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ME1. Normandy Conversations: Liara

Conversation 1 - Post Find Liara T'soni

Shepard finds Liara in a room at the far end of the medbay. She's sitting in front of a terminal. She stands up as Shepard comes up behind her.

LIARA: Commander, are you coming to check up on me?

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- I was worried.
SHEPARD: You look much better. How are you feeling?
LIARA: Dr. Chakwas assures me I am going to be fine. I was impressed with her knowledge of asari physiology.
- Are you okay?
- No.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- She's the best.
SHEPARD: You're in good hands. Dr. Chakwas knows what she's doing.
- Goodbye.
- That's her job.

If Shepard doesn't say goodbye, the dialogue follows:

LIARA: I never properly thanked you for saving me from the geth, Commander. If you hadn't shown up...

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- Don't mention it.
SHEPARD: I am just glad we got there in time.
LIARA: So am I.

- You're welcome.
SHEPARD: I'm just glad we got there in time.
LIARA: So am I.
- Just part of the mission.

LIARA: I know you took a chance bringing me aboard this ship. I have seen the way your crew looks at me. They do not trust me. But I am not like Benezia. I will do whatever I can to help you stop Saren. I promise.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- I know.
SHEPARD: Don't worry, Liara. I trust you. I know you won't let me down.
LIARA: It means a lot to hear you say that, Commander. Thank you.
- We'll see.
- Goodbye.
SHEPARD: I should go.
LIARA: Goodbye, Commander.

SHEPARD - INVESTIGATE DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- Benezia
SHEPARD: Do you know why Benezia joined up with Saren?
LIARA: I don't understand it. She was always outspoken about the need for the asari to become more involved in shaping galactic events. Maybe she thought allying herself with Saren would somehow be for the greater good in the long run. At least, I hope so.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- You sound troubled.
SHEPARD: This hurts you, doesn't it?
LIARA: None of this makes any sense to me. I have not spoken to Benezia in many years, but I know her! And this was not like her. Something changed.
- Maybe she's just evil.
- Asari culture
SHEPARD: I'd like to know more about the asari.
LIARA: We were the first species to discover the Citadel. We were instrumental in forming the Council. And we always strive to be the voice of peaceful cooperation in galactic disputes. My people believe we are all part of a single galactic community. Each species contributes something to the greater whole. Although we seek to understand other species, it seems few of them seek to understand us. The galaxy is filled with rumours and misinformation about my people.
- Rumors?
SHEPARD: Like what?

LIARA: Most of the inaccuracies are centered around our mating rituals. My species is mono-gendered. “Male” and “female” have no real meaning for us. We still require a partner to reproduce. This second parent, however, may be of any species and any gender.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- How is that possible?

SHEPARD: I don't understand. Your species can mate with anyone?

LIARA: Mating is not quite the proper term. Not as you understand it.

Physical contact may or may not be involved, but it is not an essential element of the union. The true connection is mental. Our physiology allows us to meld with other beings. We can touch the very depths of their minds. We explore the genetic memory of their species. We share the most basic elements of their individual and racial identities. We then pass these traits onto our daughters. It is how we learn to grow as a species and how we develop a greater understanding of other races.

- What about the other parent?

SHEPARD: What happens to your partner after the union?

LIARA: Every relationship is different. Some unions are a single encounter, with both parents parting ways afterwards. Others can be more long-term. Sometimes an asari and her partner will stay together for many decades.

- Who was your father?

SHEPARD: Do you know who Matriarch Benzia chose as her partner?

LIARA: She rarely spoke of her partner, though I know my father—if you want to use that term—was another asari.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- You can do that?

SHEPARD: I thought you always needed another species to serve as one of the parents.

LIARA: Think about it, Shepard. If we were not able to mate with our own species, we would've died out long before we ever mastered space flight and left our homeworld. Union with our own kind is no longer common. Not for the purposes of reproduction. Most asari believe it weakens our species. Asari daughters inherit racial traits from the father species. If both parents are asari, then nothing has been gained. Or so conventional wisdom would hold. I am what is sometimes called a “pureblood”, though no would ever be cruel

enough to say the word to my face. It is a great insult among my people. It is possible Benezia's partner was embarrassed by their union. She may have been too ashamed to publicly acknowledge me as her offspring.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- You don't know that.
SHEPARD: Maybe she wanted to meet you but couldn't. Something could have happened to her. Maybe she passed away.
LIARA: You might be right. I hope you are. But I have no way to know for sure.
- That's terrible!
SHEPARD: How could anyone abandon their own child?
LIARA: I cannot answer that. It's all speculation on my part. It is possible she wanted to be part of my life, but something happened to her before she had the chance.
- Then why'd she do it?

LIARA: Benezia never spoke of her partner. Whatever happened, it caused her too much pain to dwell on it. She raised me by herself, though that is not uncommon. Many asari raise their children alone, particularly if the father species is short-lived. Often, the partner will pass on long before the child reaches maturity.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- How do they deal with that?
SHEPARD: You asari live for a thousand years. What happens when your partner dies?
LIARA: Few sapient species live as long as my kind. We have learned to take a philosophical approach to our unions. We do not focus on the inevitable loss of our partners. Instead, we enjoy the time we spend with them. And even after they're gone, a part of them lives on in us. The

union is a connection that transcends both time and space.

[There are options to ask usual questions - see Conversation 2 and/or say goodbye.]

- You don't know who?

- What about the age difference?

SHEPARD:

LIARA:

- That's disgusting!

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- I'd like to talk about you.

SHEPARD: Tell me about yourself, Liara.

LIARA: Me? I am afraid. I am not very interesting, Commander. I spend most of my time on remote digs, unearthing mundane items, buried in long-forgotten Protean ruins.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- You must get lonely.

SHEPARD: Sounds dangerous. And lonely.

LIARA: Sometimes I would run afoul of indigenous life-forms, or stumble across a small band of mercenaries or privateers. But I was always careful. Until the geth followed me to Artemis Tau, I never found myself in any situation my biotics could not handle. As for the solitude, well, that is one aspect that most appealed to me. Sometimes, I just need to get away from other people.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- Why's that?

SHEPARD: You don't like other people?

LIARA: I suppose it comes from being a Matriarch's daughter. People expected me to follow in Benezia's footsteps. They wanted me to become a leader of our people. Matriarchs guide their followers into the future, they seek the truth of what is yet to come. Maybe that's why I became so interested in the secrets of the past. It sounds so foolish when I say it out loud. It sounds like I became an archeologist simply to spite Benezia.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- It's not foolish.

SHEPARD: All children rebel against their parents. It's a natural part of growing up.

LIARA: Ha-ha. You sure the wisdom of the Matriarch, Shepard. That is exactly what Benezia said when I told her of my decision. But there was

more to it than that. I felt drawn to the past. The Protheans were these wondrous mysterious figures. I wanted to know everything about them. That is why I find you so fascinating. You were marked by the beacon on Eden Prime; you were touched by working Prothean technology!

[See "I'm fascinating" dialogue options below to see the rest of the conversation.]

- Do you like it?
- Must have made her mad.

SHEPARD: You

- Do you like your job?
- Sounds boring.

- Do you like it?

SHEPARD: You must enjoy something about it.

LIARA: I love my work. Seeking out history's lost secrets has a special appeal for me. You were actually touched by working Prothean technology! That is why I find you so fascinating, Commander.

[See "I'm fascinating" dialogue options below to see the rest of the conversation.]

- Sounds boring.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- I'm fascinating?

SHEPARD: Sounds like you want to dissect me in a lab somewhere.

LIARA: What? No! I did not mean to insinuate—Ah, I never meant to offend you, Shepard. I only meant that you would be an interesting specimen for an in-depth study at No—that's even worse!

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- Relax.

SHEPARD: Calm down, Liara. I was only joking.

LIARA: Joking? Oh, by the Goddess! How could I be so dense? You must think I am a complete and utter fool. Now you know why I prefer to spend my time in the field with data discs and computers. I always seem to say something embarrassing around other people. Please... just pretend this conversation never happened.

[Usual dialogue options and/or Goodbye appear here.]

- I wasn't serious.

SHEPARD: Calm down, Liara. I was only joking.

LIARA: Joking? Oh, by the Goddess! How could I be so dense? You must think I am a complete and utter fool. Now you know why I prefer to spend my time in the field with data discs and computers. I always seem to say something embarrassing around other people. Please... just pretend this conversation never happened.

[Usual dialogue options and/or Goodbye appear here.]

- Don't try to study me!

- Don't try to study me!

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- Goodbye.

SHEPARD: I should go.

LIARA: Goodbye, Shepard.

Conversation 3

Note: This conversation can be a part of the romance, but the romance parts are in a specific transcript for Liara romance scenes. I chose to include the conversation because Shepard can tell Liara they just want to be friends.

LIARA: I get the feeling you want to ask me something, Commander.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- Goodbye.

- I'd like to talk about you.

SHEPARD: Maybe we could pick up where we left off. You were telling me about your interest in the Protheans.

LIARA: I think I was talking about my interest in you. And making a fool of myself in the process. As I said, I'm not used to dealing with people. Especially humans. I did not really know much about your species when we first met, Shepard. I found it hard to take humanity seriously. Your kind always seemed so rushed and high-strung.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- We're short-lived.

SHEPARD: We don't have the luxury of time. An asari can live for a thousand years. We're lucky if we hit 150.

LIARA: That is true. At first, I thought it was a weakness of your species. After spending time with you and your crew, however, I think it may actually be an advantage.

- What about me?

- That's insulting.

LIARA: You humans are creatures of action. You pursue your goals with an almost indomitable determination. It is an admirable trait, but also an intimidating one.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- Intimidating?

SHEPARD: You're scared of us?

LIARA: Unfortunately, the rest of the galaxy sees humanity as something of a bully. You run over anyone in your path to get what you want.

- It works for us.
- That's still insulting.

LIARA: It's up to people like you to change their minds, Shepard.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- I'm trying.

SHEPARD: I'm doing the best I can, Liara.

LIARA: There is a reason the Council chose you to become a Spectre. They saw something special in you—the best of what humanity has to offer.

- Me?
- Not my problem.

LIARA: I looked into your history.

If Shepard has the Sole Survivor background:

LIARA: I know what happened on Akuze. The fact that you survived shows a remarkable strength.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- You could've asked.

SHEPARD: You didn't need to go behind my back. I would've told you whatever you wanted to know.

LIARA: I apologize, Commander. After our last conversation, I was afraid I would say something stupid again.

- You looked that up?
- You spied on me?

LIARA: I wanted to know more about you? To understand what made you into the man/woman you are. There's something compelling about you, Shepard.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- I want to believe that.

SHEPARD: Are you sure you're interested in me? Or is it my visions of the Protheans?

- Me? Or the beacon?

SHEPARD: You're interested in me because of my visions. You just want to know more about the Protheans.

- Unacceptable!

LIARA: I admit, your connection to the Protheans had something to do with my initial interest. But it has grown beyond that. You intrigue me, Shepard. But I was not sure if it was appropriate to act on my feelings.

If Shepard is male:

I thought there might already be a relationship between you and Chief Williams.

If Shepard is female:

I thought there might already be a relationship between you and Lt. Alenko.

If Shepard is male

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- You're an alien!

SHEPARD: How could we have a relationship? We're not even the same species.

LIARA: Asari and humans are physiologically compatible in most ways, Commander. Of course, a relationship must involve more than mere physical contact. There must be an emotional and spiritual connection between us. Our species may be different, but there are many things we could share. But none of this matters if you are involved in a serious relationship with Chief Williams.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- Ash is special.

SHEPARD: I care about Ash. A lot.

LIARA: I thought so. Still, I feel as if there is also some attraction between us, Shepard.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- There is.
- I just want to be friends.

SHEPARD: I'm not interested in you in that way, Liara.

LIARA: This is very embarrassing for me, Commander. Please, let's talk about something else.

[Dialogue options like "Investigate" and Goodbye appear to end the dialogue.]

- You were wrong.

- It's not serious.

SHEPARD: Williams and I are just friends. Nothing more.

LIARA: My mistake, then. I am not as adept at understanding human relationships as I thought. But what about us, Shepard? Is there a mutual attraction? Or was I wrong about that, too?

- That's private.

- Ash is special.

- It's not serious.

SHEPARD: Williams and I are just friends. Nothing more.

LIARA: My mistake, then. I am not as adept at understanding human relationships as I thought. But what about us, Shepard? Is there a mutual attraction? Or was I wrong about that, too?

- That's private.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- I am attracted to you.

[See Liara romance scenes.]

- I just want to be friends.

SHEPARD: I'm not interested in you in that way, Liara.

LIARA: This is very embarrassing for me, Commander. Please, let's talk about something else.

[Usual dialogue options and/or Goodbye appear here.]

- You were wrong.

If Shepard is female

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- You're female!

- Kaidan is special.

- It's not serious.

SHEPARD: The lieutenant and I are just friends. Nothing more.

LIARA: My mistake, then. I am not as adept at understanding human relationships as I thought. But what about us, Shepard? Is there a mutual attraction? Or was I wrong about that, too?

- That's private.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- I am attracted to you.

[See Liara romance scenes.]

- I just want to be friends.

SHEPARD: I'm not interested in you in that way, Liara.

LIARA: This is very embarrassing for me, Commander. Please, let's talk about something else.

[Usual dialogue options and/or Goodbye appear here.]

- You were wrong.

Conversation 4 - Post Noveria

Liara sees Shepard and stands up to talk to them.

LIARA: If you are here to talk about Benezia's death, you need not bother. She brought it upon herself.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- You don't feel bad?

SHEPARD: Don't pretend it doesn't bother you. She was your mother.

LIARA: She was... but she was not. I prefer to remember Benezia as she used to be, before she was corrupted by Sovereign's power.

- She did.
- Forget about her.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- She's still with you.

SHEPARD: The best of your mother lives on in you: her determination, her intelligence, her strength.

Liara sighs.

LIARA: This is kind of you to say. I appreciate your concern, but I am fine. Benezia chose her path, just as I have chosen mine. I am with you until the end, Shepard.

[Usual dialogue options and/or Goodbye appear here.]

- It's Saren's fault.
- Goodbye.

Conversation 5 - Post Virmire

LIARA: Commander, are you coming to check up on me?

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- I was worried.

SHEPARD: You look much better. How are you feeling?

LIARA: Dr. Chakwas assures me I am going to be fine. I was impressed with her knowledge of asari physiology.

- Are you okay?
- No.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- She's the best.

SHEPARD: You're in good hands. Dr. Chakwas knows what she's doing.

- Goodbye.
- That's her job.

If Shepard doesn't say goodbye, the dialogue follows:

LIARA: I've been thinking about Saren. I actually feel a little sorry for him now.

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- So do I.

SHEPARD: He's become a slave to the Reapers and he can't even see it.

LIARA: He is trapped inside his own mind. Part of him senses his identity slowly being swallowed up by Sovereign, but he is powerless to stop it.

- Why?
- Don't.

LIARA: I wonder how he first fell into Sovereign's trap? Did he think he could somehow stop the Reapers from returning? Or was he simply driven by a lust for power and glory?

SHEPARD - DIALOGUE OPTIONS:

- We'll never know.

SHEPARD: Whatever Saren's reasons may have been, they're long gone now. He has to be stopped.

LIARA: Yes, I suppose you're right.

- Does it matter?
- Lust for power.

LIARA: He may be Sovereign's victim, but he is also a threat to all life as we know it. Let's not spend every free minute talking about Saren. It is bad enough we are chasing him across the galaxy.

[Usual dialogue options and/or Goodbye appear here.]