

10 - True Worth

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Translator:

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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.)

SIGN Mama! We'll be together forever.

That's right, but Mama's getting old.

Don't say that. I know. Even if you go up to the sky,
I'll sacrifice the islanders and bring you back to life!
I saw it in an anime. There's nothing you can't do
as long as you have faith.

That's what you taught me, Mama!

SIGN Oh, my. You've never stopped dreaming, have you?

But that's what makes little boys so cute.

I'm sure you can do it. Mama believes in you.

SIGN The Beautiful Love of a Parent and Child

[00:07] SACHI

People with brains who offer their
opinions are the enemy of peace.

[00:12] YUI

That's why I tried to get the Moris to leave
the island, but they just won't do it.

[00:17] KOITARO

It's the father.

[00:20] KOITARO

He's a little guy who seems carefree,
but he's pretty sharp.

[00:24] SACHI

That's right.

[00:25] SACHI

We've painted the Moris' son as someone
constantly faking suicide attempts,

[00:30] SACHI

but the Kiriharas' father
might've realized it's not true.

[00:34] SACHI

Well, we have various methods at our disposal.

[00:36] SACHI

The other islanders will
believe anything we say.

[00:40] SACHI

We can lie to them as much as we need.

[00:44] MOGURA

What'd you learn? Tell me.

[00:50] MOGURA

In other words...

[00:56] MOGURA

The island's royal family does
whatever it takes to stay in power.

[01:00] MOGURA

They make the islanders dependent on
them and rob them of their judgment.

[01:04] MOGURA

That family are pros at cleverly manipulating
people's minds and controlling them.

[01:08] MOGURA

On top of a supernatural ritual
that engenders a sense of unity,

SIGN Waaah

SIGN Waaah

SIGN Bounce Bounce Bounce

SIGN Bounce Bounce Bounce

[01:12] MOGURA

instilling an even greater sense of
unity with an "us versus them" story

[01:17] MOGURA

is particularly clever.

[01:19] MOGURA

Those they deem useless or impudent are
driven to desperation and disposed of.

[01:24] MOGURA

They don't care if they die.

[01:27] MOGURA

Worst of all are the boss lady,
her Oedipus complex puppet,

[01:30] MOGURA

and that strong-willed walking minefield.

[01:32] YAEKO/ID

My island's even shadier than I thought.

[01:34] MOGURA

Simply put, they're a crazy bunch.

[01:37] MOGURA

What do they think other people are?

[01:40] MOGURA

Mori-kun's one of their victims.

[01:44] MOGURA

I'd bet this island has
produced countless victims.

[01:48] MOGURA

They've made the merfolk bigger.

SIGN Swell

SIGN Swell swell

SIGN Swell swell swell

[01:53] MOGURA

I knew there were surprisingly
few spirits on the island.

[01:56] MOGURA

When we arrived at the harbor,
they even stared at us.

[02:00] MOGURA

Most of them probably get
swallowed up by the merfolk.

[02:03] MOGURA

In other words,

SIGN Where bodies wash up

[02:04] MOGURA

this place has always attracted spirits.

[02:07] MOGURA

The spirits that end up
there form a single blob.

[02:11] MOGURA

It's a pretty standard type
of ghost in ghost stories.

SIGN Very little sense of self

[02:15] MOGURA

It has a propensity to attract spirits
with strong negative emotions.

[02:19] MOGURA

It's a ball of regret, so it craves company.

SIGN So lonely

SIGN Any friends around?

SIGN Ball of regret

[02:24] MOGURA

It absorbs every spirit it can and
eventually begins luring in the living.

[02:30] MOGURA

Those in a weakened state
are especially susceptible.

SIGN I can't be satisfied

SIGN Anyone will do,
please be my friend

SIGN Growing negativity

[02:33] MOGURA

That produces haunted spots where
accidents frequently occur

SIGN Sad people who exist only to become victims at the start of movies

[02:38] MOGURA

or places that bring about death.

[02:41] MOGURA

And the most important part in all of this is...

[02:45] MOGURA

What did the royal family do to Mori-kun
to drive him to desperation?

SIGN Episode 10

"True Worth"

[04:21] MOGURA

We should go check on him ASAP.

[04:26] MOGURA

He needs a doctor, but the merfolk
could lure him into the ocean first.

[04:31] MOGURA

The barrier between his mind and
the merfolk isn't clear anymore.

[04:35] MOGURA

In fact...

[04:36] MOGURA

That's probably why he was hanging out in
a place with a view of the sea yesterday.

[04:41] MOGURA

Should we mind our own business?

[04:44] MOGURA

Honestly, I don't know.

[04:46] MOGURA

But Yae-chan, I know you'll regret not doing
anything, even if there's nothing you can do.

SIGN Essay Contest

Kirihara Yaeko

[04:53] MOGURA

Call it being a busybody or
being self-serving. I can't deny that.

[04:57] MOGURA

But at the very least,

[04:59] MOGURA

I've seen too many people who die
without anyone noticing,

[05:02] MOGURA

and others who feel regret
because they didn't notice.

[05:06] YAEKO

I'm going.

[05:08] MOGURA

Yae-chan!

[05:09] MOGURA

Take someone with you.

[05:11] MOGURA

It can be just Magi, but if
you don't mind, take me, too.

[05:17] MOGURA

Better to go with someone who
doesn't know the island's rules.

[05:20] MOGURA

They just have to be present.

[05:24] TOSHIRO

I'm going to continue investigating
the merfolk like I originally planned.

[05:28] TOSHIRO

You all know what I look like.

SIGN The Face of Death

[05:31] TOSHIRO

I'm not suited to dropping in on
someone and getting them to open up.

[05:35] KYOKO

Let us know if anything happens.

[05:37] KYOSHIRO

Do you understand what's going on?

[05:39] SHIO

Oedipus complexes are gross.

[05:42] KYOSHIRO

Honestly, good enough.

[05:54] YAEKO

There he is! Mori-kun!

[05:56] YAEKO

Wait! Don't run away!

[06:09] MORI

Wh-What's going on?

SIGN Eh heh heh

[06:12] YAEKO

Um, I wasn't sure how to start,
so I thought I'd pull you close.

[06:19] YAEKO

Can we talk?

[06:20] MORI

It'd be scarier if we didn't.

[06:24] YAEKO

Sorry to be so frank, but did
Yui-chan do something to you?

[06:29] MORI

Um, what makes you think that?

[06:32] YAEKO

Uh, a woman's intuition?

[06:35] YAEKO

These people don't know the island's rules.

[06:38] YAEKO

That's the reason I realized it.

[06:40] YAEKO

This island is weird.

[06:43] YAEKO

I thought you might want to
talk to people who think that.

[06:48] YAEKO

What do you think?

[06:53] MORI

I moved here six years ago.

SIGN Chatter chatter chatter chatter

[06:56] MORI

The students on the island
took the boat every morning.

[07:00] MORI

Everyone was considerate and kind.

[07:02] YAEKO

You were popular!

[07:04] YAEKO

People said a boy who looked
like a TV character had arrived.

[07:07] (Flashback) GIRL A

This cosplay would look great on you.

[07:09] (Flashback) YAEKO

You're right.

[07:10] MORI

I felt pretty good about it.

[07:13] MORI

That's when the island's princess asked me out.

SIGN Top Chat

What's up, guys?

Dokumayu Acherontia here!

Today we're gonna play some Boogie Crush!

[07:17] MORI

I turned her down simply
because she wasn't my type.

[07:21] MORI

Around the same time, my father
had his incident at the factory.

[07:25] (Flashback) GIRL B

Mori-kun is cute.

[07:27] (Flashback) GIRL C

He's so nice, too.

[07:29] (Flashback) YUI

Yeah.

[07:30] (Flashback) YUI

But he's too handsome.

[07:33] (Flashback) YUI

I'd be worried about him cheating.

[07:36] (Flashback) YUI

I recently saw a video on the qualities of cheaters, and it described him to a tee.

[07:41] (Flashback) GIRLS

What?

[07:42] (Flashback) YUI

He's always surrounded by girls.

[07:44] (Flashback) YUI

There's no way he's not fooling around with them.

[07:47] (Flashback) YUI

We tend to assume beautiful people are beautiful on the inside, too.

[07:52] (Flashback) YUI

Oh, I don't have any proof.

[07:54] (Flashback) YUI

I'm just speaking hypothetically.

[07:56] (Flashback) YUI

Mori-kun's close with Hayashi-kun, don't you think?

[08:00] (Flashback) YUI

A little *too* close, right?

[08:01] (Flashback) GIRLS

What?

SIGN Tee-hee

[08:03] (Flashback) YUI

They're both pretty, so maybe they really are like that.

[08:06] (Flashback) YUI

Don't you kind of hope they are?

[08:07] (Flashback) YUI

It makes me want to root for them.

[08:10] (Flashback) YUI

Mori-kun made a move on me once.

[08:14] (Flashback) YUI

I rejected him, of course.

[08:16] (Flashback) YUI

But since he's normally so nice,

I was a little surprised.

[08:20] (Flashback) YUI

Maybe Mori-kun's like that because
he wants to get close to otaku girls.

[08:26] (Flashback) YUI

All the girls are obsessed with him
because he's like a fictional character.

SIGN Blah

[08:30] (Flashback) BOY A

True. He definitely presents himself that way.

SIGN Blah blah

[08:34] (Flashback) BOY B

There's no way it's not on purpose.

[08:42] (Flashback) BOY A

Don't talk to us again.

[08:43] (Flashback) BOY B

Stay away from Yui-chan.

[08:45] (Flashback) GIRL

You should flirt with boys more!

[08:47] (Flashback) GIRL

What? You don't want to?

SIGN Sorry, Mori. I don't like how the girls jeer at us
when we hang out, so don't talk to me again.

SIGN Stay away from
Yui-chan!

SIGN People fuss over you
because you're beautiful.
You should just enjoy it.

SIGN It can't be helped since
you've got a handsome face.

SIGN Do you like boys?

SIGN Do you like girls?

SIGN You worry about it too much.

SIGN What? You don't want to?
Isn't that homophobic?

SIGN Cute, cute, cute, cute!

SIGN Flirt with boys more!

SIGN I heard he's a cheater.

[08:48] (Flashback) GIRL

Isn't that homophobic?

[08:51] MORI

The rumors spread among the islanders
eventually became the "truth"

[08:56] MORI

and spread among the other students.

[08:59] MORI

The more I denied them,

the more "true" the rumors became.

[09:05] MORI

Samejima Yui.

[09:09] MORI

I was certain she'd started the rumors,

[09:12] MORI

but no one remembers where rumors
come from on this island.

[09:17] MORI

I never cheated on anyone.
I wasn't even dating anyone.

[09:21] MORI

I never discriminated against anyone either.

[09:23] MORI

I wasn't trying to deny anyone's preferences.

[09:26] MORI

But every day, I was forced to
recognize that alternate reality.

[09:31] MORI

Maybe I was wrong for not
conforming with their rumors.

[09:35] MORI

Casually making baseless suggestions
to incite the public

[09:40] MORI

and drive a person to desperation...

[09:43] MORI

It's a method she understands well.

[09:47] (Flashback) YAEKO

Mori-kun, I'm attending a college in Tokyo.

[09:50] (Flashback) YAEKO

Let me know if you find any
more interesting VTubers.

[09:53] (Flashback) YAEKO

I'm going to check out the Tokyo Game Show.

[09:55] (Flashback) MORI

Really? Wow.

[09:58] MORI

*My one kind friend with common interests who
would rather talk about games than the rumors...*

[10:06] INNER VOICE

Don't leave me behind.

[10:07] INNER VOICE

*Everyone else's version of
"reality" will become the same.*

[10:11] INNER VOICE

Who am I, anyway?

[10:16] INNER VOICE

This isn't even a big deal.

[10:18] INNER VOICE

I'm weak. I'm sorry.

[10:21] INNER VOICE

Nobody believes me.

[10:24] (Flashback) SILHOUETTE A

Everyone goes through hard times.

SIGN I want to die

[10:26] (Flashback) SILHOUETTE B

You're handsome. You're already winning.

[10:28] (Flashback) SILHOUETTE B

Turn it into a joke.

[10:30] (Flashback) SILHOUETTE C

You're so unreliable.

[10:31] (Flashback) SILHOUETTE C

I'd find a way to do my best to live.

[10:34] (Flashback) SILHOUETTE D

I don't understand outsiders.

[10:37] (Flashback) SILHOUETTE E

Young people are so sensitive.

[10:39] (Flashback) SILHOUETTE E

Why do you think that?

[10:40] INNER VOICE

I want to die.

[10:42] INNER VOICE

I know I shouldn't think that, but...

[10:44] MOGURA

Man. You're not even allowed to
think that on this island?

[10:49] MOGURA

In that case, I'd be a total failure,
since I constantly want to die.

[10:57] MOGURA

People say whatever they want without
realizing they're killing people.

SIGN Scratch scratch

[11:03] MOGURA

I've probably said something like that, too.

[11:06] MOGURA

Meanwhile, sometimes people want
to die because they want to live.

[11:11] MOGURA

This world is oppekepe, kid.

[11:13] MOGURA

You're doing good.

[11:17] YAEKO

I had no idea.

[11:19] (Flashback) GIRLS

I thought so.

[11:21] (Flashback) GIRLS

So it was true.

[11:24] (Flashback) YAEKO

You sure are popular, Mori-kun.

[11:26] (Flashback) MORI

Yeah. I appreciate it since I'm new here.

[11:32] YAEKO

I didn't see myself as involved.

[11:35] YAEKO

I failed to notice because
my family are old-timers.

[11:41] YAEKO

I'm sorry, Mori-kun.

[11:48] MORI

Thanks.

[11:50] MORI

By the way, who is this guy?

[11:52] YAEKO

R-Right. Of course.

[11:54] MOGURA

Nice to meet you!

[11:59] FATHER

Merfolk legend, merfolk legend...

[12:02] FATHER

I wonder if we've got anything on it.

[12:04] FATHER

We chuck all our ancestors' stuff in
here, so I don't know what's what.

[12:10] FATHER

Grandpa, do you know anything?

[12:12] YUHACHI

We've got my father's notes.

[12:16] FATHER

That's in here?

[12:20] FATHER

Let's see. Grandpa's father would've been...

[12:23] FATHER

Born in the Meiji era? Wow.

[12:27] YUHACHI

My father wrote everything down.

[12:31] YUHACHI

Like Yaeko, he was good at writing.

[12:34] YUHACHI

Bought a lot of books, too.

[12:36] FATHER

Wow, this is a first edition of
The Restaurant of Many Orders.

[12:40] FATHER

This is a wartime newspaper.

[12:43] FATHER

There's an article on a German speech.

[12:45] TOSHIRO

This is why private storehouses
mustn't be underestimated.

SIGN Merfolk Island

[12:49] FATHER

We found some kind of souvenir picture book.

[12:54] FATHER

We've got everything in here.

[12:57] YUHACHI

That's from when I was little.

[12:59] YUHACHI

You can have it, sensei.

[13:02] TOSHIRO

Are you sure?

[13:03] YUHACHI

It's fine.

[13:04] YUHACHI

You teach Yaeko, right?

[13:08] YUHACHI

Hey, I found my rucksack.

[13:11] YUHACHI

Maybe I'll give it to Sato-san as a souvenir.

[13:16] FATHER

He doesn't need that.

[13:17] FATHER

You really like that guy, huh?

[13:20] FATHER

You gotta stop pestering young people.

[13:23] FATHER

And that's not Sato-san. His name's Mogura-san.

[13:28] YUHACHI

Mogura and the cat professor, huh?

[13:31] FATHER

Actually, Mogura-san's backpack
looks just like that.

[13:36] FATHER

Is he into that sort of thing?

[13:44] TOSHIRO

May I read this?

[13:47] FATHER

Go ahead.

[13:52] YAEKO

Mori-kun, are you okay?

[13:53] YAEKO

You don't have to strain yourself.

[13:55] MORI

Yeah.

[13:56] MORI

Strangely, having people who understand suddenly cleared the fog in my head.

[14:05] MORI

My parents are helping with the festival.

[14:08] MORI

I should help, too.

[14:12] YUI

Mori-kun, you're feeling better?

[14:16] YUI

That's great.

[14:17] YUI

We were all worried about you.

SIGN Shriek Shriek Shriek Shriek

[14:57] YAEKO

Mori-kun!

[14:58] ISLANDER A

What's wrong?

[15:02] ISLANDER B

It's the Moris' kid!

[15:04] ISLANDER C

Stop!

[15:05] ISLANDER A

Calm down!

[15:06] YUI

No! Don't be hasty!

[15:09] MORI/ID

Something's pulling me?

[15:13] MORI/ID

Well, I guess this is fine.

[15:15] MORI/ID

Someone understood me in the end.

[15:17] MORI/ID

It'd be less trouble for everyone if I just went away.

[15:25] MOGURA

Magi!

[15:25] YAEKO

Magi-kun!

[15:30] MAGI/ID

Oh, no. I didn't consider the difference in our weight.

[15:35] MAGI/ID

Before going to sleep last night, I thought about who I'd be 20 years from now,

[15:40] MAGI/ID

but I might not be around 20 years from now.

SIGN Wub-wub-wub

SIGN Skreeeee

SIGN In Life

SIGN Maggie-kun

loves apples!

[15:56] NA

Both in life and in the present, safety is important to Maggie-kun.

[16:02] NA

He has no interest in winning, being number one, or thrills.

[16:07] NA

Currently, the only thing Maggie-kun cares about is having a good host.

[16:13] MAGI/ID

I feel like eating apples.

SIGN Gawr

Gawr

[16:15] NA

Meanwhile, as a spirit, Maggie possesses greater abilities than Nabeshima and Ikebukuro.

[16:22] NA

The ability to affect physical objects is a considerable talent.

[16:26] NA

However, it does not occur to a coward to use such an ability to attack,

SIGN Competitions like entrance exams

also give his host stomachaches

[16:31] NA

so its true worth is only activated when his safety is threatened.

SIGN Limit Reached

[16:55] ISLANDER A

They floated for a second.

[16:56] ISLANDER B

They must've caught a sudden updraft.

[16:58] ISLANDER C

Are you okay?

[17:12] ISLANDER C

Call the rescue and emergency crews!

[17:14] ISLANDER D

Send out a fishing boat! Hurry!

[17:16] ISLANDER A

Watch out for reefs! Hold onto something!

[17:19] (Flashback) YAEKO

The tidal currents here are unique.

SIGN Huff huff

[17:22] MAGI/ID

The waves should be jostling us around more.

[17:26] MAGI/ID

I'm not drowning because Maggie-kun is forcing the water away from my head.

[17:38] MAGI/ID

If we ride this current, we can hold onto the merfolk's rock.

SIGN Slap

Slap

SIGN Slap

SIGN Red Panda Punch!

SIGN Red Panda Punch!

[17:47] MAGI/ID

The merfolk isn't sure what to do either.

[17:49] MAGI/ID

You can do it, Maggie-kun!

[17:51] MOGURA

Yae-chan, get in touch with Neko-zuku.

[17:54] MOGURA

All these unexpected turns are making the merfolk mad.

[17:57] YAEKO

Okay.

[17:58] MOGURA

It's like a level 100 out-of-control fussy toddler.

[18:02] MOGURA

At this rate, it could cause major damage.

[18:08] MAGI

Mori-kun, are you okay?

[18:13] MAGI/ID

Oh, right. When we fell into the sea...

[18:16] MAGI/ID

How long will it take to be seen by a doctor on this island?

[18:19] MAGI/ID

Surely not hours, right?

[18:27] MOGURA/ID

If he keeps bleeding like that...

[18:29] MAGI/ID

Depending on how long, he could be in danger.

[18:34] YAEKO

Mogura-san?

[19:04] MOGURA

Magi! Hold Mori-kun in place!

[19:09] MOGURA

Don't move a millimeter!

[19:32] MAGI/ID

*He poured some flame into
him by grazing his wound.*

[19:38] MAGI/ID

*If this were a manga or anime, I could've
said "Wow!" and forgotten about it.*

[19:41] MAGI/ID

*But I've never wondered this
more since meeting him...*

[19:47] MAGI/ID

Mogura, who the hell are you actually?

[19:50] MAGI/ID

No, wait. He saved him.

[19:53] MAGI/ID

I shouldn't be afraid of him.

[19:55] MOGURA

Hey! Retrieve the arrowhead!

[19:57] MOGURA

If any fish or birds swallow it,
it could hurt them!

[20:00] MAGI/ID

It's odd that he can worry about that right now.

[20:08] KOITARO

The island's...

[20:09] KOITARO

Our ancestors'...

[20:12] KOITARO

Mother's... sacred festival...

[20:16] KOITARO

That arrow...

[20:18] MOGURA

An islander fell into the sea.

[20:20] MOGURA

You should be heading down there first.

[20:23] KOITARO

Sir, you can't do this.

[20:26] KOITARO

I've been watching you

since you're so suspicious.

[20:29] MOGURA

Is that what Mama told you to do, sonny?

[20:33] MOGURA

Not only am I suspicious, I know everything.

[20:36] MOGURA

An Oedipus complex fogey, an evil
little girl, and a monstrous hag.

[20:40] MOGURA

I doubt it'll do any good, but let
me say the decent thing anyway.

[20:44] MOGURA

You call yourself a
company president, you fogey?

[20:47] KOITARO

Who are you?

[20:49] KOITARO

What did you do with that arrow?

[20:50] KOITARO

What is that lamp?

[20:53] KOITARO

Did you do something to the Moris' boy?

[20:55] KOITARO

Why is the other one uninjured?

[20:57] KOITARO

It doesn't make sense!

[20:58] MOGURA

You think pretty clearly for a puppet.

[21:01] MOGURA

You're wasting your potential.

[21:03] MOGURA

You've got a way with words,
and you're quick-witted.

[21:05] MOGURA

Careful with that. Is that
a knife for butchering fish?

[21:09] MOGURA

You don't have many openings.

[21:10] MOGURA

You practice a martial art, don't you?

[21:13] MOGURA

You must've been raised well.

[21:14] MOGURA

You even look pretty good for your age.

[21:18] MOGURA

You'd be a desirable man if you were weaned.

[21:21] MOGURA

Anyway, nobody wants to see a fight
between a middle-aged man and an old-timer.

[21:26] MOGURA

Let's not do this.

[21:27] MOGURA

On top of that, you've got that boss hag
and minefield girl behind you.

[21:31] MOGURA

If this were a manga or anime,
you wouldn't have any fans.

[21:35] MOGURA

You gotta at least have a young handsome boss.

[21:39] KOITARO

Don't insult my family!

[21:41] MOGURA

Your family, huh?

SIGN About This Shrine

The merfolk of the island's merfolk legend is enshrined on the reef on the north side of Masago Bay.

With a head resembling an infant and the body of a woman, it lures men into the sea with its voice.

Originally a human girl, its life was filled with grief. When its child was taken by humans, it became a malicious spirit, and its beautiful form transformed into an unsightly merfolk, causing rough seas, and the surrounding eight islands are said to have been destroyed in a single night.

In the third year of the Keicho era, Koetsu the priest dedicated a child's mummy to Sakazukiyama Watatsumi Shrine (present day Samejima Shrine), sparing the island from disaster.

During the annual Spring festival, the islanders perform a ritual using arrows and flames to quell the malicious spirit and pray for safety on the sea. While feared as a source of calamity, the shrine has also been used for many years as a landmark for those returning to the mainland.

SIGN With a head resembling an infant and the body of a woman, it lures men into the sea with its voice.

[21:44] MOGURA

Isn't this what it said?

[21:46] KOITARO

Goo-goo ga-ga!

[21:47] MOGURA

"With a head resembling an infant

[21:51] MOGURA

and the body of a woman,

[21:51] SACHI

Yes, yes!

[21:55] MOGURA

it lures men into the sea with its voice."

SIGN Shriek Shriek Shriek Shriek

[22:00] MOGURA

The unsightly merfolk

[22:02] MOGURA

is your family!

SIGN Episode 11

"The Merfolk and the Bakeneko"

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