Text

² 今は、椎名が僕の様で、ベッドタイム・ストーリーを誇ってくれる。

³ 彼安の学に覚を<u>かたむけて</u>、僕は、**身をゆ だねる**。

- ⁴彼女の声を、**どこまでも**持っていく。
- ⁵ どこまでも、どこまでも......。
- ⁶ 複のむこうまで......。
- ⁷彼女の声を.....。

* 椎名というのは<u>苗字</u>で、茗請は、アカリという。 * 趣味は物語をつくって小説にすること。 * 10 それと、皆望術だ。 * 11 といっても、彼女の書いた小説を読んだことはないし、言なって もらったことも一度だってない。 * 12 彼女は大学の一年後輩である。 * 13 椎名と僕は、ある【土曜日】に<u>知り各って</u>、話をするようになり、学食でいっしょにご飯を食べ、帰り鎧をならんであるくようになった。 * 14 その椎名が、ここ**最近**、僕

眠りにつく: fall asleep

腰(を)かける: sit (down) (has a more relaxed/leisurely connotation than 座る)

身をゆだねる: to entrust oneself to (someone/something)

どこまでも: to the furthest extent, as far as one can see

- [noun] + にする: turn into [noun], make into [noun]
- といっても: this being said, although (precedes the introduction of an unexpected or contradictory statement)
- 一度だってない: not even once (same as 一度もない)

[verb] + ようになる: start to [verb]

- ここ最近: recently, lately (ここ, when prefixing time expressions, typically means "the past", as in ここ数年: the past several years)
- 枕元: by one's pillow, at the head of one's bed (元 is found in several words as a suffix showing location: 手元, 足元, 胸元, 根元)

- ¹ When I was a child, as I fell asleep my mother would sit beside my bed and tell me fairy tales.
- ² Today, Shiina sits next to me and tells me bedtime stories.
- ³ I turn my ear to her and let myself fall into her voice.
 - ⁴ I carry her voice to the edge of space.
 - ⁵ On and on, forever....
 - ⁶ To the other side of the night....
 - ⁷ I carry her voice....
- ⁸ Shiina is her last name; her first is Akari. ⁹ Her hobby is creating stories and turning them into novels. ¹⁰ That, and astrology. ¹¹ Although I've never read a novel she's written, nor have I once had her tell my fortune. ¹² She's a university classmate one year below me. ¹³ Shiina and I, upon meeting on a certain Saturday, started to talk with each other, and then to share meals in the cafeteria and walk home together. ¹⁴ Lately, on nights when I can't fall asleep, Shiina sits by my pillow and tells me bedtime stories.

が眠れないとき、**枕**ったでベッドタイム・ストーリーを**聞かせて**くれる。¹⁵ 内容は、おとぎ話というよりも、宇宙に関するほら話だ。

16 たとえば、<u>ち金の繁星</u>の話。17 彼女**に言わ せると**、この宇宙のどこかに、 純金でできた 惑星が存在するというのだ。

18 **ほかにも**、 白金と永遠の、 かわいらしい数子 惑星の話。

19 ブラックホール**同士**の衝突で、宇宙がゼ リー**状**にゆさぶられた事件。

20 高校時代、彼女はSF小説を**好んで読んで** いたという。²¹ そのときに**空想した**ものだろう か。

聞かせる: tell, let someone hear (ご感想を聞かせて下さい: please let me know what you think)

A というよりも B: more like B than A, closer to being B than A

~に言わせると: according to ~ (same as ~の言うことによると)

~でできた: made of ~

ほかにも: in addition

~同士: indicates all members of a group are of the same type (友 達同士の集まり: a gathering of mutual friends)

〜状: (in this context) state, phase 好んで読む: enjoy reading, prefer to read

空想する: to imagine (想像する is to imagine in general, but 空想 する is to imagine something utterly impossible)

いつだったか: past form of いつか

どうせ: anyway, as in どうせ使っていないだろう。 (You're not using it anyway.)

 \sim たって (past verb + って): informal version of \sim ても

はず: expectation, assumption

¹⁵ But rather than fairy tales, hers are fanciful stories about outer space.

¹⁶ For instance, a story about a golden planet. ¹⁷ According to her, somewhere in the universe there exists a planet made of pure gold.

¹⁸ Or a story about two charming little twin planets of platinum and mercury.

¹⁹ Or the time when space was shaken into a gelatinous state by a collision of black holes.

²⁰ She tells me that in her high school days she liked to read science fiction. ²¹ Perhaps these are stories she imagined then.

²² One day, I asked her to introduce extra-terrestrial life into her stories. ²³ If they're made-up stories, I expect she wouldn't mind bringing aliens into them. ²⁴ However she adamantly refuses this. ²⁵ One night, the night of a meteor shower, I found out why.

Vocabulary

Beginner

time, period ¹ 眠る fall asleep side, close (by) side, adjacent (to) ² 語る tell (a story) hobby, interest story, tale novel (book) 13 がくしょく 学食 school cafeteria 13 帰り遊 the road home 13 並ぶ line up 15 内容 content 18 可愛いらしい cute, adorable (esp. small or dainty things) 18 双子 twins 20 **時代** time, age 25 ^{りゅう} 理由 reason

Intermediate

¹ おとぎ 話 fairy tale ³ 傾 ける lean (to a side or direction) ⁶向こう other side, beyond 8 苗字 last name 12 後輩 underclassman ¹³ 知り合う meet for the first time 14 枕 pillow 15 宇宙 (outer) space, the universe 16 苦念 gold 17 そんざい 存在する exist ¹⁹ 揺さぶる shake (up), sway 19 事件 incident, event ²⁰ 好む like, prefer appear (on stage, in a story) not mind (neg. of 構う) ²⁴ 拒否する refuse

visit, call on

Advanced

(someone's) fortune
-fetched tale, outlandish
ory
net
re gold
tinum
rcury, quicksilver
lision
agine, daydream
ra-terrestrial
(form), organism
nly, resolutely
teor shower