points of mountaineers from the point of view of amateur climbers, in simple ways.

Kunugi: Oh, I see. He is not aiming for reaching certain records for the sake of records. Instead, he just wants to climb mountains naturally in pure ways.



Ryusui: Next one is Momo. The first work “Momo Meets the World Heritage Sites In Japan” was well-received, especially at online bookstores abroad. However, the second work, in which Momo visited many countries, is less popular. Then, I realized that the readers living abroad are more interested in reading the contents about Japan. They do not care a bit about Japanese authors writing the contents about non-Japanese countries. They are more interested in reading the Japan-related contents written by Japanese authors.

Kunugi: Do you mean that Japanese ninja stories like “Shinobi: Real 01” tend to be more well-received, and a totally fantastical fiction like “Towerld” doesn’t get accepted as easily?

Ryusui: I’m not so sure about that. Really, we do not yet understand what is right.

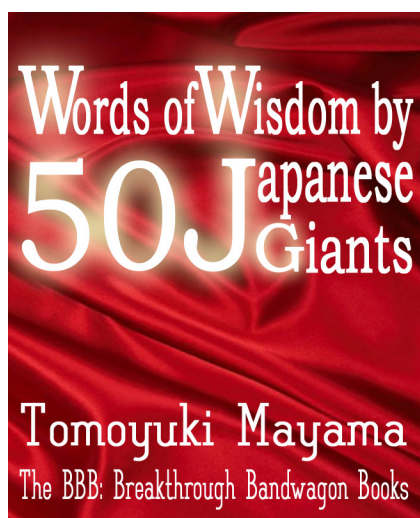
Kunugi: While considering the fact that we are trying to publish our works to the entire world, should we emphasize the Japanese aspects of our styles?

Ryusui: We post serial articles of “Momo Meets the World Heritage Sites” on our Facebook page every week. One time the response is better than anticipated, but another time less than anticipated. Honestly, the way the readers react and respond is quite unpredictable. But, I see the pattern here. The works featuring matters related to Japan tend to get better responses. I’m not sure, though. I’m not talking specifically about just the “Towerld” series, but about the available contents of The BBB in general. There seem to be a lot of readers who welcome the works featuring Japan more profusely.

Kunugi: “Towerld” is a purely fictional story, whereas “The Gifted” is a story featuring the European taste.

Ryusui: No one knows what is right and what is wrong.

Kunugi: In fact, my acquaintance named Oborozuki, a.k.a. Hazy Moon, has been writing fictions featuring Japanese *yokai* monsters. It might be pointing to the right direction, because, after all, The BBB is a Japanese website and is a platform for introducing Japanese contents.



Ryusui: The next one is the last author whom we introduce in this occasion. This author Mr. Tomoyuki Mayama is one of my friends. Under multiple pseudonyms, for years, he has published many books about words of wisdom and the great achievers in the world. He is a recognized authority in the field. In many cases, he introduces words of wisdom and great historical achievers in many countries outside Japan. But this time, he wrote a book titled “Words of Wisdom By 50 Japanese Giants”. Words of wisdom can be found in any countries of the world. However, words of wisdom by Japanese historical achievers are hardly known abroad. So, I guess many people might want to know them.

Kunugi: Indeed, these are precious words of wisdom.

Ryusui: It includes no less than 50 statements for words of wisdom. We can find excellent words of wisdom in the book, so I actually read it over and over again (Laughter).

Kunugi: So do I, honestly (Laughter). They help us a lot and enrich our lives.

Ryusui: This work is a case in which an author focuses on Japan. It is very difficult for us to understand to what extent we should make our contents conform to Western tastes or Japanese tastes. Because there was almost no successful case in Japanese publishing industry regarding the issue of Japanese and Western tastes, so we have to grope blindly in the dark at each phase of our mission.

Kunugi: Probably, we don’t have to focus just on Japanese tastes. However, we might need to include something related to Japan. Just a bit of Japanese touch, at least.

Ryusui: Here is the complicated part. As of now, the most frequently downloaded work in The BBB is “King In the Mirror”, which features the life of Michael Jackson.

Kunugi: Of course, Michael’s name value is unbeatable. But I wonder how Western people feel about Asian authors talking about him.

Ryusui: I don’t know, but I’m glad that lots of English native speakers accept “King In the Mirror”. The work has already received tens of five-star reviews at several major online bookstores abroad.

3.The BBB in 2016 and afterwards

Ryusui: Today, up to this point, we have looked back upon the three-year history of The BBB. Finally, I would like to briefly announce our upcoming projects in 2016 and afterwards.

Kunugi: It is very important for us. Go ahead, please.

Ryusui: First, when we publish “The Gifted Vol.5 - The Death of North Ward” in January 2016, we will also publish the bound-up version of “The Gifted” series, including all of the five volumes of the series at a more reasonable price. Then, when we issue Dr. MORI’s seventh English work “Which Is the Witch?” in February 2016, we will publish the bound-up version of his seven English works. In fact, the covers of Dr. MORI’s seven English works are based on seven rainbow colors. It’s Tanya’s idea and we tentatively call the bound-up version “Rainbow Works”. We asked Dr. MORI to decide the official title by the release date.

Kunugi: At Cast Party 2014 last year, the chief editor disclosed the information pertaining to the fact that the covers of Dr. MORI’s works are based on rainbow colors. Readers might not notice it unless someone mentions it. Actually, many will probably notice it when the lineup of seven rainbow-colored book titles is completed and they see the lineup for themselves.

Ryusui: Tanya first asked me, “What do you think about having the covers based on rainbow colors?” Then, when I asked Dr. MORI about it, he replied, “I have been thinking about the same idea, and that it is the best idea.”

Tanya: That’s just like the great one that he is. (Laughter) Dr. MORI seems to foresee everything.

Kunugi: We are planning to make bound-up versions of “The Gifted” series and Dr. MORI’s works. Hey, wait a minute. Maybe, you mean ...

Ryusui: “Towerld”, too. When we issue “Towerld Level 0010” in April 2016, we will also publish the bound-up version of “Towerld” series, including all of the ten volumes! The bound-up version will be more reasonable than buying ten volumes one by one separately.

Kunugi: Wow, that’s exciting!

Tanya: I think that’s good timing, in which the important series for The BBB will be compiled into bind-ups, one after another.

Ryusui: The three bound-up versions are very important, of course. But, beside that, we already have two special projects, scheduled to be released in 2016. I can say that these two projects will decide our destiny in the future.

Kunugi: Oh ... Do you go so far as to say that much? I’m getting nervous.

Tanya: I think Ryusui sometimes exaggerates. (Laughter)

Ryusui: No, not at all! Specifically, we are planning to publish a work by a big-name author in January or February 2016. In fact, this will be “a work linked with a visual product” for the first time in our history.

Kunugi: ... A visual product?! What do you mean?

Ryusui: For more details, we will announce on The BBB website at an appropriate time. In addition, we plan to launch another big project in June 2016. We will announce the details about that on The BBB website when we are ready.

Kunugi: We are surely going overboard, aren’t we? I want to know the details. Ah, wait. As you just mentioned earlier, June is a month in which we publish Dr. MORI’s works. Which means the big project is perhaps ... perhaps ...

Ryusui: You can imagine anything as you like. (Laughter) Anyway, I think we won’t have trouble finding what to do in 2016.

Tanya: Come to think of it, Ryusui, 2016 is your 20th anniversary as a novelist, isn’t it?

Ryusui: Yes. As my solo activities, I plan to finally publish two historical novels, both of which I have been preparing since 2009. They feature Sumitada Omura, a Japanese daimyo warlord in the 16th century, and Luis Frois, a Portuguese missionary who once visited Japan in the 16th century. The 20th anniversary is an important period, so I'm now considering publishing a special essay e-book from The BBB, available for free. Of course, both in English and in Japanese.

Kunugi: That's good news! I wanna read them soon.

Ryusui: So, we have talked many things about The BBB. In order to boost The BBB, we definitely need your help. I mean the support from our readers and our listeners. If you would like to support The BBB, please download our e-books. It is okay even if you do it just once. If that is too much to ask for, we still would like you to introduce The BBB to your friends, and you can do it for free. Selling e-books is indispensable for us to keep The BBB going. Thank you so much for your understanding and cooperation.

Tanya: Anyway, we need to be more and more recognized. Especially, by people outside Japan.

Kunugi: Everyone! Please download and enjoy the contents, especially the "Towerld" series! Pleeeease!

Ryusui: Mr. Kunugi, even though you are bowing to show your sincerity in rather Japanese style, nobody can see you. (Laughter) Anyway, please enjoy other works, too. Then, thank you two for joining today. I wonder if we can hold a real Cast Party again at the end of 2016.

Tanya: To do so, we need your enthusiastic feedbacks!

Kunugi: We are waiting for them! ... Oh, is it okay if I conclude this?

This Cast Party 2015 was exclusively held at the end of 2015 as one of the made-in-Japan content belonging to The BBB: Breakthrough Bandwagon Books.
