Text

1 私の能力が、時間を越えるほど強大になる場所を、【時間の地平線】と呼んでいます。
2 地球から遠く離れ、【時間の地平線】をすぎた場所ならば、過去や未来に腕をのばし、星々をつくることができるのです。3 はるか未来の学宙で、**気まぐれ**に銀河の星を減らすことも……、増やすことも……、ブラックホール同士をはまっとつ

4 でも……、**どうやら**、この能力には、私のまだ把握していないルールがあるようです……。
5 たとえば、何万年も前の宇宙に、気まぐれにつくって放置**しておいた**惑星を、やっぱり消そうとしたのですが、**なぜか**消えてくれません。6 私が意識を集中すればするほど、ぼんやりとして、見えなくなる銀河**もあります**。7 そういった例外が、なぜ起こるのか、わかっていません……

⁸ 何のために、このような力が、私に備わっ

- ほど: shows extent or degree:
 - 例 冷えるほど寒い freezing cold (cold to the point of freezing)
 - 例 涙が出るほど笑う cry with laughter (laugh to the point of tears)
- ならば: an alternate (and less common) form of なら, which is typically used as a hypothetical "if".
- 気まぐれ: has a sense of being easily changeable, fickle, going with the flow, doing something without forethought and on the spur of the moment. Appears again in sentence #5.
- どうやら: apparently, evidently, it would seem that
- しておいた: the ~ておく form can show that something was merely done and left that way, and does not always indicate something was done as part of a preparation.
- なぜか: for some reason, somehow
- もあります: use the \sim もある form to say "[There are] some \sim ."
 - 例 反対している国もある some countries oppose [the plan, idea, etc.]
 - 例 ここでしか手に入らない 商品もある there are some products you can only get here
- 役に立つ: to be useful
- ひかれそうになって: <verb stem> + そうになる equates to "on the verge of <verb>" or "nearly

- ¹ I call the point where my ability becomes powerful enough to surpass time the Temporal Horizon. ² At any location far removed from Earth and beyond the Temporal Horizon, I could reach into the past or the future and create planets and stars. ³ I could also, in the Universe's distant future, take away stars from galaxies with the slightest thought...or add more stars...or even make black holes collide with each other.
- ⁴ But...it would seem this ability has limits which I have yet to comprehend. ⁵ For instance, there is a planet I made tens of thousands of years ago on a whim and then forgot about, but when I changed my mind and tried to get rid of it, for some reason it wouldn't go away. ⁶ There are also some galaxies that blur and fade from view the more I focus my thoughts on them. ⁷ As to why these sorts of exceptions exist, I have no idea.
- ⁸ I wonder—for what purpose was I given this sort of power? ⁹ To be honest, it has no use

たのでしょう? ⁹ 正 直 な 話、実生活では、 **役に立ちません**。 ¹⁰ 車 に**ひかれそうになって** いる子どもを、たすけることもできない。 ¹¹ せ **いぜい**、苦手な先生の鼻に、埃を誘導して、 くしゃみをさせる**くらい**です。

- ¹² こんな能力、ない**も同然です**。
- 13 そんなある $^{\circ}$ のことでした。
- ¹⁴ 私は、先輩とはじめて、おしゃべりをした んです……。

15 【土曜日】にだけ、オールナイトで昔の映画を上映するという、あの映画館。16 私と先輩のほかに、お客さんはいませんでした。17 【土曜日】の上映がなければ、私たちは今も他人だったはず……。18 でも、私は臆病でした。19 本心をうちあける勇気がなかったのです。20 先輩と顔見知りになっても、自分という人間に、どうしても自信がもてず……。21 挙動不審になって、あとで落ちこんだり……。22 宇宙の果てでは神のような存在でも、この町にいる私は、

<verb>"

せいぜい: at the most, at best

- くらい: similar to ほど, shows extent or degree. If くらい were replaced with こと in this sentence, it would limit Shiina's ability to the specific example she gives. くらい indicates she's capable of the example here and other things requiring a similar level of effort.
- \sim も同然です: no better \sim than how it is now, practically the same \sim

- \sim のほかに: other than \sim , excepting \sim
- なければ〜だった: Japanese has no word for "would", so hypothetical statements about how things would have turned out use a conditional (たら, ば, な ら) followed by a past tense clause.
 - 例 あの時に行けばよかった。 I should have gone back then. (literal: Had I gone back then, it would have been better.)
 - 例 彼女に出会わなかった ら、今頃どういう人生を 送っていたのだろう。 Had I not met her, I wonder what sort of life I would be leading now.
- もてず: same as もてない. Somewhat formal. にいた is a likely ending for sentence #20.

in everyday life. ¹⁰ I am powerless to save a child about to be struck by a car. ¹¹ The most I can do is something like sending dust into the nose of a professor I don't like and making him sneeze.

- ¹² It would be just as well if I didn't have this ability.
 - ¹³ And then something happened one day.
 - ¹⁴ I talked with you for the first time....

urdays, they show classic films late into the night. ¹⁶ No one else besides you and me was there. ¹⁷ If it weren't for that Saturday showing, I expect we would still be strangers.... ¹⁸ But I was timid. ¹⁹ I didn't have the courage to reveal my true feelings to you. ²⁰ Even after becoming acquainted with you, I just couldn't feel confident in the person I was.... ²¹ My nervousness showed through, and afterward I felt discouraged.... ²² My existence may rival that of a god's at the edge of the Universe, but in this town, I am a withdrawn, small human

言いたいことも言えない、引っ込み思案の<u>ちっ</u>ぽけな人間なのです。

²³ **どうやったら**先輩との距離がちかづくので しょうか!?

- 24 なやんでいたとき、**ふと**、書店で見かけた のが、占星術の本でした。
 - 25 占星術……!
 - ²⁶ そうか!
 - ²⁷ 占星術だ!
- ²⁸ 夜空にひろがっている、星々の<u>位置</u>をうご かすことができるなら。
- ²⁹ 占星術の<u>結果</u>さえも、自由に、<u>選択できる</u> のではないか?
- ³⁰ 星をうごかして、先輩との距離をちかづけ よう、**という**計画の、それがはじまりでした。

- 例 何もせずにいた spent time not doing anything
- 例 眠らずにいる go without sleep
- どうやったら: literally "if I do what". This pattern appears in questions asking what someone has to do to achieve a desired result.
 - 例 彼に何を言ったら許し てもらえるのかな。 I wonder what I can say to get him to forgive me.
 - 例 何時に行ったらこんな 写真が取れるのか? What time do I have to go to get a shot like this?
- $\&\, \& :$ inadvertently, by happenstance, without warning
 - 列 ふと思う occur to one
 - 例 ふと耳にする hear in passing

being who cannot even say what she wants to.

²³ How can I lessen the distance between you and me?!

- ²⁴ While I was worrying over this, I happened to see in a bookstore a text on astrology.
 - ²⁵ Astrology...!
 - ²⁶ That's it!
 - ²⁷ Astrology!
- ²⁸ If I can shift the positions of the stars spread across the night sky....
- ²⁹ Would I not be able to freely choose even the predictions of astrology?
- ³⁰ That was the beginning of my plan to move the stars and bring us closer together.
- という: often used as here to "adjectivize" an entire phrase. Here という wraps up everything preceding it and uses it to describe the noun 計画.

Vocabulary

Beginner

¹呼ぶ call, name

³減らす decrease, lessen

⁴増やす increase

⁵消す erase, remove

⁵消える disappear

⁷起こる occur, happen

9 正直な honest, frank

¹⁰ 助ける save, help

¹¹ 苦手な disliked, uncomfortable

14 初めて for the first time

19 勇気 courage, bravery

²² 果て end, furthest limit

²⁴ 悩む worry

²⁴ 見かける catch sight of, see

²⁸ 夜空 night sky

30 計画 plan

Intermediate

¹ 地平線 horizon

³ 遥か distant

¹¹くしゃみをする sneeze

15 上映する show (a film)

le 客 customer, guest

¹⁷他人 stranger

¹⁹打ち明ける reveal, divulge

²⁰顔見知り (state of being) ac-

quainted

20 人間 human being

20 自身 confidence

22 存在 existence

²² ちっぽけな tiny, insignificant

28 位置 position

29 結果 result

29 選択する choose

Advanced

⁴ 把握する grasp (mentally)

^{ょっち} 放置する desert, neglect

7 **例外** exception

¹⁰ 轢かれる be hit by (a vehicle)

¹¹ 誘導する guide, maneuver

¹⁸ 臆 病な timid, shy

19 本心 true feelings

きょどうふしん 21 **挙動不審** acting suspiciously

²²引っ込み思案 withdrawn

24 書店 bookstore