

My family was poor

Periodo: L'età dell'imperialismo (1870-1914)

Lingua: inglese

Tags: lavoro/capitale, filanda

Indirizzo: <https://www.ildeposito.org/canti/my-family-was-poor>

My family was poor,
at the tender age of twelve
I was sold to a factory....

I was carried away by sweet-sounding words.
My money was stolen and thrown away.
Unaware of the hardship of the future,
I was duckweed in the wind.

Excited I arrived at the gate, where I bowed
to the
[doorman,
I was taken immediately to the dormitory,
Where I bowed to the room supervisor.
I was taken immediately to the infirmary,
Where I risked my life having a medical

examination.

I was taken immediately to the cafeteria,
Where I asked what was for dinner.
I was told it was low-grade rice mixed with
sand....

We friends are wretched,
separated from our homes
in a strange place,
put in a miserable dormitory
waken up at four-thirty in the morning,
eating when five o'clock sounds,
dressing at the third bell,
glared at by the manager and section head,
used by the inspector.
How wretched we are!

Informazioni

Canto di lavoro giapponese del tardo '800.

Da notare la straordinaria somiglianza con i canti di filanda e di risaia italiani più o meno della stessa epoca o di qualche decennio più tardi.

Ed è da notare anche la straordinaria somiglianza con le condizioni di lavoro di moltissimi stranieri immigrati in Italia oggi.