Winter 2013

End Of Mourning

Kim Sa-in

Follow this and additional works at: https://ir.uiowa.edu/iowareview
Part of the Creative Writing Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.7277
After setting up the photo of the deceased, piling up rice cake, meat, pancakes, arranging the fruits according to category and color, taking the lid off the rice, inserting the spoon, tapping three times with the chopsticks, reading the memorial prayer,

The seven-year-old chief mourner bows and offers a cup of wine, the haggard widow tearfully bows and offers a cup of wine, the younger brother bows, a few friends bow, the youngest sister offers a cup of wine, outside it’s already dark, misty rain heavy.

By now your flesh under the ground must already have rotted a lot. Off you go on your journey. This is your last meal here, eat your fill, get drunk, then totter off on your journey. Off you go.