

KANIKA AGRAWAL

from *Okazaki Fragments*

I

Okazaki is consistently Okazaki-adjacent. It is a co-efficient co-

valent conformation in which Okazaki switches

lines with Okazaki when the occasion strikes. See

Okazaki's strand wind its mind around Okazaki's inner events.

See Okazaki as the filament lighting Okazaki's sentence.

In this segment Okazaki is in Okazaki's cellular element.

(As close as Okazaki is  
to Okazaki there are short

intervals in identification with  
Okazaki and what Okazaki feels

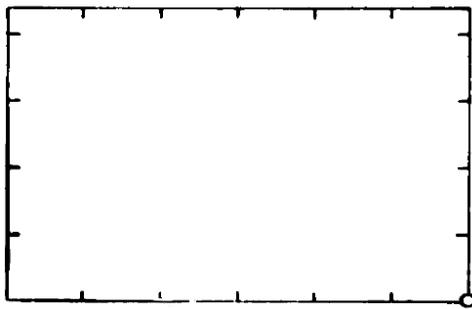
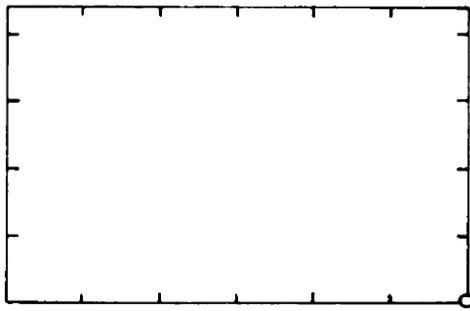
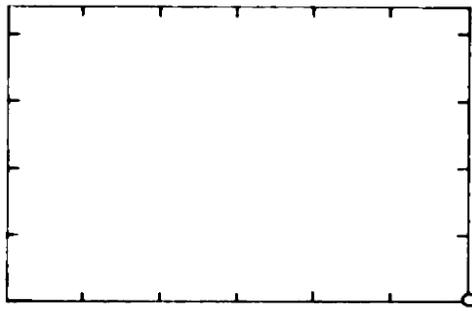
in these is what a painter does  
to gradient an object's attention

potential across its variant surfaces  
is what Okazaki can learn to shade in

and out of Okazaki. Okazaki's un-  
usual structure is not yet evident

so Okazaki studies discontinuity  
with Okazaki as the only problem.

The only problem  
is it is the resolution.)



II

Okazaki.

Okazaki.

Okazaki is.

Okazaki as.

Okazaki turns.

Okazaki re-turns.

Okazaki plays a hand.

Okazaki plays the other.

Okazaki changes hands.

We applaud the opening.

Hands change the scene.

Okazaki's turn to steal the scene.

Okazaki takes Okazaki's hands.

Okazaki gives up with open hands.

We take a break from the reaction.

Okazaki loosely holds one end of the thread.

From the other, Okazaki separates the strands.

Okazaki peels an orange in single-stranded form.

Lending positive support, Okazaki winds it back.

Okazaki expresses deep concern about sample impurity.

Okazaki visits deeply neglected corners and stirs the dust.

In the spiral hall, Okazaki ascends slowly, studying its structure.

Okazaki descends quickly, copying its fluency with the body.

For the train journey, Okazaki wears a field of white ordered with black floating squares.

Okazaki's squares are thoughts Okazaki is yet to have. Okazaki swims in them sleepily.

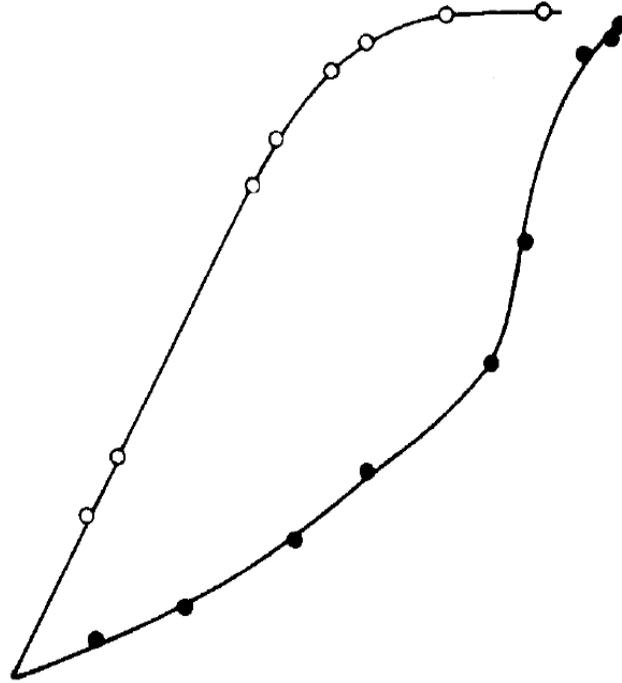
We are prepared in culture and layered on its gradient. We write our hopes and tie them to bamboo, still growing. Okazaki knows this like the back of Okazaki's hand. Growth is the primary work of Okazaki and Okazaki's lives.

Cherry blossoms fall from the rafters like snow in the final scene. It is a windy day on stage. The blossoms blow into the audience. Okazaki gathers a few from Okazaki's hair (small squares of pink and white tissue posing as petals), saves them in a handkerchief.

Okazaki writes Okazaki's name with a fluorescent marker on a scrap of cotton, folds and sews it into the hem of Okazaki's lab coat. Working late, well after the others have gone home, Okazaki turns off all but one dull lamp to image Okazaki luminescing.

Okazaki and Okazaki prepare to prepare a manuscript. Okazaki arranges a table with forks. Fifty percent of the tines point in one direction and fifty percent the opposite. While Okazaki sets and resets other tables, Okazaki sits at the first and polishes the forks.

Okazaki is invited to a prestigious symposium to present the discontinuous model. The chair shows a diagram of the chain growth mechanism, the fork partially obscured by a fig leaf. But Okazaki and Okazaki's research has revealed the mystery. Let the leaf fall. Okazaki shares the news with Okazaki. After a celebration with colleagues, Okazaki and Okazaki resume the work. Another opening, again. There is so much to understand. They know, as we have discovered, that nothing could be further than the truth.



*OKAZAKI*

ki

ak ok Okazaki Okazaki

ok Okazaki ka

ka oka

ka Okazaki

Okazaki Okazaki ak

Okazaki  
aza

Oka

*OKAZAKI*



Schematic illustration of a possible  
strand in the vicinity

ka

ak

ak

Images and some language adapted from the following papers from a 16-part series on discontinuous strand synthesis during DNA replication:

Okazaki, R., et al. "Mechanism of DNA Chain Growth, I. Possible Discontinuity and Unusual Secondary Structure of Newly Synthesized Chains." *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA*, vol. 59, no. 2, 1968, pp. 598-605.

Okazaki, T., and R. Okazaki. "Mechanism of DNA Chain Growth, IV. Direction of Synthesis of T4 Short DNA Chains as Revealed by Exonucleolytic Degradation." *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA*, vol. 64, no. 4, 1969, pp. 1242-8.

Sugimoto, K., et al. "Mechanism of DNA Chain Growth, II. Accumulation of Newly Synthesized Short Chains in *E. coli* Infected with Ligase-Defective T4 Phages." *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA*, vol. 60, no. 4, 1968, pp. 1356-62.

Sugimoto, K., et al. "Mechanism of DNA Chain Growth, III. Equal Annealing of T4 Nascent Short DNA Chains with the Separated Complementary Strands of the Phage DNA." *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. USA*, vol. 63, no. 4, 1969, pp. 1343-50.