

**An Ur III Incantation against the Bite of a Snake,
a Scorpion, or a Dog**
(VS 10, 193)*

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The incantation studied here was published by Zimmern in 1913, but was never edited in full. A German translation by Römer, with full bibliographical references, appeared in TUAT II/2 (Römer 1987). Various features indicate a date in the Ur III period.¹

VS 10, 193:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. én-é-nu-ru | Én-é-nu-ru |
| 2. lú-ra muš mu-ra gír mu-ra ur-
mú-da mu-ra | A biting snake / a biting
scorpion / a furious biting
dog |
| 3. uš-bi mu-na-ab-ku ₄ | made its spittle enter into
someone. |
| 4. ^d Asarluhi (^d LÚ-ASAR-HI!)-e | Asarluhi |
| 5. a-ni ^d En-ki-šè lú mu-ši-gi ₄ -gi ₄ | sent a messenger to his
father Enki. |
| 6. a-mu lú-ra muš mu-ra gír mu-ra
ur-mú-da mu-ra | ‘My father, a biting snake /
a biting scorpion /
a furious biting dog |
| 7. uš-bi mu-na-ab-ku ₄ | made its spittle enter into
someone. |
| 8. a-na íb-ak-na-bi nu-zu | I do not know what to do
about it’ |

* The idea for this short paper originated in a discussion with Dr. H. L. J. Vanstiphout about the ‘Spell of Nudimmud’ (see Vanstiphout, *forthc.*), and has benefited from his critical remarks.

¹ Apart from palaeography I note: the writing *ha-mu-* in line 14 (later generally *hu-mu-*) and the ancient version of the Asarluhi-Enki formula (see Falkenstein 1931, 57; Krebernik 1984, 211–225; and below). According to Falkenstein (1931, 8 nt. 2) the tablet is an Old Babylonian copy of an Ur III original, but this opinion has been rejected by Finkel (1980, 45 nt. 16) with respect to a comparable text (VS 10, 189).