

SWORD MAKING

From a heart of fire
and belly of earth
metal is hammered
as a blade gains birth -

Plunged into water
Then fire again

The steel learns austerity
and discipline.

At last the object is finished
and placed in a scabbard case.

When withdrawn -
it has the power of lightening.

When sheathed -
it is a cave.

An-Yi: This is bullshit!

Daiki: Of course! What else did you expect from a book of poetry?

Bhāraté: I was hoping for cherry blossoms and verse about lovely geisha.

Chariya: I have learned not to hope. The devil starts laughing
each time humans hope.

- T Newfields [Nitta Hirou / Huáng Yuèwǔ]

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