

E22 - The Karma

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

Translator:

Editor:

Timer:

QC:

(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.)

[00:04] Civil

Don't let it bother you, Lulu.

[00:06] Civil

I doubt anyone died.

[00:08] Civil

Your pleading with the elemental paid off.

[00:12] Lulu

But...

[00:14] Civil

No innocents got involved and the security cameras were destroyed.

[00:19] Civil

The elders don't take chances with that sort of thing.

[00:22] Arahabaki

I knew our group wasn't all one happy family,

[00:25] Arahabaki

but where do they get off, trying to shut us down so openly?

SIGN Fire

Safety

[00:31] Civil

They're afraid of the Bug.

[00:33] Civil

They fled this country and built a remote base in Eastern Europe,

[00:38] Civil

so they don't want me leaking information that could get them burned, too.

[00:43] Civil

I do have a stake in this, though, so I think I'll burn before I get burned.

[00:47] Arahabaki

Huh?

[00:48] Civil

There's a Japanese saying:
"summer bugs fly to flame."

[00:53] Civil

And I'd say I'm the best
bait to draw out this bug.

[00:57] Civil

I'll advertise my presence and
gather them all in this city.

[01:01] Civil

Doesn't crushing them in one fell
swoop sound like a plan to you?

[02:39] Higuro

Can I ask you something?

[02:41] Solitaire

Yes?

[02:43] Higuro

Why did you visit that
fortune teller's building?

[02:47] Higuro

Was that giant swarm of hands
one of your magic tricks?

[02:51] Solitaire

Why do you want to know?

[02:53] Higuro

Because you may have
already reached your goal.

[02:58] Higuro

The thing my employers spent
a century searching for.

[03:02] Solitaire

You have my attention.

[03:04] Higuro

You're already involved.
In fact, this all revolves around you.

[03:10] Higuro

You may lose your own head
instead of a dummy's next time.

[03:19] Momoya

N-No! I can't take it!

[03:22] Kana

Shut up.

[03:23] Momoya

Sorry, sorry.

[03:24] Momoya

It's just too, too much!

[03:28] Momoya

I feel so sorry for the guy,

I might let him ditching me slide.

[03:32] Momoya

Still, I envy Higuro-san.

[03:34] Momoya

This means he made friends
with Solitaire, right?

[03:37] Momoya

Do you think he could get me an autograph?

[03:40] Momoya

If only Majiri-neesan could get
along with those kids this well.

[03:46] Majiri

That must be the building.

[03:49] Majiri

I wonder if the little assassin is in.

[03:53] Majiri

Do you know?

[03:58] Majiri

Heilei, I presume?

[04:01] Majiri

Wonderful. I've been hoping
to pay my respects.

[04:05] Majiri

You see, that boy, Xiaoyu-kun,
is going to be my little brother.

[04:10] Majiri

So we'll be relatives from now on.

SIGN Found found found found found found found

found Agakura Agakura Agakura Agakura

Agakura Agakura thief thief thief

[04:16] Majiri

Mind your manners.

[04:19] Majiri

Calling for backup won't—

SIGN m 0 0 | 300 0 300 150 0 150

SIGN This evil, vile, despicable fiend took your

arms and legs and pride, my dear, precious

darling, and now she's trying to take you

from me. Don't worry. I'll kill kill kill kill

KILL kill kill kill kill kill kill her, so you

can relax. Big Sis will get back absolutely

everything—your limbs and your heart. I'll

get it all back, so...

[04:25] Bao

A word of warning.

[04:27] Majiri

I see. You're...

SIGN Heilei Officer: Bao

SIGN Real Name: Yanmei Lei

[04:30] Bao

I'm the only big sister Xiaoyu needs.

[04:35] Man

The Heilei don't need an incompetent
who lost to an Agakura girl!

[04:41] Man

I'll dispose of him myself if you—

[04:47] Head

How fierce, even for a daughter of mine.

[04:52] Head

She even tried to kill *me* when I
announced I'd make Xiaoyu a ting-hu.

[05:00] Bao

Don't insult Xiaoyu—my brother.

[05:06] Majiri

So, you want revenge for
the dear little assassin?

[05:11] Bao

Not quite.

[05:12] Majiri

No?

[05:14] Bao

You're right that Xiaoyu is a dear.

[05:17] Majiri

Yes! Isn't he just?!

[05:21] Bao

I hate you for hurting my brother,
but I'm also grateful.

[05:26] Majiri

Grateful? Really?

[05:28] Bao

Losing his limbs is what let
him escape our cursed family.

[05:34] Majiri

I'm surprised.

[05:39] Majiri

I thought the Heilei obsessed
over their lineage.

[05:45] Bao

I'm not interested in old-fashioned values,

[05:48] Bao

but if you intend to take
my brother from me, then die.

[05:55] Xiaoyu

Can you really make magic from this?

[05:58] Polka

Yes. It should let us recharge your arm, too.

[06:02] Xiaoyu

Jewels as fuel?

[06:04] Xiaoyu

No wonder Miss Sayo wanted all those junk stones.

[06:08] Xiaoyu

If raw stones work, you can buy them cheaper and in bulk.

[06:11] Polka

Clearer and larger stones contain more mana.

[06:17] Polka

Then there's the problem of money.

[06:20] Polka

I'd like to gather resources to recover the real Polka-kun,

[06:25] Polka

but I can't exactly ask Rozan-san for help.

[06:30] (Flashback) Xiaoyu

It's my fault.

[06:33] (Flashback) Xiaoyu

I'm the only guard who knew that plushie is the real Polka.

[06:38] (Flashback) Polka

That's not true.

[06:40] (Flashback) Polka

But anyway, we'd better report this to Rozan-san.

[06:44] (Flashback) Xiaoyu

His Lordship?

[06:46] (Flashback) Sayo

No can do.

[06:48] (Flashback) Polka

What?

[06:48] (Flashback) Sayo

Grandfather should be in the hospital today.

[06:52] (Flashback) Xiaoyu

Oh, right. Today is...

[06:53] (Flashback) Sayo

His regular check-up.

[06:55] (Flashback) Sayo

He's probably fully anesthetized and in no shape to talk.

[06:59] Xiaoyu

I felt a moment of relief just then.

[07:04] Xiaoyu

I almost thought that I could rescue Polka

[07:06] Xiaoyu

*and fix my mistake before
His Lordship found out.*

[07:11] Xiaoyu

I'm the worst.

[07:13] Polka

Because you were halfhearted about
protecting the real Polka-kun?

[07:18] Xiaoyu

That's none of—

[07:19] Polka

—my business? Are you sure,
with the way things are going?

[07:24] Polka

You don't have to rush, but you can talk to me.

[07:30] Xiaoyu

Something about him...
always got on my nerves.

[07:34] Xiaoyu

But I didn't really hate
him until just recently.

[07:40] Xiaoyu

He acts without any regard for
His Lordship's feelings.

[07:43] Xiaoyu

I take pride in these limbs
that Rozan-sama gave me.

[07:48] Xiaoyu

But he's Rozan-sama's own son.

[07:51] Xiaoyu

Doesn't his body, his blood
ties, mean anything to him?

[07:57] Xiaoyu

I can never have those ties,
no matter how hard I try.

[08:01] Xiaoyu

I can't become Rozan-sama's real son.

[08:04] Xiaoyu

But... he acts like it's nothing to him.

[08:09] Xiaoyu

No. I'm making excuses.

[08:12] Xiaoyu

I just envied him. Forget it.

[08:20] Xiaoyu

How pathetic.

[08:24] Polka

My father... sold me for money.

[08:29] Polka

He ended up stabbing me to
death to satisfy his own greed.

[08:36] Polka

So I envy bonds with blood family, too,

[08:40] Polka

but I can tell you feel just as
strong a bond with Rozan-san.

[08:49] Polka

I'm sure that's not one-sided.

[08:53] Polka

You may not share blood
but your souls are linked,

[08:58] Polka

so you should treasure that tie, too.

[09:05] Polka

Losing either kind of connection
will hurt just as much.

[09:11] Polka

So this time,

[09:14] Polka

I *will* make a world where
we can all live in peace.

[09:21] Takeru

Hello.

[09:22] Takeru

What is it, Nezu? Have you finished work?

[09:29] Takeru

You'll rejoin us in three days?

SIGN Lunch Meeting

Management Strategy
Session

Corporate Planning
Committee

Management Meeting

Private Event

SIGN m 0 0 | 120 0 120 130 0 130

[09:32] Takeru

Perfect. I have a job for you.

SIGN Two Days To Go

[09:38] Takumi

Well, that about sums it up.

[09:40] Polka

I'm sorry for asking so much of you.

[09:43] Takumi

Don't sweat it.

[09:45] Takumi

Supporting your peaceful
life is what I'm here for.

[09:49] Polka

Polka-kun's kidnapping
yesterday was hardly peaceful,

[09:52] Polka

and neither is the rest of
what I've dragged you into.

[09:55] Takumi

All for a peaceful future, though, right?

[09:59] Takumi

But anyway,

SIGN Strange happenings beset city!

A challenge from Solitaire?!

Witnesses report a range of bizarre phenomena!

SIGN m 0 0 | 600 0 600 120 0 120

[10:01] Takumi

this dude seriously never quits.

[10:04] Takumi

What is he thinking?

[10:07] Man

Huh?

[10:13] Woman

What's that?

SIGN Solitaire has arrived

[10:18] Kayakusa

What is he after?

[10:20] Yatsu

Asking why he does anything
is a waste of time.

SIGN Strange happenings beset city!

A challenge from Solitaire?!

Witnesses report a range of bizarre phenomena!

[10:23] Tozawa

But the inspector is currently attached
to HQ's Solitaire task force.

[10:29] Tozawa

Surely we need to at least look
like we're prioritizing that case.

[10:34] Yatsu

Ugh.

[10:36] Iwanome

No.

[10:37] Iwanome

That jackass Solitaire didn't do this.

[10:40] Arase

A copycat?

[10:41] Iwanome

I'm only going on a hunch,

[10:43] Iwanome

but just lifting something and dropping
it is nothing new for stage magic.

[10:48] Iwanome

Solitaire usually makes his
tricks significant in some way.

[10:53] Iwanome

Which begs the question of who's behind this.

[10:57] Iwanome

Another troublemaker, like Deus Ex Kinema?

[11:01] Iwanome

Or...

[11:02] Iwanome

Never mind.

[11:04] Iwanome

Either way, we can't stand
around twiddling our thumbs.

[11:08] Iwanome

Damn it. We've got all
these cases in Shinjuku.

[11:12] Iwanome

What connects them all, and how deeply?

[11:16] Solitaire

Good grief. A copycat of *me*?

[11:20] Solitaire

I know just who would pull a stunt like this.

[11:22] Solitaire

To me, hunting this organization
is an adventure.

[11:25] Solitaire

But to you, I see, it's fodder
for a documentary film!

[11:30] Solitaire

Isn't it, troublemaker emperor of Ikebukuro,
Deus Ex Kinema-kun?!

[11:35] Lulu

U-Um...

[11:37] Lulu

I'm so, so sorry.

[11:39] Lulu

You have the wrong person.

[11:40] Solitaire

Who's she?!

[11:42] Civil

Pleased to meet you. I'm a fan.

[11:44] Solitaire

I see. I suppose I should be relieved
that this wasn't a police trap?

[11:49] Civil

That depends on your attitude.

[11:52] Solitaire

Meaning you're scarier than the police?

[11:55] Civil

Unfortunately, my homeland
doesn't use business cards.

[12:00] Civil

Will this serve to identify us instead?

[12:04] Civil

The Byadian Imperial Crest.

[12:06] Civil

That's the proper name of the
emblem you've been broadcasting.

[12:13] Polka

It's hopeless. This will take too long.

[12:16] Polka

But... considering the risks,
I can't settle for less.

[12:19] Misaki

Hey, is it true you you called
up one of your friends' ghosts?

[12:24] Polka

I didn't call him so much
as he showed up uninvited.

[12:27] Misaki

So you *did* have friends in your world!

[12:32] Polka

I treasure you and Takumi-kun
as friends, too.

[12:35] Misaki

Hmm... You've said that before,

[12:38] Misaki

but we only just met, you know?

[12:40] Polka

My teacher told me that,
to long-lived necromancers like us,

[12:46] Polka

bonds with people can't be
measured in time spent together.

[12:49] Misaki

Did you make friends with your
buddy from back home this quickly?

[12:53] Polka

Let me think.

[12:54] Polka

He came on so strong that I didn't
know what to do a lot of the time,

[12:58] Polka

but he's my dear friend... and my accomplice.

[13:01] Misaki

Why accomplice?

[13:03] Polka

Sorry. Maybe I worded that wrong.

[13:06] Polka

We got up to a lot of mischief together.

[13:08] Misaki

Hmm?

[13:10] Polka

Those three who abducted the real Polka-kun

[13:13] Polka

have some kind of powerful ties to
the other world, too. I'm sure of it.

[13:19] Polka

I don't know if we're
caught in their business,

[13:22] Polka

or if I dragged them into ours, but—

[13:26] Misaki

I got you and the other Polka-kun
involved in the first place.

[13:29] Misaki

I slit Polka-kun's throat,

[13:33] Misaki

then I tried to kill you again when you
came back, dragging you into my world.

[13:38] Polka

That'sh naht weally—

[13:40] Misaki

Everyone, good or bad,
drags others into their lives sometimes.

[13:46] Misaki

So when it comes down to it, just drag
everyone into what you think is best.

[13:53] Misaki

I *want* to get mixed up
in your business, anyway.

[13:57] Misaki

Let's go save the real Polka-kun together.

[14:02] Polka

Thank you.

[14:04] Solitaire

I see.

[14:06] Solitaire

You want to advertise your
relation to this "Sabaramond."

[14:11] Civil

Yes, I suppose so.

[14:13] Civil

I don't care how.

We could even be guests on your show.

[14:16] Higuro

Yay!

[14:17] Civil

The three of us could dance, if you like.

[14:19] Lulu; Arahabaki

Huh?!

[14:20] Solitaire

Suspected space aliens dancing?

You have my attention.

[14:24] Civil

Aliens?

[14:26] Civil

That aside, I thought you were
seeking supernatural phenomena.

[14:31] Civil

Doesn't this situation excite you?

[14:34] Solitaire

Not really? Secretly, my heart
is swelling with anticipation,

[14:38] Solitaire

but I can't make up my mind.

[14:40] Civil

About what?

[14:42] Solitaire

A feat like yours

[14:45] Solitaire

is easy enough to replicate with tricks.

[14:49] Civil

Oh?

[14:50] Arahabaki

Wait. Seriously?

[14:51] Lulu

Does he have a great spirit, too?!

[14:55] Iwanome

So this

[14:56] Iwanome

is where that fire broke out 100 years ago.

[15:00] Iwanome

Now, does anything here connect
to the Fire-Breathing Bug?

[15:04] Iwanome

They've prettied up the exterior,

[15:07] Iwanome

but something's off.

[15:09] Iwanome

A wealthy Shinjuku dynasty owns this place,

[15:13] Iwanome

and apparently they paid a
fortune for it after the fire.

[15:17] Iwanome

Their descendants live elsewhere,
but they've never tried to sell the place.

[15:22] Arase

But are you sure we should be here?
It has nothing to do with Solitaire.

[15:27] Iwanome

No, they've been too
close lately to say that.

[15:33] Iwanome

At heart, every troublemaker
only follows their own goals.

[15:38] Iwanome

Except for the Grocer, none of them
would ever seek each other out.

[15:43] Iwanome

But between this "Sabaramond"
group and that symbol,

[15:47] Iwanome

this pair's interests overlap too much.

[15:50] Arase

You mean Solitaire and the Fire-Breathing
Bug have already joined forces?

[15:54] Iwanome

Yeah, probably. And in earnest.

[15:59] Solitaire

As for your request, I'd be delighted.

[16:03] Solitaire

But on one condition.

[16:05] Civil

That sounds like fun. What condition?

[16:08] Solitaire

Well, I insist

[16:12] Solitaire

that you somehow manage to survive.

[16:17] Fire-Breathing Bugs

Never shall we forget the days we've shared,

[16:31] Fire-Breathing Bugs

yet 'tis time we go our
separate ways. Goodbye.

[16:33] Civil

I didn't expect to see you so soon!

SIGN Fire

Safety

[16:48] Arahabaki

Whoa!

[16:49] Lulu

Civil-sama!

[16:50] Solitaire

Oh, so you burst liquid fuel
in midair and set fire to it.

[16:56] Solitaire

*I hope that's not a mix of
naphthetic and palmitic acids,*

[16:59] Solitaire

*i.e., the fuel for napalm
bombs and flamethrowers.*

[17:03] Solitaire

*Because if it is, the extreme
heat will roast me, too.*

[17:06] Solitaire

It's not, right? Please say it's not.

[17:08] Solitaire

*I believe you have at least some morals,
Fire-Breathing Bug-kun.*

[17:12] Solitaire

Oh, I have a bad feeling about this!

[17:16] Civil

Perfect timing.

[17:17] Civil

I've been hoping to test this out.

[17:20] Civil

Maybe something like... this?

[17:24] Arahabaki

Whoa. You've gotta be kidding me.

[17:27] Civil

Hmm... Was that right?

[17:30] Civil

No, I suppose I need to follow the proper steps.

SIGN Fire

Safety

[17:41] Civil

I sympathize with you Bugs!

[17:45] Civil

I can guess what you really are!

[17:50] Civil

In this country, 100 years ago, my affiliates

[17:53] Civil

performed experiments to give humans special powers!

SIGN PEEK

SIGN PEEK

[17:57] Civil

To maintain secrecy, they supposedly incinerated all 18 test subjects.

SIGN Fire

Safety

[18:02] Civil

But only 16 bodies were found.

[18:04] Civil

I take it some survived?

[18:07] Civil

And they multiplied

[18:09] Civil

to enact their vengeance on us.

SIGN Fire

Safety

[18:12] Civil

I don't know how you did it, whether by science or magic,

[18:15] Civil

but you implanted a lust for revenge in others—ordinary, innocent people.

[18:22] Civil

I admire your tenacity.

[18:24] Civil

That said,

[18:27] Civil

aren't you doing just what our elders did to the 18 whose lives they took?

[18:33] Civil

In terms of sheer numbers,

you're even worse than they were.

[18:36] Fire-Breathing Bug

Exactly.

SIGN Fire

Safety

[18:38] Fire-Breathing Bugs

Therefore, we, too, are evil.

[18:41] Fire-Breathing Bugs

Merely bugs seared into this world.

[18:46] Fire-Breathing Bugs

Once we have burned you all,

[18:49] Fire-Breathing Bugs

we shall vanish from within these people.

[18:53] Fire-Breathing Bugs

Shall burn away.

[18:54] Civil

Good. If you feel that way,
then I feel no personal guilt.

[18:59] Civil

Now, let's slug it out!

[19:02] Civil

Put our existences on the line!

[19:05] Fire-Breathing Bug

A childish taunt.

[19:08] Civil

A smoke screen? It won't work.

[19:16] Solitaire

A mass disappearing act?!

[19:18] Arahabaki

Huh?! Did they run out on us?!

[19:21] Civil

I see.

[19:22] Civil

It seems revenge hasn't
given them tunnel vision.

[19:26] Civil

I suppose they were evaluating
our combat strength just now.

[19:30] Civil

Far better than a "summer bug" who
flies into flames without thinking.

SIGN SHOCK

SIGN SHOCK

[19:35] Solitaire

Shock.

[19:36] Arahabaki

Think this guy knows where they hide out?

[19:42] Solitaire

Mademoiselle, even if I did know,

[19:45] Solitaire

do I look like I would
sell out a friend so easily?!

[19:47] Arahabaki

Yeah.

[19:48] Civil

I'd say so.

[19:49] Lulu

Yes.

[19:50] Solitaire

Well, don't be hasty.

[19:51] Solitaire

Allow me to tell you a choice secret instead.

[19:55] Arahabaki

Like what?

[19:56] Solitaire

The saying "summer bugs fly to flame"

[19:57] Solitaire

originates in the Chinese *Book
of Liang's* "Life of Dao Gai."

[19:59] Solitaire

And it's not about tactics or traps.

[20:01] Solitaire

You see, an old man jealous of
his more talented grandson—

[20:01] Arahabaki

Who cares?!

[20:03] Civil

As interesting as that sounds,
I have a different question for you.

[20:09] Civil

After you obtained the emblem,

[20:11] Civil

why did you visit that building in Shinjuku?

[20:14] Civil

Does it have anything to do with the
young fortune teller who lives there?

[20:18] Solitaire

Are you certain you don't
have your answer already?

[20:23] Solitaire

A bug flying to a flame may be foolish,

[20:26] Solitaire

but what if that bug
could withstand the heat?

[20:30] Arahabaki

You—

SIGN Better luck
next time

[20:32] Arahabaki

Huh?

[20:33] Solitaire

And...

[20:34] Solitaire

leaping into fire is the only way to
see some worlds. Wouldn't you agree?

[20:39] Solitaire

While your powers do interest me,

[20:41] Solitaire

I have a busy night ahead.

[20:44] Solitaire

Bewitch me with a world free of
tricks and illusions someday!

[20:48] Solitaire

For that,

[20:50] Solitaire

I'll enter the fire as
many times as it takes.

[20:56] Civil

I knew visiting this country was a good idea.

[21:00] Civil

It's done a little to quench the
thirst I've felt since I was born.

[21:04] Arahabaki

I don't get any of this!

[21:07] Arahabaki

Hey, Boss! What was that big-ass
wind-cannon thing, anyway?!

[21:11] Lulu

It wasn't like the great
spirit's power, was it?

[21:15] Civil

Oh, that. I tried it, and it worked.

[21:17] Arahabaki

You can just *do* that?

[21:20] Civil

Until now, I've only been able to use
magic to enhance my flesh and nerves.

[21:25] Civil

I am a failure, after all.

[21:28] Civil

Didn't I tell you before we came here?

About my absurd origins.

[21:33] Civil

My body was meant for the copied mind
and memory of a sorcerer from the other side.

[21:39] Civil

His name was Arius Sabaramond.

[21:43] Civil

But in the end, that "great sorcerer"
never appeared in this world.

[21:48] Civil

And yet the organization
continues to cling to his name.

[21:52] Civil

"The Bastard Children of
Sabaramond." Oh, the irony.

[21:57] Civil

I was a failure, unable to so
much as cast a spell, until—

[22:02] Civil

Yes, that was the trigger.

[22:05] Civil

I'd never felt my mana tampered
with from the outside before.

[22:09] Civil

I wondered if I could do it in
reverse, and lucky for us, it worked.

[22:14] Arahabaki

There he goes, bragging about his talent.

[22:16] Lulu

Amazing, Civil-sama!

[22:18] Civil

Well, I'm just starting out.

[22:21] Civil

Once I get the hang of it, I can—

[22:24] Civil

Oh, I like you, Soara, Lulu.

[22:27] Civil

You help me feel the other world.

[22:29] Arahabaki

Warn me before you say crap like that.

[22:33] Civil

But *this* world isn't lawless
enough for me to act freely.

[22:39] Civil

I've always felt that this
world isn't where I belong.

[22:44] Civil

I was made on the other side,
so I want to go back.

[22:48] Civil

Back to the precious
homeland I've never seen.

[22:53] Civil

If I can't return, then I hope

[22:56] Civil

this world can at least offer
something to cure my boredom.

[23:04] Civil

Hello. I'm impressed you found this number.

[23:07] Civil

We've never spoken directly before.
Are introductions in order?

[23:11] Grocer

Oh, no. Not at all, Sabaramond-sama.

[23:16] Grocer

You've been patronizing our
store since before we relocated.

[23:20] Civil

Since you called, I assume
you've stocked my order?

[23:25] Civil

Information about Polka Shinoyama's family,

[23:27] Civil

and especially his mother, Kanon Shinoyama?

Revision #1

Created 2024-05-07 16:15:21 UTC by whimsee

Updated 2024-05-07 16:15:21 UTC by whimsee