

E9 - A Less-than-Ideal Hero

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] protagonist

*We met with no real trouble after
conquering the Labyrinth stratum lord,*

[00:09] protagonist

and two days later, we got out of the maze.

[00:14] Lammis

Seems like a desolate sight.

[00:18] Shui

It's because ordinary people
seldom come to this stratum.

[00:22] Hulemy

So there are only facilities
hunters would need.

[00:26] Lammis

Really?

[00:28] Lammis

But there's no wall.

[00:30] Lammis

How do they protect against monsters?

[00:32] Filmina

Outside the maze, it's a wasteland
where nothing lives. Even monsters.

[00:37] Lammis

Wow.

[00:39] Director Bear

Many domains of the dungeon
still defy our understanding...

[00:44] Director Bear

Such as this current resurgence
of so many stratum lords.

[00:48] Director Bear

I can't help but think it's a bad omen.

[00:52] protagonist

*I guess encountering two stratum lords
so quickly would usually be impossible.*

[01:00] Kerioyl

So, here we are.

[01:01] Kerioyl

The Labyrinth stratum's Hunters Association.

[01:17] Director Bear

Kesha...

[01:18] Kesha

Huh?

[01:19] Kesha

Oh, Director Bommy! You're back already!

[01:23] Director Bear

You too, Uliwa. I know you're bored,
but don't make it so obvious.

[01:28] Kesha

I-I apologize.

[01:31] protagonist

*Huh, Director Bear's real name
is Bommy. That's surprisingly cute.*

[01:35] protagonist

*But in my mind, I'm going to
keep calling him Director Bear.*

[01:39] Director Bear

All of you have worked hard.

[01:41] Director Bear

Feel free to take it easy today.

[01:54] protagonist

*With the stress gone now that there's
finally a roof over my head,*

[01:59] protagonist

*I fell asleep for the first time since
falling into the Labyrinth stratum.*

SIGN Reborn as a Vending Machine, I Now Wander the Dungeon

SIGN A Less-than-Ideal Hero

[03:39] Kerioyl

Okay, you take care of the rest.

[03:41] Lammis

Sure.

[03:47] protagonist

*We're remaining here because
Director Bear asked us*

[03:50] protagonist

*to survey the perimeter
of the giant labyrinth.*

[04:07] Mishuel

Excuse me, my name is Mishuel.

[04:10] Mishuel

I only just arrived at this stratum today.

[04:11] Lammis

Look, Hulemy. That guy's
looks are picture perfect.

[04:12] Mishuel

Do you have a detailed map of the maze?

[04:15] Hulemy

Yeah, I'll say.

[04:23] Mishuel

Um...

[04:25] Kesha

Y-Yes!

[04:26] Kesha

If you don't mind waiting three days.

[04:28] Uliwa

We plan to have the latest
accurate map then!

[04:32] Mishuel

I see. I shall call on you
at another time, then.

[04:36] Kesha/Uliwa

We'll be waiting!

[04:41] protagonist

Behold the hottie effect!

[04:44] Lammis

Didn't he seem like a gallant
hero out of an old tale?

[04:48] Hulemy

That heroic image has been romanticized
all out of proportion.

[04:52] Hulemy

Famous hunters are typically
musclebound or middle-aged dudes.

[05:02] Lammis

Okay, okay, then what about
the famous hunter they called

[05:06] Lammis

"She of a Hundred Blessings
and Divine Favor"?!

[05:09] Lammis

I've heard she was of surpassing beauty!

[05:13] Lammis

I look up to her like crazy!

[05:15] Hulemy

Ah, She of Divine Favor.

[05:21] Hulemy

Documents and verbal accounts do say
that she was truly kind and beautiful.

[05:28] Hulemy

Well, maybe that looker we just saw
is that sort of special person.

[05:33] Hulemy

If he's strong enough to challenge
the Labyrinth stratum alone,

[05:36] Hulemy

he must be pretty good.

[05:51] Mishuel

I came here because I heard there
weren't many people in this stratum...

[05:56] protagonist

What's with him?

[05:57] protagonist

*Unlike earlier today, now he
seems like a dismal depresso.*

[06:01] protagonist

The "hottie who could nottie."

[06:04] Mishuel

I was so nervous!

[06:07] Mishuel

Why does everyone stare at me like that?!

[06:12] Mishuel

It was scary...

[06:14] protagonist

*Whoa, whoa, you're saying
this is the real him?*

[06:17] Mishuel

I can't do it!

[06:19] Mishuel

I hate talking to people!

[06:21] Mishuel

Don't make me do it anymore!

[06:24] protagonist

He's actually bad at communicating,

[06:26] protagonist

*and to hide it, he's completely
assumed this hottie persona.*

[06:30] protagonist

Suddenly he seems more relatable!

[06:32] Mishuel

Stop that!

[06:33] Mishuel

Mom said it was bad to always
think negative things.

[06:37] Mishuel

Be positive... Be positive...

[06:41] protagonist

Now I kinda want to help him.

[06:43] protagonist

*Don't cacao pods alter your
autonomic nerves so you can relax?*

[06:49] Boxxo

Hello there.

SIGN Gentle Cocoa

[06:52] Boxxo

Hello there.

[06:53] Boxxo

Please insert coins.

[07:01] Mishuel

It's so sweet and delicious.

[07:03] Mishuel

And very relaxing somehow.

[07:07] Mishuel

This is a great magic item.

[07:09] Mishuel

I'm not dealing with a person,
so buying things isn't nerve-wracking.

[07:13] Mishuel

Right! Tomorrow, it's negotiation time!

[07:16] protagonist

*"Negotiation time"?! He might try
to buy me from Lammis!*

[07:22] Lammis

Boxxo!

[07:24] Lammis

Mishuel's going to accompany us on our job!

[07:28] protagonist

Oh, that's what he meant by "negotiation."

[07:34] Lammis

Weren't you actually planning on questing
through the inside of the maze?

[07:40] Mishuel

That's true.

[07:41] Hulemy

No harm done.

[07:43] Hulemy

We've got a capable hunter
coming along with us.

[07:46] Hulemy

Sounds reliable to me.

[07:49] Mishuel

That's true.

[07:50] Mikenne

It's an honor to work alongside the one they call the Aloof Black Flash!

[07:57] Mishuel

That's true.

[07:58] protagonist

Mishuel, work on changing up your responses a little.

[08:03] protagonist

Your reputation will suffer.

[08:05] Lammis

By the way, Hulemy. How long will it take to go all the way around this?

[08:10] Hulemy

From what I saw of Boxxo's images, I'd say less than three weeks.

[08:15] Hulemy

What do you think, Mishuel?

[08:17] Mishuel

That's true.

[08:21] Mishuel

I-I'll be the rear guard, for safety's sake!

[08:25] Lammis

Okay.

[08:27] protagonist

There go the communication issues.

[08:29] protagonist

But I've been paying close attention.

[08:32] Mishuel

This month, learn to be as natural as possible around unfamiliar people.

[08:37] Mishuel

Learn to be natural...

[08:39] Mishuel

Learn to be natural...

[08:41] protagonist

Looks like by being with this group,

[08:44] protagonist

he's trying to improve his communication issues at least a little.

[09:04] Mishuel

I was so nervous.

[09:07] Mishuel

They're both beautiful, and the Band of Gluttons are all so cute.

[09:12] Mishuel

It was all I could do to keep my face neutral.

[09:20] Mishuel

*Everyone said we'd be
fine with Boxxo on watch,*

[09:25] Mishuel

*but does this boxy magic item
really have a mind of its own?*

[09:28] Boxxo

Hello there.

[09:30] Mishuel

Yes, good evening!

[09:34] Mishuel

H-Hey...

[09:41] Mishuel

It's good, all right.

[09:43] Mishuel

And here, shopping *usually* stresses me out.

[09:47] protagonist

*Yup. One of a vending machine's
merits is its accessibility.*

[09:54] protagonist

*A week went by, but there
was no combat whatsoever,*

[09:57] protagonist

and the days passed smoothly.

[10:00] protagonist

*But today, something seems
amiss with Lammis.*

[10:03] Hulemy

Hey Lammis, what's going on?

[10:06] Hulemy

If you're not feeling well, you and
Boxxo can ride on the cart.

[10:10] Boxxo

Hello there.

[10:12] Lammis

I'm fine.

[10:14] Lammis

Couldn't be better!

[10:17] Mishuel

L-Lammis, you mustn't overexert yourself.

[10:20] Mishuel

A rest is what you ne—

[10:22] protagonist

Oh, shit!

[10:24] Mishuel

Lammis!

[10:28] protagonist

That was close!

[10:29] protagonist

Nice one, Mishuel!

[10:32] Mishuel

Hulemy, can I ask you to look after her?

[10:35] Hulemy

Sure, no problem.

[10:37] Hulemy

Come on, we're changing those clothes.

[10:40] Lammis

I-It's fine, I'll do it myself.

[10:43] Hulemy

Don't try to play hero when you're ready to fall over.

[10:47] Hulemy

You should just accept kindness when it's offered.

[10:52] Hulemy

As usual, you push yourself right up to the edge.

[10:56] protagonist

Huh? Was she sick?!

[10:58] Hulemy

At times like this you've got to rest, not power through it.

[11:02] Lammis

Y-Yeah...

[11:06] protagonist

Right. She's had other off days like this, about once a month.

[11:12] protagonist

Sorry I failed to pick up on it.

[11:14] Mikenne

What's going on?

[11:16] Pell

Maybe she's hungry.

[11:18] Short

Suco, do you know?

[11:19] Suco

I heard with humans and many other monkey-like species,

[11:23] Suco

the women have this thing where they bleed from down there.

[11:27] protagonist

What can I do to help?

[11:33] Hulemy

Huh? Boxxo, what is it all of a sudden?

[11:36] Hulemy

It must mean something
if you just transformed.

[11:47] Hulemy

How do you use this?

[11:50] Hulemy

This cloth has a strange feel.

[11:52] Hulemy

Or is it paper?

[11:54] Hulemy

Oh, maybe...

[11:57] Hulemy

Look at that absorbency!

[12:00] Hulemy

I get it! That solves that problem!

[12:03] protagonist

It's a real-life problem, all right.

[12:06] protagonist

*You see lots of lady adventurers
in fantasy worlds,*

[12:09] protagonist

but I bet it's no picnic behind the scenes.

[12:21] Boxxo

Hello there.

SIGN Insert coins

SIGN Items inside
are washed

SIGN Your laundry is clean!

[12:25] Hulemy

Well, well!

[12:29] protagonist

*It needs a test run anyway,
so no charge this time!*

[12:37] protagonist

*It's been over two weeks since we
set out to survey the perimeter.*

[12:41] protagonist

By Hulemy's reckoning,

[12:43] protagonist

*we should be able to return to the
Labyrinth stratum village in three days.*

[12:48] protagonist

*After what happened with Lammis,
Mishuel has started eating with everyone,*

[12:52] protagonist

and he seems much better adjusted.

[12:55] protagonist

Yep.

[12:57] Mishuel

Boxxo is a truly outstanding magic item.

[13:00] Lammis

Yeah.

[13:01] Lammis

His food and drinks taste good,
he dispenses tons of useful tools,

[13:05] Lammis

and he even protects us!

[13:08] Hulemy

As far as I know, there are no written
records of any magic items like Boxxo.

[13:15] Mishuel

You don't say.

[13:19] Short

What's up, Mikenne?

[13:21] Mikenne

Everyone, stop!

[13:26] Mikenne

Can you tell anything, Pell?

[13:29] Pell

Let's see, there's human scent
coming from up ahead a little.

[13:33] Pell

Four or five of them.

[13:36] Short

I can't make out what they're saying,
but they sound like men.

[13:40] Hulemy

Seriously?

[13:41] Hulemy

There wouldn't be any hunters
in a place like this, though.

[13:46] protagonist

This is starting to get suspicious.

[13:49] Mishuel

Everyone, I apologize.

[13:51] Mishuel

There's a good chance they're here for me.

[13:54] Mishuel

I do not wish to cause you any
trouble, so I alone will—

[14:00] Lammis

We don't know for sure yet.

[14:02] Lammis

Besides, we can't let you
go alone if it's dangerous.

[14:07] Mishuel

Please, let go!

[14:09] Mishuel

If you go with me, your life
might be in danger!

[14:12] Hulemy

Calm down.

[14:13] Hulemy

Care to tell us why they're targeting you?

[14:20] protagonist

*I wouldn't take it too seriously if
this were just communication issues,*

[14:23] protagonist

*but his secretiveness
seems really problematic.*

[14:27] Hulemy

I get that you're concerned about us,
but there's no need to worry.

[14:31] Lammis

And getting hurt is no concern
with Boxxo by our side.

[14:35] Boxxo

Hello there.

[14:37] protagonist

Proof is better than argument.

[14:42] Mishuel

What is this blue light?

[14:45] Lammis

It's called a barrier,
and it's Boxxo's blessing.

[14:49] Hulemy

How about if your attack doesn't get
through at all, you let us come with you?

[14:56] Mishuel

Understood.

[14:57] Mishuel

If the defense fails, can you promise
not to follow me, no matter what?

[15:02] Lammis

Sure thing.

[15:03] Mishuel

Then I will not hold back.

[15:12] protagonist

Bring it on!

[15:13] protagonist

*No matter what sort of attack,
the barrier will block it.*

[15:16] protagonist

You can do it, barrier! Don't lose, barrier!

[15:30] Mishuel

It blocked it?!

[15:32] audio guide

You consumed 500 points.

[15:35] protagonist

W-Wow!

[15:36] protagonist

*The eight-legged crocodile stratum lord's
ramming attack ate up 1,000 points,*

[15:40] protagonist

so his was half that powerful?!

[15:43] Lammis

Thanks, Boxxo.

[15:44] Boxxo

Hello there.

[15:46] Lammis

See, all good.

[15:48] Lammis

No matter what happens, we'll be fine.

[15:51] Hulemy

What she said.

[15:55] Mishuel

All right.

[16:00] Lammis

*Boxxo, you know what to
do if it comes down to it.*

[16:03] Boxxo

Hello there.

[16:06] Mikenne

Lammis, there are five humans.

[16:09] Mishuel

*Yes, three are probably
highly-skilled swordsmen.*

[16:13] Mishuel

*The remaining two most likely use magic
or blessings—perhaps of the four elements.*

[16:19] Lammis

Wow! You can sense that this far away?

[16:22] Mishuel

Yes, to a certain extent.

[16:42] leader

You must be Mister Mishuel.

[16:44] leader

We have come for your life.

[16:48] Mishuel

As I suspected.

[16:51] Mishuel

Who do you work for?

[16:54] leader

I suspect you already know.

[16:57] Mishuel

True enough.

[16:59] leader

By the way, are the beast person
and the girl there with you?

[17:03] Mishuel

They are not.

[17:05] Mishuel

We just accepted a job together.

[17:07] Mishuel

I don't mind if you come after me,
but I won't let you harm them.

[17:13] Lammis

Mishuel...

[17:19] leader

Very well. I swear not to harm
them if you don't resist.

[17:26] Mishuel

I'm supposed to believe that?

[17:28] leader

That's up to you to decide.

[17:31] leader

Now, what will it be, Mister Mishuel?

[17:34] Mishuel

My response is obvious.

[17:36] Mishuel

By defeating all of you,
I keep you from harming them!

[17:40] leader

How commendable of you!

[17:42] leader

With noble sentiment in your heart,
you can meet your death in the wasteland!

[17:49] Mishuel

Lammis, be careful!

[17:50] Lammis

Okay!

[17:55] protagonist

*I think the barrier can also
protect against magic and such!*

[17:59] protagonist

Good!

[18:00] protagonist

Lammis, feel free to go to town!

[18:06] mage A

What?!

[18:07] mage A

A blessing that controls water?!

SIGN Insert Payment

SIGN Choose Settings

SIGN Activate Trigger

SIGN Replace When Done

[18:09] protagonist

*It's only powerful enough to hurt a little,
but it's enough to obstruct your view!*

[18:13] protagonist

And here's some car wash soap for you!

SIGN Choose Settings

[18:19] mage A

What's this?!

[18:19] mage B

M-My eyes hurt!

[18:22] mage B

My eyes!

[18:23] protagonist

*You can't cast magic where
you want if you can't see!*

[18:27] protagonist

Now, for rinse mode!

[18:33] mage B

My eyes!

[18:42] Lammis

Mishuel, we won over here!

[18:59] Mishuel

Thank you very much.

[19:01] Mishuel

It would have been dangerous,
without your help.

[19:03] Lammis

Huh? N-N-No problem...

[19:06] Mishuel

Could you go get the others?

[19:08] Mishuel

There's information
I must extract from these people.

[19:11] Lammis

Sure, you got it.

[19:13] Lammis

We'll bring back Hulemy and the others!

[19:16] Lammis

Looks like Mishuel has a lot going on, too.

[19:19] Lammis

I'm not quite sure how deep I should get into a thing like this.

[19:23] Boxxo

Hello there.

[19:26] Mishuel

I apologize for involving you in personal matters.

[19:29] Lammis

Don't worry about it!

[19:31] Lammis

Boxxo gets me involved lots, what with being abducted and falling into stratum splits.

[19:37] Hulemy

You got that right.

[19:39] Boxxo

Too bad.

[19:40] protagonist

Sorry to cause so much trouble.

[19:43] Mishuel

I can't reveal any details, but there's a reason my life is being targeted.

[19:49] Mishuel

Traveling with you further will also put your lives in danger,

[19:53] Mishuel

so I will transfer to another stratum.

[19:56] Mishuel

I really appreciate all that you've done.

[19:58] Lammis

Hold on a minute.

[20:01] Lammis

If you're a powerful guy with a past, why not join the Menagerie of Fools?

[20:06] Lammis

The captain was saying he's looking for talent like that.

[20:09] Hulemy

Yeah, he was going on about that.

[20:13] Hulemy

He said, "As long as they're strong, their history doesn't matter.

[20:16] Hulemy

In fact, there's not a single person
in the group who's not in *some* mess."

[20:22] Mishuel

Is the Menagerie of Fools
that famous team of hunters?

[20:26] Lammis

That's right.

[20:27] Lammis

They're all interesting people.

[20:30] Lammis

We work with them sometimes.

[20:32] Hulemy

I'd try talking to them once rather
than think about it too hard.

[20:37] Mishuel

All right. I'll plan on contacting them.

[20:41] Mishuel

Well, perhaps we'll meet again.

[20:51] Mishuel

The Menagerie of Fools is
full of people I don't know.

[20:56] Mishuel

I can't handle that!

[22:33] protagonist

*Having finished our job, we came back to
Clearflow Lake stratum after so long.*

[22:41] clerk

Boxxo, haven't you been doing business
here in the village for over a week?

[22:53] protagonist

Looks like someone's been impersonating me.

[22:56] protagonist

*They set up where Chains
Restaurant used to be.*

[23:00] voice

A silver coin was ins—

[23:02] voice

—ted.

[23:04] Hulemy

Was that a cough just now?

[23:06] voice

Thank you—

[23:07] voice

Ow!

[23:08] voice

—very much!

[23:09] Lammis

This tastes like Chains Restaurant food.

[23:15] protagonist

And then, everything became clear!

[23:17] protagonist

It was a simple setup.

[23:18] protagonist

The fake vending machines were connected to the former restaurant.

[23:25] protagonist

The following day, I started selling again.

[23:28] crow

Fools! Fools!

[23:29] protagonist

By the time a week had passed, the fake vending machines were no longer in service.

SIGN Next Time

SIGN Gastric Measures

[23:35] Boxxo

Thank you very much.

[23:37] Boxxo

I look forward to your next use.

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