



The culture appreciates the darkness

The color of those Japanese sweet jellybeans becomes more meditative, put in the lacquer-ware cake box and sunk in the darkness, which only allows us to distinguish the color of the skin. When people taste that cold soft jelly in their mouth, they must feel as if the indoor darkness would melt on the tip of the tongue, being one sweet dollop and believe that an extraordinary hearty taste adds to the jelly beans. which would not be so delicious actually.

-From *In Praise of Shadows* by Junichiro Tanizaki-

It would be related to the fact that our life is familiar to darkness that people in the past took *black* into our culture as *invisible being*. Junichiro Tanizaki, in his book *In Praise of Shadows*, citing examples of food, clothing and shelter, wrote on Japanese common aesthetic feeling in their life and showed that Japanese beauty's self, which is strongly connected to the darkness. They do not expose everything to the light of day, but feel the bottomless depth in the darkness, in tone, where even the border is the ambiguous. This sensitivity that allows us to perceive more than visible is supposed to be the base of our aesthetic feeling that we can recognize the meanings and values behind the visible things and respect them.