

# 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.