

Apricity Episode 1 Script

Apricity Episode 1 by Emery

FLASHBACK - PALACE COURTYARD

A wisp of magick appears on the screen, curling. Laughter accompanies the growing magick forming flowers.

AETHELRED (7) runs, following the magick, EAMON (8) chasing him. EAMON grabs AETHELRED, hugging him from behind.

YOUNG AETHELRED

Let me draw my lifeforce!

YOUNG EAMON

Nooo! King Julidbar must trap all of life for himself!

EAMON pins AETHELRED and tries to pull the magick away from AETHELRED, which is unsuccessful.

YOUNG EAMON

Hm. Seems your lifeforce is too powerful.

EAMON pulls a mushroom from his pocket.

YOUNG EAMON

Too bad I have one of these!

The mushroom tries to pull away the magick. AETHELRED causes it to disintegrate and pushes EAMON away.

YOUNG AETHELRED

Life always wins!

AETHELRED draws a magickal flower towards EAMON. EAMON creates a bubble around it.

YOUNG EAMON

Not if it's captured, hehe.

AETHELRED uses more magick surrounding EAMON's, slowly pushing EAMON's away.

YOUNG AETHEL

You don't think that they will attack us, do you?

YOUNG EAMON

Pfft, no way. Just like your life force, ours is much stronger. We can push them out before anything happens.

EAMON's magick disintegrates.

YOUNG EAMON

Like that.

EAMON grabs AETHEL's hand and caresses it.

YOUNG AETHEL

And if they do come?

YOUNG EAMON

Then you can stay safe with me in this palace.

EAMON swings his hands.

YOUNG EAMON

You will always be my top priority.

YOUNG AETHEL

What of the other children? My family?

YOUNG EAMON

We will watch over them. Everyone will be cared for, no matter how poor or rich. Whatever you wish, it will come true. I promise.

It begins to thunder and rain. They turn their heads to hear soldiers from the distance.

EXT. NIDARIOS - HILLSIDE BORDER

It's raining and thundering. EAMON (21) and AETHELRED (20) are part of a soldier front. EAMON throws orange petals. It transforms into a magickal wall. AETHELRED turns red petals into fire and transfers it to his hands. He fights in combat. EAMON fights nearby. EAMON nearly

knocks out the enemy until his enemy pulls out a taser behind his back.

AETHELRED

Eamon, watch out!

EAMON turns and gets tazed. He falls to the ground.

AETHELRED

No... no, no, no, no. Eamon!

AETHELRED blocks with more magick, causing soldiers around them to back off. He picks up EAMON and cries.

INT. HEALING CENTER - EMERGENCY BRANCH

Six healers surround EAMON with AETHELRED at his side, holding his hand. They frantically put flowers and hands all over him, trying to revive him.

AETHELRED

Wh-What are the chances?

ROSAMUND

Not good. His heart has stopped. We need more life force.
Like a *Rhododendron groenlandicum*... *Marshallia pulchra* would be best.

AETHELRED

For the love of life, please work.

AETHELRED silently prays with a flower in hand. GRACIA (19) comes behind AETHELRED.

GRACIA

Let me do it.

Close shot of GRACIA. AETHELRED is in awe.

ROSAMUND

But you have just started!

GRACIA

I've healed my paralyzed mother. I can do it.

AETHELRED

I trust her. Please, as soon as possible. That greenery is either occupied or too far anyway. This is the only choice.

ROSAMUND rolls her eyes but stays busy. GRACIA comes next to ROSAMUND. GRACIA places her hand on his heart. EAMON's quiet heart slowly pumps, then speeds up. The healers slow down in awe.

AETHELRED

What-What happened?

ISEMAY

His heart works!

ROSAMUND

All of you, keep working!

AETHELRED stares at GRACIA, infatuated.

DAY - HEALING CENTER - MUSCLE INJURY BRANCH

The day is bright. AETHELRED is asleep, still holding EAMON's hand. GRACIA pinches him.

AETHELRED

Oww, who-

AETHELRED sees a group of girl healers snickering at him in the distance. GRACIA replaces his vision.

GRACIA

You've been here all night, Lord of Wealth.

GRACIA prepares a bundle of flowers for EAMON.

AETHELRED

How is he? Is he alright?

GRACIA

Yes. He survived.

AETHELRED

(mumbles) Life always wins.

GRACIA

His life force is rebuilding, but it shouldn't take long until he wakes up.

AETHELRED

How? How did you do it? Not even *Rosamund*, the Highest Healer, could do it herself.

GRACIA

I have learned over the years.

AETHELRED

But you have just started, haven't you?

GRACIA is silent for a moment.

GRACIA

I'm nothing special.

AETHELRED

It seems you are. Where are you from?

GRACIA

Heimdall.

AETHELRED

They don't support life force. How could you practice there?

GRACIA

My mother was a healer. She taught me some things before the war. Then we escaped from arrest. Once on shore, we realized we wouldn't be prisoners here.

AETHELRED

Which is a blessing, is it not?

GRACIA

In some ways. Life can show so much of what we lack.

AETHEL

And of what we love.

EAMON wakes up. AETHELRED kneels beside GRACIA, holding his hand.

AETHELRED

Eamon!

EAMON smiles.

AETHELRED

Are you okay? Can you talk?

EAMON

Yes.

They both laugh.

EAMON

What happened?

AETHELRED

You were paralyzed. This healer was the only one who could save you. She raised you from death.

EAMON

Thank life. Thank you... What is your name?

GRACIA

I am Gracia.

EAMON

I am in your debt.

GRACIA

Not to me, to life.

EAMON

How is the war?

GRACIA

Barbetta saved Tuath last night, but we were on the brink of losing.

EAMON

She is Tuath's best Knight of Offense.

AETHELRED

Indeed. Will he be alright for the Source's Birth tonight?

GRACIA

After a physical therapy session and more energy, he should be fine on his own.

AETHELRED

Thank you. Do you want to?

EAMON nods.

AETHELRED

Good. Gracia, would you do the honor of going to the Source's Birth with me?

The girls squeal in the background.

GRACIA

But I am not needed.

AETHELRED

You are to me.

AETHELRED takes her hand, kneels, and kisses it.

GRACIA

I suppose it shall be my honor.

AETHELRED

Thank you. Now, I have business to attend.

AETHELRED walks away. OLYVA and PETRONILLA approach GRACIA.

OLYVA

(sung) Gracia's going to the ball! Gracia's going to the ball!

GRACIA

Please, don't distract me.

PETRONILLA

You will let us sew a dress for you, right?

GRACIA

(sighs) Fine. After work.

The girls squeal and disappear. GRACIA tries to heal EAMON more. It fizzles.

GRACIA

Hm, seems my life force has gone... tired. Let me grab some green for you to use, Eamon.

EAMON

Of course.

INT HEALING CENTER - CLOISTERS

GRACIA walks through the hallways nearing the mentally challenged section. Someone grabs her arm. She backs away.

GRACIA

Excuse me-

NESTA (18) cries.

NESTA

Kill me. Kill me, please.

GRACIA

No- Never. Are you okay?

NETSA

The Druid. She...

GRACIA

Let me heal you.

GRACIA hovers her hands over NESTA's head. NESTA backs away.

NESTA

I need to die. Please.

GRACIA

What have they done to you?

NESTA twitches.

GRACIA

No matter what, life always wins. If I can't heal you, time will.

NESTA nods and comes closer. GRACIA places her hands on her head, but her magick is weak.

GRACIA

Stay here. Let me get some green for you.

NESTA

Life is dying, Gracia.

NESTA shakes her head and walks away. GRACIA is confused and surprised. She keeps walking.

INT. HEALING CENTER - MUSCLE INJURY BRANCH

EAMON is upright, GRACIA is uptight, healing his arms. She releases and examines from a distance.

GRACIA

Do you feel numb in any limbs?

EAMON

I'm feeling perfectly fine now, thank you.

GRACIA

Can you move them thoroughly?

EAMON

Yes, like I said, I'm fine. Could I return to my war strategies?

GRACIA

(sighs) Yes, just be careful.

EAMON bows and leaves. GRACIA watches him, skeptical. ISEMAY comes from behind GRACIA, startling her.

ISEMAY

You're the best healer ever.

GRACIA

Thanks...

ISEMAY

Can you teach me your ways?

GRACIA

Maybe after the war.

INT. PALACE - CLOISTERS

AETHELRED and EAMON are walking towards the GRAND HALL, holding papers.

EAMON

I could tell that you had eyes set on her.

AETHELRED

How could you *not*? She is the most powerful and beautiful healer of Tuath. She saved your *life*, not even The High Healer could.

EAMON

She will be an asset to our republic.

AETHELRED

Not an asset, a *beacon*.

EAMON

You think she could become the next Druid, huh? Too bad she wasn't born a citizen.

AETHELRED

That is a policy that we could change.

EAMON

Have you considered the security issues associated? You need to keep your love life out of your work.

INT. PALACE - GRAND HALL

EAMON and AETHELRED enter. There are about 50 people sitting along a long table. YSMEINA sits at the head. There is loud chatter.

AETHELRED

She is much more than my "love". You should know that of all people.

AETHELRED and EAMON sit together, EAMON next to YSMEINA. AETHELRED is across from SEMILA (22), and EAMON sits across from BARBETTA (20).

SEMILA

Long time no see, Aethel.

AETHELRED

You refer to me as Aethelred.

SEMILA

Have you been ignoring me?

AETHELRED

I am the Lord of Wealth, and you are the Lady of Knowledge. Two stark studies.

EAMON

Quit your bickering.

YSMEINA chimes a bell. EVERYONE goes silent.

YSMEINA

Thank you. Semila will offer the benediction.

EVERYONE moves their chairs and deeply bow, all the same.

SEMILA

Our kind and gracious Source, please let righteousness, liberty, and all properties of life win. As you have created life and green, we have full faith in you. We dedicate this day to you. In peace...

SERVANT2 sings obnoxiously.

EVERYONE

In peace.

YSMEINA

Thank you, Semila. As you all know, we are celebrating the Source's Birth tonight in the ballroom. You all are invited to bring an additional dancer.

YSMEINA stands and paces before the table.

YSMEINA

Our powerful war leaders provide us successes against Heimdall. What could bolster our defense would be more life force. Aethelred, how are the imports for the *Platanthera ciliaris* and *Asclepias verticillata*?

AETHELRED

Good. I have hired villagers to bring the seeds. It seems the Lady of Knowledge will be able to research them tomorrow.

AETHELRED glares at SEMILA, who confidently smirks.

YMEINA

Perfect. Barbeta and Eamon, what are your predictions?

EAMON looks at BARBETTA, who is zoned out.

EAMON

(Clears throat) As you know, I was injured from the last battle. Barbeta, what do you think?

BARBETTA

Fine. Some technique training with the soldiers is needed.

EAMON

We should track their new weapons and their defects. If we stay on top of these things, we should be fine.

YSMEINA

I trust you shall put those in place. Semila, any research announcements?

SEMILA

We are researching the rare greenery at the moment. However, I would like to propose an advancement to our weapons. I have recently heard of people losing their sense of lifeforce. If we all suddenly lose it, it would be tragic in the war.

EVERYONE murmurs. BARBETTA gives SEMILA a harsh glare. YSMEINA rings the bell.

YSMEINA

Insightful proposition. I shall ponder it. You shall begin to research weaponry if you see fit.

SEMILA nods. AETHELRED is stunned at the idea.

YSMEINA

I shall see you all tonight. You are all dismissed.

Chatter resumes. SEMILA leaves immediately. AETHELRED follows her.

AETHELRED

Wait, Semila-

SEMILA

Oh, *now* you want to talk. I'm assuming you haven't heard of it?

AETHELRED

Yes. How is it possible to suddenly lose lifeforce?

SEMILA shrugs.

SEMILA

It has happened to all of the Eastern states. I suppose it is our turn. It's wise to work ahead of it, especially with the war.

SEMILA brushes his arm.

SEMILA

If you're so curious, I wouldn't mind explaining after the ball tonight.

AETHELRED scoffs and shrugs her off.

AETHELRED

No. I will figure it out myself.

AETHELRED walks away.

EXT. NIDARIOS - OENACH

Lines of tent vendors fill the city. The Healing Center and Palace loom from a distance. The town is decorated in white and yellow for the Source's Birth. Children roam, playing with magick.

INT. - FLORAL VENDOR

GRACIA, OLYVA, and PETRONILLA are rummaging through flower petals.

PETRONILLA

You need something that will energize feelings of love, like a Clinopodium or Helenium. He would love Helenium.

GRACIA

Why does it have to be romantic? It could be just a "thank you for your service" thing. We don't need to overthink it.

OLYVA

Even if it is, it would be a great first impression. It's a ball. Also, he has plenty of girls interested in him. He

obviously chose you for a reason beyond servitude. He knelt for you, girl.

GRACIA

Could I at least choose the color for my first-ever ball gown?

PETRONILLA

(Sighs) Fine. But I will save you from making any dangerous decisions. Tonight could be *life-changing* just by the dress color.

GRACIA stares at the purple.

PETRONILLA

No way. He will think that you're either mourning or healing the mentally challenged.

GRACIA

What if I am mourning?

PETRONILLA

You're ruining your chances. What about white? You like any of those?

GRACIA

I suppose the frilly one with purple accents.

PETRONILLA

Great, that's *spiranthes arcisepala*. Some yellow will look nice with that. Olyva, tell her I'm right.

OLYVA

She's right.

GRACIA

Okay, I guess.

EXT. NIDARIOS - CENTER PARK

OLYVA, PETRONILLA, and GRACIA walk in the park. It is like walking in a terrarium. They get to a line of rare flowers. People are crowded around them, kneeling and praying. They do the same.

OLYVA

Oh Dear Source, please give life to my dying grandmother.

PETRONILLA

My Dear Source, please give me guidance to the one I may love.

They sing strangely and throw small petals in baskets.

GRACIA

Thank you, Source.

She tosses petals in the basket.

OLYVA

You're supposed to refer to Her as Dear Source.

PETRONILLA

You also aren't asking properly. You forgot to chant afterwards.

GRACIA

Just be grateful that I tried.

OLYVA

Well, just so you know, She won't listen to you unless you do it that way.

GRACIA

Why be so specific?

PETRONILLA

Her world is a science, so wouldn't communication be one too?

GRACIA

But I heard that she is all-observant, so wouldn't she hear anyway?

OLYVA
You will understand in due time.

PETRONILLA
We should start sewing your dress.

PETRONILLA and OLYVA leave. GRACIA ponders, still kneeling.

EXT. PALACE - BALLROOM ENTRANCE - NIGHT

GRACIA walks toward the entrance with PETRONILLA and OLYVA.

OLYVA
Remember: Be polite and inquisitive.

PETRONILLA
Make sure you don't act entitled.

GRACIA
Okay, but don't have high expectations.

OLYVA
Good luck!

PETRONILLA
Do that dress justice.

GRACIA nods and waves. She walks up the grand entrance with other dancers.

INT. PALACE - BALLROOM

It's draped in white, yellow, and orange. There is a live band. Most are chatting, some are practicing dancing. There are about a hundred people.

AETHELRED is talking to EAMON and BARBETTA near the entrance. He sees GRACIA and approaches.

AETHELRED kneels and kisses GRACIA's hand.

AETHELRED

You look stunning, my lady.

GRACIA

Thank you...

AETHELRED

May I introduce you to my friends?

GRACIA nods. AETHELRED approaches EAMON and BARBETTA; SEMILA is now there.

AETHELRED

(Clears throat) Eamon and Barbetta, this is Gracia. She saved Eamon's life last night. Not even the High Healer could.

GRACIA bows.

SEMILA

How profound. Will she succeed Rosamund?

AETHELRED

Why are you here, Semila?

SEMILA

We were discussing war strategies.

BARBETTA

You should teach the other healers. Maybe they will become as fast as you. Then we wouldn't have so many soldiers in the hospital.

GRACIA

I doubt Rosamund would permit me.

BARBETTA

(Scoffs) Who cares. This is a republic. We should find justice and improvement from within.

EAMON

Perhaps what we have now is best. Rosamund has the most healing education.

BARBETTA

Perhaps education doesn't matter. Perhaps lifeforce is what matters.

SEMILA

Lifeforce doesn't matter anymore. It's dying. Gracia might have the most power at the moment, but it will soon dissipate.

AETHELRED

Excuse us, she hasn't had refreshments.

AETHELRED holds GRACIA's hand and pulls her away from them. They come to the refreshments bar, which is of various berry treats.

AETHELRED

I apologize for their discourtesy. Semila has no manners. I don't know what has gotten into Eamon.

GRACIA

It seems they are on edge since the news.

AETHELRED

Of which you have heard, haven't you? I don't think the general public has an idea.

GRACIA

I had heard of it through a dying patient.

AETHELRED gestures to a hallway.

AETHELRED

Shall we speak in private?

GRACIA

I suppose so.

AETHELRED and GRACIA walk.

INT. PALACE - BALLROOM HALLWAYS

AETHELRED

Have you witnessed the dwindling in practice?

GRACIA

Yes. It felt sudden. Through a few of my patients today, I resorted to using green instead of my life force. What have you seen or heard?

AETHELRED

I had only heard of it through Semila. Do you suppose the amount of life force you used on Eamon has backfired?

GRACIA

No, because when I saved my mother the same way, my life force wasn't affected.

GRACIA and AETHELRED stop before a garden view.

GRACIA

That is, it did happen within a dead environment. Tuath's greenery is thriving. Should the environment react in such a way?

AETHELRED

I don't know. The Source is so advanced. We don't know how half of the flowers manifest life force. But if our environment becomes dead, what Semila assumes will happen, so much happiness will be lost. We need to keep everything alive, or else.

GRACIA

Agreed. We don't want to become what we are fighting.

AETHELRED

With your strong life force and my diplomatic skills, we can save Tuath.

AETHELRED lends out a hand.

AETHELRED

Together.

GRACIA is hesitant, but holds his hand and smiles.

GRACIA

Together.

GRACIA and AETHELRED hear a loud boom. The music stops and people scream.

AETHELRED

They got past our defenses.

AETHELRED and GRACIA run to the ballroom.

INT. PALACE - BALLROOM

Heimdall soldiers are terrorizing dancers. BARBETTA pulls out a flower, EAMON is looking for flowers, and a few dancers are helping.

AETHELRED

Will you fight with me?

GRACIA tries to pull magick from her hands.

GRACIA

I can't. My life force is too weak.

AETHELRED

I have to go. Flee for safety.

AETHELRED pulls out a red flower. He fights next to BARBETTA.

GRACIA runs down the hallways into more soldiers infiltrating. She is trapped between the BALLROOM and the soldiers approaching.

FLASHBACK - GRACIA'S CHILDHOOD HOME

GRACIA (7) sees soldiers running into nearby homes, flame in the window. GRACIA'S MOM is frantically packing luggage.

GRACIA'S MOM

Gracia, njoo hapa. (Gracia, come here.)

GRACIA puts on her luggage, same with GRACIA'S MOM. GRACIA'S MOM touches her shoulder.

GRACIA'S MOM

Gracia. Usiruhusu kamwe uchawi wako ufe. Haijalishi hali ikoje. (Gracia. Don't ever let your magick die. No matter what the conditions are.)

GRACIA nods. GRACIA'S MOM smiles.

INT. PALACE - BALLROOM HALLWAYS

GRACIA (19) looks between the approaching soldiers and the BALLROOM. GRACIA jumps out of the window, glass shattering. GRACIA runs.

EXT. OLD LANDS - WILDERNESS

GRACIA runs through the flowers until she doesn't hear Tuath. She looks around, huffing. She kneels to a pond and stares at her reflection, then throws water on her face.

She hears a rustle and looks around. A rock hits her head.

The screen is black. There are rustling noises.

THE END.

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Deleted scripts

SERVANT

Sir Eamon. Your mother demands you and your friend
this instant.

EAMON

What is it?

SERVANT

You must come *now*.

It thunders and rains. EAMON rolls his eyes. AETHEL looks up.

AETHELRED

She really wants us, Eamon.

EAMON

She is just dramatic, Aethel.

INT. PALACE - GRAND OFFICE

It looks like a cozy throne room. AETHEL and EAMON approach
holding hands.

EAMON

You always ruin our fun.

YSMEINA

Now is not the time for complaining, Eamon.

YSMEINA scoffs and walks to the window.

YSMEINA

We are under attack.

AETHEL and EAMON run to YSMEINA. They see soldiers

NIGHT - TAVERN in NIDAROS

EAMON and AETHELRED are at the bar with soldiers, obnoxious.

AETHELRED

Good one to that play thou pulled off.

LOCAL1

Seems we have been spoiled by a good commander- We should win this war in no time!

LOCAL2

After six years of stalling with that nyce one, we deserve it. (YELLS) Cheers to Eamon!

EVERYONE

Cheers!

EAMON

Stop this flattery. I must do what I can to save The Land of Liberty.

AETHELRED

I know. Thou hast made it thine duty since oure childhood.

EAMON

Not only oure land, but also the Old Lands. If we become enslaved by Heimdall, The Old Lands will as well, and will lose their precious culture dedicated to the green. It is best for the sake of humanity, of *lifeforce* itself.

AETHELRED

And how will thou eradicate Heimdall?

EAMON

With lifeforce. The green and The Old Lands are on our side. As we grow more green, we will become indestructible.

LOCAL1

To that we shall drink!

EVERYONE

HOORAY!

They feel subtle rumbling.

EAMON

And with thine intellect, thou shalt save the nations. Give structure to our growing people.

AETHELRED

...I feel I have big shoes to fill.

EAMON

Please. The Druid herself said that thou art the most ambitious. Thou art the one who shall develop a nation.

EVERYONE goes quiet. They feel a loud rumbling approaching. EAMON reaches for his satchel.

EAMON

They are ambushing.

EAMON stands.

EAMON

(YELLS) Everyone! Find cover, quick!

Chaos ensues. AETHELRED, EAMON, LOCAL1, and LOCAL2 leave the tavern.

GRACIA

How is it being Lord of Wealth?

AETHELRED

Fine. An utter *shift* from my life before. But good, I suppose. It's best for my family.

GRACIA

I know. I have heard your story countless times.

AETHELRED

I hope they aren't spreading misinformation.

GRACIA

Whatever it is, I think that you would prefer it.

AETHELRED

I hope you know that I would prefer the truth above all else.

GRACIA

Righteousness is your strong suit, isn't it?

AETHELRED

That among others, I would hope. Tell me about yourself.

GRACIA

(sighs) Fine. What I have heard is that you grew up in a poor farming community in Caltha. Your family moved here, the capital, for better conditions. You met Eamon, the Druid's son, and became best friends. Eamon helped give funds to your family and the poor. You always strived for better conditions and studied economics any way you could. When the war came, you, your family, and the poor stayed in the palace for

safety. Your family became close to Ysmeina in the process. Ever since you became Lord of Wealth, our economy has grown to rates never seen in any territory's history.

GRACIA

If I could say something first?

EAMON reluctantly nods.

GRACIA

You wouldn't deny any citizen their freedom of speech, would you?

EAMON

Pfft, no. For the love of life, no. We will never become a Heimdall repeat, if that's what you're worried about.

GRACIA

No torture to keep a citizen silent?

EAMON pauses.

EAMON

I know that I would never attempt to do anything of the sort. We have a soft prisoner system for a reason. Some people go missing, but that's just because they've escaped.

GRACIA

And have not been held for "testing"...

EAMON

Yes. Please, I have a war to win. Thank you for saving me.

AETHELRED

We became friends young. Once during the Source's Slumber, I was desperate for food for my family, so I begged for hours at the palace doors. Eamon found me and invited my family inside. The rest is history.

GRACIA

How noble. How old were you?

AETHELRED

I was 5 and Eamon was 6.

Outline

- Flashback - context to Eamon and Aethel's good friendship, praise of flowers and life, and foreshadowed war
- War - Eamon and Aethel fight together. Eamon is severely injured
- Healing center - Aethel is worried for Eamon. Introduce Gracia - impressions. She saves Eamon
- Day - Aethel and Gracia talk, context on lives and Aethel's position. Eamon wakes up. Gracia gets invited. Friends are introduced
-