

## “Style of Pomegranate”



There is a pomegranate tree in my house. My father brought it back to his home in Osaka, along with a maple, a chinchoge, and a pine tree, from his parents' home in Tottori City, transplanted it, and cared for it lovingly. When I owned a house in Wakakusa, I received some of these seedlings, but unfortunately I had to wither the one that was difficult to transplant. However, the pine and pomegranate trees have grown into fine garden trees, and now I feel like our ancestors are watching over us.



I chose the pomegranate tree because I wanted to grow it with the hope that it would become a useful medicine as I entered the field of pharmaceutical science. This is because dried pomegranate bark is a herbal medicine called pomegranate bark, which contains an active ingredient called isopellecherine, and has been used as a gastrointestinal anthelmintic since ancient times. In addition, the decoction of the fruit peel, which contains tannins, is said to be used as a laxative and to stop bleeding, and the fruit juice is used as a skin medicine to treat athlete's foot, ringworm, etc. However, these days there are excellent over-the-counter medicines, so I have never used pomegranate as a medicine.

One spring, more than ten years after transplanting, the pomegranate tree, which I had completely forgotten about, bloomed for the first time in bright red flowers, and that fall, I was very moved to see it produce several fine fruits. The pomegranate fruit is not very delicious as a fruit, and it is a little difficult to eat, but the appearance of the pomegranate fruit has the appearance of an ancient samurai, and it even has the flavor of "sabi".