

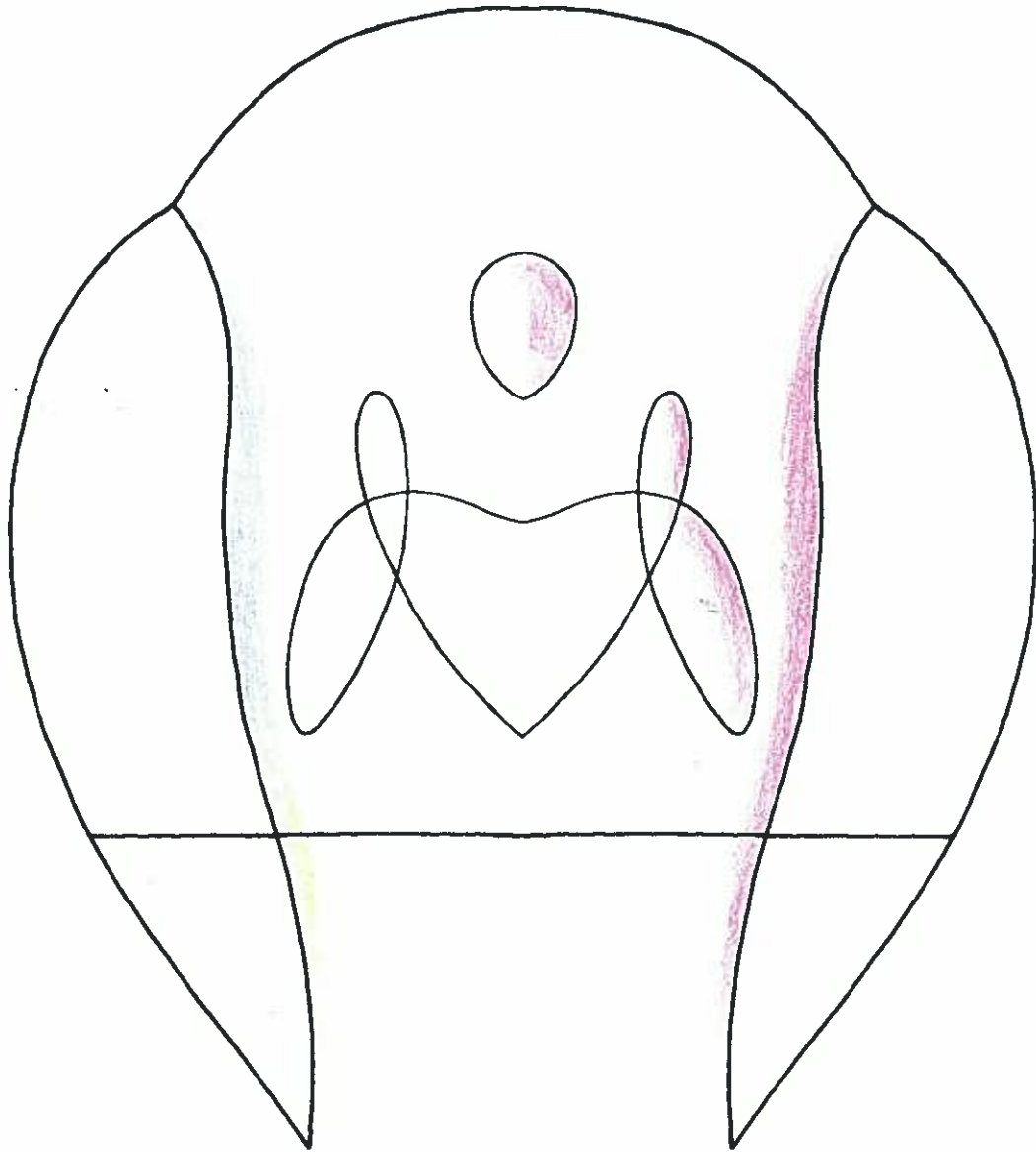
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By Koa Glass

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Glass, the gift from the earth repeating its rebirth



I am a three-way mirror

Yes you are always you, the same person
But you, in the morning, tired after the last night party
You, in the morning, had a good night sleep
And you, in the morning, with little sleep because of a long telephone call
You are different each day
Showing you yourself honestly, that is my role

Everyday, you sit in front of me
Pick up the usual cosmetic bottle
Follow the usual strokes with your palms
Now you have the usual shine of yours
Staring upon you,
And sending you a little message, that is my role
With a small nod, looking well and lively this morning, as always
You'd disappear behind the door
You are my regular guest

The significance of 300 millions (soy sauce and its container)

There is a spectacular design which has been promoting Japanese culture over a half century and is now highly appreciated even in foreign countries.

This is the 'desktop bottle' of the 'soy sauce', which has always been placed on the table and has been supporting the boom of Japanese food nowadays.

In this form, it shows the elegant image of female, maintaining the functions made from the 'theory of pouring', which has not changed in these 47 years. A group of 'Young designer' and 'Young soy sauce store men' had already produced 100 designs of it. In the previous half century, the total amount of production and shipment has already become over 300 millions, which is still amazing to many people.

Nowadays, due to the globalization of Japanese food, for 'Japanese restaurant' in foreign countries, such 'desktop bottle' and 'soy sauce pot' now carry the common scene.

The "color" of soy sauce - red purple-; soy sauce is sometimes called in another name "Purple" (so called in Japan, "MURASAKI") for its color.

The 'taste' standardized by JAS & JIS and the 'noble smell' containing around 300 flavors including rose flavor; these 3 elements are the origin of nostalgia of Japanese people and it may have somehow slotted into our DNA already.

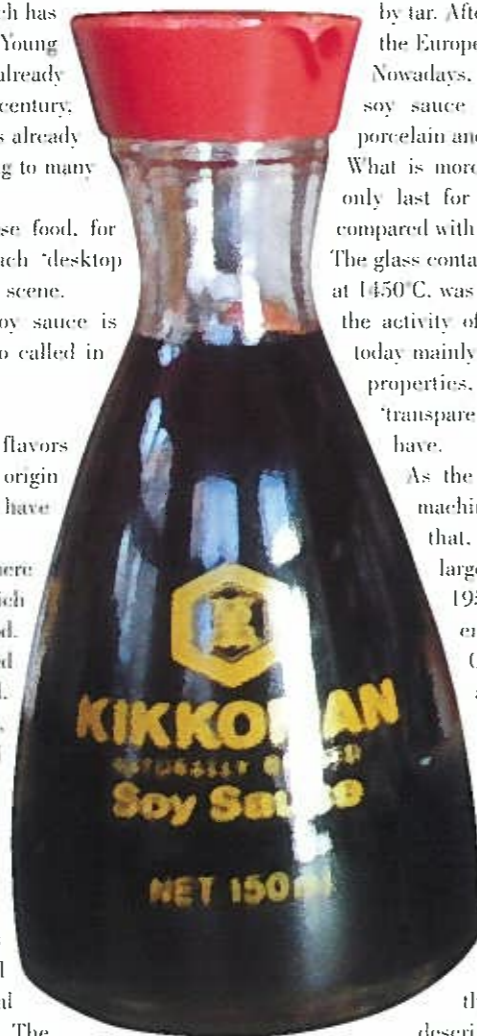
When talking about the root of soy sauce, there were some common 'sauces' used in Asia, which reached Japan during the age of Jomon period.

'Grain sauce' was processed by maturing salted grains through the Yamato Imperial Court period. In the Kamakura period, processing of "Miso", fermented soy bean paste, originating Kinzanji Temple led to the 'tamari', a slightly thicker soy sauce by amending the taste of the sauce, which finally created the prototype of soy sauce nowadays.

Since the soy sauce was in mass production starting from the Edo period, 'cedar barrel' was introduced to replace the traditional 'pots' and 'jugs' because of higher workability of its material and more stable production of soy sauce. The introduction of 'sake bottle' benefited many people, and even the common mass was greatly benefited by that.

As the soy sauce is produced by the fermentation process using wheat, lactobacillus and yeast, its quality is prone to be changed. So the container has been playing a very important role from ancient times.

Taking the same period in Edo period as an example, the container,



which was pottery used for exporting soy sauce by the corporation of Dutch people from East Indian Company and the Japanese middleman, was called in Portuguese as 'Compra Jar'. ('Compra' means middlemen in Portuguese.)

At that time, in order to prevent the deterioration of soy sauce's quality, the Dutch people did something very peculiar in that they boiled the soy sauce and then plugged the bottle which was sealed by tar. After those processes, the soy sauce was carried to the European countries.

Nowadays, during the color test on the soy sauce by major soy sauce manufacturers, the color of soy sauce in porcelain and pottery like 'Compra Jar' changes in a month. What is more, since soy sauce in the resin container can only last for one and a half year, it obviously can't be compared with the glass, which can last for 2 years.

The glass container, which is formed from glass melted around at 1450°C, was made to be so fine that it was able to suppress the activity of oxygen inside it. The glass container made today mainly focuses on the side of its stability in physical properties, together with its advantages such as 'transparency', 'shininess' and 'texture' etc it already have.

As the time goes on, the automatic bottle forming machine was introduced in the Taisho period. After that, the production of glass container became large-scale and the 1-litre bottle was introduced in 1950s. It brought the 'sake bottle' period to an end and lead the start of 'desktop bottle' period.

On the other hand, during the progress of automation, a crafting method, called semi-automatic was inherited and it is still used presently. "Soy sauce pot" is still produced in a small scale in the suburban areas of Tokyo such as Edogawa-Ku and Sumida-Ku even now, by those professional craftsmen who possess the same skills from Venezia. The 'glass ball', which is gathered around the rod from the crucible, is roughly formed to the shape by rotating the rod, then is pressed in the mold to the final shape, which best describes the traditional skills.

From 'natural wood' to 'pottery', and then to 'glass container', the soy sauce container was changing time by time. Nevertheless, the role of glass to maintain standards of 'color', 'taste' and 'smell' is still alive even here.

Due to the property not being affected, glass container for cosmetics manufactured by us will increasingly play a new role to maintain the freshness of the cosmetics inside.



Your mind appears on your face. And you see your mind appeared on your face in a mirror.

When you look at yourself in the mirror, it moves your mind. A mirror, a tool works with reflections of light, even reflects the fine movements of your mind.

A mirror is definitely a "must-have" item for women who put their make up on. "Mirror" is basically "glass". But even they are the same, glass-based products, after starting my research, I have realized it would bring you to a whole new world. It is such a simple thing-a good quality glass with a metallic reflecting side, but it gives you a deep fascination.

It is an intriguing tool that converts a 3-dimensional world into the 2-dimensional flat image through the "trick" done by a physical phenomenon of reflecting lights. This miracle tool attracted and hooked people's minds since ancient times. Stories connected to mirrors are like synonym for stories about women: they always transport people to a world of wonderful imagination.

A moment in the three-way mirror

Ms. Marie - Christine VAN DEN BROEK D'OBRENAN
(France)

In an elegant and quiet area in Paris, neighboring the Boulogne forest, I press the intercom of an apartment. The door is opened with her voice and a click. There is a large mirror in the entrance hall, a large picture on the wall of the staircase leading me to the third floor, then a portrait of a beauty in a formal dress welcoming me as I stepped in the front door. "She is my husband's grandmother," says my host. In a blue, half-sleeved shirt and slacks, Ms. Marie-Christine VAN DEN BROEK D'OBRENAN (65 years of age) invites me into the living room with an easy and limber motion. In her salon-like living room, there are a table, two sets of upholstered sofas as well as nine chairs. It is a large home with many more rooms in the back. In 1984, she visited Japan for a month to study flower-plants. She joined a French-Japanese social organization, "SUZUKAKE NO KAI" in 1989, and in 2000, she spent two months traveling from Rehon and Rishiri Islands in Hokkaido to Yonakuni Island, the tip of Okinawa islands. She is such an enthusiast of Japan that she even studied Shodo, Japanese calligraphy, and participated in Shodo exhibitions. Smiling, she adds "And I don't drink coffee, I drink Japanese Genmai tea or green tea". Her philosophy of life is "to live cozily". That is why she loves Japanese flowers and brings them into her everyday life. She feels that Japanese flowers have the characteristics of the delicate sense of the Japanese and display it well.

In the morning she gets up and spends 30 minutes doing Kiwado stretching exercise, designed to harmonize the inner-spirit. You stretch your body with movements opposite to the normal direction. After that, she tones her skin with spray-

water and moisturizing cream. That is her first make-up. When she pops out or goes to a restaurant, she would put on her second make-up applying some foundation, eye-shadow and lipstick. In addition, she put her third make-up if she goes out for a party. She'd define her eyes, do her hair and put on some perfume. She loves Japanese perfume and has been using it for 20 years.

On the days when she has no plans to go out anywhere, she goes up to her roof-top garden through a dedicated spiral staircase from her living room. It is a world of sunshine, green, birds' song and their wafts. There are pines, bamboos, plum and cherry trees, as well as Japanese gingers, Japanese peppers, citrons, Japanese herbal trifoliate, perillas, kumquats, tomatoes or carrots etc, and some flowers. At first it may appear to be cluttered, but there is a superb harmony among them. They swing in the breeze, whisper into your ears, and sooth your feelings as you contemplate them. This frees you from worldly thoughts and leaves you with only a calm mind. It really is a nice feeling.

She always believes that such a nice feeling is generated from inside, in the process of getting up in the morning, having her breakfast, doing Kiwado and especially looking at herself in the mirror. At the start of the day, she checks her condition by looking at her skin.

Yesterday was a good one. She worked in the garden from one in the afternoon till eight at night. Even during the evening thunderstorm, she continued in her raincoat. And she is not tired. She thinks it was because she checked that she was well in the mirror when she put on her first make-up. She believes her morning make-up time is the most important moment that brings you those pleasant feelings.



Soda-lime Glass	Compositions	The Earth Crust
74 %	SiO ₂ (Silica Sand)	65 %
1 %	Al ₂ O ₃ (Aluminum Oxide)	10 %
9.5 %	CaO (Limestone) MgO (Magnesium Oxide)	12.5 %
15.5 %	Na ₂ O (Soda Ash) K ₂ O (Potassium Oxide)	6 %
0.03 %	Fe ₂ O ₃ (Iron Oxide)	6 %

The above table shows the typical compositions of Soda-lime Glass and the Earth Crust, which lies in 40 Km deep from the surface of the Earth. They carry approximately the same compositions. It is the background of a concept of the following context. People sometimes say 'Global environmentally friendly We can', in terms of environmental concerns, say that the glass is exactly the Earth itself.



Another Earth -Glass and Environment-

It is quite common in a fancy restaurant that food or drinks are served or contained in pottery, silverware together with glass container.

In this place, there is the realm supported by tradition and formality. Serving with good quality wares is part of 'Customer Service'. Such "Service" as well as food served are inherited solemnly, pleased customers and finally become the tradition of the restaurant. 'Meeting with nice wares' indeed carries the same meaning of meeting with 'Nice food and nice people'.

There is 'Happiness' of the glass container maker inside. However, glass container makers are even more proud for their own as the ingredient for glass container we produce is approximately the same as for the Earth.

It may be a bit unexpected to hear that "Soda lime glass" which the glass containers we produce and flat glass are classified and is widely used all over the world, carries approximately the same composition of the Earth crust. It means Soda lime glass is composed of 'Silica sand', 'Limestone', 'Soda ash' and 'Alumina'. People sometimes say 'Global environmentally friendly'. We can say that the glass is exactly the Earth itself.

Glass is born in the ancient Mesopotamia. It is discovered by men that made accidentally from melted substances of natural elements from the ground or the molten kiln by high temperature during an occasion of making bronze or something else. From this point, that is exactly why it is called the 'child' of nature.

Though the glass was made accidentally in that land 4000 years ago, for its 'transparency' or 'shininess', it charmed not only the ruler of that land, but far beyond time and place many other rulers afterwards. It is the 'Symbol of authority', with such 'Jewel' as body accessories which simply can consolidate one's status. And such splendid glass 'Treasure' is used as inheritance from generation to generation.

The manufacturing method of glass bottle was kept as secret due to its scarcity value, and the traditional technique was preserved on Murano Island in Venezia for a long time. The golden age of Venetian glass came in 15th and 16th century.

As the political and economic status of Venezia declined, this technique was being widely spread throughout the European countries. At that time, it extended its application for 'High-grade containers' or 'Ornaments'. And gradually, those 'High-grade

containers' or 'Ornaments' can be touched by general public.

Then it became entrusted from the craftsmen's hand to the artists. The art was blooming especially for the 'Art Déco' and 'Art Nouveau' artists from 19th and 20th century, for example, Émile Gallé (1846-1904) and René Lalique (1860-1945), their works have not stopped charming us even for today. It is the realm of 'beauty' the rulers from the past always longing.

For us, the glass manufacturer, especially for those related to cosmetics container manufacturing, we need to polish our skills to become the worthy descendent to succeed this 'Genealogy of beauty'.

On the other hand, for the art work of 1,500°C 'Fire', the metal oxide carries scarcity value with 'dark blue', 'green', 'red', 'pale purple' colouring in Venezia those days. Due to the difficulty to get stable supply of such scarce raw materials, reuse of waste glass was performed in early times. In today's wording, it is



the 'recycling' of raw materials of the waste glass.

For such glass 'Recycling' and 'Reuse', it is the men to work, to cultivate, to establish to the nature in the long history and tradition. Adding with today's 'Light weight' bottle, or says 'Reduce', extracting the first letter 'R', it is known as the '3R' movement, the worldwide 'Environment movement of Glass'.

After the Containers and Packaging Recycling Law enacted in 1997 in Japan, such movement are even more promoted. In 1998, the usage rate of Cullet (crush the waste glass to become raw materials) of 70% was raised to over 90% in 2003. In Europe, Germany, Austria, Belgium and so on, maintain high usage rate around 90%.

From this 'Recycling use' of glass, energy for melting can be reduced, and the release of carbon dioxide that loads to the environment can be largely reduced. We, who inherited 'the blessing of our mother earth' in the form of 'Glass', must become aware of the importance to use benefit of this 'Human cultural heritage'.



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