

E4 - The Fighting Garnet

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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] Shimo

Mt. Fuji on New Year's?

[00:03] Seigi

Or the horizon at sunset.

[00:06] Seigi

That kind of beauty, you know?

[00:09] Shimo

And you're always alone at the store with this boss of yours?

[00:13] Seigi

When we don't have clients, yeah.

[00:16] Shimo

This blond-haired, blue-eyed, multilingual, sweets-loving, incomparably beautiful boss?

[00:22] Seigi

Well, yeah.

[00:24] Shimo

Trade places with me!

[00:25] Seigi

Huh?

[00:26] Shimo

I'm so jealous of your job!

[00:30] Shoko

Seigi-kun, do you know about the rocky outcrops on the Miura Peninsula?

[00:33] Shoko

If you're interested, why don't we go together sometime?

[00:37] Seigi

What are you looking at?

[00:39] Shimo

When did you exchange numbers with Tanimoto-san?

SIGN ...go together...

[00:45] Shimo

Why does all the good stuff
keep happening to you?

[00:47] Shimo

You've already got Tanimoto-san.

[00:50] Shimo

Let me have your boss!

[00:53] Seigi

Are you under the impression
my boss is a woman, Shimomura?

[00:57] Shimo

Huh?

[00:58] Seigi

He's a man. His name is Richard.

[01:02] Seigi

Richard Ranashinha de Vulpian.

[01:05] Shimo

Who asked for his full name?

[01:08] Seigi

Didn't I tell you my boss was a man?

[01:11] Shimo

No! And who wouldn't assume it's a woman
when you said they like sweets?

[01:15] Seigi

Yeah, okay. Sorry.

[01:18] Shimo

There must have been other
comparisons you could've made.

[01:20] Shimo

Like the Tokyo Tower as seen
from the Yamanote Line.

[01:25] Seigi

Well, I guess...

[01:28] Seigi

He's like a living jewel.

SIGN Episode 4

The Fighting Garnet

[03:12] Seigi

Does that red bean jelly
go with royal milk tea?

[03:19] Richard

You underestimate royal milk tea.

[03:25] Seigi

You're a royal milk tea fanatic...

[03:28] Richard

Today's client, Yamamoto-sama,
will be arriving soon.

[03:32] Richard

Please prepare for her arrival.

[03:33] Seigi

Got it. She's coming to look at engagement rings, right?

[03:37] Richard

Yes. She's requested a garnet.

[03:40] Seigi

That's unusual.

[03:42] Seigi

I thought engagements rings used diamonds.

[03:46] Richard

Why do you think that?

[03:49] Seigi

Why? Well, I've never really thought about it...

[03:53] Seigi

Why *do* engagement rings use diamonds?

[03:59] Richard

Think about it.

[04:04] Yamamoto

I'm Yamamoto. I called yesterday to make an appointment.

[04:08] Seigi

We've been expecting you. Please come in.

[04:20] Seigi

Make yourself comfortable.

[04:22] Yamamoto

Thank you.

[04:29] Richard

Thank you for waiting.

[04:31] Richard

I'm the owner,
Richard Ranashinha de Vulpian.

[04:40] Yamamoto

I'm sorry for staring...

[04:42] Yamamoto

I've never seen someone with such a beautiful face. I was surprised.

[04:49] Seigi

I was surprised when I first met him, too.

[04:51] Yamamoto

Really?

[04:52] Seigi

They say you grow tired of a pretty face after three days.

[04:57] Seigi

But it's been two months since I started working here,

[05:00] Seigi

and I think he gets prettier every day.

[05:02] Seigi

He still makes my heart flutter.

[05:06] Richard

Seigi, please fetch our guest some tea.

[05:08] Seigi

Huh? Oh, certainly.

[05:10] Seigi

I'll bring some right away.

[05:12] Richard

You said you were looking for
a garnet for an engagement ring,

[05:17] Richard

so I prepared several.

[05:19] Yamamoto

Wow...

[05:21] Yamamoto

These are all garnets?

[05:24] Richard

"Garnet" is the generic term for a group
of minerals with the same structure.

[05:29] Richard

Different compositions produce
a variety of colors and luster,

[05:33] Richard

and each has a different name.

[05:34] Richard

Because the most common red garnet

[05:38] Richard

bears a resemblance to the fruit, in Japan...

[05:42] Yamamoto

They're called pomegranate gemstones.

[05:44] Yamamoto

I did my homework.

[05:46] Richard

That's correct.

[05:48] Yamamoto

There really are all kinds of colors.

[05:52] Yamamoto

Is this one a tsavorite?

[05:55] Richard

No, this is a demantoid garnet.

[06:00] Richard

This is a tsavorite.

[06:03] Yamamoto

I can't tell them apart at all...

[06:05] Yamamoto

My quick search online didn't get me very far.

[06:11] Richard

You're welcome to pick
them up and look at them.

[06:13] Yamato

May I?

[06:15] Richard

But of course.

[06:16] Yamamoto

In that case, I think I will.

[06:23] Yamamoto

Even garnets are wonderful
when you see them in person.

[06:27] Seigi

"Even"?

[06:33] Yamamoto

This is delicious.

[06:34] Yamamoto

This isn't store-bought, is it?

[06:37] Seigi

No. I make it in the kitchen here.

[06:40] Yamamoto

My mother loves this stuff.
She drinks it all the time.

[06:43] Yamamoto

But I'm not sure hers is this good.

[06:46] Richard

We've also prepared some
macarons to go with the tea.

[06:50] Richard

Please choose whichever ones you'd like.

[06:53] Yamamoto

Then I'll take this one.

[06:55] Seigi

Very well.

[06:58] Yamamoto

I wish picking a stone for a ring
was as easy as picking a macaron...

[07:02] Richard

Don't worry.

[07:04] Richard

If you'd like, I can find some to fit
your budget for our next meeting.

[07:10] Yamamoto

My budget? You're right...

[07:14] Yamamoto

I'll ask my boyfriend.

[07:16] Seigi

Is your boyfriend a coworker of yours?

[07:19] Seigi

It's amazing you both work
for a foreign company.

[07:22] Seigi

Are you fluent in English?

[07:26] Richard

Seigi.

[07:27] Yamamoto

No... I wouldn't say that.

[07:31] Yamamoto

Speaking of, I'm surprised.

[07:33] Yamamoto

Your Japanese is great, Richard-san.

[07:36] Yamamoto

Were you born and raised here?

[07:39] Richard

In England, actually.

[07:41] Yamamoto

Oh? Is de Vulpian an English name?

[07:45] Richard

French. It's my mother's name.

[07:49] Yamamoto

That's kind of cool.

[07:52] Seigi

France and England...

[07:54] Seigi

So that's how this beauty was born.

[07:59] Seigi

Don't you think he's pretty
even when he's angry?

[08:11] Richard

I've been wondering...

[08:13] Richard

Have you ever been burned as
a result of your careless speech?

[08:17] Seigi

Have I ever been burned
by my careless speech?

[08:21] Seigi

No.

[08:25] Richard

Thank you.

[08:27] Richard

I believe I've gotten a good

grasp on your outlook.

[08:39] Seigi

Why is he mad?

[08:44] Seigi

When you said outcrops,
you meant geological formations?

[08:47] Shoko

Yeah. They look like shortcake, don't they?

[08:49] Seigi

Yeah.

[08:51] Seigi

You can't get diamonds here.

[08:53] Shoko

Natural diamonds have previously
been discovered even here in Japan.

[08:58] Seigi

What?

[08:59] Seigi

So you can get them in Japan?

[09:01] Shoko

Only tiny amounts, though.

[09:03] Shoko

Anyway, what's this about diamonds?

[09:06] Seigi

Well, I've been thinking about why
engagement rings are always diamonds.

[09:11] Shoko

That's because of the power of marketing.

[09:14] Seigi

Marketing?

[09:15] Shoko

Yeah.

[09:16] Shoko

Unlike other gemstones,
a single company has a monopoly

[09:20] Shoko

on their mining, distribution,
processing, and sale.

[09:26] Shoko

That company fabricated
the value of diamonds.

[09:30] Seigi

Fabricated their value?

[09:31] Shoko

Yup.

[09:32] Shoko

"Only diamonds are suitable for important

life events like celebrating a wedding."

[09:39] Shoko

"Diamonds are forever."

[09:43] Seigi

What? Really?

[09:46] Seigi

Richard?

[09:48] Seigi

Sorry. It's my boss.

SIGN Richard

[09:52] Richard

*Seigi, I'd like to take
this opportunity to tell you*

[09:55] Richard

*everything I've thought about
you since the day we met.*

[10:00] Richard

You are a ball of charm.

[10:04] Richard

*Every time I watch you work,
my heart is filled with joy.*

[10:11] Seigi

What is this?

[10:13] Shoko

What's wrong, Seigi-kun?

[10:15] Seigi

O-Oh, nothing.

[10:17] Seigi

When should we go see the outcroppings?

[10:20] Shoko

Well, let me see...

[10:22] Shoko

I'm free most weekends.

[10:24] Shoko

What about you?

[10:34] Seigi

Richard, do you have a minute?

[10:37] Richard

What is it?

[10:39] Seigi

It's about the message
you sent me the other day.

[10:42] Richard

What about it?

[10:44] Seigi

It's, uh... nothing.

[10:48] Richard

I see.

[11:00] Richard

These are rhodolite garnets.

[11:03] Richard

I thought you might like them.

[11:04] Yamamoto

I guess even garnets can
be as beautiful as rubies!

[11:09] Yamamoto

Even garnets are wonderful.

[11:12] Seigi

Even garnets...?

[11:14] Richard

Garnets are said to be one of
the world's oldest gemstones.

[11:20] Richard

These stones formed in the earth
over 100 million years ago.

[11:25] Yamamoto

That long ago?

[11:26] Richard

Yes.

[11:27] Seigi

They're more affordable than rubies.

[11:30] Seigi

I think a garnet is the perfect
match for you, Yamamoto-sama.

[11:34] Seigi

It's like the gemstone version of you.

[11:45] Yamamoto

I know I'm not a ruby.

[11:47] Seigi

Huh?

[11:49] Yamamoto

Listen... Can I ask you something?

[11:53] Richard

Anything.

[11:54] Yamamoto

Have you ever benefited from your looks?

[11:57] Yamamoto

They say beautiful women
have an advantage, right?

[11:59] Yamamoto

So the same must be true
for handsome men, right?

[12:02] Richard

I'm flattered if you're

complimenting my appearance,

[12:06] Richard

but it's caused more harm than good.

[12:11] Yamamoto

As someone who isn't beautiful, I can definitely say pretty people are better off.

[12:18] Yamamoto

Aren't gemstones of undesirable colors and shapes

[12:21] Yamamoto

used for industrial purposes or turned into paint?

[12:25] Yamamoto

People like me are no different from those stones.

[12:30] Richard

You're right.

[12:32] Richard

Gemstones are evaluated according to a number of criteria,

SIGN Carats

Cut

Color

Clarity

Origin

Rarity

[12:35] Richard

judged, and assigned a price.

[12:38] Richard

But rather than being bound by inflexible criteria or preconceptions,

[12:43] Richard

you seek a garnet for your engagement ring.

[12:47] Richard

I sense strong conviction in you.

[12:49] Richard

Therefore, I also believe that a garnet
is the perfect gemstone for you.

[12:55] Yamamoto

And what do you know about me?

[12:59] Richard

What do I know about you, Yamamoto-sama?

[13:01] Yamamoto

Yes.

[13:02] Yamamoto

If a garnet is so perfect for me,
then what kind of person am I?

[13:06] Seigi

But that's ridiculous...

[13:08] Yamamoto

You can stay out of this.

[13:11] Richard

Yamamoto-sama...

[13:13] Richard

During the day, you work with flowers.

[13:15] Richard

You're good with your hands,
and you enjoy handicrafts.

[13:18] Richard

You live with your parents.

[13:19] Richard

And recently, something happened
that you haven't gotten over.

[13:24] Richard

How did I do?

[13:29] Yamamoto

How did you know?

[13:32] Yamamoto

I don't believe it...

[13:44] Yamamoto

My scent?

[13:45] Richard

Yes.

[13:46] Richard

You always have the smell
of fresh flowers about you,

[13:50] Richard

unlike what you'd get with perfume.

[13:53] Richard

I mean no offense, but the second clue was the state of your hands.

[13:58] Richard

People who work with water get chapped hands this time of year.

[14:03] Richard

Like at a flower shop, for example.

[14:07] Richard

I reasoned that you must enjoy handicrafts based on your accessories.

[14:12] Yamamoto

How did you know I live with my parents?

[14:14] Richard

During our first meeting...

[14:17] (Flashback) Yamamoto

My mother loves this stuff.
She drinks it all the time.

[14:20] Richard

Also, statistically speaking,

[14:22] Richard

it's not unusual for a woman your age to live at home.

[14:28] Richard

Forgive me if any of that was presumptuous.

[14:34] Yamamoto

Amazing...

[14:36] Seigi

Um... Can I ask you something?

[14:39] Yamamoto

About why I lied?

[14:42] Seigi

Yeah.

[14:43] Yamamoto

Because I'm not beautiful.

[14:45] Seigi

Uh...

[14:49] Yamamoto

I was dumped by my boyfriend of seven years.

[14:54] Yamamoto

He found a younger girlfriend.

[14:56] Yamamoto

Of course he'd prefer a younger bride.

[15:01] Seigi

So you wanted to buy a ring?

[15:04] Yamamoto

I doubt anyone will give me a ring with a gemstone on it as long as I live,

[15:10] Yamamoto

so I thought I'd buy one for myself.

[15:13] Yamamoto

I guess you could call it retail therapy.

[15:16] Seigi

Why a garnet?

[15:19] Yamamoto

My birthday is in January.

My birthstone is garnet.

[15:25] Seigi

Ah, so that's it.

[15:28] Yamamoto

I first learned about my
birthstone in middle school.

[15:32] Yamamoto

I wasn't that happy about it.

[15:35] Yamamoto

I wondered why it couldn't
be a ruby or diamond.

[15:40] Yamamoto

My name is Mito, written with the
characters for "beautiful person."

[15:45] Seigi

Huh?

[15:46] Yamamoto

It's like a punishment, isn't it?

[15:49] Yamamoto

I wish I could've actually
been born beautiful instead.

[15:52] Seigi

Hey, I'm sure you'll find a nice guy eventually.

[15:56] Richard

Seigi.

[15:59] Yamamoto

I know my commercial value.

[16:01] Seigi

Your commercial value?

[16:03] Yamamoto

I'm not a diamond or a ruby.

[16:06] Yamamoto

And garnets signify hard work
and perseverance.

[16:10] Yamamoto

That's perfect for me.

[16:13] Richard

Yamamoto-sama.

[16:15] Richard

Gemstones stay with you longer than lovers.

[16:20] Richard

When you feel more strongly that you're purchasing rather than choosing one,

[16:25] Richard

it may be a good idea to take your time.

[16:29] Yamamoto

I know what I'm doing is ridiculous.

[16:32] Yamamoto

But I've made up my mind to buy one.

[16:40] Seigi

Why did you say that?

[16:43] Seigi

Yamamoto-san wanted to buy a ring.

[16:45] Richard

Gemstones don't always make people happy.

[16:49] Seigi

But aren't gemstones mirrors that reflect their owners?

[16:53] Richard

When someone is confused about what exactly it is that they want,

[16:58] Richard

I don't recommend making a purchase.

[17:12] Seigi

Richard...

[17:14] Seigi

Yamamoto-san?

[17:15] Yamamoto

I'm sorry. I know it's late.

[17:18] Seigi

What's wrong?

[17:20] Yamamoto

I've decided not to buy a garnet after all.

[17:24] Seigi

What?

[17:25] Yamamoto

I just can't...

[17:33] Yamamoto

I'd finished work and was on my way home...

[17:40] Yamamoto

when I saw my ex picking out an engagement ring with his new girlfriend.

[17:46] Yamamoto

The moment I saw it,

I wondered what I was doing.

[17:51] Yamamoto

Even if I buy a garnet,
it'll only make me feel miserable.

[17:58] Richard

Are you familiar with the
legends surrounding garnets,

[18:02] Richard

apart from their meaning as gemstones?

[18:05] Yamamoto

No.

[18:08] Richard

Garnets have been ripe with legend
since the days of yore.

[18:12] Richard

They appear in a number of stories.

[18:15] Richard

In Ancient Rome, soldiers kept
red garnets as talismans.

[18:21] Yamamoto

Like protective charms?

[18:23] Richard

Yes.

[18:24] Richard

People used them to pray for victory
and a safe return home.

[18:28] Richard

I believe the same is still true
two thousand years later.

[18:32] Richard

After all, life is a battle.

[18:34] Yamamoto

A battle?

[18:37] Richard

For example, when searching
for a companion in life...

[18:41] Richard

If an opponent appears, it means a fight.

[18:45] Richard

In such battles, I believe rather
than youth or beauty,

[18:49] Richard

hard work and perseverance
are your best weapons.

[18:55] Richard

Of course, you're also free
to choose not to fight.

[18:59] Richard

But I see you as a warrior

who stands her ground.

[19:05] Yamamoto

A w-warrior?

[19:08] Richard

Yamamoto-sama, you wanted a garnet.

[19:12] Richard

Not any other gemstone, but your birthstone.

[19:17] Richard

You say you're not a diamond or a ruby,

[19:20] Richard

but you don't shy away from that.

[19:24] Richard

That proves you've given
great thought to who you are.

[19:29] Richard

That you want to win,
and that you want to survive.

[19:32] Richard

That you have the will to fight.

[19:53] Yamamoto

Thank you.

[19:56] Yamamoto

I'm sorry. That was embarrassing.

[19:59] Richard

Isn't it your choice whether
to believe it was embarrassing

[20:03] Richard

or to insist it was charming?

[20:11] Richard

It's gotten quite late.
I'll treat you to dinner.

[20:15] Seigi

Huh?

[20:17] Richard

I'd also like to speak with you.

[20:21] Seigi

Okay...

[20:31] Richard

Seigi, about the message I sent you...

[20:35] Richard

Do you now understand the effect
that careless words can have?

[20:40] Seigi

Huh?

[20:41] Richard

Words like "beautiful" and
"pretty" are compliments,

[20:46] Richard

but they're also used to judge.

[20:49] Richard

Even the most innocent and beautiful words

[20:51] Richard

can be interpreted quite differently
than how you intended,

[20:55] Richard

and your appraisal can hurt someone.

[20:59] Seigi

I upset her by talking about
how pretty you are...

[21:05] Richard

If you keep speaking
and acting the way you do,

[21:08] Richard

there will eventually be a hefty price to pay.

[21:13] Seigi

I'm really sorry.

[21:16] Richard

I'm just glad you understand.

[21:19] Manager

Thank you for waiting.

[21:22] Manager

Here's your strawberry parfait.

[21:26] Richard

Now, let us continue our meal.

[21:33] Seigi

Meal?

[21:43] Delivery

Delivery!

[21:45] Seigi

A pomegranate tree, huh?
Sounds just like Yamamoto-san.

[21:49] Seigi

So she's really not buying a stone after all?

[21:51] Richard

No.

[21:53] Richard

She's going to stay true to herself
and try to become a fighter.

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