

# E18 - Evolution

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(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

**[00:00] sign**

House Louvent, Domain of Lamberg

**[00:01] Alice**

Lady Licia!

**[00:03] Alice**

Tidings of victory from  
Lord Ars and his retinue!

**[00:06] sign**

Licia Louvent

**[00:06] Licia**

Yes, I heard this morning.

**[00:09] Alice**

You seem rather calm, given the news.

**[00:12] Alice**

It's an impressive victory  
on his first battle!

**[00:14] Licia**

The wife of a lord cannot allow

**[00:16] Licia**

her emotions to fluctuate so easily  
over the outcome of a single battle.

**[00:20] Alicia**

Lady Licia...

**[00:22] Alicia**

You're right.

**[00:24] Alicia**

Forgive me for acting in a manner unbecoming.

**[00:27] Alicia**

Excuse me.

**[00:32] Licia**

*Lord Ars is just amazing!*

**[00:34] Licia**

*He's the strongest person  
in the whole wide world!*

**[00:37] Licia**

*I'm absolutely over the moon!*

**[00:40] Alice**

By the way, Lady Licia...

**[00:47] sign**

Castle Samkh

**[00:47] Couran**

Everyone!

**[00:48] Couran**

You served admirably in the weeks leading up to the capture of Castle Samkh.

**[00:53] Couran**

Under normal circumstances, we'd depart immediately to conquer Verzud,

**[00:57] Couran**

but I expect you're tired from our prolonged campaign.

**[01:01] Couran**

I hereby grant you three days off while we resupply!

**[01:04] Couran**

Everyone get some rest!

**[01:09] Ars**

Time off!

**[01:11] Ars**

Would you all like to tour the city of Samkh with me?

**[01:15] Mireille**

Booze tastes best after a battle!

**[01:18] Charlotte**

I wanna eat some good food first.

**[01:21] Rosell**

I'd like to hole up in the library!

**[01:23] Ars**

Understood.

**[01:25] Ars**

Let's enjoy our time off in our own ways.

**[01:28] Ars**

Rietz, you're free to rest, as well.

**[01:30] Ars**

I have more than enough soldiers to keep me safe.

**[01:33] Rietz**

But this is my first chance in a while to spend time with you, Lord Ars.

**[01:37] Rietz**

I shall remain by your side!

**[01:40] Ars**

Rietz...

**[01:42] Ars**

Then let's go out together!

**[01:44] Rietz**

Let's!

**[01:53] Sign**

As a Reincarnated Aristocrat,

I'll Use My Appraisal Skill to Rise in the World

**[01:57] Sign**

Season 2

**[03:11] Sign**

As a Reincarnated Aristocrat,

I'll Use My Appraisal Skill to Rise in the World

**[03:11] Sign**

Season 2

**[03:16] sign**

Episode 18 Evolution

**[03:29] Mireille**

Three more, please, miss!

**[03:29] Charlotte**

I want more of these potato things,  
more of these meaty veggie wraps,

**[03:32] Woman A**

Coming!

**[03:32] Charlotte**

and two more drumsticks!

**[03:38] sign**

The Boy of Samkh

**[03:41] Ars**

Something smells utterly delicious!

**[03:44] Ars**

Let's eat, Rietz!

**[03:46] Rietz**

Walking around town like this reminds  
me of when it was just the two of us.

**[03:52] Rietz**

Now you have more retainers,  
and you've even taken to the battlefield.

**[03:55] Rietz**

Lamberg has become a powerful domain.

**[03:57] Rietz**

It makes me very happy.

**[03:59] Ars**

That's true.

**[04:02] Ars**

The people of this city are strong, too.

**[04:05] Ars**

They're so spirited, despite having  
just been through a battle.

**[04:10] Ars**

I hope we can end the war quickly  
so that they can feel at ease.

**[04:15] Rietz**

Indeed.

**[04:18] Ars**

What's that crowd about?

**[04:21] Rietz**

That's an incense seller.

**[04:26] Shin**

Come one, come all!

**[04:29] Shin**

Behold the device I created  
with ingenuity and magistones!

**[04:34] Ars**

*It's flying!*

**[04:43] Ship**

No! My ship!

**[04:46] Townsperson A**

Oh, it's just junk.

**[04:46] Rietz**

Are you all right, Lord Ars?!

**[04:51] Shin**

N-No! I've got more than that!

**[04:55] Shin**

Look! This is another masterpiece I invented!

**[04:58] Shin**

It's a mysterious figurine  
that runs on wind magistone.

**[05:09] Townsperson A**

So, what, it's just a moving figurine?

**[05:12] Townsperson B**

What's it good for?

**[05:13] Shin**

What was that?!

**[05:15] Rietz**

This is a child's toy.

**[05:19] Ars**

How much is it?!

**[05:21] Shin**

Hey, son! You've got a good eye!

**[05:24] Shin**

Just for you... three gold!

**[05:27] Ars**

I'll take it!

**[05:29] Rietz**

Lord Ars, get a hold of yourself!

**[05:31] Rietz**

He said three gold!

**[05:32] Rietz**

That's a year's worth of wheat!

**[05:35] Ars**

But just look at it, Rietz.

**[05:37] Ars**

It's certainly expensive,

**[05:39] Ars**

but to move via magic,

**[05:41] Ars**

it was carefully designed  
and meticulously made.

**[05:44] Ars**

In an age where toys are  
mostly blocks and balls,

**[05:48] Ars**

this takes extraordinary craftsmanship!

**[05:50] Rietz**

True enough, but...

**[05:52] Ars**

*Could this guy be an incredible engineer?*

**[06:01] Shin**

Hm? What's up?

**[06:02] Ars**

N-Nothing at all.

**[06:08] Rietz**

Lord Ars?

**[06:11] Shin**

Well? You buyin' or not?

**[06:15] Rietz**

We're buying. Just give us a minute.

**[06:17] Ars**

*What just happened?*

**[06:20] sign**

Castle Samkh

**[06:20] Couran**

Okay, everyone's here.

**[06:23] Couran**

Let's begin our discussion  
on how to take Verzud.

**[06:27] Couran**

As you know, it's one of the largest cities,

right alongside Arcantez and Semplar.

**[06:33] Couran**

At the moment, we hold Semplar,

**[06:35] Couran**

while our enemy, Vasmarque's faction,  
holds Arcantez and Verzud.

**[06:40] Couran**

Verzud has a lot of people,

**[06:43] Couran**

and they're undoubtedly preparing  
in anticipation of an attack.

**[06:47] Couran**

This is going to be our hardest battle yet.

**[06:51] Couran**

A moment's lapse in judgment could be fatal.

**[06:55] Couran**

However, if we can take Verzud,

**[06:58] Couran**

it will completely shift the balance of power.

**[07:00] Couran**

This battle is crucial to  
the outcome of the war.

**[07:03] Lumeire**

Lord Couran.

**[07:04] Lumeire**

Verzud lies in a snowy region.

**[07:06] Lumeire**

Crossing enemy territory in winter will  
limit our movements and prove dangerous.

**[07:11] Lumeire**

I feel we should speed our advance  
to take Verzud before winter.

**[07:16] Couran**

Yes, which is why I was thinking  
of dividing our forces.

**[07:19] Couran**

We'll send one force to Castle Staatz,  
the largest castle defending Verzud.

**[07:24] Couran**

The other will attack Castle Rolto  
to the northwest.

**[07:29] Couran**

Once we've secured these two,  
we can march on Verzud.

**[07:33] Sign**

As a Reincarnated Aristocrat,

I'll Use My Appraisal Skill  
to Rise in the World

**[07:33] Couran**

Lumeire. Ars.

**[07:35] Couran**

I'm leaving Castle Rolto to you.

**[07:37] Ars/Lumeire**

My lord!

**[07:40] Sign**

As a Reincarnated Aristocrat,

I'll Use My Appraisal Skill  
to Rise in the World

**[07:40] Rosell**

There are several fortresses  
around our target, Castle Rolto.

**[07:45] Rosell**

We should take those first, but...

**[07:48] Rosell**

It'd be best to take them through  
machination rather than by force.

**[07:52] Rosell**

We should try talking to them first.

**[07:52] sign**

Machination

**[07:56] Rosell**

Or, well, that was my plan, but...

**[07:58] Charlotte**

They all replied with a big, fat "no."

**[08:01] Ars**

If they won't even negotiate,  
I doubt they're going to surrender.

**[08:06] Ars**

Still, to take this many fortresses by force...

**[08:10] Lumeire**

Castle Rolto is a strategically  
important location.

**[08:13] Lumeire**

Lord Vasmarque likely has  
it under tight control.

**[08:17] Lumeire**

We've no choice but to attack.

**[08:20] Dawson**

A new missive has arrived.

**[08:23] Ars**

Was there somewhere that had yet to reply?

**[08:27] Ars**

What? They're willing to talk!

**[08:30] Ars**

However, they require us to send someone of considerable standing as messenger...

**[08:35] Lumeire**

Fort Vardosen...

**[08:37] Lumeire**

I believe Lupa is the commander there.

**[08:40] Ars**

You know him?

**[08:42] Lumeire**

No, but he's a renowned general that Lord Couran tried hard to bring over to his side.

**[08:47] Lumeire**

He's sharp and well-liked as a commander.

**[08:51] Lumeire**

In terms of skill alone, he could easily lead a district.

**[08:55] Ars**

He's that amazing?!

**[08:57] Lumeire**

I've always wanted to meet him.

**[09:00] Lumeire**

He could be a great help if he would join us.

**[09:04] Ars**

Then will you be leading the negotiations?

**[09:07] Lumeire**

No.

**[09:08] Lumeire**

He wouldn't hear Lord Couran's entreaties.

**[09:11] Lumeire**

There's no way I could convince him of anything.

**[09:14] Lumeire**

But you succeeded in negotiating with the capital, a feat believed impossible.

**[09:19] Ars**

Th-That was all Licia!

**[09:22] Lumeire**

I leave this in your hands, Ars.

**[09:25] sign**

Fort Vardosen

**[09:31] Mireille**

Be careful.

**[09:33] Mireille**

This is a negotiation, but it's still enemy territory.

**[09:35] Ars**

R-Right.

**[09:37] Guard A**

State your name!

**[09:39] Ars**

I am Ars Louvent!

**[09:41] Ars**

I'm here for a meeting with Lord Lupa!

**[09:43] Guard A**

Drop your weapons!

**[09:51] Ars**

W-Wait, everyone, calm down!

**[09:53] Ars**

We'll give up our weapons!

**[09:56] Rietz**

Why don't you drop your weapons first?

**[10:03] Ars**

*What's with this atmosphere?*

**[10:05] Ars**

*Are they gonna kill us the minute we drop our weapons?*

**[10:09] Ars**

Rietz, let's withdraw for now.

**[10:11] Mireille**

No, I think we can negotiate here.

**[10:15] Rietz**

You want us to drop our weapons?

**[10:17] Rietz**

They could attack Lord Ars the minute we do!

**[10:21] Mireille**

But that'd be bad for them, don't you think?

**[10:25] Mireille**

If they killed us, Lumeire would attack with everything he's got in retaliation.

**[10:31] Mireille**

His forces would bring down this little fortress in an instant.

**[10:35] Ars**

T-True.

**[10:37] Mireille**

Besides, killing a negotiator is taboo.

**[10:41] Mireille**

Unthinkable, really, for an officer esteemed by his peers.

**[10:46] Rietz**

This negotiation itself could be a trap to get at Lord Ars.

**[10:50] Mireille**

Of the lot, this fortress  
is the closest to our forces.

**[10:56] Mireille**

Yet they were the last to send their missive.

**[11:00] Mireille**

I'll bet there was a reason they  
couldn't make up their mind.

**[11:03] Mireille**

Besides...

**[11:04] Mireille**

They're pretty openly hostile  
for this to be a trap.

**[11:07] Mireille**

I can't say for sure, but I'll bet  
there's more to this whole thing.

**[11:13] Mireille**

Remember this, Ars.

**[11:15] Mireille**

The greatest asset in a negotiation is  
a grasp of the other side's motivations.

**[11:20] Mireille**

That said, it probably is a bit  
dangerous to walk in unarmed.

**[11:26] Mireille**

What's your call, Ars?

**[11:34] Ars**

I am frightened.

**[11:36] Ars**

But if there's even the smallest hope,  
I want to put my money on that.

**[11:44] Rietz**

Lord Ars?!

**[11:50] Ars**

Can you hear me, Lupa?!

**[11:52] Ars**

I am Ars Louvent!

**[11:54] Ars**

I've come to speak with you!

**[11:56] Ars**

I want to work with you to  
resolve this without fighting!

**[12:00] Ars**

Please give me a moment of your time!

**[12:26] Ars**

Let's go.

**[12:30] Dawson**

Lord Ars!

**[12:32] Ars**

It's all right.

**[12:33] Ars**

You all should wait here.

**[12:51] Mireille**

What's wrong?

**[12:53] Ars**

It's nothing.

**[12:55] Rietz**

Lord Ars, your eyes seemed to be giving you trouble in Samkh, as well.

**[12:58] Rietz**

Are you all right?

**[13:02] Lupa**

Are you the negotiators from Lord Couran's army?

**[13:05] Lupa**

I am Lupa Luzton, assigned to this fortress by Lord Vasmarque.

**[13:11] Ars**

I'm Ars Louvent!

**[13:13] Ars**

Thank you for agreeing to meet with us.

**[13:17] Lupa**

I'll take you to the conference room.

**[13:20] Lupa**

Follow me.

**[13:29] Rietz**

If anything happens, I'll at least get you to safety.

**[13:36] Rietz**

Lord Ars?!

**[13:38] Ars**

Ow, ow, ow...

**[13:40] Mireille**

Hey, are you okay?

**[13:42] Rietz**

Are you hurt?

**[13:43] Ars**

I was so nervous, I missed the step...

**[13:46] Ars**

I'm all right.

**[14:26] Lupa**

What is this?

**[14:28] Ars**

I-It's a mechanical creature

I bought in Samkh.

**[14:31] Ars**

A child's toy.

**[14:34] Lupa**

They make things like this these days?

**[14:40] Ars**

You can have it, if you'd like.

**[14:43] Lupa**

No, I don't need it.

**[14:46] Lupa**

Take it back.

**[14:48] Ars**

R-Right...

**[14:50] Ars**

*Appraise!*

**[14:54] Rietz**

Lord Ars?

**[14:56] Ars**

I-I'm fine.

**[15:07] Ars**

*It worked!*

**[15:08] Ars**

*But... what is this?*

**[15:10] Ars**

*I've never seen information like this before.*

**[15:13] Ars**

*"Born the eldest son of  
House Luzton in Verzud*

**[15:16] Ars**

*on the ninth day of the fourth month,  
year 180 of the Imperial Calendar."*

**[15:21] Ars**

*"A caring personality."*

**[15:24] Ars**

*"Married."*

**[15:29] Ars**

*What's all this? It's his background!*

**[15:33] Ars**

*This says he's married, but...*

**[15:37] Ars**

*I don't see any signs of a woman's  
presence here in the fortress.*

**[15:44] Guard B**

You there! What are you looking at?!

**[15:47] Ars**

N-Nothing! Just admiring the construction!

**[15:52] Lupa**

Please wait in this room for now.

**[16:01] Rietz**

Lord Ars.

**[16:02] Rietz**

Did you get a read on Lord Lupa's abilities?

**[16:04] Ars**

Yes. They were universally strong,  
as befitting such a renowned general.

**[16:10] Rietz**

I see. I was hoping he might  
have a weakness to exploit...

**[16:15] Mierille**

Well, we won't know until we talk to him.

**[16:17] Mierille**

Let's just chill for now.

**[16:20] Ars**

Oh, and by the way, my Appraisal  
skill has acquired a new—

**[16:26] Ars**

Is that...

**[16:28] Ars**

*A caring personality... Married...*

**[16:31] Mireille**

*They sent us their missive last of all.*

**[16:36] Ars**

Could it be...

**[16:38] Rietz**

Lord Ars?

**[16:41] Mireille**

*The greatest asset in a negotiation is  
a grasp of the other side's motivations.*

**[16:46] (Flashback) Licia**

Negotiations begin before you  
ever arrive at the table.

**[16:50] Guard**

Everything's ready. Come right this way.

**[16:54] Rietz**

This is nerve-racking.

**[16:56] Ars**

It'll be all right.

**[16:58] Ars**

I think things are going to go just fine.

**[17:02] Lupa**

Now, let us begin the negotiations.

**[17:05] Lupa**

A word of warning:

**[17:06] Lupa**

I won't accept anything that  
puts us on the back foot.

**[17:10] Ars**

First...

**[17:12] Ars**

How is your wife in Castle Rolto doing?

**[17:16] Ars**

Your baby will be arriving soon, won't it?

**[17:19] Rietz**

Lord Ars?

**[17:21] sign**

Deduction

**[17:23] Ars**

When is it due?

**[17:26] Lupa**

You! How do you know about that?!

**[17:29] Rietz**

Lord Ars!

**[17:33] Ars**

Lord Lupa.

**[17:34] Ars**

Did you invite us here to kill us  
under the pretense of negotiations?

**[17:41] Guard B**

H-How dare you?! He would never—

**[17:43] Ars**

I thought it was strange.

**[17:45] Ars**

You're married, but there's no sign  
of a woman living in this fortress.

**[17:51] Ars**

So where could she be?

**[17:53] Ars**

She's being held hostage  
at Castle Rolto, isn't she?

**[18:01] Rietz**

Why take a hostage from your own ally?

**[18:03] Mireille**

I get it.

**[18:05] Mireille**

To make sure he protects  
this fort with his life.

**[18:09] Ars**

That's right.

**[18:10] Ars**

If he abandons the fort and joins us,  
they'll kill his wife.

**[18:15] Ars**

So regardless of what we discussed,

**[18:17] Ars**

you'd have no choice but to fight us here.

**[18:20] Ars**

Is it possible the same is true  
for the other forts?

**[18:25] Ars**

Our scouts reported that Castle Rolto  
has sent no reinforcements here.

**[18:31] Ars**

The lord of Castle Rolto told you

**[18:33] Ars**

to hold the line with your life,  
but doesn't believe you can do it.

**[18:37] Ars**

In other words, you've been  
abandoned, haven't you?

**[18:42] Mireille**

You're under no obligation  
to serve bastards like them,

**[18:45] Mireille**

but you can't turn on them, either,  
given the hostage situation.

**[18:49] Mireille**

Tough stuff.

**[18:50] Ars**

But with no hope of reinforcements,

**[18:52] Ars**

you can't win even if you fight.

**[18:55] Ars**

So you were hoping to take out at least one  
enemy general to prove you'd done something.

**[19:01] Ars**

If you lured me here under the guise of  
negotiation and killed me, you'd get the credit.

**[19:05] Ars**

We'd destroy your fortress in retaliation,

**[19:08] Ars**

but you'd protect your reputation,  
and they'd spare your wife.

**[19:12] Ars**

Is that why you said you'd only negotiate  
with someone of considerable standing?

**[19:18] Rietz**

But in that case,  
why not just kill us immediately?

**[19:22] Ars**

Because he was having doubts.

**[19:32] Ars**

Your wife is pregnant, isn't she?

**[19:38] Ars**

Betray your lord, and your wife dies.

**[19:41] Ars**

Fight us here, and you die  
without ever seeing your child.

**[19:46] Ars**

You have to choose one or the other,  
but you can't commit to either.

**[19:50] Ars**

That hesitation was the reason  
for your slow reply, wasn't it?

**[20:04] Lupa**

I've seen many battles in my time.

**[20:07] Lupa**

My instinct, based on that,

**[20:09] Lupa**

tells me we've been abandoned here.

**[20:12] Lupa**

We will surely die in this battle.

**[20:16] Lupa**

Nevertheless, we will fight with all we have.

**[20:19] Lupa**

I'm prepared to die for that.

**[20:23] Lupa**

But I want just once...

**[20:25] Lupa**

Just once, as a father,  
I want to hold my child.

**[20:35] Ars**

Lord Lupa, I've heard that Lord Couran  
wanted you to serve him.

**[20:41] Ars**

I would like your aid, as well.

**[20:44] Ars**

Therefore...

**[20:45] Ars**

I will infiltrate Castle Rolto  
and save your wife!

**[20:52] Ars**

We'll bring your wife to safety,  
and you'll be able to meet your child!

**[20:55] Lupa**

That's not possible!

**[20:57] Ars**

If we fail to save her, you can have my head.

**[21:01] Ars**

But if we do save her...

**[21:05] Ars**

I want you to join us.

**[21:09] Ars**

Will you give us this chance?

**[21:26] Lupa**

Please...

**[21:28] Lupa**

Please, save my wife!

**[21:32] sign**

Castle Rolto

**[21:33] Dan**

Was this really necessary?

**[21:35] Dan**

Taking the women as hostages...

**[21:38] Jean**

I merely took the most efficient path

**[21:40] sign**

Lord of Castle Rolto

Jean Tendrie

**[21:41] Jean**

to motivate the forts' commanders.

**[21:43] sign**

General

Dan Alrest

**[21:45] sign**

Fort Vardosen

**[23:25] Rietz**

Lord Ars, are you sure you  
should have said that?

**[23:28] Ars**

I'm sorry. I got carried away.

**[23:30] Rietz**

Honestly...

**[23:31] Rietz**

But I don't blame you.

**[23:33] Rietz**

I'll help you, as well.

**[23:35] Ars**

I'm counting on you as always, Rietz.

**[23:36] sign**

Next Time The Threat of Castle Rolto

**[23:37] Ars**

Next time: "The Threat of Castle Rolto."

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Revision #1

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