

# E31 - Meko Oyasi

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**[00:05] ---**

Toh! Toh! Toh!

**[00:08] S**

Keep going!

**[00:10] Ko**

The weather's turned bad suddenly!

**[00:13] T**

We need to get somewhere safe now!

**[00:19] S**

I can't even see anymore!

**[00:24] S**

Ryu, what are you doing?

**[00:26] S**

Stay in formation!

**[00:28] T**

You don't think he's spotted something?

**[00:30] S**

Ryu was never cut out to pull a sled!

**[00:33] S**

He's a hunting dog!

**[00:37] S**

Ryu!

**[00:38] S**

Where are you going?

**[00:39] S**

Go straight!

**[00:44] A**

Henke says he see something!

**[00:47] Ts**

Stop the sled!

**[00:48] Ts**

The others aren't with us!

**[00:55] Ts**

Sugimoto!

**[00:59] K**

Was that a gunshot?

**[01:01] K**

Did we get separated?

**[01:04] K**

Where did the gunshot come from?

**[01:06] Ch**

I think that way!

**[01:16] Ts**

Did you hear something?

**[01:19] Koito**

What?

**[01:24] S**

It's no good!

**[01:25] S**

We need to find shelter somewhere!

**[01:27] S**

We need to at least... find a  
place to get away from the wind.

**[01:38] S**

What? We came all the way to the coast?

**[01:43] S**

That's not good.

**[01:44] S**

We need to do something...

**[01:46] S**

Or we're dead!

**SIGN** Golden Kamuy

**SIGN** Episode Thirty-One

Meko Oyasi

**[03:26] S**

Damn it!

**[03:29] ---**

The ground... is frozen solid.

**[03:34] T**

We'll just need to do something.

**[03:36] T**

Destroy the sled.

**[03:41] K**

Tsukishima, we're in real danger here!

**[03:48] Ts**

Let's go!

**[03:49] Ts**

We'll head to that building  
they said they saw!

**[03:57] S**

Yes!

**[04:01] S**

Hey, what are you doing?

**[04:04] Tanigaki**

A sled's worth of firewood  
won't last long at all.

**[04:08] Tanigaki**

But if we bury it,  
it'll burn slowly in the Earth.

**[04:12] Tanigaki**

If we lie down on it, we can  
stay warm a little longer.

**[04:17] S**

That's right Tanigaki, you're a Matagi.

**[04:20] Tanigaki**

But the hole's not deep enough.

**[04:22] Tanigaki**

It won't serve to do much  
but keep off the wind.

**[04:24] Tanigaki**

You guys! Come here!

**[04:30] S**

It's a Karafuto dog blanket.

**[04:35] Ci**

Will the dogs be okay?

**[04:38] Ta**

They're fine. They handle the cold well.

**[04:43] Ta**

The question is, how long will we last?

**[04:47] Ta**

The sun will set soon.

**[04:51] Koito**

There're cows here, Tsukishima!

**[04:54] Koito**

Someone lives here!

**[04:56] Ts**

Let's worry about finding the  
person who lives here later.

**[04:58] Ts**

For now, let's start a fire.

**[05:00] Koito**

What about the others?

**[05:02] Ts**

With Tanigaki with them,

**[05:05] Ts**

they should be okay for a while...

**[05:12] ---**

Here.

**[05:13] Ta**

There's not much,

**[05:15] Ta**

but eating makes a big difference when  
trying to maintain your temperature.

**[05:19] Ta**

Open your mouth. Here.

**[05:24] S**

I feel like I've had this before.

**[05:29] Ta**

That's impossible.

**[05:31] Ta**

This is a secret recipe for mochi  
from the place where I grew up,

**[05:34] Ta**

and I've also adjusted the flavoring a little.

**[05:37] S**

Yeah?

**[05:40] S**

That's strange.

**[05:42] S**

I remember eating this...

**[05:51] S**

Was that a gunshot?

**[05:52] S**

Or thunder?

**[05:54] Ta**

In the middle of a blizzard, you can be  
shouting at each other and still get lost.

**[06:02] Ta**

You can't trust your sense of direction here.

**SIGN** What's wrong?

**SIGN** What are you doing there?

**[06:15] K**

The man who lives here?

**SIGN** Our friends are lost nearby!

**SIGN** Come with me!

**SIGN** This way! Hurry!!

**SIGN** This way! Hurry!!

**SIGN** We haven't used this for a while. The inside is sooty, so wipe it clean.

**[06:52] Ts**

What's this?

**[06:55] Ta**

Being in this cold hole  
reminds me of the trenches.

**[07:04] Ta**

Don't go to sleep, Sugimoto.

**[07:07] Ta**

You'll die.

**[07:09] S**

Yeah.

**[07:13] S**

It's cold.

**[07:20] (Flashback) S**

It's cold, Toraji.

**[07:23] (Flashback) Toraji**

I want to go home, Saichi.

**[07:31] (Flashback) Toraji**

I want to go home.

**[07:59] ---**

...imoto.

**[08:04] S**

Asirpa-san...

**[08:06] A**

Sugimoto.

**[08:16] S**

Light...

**[08:20] S**

Hey, can you see that light?

**[08:23] S**

Is it the moon?

**[08:24] Ta**

No. It's been exactly two months since we attacked Abashiri.

**[08:29] Ta**

The moon shouldn't be that big.

**[08:32] S**

It's shining...

**[08:34] S**

That's not moonlight.

**[08:36] S**

That's...

**[08:38] S**

A lighthouse!

**[08:41] Ts**

Lieutenant...

**[08:42] Ts**

Lieutenant Koito.

**[08:44] Ts**

Please don't wander around in front of the lens.

**[08:47] Ts**

You're blocking the light.

**SIGN** Tsuru

**[09:06] K**

This "sushka" goes very well with tea.

**[09:12] K**

I'd love to have Lieutenant Tsurumi try it.

**SIGN** This way.

**[09:20] Ts**

The warmest spot in this  
room is above the pechka.

**[09:24] Ts**

The Russians sleep there, too.

**[09:28] Koito**

They look like bugs.

**[09:33] Ts**

You got lucky.

**[09:37] Ts**

This lighthouse hasn't been used  
since the Russo-Japanese War.

**[09:41] Ts**

And if these people weren't here,  
you'd be frozen solid right now.

**SIGN** Thank you!

**[09:58] S**

Sorry for burning your sled.

**[10:04] S**

You're done?

**[10:04] S**

Wow, and you just made this  
with what was lying around!

**[10:07] S**

This is amazing!

**[10:08] S**

Amazing, Henke!

**[10:10] Ts**

Okay, now we can go!

**[10:13] Ts**

Looking back, I think the reason  
Ryu broke off from the line

**[10:18] Ts**

was that he was trying to  
stay with the other sled.

**[10:22] S**

Sorry for doubting you.

**[10:24] S**

You're a great dog.

**[10:27] S**

You can be a great sled dog, too!

**[10:32] Koito**

Tsukishima, the hammer froze to my hand!

**[10:36] Ts**

That's what'll happen if you touch  
metal bare-handed at this temperature.

**[10:39] Ts**

If you try to rip it off,  
it'll tear away the skin on your hand.

**[10:44] Ts**

Somebody piss on it to melt it.

**[10:49] S**

I can do it.

**[10:57] S**

Show me your hand.

**[11:10] S**

What's this soup?

**[11:12] S**

It's bright red!

**[11:14] Ts**

This is borscht.

**[11:16] Ts**

The red comes from a vegetable called a "beet."

**[11:19] Chi**

What's Russian for "yummy"?

**[11:23] Ts**

Vkusno.

**[11:24] Chi**

Vkusno!

**[11:25] Ts**

Vkusno.

**[11:26] Chi**

Vkusno!

**[11:28] ---**

**[11:32] Ts**

It's normally just the two of them,  
so they're happy to have the company.

**[11:36] S**

You don't have any family?

**[11:39] Koi**

Is that your daughter in that photo?

**[11:45] S**

What's wrong?

**[11:47] ---**

**[11:51] Ts**

The three of us lived here in peace,  
watching the lighthouse, since before the war.

**[11:59] Ts**

But one day, a Russian deserter  
appeared and lived here for a while.

**[12:06] Ts**

He took away their only daughter.

**[12:12] Ts**

They searched for her, but didn't find her.

**[12:16] Ts**

The military and government did nothing.

**[12:21] Ts**

When the Japanese landed in Karafuto,

**[12:25] Ts**

the Russian government had given them  
explosives to destroy the lighthouse,

**[12:29] Ts**

to keep it from being used by the Japanese.

**[12:32] Ts**

But when the Japanese army came,

**[12:34] Ts**

they were so angry at the Russian  
government that they handed it over.

**[12:38] Ts**

Later, another lighthouse  
was built to the north,

**[12:41] Ts**

and there was no need for this place.

**[12:44] Ts**

But the two of them stay here and  
wait for their daughter's return.

**[12:59] S**

So because of what happened with  
their daughter, the lighthouse remained,

**[13:03] S**

and our lives were saved, huh?

**[13:08] S**

Can I take a photo of your daughter?

**[13:15] S**

What's her name?

**SIGN** Svetlana.

**SIGN** Thank you for everything!

**SIGN** Please!

**SIGN** Please find our daughter! Find Svetlana!

**[13:32] Ts**

Hey, Sugimoto.

**[13:35] S**

I know.

**[13:36] S**

It won't take too much time

to ask around on our travels.

**[13:40] S**

I can't leave without  
doing nothing in return.

**[13:43] S**

Ma'am, please put this photo  
of mine in that empty frame.

**[13:48] S**

If this Ainu girls comes by,  
tell her that Saichi Sugimoto is alive.

**[13:57] S**

Okay, go!

**[14:00] ---**

Toh! Toh! Toh!

**SIGN** Golden Kamuy

**[14:20] S**

Asirpa.

**[14:21] S**

Asirpa.

**SIGN** Never seen her.

**[14:24] S**

Okay...

**[14:26] S**

What about her?

**SIGN** Never seen her.

**[14:30] Narr**

*Sugimoto's group was staying at a  
Karafuto Ainu village near Niitoi.*

**SIGN** Border

**SIGN** Sugimoto's Position

**[14:37] Narr**

*There were only 140 kilometers  
left until the border.*

**[14:42] A**

Cikapasi, listen!

**[14:44] A**

There was a meko oyasi sighted  
in this village a while ago!

**[14:47] C**

What's that? Is it scary?

**[14:50] A**

A cat monster found in the  
legends of the Karafuto Ainu!

**[14:55] A**

Someone dropped all their stuff  
on the beach and went to work,

**[14:58] A**

and a meko oyasi appeared!

**[15:01] A**

They fled on their ship, and a bunch  
of the things appeared on the beach!

**[15:05] A**

They were staring at the ship and howling!

**[15:10] A**

A big cat the size of a dog,  
with red and white spots!

**[15:15] T**

A large mountain cat.

**[15:19] Koito**

Sure it's not Ogata Hyakunosuke?

**[15:21] T**

Why Ogata?

**[15:26] Koito**

The child of a mountain cat  
is a mountain cat.

**[15:30] S**

What's that mean?

**[15:32] T**

"Mountain cat" is slang for geisha.

**[15:36] T**

It's a dumb joke the men in  
the division used to tell.

**[15:40] S**

That really is dumb.

**[15:43] Koito**

Given his personality,  
a lot of men didn't like him.

**[15:47] Koito**

I hate him.

**[15:50] Koito**

"Mountain cat" also means  
to con or deceive somebody.

**[15:56] Koito**

Sounds perfect for him, right?

**[15:59] Koito**

Or am I wrong, Sugimoto?

**[16:03] Cikapasi**

What happened to the meko oyasi?

**[16:07] A**

They came back later, and there were lots  
of paw prints, and all their stuff was gone.

**[16:12] A**

Their clothes, their shoes,  
their bags, all of it!

**[16:16] C**

They ate it?

**[16:18] A**

Maybe.

**[16:20] C**

Even their tobacco cases?

**[16:23] A**

No. Those stink. They wouldn't eat them, I don't think.

**[16:27] C**

Scary.

**[16:30] K**

If there's any lesson to be had in that bizarre story,

**[16:33] K**

it's that it's best to kill thieving cats.

**[16:52] A**

What are these prints?

**[16:55] A**

They're like a meko, but too big!

**[16:58] Sh**

What's a meko?

**[17:00] A**

A cat.

**[17:02] A**

It means "those that die in cold."

**[17:04] Sh**

You couldn't give them a cuter name?

**[17:07] K**

Those are the prints of a mountain cat.

**[17:10] A**

Is this a meko oyasi?

**[17:13] A**

So this was the cat monster

Aca once told me about!

**[17:20] (Flashback) Wilk**

Their shoes, their clothes, their bags, their ropes, it was all gone.

**[17:24] (Flashback) Wilk**

Maybe the meko oyasi ate it!

**[17:27] (Flashback) A**

Even their tobacco cases?

**[17:29] K**

Yeah. I hunted one with Wilk, just once.

**[17:33] K**

We made a ton off its pelt.

**[17:35] A**

What did it taste like?

**[17:37] K**

Not good. Very gamy.

**[17:40] K**

Your father seemed to hate it.

**[17:44] A**

I see... so the cat monster  
doesn't taste good, huh?

**[17:50] A**

It's the first time I've ever  
heard that story about Aca!

**[17:55] K**

Do you want to know more?

**[17:58] K**

There's a woman named Sofia  
who knew the old Wilk well.

**[18:04] K**

She was brave and well-educated. Our leader.

**[18:13] K**

And very beautiful.

**[18:16] K**

We both looked up to her.

**[18:21] A**

Aca did...

**[18:22] A**

I didn't know there was anyone like that.

**[18:25] A**

I want to meet her.

**[18:27] A**

Where is she?

**[18:30] K**

Aleksandrovsak-Sakhalinsky...

**[18:34] K**

Ako.

**[18:36] K**

*Aleksandrovsak-Sakhalinsky,  
also known as "Ako,"*

**SIGN** Ako

**SIGN** Border

**[18:41] K**

*is a major city in the  
Russian part of Karafuto.*

**[18:45] K**

*Since 1858,*

**[18:47] K**

*Karafuto was used as a place  
to exile criminals from the mainland.*

**[18:54] K**

*And Ako was the place they first landed.*

**[18:59] K**

*Aleksandrovsk-Sakhalinsky Prison holds, at the height of its use, about 1,700 prisoners.*

**SIGN** Aleksandrovsk-Sakhalinsky Prison  
(Ako Prison)

**[19:08] K**

*Male prisoners had half their hair cut,*

**[19:12] K**

*and were primarily forced to do hard labor in mining and construction.*

**[19:16] K**

*Those who escaped would be brought back and whipped.*

**[19:21] K**

*Those who tried more than once would be tied to a wheelbarrow*

**[19:24] K**

*that would stay with them even as they ate and slept.*

**[19:26] ---**

Хорошо!

**[19:29] K**

They're kept in Ako Prison.

**[19:34] K**

There's no evidence,  
so they can't be executed.

**[19:37] K**

But they're kept locked away in secret.

**[19:40] K**

She was the one behind our plot  
to assassinate the emperor.

**SIGN** You were too soft. I went to sleep!

**[19:53] K**

Sofia Goldenhand.

**[19:56] K**

She would commit crimes  
to fund our activities.

**[20:00] K**

So she was given the name  
"Golden Hand" at court.

**[20:06] Sh**

A woman?

**[20:07] Sh**

Your boss was a woman?

**[20:09] K**

Yeah.

**[20:10] K**

She would know things  
about Wilk that I don't know.

**[20:18] A**

Ako Prison...

**[20:20] A**

If we go there...

**[20:35] A**

Ogata,

**[20:37] A**

we're heading to Ako!

**[20:44] A**

Was something there?

**[20:46] A**

Let's go.

**SIGN** A female prisoner can leave if she gets married.

**SIGN** You're young.

Find a man and get married, Svetlana.

**SIGN** You have a letter, Sofia Goldenhand.

**SIGN** Yulbars!

**SIGN** You've come back, huh, kid?

**SIGN** Next Time

Manslayer

**[23:35] Narr**

Next time: "Manslayer"!

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