

This Merlin Episode Transcript provides a full dialogue log off Episode 09 of Season II “The Lady of the Lake” of the [BBC series Merlin](#).

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Transcript

KILGHARRAH

In a land of myth and a time of magic, the destiny of a great kingdom rests on the shoulders of a young boy. His name: Merlin.

—

[EXT. LOWER TOWN - NIGHT] [A bounty hunter arrives in Camelot with a druid girl locked in a horse-drawn cage. He leaves her outside in the thunderstorm while he goes to the tavern. Gaius is making a house call with Merlin in the lower town.]

GAIUS

If he's not better in the morning, let me know.

[Merlin and Gaius pass the girl in the cage on their way back to the castle.]

MERLIN

Gaius.

GAIUS

She's fallen prey to a bounty hunter.

MERLIN

She's only a girl.

GAIUS

She'll still fetch a good price, though.

MERLIN

Someone's going to pay for her?

GAIUS

Uther offers a handsome reward for anyone with magic.

MERLIN

There must be something we can do.

GAIUS

Merlin, bounty hunters are dangerous men. They're not to be meddled with. You of all people should understand that.

—

[INT/EXT. KING'S PALACE, PHYSICIAN'S CHAMBERS/LOWER TOWN - NIGHT] [Merlin sneaks out while Gaius sleeps. He peeks in the tavern to make sure the bounty hunter is occupied before going to the caged girl.]

MERLIN

Don't worry, I'm not going to hurt you. Tospringe.

[The cage door breaks open. Merlin steps inside and puts his hand over her manacles.]

MERLIN

Unspene þás mægþ!

[The manacles break off. he takes her hand and they hide behind the cart just as the bounty hunter exits.]

MERLIN

Ic bebíede þis giestærn tácen fielan.

[The tavern sign breaks off and hits the bounty hunter. Merlin runs with girl.]

MERLIN

Bryne.

[Merlin lights a torch and takes girl down some tunnels under the castle.]

MERLIN

They won't find you here.

[Merlin takes off his jacket.]

MERLIN

Here.

[She shrinks back.]

MERLIN

Sorry. Sorry, I didn't mean to frighten you. I just thought you might be cold.

FREYA

Why did you do that?

MERLIN

What?

FREYA

Help me.

MERLIN

Well, I saw you and...it could've been me in that cage. You'll be safe down here. I'll come back in the morning with some food and candles. Will you be alright till then?

[Freya nods.]

MERLIN

I'm Merlin, by the way.

FREYA

I'm Freya.

MERLIN

Freya.

[Merlin hands her his jacket and she accepts it.]

MERLIN

I'll see you in the morning, Freya.

FREYA

Thank you.

[Merlin nods.]

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, PHYSICIAN'S CHAMBERS/ARTHUR'S CHAMBERS - DAY] [Merlin looks for food the next morning, finding only stale bread and rotten fruit. Merlin goes to Arthur's Chambers and exchanges these for fine meat, bread, and cheese. Merlin opens the curtains.]

MERLIN

Breakfast!

ARTHUR

Oi! Where's the meat? Cheese?

MERLIN

That's the new breakfast menu.

ARTHUR

This isn't enough.

MERLIN

We, we've got to keep you in shape.

ARTHUR

I'm fighting fit!

MERLIN

But we want to keep you that way.

ARTHUR

Merlin!

[Arthur throws the food at him.]

ARTHUR

Is there somewhere you have to be?

MERLIN

Of course not!

ARTHUR

Good. 'Cause I've got some chores for you to do.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, ARTHUR'S CHAMBERS - DAY] [Merlin prepares Arthur's bath.]

ARTHUR

Make sure it's hot enough!

MERLIN

Onhæte þá wæter.

ARTHUR

Is it ready?

MERLIN

Yep. Freshly heated.

ARTHUR

Ah! You bumpkin! It's boiling!

MERLIN

Boiling?

ARTHUR

You are half asleep today!

MERLIN

I'm sorry, Sire. Erm, I'll get you some cold.

ARTHUR

No, I'll get you some.

[Arthur splashes Merlin with a water pitcher.]

ARTHUR

That woken you up?

MERLIN

Raring to go, Sire.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, COUNCIL CHAMBER OF DOOM - DAY] [The bounty hunter enters with some knights .]

UTHER

Ah, Halig. You've come bearing gifts?

HALIG

Yes, Sire. A druid girl. But she escaped last night here in Camelot.

UTHER

Well, don't worry. We'll soon find her. Have some guards help with the search.

[A knight bows and exits.]

HALIG

You need to warn them, Sire. The girl is dangerous. The informer told me she was cursed.

UTHER

How so?

HALIG

He didn't know, but he said even the druids were frightened of her. They cast her out of their camp.

GAIUS

It's against all the druids believe to reject those in need of care.

UTHER

Why would they do such a thing?

GAIUS

I dread to think.

UTHER

Set up sentries on all the gates.

HALIG

We should search the lower town, Sire. Someone may be harbouring her.

GAIUS

You think she had help?

HALIG

I saw two figures running away.

UTHER

Give Halig all the help he needs. I want this girl and her accomplice found.

—

[EXT. KING'S PALACE, GATE - DAY] [Peasants queue up to enter the palace grounds. Halig inspects each one.]

GUARD

Get in line!

[Halig shakes his head that it's not the person he saw.]

GUARD

Move along.

[Halig nods at the next woman. She's taken by guards. Halig shakes his head at Merlin, but then looks at him as Merlin passes by.]

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, TUNNELS - DAY] [Merlin enters tunnels with a torch and a care package. Freya's sleeping.]

MERLIN (whisper)

Freya?

[Merlin touches her shoulder. She wakes and shrinks from him.]

Merlin (whisper)

It's all right. It's okay. It's me. It's Merlin. And look...

[Merlin shows her what he brought. Freya stuffs the food in her mouth. Merlin sets up the

candles.]

FREYA
It's good.

MERLIN
Believe me, it's fit for a prince.

[Merlin lights candles with magic. He sees a tattoo on her arm.]

MERLIN
Is that a druid symbol?

[Freya nods.]

MERLIN
Were you born a druid?

FREYA
Why are you asking me all these questions?

MERLIN
Sorry, I didn't mean to.

FREYA
I'm sorry.

MERLIN
I understand.

FREYA
You could never understand.

MERLIN
I know what it's like to keep secrets.

FREYA
Does anyone know you have magic?

MERLIN

Only you. And one other person. He knows, but I'm not sure he understands.

FREYA

I wish I was like everyone else, but...

MERLIN

You always know, deep down, you're not?

FREYA

Because I'm cursed.

MERLIN

Freya, don't say that. Magic doesn't have to be a curse. It can be a gift. Look. Hoppað nu swicae swá lig flíehen.

[Merlin floats the candles.]

FREYA

Beautiful.

MERLIN

I have to go. Erm, someone might notice I'm missing. But I- I'll come back, and I'll bring you some more food. I promise.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, PHYSICIAN'S CHAMBERS - DAY] [Merlin enters.]

GAIUS

Do you know anything about the girl?

MERLIN

What girl?

GAIUS

The girl from the cage. She escaped last night.

MERLIN

Good. I'm pleased.

GAIUS

They're out hunting for her.

MERLIN

Why can't they just let her be?

GAIUS

Did you help her escape?

MERLIN

No.

GAIUS

Merlin?

MERLIN

You told me not to get involved.

GAIUS

You promise me you'd nothing to do with this?

MERLIN

Yes!

GAIUS

Good. Because when Halig finds out who helped her, I wouldn't want to be in their shoes.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, ARTHUR'S CHAMBERS] [Arthur eats dinner.]

MERLIN

Would you like some water with that?

ARTHUR

Mmm.

[Merlin pours the water out of the pitcher and magically knocks Arthur's knife off of the table. When Arthur bends down to pick it up, Merlin magically shoots a drumstick into the water pitcher.]

ARTHUR

I had two drumsticks.

MERLIN

No you didn't.

ARTHUR

Merlin, I had two drumsticks.

MERLIN

Maybe it fell on the floor.

[Arthur leans over to check and Merlin magically grabs the sausages.]

ARTHUR

I had sausages!

MERLIN

You sure? They must've fallen under the table.

ARTHUR

Merlin!

MERLIN

What? You can search me, I haven't taken them.

ARTHUR

Well, where have they gone?

MERLIN

Strange.

ARTHUR

Very.

MERLIN

Sure you didn't eat them?

ARTHUR

I haven't had the chance!

—
[EXT/INT. LOWER TOWN/DUNGEONS] [Merlin rushes through the lower town with the pitcher full of meat and runs into Halig. Guards drag Merlin into a dungeon cell. Halig overturns pitcher and meat drops out.]

MERLIN

It's just the Prince's leftovers.

HALIG

Does he know you steal his food?

MERLIN

Not exactly.

HALIG

Where were you taking it?

MERLIN

Home. For my dinner.

HALIG

Really? The druid girl I'm looking for, have you seen her?

MERLIN

No.

HALIG

Do you know how much money she's worth to me?

[Merlin shakes his head.]

HALIG

More than your life. So I'm asking you again. Have you seen the druid girl?

MERLIN (shakes head)

No.

[Halig pushes Merlin into a chair.]

HALIG

Hold him. I think you're lying to me.

MERLIN
I'm not!

HALIG
I don't believe you.

[Halig swing his arm back to punch Merlin.]

ARTHUR
Halig! What do you think you're doing?

HALIG
We caught the boy behaving suspiciously, Sire.

ARTHUR
Merlin?

HALIG
He could be harbouring the girl, and he's gonna tell us where.

[Merlin shuts his eyes, waiting to be hit. Arthur grabs Halig's arm and gets Merlin out of the chair.]

ARTHUR
Leave him alone. Merlin is my servant. He has my absolute trust. If you have a problem with him, you come to me. Do you understand?

HALIG
Sire. (bows) Goodnight, Merlin. Don't forget your dinner.

[Arthur notices the meat on the floor.]

MERLIN
Thank you.

[Merlin notices Arthur staring at the meat on the floor.]

MERLIN

Ah.

ARTHUR
Are those my sausages?

MERLIN (nods)
Mmm.

ARTHUR
You took them?

MERLIN
To keep you in shape.

[Merlin picks up the meat.]

ARTHUR
Are you saying I'm fat?

MERLIN
No. Well, not yet.

ARTHUR
I am not fat!

MERLIN
You see? It's working.

—

[INT. TUNNELS] [Merlin goes to Freya in the tunnels.]

MERLIN
I'm sorry I took so long. You must be hungry. What is it?

FREYA
Nothing.

MERLIN
But you're upset.

FREYA

No.

MERLIN

D'you think I wasn't coming? But I promised you I would.

FREYA

I scare most people away.

MERLIN

I'm not most people. How long had you been in that cage?

FREYA

A few days.

MERLIN

And the bounty hunter?

FREYA

Halg.

MERLIN

How did he find you?

FREYA (sniffs)

You can't always trust people.

MERLIN

I know. That's why I left home.

FREYA

Where is home?

MERLIN

Ealdor. It's a small village. Just a few fields, a couple of cows. Nothing special.

FREYA

My home was next to a lake surrounded by the tallest mountains. In the winter the storms whipped up the water into waves and you thought they were going to crash down and take away all the houses. But in the summer, wild flowers and light. It was like heaven.

MERLIN

Sounds perfect.

FREYA

It was.

MERLIN

Was?

FREYA

My family died.

MERLIN

Have you been on your own ever since? You're not on your own anymore. I'm going to look after you. I promise.

FREYA

You can't look after me. No one can.

MERLIN

No, I don't think you understand. I've never known anyone like you. I wish I could stay.

FREYA

You're going?

MERLIN

We need to be careful. I'll come back in the morning. You know I will be back, don't you?

FREYA

Merlin, I've never known anyone like you either.

—

[EXT. LOWER TOWN]

GAIUS

I think they've been killed by some kind of wild animal.

UTHER

Have your men been able to track the creature?

ARTHUR

That's the strange thing, 'cause the ground is soft. Obviously a bear or wolf would leave some mark. But there are no tracks.

GAIUS

Then what are these?

ARTHUR

Human footprints.

GAIUS

But they're leading away from the bodies. Did someone escape the attack?

ARTHUR

No one's come forward.

UTHER

Could the person who made these be responsible?

GAIUS

I don't believe so. These wounds could only've been inflicted by a beast of considerable size.

UTHER

And if this was done by neither a man nor beast, there's only one other explanation. It must be the work of a magical creature.

—

[INT. TUNNELS]

MERLIN

I know, I'm late again. Sorry. But, er, this is going to be the best bread you have ever tasted. What do you want with it? Come on. You can have anything. Ham. Cheese.

FREYA

Strawberries.

MERLIN

Strawberries it is.

[Merlin clears his throat and rubs hands together.] MERLIN

Blóstma.

[Merlin opens his hands to reveal a red rose.]

FREYA

That's not a strawberry.

MERLIN

Er, it's the right colour.

FREYA

Why are you so good to me?

MERLIN

Because I can't help it. I don't know. I like you. With you I can just be who I am. We don't have to hide anything. We don't have to worry.

FREYA

Merlin, please, listen to me. I'm not like you.

MERLIN

They must've followed me.

FREYA

They're going to find me. I can't go back in that cage, I can't.

MERLIN

Shh. I won't let that happen. I promised you I'd look after you, and I will. No matter what. You really don't realise how special you are, do you?

FREYA

You're not scared of me?

MERLIN

Being different's nothing to be scared of.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, PHYSICIAN'S CHAMBERS]

MERLIN

humming

GAIUS
Will you stop that?

MERLIN
What?

GAIUS
Sit down and eat your soup.

MERLIN
humming

GAIUS
Merlin.

MERLIN
Sorry.

GAIUS
What is wrong with you?

MERLIN
Nothing. I feel great.

GAIUS
Good. Then you can get on with some chores.

MERLIN
Chores?

GAIUS
Unless you have something better to do.

MERLIN
Sorry, I'm going out.

GAIUS
Well what time will you be back?

MERLIN

Er, well don't wait up for me. I might be late.

—

[INT. TUNNELS]

FREYA

What are you doing here?

MERLIN

I couldn't help it.

FREYA

It's dangerous.

MERLIN

I don't care.

FREYA

No, Merlin, you have to be careful.

MERLIN

Ugh, I'm fed up with being careful. I am fed up with all of this. So I've decided, we're going to get you out of here, out of Camelot.

FREYA

How?

MERLIN

I'll get you some clothes, disguise you. What's wrong?

FREYA

It's just, I'm going to miss you.

MERLIN

No, you won't, because I'm going to come with you.

FREYA

What?

MERLIN

I told you I'm going to look after you.

FREYA

You can't. Don't say that.

MERLIN

It's not what you want?

FREYA

Merlin, you have a good life here. My life is...I have to keep moving, always looking over my shoulder, people chasing me.

MERLIN

Then we'll go somewhere no one knows us. Somewhere far away. You haven't given me your answer.

FREYA

I want that more than anything. Where will we go?

MERLIN

Somewhere with mountains.

FREYA

A few fields.

MERLIN

Wild flowers.

FREYA

A couple of cows.

MERLIN

And a lake.

FREYA

And a lake.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, MORGANA'S CHAMBERS - DAY] [Merlin knocks on Morgana's

door.]

MERLIN (muffled)
Lady Morgana?

[Merlin enters.]

MERLIN
Lady Morgana?

[Merlin looks through Morgana's closet looking for a dress.]

GWEN
Merlin? I'm sure there's an obvious explanation.

MERLIN
There is.

GWEN
Which is?

MERLIN
Moths.

GWEN
Moths?

MERLIN
Yes. The castle's overrun with them.

GWEN
Really?

MERLIN
I was just checking that they hadn't got in here as well.

GWEN
And have they?

MERLIN

That's, that's totally infested. I have to burn it.

GWEN
Burn it?

MERLIN
Yeah. And if we don't stop them, we'll all be walking around naked.

—
[INT. KING'S PALACE, CORRIDOR - DAY] [Arthur sees Merlin with the dress.]

ARTHUR
What are you doing?

MERLIN
Er, running an errand for Gaius.

ARTHUR
For Gaius?

MERLIN
Yes.

ARTHUR
Strange.

MERLIN
Oh, I don't think it's for him.

ARTHUR
As long as you do a decent day's work, Merlin, that's all I care about.

MERLIN
No, no. It's not for me.

ARTHUR
What a man does in his spare time is completely up to him.

MERLIN
No, you- you've got this wrong.

ARTHUR

Colour suits you, Merlin.

—

[EXT. LOWER TOWN - DAY]

UTHER

The beast has struck again?

GAIUS

I'm afraid so. The wounds match those of the previous victims.

ARTHUR

The man who saw it spoke of a huge black cat with wings.

UTHER

I was right. This is not the work of a natural creature.

GAIUS

Are there any tracks this time?

ARTHUR

Just human footprints again.

UTHER

Can you identify this monster?

GAIUS

I will need more time to investigate.

UTHER

Oh, come on. You always have theories in these matters.

GAIUS

This time, Sire, I prefer to wait till I'm certain.

UTHER

There is no time to waste, Gaius.

GAIUS

I'll report back to you before the day's out, Sire.

—

[INT. TUNNELS] [Merlin brings Freya the dress in the tunnel.]

MERLIN

You look like a princess.

FREYA

I'm not. I can't take this.

MERLIN

Freya, I don't understand.

FREYA

You keep doing all this for me. I don't deserve it.

MERLIN

I want to. What's wrong?

FREYA

Nothing.

MERLIN

Here. Please. You'll look wonderful in it. We can leave tonight as soon as it gets dark and we'll be together.

FREYA

We'll need supplies. Food, water.

MERLIN

All right. I'll try to get horses, and we'll need blankets, but that's all we'll need.

FREYA

Go on, go.

MERLIN

I won't be long.

[Merlin leaves.]

FREYA

Goodbye, Merlin.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, PHYSICIAN'S CHAMBERS - NIGHT]

MERLIN

Gaius, I was just...

GAIUS

Merlin, sit down. I want to talk to you.

MERLIN

Is everything alright? You look worried.

GAIUS

The beast struck again last night. There are two more deaths in the lower town.

MERLIN

Do you know what it is yet?

GAIUS

Once more there were no tracks around the bodies, but human footprints were leading away from them.

MERLIN

Right.

GAIUS

It doesn't seem to add up. The footprints would indicate a human was responsible, but the wounds inflicted are definitely the work of some kind of beast.

MERLIN

Strange.

GAIUS

Yes. Until I remembered what Halig said about the druid girl, that she's cursed.

MERLIN

What's that got to do with the monster?

GAIUS

The ancient chronicles speak of a heinous curse. It dooms its victim to turn at the stroke of midnight into a vicious, bloodthirsty beast. The writers of old called this creature a Bastet: a monster of nightmare that inhabits the twilight world between the living and the dead. Merlin, I want the truth. Did you release the druid girl from the cage?

MERLIN

Of course not!

GAIUS

There was a time when you thought twice before lying to me.

MERLIN

I did what was right.

GAIUS

You know the creature and the girl are one and the same.

MERLIN

You're wrong. Freya is just a girl.

GAIUS

Merlin, please think about what I'm saying. You know it is the truth. Where is she now?

MERLIN

No.

GAIUS

She's killed already, and she'll kill again. She can't stop herself.

MERLIN

Please, Gaius. Where are you going?

GAIUS

To Uther.

MERLIN

I'm begging you! Just give me some time to get her out of the city, please.

GAIUS

I'm sorry. I can't let more innocent people die.

—

[INT. TUNNELS - NIGHT]

MERLIN

Freya. Freya!

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, MERLIN'S CHAMBER - NIGHT]

GAIUS

I had no choice, Merlin. Uther had to be told.

MERLIN

They won't find her. She's gone.

GAIUS

I'm sorry. I do understand how you must feel, Merlin.

MERLIN

You could never understand. Do you know how it feels to be a monster? To be afraid of who you are?

GAIUS

Freya's very different from you. She's dangerous.

MERLIN

Whatever she is, and whatever she's done, she doesn't deserve to die. I just hope she's safe. Somewhere far away.

[Warning bells sound.]

—

GUARD

There she is! Stop!

FREYA

Please let me go.

HALIG

No one escapes from me.

[The clock begins to chime. Freya begins screaming, transforming into Bastet. Arthur and the knights fight her in the square, Arthur wounds her. Merlin runs into the square, she sees him and flies off instead of attacking.]

—

[INT.TUNNELS] [Merlin finds Freya weeping and naked in the tunnels and he places his jacket over her.]

MERLIN

You're all right. You're safe now.

FREYA (crying)

You must hate me.

MERLIN

No.

FREYA

I'm a monster. I tried to tell you.

MERLIN

I know.

FREYA

I wasn't always like this.

MERLIN

Shh. You shouldn't try to talk.

FREYA

There was a man. He attacked me. I didn't mean to hurt him, but I thought he was going to kill me.

MERLIN

It was an accident.

FREYA

His mother was a sorceress, and when she find out that I'd killed her son, she cursed me to kill forever more.

MERLIN

I'm going to make you better, Freya.

FREYA

No, Merlin, the wounds too deep. Please go.

MERLIN

No. I'm not leaving you here.

—

[EXT. LAKE OF AVALON - DAY] [Merlin takes Freya to the Lake of Avalon, surrounded by mountains.]

FREYA

You remembered.

MERLIN

Of course. I'm so sorry for what that sorcerer did to you.

FREYA

Merlin, you have nothing to be sorry for.

MERLIN

There must be something I can do, some way to save you.

FREYA

You've already saved me. You made me feel loved.

MERLIN

I don't want you to go.

FREYA

One day, Merlin, I will repay you. I promise.

[Merlin places Freya in a boat.]

MERLIN

Astyre.

[The spell sends the boat out onto the lake.]

MERLIN

Wæcce on sæbát bælfýr mæst.

[The spell ignites the boat.]

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, PHYSICIAN'S CHAMBERS]

GAIUS

Merlin, I was so worried.

MERLIN

I'm sorry, Gaius.

GAIUS

Where's the girl?

MERLIN

She's gone. She's dead.

GAIUS

I'm sorry, Merlin. Truly, I am.

—

[INT. KING'S PALACE, ARTHUR'S CHAMBERS - DAY] [Merlin cleans Arthur's boots, sitting on the floor.]

ARTHUR

Ah, Merlin. I'm looking for you.

MERLIN

Yeah, right, er, you're gonna ask me to polish your armour and to, er, wash your clothes and clean your room.

[Arthur sits down on the floor next to Merlin.]

ARTHUR

Something's been upsetting you, hasn't it?

MERLIN

Maybe.

ARTHUR

Was it when I threw water over you?

MERLIN

It wasn't very nice.

ARTHUR

It was a bit unfair. Like when you called me fat.

MERLIN

Why was that unfair?

ARTHUR

Because I am not f...

[Arthur puts Merlin in a headlock and rubs his hair with his knuckles.]

MERLIN

Ow! Ah!

ARTHUR

Still think I need to get in shape?

MERLIN

No! No! No, no, no, no!

ARTHUR

That's better.

MERLIN

Thanks.

ARTHUR

You are right, though. You need to polish my armour, wash my clothes, and clean my room.

Source: Transcribed Film and TV Scripts