

# E26 - Dreamlike World

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**[00:00] Main**

**[00:01] Ferdinand**

*Schicicoza's antics led to  
Main being entwined in a trombe.*

**[00:06] Ferdinand**

You're the one who needs to know your place!

**[00:12] Ferdinand**

Listen, Main.

**[00:14] Ferdinand**

Show them you're truly worthy  
of wearing those blue robes.

**[00:20] Ferdinand**

It is your job to replenish  
this land with mana.

**[00:24] Main**

Got it.

**SIGN** Ascendance of a Bookworm

**SIGN** Ascendance of a Bookworm

**SIGN** Chapter Twenty-Six Dreamlike World

**[02:13] Ferdinand**

Schicicoza.

**[02:15] Ferdinand**

You start the healing ritual.

**[02:19] Schicicoza**

Me?

**[02:21] Ferdinand**

Since you were neglecting your duties,  
you must have plenty of mana in reserve.

**[02:26] Ferdinand**

The original plan was for me  
to show her how it's done,

**[02:30] Ferdinand**

but I wasted all of my mana  
cleaning up your mess.

**[02:36] Main**

*Lies. He's probably got enough  
to do this with ease.*

**[02:40] Ferdinand**

Step up, Schicicoza.

**[02:46] Ferdinand**

Show Main the ropes and make her realize  
that you're a different breed.

**[03:01] Ferdinand**

O Fruhtrane, Goddess of Water,  
bringer of healing and upheaval.

**[03:06] Ferdinand**

And the twelve disciples who serve her.

**[03:10] Ferdinand**

Hear my prayer and grant  
me your holy powers.

**[03:19] Ferdinand**

Your sister has been hurt  
by the minions of evil.

**[03:24] Ferdinand**

Grant me the strength to heal  
Geduldh, the Goddess of Earth...

**[03:32] Main**

*Huh? He stopped?*

**[03:37] Ferdinand**

Not yet. This isn't nearly enough.

**[03:42] Schicicoza**

In return, I offer you a sacred melody.

**[03:45] Schicicoza**

Unleash your supreme waves, and...

**[03:48] Main**

*No! He can't spend any more mana!*

**[03:57] Ferdinand**

All that talk, and that's all you've got?

**[03:59] Ferdinand**

I see how depleted the knight  
order's roster is now.

**[04:05] Ferdinand**

Unhand this.

**[04:07] Ferdinand**

Finish off the rest, Main.

**[04:25] Main**

O Fruhtrane, Goddess of Water,  
bringer of healing and upheaval.

**[04:30] Main**

And the twelve disciples who serve her.

**[04:34] Main**

Hear my prayer and grant  
me your holy powers.

**[04:43] Main**

Your sister has been hurt  
by the minions of evil.

**[04:48] Main**

Grant me the strength to heal  
Geduldh, the Goddess of Earth.

**[04:52] Main**

In return, I offer you a sacred melody.

**[04:55] Main**

Unleash your supreme waves,

**[04:57] Main**

and offer your pure protection.

**[05:00] Main**

For as far as I seek, cover  
these lands in your hues!

**[05:16] Ferdinand**

Stop! That's plenty!

**[05:27] Main**

Will that do, Head Priest?

**[05:31] Ferdinand**

Yes, the land mana's has been replenished.

**[05:35] Ferdinand**

Too much, if you ask me.

**[05:41] Ferdinand**

Do you see?

**[05:42] Ferdinand**

That's the apprentice priestess who was  
granted blue robes by the church and the lord.

**[05:46] Ferdinand**

And I have taken her under my wing.

**[05:50] Ferdinand**

Any objections?

**[05:56] Ferdinand**

None, I see.

**[05:58] Ferdinand**

Very well. Let's return home.

**[06:10] Ferdinand**

Main.

**[06:11] Ferdinand**

I feel bad about what transpired.

**[06:15] Main**

Where did that come from?

**[06:17] Ferdinand**

I didn't want you to be hurt,

**[06:20] Ferdinand**

or to be exposed to such malice.

**[06:23] Ferdinand**

I never expected any knights  
to disregard my orders.

**[06:29] Ferdinand**

It's a failure on my part.

**[06:33] Main**

Nobody could've anticipated  
one of my guards doing that.

**[06:36] Main**

You don't have to feel responsible.

**[06:39] Ferdinand**

No, I am responsible for you.

**[06:43] Ferdinand**

I'm truly sorry.

**[06:49] Main**

Head Priest... You're too conscientious.

**[06:54] Ferdinand**

Main.

**[06:55] Ferdinand**

Do you have any demands in  
response to today's events?

**[07:01] Main**

*That look...*

**[07:03] Main**

*He's telling me to say "no."*

**[07:06] Main**

I do.

**[07:09] Main**

I request a replacement  
of my ceremonial robes.

**[07:13] Karstedt**

Robes, you say?

**[07:14] Main**

Just look. They were brand new,  
and now they're ruined.

**[07:19] Karstedt**

Ah, yes. That won't do.

**[07:22] Main**

And here I had them custom made  
to adjust for my future growth.

**[07:26] Main**

This is awful!

**[07:27] Karstedt**

I see age is no barrier when it comes to  
how particular women are about fashion.

**[07:32] Main**

This is no joke!

**[07:34] Main**

Please have an exact replacement made before winter!

**[07:38] Karstedt**

Do you need it for something in winter?

**[07:40] Ferdinand**

The Dedication Ceremony.

**[07:42] Ferdinand**

Even if it was through no fault of her own,

**[07:44] Ferdinand**

you can imagine what the high priest will say if she isn't dressed appropriately.

**[07:50] Karstedt**

Ah, yes.

**[07:51] Karstedt**

Understood. I'll have a replacement prepared for you.

**[07:54] Main**

Thank you.

**[07:56] Main**

It would be very helpful if you could order it from the Gilberta Company.

**[08:00] Karstedt**

Okay. Anything else?

**[08:03] Main**

Sir Damuel not only tried to help me,

**[08:07] Main**

he also tried very much to stop Sir Schicicoza.

**[08:11] Main**

Please go easy on him.

**[08:13] Main**

Apart from that,

**[08:15] Main**

I'm fine with whatever punishments you hand out according to your rules.

**[08:18] Main**

I wouldn't want to butt in and attract further resentment.

**[08:21] Karstedt**

Yes, that's a wise decision.

**[08:24] Karstedt**

The matter will be handled internally by the order, then.

**[08:27] Main**

Understood.

**[08:32] Lutz**

Main!

**[08:33] Main**

Lutz?

**[08:35] Lutz**

Thank goodness you're okay!

**[08:37] Lutz**

How's your wound?

**[08:38] Lutz**

Huh? It's healed?

**[08:40] Main**

How did you know?

**[08:43] Lutz**

I heard your voice calling  
for help in my head.

**[08:47] Lutz**

I even saw you all wrapped up in trombe.

**[08:53] Main**

It was back then?

**[08:54] Lutz**

I wanted to go help, but I didn't  
even know where you were.

**[08:58] Lutz**

I was a complete mess!

**[09:00] Lutz**

I'm so glad you're all right.

**[09:08] Main**

Noble society is so scary!

**[09:15] Main**

*After fulfilling the knight order's request,  
I was, of course, left bedridden.*

**[09:19] Main**

*By the time I was okay to be out and  
about, fall had reached its peak.*

**[09:25] Main**

Fran, nothing happened  
while I was away, I hope?

**[09:28] Fran**

No, Lady Main. That aside, the  
head priest wants to see you.

**[09:32] Fran**

He has asked you to visit  
his chambers at once.

**[09:34] Lutz**

What did you do this time?

**[09:36] Main**

Nothing I'm aware of.

**[09:41] Main**

I'm here, Head Priest.

**[09:43] Ferdinand**

Oh, Main.

**[09:45] Ferdinand**

Come to the secret room.

**[09:46] Main**

What? Did I do something to  
deserve this, Head Priest?

**[09:50] Ferdinand**

Be quiet and follow me.

**[10:02] Ferdinand**

Drink this, Main.

**[10:05] Main**

*Huh? I'm not getting yelled at?*

**[10:15] Main**

That was really nice.  
I love the mild sweetness.

**[10:19] Ferdinand**

That tasted sweet to you?

**[10:21] Main**

Yes, why?

**[10:23] Ferdinand**

I see.

**[10:25] Ferdinand**

Now, wear this.

**[10:28] Main**

What is this?

**[10:30] Ferdinand**

Can't you tell? It's a magical item.

**[10:37] Main**

I'm asking what we're using it for.

**[10:40] Main**

Please... tell... me...

**[10:50] Ferdinand**

*Main's the only one who uses  
this to tie her hair.*

**[10:53] Ferdinand**

*And it's not just this hairpin.*

**[10:55] Ferdinand**

*She has brought us all sorts of creations.*

**[10:58] Ferdinand**

*But the most surprising thing of all*

**[11:00] Ferdinand**

*is her passion for books.*

**[11:03] Ferdinand**

*She treasures literature, and even wrote*

*some picture books for children.*

**[11:09] Ferdinand**

*Her obsession is clearly abnormal.*

**[11:11] Ferdinand**

*Just what goes through that head of yours?*

**[11:18] Ferdinand**

*I shall take a look into your past, Main.*

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**[11:44] Main**

*Huh?*

**[11:46] Main**

*What happened to me?*

**[11:50] Main**

*I...*

**[11:53] Main**

*Wait, I was...*

**[11:55] Ferdinand**

*Can you hear me, Main?*

**[11:57] Main**

*Huh, I hear the head priest's voice.*

**[12:01] Ferdinand**

*I've synchronized our minds.*

**[12:03] Ferdinand**

*Sorry, but I'm going to take  
a look into your memories.*

**[12:07] Main**

*My memories?*

**[12:09] Ferdinand**

*Yes. You have way too much mana.*

**[12:13] Ferdinand**

*Thus, I need to investigate whether  
or not you're a threat to this domain.*

**[12:19] Main**

*You want to clear your suspicions, huh?*

**[12:23] Main**

*No problem. I understand.*

**[12:25] Ferdinand**

*Always so careless.*

**[12:28] Ferdinand**

*You need to hone your  
self-protection instincts.*

**[12:30] Ferdinand**

*But very well.*

**[12:31] Ferdinand**

*Can you take me to the "dreamlike world" you mentioned before?*

**[12:36] Ferdinand**

*We should be able to go there if you picture it.*

**[12:40] Main**

*What? You mean I can go wherever I want?*

**[12:44] Main**

*Follow me, then!*

**[12:46] Ferdinand**

*Calm down. Don't rush things.*

**[12:57] Ferdinand**

*What is this place?*

**[12:58] Ferdinand**

*It looks like a noble district in some foreign land.*

**[13:01] Main**

*Takes me back...*

**[13:03] Main**

*This is Japan.*

**[13:05] Ferdinand**

*"Japan"?*

**[13:06] Main**

*Where I lived before I was Main.*

**[13:09] Ferdinand**

*Before you were Main...*

**[13:12] Ferdinand**

*Is this the dream world you mentioned?*

**[13:14] Main**

*Yes.*

**[13:16] Main**

*If I hadn't died buried under an avalanche of books, I would've been a librarian now.*

**[13:21] Ferdinand**

*A librarian?*

**[13:22] Ferdinand**

*Does that mean you were an adult?*

**[13:26] Main**

*Yes.*

**SIGN** Library

**[13:29] Main**

*This is it!*

**[13:30] Main**

*My personal utopia!*

**[13:33] Ferdinand**

*What is this?*

**[13:35] Main**

*The library!*

**[13:42] Ferdinand**

*What...*

**[13:44] Ferdinand**

*This has more books than even  
the Nobles' Academy's library.*

**[13:47] Ferdinand**

*Are these really all books?*

**[13:50] Main**

*Yeah.*

**[13:51] Ferdinand**

*I see now.*

**[13:53] Ferdinand**

*Given that you had memories  
of living in such a world,*

**[13:56] Ferdinand**

*it makes perfect sense why the cathedral's  
library would bring you to tears.*

**SIGN** As a girl raised in the back of beyond, even farther than the end of the road to the East Country, how rustic and odd I must have been. However it was that I first became enthralled with them, once I knew that such things as tales existed in the world, all I could think of over and over was how much I wanted to read them.

**[14:01] Main**

*I offer the gods my prayers!*

**[14:03] Ferdinand**

*I see how badly you missed books now.*

**[14:10] Ferdinand**

*Where is this?*

**[14:11] Urano's Mom**

Urano.

**SIGN** He said things like, "Well now, there still are some people here that I have not met before," which seemed to indicate that he found us interesting, and he did stay for a while, making no move to leave quickly.

**[14:19] Urano's Mom**

Hey, Urano.

**[14:22] Urano**

What?

**[14:23] Urano's Mom**

Eat already. I need to clean up.

**[14:26] Urano**

Go ahead, then. I just won't eat.

**[14:29] Ferdinand**

*Is that your mother?*

**[14:31] Main**

Yes.

**[14:33] Urano's Mom**

And here I made your favorite

food. I feel so stupid.

**[14:37] Urano**

Look, I'm reading right now.

**[14:39] Urano's Mom**

Didn't we agree that you wouldn't read at the dining table?

**[14:43] Urano**

I'm almost done, okay?

**[14:45] Main**

*Mom...*

**[14:48] Urano's Mom**

Just clean up after yourself, okay?

**[14:50] Urano**

God, leave me alone.

**SIGN** It was dark without even the light of stars; from time to time, drizzle fell, and the sound of it falling on the leaves of the trees was charming.

**[14:59] Main**

*Mom!*

**[15:01] Main**

*I need to apologize to Mom!*

**SIGN** Long ago, rather than being infatuated with all those frivolous tales and poems, if I had only devoted myself to religious practice day and night, I wonder, would I have been spared this nightmarish fate?

**[15:04] Ferdinand**

*Calm down, Main.*

**[15:06] Main**

*I never got the chance to say goodbye to her!*

**[15:10] Main**

*Wait, Mom!*

**[15:12] Main**

*Please wait!*

**[15:14] Ferdinand**

*Control your emotions, Main!*

**[15:16] Main**

*Come back, Mom!*

**[15:19] Main**

*Don't leave me!*

**[15:23] Ferdinand**

*Enough. No more.*

**[15:42] Main**

Head Priest...

**[15:45] Ferdinand**

I feel absolutely terrible.

**[15:48] Ferdinand**

I was too synchronized.

**[15:51] Main**

Sync...

**[15:54] Main**

Wait, did you end up sharing all my emotions?

**[15:59] Ferdinand**

That's what happens when  
you synchronize minds.

**[16:04] Ferdinand**

You're such a handful.

**[16:06] Ferdinand**

Put yourself in my shoes.

**[16:20] Ferdinand**

What is it?

**[16:23] Ferdinand**

Main?

**[16:29] Ferdinand**

What are you doing?

**[16:30] Main**

Giving you a hug! Hugs calm you down!

**[16:34] Main**

When I have dreams like these and feel awful,

**[16:38] Main**

I have Tuuli give me hugs  
to make me feel better.

**[16:40] Main**

I have Lutz and my family, but you  
have nobody who'll do this for you!

**[16:47] Ferdinand**

Knock it off.

**[16:49] Main**

I refuse!

**[16:51] Main**

Hug me back!

**[16:54] Ferdinand**

Hmph. You're the one who wants to calm down.

**[16:59] Main**

I've been trying to block  
off those memories for ages.

**[17:02] Main**

Because, even if I do remember,  
I can never go back.

**[17:07] Main**

Thank you for helping me see my mom again,

**[17:13] Main**

Head Priest.

**[17:28] Main**

Use this item again sometime, Head Priest.

**[17:31] Main**

I'd like to eat my mom's cooking next time.

**[17:36] Ferdinand**

Absolutely not.

**[17:38] Ferdinand**

I'm never synchronizing with you again.

**[17:40] Main**

What?

**[17:42] Main**

Then I'm not giving this back  
until you promise you will.

**[17:49] Ferdinand**

I'll need to win you over, huh?  
I suppose I could sate you with books.

**[17:53] Main**

Really?!

**[17:56] Main**

Head Priest!

**[18:04] Guard**

Master Karstedt, Sir Ferdinand  
is here to see you.

**[18:08] Ferdinand**

I got what I needed. Please return them.

**[18:11] Karstedt**

Sure.

**[18:13] Karstedt**

So, what did you find?

**[18:17] Ferdinand**

Nothing but books.

**[18:19] Ferdinand**

Not a trace of malicious intent.

**[18:21] Karstedt**

I see. So your fears were ungrounded.

**[18:24] Ferdinand**

That's right. But...

**[18:27] Karstedt**

But?

**[18:28] Ferdinand**

Main had memories of life in a  
world far more advanced than ours.

**[18:34] Ferdinand**

And a life as an adult woman, no less.

**[18:37] Karstedt**

What? How could that be?

**[18:40] Ferdinand**

I know it's hard to believe, but it's true.

**[18:45] Ferdinand**

If Main's knowledge and  
memories are utilized well,

**[18:48] Ferdinand**

she can bring Ehrenfest  
unprecedented prosperity.

**[18:52] Ferdinand**

But she really has nothing  
but books on her mind,

**[18:56] Ferdinand**

so only the people around her  
need to put her to good use.

**[19:01] Karstedt**

You seem to have taken quite  
a liking to that girl.

**[19:06] Ferdinand**

That isn't it. I just believe  
she can be a great resource.

**[19:11] Karstedt**

I see.

**[19:13] Karstedt**

Yes, she does have an immense amount of mana.

**[19:17] Karstedt**

By the way, Schicicoza's case  
has taken a complicated turn.

**[19:22] Ferdinand**

His mother's causing a fuss and talking  
to everyone she can think of, right?

**[19:26] Ferdinand**

I received a complaint  
from the high priest, too.

**[19:29] Karstedt**

What will you do?

**[19:39] Ferdinand**

Would you be willing to adopt Main?

**[19:41] Karstedt**

What?

**[19:43] Ferdinand**

Given the amount of mana she possesses,  
she'll be in constant danger.

**[19:47] Ferdinand**

Without a powerful backer, there's  
no telling how she will be treated.

**[19:52] Ferdinand**

Her worth to us is immeasurable.

**[19:55] Ferdinand**

We can't let anyone else steal her.

**[19:58] Ferdinand**

We need to hurry and have  
her taken in by a noble.

**[20:08] Gunther**

Yum!

**[20:09] Gunther**

You really are a great cook, honey.

**[20:12] Tuuli**

This is something Main came up with, right?

**[20:15] Eva**

Yeah. Don't you think I've gotten good at this strange recipe?

**[20:19] Eva**

What do you say, Main?

**[20:28] Main**

I'm sorry, Mom.

**[20:33] Eva**

What's all this now?

**[20:36] Main**

I never got the chance to say it.

**[20:40] Main**

Mom, thank you for always feeding me all this great food.

**[20:46] Main**

Dad, thank you for putting your life on the line to protect me.

**[20:51] Gunther**

Sure.

**[20:53] Main**

Tuuli, thank you for always agreeing to my selfish requests.

**[20:59] Main**

I'm really glad I was born to this family.

**[21:04] Gunther**

Did something happen, Main?

**[21:06] Main**

Nah.

**[21:07] Main**

I just realized I have to live in the cathedral soon and won't see you all for a while.

**[21:12] Tuuli**

Is that all? Don't scare me like that!

**[21:14] Eva**

Oh? Then you'll want to eat lots of my cooking while you still can.

**[21:19] Main**

I will!

**[21:19] Gunther**

Okay, much better.

**[21:21] Gunther**

You look best when smiling, Main!

**[21:24] Tuuli**

There goes the doting father again.

**[21:27] Main**

I love you all so much!

**[21:33] Main**

*Thank you, Mom.*

**[21:43] Benno**

Main!

**[21:44] Benno**

You fool!

**[21:46] Benno**

What did you do this time?!

**[21:48] Mark**

We received an order for ceremonial robes for you from a high-ranking noble.

**[21:53] Benno**

You better have a good explanation for this!

**[21:55] Main**

Sorry, I need to get going, so it'll have to wait until after work.

**[22:00] Benno**

Hey, get back here!

**[22:03] Mark**

Main can't be stopped by anyone, huh?

**[22:11] Lutz**

Main, we're gonna get back to printing picture books again.

**[22:15] Main**

Yeah!

**[22:18] Main**

I'm gonna make lots, lots, loads more books!

**[23:23] Ferdinand**

Very good.

**SIGN** Ascendance of a Bookworm

**SIGN** Illustration by Shiina You

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