

E1 - A Lady Out of Place

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.)

[00:33] Yukiya

Yukichi!

[00:37] Yukiya

Yukichi! Yukichi!

[01:06] Yukiya

H-Help me.

[01:08] Yukiya

Please help.

[01:09] Yukiya

Save my brother!

[01:11] Yukiya

I beg you! I don't mind if I die! So please!

[01:33] Yukiya

A golden raven?

[01:41] Nazukihiko

Have no fear. I'll return
both of you to your nests.

[01:46] Nazukihiko

We may meet again someday.

[01:50] Nazukihiko

For now, forget and go to sleep.

SIGN YATAGARASU

SIGN The Raven

Does Not

Choose

Its Master

SIGN Yamauchi

[02:05] Narrator

Yamauchi.

SIGN The yatagarasu race

has long called

this land of

deep mountains home

[02:07] Narrator

*The yatagarasu race has long called
this land of deep mountains home.*

[02:18] Narrator

*Once these strange, three-legged birds
took human form and trod the earth,*

[02:26] Narrator

they tilled fields and built towns.

[02:31] Narrator

*The lord of the yatagarasu is
called the kin'u: the Golden Raven.*

SIGN The lord of the yatagarasu

is called the kin'u:

the Golden Raven

[02:36] Narrator

*The kin'u wields supreme
authority in Yamauchi.*

[02:40] Narrator

*The title is passed from parent
to child, generation to generation.*

[02:45] Narrator

*The kin'u has long ruled the people well
and has brought plenty to Yamauchi.*

[02:53] Narrator

*Yet its history has also been replete with
scheming by those who flock to the throne.*

[03:01] Narrator

*The plots reach their height in
the choice of the crown prince's consort:*

SIGN Rite of
Ascension

[03:06] Narrator

the Rite of Ascension.

[03:09] Narrator

*Noblewomen contest a single place
at the future kin'u's side.*

[03:16] Narrator

*They shoulder their families' fates
in the fierce battle about to unfold.*

SIGN Wisteria Hall, Cherry Blossom Palace

[03:29] Empress

What do you say to "Asebi"?

[03:32] Asebi

"Asebi"?

[03:34] Empress

As your alias.

[03:38] Empress

A lady who might marry
the Prince, however lowly,

[03:43] Empress

can hardly remain
a nameless second daughter.

[03:46] Empress

Or does my choice of name dissatisfy you?

[03:51] Asebi

P-Perish the thought!

[03:53] Asebi

A name from Your Majesty's own lips
honors me more than I deserve.

[03:58] Ladies-in-Waiting

Goodness.

[04:00] Ladies-in-Waiting

"Asebi," she said.

[04:00] Ladies-in-Waiting

Her Majesty took the joke too far.

[04:03] Ladies-in-Waiting

Does the girl not realize?

[04:04] Empress

Then, let it be so, Lady Asebi.

SIGN Spring Hall

[04:09] Empress

I leave the Spring Hall in your care.

[04:12] Asebi

Y-Yes, ma'am!

[04:14] Takimoto

Congratulations.

[04:17] Takimoto

Today, through the Rite of Ascension,

[04:19] Takimoto

you have formally entered contention
for His Highness's hand.

SIGN First daughter of

the Southern House

Hamayu

[04:24] Takimoto

First daughter of the

Southern House, Lady Hamayu.

SIGN First daughter of

the Western House

Masuho-no-Susuki

[04:27] Takimoto

First daughter of the Western House,
Lady Masuho-no-Susuki.

SIGN Third daughter of
the Northern House
Shiratama

[04:31] Takimoto

Third daughter of the
Northern House, Lady Shiratama.

SIGN Second daughter of
the Eastern House
Asebi

[04:34] Takimoto

And second daughter of
the Eastern House, Lady Asebi.

[04:38] Takimoto

Yet only one among you will be chosen.

[04:42] Takimoto

Here in the Cherry Blossom Palace,
you will spur each other to new heights,

[04:46] Takimoto

so that you may experience
a joyous day in one year's time.

SIGN The Empress

Her Majesty
Omurasaki

[05:04] Haruhito

Still, I can't help feeling lonely
without our guest of honor.

[05:10] Haruhito

I had hoped he would accept
the invitation for once.

[05:14] Genya

Honestly, what is His Highness thinking?

SIGN Lord of the North

Genya

[05:18] Genya

I wish he'd show the people sending him
their dear daughters some courtesy.

SIGN Lord of the East

Haruhito

[05:23] Haruhito

And I believe Lady Shiratama is only 14.

[05:26] Haruhito

You must worry for her.

SIGN Lord of the South

Toru

[05:28] Toru

He can't neglect the Four Houses
and still hope to govern.

[05:33] Toru

I don't doubt he'll realize that soon.

[05:35] Akira

Oh, I'm shaking in my boots!

SIGN Lord of the West

Akira

[05:37] Akira

Whatever are you plotting?

[05:40] Akira

In any case, there will be no hard feelings,
no matter whose daughter he chooses.

[05:48] Fujinami

Sister!

SIGN Princess

Fujinami

[05:53] Asebi

Your Highness!

[05:56] Fujinami

How many years has it been?

I never dreamed I'd get to see you here.

[06:00] Asebi

Forgive me. I didn't even write.

[06:02] Asebi

Seeing you well brings me
the greatest pleasure.

[06:05] Fujinami

Stop being so formal.

There's no need for ceremony between us.

[06:10] Asebi

Very well. Princess Fujinami, then.

[06:14] Fujinami

Still, you really have grown into a beauty.

[06:19] Fujinami

You're sure to catch my brother's...

I mean, His Highness's eye.

[06:24] Asebi

Really? Thank you.

[06:27] Asebi

But I wouldn't go that far.

[06:29] Fujinami

No, I mean it!

[06:31] Fujinami

I hope he chooses you.

[06:35] Fujinami

I mean, then we really *would* be sisters.

[06:40] Hamayu

You're busy winning over
His Highness's little sister already?

[06:45] Hamayu

Not half bad.

[06:47] Asebi

Um, aren't you the Southern House's—

[06:50] Fujinami

Lady Hamayu, you forget yourself.

[06:52] Hamayu

Do I? I hope you'll forgive me.

[06:59] Hamayu

You, uh, second daughter
of the Eastern House.

[07:03] Asebi

Y-Yes?

[07:05] Hamayu

Are you really happy to
receive a name like Asebi?

[07:11] Asebi

Yes. It's a lovely name.

[07:15] Hamayu

If that doesn't top it all!

[07:17] Fujinami

Hamayu!

[07:18] Asebi

Um, did I say something odd?

[07:21] Ukogi

My lady, allow me to explain—

[07:24] Masuho

You write "asebi" as
"horse intoxicating tree."

[07:32] Masuho

Asebi flowers have poison in them.

[07:37] Masuho

Nibbling on them makes
horses disgracefully drunk.

[07:42] Masuho

The flowers symbolize you.
And the horse...

[07:48] Hamayu

Tell her straight. Don't try to dress it up.

[07:50] Hamayu

The "horse" is the Prince.

[07:53] Asebi

What?

[07:54] Hamayu

"Just like brainless horses
get drunk eating asebi,

[07:58] Hamayu

a man of the Prince's caliber
will lose his wits over you."

[08:03] Hamayu

"So have at it."

[08:05] Hamayu

Basically, the Empress used
your alias to insult the Prince.

[08:12] Hamayu

It's just the sort of thing she would do.

[08:15] Asebi

What? His Highness, a horse? I never—

[08:18] Ukogi

My lady! You mustn't say another word!

[08:23] Asebi

Princess Fujinami...

[08:26] Masuho

What a shame. After hearing
her dear brother so insulted, well...

[08:32] Masuho

You aren't to blame.
Allow me to reintroduce myself.

[08:36] Masuho

I am Masuho-no-Susuki,
first daughter of the Western House.

[08:39] Asebi

Oh, I'm—

[08:41] Masuho

I love beautiful and charming things.

[08:45] Masuho

I think we could be great friends.

[08:48] Asebi

Y-Yes.

[08:50] Masuho

Still, my condolences on attracting
such unpleasant attention.

[08:55] Hamayu

Hah. There's that western "friendliness"!

[08:58] Masuho

Better a people pleaser
than a greedy southern boor.

[09:02] Hamayu

The Southern House is honest.

[09:04] Hamayu

We can't fake smiles that shamelessly.

[09:07] Masuho

How nice for you.

[09:08] Masuho

I suggest welcoming

His Highness with a frown, then.

[09:11] Asebi

U-Um...

[09:12] Hamayu

Yes, I think I will.

[09:13] Shiratama

They don't consider you a threat.

[09:16] Asebi

Lady Shiratama?

[09:18] Shiratama

They don't think either

of us could ever be chosen.

[09:26] Hamayu

That's enough.

Any more will spoil my drinks.

[09:31] Masuho

Well then, if you'll all excuse me.

SIGN Spring Hall, Cherry Blossom Palace

[09:48] Ukogi

I should have explained

the situation more clearly.

SIGN Eastern lady-in-waiting

Ukogi

[09:52] Ukogi

Everyone ascends to the palace

determined to be chosen.

[09:55] Ukogi

Every house leaps at the chance

to make one of its ladies a kin'u's bride.

[10:01] Asebi

I'm exhausted. I can't even tell what...

SIGN m 0 0 | 0 0 b 5 -3 10 -4 14 -4 | 42 51 b 38 51 33 52 27 56 | 0 0

SIGN The Singing Beak of Yamauchi

[10:07] Ukogi

The Singing Beak of Yamauchi.

We'll begin your studies here.

[10:11] Ukogi

Remember, my lady?

I read it to you when you were little.

[10:15] Asebi

Oh, the book that put me to sleep—

[10:18] Ukogi

My lady!

[10:19] Ukogi

We'll start with the absolute basics
and review Yamauchi's origins.

[10:24] Ukogi

Pay close attention.

[10:27] Ukogi

When the Mountain God visited this land,
water gushed from its peaks.

[10:33] Ukogi

Soon, trees, flowers,
and ears of rice hung heavy.

[10:38] Ukogi

The Mountain God named
the bounteous land Yamauchi,

[10:42] Ukogi

and appointed a golden raven
to rule it in his stead.

[10:46] Ukogi

The golden raven apportioned
lands to his four children.

[10:50] Ukogi

To the first, an eastern land
awash with flowers.

[10:53] Ukogi

To the second, a southern land
ripe with fruit.

[10:57] Ukogi

To the third, a western land
thick with rice.

[11:00] Ukogi

To the fourth, a northern land
gushing with springs.

[11:04] Ukogi

Thus began the domains of the Four Houses.

SIGN Royal House

SIGN Royal House

SIGN Northern
House

SIGN Northern
House

SIGN Eastern
House

SIGN Eastern
House

SIGN Southern
House

SIGN Southern

House

SIGN Western

House

SIGN Western

House

[11:07] Ukogi

Meanwhile, the golden raven
gained the name of "kin'u,"

[11:10] Ukogi

and his line would dwell on the
central peak, closest to the Mountain God.

[11:16] Ukogi

In contrast to the Four Houses,
this royal house...

[11:19] Ukogi

My lady! Are you awake?

[11:22] Asebi

O-Of course I am!

[11:24] Asebi

The kin'u serves the Mountain God,
maintaining peace in Yamauchi, right?

[11:29] Ukogi

Exactly.

[11:31] Ukogi

His Highness may be crown prince now,

[11:34] Ukogi

but he will accede as kin'u
before much longer.

[11:37] Ukogi

To become his consort is to
uphold the peace in Yamauchi.

[11:42] Ukogi

Every house that sends
a daughter takes pride in that.

[11:47] Ukogi

Or so they say in public.

[11:49] Asebi

Huh?

[11:50] Ukogi

This is war!

[11:52] Asebi

W-War?

[11:54] Ukogi

Royal authority touches all political
and economic life in Yamauchi.

[11:58] Ukogi

Naturally, the kin'u's consort

receives a share of that power.

[12:02] Asebi

You mean the Empress?

[12:06] Ukogi

Every consort brings vast wealth
and power to the house that sent her.

[12:13] Ukogi

Any children brings them even closer
to royalty as guardians and caretakers,

[12:19] Ukogi

and a male child will
become kin'u himself one day.

[12:23] Asebi

And that house's future will be secure.

[12:25] Ukogi

Precisely.

SIGN Royal House

SIGN Royal House

SIGN Northern
House

SIGN Northern
House

SIGN Eastern
House

SIGN Eastern
House

SIGN Southern
House

SIGN Southern
House

SIGN Western
House

SIGN Western
House

[12:27] Ukogi

So this rite is a proxy war by ladies
on behalf of the Four Houses!

[12:35] Asebi

That explains it. No wonder they don't take
a provincial know-nothing like me seriously.

[12:39] Ukogi

You mustn't lose heart!

[12:41] Lady-in-waiting 1

My lady.

[12:43] Lady-in-waiting 1

Lady Masuho-no-Susuki of the Autumn Hall
has sent you a gift by way of greeting.

[12:51] Asebi

A sappanwood red gown!

[12:53] Asebi

And look at this fine embroidery!

[12:56] Ukogi

Wh-Wh-Why, it's magnificent!

[12:58] Ukogi

Oh, whatever shall we send in return?

[13:00] Masuho

I am hosting a tea party tomorrow.

[13:03] Masuho

Please feel free to attend.

[13:07] Asebi

I've never been to
a friend's tea party before!

[13:10] Asebi

What a wonderful person
Lady Masuho-no-Susuki turned out to be!

[13:30] Empress

I see a "Lady Raven" has slipped
into the palace this time.

[13:36] Empress

We hardly need panic to remove her.

[13:40] Empress

Her presence may nudge things
in the right direction.

SIGN His Reigning Majesty

[13:54] Empress

Let us enjoy her antics to the fullest,

[13:58] Empress

along with His Highness's own performance.

[14:20] Kikuno

Lady Shiratama presents this incense.

SIGN Autumn Hall, Cherry Blossom Palace

[14:25] Cha-no-Hana

The Northern House has
treasured it for generations.

SIGN Northern lady-in-waiting

Cha-no-Hana

[14:28] Cha-no-Hana

Its production and composition remain
the most closely guarded of secrets.

[14:32] Cha-no-hana

We bring it today especially for your—

[14:35] Masuho

It certainly is an uncommon fragrance.

[14:38] Masuho

Perhaps a bit heavy on cloves.

[14:40] Masuho

Well, it reminds me of *kurobo*,
so I can guess at its composition.

SIGN Western lady-in-waiting

Kikuno

[14:48] Masuho

Shiratama, what do you think of my incense?

[14:51] Shiratama

A bit heavy on musk, perhaps.

[14:54] Shiratama

And it rather reminds me of jasmine.

[14:57] Masuho

I'm impressed you can tell.

[14:59] Kikuno

Lady Masuho-no-Susuki
compounded it herself.

[15:03] Asebi

What are they doing, Ukogi?

[15:05] Ukogi

Identifying the elements
of incense as a game.

[15:07] Ukogi

Oh, I was right to have
a bad feeling about this.

[15:10] Masuho

Lady Asebi, would you tell us
about your fragrance?

[15:14] Asebi

Yes!

[15:16] Asebi

Oh, I'm sorry. I don't really know.

[15:22] Asebi

I do use incense, but...

[15:24] Asebi

What could it be?

[15:25] Asebi

Not musk or anything so costly,
I shouldn't think.

[15:29] Masuho

Surely you jest.

What noble doesn't know their incense?

[15:33] Lady-in-waiting

I can't believe it. Has the Eastern House
fallen on such hard times?

[15:37] Ukogi

Begging your pardon...

[15:38] Ukogi

The Eastern House has ancient
and noble incense traditions of its own,

[15:43] Ukogi

but my lady was a somewhat delicate child
and has little experience with them.

[15:50] Masuho

My, what a pity.

[15:53] Masuho

The doll festival is almost upon us,
so use that to ward off evil influences.

[15:58] Asebi

I actually have them with me.

[16:01] Asebi

My dolls for the festival.

[16:09] Lady-in-waiting

How shabby. Practically peasant dolls.

[16:13] Lady-in-waiting

Leave her be. The provincial set
can't produce anything better.

[16:20] Masuho

Lady Asebi, are you certain...

[16:23] Masuho

you really belong here?

[16:28] Shiratama

Oh dear. I do beg your pardon.

[16:31] Kikuno

My lady's favorite Grey Heron teacup!

[16:34] Masuho

Enough, Kikuno. You're making a scene.

[16:38] Ukogi

My lady!

[16:39] Ukogi

Ow.

[16:39] Ukogi

My lady!

[16:53] Hamayu

Let me guess. Someone's been bullying you?

[16:58] Hamayu

Was it Masuho-no-Susuki or Shiratama?

[17:07] Asebi

I have no right to be here.

[17:12] Asebi

My older sister was supposed to come.

[17:14] Asebi

But she fell ill.

[17:16] Asebi

I took her place at the last minute.

[17:19] Asebi

I felt so happy.

[17:21] Asebi

I've lived in a country villa
for as long as I can remember.

[17:26] Asebi

I had nothing but worrywart
ladies-in-waiting for company.

[17:29] Asebi

I barely ever got to go outside
and play with other children my age.

[17:35] Asebi

But it's no use.

[17:37] Asebi

I stand out like a sore thumb.

[17:39] Hamayu

Will you take your leave, then?

[17:45] Hamayu

Come to think of it, we have one other
out-of-place person this time.

[17:51] Hamayu

Someone they say turned witless
on a long trip abroad.

[17:56] Hamayu

Someone who everyone calls
an unbelievable fool.

[18:02] Hamayu

The Prince.

[18:04] Asebi

His Highness?

[18:05] Hamayu

It's not exactly a secret.

[18:08] Hamayu

You really don't know anything, do you?

[18:12] Hamayu

Then, I guess this will be news to you.

[18:15] Hamayu

The Prince wasn't anyone's first choice
to succeed the current kin'u.

[18:21] Hamayu

He's a second son.

[18:24] Hamayu

His brother who's five years older
should be the heir.

[18:29] Hamayu

The brother was a razor-sharp kid.

They said he'd make a great ruler one day.

[18:36] Hamayu

But for whatever reason,
the royal priests declared the infant prince

[18:42] Hamayu

more worthy to inherit than his brother.

[18:46] Hamayu

Even though the older prince's mother
is the kin'u's wife, the Empress,

[18:50] Hamayu

while his younger brother
was born to a concubine.

[18:55] Hamayu

I hear it caused a panic in the Center.

[18:57] Hamayu

Factions formed and split the court in two.

[19:03] Hamayu

In the end, the older brother lost the
power struggle and had to become a priest.

[19:11] Asebi

So that's why Her Majesty used
my name as a slight to His Highness.

[19:16] Asebi

I feel terrible for the elder prince.

[19:18] Hamayu

Well, officially, they settled everything,

[19:22] Hamayu

but who knows how he really feels?

[19:26] Hamayu

You never know what might
happen during this rite.

[19:31] Asebi

And you, Lady Hamayu?

[19:32] Hamayu

Consider me a spectator.

[19:40] Hamayu

Oh, and there was one other rumor.

[19:43] Hamayu

I hear the foolish prince is a *real* kin'u.

[19:51] Asebi

"Real"?

SIGN The North

[20:24] Yukimasa

My lord.

[20:26] Genya

Oh, Yukimasa. In good health, I hope?

[20:29] Yukimasa

Yes, sir.

[20:30] Yukimasa

I cannot thank you enough
for inviting me here today.

SIGN Lord of Taruhi Village
in the North
Yukimasa

[20:34] Yukimasa

Have you just returned from the Center?

SIGN Mansion of the Northern House

[20:36] Genya

Yes. The Rite of Ascension
makes life hectic.

[20:41] Genya

By the way, Yukimasa...

[20:43] Yukimasa

Sir?

[20:43] Genya

Did your boys come with you?

[20:46] Yukimasa

O-Of course.

[20:49] Genya

I can't wait to see them.

[20:51] Genya

Yukiya moaned about stomach trouble
and excused himself last year.

[20:56] Genya

He must have done a lot of growing.

[21:00] Yukimasa

Where has that blockhead gone?

SIGN The Lord of Taruhi Village's
second son
Yukiya

[21:04] Yukiya

So, um, you're saying you won't pay,
no matter what?

[21:10] Lackey 1

We told you, you've got it all wrong.

[21:13] Lackey 2

As if we'd ever dine-and-dash
at this peasant kid's place.

[21:17] Child

Liar! I know you took our mochi!

[21:20] Kazumaro

Enough!

[21:21] Kazumaro

You hill ravens owe us court ravens

every hospitality, anyway.

[21:27] Kazumaro

Even if I *did* eat your mochi,
what's so wrong with that?

[21:30] Yukiya

Excuse me.

[21:33] Yukiya

A lot of people saw you,
so it's an open-and-shut case.

[21:38] Yukiya

Won't you please pay for the mochi?

[21:43] Kazumaro

You hill ravens don't know your place.

[21:46] Lackey 2

Come on.

[21:47] Child

Y-Yukiya!

[21:48] Yukiya

Don't worry. We can talk this out.

[22:01] Yukima

Yukiya, are you okay?

[22:03] Yukichi

Yukiya!

[22:05] Yukiya

Huh?

[22:06] Yukiya

Big brother? Yukichi? What's the matter?

SIGN The Lord of Taruhi Village's

eldest son

Yukima

[22:10] Yukima

You idiot! Why do you
always put yourself in danger?

[22:13] Yukichi

It's not Yukiya's fault!

SIGN The Lord of Taruhi Village's

third son

Yukichi

[22:15] Yukichi

Just 'cause they're court ravens
from the Center,

[22:18] Yukichi

they made fun of us and
threw their weight around.

[22:20] Yukiya

Hey, isn't today...

[22:23] Yukiya

the Northern House's banquet?

[22:25] Yukima

Yeah. But with a face like that...

[22:30] Yukiya

And those court ravens
will be there, too, right?

[22:35] Yukima

Hey, this better not be another of your...

[22:38] Yukiya

Don't be silly, Big Brother.
I'm not planning anything.

[22:42] Yukiya

Well, I'll see you there.

[22:49] Yukima

Yukiya!

[22:54] Yukiya

Ugh. I knew this would hurt.

[24:30] Narrator

*The Northern House puts forward
Lady Shiratama as consort.*

[24:34] Narrator

After causing a scene at the banquet,

[24:37] Narrator

*Yukiya is ordered to wait
on the "foolish" prince.*

[24:43] Narrator

Yukiya and the Prince.

[24:45] Narrator

Their strange fate is set in motion.

SIGN The Blockhead

SIGN Second Son

[24:50] Narrator

Next time: "The Blockhead Second Son."

SIGN YATAGARASU:

The Raven

Does Not

Choose

Its Master

SIGN Illustration: Natsuki

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