

# E20 - A Royal Letter and a Taboo Witch

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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.)

**[00:04] Bennu**

So this is Maskviana,  
the biggest kingdom in Yoana.

**[00:07] Sariphi**

It's full of people.

**[00:09] Bennu**

That's all you've got to say  
about coming home?

**[00:12] Sariphi**

*The human realm. My birthplace.*

**[00:16] Sariphi**

*Is this really my...*

**[00:20] Merchant**

You there! Miss!

**[00:22] Merchant**

You look like a pilgrim to me.

**[00:24] Merchant**

And if you're going on a pilgrimage,  
how about a robe?

**[00:27] Sariphi**

Huh?

**[00:28] Merchant**

This precious garment,  
woven of oliva thread,

**[00:30] Merchant**

was worn by Maskvis the Creator's brother's  
wife's sister's best friend when—

**[00:35] Sariphi**

Um...

**[00:36] Ocelot**

Then allow *me* to purchase it.

**SIGN** A Royal Letter and a Taboo Witch

**[02:19] Ocelot**

Didn't you hear me? If it's as  
valuable as you say, I insist.

**[02:23] Ocelot**

It would make a fine gift  
for His Royal Majesty.

**[02:25] Merchant**

N-No, perish the thought.

**[02:27] Merchant**

Now, if you'll excuse me.

**[02:30] Sariphi**

Thank you so much.

**[02:31] Ocelot**

Are you on a pilgrimage?

**[02:33] Sariphi**

No, I'm—

**[02:34] Ocelot**

I am Ocelot, and I have the great honor  
to serve as the acting commander of

**[02:39] Ocelot**

the Kingdom of Maskviana's  
Exorcistic Knights.

**[02:42] Sariphi**

Ah...

**[02:43] Ocelot**

To reach Lova Cathedral,  
go two streets over and head north.

**[02:48] Sariphi**

No, I'm—

**[02:49] Ocelot**

Atria Abbey, then?

**[02:51] Ocelot**

That's in the hills outside of town,  
but it's a bit far to set out now.

**[02:56] Bennu**

This guy ain't gonna listen.

**[02:59] Sariphi**

Um, I'm actually looking for the palace.

**[03:02] Sariphi**

I want an audience with the king.

**[03:04] Ocelot**

An audience? His Majesty doesn't  
grant those to just anyone.

**[03:08] Ocelot**

But I'll hear you out if you'll let me.

**[03:11] Sariphi**

Thank you!

**[03:15] Sariphi**

My name is Sariphi.

**[03:17] Sariphi**

I'm an emissary from the king  
of Ozmargo, the beast realm,

**[03:20] Sariphi**

and I bear a letter to the king of  
Maskviana, who represents Yoana.

**[03:27] Sariphi**

I got arrested.

**[03:28] Bennu**

Well, duh.

**[03:30] Bennu**

Did you expect them to buy that  
you came from the beast realm?

**[03:34] Sariphi**

But they'll believe me when they find  
out the letter is real, won't they?

**[03:41] Bennu**

I wouldn't be so sure.

**[03:43] Sariphi**

I hope Ocelot

**[03:46] Sariphi**

actually reports the letter to his king.

**[03:51] Amit**

Oh, will Lady Sariphi truly be safe?!

**[03:55] Clops**

Sh-She'll be fine, Princess Amit.

**[03:58] Clops**

Sari's a human in a human land!  
She'll be in no danger!

**[04:02] Cy**

No danger!

**[04:03] Lanteveldt**

I dunno. What if hearing she's  
a beast envoy freaks them out?

**[04:07] Lanteveldt**

She could be locked up right now.

**[04:12] Clops**

B-Be strong!

**[04:14] Cy**

Eee!

**[04:16] Amit**

I mustn't go on like this.

**[04:20] Amit**

After all, there's someone who must be far  
more beside himself with worry than I am.

**[04:27] Amit**

Namely, His Majesty.

**[04:30] Sariphi**

It's nightttime.

**[04:33] Sariphi**

What'll we do if they just leave us here?

**[04:36] Bennu**

What *can* we do, except  
settle down here for life?

**[04:39] Sariphi**

We can't do that!

**[04:41] Ocelot**

Sariphi Kleinoel.

**[04:44] Ocelot**

Pardon this delay.

**[04:46] Ocelot**

I have confirmed that your name is indeed  
that of the most recent sacrifice.

**[04:51] Ocelot**

As such, we will provisionally accept that  
you have traveled here from the beast realm.

**[04:55] Sariphi**

Then what about the letter?

**[04:57] Ocelot**

Unfortunately, beast script is  
currently taboo in this kingdom.

**[05:02] Ocelot**

Thus, none here can read it.

**[05:04] Ocelot**

And I cannot deliver the paper to His  
Majesty without knowing its contents.

**[05:09] Sariphi**

What?

**[05:10] Bennu**

Oh, come on.

**[05:12] Ocelot**

However, I hear tell that a  
woman in a frontier village

**[05:16] Ocelot**

is engaged in independent  
study of beast script.

**[05:29] (Flashback) Ocelot**

She may be able to—

**[05:30] (Flashback) Sariphi**

I'll go!

**[05:31] (Flashback) Sariphi**

I'd like to pay her a visit!

**[05:33] (Flashback) Ocelot**

You would...

**[05:39] (Flashback) Ocelot**

Very well. Bring her here  
to decipher the missive.

**[05:43] (Flashback) Ocelot**

If it is as you say, I will see  
that His Majesty receives it.

**[05:50] Bennu**

You sure about this, girlie?  
You agreed awful quick.

**[05:54] Sariphi**

Yes. He said she studies beast script,  
even though it's forbidden.

**[05:59] Sariphi**

If there really is a woman like that,  
I want to meet her!

**[06:04] Sariphi**

*I wonder what made her interested in  
beast culture, and how she feels about it.*

**[06:10] Villager A**

What?!

**[06:11] Villager B**

You don't mean the Witch  
of Shidai, do you, miss?!

**[06:15] Sariphi**

What witch?

**[06:16] Villager A**

A girl who lives on her own,  
way out that way.

**[06:21] Villager A**

They call her a witch in these parts  
'cause she reads beast writing, I hear.

**[06:28] Bennu**

That the place?

**[06:30] Sariphi**

Um, excuse me! Hello!

**[06:37] Sariphi**

Maybe she's out?

**[06:52] Bennu**

Hey! What the hell was that for?!

**[07:00] Sariphi**

*She looks...*

**[07:05] Bennu**

I said,

**[07:06] Bennu**

give it a rest!

**[07:11] Sariphi**

*I was right. She looks...*

**[07:14] Sariphi**

*like His Majesty's—like Leo's other form.*

**[07:22] Sariphi**

That's enough, Bennu.

**[07:28] Sariphi**

Are you—

**[07:29] Anastasia**

Who are you? How did you tame this monster?

**[07:33] Bennu**

Who're you calling a monster?!

**[07:35] Sariphi**

Now, now.

**[07:37] Sariphi**

I'm Sariphi.

**[07:39] Sariphi**

I used to be a sacrifice,

**[07:41] Sariphi**

but a lot happened, and now I'm  
an emissary for the beast realm.

**[07:46] Anastasia**

You're *what*?

**[07:48] Sariphi**

I came here to ask you for a favor.

**[07:50] Sariphi**

I heard that you can read beast script, so I...

**[07:54] Anastasia**

I don't know what the villagers told you,  
but it has nothing to do with me.

**[08:01] Anastasia**

Leave.

**[08:02] Sariphi**

Oh, wait!

**[08:04] Sariphi**

I have more questions for—

**[08:07] Anastasia**

I want nothing to do with beasts,  
even as a prank.

**[08:12] Anastasia**

I have nothing to tell you,  
and I don't want to hear your story.

**[08:17] Anastasia**

Begone.

**[08:19] Anastasia**

Next time, I really will kill you.

**[08:24] Bennu**

That lady's got an even worse  
temper than I figured.

**[08:28] Bennu**

She's a witch, all right.

**[08:33] Anastasia**

*A sacrifice? The beasts' emissary?  
What in the world...*

**[08:40] Anastasia**

*But it's got nothing to do with me.*

**[08:48] Bennu**

Are you kidding me, girlie?

**[08:50] Bennu**

You're gonna camp out in these  
hills until she'll deal with you?

**[08:55] Sariphi**

Yup. I can't leave empty-handed.

**[08:58] Bennu**

The king'd faint if he found out.

**[09:02] Sariphi**

Don't tell him, okay?

**[09:04] Bennu**

He can't understand me anyway.

**[09:06] Bennu**

Not that that lady seems  
much for listening, either.

**[09:11] Bennu**

Speaking of which, you said you  
had more questions for her.

**[09:15] Sariphi**

Yes.

**[09:17] Sariphi**

*I can't even tell Bennu*

**[09:20] Sariphi**

*that I'm curious because she looks  
like the king's human form.*

**[09:24] Sariphi**

*And...*

**[09:26] (Flashback) Anastasia**

Begone.

**[09:28] Sariphi**

*Those cold eyes.*

**[09:30] Sariphi**

*For a moment, I felt scared, as though  
His Majesty had said that to me.*

**SIGN** TA-

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**SIGN** DA

**[09:40] Sariphi**

Good morning!

**[09:42] Bennu**

Yo.

**[09:45] Sariphi**

Wait! Hear me out!

**[10:05] Bennu**

Jeez! Talk about unapproachable.

**[10:08] Sariphi**

Yeah.

**[10:13] Bennu**

Where's she going?

**[10:24] Sariphi**

Edelweiss.

**[10:26] Sariphi**

Right?

**[10:28] Sariphi**

Are you growing these flowers?

**[10:31] Anastasia**

So what if I am?

**[10:33] Anastasia**

What's wrong with a witch growing flowers?

**[10:36] Sariphi**

"A witch"? Really.

**[10:38] Sariphi**

That's just a nickname.

**[10:40] Sariphi**

What are you really called?

**[10:46] Anastasia**

I forget.

**[10:59] Sariphi**

Rain...

**[11:02] Bennu**

We should head back, too.

**[11:03] Sariphi**

Yeah.

**[11:13] Sariphi**

Huh?

**[11:21] Sariphi**

What are you doing?!

**[11:24] Man A**

Who're you?!

**[11:26] Sariphi**

No, who are *you*?

**[11:27] Man B**

This is the witch's garden!

**[11:30] Man A**

Yeah! She grows poison here to  
kill us villagers from Shidai!

**[11:37] Sariphi**

What?

**[11:38] Sariphi**

There's nothing poisonous about edelweiss!

**[11:41] Man B**

No, that can't be!

**[11:44] Man B**

Her blood is cursed!

**[11:47] Man A**

She's a dreadful witch!

**[11:51] Man B**

Wh-What the?!

**[11:53] Man A**

Stay out of this!

**[11:55] Man A**

We need to destroy this field of poison quick!

**[11:58] Sariphi**

I'll never let you do that!

**[12:01] Man A**

Could she be one of the witch's minions?!

**[12:04] Man B**

Tie her up!

**[12:07] Bennu**

Hey!

**[12:08] Sariphi**

*Sire...*

**[12:12] Man B**

B-Blood!

**[12:14] Anastasia**

Yes, this is a witch's garden.

**[12:18] Anastasia**

If you set foot in it, come prepared to die.

**[12:23] Man A**

I-It's her!

**[12:37] Sariphi**

Th-Thank you.

**[12:40] Anastasia**

I just got rid of a threat to my field.

**[12:43] Anastasia**

If you keep hanging around,  
I'll do the same to you.

**[12:50] Anastasia**

Why did you go this far?

**[12:53] Anastasia**

They're only flowers.

**[12:55] Sariphi**

Well...

**[12:57] Sariphi**

These flowers, edelweiss,  
stand for precious memories.

**[13:03] Sariphi**

So I thought that maybe you grow them

**[13:06] Sariphi**

to remind you of something  
you really care about.

**[13:19] (Flashback) Ocelot**

Don't let anything the  
villagers say bother you.

**[13:22] (Flashback) Ocelot**

You're not a witch.

**[13:24] (Flashback) Ocelot**

I'll get strong enough to prove it.

**[13:29] (Flashback) Ocelot**

I'll practice the sword like mad  
and learn horse riding, too.

**[13:32] (Flashback) Ocelot**

I'll run every day and polish  
myself till I shine.

**[13:37] (Flashback) Anastasia**

There's no way you could do all that!

**[13:40] (Flashback) Anastasia**

What could a wimp like you ever prove?!

**[13:44] (Flashback) Anastasia**

Just leave me alone!

**[13:46] (Flashback) Anastasia**

Stop coming to see me!

**[14:02] Anastasia**

I never knew these flowers had that meaning.

**[14:05] Anastasia**

An old friend of mine from  
the village used to grow them.

**[14:12] Anastasia**

That's all.

**[14:15] Anastasia**

You said you're called Sariphi, right?

**[14:19] Anastasia**

Don't you have a favor to ask me?

**[14:22] Anastasia**

I'll hear you out, but no promises.

**[14:25] Sariphi**

You mean it?!

**[14:26] Bennu**

Nice going, girlie!

**[14:28] Bennu**

Once you get 'em talking, the rest is easy.

**[14:31] Sariphi**

All right, then. Tell me your name.

**[14:34] Anastasia**

Huh?

**[14:34] Sariphi**

Your name.

**[14:37] Bennu**

Huh?

**[14:38] Anastasia**

What? *That's* your question?

**[14:42] Sariphi**

Yup.

**[14:44] Sariphi**

I mean, you're not really a witch,

**[14:48] Sariphi**

so I want to know what to call you.

**[14:55] Anastasia**

Anastasia.

**[14:58] Anastasia**

It's Anastasia.

**[15:01] Sariphi**

Anastasia...

**[15:05] Anastasia**

Hey, are you...

**[15:08] Sariphi**

Huh?

**[15:14] Bennu**

You okay, girlie?

**[15:19] Anastasia**

Here. Dry yourself off with that.

**[15:22] Sariphi**

Th-Thank you for taking care of me.

**[15:26] Anastasia**

If you'd died there, your rotting carcass would be a nuisance.

**[15:32] Sariphi**

You're so nice, Asya.

**[15:36] (Flashback) Ocelot**

Hey, Asya.

**[15:39] Anastasia**

"Asya"?

**[15:40] Sariphi**

You're Anastasia, right?

So "Asya" for short.

**[15:46] Anastasia**

Get some sleep.

**[15:48] Sariphi**

Okay.

**[16:04] Anastasia**

Did your fever break? You must  
be tougher than you look.

**[16:10] Sariphi**

You're up late, Asya.

**[16:13] Sariphi**

What are you reading?

**[16:16] Sariphi**

This is...

**[16:18] Sariphi**

a book in beast script!

**[16:20] Sariphi**

I came looking for you because there's  
some beast script I'd like you to read.

**[16:26] Sariphi**

What is this?

**[16:27] Anastasia**

Just a diary.

**[16:30] Anastasia**

One of my female ancestors made  
a point to write it in beast script.

**[16:35] Anastasia**

She must not have wanted anyone  
in the village to read it.

**[16:38] Sariphi**

But how did she learn beast script?

**[16:42] Sariphi**

Oh, if you'd rather not say...

**[16:45] Anastasia**

I don't mind.

**[16:47] Anastasia**

Generations ago, one of my ancestors

**[16:50] Anastasia**

broke a taboo so great that our  
whole lineage is despised for it.

**[16:55] Anastasia**

Although she was human,

**[16:57] Anastasia**

she made love to a beast and bore his child.

**[17:01] Sariphi**

*Could that beast have been...*

**[17:06] Sariphi**

*His Majesty's ancestor?*

**[17:08] Cy**

Heave-ho, heave-ho.

**[17:10] Clops**

Heave-ho, heave-ho.

**[17:11] Cy**

Heave-ho, heave-ho.

**[17:13] Anubis**

You there, servants.

**[17:14] Anubis**

Explain yourselves.

**[17:16] Anubis**

Did I not warn you against removing so many books from the archives at once?

**[17:20] Clops**

Well, you see, Sari was planning to read these.

**[17:24] Clops**

We're bringing them back to the archives now.

**[17:26] Cy**

Now.

**[17:30] Anubis**

Where did you get this book?  
Was it in the archives, as well?

**[17:34] Cy**

Huh? Don't recognize.

**[17:37] Clops**

That's strange.

**[17:39] Clops**

Oh!

**[17:40] Clops**

It must be Justice Set's!

**[17:43] Clops**

I bet it slipped in when he bumped into Sari!

**[17:48] Sariphi**

Your ancestor and a beast...

**[17:50] Sariphi**

Then... do you have beast blood, too, Asya?

**[17:54] Anastasia**

I don't know.

**[17:56] Anastasia**

What became of my ancestor who married a beast is a mystery, too.

**[18:00] Anastasia**

But this diary proves that my

family was linked to a beast.

**[18:06] Anastasia**

I deciphered beast script to read it,

**[18:11] Anastasia**

but it's full of boring, everyday stuff.

**[18:15] Sariphi**

*The diary of someone who loved a beast.*

**[18:19] Anastasia**

If you want it, you can have it.

**[18:21] Anastasia**

I was going to get rid of it anyway.

**[18:23] Sariphi**

Are you sure?

**[18:25] Anastasia**

Yeah, although I don't know why you're so interested in someone's diary.

**[18:31] Sariphi**

Something about someone dear to me might be written in it.

**[18:38] (Flashback) Leonhart**

Sometimes I still ponder, even now.

**[18:41] (Flashback) Leonhart**

Did the mother whom I've never seen love me?

**[18:46] (Flashback) Leonhart**

Did anyone wish for my birth?

**[18:54] Sariphi**

It might give me answers that would mean a lot to my beloved—to His Majesty.

**[19:02] Anastasia**

Your "beloved"? "His Majesty"?

**[19:06] Sariphi**

He's the king of beasts.

**[19:09] Anastasia**

You...

**[19:11] Anastasia**

I can't imagine falling for a beast.

**[19:16] Anastasia**

To be honest, it makes me sick.

**[19:18] Anastasia**

But...

**[19:22] Anastasia**

Anyway, what do you need me to do?

**[19:25] Sariphi**

Huh?

**[19:26] Bennu**

Girlie.

**[19:27] Sariphi**

I'd like you to decipher a letter  
written in beast script.

**[19:32] Sariphi**

Please come with me to the palace.

**[19:37] Sariphi**

*Wait for me, sire.*

**[19:44] Anubis**

Wait.

**[19:46] Anubis**

Where do you think you're going,

**[19:48] Anubis**

Set?

**[19:51] Set**

Why feign ignorance?

**[19:53] Set**

This path leads to only one place.

**[19:57] Set**

The forbidden archive, which only  
royalty and select priests may enter.

**[20:03] Set**

You know that as well as I do.

Is that not why you shadow me so often?

**[20:09] Anubis**

*He noticed.*

**[20:11] Set**

Oh, that book.

**[20:13] Set**

That's the one I lost the other day.

**[20:17] Set**

I see.

**[20:19] Set**

Only royalty and the archpriest,  
second in power to the king,

**[20:23] Set**

may read that forbidden volume.

**[20:27] Set**

Though the archpriest vanished  
during His Late Majesty's reign,

**[20:31] Set**

and the post has long been vacant.

**[20:34] Set**

I have read what only such great men may.

**[20:39] Set**

Merely entering this taboo realm requires  
arts known only to royals and priests,

**[20:45] Set**

and yet I set foot in there and took that.

**[20:49] Set**

And now that you're certain of it,  
you've come to confront me.

**[20:53] Set**

Am I correct?

**[20:55] Anubis**

How can you be so calm, scoundrel?

**[21:00] Anubis**

Don't you realize that your trespasses—

**[21:03] Set**

Yes.

**[21:03] Set**

Breaking this taboo is treason  
and an affront to royal dignity.

**[21:09] Set**

Unless...

**[21:10] Set**

the perpetrator is royalty himself.

**[21:15] Anubis**

Set, what are you...

**[21:19] Set**

My Lord Chancellor, your line has  
endured to serve the royal house.

**[21:26] Anubis**

True, but I chose the king of my own will!

**[21:30] Anubis**

His Majesty is the only one for  
whom I would give everything!

**[21:34] Set**

Yes, how truly touching.

**[21:37] Set**

But have you ever asked yourself

**[21:40] Set**

who your king *truly* is?

**[21:45] Set**

Chancellor,

**[21:46] Set**

*you* should know the truth  
about the absolute monarch

**[21:52] Set**

to whom you pledged everything.

**[23:25] Sariphi**

I'm so glad Asya opened up to  
me after that frosty reception.

**[23:31] Sariphi**

But should I really have accepted this diary?

**[23:35] Sariphi**

What if it says something His Majesty  
would want to keep private?

**SIGN** Next Episode

**SIGN** Peace and a Secret Revealed

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Revision #1

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