

# SAKURA TALES

STORIES FROM JAPAN



ANNE SHIMOJIMA



Anne Shimojima, a third-generation Japanese American, has been sharing traditional Japanese folk tales for over thirty years. With these stories she can feel the connection to her great-grandparents' silkworm farm in Nagano-ken, and she honors the memory of her immigrant grandparents, whose spirit of gaman (perseverance) helped them to survive life in a new land. Now Anne is delighted to share these stories with you. Anne and her husband, Jonathan, live in Illinois.



- I Ito's Head (2:38)
- II Table Manners (5:25)
- III The Golden Crane (7:11)
- IV Ooka the Judge (3:04)
- V The Wise Old Woman (6:09)
- VI Luck from Heaven and Earth (3:02)
- VII The Wave (6:48)
- VIII The Tea Master (4:55)
- IX The Peach Peddler (5:34)
- X The Crane Wife (7:20)
- XI The Storyteller (3:53)

All stories adapted for telling  
by Anne Shimojima.

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by Hiroko Fujita.

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Best for ages 8 through adult.



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S A · K U · R A

sə'kōōrə/

noun: cherry blossoms



I have always loved cherry blossoms.

Their exquisite beauty and ephemeral quality remind us that life is precious and fleeting.

Each year the people of Japan await the arrival of sakura, a symbol of renewal and hope.

I am delighted to share these traditional stories with you.

May they spark your imagination and feed your soul.





I started  
telling stories as an elementary  
school library media specialist because  
my students were so enchanted by the  
experience. Since 1982 I have traveled across  
the country sharing folk and fairy tales,  
literary stories, and Hidden Memory; An  
American Story, the true account of my  
Japanese American family's journey to the United States and  
through the incarceration camps of World War II. If you would  
like to see excerpts of this piece please visit my website at  
[anneshimojima.com](http://anneshimojima.com)

