

Cutscene & Branching dialogue
Banishers: Ghosts of New Eden (2024)

Cutscene A – Ascent Path	Cutscene B – Resurrection Path
<i>EXT.DAY - Siridean's island</i>	<i>EXT.DAY - Siridean's island</i>
<i>The banishers stand before a large frozen pond - the void breach to New Eden Town: their final destination.</i>	<i>The banishers stand before a large frozen pond - the void breach to New Eden Town: their final destination.</i>
<i>Red kneels and begins the ritual to cross over.</i>	<i>Red kneels and begins the ritual to cross over.</i>
ANTEA DUARTE (grave) Wait.	<i>Antea has turned away from the breach and is looking at the world all around her. The trees, the sky, the water, the birds.</i>
<i>Antea has manifested behind Red and her words have stopped him in his tracks. Red looks up to his lover.</i>	ANTEA DUARTE (Thoughtful, sad) In the fields outside Havana, the air is thick and hot this time of year.
ANTEA DUARTE (grave, uncertain) This is it, isn't it?	<i>Red stops in his tracks. He looks at her over his shoulder.</i>
<i>They silently ponder each other for a moment, a mix of grief and resolution in their eyes.</i>	ANTEA DUARTE (Thoughtful, sad) The downpour lasts for days.
<i>Red rises back to his feet and, through his bane rings, reaches out to Antea to take her hand and pull her close.</i>	<i>Red slowly rises to stand next to Antea.</i>
<i>For a long moment, they embrace.</i>	ANTEA DUARTE (Thoughtful, sad) I used to lie on the grass, face to the sky, and let the rain wash over me.
RED MAC RAITH (Unable to hide how broken he is) This is it.	<i>They share a glance. Red slips his right hand into Antea's. She turns around.</i>
<i>The couple break away. Red's hand lingers in Antea's as she slips away from the breach.</i>	ANTEA DUARTE (Thoughtful, smiling) I'd come home soaked through, smelling of salt and dirt. Drove my mother insane.
<i>A beat. The banishers ponder the trees before them in silence.</i>	<i>They exchange sad smiles.</i>
ANTEA DUARTE (Smiling sadly, almost to self) You always think you have more time. Then, suddenly, you don't.	ANTEA DUARTE (Nostalgic) I never thought I'd hear myself say this, but I miss it. I miss home.

PORTFOLIO

SWITCH CASE: ASCENT

CHOICE A: "What if we had never come here?"

RED MAC RATH

(Thoughtful)

D'you ever wonder how things would have gone if we'd never come here?^

<p>SWITCH CASE: <i>High kill</i></p> <p>ANTEA DUARTE (Sad) Sometimes. Do you?</p> <p>RED MAC RATH (Sad, guilty) Aye, all the time.</p>	<p>SWITCH CASE: <i>Low kill</i></p> <p>ANTEA DUARTE (Resolute) Never. Do you?</p> <p>RED MAC RATH (Sad, lying) Sometimes.</p>
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A beat.

ANTEA DUARTE

(Nostalgic)

I think about our last morning in Oporto. Of our tiny room overlooking the fish market.

RED MAC RATH

(Nostalgic, laughing)

The horrendously loud fish market.

Antea smiles.

ANTEA DUARTE

(Nostalgic)

You slept soundly in my arms as I lay listening to the clamor.

ANTEA DUARTE

(Nostalgic)

I watched those curtains blow through the window for hours. Or so it felt.

A beat.

ANTEA DUARTE

(Thoughtful)

I think of that moment often. That instant, suspended in time, before Charles's letter found us.

<p>SWITCH CASE: <i>High kill</i></p> <p><i>A beat.</i></p> <p>RED MAC RATH (Sad) I think of London. I think of the day we met.</p>	<p>SWITCH CASE: <i>Low kill</i></p> <p><i>A beat.</i></p> <p>RED MAC RATH (Nostalgic)</p>
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<p>ANTEA DUARTE (Sad smile) I think of it too. I think of how I should have charged you more.</p>	<p>We were glad to hear from our friend and buoyed by our latest success.</p> <p>ANTEA DUARTE (Sad smile) The ghost blew up the Duke's wine cellar, but we got the job done.</p>
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RED MAC RATH
(Voice breaking)
NOSTALGIC LAUGH

CHOICE A: "Do you have regrets?"

RED MAC RATH
(Thoughtful)
Do you have regrets?

ANTEA DUARTE
(Earnest)

If there's one thing I have learned while working as a banisher - and working with you. It's that people look through the world through whatever lense they believe is the right one. And that leaves no room for regrets. We all make mistakes. We all work with what we have.

<p>SWITCH CASE: High kill</p> <p>ANTEA DUARTE (Grave, then wry) It's easier to offer sympathy to others than it is to forgive oneself. That, perhaps, should be one's only regret.</p> <p>RED MAC RATH (Sad) Aye. You're right.</p> <p>ANTEA DUARTE (Sad) I have business that will remain unfinished. I wish I did not. Such is life.</p>	<p>SWITCH CASE: Low kill</p> <p>ANTEA DUARTE (Earnest) So no. No regrets. My lens today is not the same as my lense back then. I've made peace with my own life.</p> <p>RED MAC RATH (Smiling, false surprise) Are you saying people can change? <i>Antea snorts.</i></p> <p>ANTEA DUARTE (Amused) Don't get ahead of yourself.</p>
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PORTFOLIO

A beat.

ANTEA DUARTE

(Sad)

I had a good life. We had a good life.

RED MAC RATH

(Sad, voice breaking)

I'm going to miss you so very much.

ANTEA DUARTE

(Sad smile)

There's much to do between here and goodbye. Let's go do it.

SWITCH CASE: *RESSURECTION*

CHOICE A: "What do you miss?"

RED MAC RATH

(Curious)

What do you miss?

ANTEA DUARTE

(Thoughtful, smiling)

I miss our house. It was ever full. By day the sick, seeking my mother's cures, by night our friends and neighbours, for food and hot debate.

ANTEA DUARTE

(Thoughtful, smiling)

We did not have much, but any who came hungry would be fed. My father was known for his ngombo. I miss it.

A beat.

ANTEA DUARTE

(Thoughtful, smiling)

And I miss the warm clear sea.

A beat.

ANTEA DUARTE

(Smiling)

I don't know. I think... Maybe it would be nice to go back. For a little while.

SWITCH CASE: <i>High kill</i>	SWITCH CASE: <i>Low kill</i>
RED MAC RATH (Smiling sadly)	RED MAC RATH

PORTFOLIO

<p>You told me you weren't one to put down roots.</p> <p><i>A beat.</i></p> <p>ANTEA DUARTE (Grinning) Maybe I could. With you. I think I'd like that.</p> <p>RED MAC RAITH (Smiling) I think I'd like that too.</p>	<p>(Sad, a little bleak) I'll come with you.</p> <p><i>A beat.</i></p> <p>ANTEA DUARTE (Sad) I'd like that.</p> <p>RED MAC RAITH (Sad, a little bleak) Good. 'cause if you think you're going without me, you can think again.</p>
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CHOICE B: "Tell me of your mother"

RED MAC RAITH
(Curious)
Tell me of your mother.

ANTEA DUARTE
(Nostalgic)
She was tall. Eyes like jewelled daggers - flashing sharp one moment, pure beauty and poise the next.

ANTEA DUARTE
(Smiling at the memory)
She was about as predictable as the weather. It made me nervous. I doubt the years have softened her.

ANTEA DUARTE
(grinning)
In her defense, I was a decidedly insolent child.

A beat.

ANTEA DUARTE
(Thoughtful, sad)
I should have written. I should have taken the time to visit.

A beat. Antea smiles.

ANTEA DUARTE
(Soft)
And I should have told you, as often as I felt it, how deeply in love I am with your tenacity. You seize the light and cling to it. No matter what.

<p>SWITCH CASE: High kill</p> <p>RED MAC RAITH (Jesting)</p>	<p>SWITCH CASE: Low kill</p> <p>ANTEA DUARTE (Worried, tails off)</p>
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PORTFOLIO

<p>Aye, I'm stubborn when I want to be. I'm also charming as hell.</p> <p><i>A beat.</i></p> <p>ANTEA DUARTE (Earnest, soft)</p> <p>You have your moments. And we'll have many more.</p> <p><i>A beat.</i></p> <p>RED MAC RATH (Smiling sadly)</p> <p>You and me. Always.</p>	<p>Red. If for some reason... I don't come back... I...</p> <p>RED MAC RATH (Adamant)</p> <p>That won't happen.</p> <p><i>A beat.</i></p> <p>ANTEA DUARTE (Fondly)</p> <p>And there's that light again.</p> <p><i>A beat. Antea smiles.</i></p> <p>ANTEA DUARTE (Soft)</p> <p>I know you. And because I know you, I need you to promise me; if I don't come back, you won't let that light go out.</p> <p><i>A beat.</i></p> <p>RED MAC RATH (Adamant, grave)</p> <p>Aye.</p>
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The banishers look over to the large pond void breach that will lead them to New Eden Town.

ANTEA DUARTE

(Soft, reassuring)

Thank you. For standing by my side through it all. For everything.

Antea goes to raise Red's chin up.

ANTEA DUARTE

(Smirking)

Into the fray, then?

Red straightens up and rises his chin by himself, fore executing the final ritual to cross the breach into the void.

RED MAC RATH

(Smirking)

Always.