

E13 - The Choice to Be an Apprentice Priestess

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

Translator:

Editor:

Timer:

QC:

(Please feel free to edit the speaker names. This is handled on a best-effort basis depending on how the subtitle file was created so they may be incomplete or inaccurate. Dialogue is left as is.)

[00:01] Ferdinand

Main went to the cathedral for her baptism,

[00:04] Ferdinand

*where she got lost and
stumbled upon a library.*

(Flashback) [00:08] Main

So many books...

(Flashback) [00:10] Main

Part of it's like a chained library, too.

[00:14] Ferdinand

*With her heart set on
reading all those books,*

[00:16] Ferdinand

she met the high priest

[00:18] Ferdinand

*and asked to join the church
as an apprentice priestess.*

SIGN Ascendance of a Bookworm

SIGN Ascendance of a Bookworm

SIGN Chapter Thirteen The Choice to Be an Apprentice Priestess

[02:03] Lutz

What did you do, Main?

[02:05] Main

Uh... I got lost looking
for water and collapsed.

[02:12] Lutz

There's more, isn't there?

[02:14] Main

I found a library and got too excited.

[02:18] Lutz

Huh? A library?

[02:21] Main

Yes, a library! A god-given
paradise on earth!

[02:26] Main

A room with lots of books!

[02:29] Lutz

Okay, never mind. I get it now.

[02:32] Woman

You left out the most important part.

[02:35] Woman

She said she wanted to become an
apprentice priestess to read the books.

[02:40] Woman

She collapsed while talking
to the high priest about it.

[02:43] Lutz

What's wrong with you, you moron?!

[02:46] Main

Sorry...

[02:47] Lutz

We're leaving before you get
up to any more stupidity!

[02:50] Main

Okay...

[02:53] Main

Even I know I should've been more rational.

[02:58] Main

But now I know how to become a priestess,

[03:00] Main

*and they said they'd let
me read the scriptures,*

[03:03] Main

so all's well that ends well, right?

[03:09] Tuuli

You really stood out during the march today.

[03:12] Gunther

Of course she did! She's so cute!

[03:17] Main

Hey, Dad.

[03:19] Gunther

What is it?

[03:20] Main

I'm thinking of becoming an apprentice
priestess at the cathedral.

[03:32] Gunther

What? I dare you to say that one more time!

[03:38] Main

I wanna be an apprentice priestess...

[03:42] Gunther

Screw that! I'm not letting my
daughter go to the church!

[03:46] Main

Wh-Why are you getting so mad, Dad?

[03:51] Gunther

Priest and priestess apprenticeships

[03:53] Gunther

are the last resort for orphans
who have nowhere else to turn!

[03:57] Gunther

They're not fit for you!

[03:59] Main

The last resort for orphans? Really?

[04:02] Gunther

Really! Now never bring it up again!

[04:06] Eva

Gunther, Main didn't know.
Go easy on her.

[04:11] Gunther

You're right. Sorry.

[04:14] Eva

Why do you suddenly want to
become an apprentice priestess?

[04:19] Main

The cathedral had a lot of books.

[04:23] Gunther

That's what gave you the idea, huh?

[04:27] Gunther

But you'll have to forget about those books.

[04:29] Gunther

Stick to what you've been
doing and make your own.

[04:34] Gunther

Would you rather cut ties with us and
live with orphans to read those books

[04:40] Gunther

or live with us like you always have?

[04:43] Main

Huh? Cut ties with you?

[04:47] Main

Why?

[04:48] Gunther

Apprentice priestesses live at the
cathedral and are worked to the bone.

[04:53] Gunther

You're not cut out for it when you

can't even stay on top of your health.

[04:59] Gunther

Besides, books are very valuable.

[05:01] Gunther

Do you really think becoming an apprentice
will guarantee that you'll get to read them?

[05:06] Tuuli

Do you wanna be a priestess that badly?

[05:09] Tuuli

Didn't you promise to stay with us?

[05:12] Main

Nah.

[05:14] Main

I just wanted to find a
way to read those books.

[05:18] Main

I don't wanna be a priestess,
if it means parting with you.

[05:23] Tuuli

Thank goodness!

[05:24] Tuuli

So you'll stay with us, right?

[05:27] Main

Yeah! I'll go turn the high
priest down when I feel better.

[05:35] Gunther

I'm so glad you understand.

[05:38] Gunther

You're my little girl. I'm not
letting the church have you.

[05:47] Gunther

She's starting to develop a fever!

[05:50] Eva

She must've relaxed too much,
since the discussion's over and all.

[05:54] Eva

Go to bed, Main.

[05:57] Main

Okay...

[06:03] Main

*In my Urano days, books took
priority over everything.*

[06:08] Main

*I guess I love my family
too much for that now.*

[06:12] Main

But...

[06:15] Main

I finally found some books.

[06:18] Main

I wanna read them!

[06:21] Main

*It wasn't until two days later that
the fever got back under control.*

[06:26] Lutz

The master said he wants to talk to you.

[06:30] Lutz

But you still look pale.

[06:32] Main

I'll visit the cathedral
tomorrow and then go see Benno.

[06:36] Main

Will you come with me?

[06:38] Lutz

Sure, but why the cathedral?

[06:40] Main

To read the scriptures.

[06:44] Main

And while I'm there, I'll worm my way out
of the whole apprentice priestess thing.

[06:48] Lutz

I see.

[06:49] Lutz

I mean, you're clearly not
cut out for life there.

[06:54] Main

Yeah.

[06:59] Main

The next day...

[07:01] Lutz

Later. I'll come pick you
up at the fifth bell.

[07:05] Main

Thanks, Lutz.

[07:06] Lutz

Don't you dare wander off.

[07:09] Main

Gotcha!

[07:13] Main

Pardon me.

[07:23] Ferdinand

Would you be Main?

[07:24] Main

Yes.

[07:25] Ferdinand

I'm the head priest here.

[07:28] Ferdinand

The high priest has told me about you.

[07:31] Ferdinand

Take a seat.

[07:33] Main

Thank you very much.

[07:37] Ferdinand

I've been asked to read the scriptures to you until he returns.

[07:43] Ferdinand

Sit there and listen.

[07:46] Main

U-Uh, Head Priest...

[07:51] Main

I...

[07:54] Ferdinand

If you have something to say, spit it out.

[07:58] Main

I don't want to listen!

I want to read it myself!

[08:06] Ferdinand

And why is that?

[08:08] Ferdinand

Do you not want to learn more about the gods?

[08:12] Main

I do, but I also want to learn all these new words.

[08:18] Ferdinand

I see.

[08:20] Ferdinand

But these are the holy scriptures.

[08:22] Ferdinand

Do you promise not to lay a hand on them?

[08:26] Main

I promise!

[08:39] Main

Thank you so much!

[08:41] Ferdinand

I'll start reading now.

[08:43] Ferdinand

The God of Darkness spent an unbelievably long spell of time all by himself,

[08:45] Main

I finally get to read a book myself!

[08:52] Ferdinand

but one day, he...

[08:55] Main

Head Priest, does this
say "Goddess of Light"?

[08:59] Ferdinand

That's right.

[09:01] Main

Is this "God of Darkness," then?

[09:04] Ferdinand

Correct.

[09:06] Ferdinand

That was quick.

[09:09] Ferdinand

If you're such a fast learner,
teaching you will be worth my time.

[09:13] High Priest

Oh, did I make you wait long?

[09:17] Main

The head priest read the scriptures
with me, so I had a lot of fun.

[09:23] Main

I truly appreciate it.

[09:25] High Priest

That's good to hear.

[09:28] Main

Thank you, Head Priest.

[09:34] High Priest

So, what did your parents say?

[09:37] Main

They yelled at me, saying becoming
a priestess is for orphans.

[09:44] Ferdinand

It's not only orphans. There are nobles, too.

[09:47] Ferdinand

Of course, orphans are the majority,

[09:49] Ferdinand

but that's because they have nobody to take
care of them or refer them to other jobs.

[09:56] Ferdinand

I want you to understand that it doesn't
take an orphan to be a priestess.

[10:01] Main

But I'm frail and sickly, too.

[10:04] Main

A live-in apprenticeship
is impossible for me.

[10:09] High Priest

So you didn't collapse the other
day because you were unwell,

[10:13] High Priest

but because you're sickly by nature?

[10:15] Main

That's right. I have the Devouring...

[10:19] Ferdinand

The Devouring?

[10:22] Main

Yes, what about it?

[10:25] High Priest

Bring it here!

[10:27] Ferdinand

I know.

[10:29] Main

Huh? Wh-What's going on?

[10:34] High Priest

I offer the gods my prayers!

[10:35] Main

Wh-What's happening?!

[10:42] Ferdinand

Try touching this grail.

[10:44] Main

Huh? May I really?

[10:47] High Priest

Yes. Hurry up.

[11:00] Main

Whoa! What's going on?!

[11:04] Ferdinand

Main, we would like to speak to your parents.

[11:08] Main

I'm sorry, Dad, Mom.

[11:11] Main

*Looks like this has become
some kind of big deal!*

SIGN Ascendance of a
Bookworm

SIGN Ascendance of a
Bookworm

[11:26] Main

Lutz!

[11:32] Lutz

What's the matter?

[11:35] Lutz

Did you mess up again?

[11:38] Main

I'm not sure what I did,

[11:41] Main

but I feel like I did mess up, yeah.

[11:44] Lutz

Urk. Not again.

[11:47] Lutz

Anyway, Master's waiting.

[11:49] Lutz

He told me to drag you there
by the collar if I had to.

[11:53] Main

N-No!

[11:58] Benno

It's been a while, Main!

[12:00] Main

Y-Yes.

[12:02] Benno

Now, you will come clean.

[12:05] Benno

Tell me everything that happened after
you collapsed during the baptism.

[12:08] Benno

Depending on that, I may have to
rethink our business relationship.

[12:17] Main

So I met the high priest and asked to become
an apprentice to gain library access.

[12:25] Benno

Use your brain a little,
you thoughtless nitwit!

[12:28] Main

O-Ow!

[12:30] Benno

And? Did you get permission?

[12:32] Main

When I went home and spoke to my parents,

[12:35] Main

they yelled at me, saying becoming
a priestess was for orphans.

[12:39] Main

The head priest was saying
there were nobles, though.

[12:43] Benno

Didn't you notice the two different
church uniforms, blue and gray robes?

[12:48] Benno

The blue is for nobility,
and the gray for orphans.

[12:51] Benno

The orphans get ordered around by the nobles and work for no pay.

[12:55] Benno

Since you're not a noble, you'll be a gray-robed apprentice priestess.

[13:00] Benno

Of course your parents wouldn't allow it.

[13:03] Main

Oh, so that's why Dad got so angry.

[13:07] Benno

So? Were you able to worm out of it?

[13:11] Main

Well, when I told them about my Devouring,

[13:16] Main

they gave me a formal invite for my parents.

[13:21] Benno

They're totally out to reel you in.

[13:24] Benno

The silver lining is that you can still negotiate with the high priest.

[13:29] Benno

You're in luck.

[13:31] Main

What do you mean?

[13:34] Main

And then Benno filled me in on the current situation with the church.

[13:41] Benno

A few years ago, there was a coup and political purge in the capital.

[13:45] Benno

The number of nobles went down drastically.

[13:48] Benno

That reduction in the political class meant a downturn in the nation's power.

[13:52] Benno

That's where the blue-robed priests in the church came in.

SIGN Noble Society

[13:56] Benno

They had fallen out of favor with their parents and been dumped in the church,

[14:02] Benno

but now they returned to noble society.

[14:04] Benno

That meant the church lost the

blue robes' obligatory donations.

[14:08] Benno

They were also the ones
employing the orphans,

[14:11] Benno

who were now out of work and
having a hard time surviving.

[14:15] Main

That sounds like a disaster!

[14:17] Benno

There's an even bigger disaster.

[14:19] Benno

The grail you touched is
actually a magical item.

[14:24] Main

A magical item?!

[14:25] Benno

That's right.

[14:27] Benno

Normally, the blue robes
stored their mana within it,

[14:31] Benno

but a lack of supply could
mean smaller harvests.

[14:34] Main

What? Mana even affects
the size of harvests?!

[14:38] Benno

Yeah. That's why, with
fewer nobles around now,

[14:41] Benno

the church is in dire need
of people with the Devouring.

[14:45] Main

Uh, what does mana have
to do with the Devouring?

[14:50] Benno

Wha... You didn't know?!

[14:53] Main

Most commoners have next to no mana,

[14:56] Main

but the few who are born with a lot
of it suffer from the Devouring.

[14:59] Main

Ah! That raging fever is actually mana?!

[15:04] Benno

Before the coup,

[15:05] Benno

nobles despised those with the Devouring
for possessing mana as commoners.

[15:12] Benno

But things have changed.

[15:14] Main

The church needs my mana?

[15:18] Benno

Correct. If you join the church,
you'll be able to live on.

[15:25] Benno

But at the same time, it's risky.

[15:27] Benno

As you possess both mana and money,
nobles will see you as fine prey.

[15:32] Benno

So, Main, how about you sign
a new contract with magic?

[15:37] Main

A contract for what?

[15:39] Benno

One that states Lutz will
sell everything you make.

[15:45] Benno

Even if a noble tries to steal you away,

[15:48] Benno

this contract will guarantee
that you can contact us.

[15:53] Benno

Forge an unbreakable pact with
Lutz while you still can.

[15:56] Main

An unbreakable pact with Lutz...

[15:59] Main

But what if that puts Lutz
in danger or hurts him?

[16:04] Lutz

Your survival is more important.

[16:08] Lutz

Besides, if I sent you off alone,
I'd have a constant headache

[16:13] Lutz

worrying about what you might do.

[16:16] ---

Jeez.

[16:18] Benno

Listen up. If you already

have your invitation,

[16:22] Benno

that leaves you very little time.

[16:24] Benno

First, officially register the
Main Studio with the Guild,

[16:27] Benno

and secure an outlet for your goods.

[16:29] Main

Got it.

[16:30] Benno

If money can buy you better treatment,

[16:32] Benno

have a revenue stream ready before
you negotiate with the church.

[16:36] Benno

Prepare all the means you can
think of to survive in that world.

[16:39] Benno

Rather than getting exploited after you join,

[16:42] Benno

find someone there to have a
give-and-take relationship with.

[16:46] Benno

Consider each and every
aspect of your situation.

[16:48] Benno

Fight with all you have to live on!

[16:51] Main

Uh...

[16:53] Main

Why are you getting so worked up for me?

[16:57] Benno

The longer you live, the
more products you'll create,

[17:00] Benno

and the more profits for us.

[17:02] Mark

Master's worried about you, since
you're always walking a tightrope.

[17:08] Benno

Shut up, Mark!

[17:10] Mark

I won't go as far as saying he
sees you like his own daughter,

[17:13] Mark

but he is genuinely concerned for you.

[17:17] Mark

Of course, so am I.

[17:20] Main

Thank you, Mister Mark.

[17:24] Benno

Just him?

[17:27] Main

Of course I'm grateful
to you too, Mister Benno.

[17:33] Main

Please help me with the contract
magic and registering with the Guild.

[17:40] Freida

Oh! You want to register Main Studio?

[17:44] Freida

And here I thought you would be an
apprentice merchant at the Gilberta Company.

[17:49] Main

I gave up because merchant work
would be too physically demanding.

[17:54] Freida

In that case, would you divert Main
Studio's products to our company?

[17:58] Main

Hey, I gave you the pound cake, remember?

[18:01] Freida

You did. And Liese's obsessively
trying out different flavors for it.

[18:05] Freida

You should come taste them.

[18:07] Freida

Not with Lutz, but your older sister.

[18:12] Main

If you want to estimate
the demand for a product,

[18:14] Main

you should canvas opinions
from a wide range of people.

[18:19] Freida

A wide range of people, you say?

[18:21] Main

I know! How about throwing a sampling party?

[18:24] Main

You prepare bite-sized portions
of various pound cake flavors

[18:28] Main

and ask the guests which

ones they liked best.

[18:32] Freida

That sounds like the perfect idea!

[18:34] Freida

Things are about to get busy!

[18:37] Freida

I'll send word as soon as we set a date!

[18:40] Freida

Toodles!

[18:44] Lutz

See? Isn't she just like you?

[18:48] Benno

She sure is.

[19:02] Main

What's up, Lutz?

[19:06] Lutz

Are you really gonna join the church?

[19:11] Main

Yeah, probably.

[19:16] Lutz

Oh...

[19:20] Main

Look, Lutz. If you wanna
say something, out with it.

[19:27] Lutz

I don't wanna. It'll make me sound lame.

[19:31] Main

I see.

[19:36] Lutz

You liar.

[19:39] Lutz

You said we'd make and sell books together.

[19:44] Main

I'm sorry, Lutz.

[19:47] Lutz

You don't have to apologize.

[19:49] Lutz

I know I can't do anything for you.

[19:54] Lutz

But...

[19:55] Lutz

It still hurts.

[19:57] Lutz

You said you'd run a bookstore with me...

[20:01] Lutz

I really wanted to make books with you.

[20:06] Main

I know...

[20:08] Main

But I won't give up on making books
even if I join the church.

[20:14] Main

I'm not giving up on my ambition so easily!

[20:18] Lutz

What, to live a life surrounded by books?

[20:21] Main

Exactly. Let's both do our best
to make our dreams come true.

[20:28] Lutz

I... I was only able to give my
all because you were with me.

[20:32] Lutz

And I wanted to keep it up
at Master's store with you.

[20:37] Lutz

I wanted to do so much more with you!

[20:45] Main

Don't worry.

[20:47] Main

Nothing will change if I join the church.

[20:49] Main

Whenever I wanna make something, you'll
be the first person I ask for help.

[20:58] Lutz

But people already know your
creations are valuable.

[21:02] Lutz

They'll be lining up to help you.

[21:05] Main

Even if I do work with someone else,
I get the feeling it won't go so smoothly,

[21:10] Main

and that I'll end up calling on you anyway.

[21:14] Main

Will you help me?

[21:16] Main

You're gonna bring all my
ideas to reality, right?

[21:24] Lutz

Yeah! I'll make anything and
everything you think up!

[21:24] Lutz

[23:11] Main

Take that! And that!

[23:13] Main

Next up, we answer the summons
from the church!

[23:16] Main

Take that! And that!

[23:17] Ferdinand

What are you doing?

[23:19] Main

I need to fight to secure
the best treatment for myself!

[23:23] Ferdinand

Leave that to your parents.
You can't handle it.

[23:26] Main

No, but I need to fight for myself...

[23:31] Ferdinand

I warned you.

SIGN Illustration by Tamaki Nozomu

Revision #1

Created 2024-01-01 06:18:04 UTC by whimsee

Updated 2024-01-01 06:18:05 UTC by whimsee