

LAND O MUSE
EPISODE 9: SAFE WATER

OUTSIDE TAMPAKSIRING

BUBU BEAR, carrying the Rosewood sculpture, and DARK GUY are outside the split gate of a large temple.

DARK GUY
Here we are.

BUBU BEAR
What? Another temple? How many
temples are on this island
anyway?

DARK GUY
This is the land of 20,000 temples.

BUBU BEAR
And we've seen, what, 19,999?
What makes this one so different?

DARK GUY
Unlike the others, you will get a
tour of this one.

BUBU BEAR
You mean we actually get to go
inside?

Dark Guy nods.

BARONG (a monstrous lion-like creature) enters. Bubu Bear freaks.

BUBU BEAR
Aiyaaaaaa!

BARONG
No reason to be frightened. I am
here as your guide to Tampaksiring.

BUBU BEAR
Uh, where?

BARONG
Tampaksiring. This temple.

BUBU BEAR
Oh.

BARONG
My name is Barong, some people call
me "The Sovereign Lord of the
Forest", but you may call me Barry.

BUBU BEAR

Uh, alright Barry. Lead on.

DARK GUY

You two go ahead. I, um, need to make a phone call. I'll catch up later.

Bubu Bear and Barong enter the split gate.

AT THE SPLIT GATE

The temple is an expanse of gardens and intricately carved basins filled with water. Balinese villagers lull about enjoying the beauty.

BARONG

We have just entered the split gate of the temple. The split gate is positioned to prevent evil spirits from entering.

BUBU BEAR

Then I guess I passed the test.

(beat)

This is a very beautiful temple.

BARONG

Thank you. The former president Soekarno must have thought so as well, he built his residence just above this temple.

BUBU BEAR

Smart guy.

BARONG

The main attraction here is the hallowed spring of Tirta Empul. It was created by Indra when he pierced the earth to create a spring of amerta, the elixir of immortality, with which he revived his forces who were poisoned by Mayadanawa. The spring is said to have magical curative powers. Balinese come from all over the island to bathe here.

BUBU BEAR

This place must get pretty crowded on bath night.

There is an unseen commotion.

BARONG
 (despairing)
 Not again.

BUBU BEAR
 What? What's happening?

BARONG
 Rangda. The widow witch, the ruler
 of the evil spirits that haunt the
 graveyards at night. How did she
 manage to get in here?

BUBU BEAR
 (frightened)
 I am not enjoying this anymore.
 I'm feeling insecure and I want to
 leave.

BARONG
 I will handle this interloper.
 You must get to the spring of
 Tirta Empul and drink deep. The
 water will protect you.

BUBU BEAR
 But...but...but...I can't drink the
 water here...it'll give me Bali
 Belly.

BARONG
 Read the sign by the spring.
 Quickly, you must go.

Bubu Bear exits.

RANGDA(nude old woman, with long and unkempt hair,
 pendulous breasts, claws, and fangs) enters the split gate.
 The Balinese villagers panic.

BARONG
 Stop right there, you hag.

RANGDA
 Why don't you return my calls
 anymore, Barry? You used to love
 me, now you won't even talk to me.

BARONG
 How did you get in here?

RANGDA
 I have your key remember. And you,
 you were always a procrastinator,
 you forgot to change the locks.

BARONG

I told you, Rangda, it's over between us. Come on, your making a scene. You should go now.

RANGDA

No. It's not over until I say so.
(she shows her claws)
If I can't have you then no one can.

Rangda attacks Barong.

AT THE SPRING

Bubu Bear is a bit frantic when he arrives at the spring. The spring itself is covered with water lilies, the water a murky brown. A sign above the spring reads 'SAFE WATER'.

BUBU BEAR

There's no way I am touching that water, never mind drinking it.
Yecch!

AT THE SPLIT GATE

Barong and Rangda are wrestling. Barong manages to break free of Rangda's tight grip. He pushes her away.

Rangda recovers before Barong can prepare. She sends a fantastic looking magic spell in his direction. He quickly returns fire with some of his own magic.

They volley magic several times. Some of the magic spells hit, some miss.

AT THE SPRING

Bubu Bear debates whether or not to drink the water. Fantastic looking magic spells explode near him. Nervously, he cups his hands and pulls some water from the spring.

BUBU BEAR

I can't believe I'm going to drink this.

Another fantastic magic spell explodes nearby. He drinks the water with a grimace.

AT THE SPLIT GATE

Barong, weakened, has ceased producing magic. He looks like he is nearing his end.

Rangda prepares a massive fantastic magic spell to finish him off.

RANGDA

Now, it is over between us.

Before she can send the spell some of male villagers attack her with daggers. The spell goes wide, missing Barong.

Rangda casts a new spell on the villagers and they begin attacking themselves with their daggers. The female villagers look on with worry.

RANGDA

I'm rubber, your glue, whatever
you try to do to me will happen to
you.
(hagish cackle)

Barong summons his strength and stands. Quickly, he casts a spell to protect the villagers.

BARONG

(to the lady villages)
Don't worry ladies, your men will
not harm themselves now.

Rangda tries to cast a spell but her magic is used up.

BARONG

And as for you, I have a concocted
a special little spell.

He casts his spell at Rangda. She disappears and a key appears in Barong's hand.

BARONG

I should still get those locks
changed. She could have made a
copy.

AT THE SPRING

Bubu Bear is hit by the Rangda's last fantastic magical spell. He has a vision.

PLACE BETWEEN WORLDS

Bubu Bear appears in the place between worlds, a red sparkling toothbrush in his hand.

Rangda is there as well. She throws a fantastic magical spell at him.

Bubu Bear holds up the toothbrush for protection. A bright red light envelopes him.

AT THE SPRING

Barong has joined Bubu Bear. Bubu Bear's eyes are closed.

BARONG

Are you hurt?

Bubu Bear opens his eyes.

BUBU BEAR

That was strange I had a vision.

BARONG

Visions are best kept to oneself.

BUBU BEAR

But it was about Rangda and a...

BARONG

She is gone now.

BUBU BEAR

You killed her?

BARONG

No, I haven't the power to do that,
but I sent her far away from here,
to a place where only few have ever
escaped.

BUBU BEAR

Where?

BARONG

DaVinci Airport, near Rome.

BUBU BEAR does a double take.

BARONG

Well, that about concludes your
tour of Tampaksiring. I hope you
enjoyed it.

BUBU BEAR

I did. It was exciting, mystical,
and educational all wrapped up
into one.

BARONG

I'm happy you're happy. Let's
see, that will be \$20.

BUBU BEAR

What?! You never told me there was
going to be a charge for the tour.

BARONG

You never asked.

Bubu Bear reluctantly and angrily hands Barong the money.

BUBU BEAR

You sure know how to rip off the
tourists.

BARONG

Your lucky you aren't Japanese.
They get a much higher rate.

BUBU BEAR

Some racket! How do I get out of
here?

BARONG

First gate on your left then
straight through the souvenir
stands.

Bubu Bear exits. Barong chuckles.

FADE OUT