

Part One
Scene One

(Earth - Meeting Hall)

Jonah: So I'm dead?

Dawn: That's right!

Jonah: And what about you?

Dawn: Your guardian angel.

Jonah: And those people?

Dawn: They're the ones who came to commemorate you here in this hall.

Jonah: What an awakening this is! It seems so like a dream—dead and yet existing—What a sensation, light and carefree, as if I were only alive now! And this angel...Is this death? Is it possible that it contains good omens, as it seems from these comforting signs? Oh my heart, calm your erratic beating. My soul, be calm, in hope of a good outcome!

Now what, I wonder? Where do I go? To some residence somewhere—in the distance, beyond all being? To happiness without end—like the paradise that people speak of? In that case, I will meet those who went before me. My father...Surely I will see you, dear father. I wonder if you still have your elegant mustache, and your warm, chapped hands. And You who brought me into existence, do you too exist? Who are you, you who are so discussed and written about? You all have so many secrets of which we can only guess and imagine, and they might come clear today! I will take heart, and watch for everything to come clear.

And now, um...

Dawn: My name is Dawn.

Jonah: Dawn, what now?

Dawn: We wait a little, for another accompanying angel to arrive. Then we fly to the sanctuary of the heavenly city of relaxation, Orhobo. There you will meet with the Head Angel.

Jonah: What is the purpose of that meeting?

Dawn: You'll find out there!

Jonah: I wonder what sort of meeting that will be...

(Enter Ray, Assistant Angel)

Ray: I'm here!

Dawn: What took you so long? What were you doing, flying on an egg? And your eye—What happened to make your eye swell up like that?

Ray: Didn't Morning Star tell you?

Dawn: What?

Ray: I couldn't find my right wing.

Dawn: Couldn't find it?

Ray: You know, I haven't flown in a while...Working in name recording takes most of my time, Dawn. Thank God, I finally had the opportunity to be promoted to your assistant in my first mission...

Translation Sample by Melanie A. Magidow