

E8 - A Book, an Affair, and a Mermaid

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.)

[00:03] Adashino

Sumireko-san, do you have a moment?

[00:06] Sumireko

Hm?

[00:06] Adashino

We have a customer looking for this title. Do you recognize it?

SIGN Farting: the Complete

[00:10] Sumireko

Farting: the Complete Collection?

[00:13] Sumireko

It should be over there on the culture and folktales shelf.

[00:16] Adashino

Huh? It's an actual book?

[00:19] Adashino

Is this the one?

[00:21] customer A

Yes, it is!

[00:22] customer A

This is the one! I'm so glad!

[00:25] Adashino

Thank you.

[00:27] Adashino

You really saved me.

[00:29] Sumireko

You can thank me with a can of coffee.

[00:31] Adashino

Working in a bookstore makes me realize

[00:33] Adashino

how many books are out there that I've never heard of.

[00:38] Sumireko

And there are more being published every day.

[00:41] Sumireko

I just can't get enough.

[00:42] Adashino

But, Sumireko-san,

[00:45] Adashino

you know pretty much every
book in this store, don't you?

[00:48] Adashino

It's creepy.

[00:49] Sumireko

You don't get to diss me!

[00:52] Sumireko

That's one more can of coffee.

[00:54] Adashino

What?

[00:56] Sumireko

I can't help being obsessive about books.

[00:59] Sumireko

There are some I've been looking for forever.

[01:01] Sumireko

In my search, I end up remembering others.

[01:03] Adashino

"Forever"? How long have you
been unable to find them?

[01:08] Sumireko

A really long time.

[01:10] Sumireko

I read them so many times,
but I can't remember the titles.

[01:15] Sumireko

The only lead I have is this feeling
that they were really absorbing.

[01:19] Sumireko

Looking for them is one reason
I work in a bookstore.

[01:23] Adashino

Isn't it just that your memory's lacking?

[01:26] Sumireko

Silence, boy!

[01:27] Sumireko

That's three cans of coffee now!

[01:34] Adashino

Welcome.

[01:36] (Flashback) Adashino

To stay alive and return home...

[01:39] (Flashback) Adashino

That's our goal as siblings.

[01:42] Sumireko; internal

I see.

[01:44] Sumireko; internal

One day, you'll be gone, too.

SIGN Mysterious Disappearances

SIGN Mysterious Disappearances

SIGN A Book, an Affair, and a Mermaid

SIGN A Book, an Affair, and a Mermaid

[03:19] Sumireko

I got three cans of coffee out of him.

[03:34] Sumireko; narration

When I was a child,

[03:36] Sumireko; narration

I had severe trouble talking to others.

[03:39] Sumireko; narration

It wasn't that I had nothing I wanted to say—

[03:42] Sumireko; narration

rather, the opposite.

[03:44] Sumireko; narration

Extreme heat melted the words into goo.

[03:46] Sumireko; narration

They'd blend together in my head
so that I couldn't get them out,

[03:49] Sumireko; narration

and I'd have no idea what to do.

[03:51] friend A

Tell me why!

[03:52] Sumireko; narration

That particular day, something trivial had
turned into a fight with my friends again.

[03:52] friend B

Come on!

[03:56] Sumireko; narration

I wasn't able to defend myself or apologize.

[03:59] Sumireko; narration

All I could do was stay sullenly silent.

[04:01] friend A

Why aren't you saying anything?

[04:03] friend B

Come on! Say something!

[04:03] Sumireko; narration

That made my friends angrier,

[04:06] Sumireko; narration

and things only worsened from there.

[04:11] (Flashback) friend A

Wait, Sumireko-chan!

[04:13] (Flashback) friend B

Stop right there!

[04:14] (Flashback) friend A

Wait!

[04:35] (Flashback) friend A

Sumireko-chan!

[04:36] (Flashback) friend B

Where did you go?

SIGN Gyokushin-dou Bookstore

[05:20] (Flashback) Honhime

Close the door.

[05:24] (Flashback) Honhime

Sunlight is a book's worst enemy, young lady.

[05:28] (Flashback) little Sumireko

I-I'm so sorry!

[05:33] (Flashback) Honhime

Browse at your leisure.

[05:59] (Flashback) Honhime

What are you looking at?

[06:02] (Flashback) Honhime

Reading a good book can
make one cry, can't it?

[06:06] (Flashback) little Sumireko

Even a grown-up?

[06:09] (Flashback) Shoskihime

Now, look here. Adults cry
when they need to cry, too.

[06:12] (Flashback) little Sumireko

Like when reading a book?

[06:14] (Flashback) Honhime

That's right.

[06:15] (Flashback) Honhime

If you're interested,
why don't you give it a read?

[06:22] (Flashback) little Sumireko

You don't mind?

[06:24] (Flashback) Honhime

As it happens, I've just finished it.

[06:28] (Flashback) Honhime

There's a space in the back for people to
read before they buy. Use it as you wish.

[06:32] (Flashback) Honhime

There won't likely be any
other customers, anyway.

[06:55] (Flashback) little Sumireko

Books are so boring, though.

[07:12] little Sumireko; internal

*"Right now, I have three
envelopes in front of me.*

[07:17] little Sumireko; internal

*However, I am only allowed
to open and read one of them.*

[07:24] little Sumireko; internal

*Which envelope holds the
message that person wrote?*

[07:28] little Sumireko; internal

All of the envelopes are exactly the same,

[07:31] little Sumireko; internal

*but on the outside of one,
I can see an ever-so-faint stain.*

[07:35] little Sumireko; internal

*I pick that one up and open it without
giving myself the chance to waver.*

[07:41] little Sumireko; internal

*I pull out the sheet of paper inside,
and the instant I lay eyes on its message,*

[07:45] little Sumireko; internal

the world around me changes completely."

[07:50] (Flashback) Honhime

It's sunset. You should go home.
Your family will be worried.

[07:54] (Flashback) little Sumireko

But...

[07:55] (Flashback) Honhime

You can continue tomorrow.

[07:58] (Flashback) little Sumireko

But...

[08:02] (Flashback) Honhime

All right, then, I'll lend you
this book. However...

[08:06] (Flashback) Honhime

You must be certain to come back
and return it tomorrow.

[08:09] (Flashback) little Sumireko

I will!

SIGN Gyokushin-dou Bookstore

[08:23] (Flashback) little Sumireko

Here.

[08:24] (Flashback) Honhime

You brought it back. Thank you.

[08:30] (Flashback) Honhime

Why don't you pick a book
from over there to read next?

[08:41] little Sumireko

"The coffee had long since gone cold.

[08:44] little Sumireko

'Say, do you love your wife?' asked Julia.

[08:48] little Sumireko

Behind me, the door opened and another customer came in, but I paid it no heed.

[08:54] little Sumireko

Helplessly, I answered without thinking.

[08:56] little Sumireko

'Of course I don't love her.'

[08:58] little Sumireko

In that moment, Julia looked behind me and smiled, just a little.

[09:02] little Sumireko

When I turned around, I realized that it was all over.

[09:06] little Sumireko

The person standing there was my wife.

[09:08] little Sumireko

And from behind the frozen mask of her expression, she said,

[09:12] little Sumireko

'I hope you'll be very happy.'"

[09:15] (Flashback) little Sumireko

Say...

[09:16] (Flashback) Honhime

Hm?

[09:17] (Flashback) little Sumireko

What's an "affair"?

[09:19] (Flashback) Honhime

An affair? Well, let's see...

[09:24] (Flashback) Honhime

It's something that everyone does, but it's the absolute worst thing to get caught doing.

[09:30] (Flashback) little Sumireko

Really?

[09:31] (Flashback) little Sumireko

So it's like underlining all the dirty words in the dictionary?

[09:36] (Flashback) Honhime

There's nothing wrong with doing that, but is it something you do?

[09:40] (Flashback) Honhime

My heart is filled with worry.

[09:43] (Flashback) little Sumireko

The boys in class do it.

[09:45] (Flashback) Honhime

My, they're incorrigible.

[09:48] little Sumireko

"The man spoke with a sneer.

[09:51] little Sumireko

*'Magic? You still believe
in magic at your age?'*

[09:56] little Sumireko

Sally bit her lip in frustration.

[09:58] little Sumireko

*It was as though he'd read
her mind once again.*

[10:03] little Sumireko

An urge to kill him welled up inside her.

[10:06] little Sumireko

*'It isn't ghosts who curse people,'
said the medium.*

[10:11] little Sumireko

*'Before she took her own life,
she said something to you, didn't she?'*

[10:16] little Sumireko

'She told you the name of a flower.'

[10:18] little Sumireko

The medium's narrowed eyes opened wide.

[10:21] little Sumireko

'That is what a curse is.'"

[10:34] (Flashback) little Sumireko

What kind of book is this?

[10:36] (Flashback) Honhime

You have a good eye.

[10:38] (Flashback) Honhime

*That's the type of mystery that
would knock a sumo wrestler dead.*

[10:42] (Flashback) little Sumireko

That sounds like fun!

[10:47] (Flashback) Honhime

You seem like you'll be all right now.

[10:55] (Flashback) Honhime

I think I'll ask after all, just the once.

[10:59] (Flashback) Honhime

Did something happen to you?

[11:02] (Flashback) Sumireko

Huh?

[11:03] (Flashback) Honhime

*Well, the first time you came
in here, you were crying.*

[11:08] (Flashback) Honhime

*You don't have to tell me
if you don't want to.*

[11:10] (Flashback) Honhime

It's not like me to ask, anyway.

[11:18] (Flashback) little Sumireko

I-I-I...

[11:20] Sumireko; narration

My difficulty in speaking to others,

[11:23] Sumireko; narration

and how it caused fights

between me and my friends...

[11:26] Sumireko; narration

I remember that explaining just those

two things took an agonizingly long time.

[11:34] Sumireko; narration

But she didn't try to hurry me.

She waited patiently for me to finish.

[11:45] (Flashback) Honhime

Do you want to get better

at speaking to people?

[11:47] (Flashback) little Sumireko

Yes.

[11:49] (Flashback) Honhime

Did you know?

[11:50] (Flashback) Honhime

Everyone has a dictionary inside their head.

[11:54] (Flashback) Honhime

It's called your inner dictionary.

[11:57] (Flashback) Honhime

We unconsciously search through it

for words when we speak.

[12:01] (Flashback) Honhime

It seems you're not very good

at pulling out that dictionary.

[12:11] (Flashback) Honhime

Try writing a passage.

[12:18] (Flashback) Honhime

You don't have to physically write it.

[12:20] (Flashback) Honhime

First, ready some manuscript

paper in your head.

[12:25] (Flashback) Honhime

Write down all the words you

know and give them form.

[12:30] (Flashback) Honhime

You're going to take the dictionary

in your head apart.

[12:33] (Flashback) Honhime

You already have all the words you need.

[12:36] (Flashback) Honhime

Next, rearrange the words
on the manuscript paper,

[12:39] (Flashback) Honhime

and turn them into writing.

[12:40] (Flashback) Honhime

Then try reading the
manuscript you've created.

[12:46] (Flashback) little Sumireko

Do you think I can do it?

[12:47] (Flashback) Honhime

I know you can.

[12:50] (Flashback) Honhime

Practice makes perfect, though.

[12:53] (Flashback) Honhime

I'm certain that you will write
a vast number of passages.

[12:58] (Flashback) Honhime

Your everyday life is in itself
a full-length novel.

[13:03] (Flashback) Honhime

One day, when you write a novel,
I hope you'll let me read it.

[13:09] (Flashback) Honhime

I've already read nearly
all the books, after all.

SIGN Gyokushin-dou Bookstore

[13:12] (Flashback) little Sumireko

I will!

SIGN This kanji...

...is here

[13:17] (Flashback) little Sumireko

Hey, watch this!

[13:20] Sumireko; narration

Her advice worked immediately.

[13:23] Sumireko; narration

I was soon able to speak with my friends.

[13:30] Sumireko; narration

I headed to the bookstore to thank her
for helping me make up with them,

[13:38] Sumireko; narration

but I was never able to find
the path there again.

[13:46] Sumireko; narration

Now, that path...
was right in front of my eyes.

[14:00] Sumireko

Crap...

[14:05] Sumireko

"I regret that with each
new day, you grow older."

[14:18] child Sumireko

Piece of cake.

SIGN Gyokushin-dou Bookstore

[14:45] Sumireko

And so, the truth of the store where
I read those books remains yet unknown.

[14:50] Sumireko

That's how the story ends.

[14:52] Adashino

I see. Well, that solves one
of the mysteries about you.

[14:57] Sumireko

About me? Details needed.

[15:00] Adashino

I've always felt that the way you speak
is unusual. There's a certain stiffness.

[15:05] Sumireko

Oh. It naturally turned out that
way due to how I write as I speak.

[15:10] Sumireko

I've taken a liking to this
way of speaking, though.

[15:14] Sumireko

It sort of sounds like her, in a way.

[15:16] Adashino

Really?

[15:17] Sumireko

That's kind of an understated reaction.

[15:20] Adashino

More importantly, do you remember
the name of that bookstore?

[15:24] Sumireko

The name?

[15:26] Sumireko

For some reason, only vaguely.

[15:29] Sumireko

I'm pretty certain it was
something like Gyokushin-dou.

[15:33] Adashino

Gyokushin-dou?

[15:35] Sumireko

What is it?

[15:36] Adashino

A mysterious woman who loves books...

[15:39] Adashino

Did she invite you in, thinking you
two were birds of a feather?

[15:43] Sumireko

Hey.

[15:44] manager

Ogawa-san!

[15:45] Sumireko

Yes, sir?

[15:46] manager

We don't have many customers right now,
so could you help me bring in the delivery?

[15:50] Sumireko

Yes, of course.

[15:51] manager

Sorry to ask, but thanks.

[15:57] Sumireko

So, about our conversation earlier...

[15:59] Adashino

Yes, regarding the mysterious woman.

[16:02] Adashino

This story dates back to the time
of the fifth shogun, Tsunayoshi.

[16:06] Adashino

There once was a beautiful
woman of noble birth.

[16:09] Adashino

It's said that she was such an avid reader,
she twice reread the more than five thousand

[16:13] Adashino

scrolls of Buddhist scripture.

[16:15] Adashino

After the lady's death,
in accordance with her will,

[16:17] Adashino

her books were donated to the temple.

[16:19] Adashino

A storehouse for them was built next to her
grave so that anyone could borrow them.

[16:24] Adashino

It's said that if you put your ear
to the lady's grave in Yotsuya,

[16:27] Adashino

you could hear a voice reading books.

[16:31] Adashino

According to one theory, her posthumous
Buddhist name was Gyokushin-in.

SIGN m 0 0 | 100 0 100 100 0 100

SIGN Gyokushin-in

[16:34] Sumireko

What?

[16:36] Adashino

Because she loved reading so much,
she was given the nickname...

[16:39] [SONG] text

Honhime
(The Lady of Books)

[16:39] Adashino

Honhime.

[16:41] Sumireko

"Honhime"?

[16:42] Adashino

There was one rule for borrowing
books from the lady's library.

[16:46] Adashino

"When returning a book,
you must add one more."

[16:50] Adashino

Those who didn't follow it
met with ill fortune.

[16:53] Adashino

She must have really
wanted to read new books.

[16:55] Sumireko

Huh? But I never added any myself.

[17:00] (Flashback) Honhime

One day, when you write a novel,
I hope you'll let me read it.

[17:05] Sumireko

I see. There are some very
patient readers out there.

[17:09] Adashino

Huh?

[17:14] Sumireko

The next time I see her, I'll have
to present her with a new book...

[17:18] Sumireko

signed by the author Ogawa Sumireko.

[17:27] Yorumun

Can you hear me?

[17:28] Yorumun

*To all you small fry out there, this is
the mermaid VTuber, Himeuo Yorumun!*

[17:35] Adashino

For you.

[17:36] Sumireko

Oh, how very considerate.

[17:44] Sumireko

Any leads on new cursed objects?

[17:46] Adashino

It's difficult.

[17:48] Adashino

There isn't necessarily a cursed object associated with every Curiosity.

[17:52] Sumireko

Is that how it works?

[17:55] Adashino

That's how it works.

[17:56] Sumireko

Then wouldn't it be faster to seek out a physical Curiosity from the start?

[18:01] Sumireko

Like a tsukumogami or something.

[18:03] Adashino

A tsukumogami, huh?

Finding one of those at all is difficult.

[18:08] Sumireko

Is it?

[18:09] Adashino

I can't exactly go snooping through people's personal items without permission, can I?

[18:13] Adashino

Sumireko-san, will you show me all of your personal items?

[18:16] Sumireko

Get out of here and never come back.

[18:18] Adashino

Right?

[18:19] Adashino

And before that, I have to wonder if tsukumogami even exist in this era.

[18:24] Sumireko

What? This coming from you of all people?

[18:26] Adashino

These days, everything is made to be thrown away.

[18:30] Adashino

If anything, digital data is treated with more care than physical items.

[18:35] Sumireko

I see. It *is* hard to imagine a more difficult

environment for the creation of tsukumogami.

[18:43] Nodoka

Say, Occhan!

[18:45] Nodoka

Have you been studying for finals?

[18:47] Oto

Not at all.

[18:48] Nodoka

You're kidding!

But you always get good grades!

[18:52] Oto

I really haven't studied, though.

What about you, Nodoka?

[18:55] Nodoka

I've got a home tutor assigned to me. I really hate it.

[19:02] Nodoka

But you know what? There's something I do in secret that's a lot of fun.

[19:07] Oto

What is it?

[19:08] Nodoka

Collecting cute underwear.

[19:11] Oto

Really?

[19:12] Nodoka

Yup. See?

[19:15] Oto

You shouldn't do that, Nodoka. It's unseemly.

[19:18] Oto

You'll end up like that slovenly apartment wife.

[19:21] Nodoka

Apartmentwaif? Who's that?

[19:24] Oto

It's Wakazukuri-senpai's real name.

[19:26] Nodoka

It is?

[19:28] Nodoka

You know, I always thought her name sounded a bit odd!

[19:33] Nodoka

So it's a stage name, right?

[19:36] Nodoka

Well, how about that! So her real name is Apartmentwaif-senpai!

[19:40] Oto

Y-Yes.

[19:42] Nodoka

Hey, how about we get everyone together to study at my place before finals?

[19:47] Oto

You don't mind me coming over?

[19:48] Nodoka

Of course not! I'm all alone on Saturdays, so I get super bored.

[19:52] Oto

Sure. Sounds like fun.

[19:53] Nodoka

Bye, Occhan!

[19:56] Oto

Bye-bye!

SIGN Takamagahara Hospital

[20:21] Oto

Hello.

[20:23] Shizuku

I've been waiting for you, Adashino Oto.

[20:28] Oto

Welcome home, masters.

[20:31] Oto

My name is Otohime.

[20:32] customer A

Where are you from?

[20:35] Oto

I have wandered into this land from a certain small country.

[20:39] Oto

But I believe that one day, I will be able to return home.

[20:42] customers A; B

So cute!

[20:45] Oto

Today, I drew all my favorite animals.

[20:49] customers A; B

So cute!

[20:51] Oto

You're much too kind, masters.

[21:05] Nodoka

This is no fun!

[21:09] Nodoka

The school and Dad are way too mean!

SIGN m 0 0 | 100 0 100 100 0 100

SIGN To Students and Parents

Creating social media accounts or accounts on video sites for the purpose of hosting livestreams or uploading videos is prohibited.

Livestreams and/or videos can only be watched with a parent or guardian's permission, subject to a daily viewing limit at their discretion.

[21:12] Nodoka

I just want everyone
to see me sing and dance!

[21:22] Nodoka

Oh, no!

[21:29] Yorumun

Can you hear me?

[21:30] Yorumun

*To all you small fry out there, this is
the mermaid VTuber, Himeuo Yorumun!*

[21:38] Yorumun

*Thanks for waiting, everyone!
How was your day today?*

[23:13] Shizuku

Good work!

[23:14] Oto

Well, I'll be going now.

[23:16] Shizuku

Wait.

[23:18] Shizuku

Thanks for helping out
so many times this month.

[23:22] Shizuku

Here. As thanks.

[23:25] Oto

Thank you.

[23:28] Oto

What is it?

[23:30] Shizuku

Once you get home, take a look inside.

SIGN Dreams, Dance, and a Tsukumogami

[23:35] Sumireko

Next time: "Dreams, Dance,
and a Tsukumogami."

Revision #1

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