

E4 - Flickering Flame

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.)

[00:01] Narrator

*While she's traveling with Kanata,
the hound of the late fire hunter Haijuu,*

[00:06] Narrator

*a great white dragon attacks
the truck taking Touko to the capital.*

[00:12] Narrator

Meanwhile, in the capital,

[00:14] Narrator

*Koushi has a fateful encounter
with the Okibis' daughter, Kira.*

SIGN The Fire Hunter

SIGN The Fire Hunter

SIGN The Fire Hunter

SIGN Flickering Flame

SIGN Flickering Flame

[01:57] Touko

Come on, Benio! Run!

[02:08] Benio

Touko!

[02:15] Touko

Kaho!

[02:16] Touko

Kaho, can you hear me?

We need to get out!

[02:26] Touko

Kaho!

[02:27] Benio

Hurry, Kaho! Come here!

[02:32] Kaho

He's dead.

[02:35] Touko

Kaho, hurry!

[02:38] Kaho

The doctor is dead.

[02:42] Touko

Kaho!

[02:43] Kaho

Why him and not me?

[02:49] Kaho

Why? Why couldn't it have been me?

[02:52] Benio

Kaho!

[02:53] Benio

Kaho, you blockhead!

Pull yourself together!

[02:57] Shouzou

Hit, damn it!

[03:07] Shouzou

This thing's useless!

[03:56] Touko

Kanata.

[04:01] Shouzou

Over here, kid! Hurry!

[04:06] Shouzou

Run!

[04:13] Kaho

The dragon god... My village's guardian.

[04:18] Shouzou

You mean *that's* a guardian deity?

[04:21] Touko

What?

[04:22] Touko

Why would a guardian do this to everyone?

[04:38] Shouzou

Get away! The sparks will
get us if we stay here!

[05:01] Touko

Kanata...

[05:06] Enzen

Kanata! You're a hunting hound!

SIGN Koushi and Kira

[05:27] Narrator

*Once a year, when spring rolls around,
a ship leaves the capital,*

[05:31] Narrator

bound for an island far to the south.

[05:35] Narrator

*In the placid bay, expensive boats
luxuriously decked out bob on the water.*

[05:40] Narrator

Onlookers often enjoy debating

which boat is the most magnificent.

[05:50] Kira

Here, Hinako. Try one.

[05:53] Hinako

Okay.

[05:54] Kira

That boat practically
glides across the water.

[05:58] Kira

When you're feeling better,
you should come watch it with me.

[06:02] Hinako

What about your family, Kira?
Don't you have a boat?

[06:06] Kira

We do, but my father is an awful decorator.

[06:12] Kira

He thinks being gaudy
and garish is all it takes.

[06:17] Kira

I feel ashamed every time I see our boat.

[06:20] Kira

Oh, but don't tell him I said that.

[06:25] Kira

That goes for you, too, Koushi.

[06:26] Koushi

I won't say a word.

[06:28] Hinako

Honestly, Koushi. You always
have your nose in a book.

[06:31] Kira

Oh, that reminds me. You go to
my father's study every afternoon.

[06:37] Kira

What for?

[06:39] Koushi

Huh?

[06:40] Koushi

Oh, he lets me read his books.

[06:43] Koushi

Mr. Kouhachi's lessons are way beyond
what I learned at the academy,

[06:48] Koushi

so I'm working hard to catch up to you.

[06:53] Kira

Sugar perks up your brain and your spirits.

[06:57] Kira

Here. Say "aah."

[07:00] Koushi

Aah.

[07:06] Hinako

It's sweet!

[07:09] Yuoshichi

How are things progressing?

[07:12] Yuoshichi

If there's anything you need,
just say the word.

[07:16] Koushi

In that case, I would like
a few things, if you don't mind.

[07:20] Koushi

I'd also like to visit the central archive
again tomorrow afternoon.

[07:25] Yuoshichi

Feel free.

[07:27] Yuoshichi

You mustn't put any questions about
this work to your tutor, after all.

[07:32] Koushi

I know crystal plates are expensive, but...

[07:35] Yuoshichi

Crystal plates and additional fiendfire?

[07:40] Yuoshichi

I'll get you everything on this list
by the end of tomorrow.

[07:43] Yuoshichi

Keep up the good work.

[07:46] Narrator

*Colorful sweets are placed
outside shops, pharmacies,*

[07:49] Narrator

*and the little shrines to the
city's many guardian deities,*

[07:54] Narrator

*and children are free to eat
whatever they wish.*

[08:04] Koushi

If the spiders were to invade the capital,
how and where would they—

[08:08] Yuoshichi

If I were in their shoes,
I wouldn't bother infiltrating the city.

[08:12] Yuoshichi

I'd go straight for the divine palace.

[08:14] Yuoshichi

Striking the divine clans' stronghold
would be my top priority.

[08:19] Koushi

Could you get a map of the factory district
and the area around the palace for me?

[08:24] Koushi

I'd like one as precise as you can make it.

[08:27] Yuoshichi

That's quite a tall order.

[08:31] Yuoshichi

I shouldn't need to tell you
how tight palace security is.

[08:36] Yuoshichi

I doubt anyone has ever charted
its surroundings in detail.

[08:42] Yuoshichi

Still, I'll see what I can do.

[08:55] (Flashback) Hitoo

Once, when humans possessed natural fire,

[09:00] (Flashback) Hitoo

we spread out from our original home
and inhabited the whole world.

[09:07] (Flashback) Hitoo

Fire allowed us to adapt to frozen tundras
and lands where food was scarce.

[09:14] (Flashback) Hitoo

Yet now, swallowed by the dark forest,

[09:18] (Flashback) Hitoo

we have no way of knowing
what has become of other nations.

[09:23] (Flashback) Hitoo

Seeking out news of them is
part of the ship's yearly mission.

[09:28] (Flashback) Hitoo

That said, the ship always
goes to the same place:

[09:32] (Flashback) Hitoo

a small island with people
who speak our language.

[09:36] (Flashback) Hitoo

Every year, we sail there to ask them
for news, but it is always in vain.

[09:47] (Flashback) Hitoo

The ship returns laden with island goods that
are hardly worth the fuel burned on the trip.

[09:56] (Flashback) Hitoo

Nevertheless, it sets out once more,
and the capital celebrates the Boat Festival.

[10:03] (Flashback) Hitoo

In short, that island is as far as
modern humans can go and come back.

[10:14] (Flashback) Haijuu

Skyfire is both flame and light.

[10:18] (Flashback) Haijuu

Flame fiends have black blood,
yet the fire they yield gleams like gold.

[10:27] (Flashback) Haijuu

What could it be, I wonder?

[10:29] (Flashback) Haijuu

Fiends rush to attack fire hunters on sight,

[10:34] (Flashback) Haijuu

like they're mad with rage.

[10:38] (Flashback) Haijuu

But they fall still the moment
a sickle takes their life.

[10:44] (Flashback) Haijuu

They never so much as spasm or groan.

[10:48] (Flashback) Haijuu

They die and provide us
with their golden fire.

[10:54] (Flashback) Haijuu

Sometimes, I think the
flame fiends might be a gift.

[11:01] (Flashback) Haijuu

A gift from someone in ancient times
to sustain us in this savage world once...

[11:10] (Flashback) Haijuu

No, I shouldn't say any more.

[11:13] (Flashback) Haijuu

The Forest God would curse me for it.

SIGN Touko and the Treefolk

[11:58] Touko

Was it everyone, not just Benio?

[12:01] Touko

Are Mr. Enji and Mr. Sakuroku
and even Mr. Enzen dead, too?

[12:09] Shouzou

Yeah. No one could've made it out of that.

[12:13] Kaho

I'm sorry. It's all my fault.

[12:16] Shouzou

Don't cry or you'll set me off, too.

[12:20] Shouzou

What could a kid like you do
to cause that disaster, anyway?

[12:25] Kaho

But...

[12:26] Shouzou

Anyway, forget that. You've got a fever.

[12:30] Shouzou

Please, don't anyone else go dying on me.

[12:38] Shouzou

Wh-What the...

[12:47] Touko

They're the treefolk, Mr. Shouzou.

They bring medicine to villages.

[13:04] Treefolk Woman

That hound summoned us.

[13:08] Touko

Um...

[13:09] Treefolk Woman

We know what happened.

[13:12] Treefolk Man

Fiends won't attack you if you stay with us.

[13:23] Kaho

E-Excuse me, what...

[13:27] Kaho

What happened to my village?

[13:34] Treefolk Woman

The white dragon guards Crystal Village.

[13:38] Treefolk Woman

The village's ward is
useless without its god.

[13:47] Treefolk Man

Any village that loses
its guardian is doomed.

[14:21] Shouzou

That's bitter!

[14:28] Touko

Kaho!

[14:29] Shouzou

Hey. Are you awake?

[14:32] Shouzou

These, uh, treefolk guys patched you up.

[14:37] Treefolk Man

Village guardians are incarnations
of the capital's Lady Goddess.

[14:41] Treefolk Man

If your dragon god went mad,
someone likely made it so.

[14:48] Treefolk Woman

The spiders.

[14:50] Shouzou

Did you say the spiders?

[14:52] Shouzou

Hang on. How could the spiders control that dragon god?

[14:56] Touko

What are "spiders," Mr. Shouzou?

[14:59] Shouzou

Can it!

[15:01] Shouzou

The spiders used to be one of the divine clans.

[15:03] Shouzou

Meaning they're related to the gods.

[15:06] Shouzou

The spiders broke with the capital and now they wanna turn our world upside down.

[15:10] Touko

But they're family. Why would they fight?

[15:13] Shouzou

Hell if I know!

[15:15] Shouzou

So that's who got us?

The spiders? The goddamn *spiders*?

[15:23] Treefolk Woman

We will guide you to the nearest village.

[15:26] Shouzou

And after that?

[15:28] Treefolk Man

We cannot take you any farther than that.

SIGN Koushi

[15:39] Hibana

Oh, are you going out today?

[15:42] Koushi

Yes. To the library.

[15:44] Hibana

I picked out some clothes for Hinako, since she still seems ill.

[15:49] Hibana

Dressing up should help improve her mood, don't you think?

[15:54] Koushi

Yes, thank you.

[15:56] Hibana

My husband drags her to

so many dinners and events

[16:00] Hibana

that the poor girl will miss
the Boat Festival this year.

[16:05] Koushi

I know this scent.

[16:07] Koushi

Asafuyou?

SIGN Central

SIGN Archive

[16:32] Hitoo

Why, fancy meeting you here.

[16:37] Koushi

Mr. Hitoo?

SIGN Hitoo

[16:39] Hitoo

I was sorry to hear you left the academy.

[16:44] Hitoo

But I'm relieved to see
you're still eager to learn.

[16:49] Hitoo

Is there anything I can help you find?

[16:54] Koushi

I'm studying fire.

[16:57] Hitoo

Fire? I see.

[17:00] Hitoo

Try the third floor.

[17:02] Koushi

Why there?

[17:05] Hitoo

I'm certain it holds precious
texts even I've never seen.

[17:11] Koushi

Thank you very much.

[17:48] Koushi

*"It is said that an ancient cataclysm
gave rise to the flame fiends."*

[17:55] Koushi

*"The ruined land altered
the creatures living on it."*

[18:01] Koushi

*"The resemblance of the fiends to
ancient mammals backs up this theory."*

[18:10] Koushi

*"Adapting to a changed environment
turned existing animals into fiends."*

[18:18] Koushi

"Yet much about the life and habits of the fallbeast remains shrouded in mystery."

[18:25] Koushi

"We nevertheless distinguish it from other flame fiends due to the potency of its fire."

[18:35] Koushi

"This, too, we call by a different name from the fire produced by other fiends: skyfire."

SIGN Patron Goddess Tokohanahime

[18:46] Koushi

"A goddess of the foremost clan, the clan of fire, became the patron of fire hunters."

[18:52] Koushi

"Tokohanahime was her name."

[18:56] Koushi

"Her younger sister, Tayurahime, is said to sustain this nation as its immortal guardian."

SIGN Tayurahime

[19:06] Koushi

"Tokohanahime used natural flame to forge a sickle even as her own body ignited."

[19:13] Koushi

"Her dying words survive to this day."

SIGN The Millennial Comet

[19:21] Koushi

"With the fire of the Millennial Comet, we need no longer fear the dark forest."

[19:37] Koushi

"The Millennial Comet is a man-made star once launched from the earth."

[19:46] Koushi

"After the final war, however, it drifted into the void and disappeared."

[19:54] Koushi

"This humanoid star, which shall never return, was called the Flickering Flame."

SIGN Flickering Flame

[20:01] Koushi

"And whoever catches it shall become known as the Lord of the Fire Hunters."

SIGN The Lord of the Fire Hunters

[20:20] Hitoo

So did you find any useful books?

[20:23] Koushi

No, but I appreciated

the advice all the same.

[20:27] Hitoo

My lungs can't handle the dust,
so I can't go to the third floor.

[20:34] Hitoo

I envy you.

[20:36] Hitoo

That reminds me. A young fellow once
begged me to let him into the archive.

[20:41] Hitoo

I think he must have been a fire hunter.

[20:44] Koushi

What?

[20:45] Hitoo

He was a fine young man, with red hair
you couldn't miss, but he smelled of dogs.

[20:54] Hitoo

So you didn't find it, then. Oh well.

[20:57] Hinako

Koushi!

[21:03] Hitoo

Your sister seems much better.
I'd heard she was ill.

[21:16] Kira

Hinako wanted to come get you.

[21:19] Kira

Because you lose track of time
when you study, she said.

[21:26] Kira

And since she seems to be feeling better,

[21:28] Kira

I thought we could all go watch
the Boat Festival while we're out.

[21:36] Koushi

But isn't it dangerous
for you to be out alone?

[21:39] Kira

That's why you're coming, too.

[21:45] Narrator

*No flame fiend or fallbeast gives up its fire
unless slain with a hunter's sickle.*

[21:53] Narrator

*It is said the Lady Goddess birthed
the first sickle from within herself.*

[21:59] Narrator

*Records hold that this event coincided
with the maturation of the first fiends,*

[22:09] Narrator

*as though the goddess had been waiting
for their life-giving flame to ripen.*

SIGN Next Episode

SIGN Next Episode

SIGN The Spider Child

SIGN The Spider Child

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