

E7 - Idea 7

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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.)

[00:01] Una

One evening, as I was washing
my hair in the bath...

[00:14] Una

I felt like I was being watched,
but of course nobody was there.

[00:22] Una

What was that, I wonder.

[00:24] Shi

That's so scary, huh?!

[00:25] God

I feel ya.

[00:27] Shi

God?

[00:29] God

This is my next divine request.

[00:32] God

That's really scary,
so do something about it.

SIGN Heaven's Design Team

[02:07] Shi

The official request is for
an animal that's watching

[02:12] Shi

even though it looks like nothing's there.

[02:14] Una

That's so ridiculous.

[02:16] Miz

Well, it's par for the course.

[02:18] Mei

Maybe it was an ex who was staring at you?

[02:22] Una

Please don't say things that really are scary.

[02:26] Shi

How about an animal that blends in with

its surroundings like a chameleon?

[02:30] Miz

Hey, your mental image is wrong.

[02:33] Miz

The chameleon is bad at camouflage.

[02:36] Miz

This panther chameleon was already accepted.

[02:39] Miz

The chameleon doesn't change its color
after looking at its surroundings.

[02:43] Miz

It's based on the lighting or its mood.

[02:46] Shi

Its mood?!

[02:47] Miz

For instance, when a male meets
a female he fancies...

SIGN 2 Minutes Later

SIGN 3 Minutes Later

[02:56] Shi

That's so slow.

[02:58] Una

That reminds me of the squids
you made, Pluto-chan.

[03:01] Una

They also change color,
but they do it super fast.

[03:04] Una

How does that work?

[03:06] Mei

Squids have chromatophores on
the surface of their bodies,

[03:09] Mei

and can change color with their muscles.

SIGN Chromatophores

[03:11] Mei

Flexing or relaxing them can make
the change happen in an instant.

[03:15] Shi

That sounds like it could qualify as

[03:17] Shi

"that's watching even though it
looks like nothing's there."

[03:20] Miz

Let's try it in a simulation.

[03:27] Shi

Did we have to go this far?

[03:31] Una

Well, reproducibility and field testing are important.

[03:35] Mzi

All right, Pluto-chan, bring out your squid.

[03:38] Mei

Coming right up!

[03:39] Una

Scrub, scrub... Scrub, scrub...

[03:46] Una

There's a squid there.

[03:48] Una

It's too obvious that there's a squid there. Mostly the eyes.

[03:51] Una

And that jiggly three-dimensionality looks so tasty.

[03:54] Miz

No good, huh?

[03:55] Una

Besides, why is the squid even in the bath?

[03:58] Una

What's the situation? What does the squid want to do behind my back?

[04:02] Miz

This strange situation has made him oddly rational.

[04:06] Miz

I guess the squid has its limits.

[04:08] Mei

Then how about making a creature that becomes transparent in water?

[04:12] Miz

We'd need engineering help for that.

[04:14] Mei

I mean, lifeforms are made of water.

[04:17] Mei

Maybe we can just make a fish with transparent blood?

[04:20] Hig

That'll be difficult.

SIGN Prototype Lab

[04:22] Hig

The oxygen transporter, hemoglobin, is the reason blood is red.

[04:26] Hig

If you take that out,

blood can't transport oxygen.

[04:29] Mei

Then how about forcing the blood plasma to transport it?

SIGN Blood Plasma

[04:32] Mei

Plasma is essentially transparent.

[04:34] Hig

You could, but the efficiency would be terrible.

[04:37] Una

Then make the heart bigger and the veins thicker.

[04:41] Mei

Let's also add cutaneous respiration!

[04:43] Mei

Then it can take in oxygen directly from the surrounding water.

[04:46] Miz

Okay!

[04:48] Shi

God has spoken!

[04:49] God

Accepted!

SIGN Crocodile

Icefish

SIGN Accepted

[04:52] Mei

Let's put it in the tub right away!

[04:55] Hig

The tub?

[05:03] Una

I know it's weird to say something after it was accepted,

[05:06] Una

but it would be terrifying if you locked eyes with that in the tub.

[05:10] Shi

Oh, we got a follow-up request.

[05:12] Shi

Um, could you make it so you can't lock eyes with it?

[05:17] Shi

Can the eyes be made transparent?

[05:19] Miz

That's impossible.

[05:20] Meid

Suppose you were an invisible angel.

Then your eyes would be transparent, too.

[05:25] Meid

Your retinas could not absorb the light hitting the eye. It would just pass through.

[05:31] Shi

Does that mean my invisible self wouldn't be able to see anything?

[05:35] Mei

Correct.

[05:37] Mei

While nobody could see you, you would also not be able to see anyone.

[05:42] Mei

You would be able to experience true loneliness.

[05:44] Mei

How wonderful!

[05:46] Shi

I-I see. And I always thought being invisible would be fun...

[05:51] Una

Even if you wanted to prank someone, if you can't see anything...

[05:55] Miz

If we can't make the eyes disappear,

[05:57] Miz

how about adding eyes to creatures that the naked eye cannot see?

[06:01] Miz

Like a single-celled organism in the water?

[06:03] Una

That means at first, it'll look like normal water.

[06:06] Una

But if you zoom in...

[06:12] Both

That's super terrifying!

[06:14] Miz

I-Is it no good?

[06:17] Shi

God has spoken!

[06:18] God

Accepted!

SIGN Accepted

SIGN Single-Celled Organism

With an Eye

(Dinoflagellate)

[06:22] Hgi

A single-celled organism
only has, well, one cell.

[06:26] Hgi

And you want to add an eye
to it? Are you serious?

[06:29] Miz

Simple and multipurpose is
my forte. We can do it.

[06:33] Miz

Let's do our best together, Mars-san.

[06:35] Hig

Yeah, yeah. I'll be counting on you.

[06:38] Una

The request was to make
a scary story not so scary.

[06:42] Una

Why did that result in a
scary creature being born?

[06:46] Una

I would have preferred having a cute,

[06:48] Una

small, transparent fish there when
I feel someone looking at me

[06:51] Una

from a place that looks empty.

[06:54] God

I feel you!

[06:57] Shi

"Watching, even though nobody's there"...
Isn't that God?

SIGN The Illustrated Guide to Creatures That Really Exist

[07:04] Ken

The Illustrated Guide to Creatures
That Really Exist!

[07:08] Shi

I didn't know that chameleons
change color based on their mood.

[07:13] Shi

I always thought that was for camouflage.

[07:15] Miz

Chameleons turn black when
they're stressed out or depressed.

[07:18] Shi

They're so sensitive.

[07:20] Shi

It's so interesting that there are creatures

that change color based on their mood.

[07:23] Miz

I think you'd change color, too.

[07:26] Miz

Their color also changes based on the sun.

[07:28] Miz

When it's hot, it goes into
infrared reflection mode,

[07:31] Miz

so its body temperature
doesn't get too high.

[07:33] Shi

So when it's in a light spot,

[07:35] Shi

it gets lighter to reflect the sun,
and when it's in a dark spot, it gets dark—

[07:40] Shi

Wait? Isn't this camouflage?

[07:43] Miz

Yeah, often that's the result.

[07:47] Shi

I see!

[07:50] Miz

See? You changed color.

[07:59] All

Wow!

[08:01] All

So pretty!

[08:04] All

Nice!

[08:06] Tsu

I'm worried.

[08:09] Tsu

Ever since that big fireworks show,

[08:11] Tsu

my grandson Kenta has only been sighing.

[08:16] Ken

I want to meet them again.

[08:18] Tsu

He was drawing something like a portrait.

[08:22] Tsu

I thought it might be my
grandson's first love.

[08:26] Tsu

So I decided to create the
object of his first love.

[08:35] Shi

C-Create?

[08:38] Shi

This situation has gone mad all of a sudden!

[08:41] Shi

What do you mean by "create"?

[08:44] Miz

Wouldn't it be faster to
find the other child?

[08:47] Miz

Pluto-chan was there, too.
Why don't you ask her to help?

[08:52] Tsu

Well, I did go and ask her, but...

[08:57] (Flashback) Mei

I didn't really see anyone like that.
It was very crowded, anyway.

[09:00] (Flashback) Tsu

I see. Sorry for bothering
you when you're busy.

[09:04] (Flashback) Tsu

What are you working on, anyway?

[09:06] (Flashback) Mei

A "creature with eyes that stand out."

[09:09] (Flashback) Mei

I went to the fireworks
because I wanted to see how

[09:12] (Flashback) Mei

the prototype for this nocturnal
animal would react.

[09:14] (Flashback) Tsu

Oh, for the internal competition!

[09:16] (Flashback) Tsu

I might submit something, too.

[09:19] (Flashback) Tsu

The person my grandson wanted to
meet was "cute, with big eyes."

[09:22] (Flashback) Mei

Sounds nice!

[09:24] Tsu

So since I have no leads, I decided
to just create something.

[09:29] Shi

Huh... By the way, why is Pluto-san
staying in a tent on Galapagos?

[09:34] Kan

In order to push herself.

[09:36] Kan

Even though she's in the middle of nature,

[09:38] Kan

she's not even stepping outside of the tent.

[09:40] Kan

It's like she locked
herself in a can to work.

[09:42] Shi

She's very stoic, huh?

SIGN Prototype Lab

[09:44] Tsu

The base is done already.

[09:46] Tsu

Kenta will be so happy!

[09:48] Shi

I don't think seeing something that has a
vague resemblance is what Kenta wanted.

[09:54] Miz

He wanted to have another encounter,
so of course he'll be happy.

[09:57] Shi

I'm surrounded by madmen!

[09:59] Tsu

Here we are!

[10:07] Tsu

I think this is what the
base should look like.

[10:09] Tsu

What do you think?

[10:10] Miz

It looks just like your grandson's drawing.

[10:12] Shi

I really don't think so!

[10:15] Hig

Listen, about this kid...

[10:16] Shi

Finally, a voice of reason!

[10:18] Hig

If the eyes are this big, I can't
make muscles to move the eyeballs.

[10:23] Hig

There's not enough room in its skull.

[10:25] Shi

Wait, that's your objection?!

[10:27] Hig

Eyeballs need quite a lot
of space in the back.

[10:30] Hig

If the eyes are this big,
they'll fill the entire skull cavity.

[10:36] Shi

Hm, but Mercury-san, didn't the ostrich
that you designed also have big eyes?

[10:40] Miz

The ostrich also doesn't have room
for muscles to move the eyes.

[10:44] Miz

That's why I made it so it moves
its entire head to look at things.

[10:48] Tsu

Next, we have this tongue here.

[10:51] Tsu

Mercury-kun, you made an
animal like this, right?

[10:54] Miz

The gecko.

[10:55] Miz

Since it doesn't have eyelids, it licks its
eyes with its tongue to lubricate them.

[10:59] Shi

It's sort of cute.

[11:01] Tsu

I see. You mean like this?

[11:05] Shi

Th-That's not cute!

[11:07] Miz

Chief,

[11:09] Miz

might this line in the eye
be a winking expression?

[11:12] Miz

That suggests there are eyelids.

[11:14] Tsu

Oh, right. Then let's make the
long tongue be for feeding.

[11:19] Miz

One more thing.

[11:21] Miz

This detail here by the mouth.

[11:23] Miz

Could there be two tongues?

[11:26] Miz

That would mean there's one for
grooming and one for feeding.

[11:31] Tsu

I see! Let's go with that idea, too.

[11:36] Shi

Oh, no! Kenta-kun's first love...

[11:39] Shi

Aren't we drifting further and further from the answer here?

[11:41] Shi

But maybe I should just be happy the base wasn't a horse.

[11:44] Tsu

Mars-kun, what do you think?

[11:46] Hig

Well, what kind of food are we looking at?

[11:49] Tsu

Since there are two eyes facing forward,

[11:51] Tsu

this is not an herbivore, but a carnivore.

[11:54] Shi

You can tell from just the position of the eyes?

[11:57] Hig

Having eyes on the sides gives you a wider field of vision,

[11:59] Hig

which means you can spot your enemies better.

[12:01] Hig

That's for animals who want to flee from other animals, or herbivores.

[12:04] Shi

Aha...

[12:06] Hig

On the flip side, having eyes facing forward

[12:07] Hig

grants a wider area where the fields of vision overlap.

[12:09] Hig

That gives you better depth perception and lets you know the distance to your prey.

[12:13] Shi

Ah, so animals that want to catch other animals!

[12:16] Tsu

This animal runs and chases its prey.

[12:22] Shi

Every aspect just makes it scarier.

[12:25] Hig

But if the jaw is this small,

[12:27] Hig

it won't have enough power to
tear apart big pieces of meat.

[12:30] Miz

Should we make it swallow the
prey whole, like a snake?

[12:32] Miz

You can make the jaw split sideways and
remove the sternum to open up the rib cage.

SIGN Sternum

[12:36] Miz

Then swallowing prey whole will be easy.

SIGN Snakes don't have one

[12:44] Hig

You need the sternum to attach
the muscles that move the arms.

[12:48] Hig

The snake's fine because
it doesn't have arms.

[12:50] Miz

I guess swallowing whole is out, then.

[12:52] Hig

I don't think explosiveness
or stamina are a thing here.

[12:55] Hig

At best, we're looking at
catching slow insects.

[12:58] Miz

Insects...

[13:01] Miz

Then this must be a snail!

[13:06] Tsu

That's it!

[13:07] Shi

Are you sure?!

[13:10] Tsu

All right, that's the spitting
image of the drawing!

[13:13] Tsu

What do you think?
Will it be love on first sight?

[13:15] Miz

It would be for me!

[13:17] Shi

They've created a monstrosity!

[13:19] Tsu

Shimoda-kun, don't be shy.

Let us know what you think.

[13:21] Shi

Well, um, just one thing...

[13:25] Shi

Maybe it's lacking a little bit of cuteness.

[13:29] Tsu

Cuteness... That's an area
we're not very good at.

[13:32] Hig

Oh, I remember Neptune-san adding hair and
saying cute animals need to be fluffy.

[13:38] Tsu

That's it! Let's focus on
cuteness and fluff it up!

[13:43] Tsu

It's done!

SIGN My Grandson's

First Love

[13:45] Miz

It's spot-on, Saturn-san!

[13:47] Shi

*I feel so sorry for your memories
of your first love, Kenta-kun!*

[13:51] Mei

I'm back.

[13:55] Mei

Exactly the same!?

[13:56] Tsu

Why?!

[13:59] Tsu

We were trying to recreate
my grandson's drawing.

[14:03] Mei

Oh, that's me.

[14:05] Shi

This little one?

[14:07] Mei

No, no, I'm here.

[14:09] Shi

Oh, so it's not a drawing of the fireworks?

[14:12] Mei

And next to me is this guy.

[14:14] Mei

We ran into Kenta-kun as I was
handing it a snail snack,

[14:17] Mei

so the drawing must be of that.

[14:19] Mei

The prototype was much bigger, too.

[14:22] Mei

Because the eyes are too big to move,
the entire neck can swivel all the way around.

[14:26] Mei

It has two tongues, too.

[14:28] Tsu

Same for ours.

[14:30] Miz

They're perfectly identical!

[14:31] Shi

W-Wait, so the "first love" was spot-on?

[14:36] Shi

And God has spoken!

[14:38] God

Accepted!

SIGN Philippine

Tarsier

SIGN Accepted

[14:41] Mei

Yay! Locking myself in paid off!

[14:44] Tsu

We unknowingly traced your steps.

[14:47] Miz

Kenta-kun's observational
powers are amazing.

[14:50] Shi

After that, the one that Saturn-san made...

[14:54] Ken

I finally found you again!

[14:56] Ken

I missed you!

[14:57] Miz

You did it, Chief!

[14:58] Tsu

Yeah!

[14:58] Ken

I wanted to see you!

[15:00] Shi

I-I'm... happy for you.

[15:01] Ken

So cute!

[15:10] Hig

I don't think the ear canal
should be any bigger.

[15:14] Shi

Mars-san, how's progress?

[15:17] Hig

We're working on "an animal
with good hearing."

[15:20] Tsu

Oh, no! I can see the
eyeball through the ear!

[15:24] Tsu

It might accidentally come out that way!

[15:27] Shi

I've seen you before.

[15:29] Hig

That's why you can't make it so big.

[15:31] Shi

Wasn't this Kenta-kun's little friend?

[15:34] Tsu

I'm redesigning it into
"an animal with good hearing."

[15:38] Tsu

Look, aren't these ears great?

[15:41] Tsu

The ridges are there for a reason, too.

[15:44] Tsu

The sound hits these ridges, which allows the
animal to know where the sound is coming from.

SIGN Sound

[15:49] Tsu

If we can't make the ear canal too big,

[15:52] Tsu

I'll have to improve this area instead.

[15:54] Shi

You mean make them bigger,
like with elephants?

[15:58] Tsu

Elephants don't have good hearing.

[16:00] Shi

Really? But their ears are so big!

[16:02] Hig

You know how you cup your ears like
this when you try to hear something?

[16:07] Hig

A parabolic shape is better
for gathering sound.

SIGN Sound

SIGN Sound

SIGN Sound

[16:10] Tsu

The elephant's ears are
flat and have no ridges.

[16:13] Hig

Because the elephant's ears are heat sinks.

[16:16] Shi

That's right! They get heat
stroke without those ears.

[16:19] Shi

So they can't hear well, huh?

[16:22] Tsu

But their feet can.

[16:24] Shi

Their feet?

[16:28] Tsu

Elephants detect the vibrations
of the ground with their feet,

[16:31] Tsu

and send them through their
bones to their ears.

[16:34] Tsu

It's bone conductivity of a sort.

[16:36] Tsu

When they want to hear better,
they press their feet into the ground,

[16:42] Tsu

similar to how we might press
our ear against a wall.

[16:44] Shi

That's a little bit cute!

[16:46] Tsu

Anyway, this ear is cup-shaped,
and with the round ridges, it's ideal!

[16:52] Shi

So that's why a lot of animals
have this ear shape.

[16:55] Tsu

I was the one who designed
the base model of this ear,

[16:59] Tsu

but this time, I am looking to
make something even better!

[17:02] Shi

*When there are no horses involved,
Saturn-san's quite impressive.*

[17:06] Hig

These ears might be even better at gathering
sound if they can move freely

[17:10] Hig

to match the angle that the sound is coming from.

[17:12] Tsu

I see. How about this?

[17:18] Shi

That's a little scary.

[17:20] Hig

Should the ear canals stay on the sides of the head?

[17:22] Hig

If they're on the sides, they can pick up sound from all directions,

[17:25] Hig

but it'll make it hard to hear small sounds.

[17:27] Tsu

Right.

[17:28] Tsu

Then let's bring them to the front.

[17:32] ---

There!

[17:34] Tsu

This will up the sensitivity!

[17:36] Hig

If you specialize in one direction, the sensitivity will go up,

[17:40] Hig

but it also means that they have to move their head toward sound sources all the time.

[17:43] Tsu

That's fine. This model can turn its neck.

[17:47] Tsu

Since the neck itself grew, too, it can also bend up and down.

[17:51] Tsu

Lucky!

[17:53] Tsu

Let's test if this is good enough to catch prey just with sound, without relying on vision.

[17:57] Tsu

Shimoda-kun, please be the prey.

[17:59] ---

Huh?

[18:00] ---

Uh...

[18:02] ---

What?!

[18:05] Shi

I couldn't refuse...

[18:10] Shi

It's coming for me!

[18:13] Tsu

How did you know it's coming?

[18:15] Shi

I mean, the footsteps...

[18:17] Tsu

Oh, that. Okay, let's add wings and make it fly.

[18:23] Shi

We're not done yet?

[18:25] Tus

Let's adjust the ears too.

[18:27] Shi

Huh, why?

[18:28] Hig

That's revolutionary!

[18:30] Hig

You see, ears can tell where a sound is coming from based on which ear heard it first.

[18:35] Hig

By shifting them up and down,

[18:36] Hig

they can detect a sound's height as well as its direction!

[18:38] Hig

That's Saturn-san's genius!

[18:40] Tsu

All right! Now detection is possible no matter where Shimoda-kun runs.

[18:44] Shi

This is even more terrifying.

[18:50] Shi

*I can't sense it anywhere...
but there's really nowhere to hide.*

[18:59] Tsu

Aw, how did you know it was flying at you?

[19:02] Shi

I heard its wings flapping.

[19:05] Tsu

This is Mars-san's territory.

[19:07] Tsu

Any good ideas?

[19:09] Hig

Making the flight feathers jagged might

disperse the sound, and thus lower the volume.

SIGN Smooth

SIGN Jagged

[19:15] Tsu

I see!

[19:16] Tsu

Let's do another test!

[19:17] Shi

A-Again?!

[19:22] Shi

I'm sorry... I haven't been attacked yet,
but it's there, right?

[19:28] Tsu

What? How could you tell?

[19:30] Shi

I mean, when it's twisting its head around,

[19:32] Shi

the ears flap around and
are really noticeable.

[19:35] Tsu

You're right.

[19:37] Tsu

The ears are holding it back.

[19:39] Shi

Weren't they the whole point?!

[19:43] Tsu

All right, let's squash
the ears into the face.

[19:47] Tsu

Then its silhouette won't change
even when it's turning its head.

[19:51] Hig

I think that's good.

[19:52] Shi

It is?

[19:53] Tsu

Then I'll gather all the
ideas and present you with...

[19:55] Tsu

An animal with good hearing!

[19:58] Shi

God has spoken!

SIGN Owl

[19:59] God

Accepted!

SIGN Accepted

[20:03] Shi

I'm glad it's not the scary one from before.

[20:07] Shi

Saturn-san, where did the
all-important parabola ears go?

[20:11] Tsu

This round depression on the face.

[20:14] Hig

The entire face is a parabola,

[20:16] Hig

so it can focus the sound in the ear
by moving the surrounding feathers.

[20:20] Tsu

By the way, its skull looks like this.

SIGN Left Ear

SIGN Right Ear

[20:24] Tsu

The ear canals are facing the front
and are vertically misaligned.

[20:27] Shi

So you kept that long neck as-is.

[20:31] Tsu

As you can see, the silhouette is the
same no matter which way it faces.

[20:34] Shi

I'm glad. Since its previous look
is gone, I don't find it as scary.

[20:40] Tsu

What are you talking about?

[20:41] Tsu

The chicks look basically the same as that.

SIGN Barn Owl Chicks

[20:47] Hig

You can also still see the
eyeball through its ear canal.

[20:50] Hig

Wanna look?

[20:51] Shi

I'll pass!

[20:54] Tsu

The flight feathers have a stealth mode.

[20:56] Shi

Amazing! Every feature made it in.

[21:00] Shi

You're really good, Saturn-san!

SIGN Brown

SIGN Black

SIGN White

[21:02] Tsu

Incidentally, they have the same color scheme as the horse.

[21:05] Shi

Y-You worked the horse in?

[21:06] Hig

Saturn-san, you never miss a beat.

[21:09] Kan

Yay, another highly-evolved birdie!

[21:13] Shi

Oh, Saturn-san designed that.

[21:16] Kan

Let's make you even cuter.

[21:17] Shi

Oh, but it has that silhouette for a reason—

[21:22] Shi

God has spoken!

[21:23] God

That's accepted, too!

SIGN Accepted

SIGN Horned Owl

[21:26] Shi

Why?!

SIGN The Illustrated Guide to Creatures That Really Exist

[21:28] Ken

The Illustrated Guide to Creatures That Really Exist!

[21:33] Tsu

There are these ear-like things on its head, but they're not ears, right?

[21:37] Kan

Yes, just like other owls, the ears are in this area of the face.

[21:42] Tsu

So what are these pointy things here?

[21:44] Kan

Decorative feathers.

[21:46] Tsu

What are they for?

[21:46] Kan

Nothing! They're just cute!

[21:49] Kan

Wait, I'll think of something...

[21:53] Kan

How about this? They look like leaves, so they help with camouflage!

[21:56] Tsu

I feel like not having them
would work even better.

[21:58] Tsu

When it moves its head, they'll stand out.

[22:01] Kan

Now that you mention it...

[22:03] Kan

Wait, then why was it accepted?

[22:06] Kan

It would be better to not
have these pointy feathers.

[22:09] Tsu

God's ways are mysterious.

[22:12] Kan

You're so right! I knew it!

SIGN Next on the Agenda

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