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In that delightful comedy *A Cat, Shozo, and Two Women* (*Neko to Shozo to Futari no Onna*, 1956), Toyoda has the dense but individualistic hero, beauti-

fully played by Hisaya Morishige, much more in love with his cat than with either of his wives. This brings him into direct conflict with both his mother and the first wife, absolute dragons of respectability. And also, oddly, with his second—a mambo-crazed modern type. Shozo's position is that of so many Japanese: he is equally repelled by both extremes. He resents tradition but is afraid of the anarchy of complete personal freedom. Shozo is only happy with his cat, an animal absolutely selfish but reassuringly domesticated.