

70 - Next Stage

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

Translator:

Editor:

Timer:

QC:

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[00:01] S1

Let's go!

[00:02] S2

Focus on the batter!

[00:12] Mi

Okay! Nice pitch!

[00:14] Ku

Nice pitch, Furuya!

[00:16] Ma

Two outs!

[00:19] YC

Now's the time to take him out!

[00:21] YC

He's getting tired!

[00:25] Fu

No, I'm not.

[00:27] Ka

Kanemaru.

[00:28] Ka

Y-Yes, sir?

[00:30] Ka

Tell Sawamura to ice his shoulder.

[00:34] Ka

Hey.

[00:36] Ka

I brought the ice box over.

[00:39] Ka

Make sure you ice your shoulder.

[00:43] Ka

*He's been like this
ever since he came back.*

[00:48] Ka

*This is the first time I've seen him
so beat since the tournament.*

[00:54] (Flashback) Y1

It's way wide!

[00:55] (Flashback) Y1

Yeah! Third run!

[00:57] (Flashback) Y1

We've taken the lead!

[01:00] (Flashback) Ku

Hey! Why didn't you cover?

[01:03] (Flashback) Ka

Miyuki!

[02:37] Ka

How's Sawamura?

[02:40] Mi

His pitch has power,

[02:42] Mi

and he's not getting
overwhelmed by the batters.

[02:46] Mi

But in the recent games,

[02:49] Mi

his inside pitch has often been a little wide.

[02:54] Mi

I don't know how aware
he is of the problem,

[02:57] Mi

but it may be because of
the hit-by-pitch in the final.

[03:05] Ka

Furuya!

[03:13] Ka

Sawamura.

[03:15] Ka

Switch.

[03:21] Oc

Well, that was inevitable.

[03:23] Oc

Things weren't going to get better at that rate.

[03:27] C1

Furuya's pitching?

[03:29] C2

Kawakami pitched in the last game,

[03:31] C2

and Furuya's the most
consistent pitcher right now.

[03:36] Sa

Wait a minute.

[03:41] Sa

I haven't gotten a single out yet.

[03:46] Ha

Eijun-kun.

[03:49] Sa

If I...

[03:51] Sa

If I walk off the mound now...

[04:05] Fu

Give me the ball.

[04:07] Fu

We don't need two pitchers on the mound.

[04:13] Fu

I know it must be frustrating, but—

[04:19] Sa

Of course!

[04:21] Sa

I gave up three runs
without getting a single out.

[04:23] Sa

I should be switched out!

[04:35] Sa

S-Sorry that I'm passing the baton like this.

[04:41] Sa

Take care of the rest.

[04:46] Sa

No.

[04:48] Sa

Stop.

[04:50] Sa

Don't walk off.

[05:02] Sa

I know this feeling.

[05:06] Sa

It's the same as that game.

[05:09] Sa

The mound's getting farther...

[05:12] Sa

...and farther away.

[05:16] Sa

Back then,

[05:18] Sa

I thought I'd never...

[05:21] Sa

...ever get to stand there again.

[05:26] Sa

It's exactly the same.

[05:29] Sa

If I walk off here,

[05:31] Sa

I'll...

SIGN Seido High School Practice Field

[05:50] Sa

Yeah!

[05:51] Sa

Twenty wins in a row!

[05:53] Y1

We reached our goal!

[05:55] Y2

We're the best!

[05:57] Y1

It was all me!

[05:59] Y1

My pitching at the beginning
won us the game!

[06:01] Y2

Nice pitching, Sanada!

[06:03] Y4

Sanada, great job!

[06:04] Y1

What about me?

[06:08] Ka

Thank you for today's game.

[06:10] Ka

We were able to discover some problems,

[06:12] Ka

and it was a productive game.

[06:15] YC

Not at all. Thank you.

[06:18] YC

Productive, huh?

[06:20] YC

Gonna write it off as a practice game, huh?

[06:24] YC

I have to say,

[06:25] YC

that Furuya boy smells like a lot of cash.

[06:29] YC

I'm sure there are many pro teams
that have their eyes on him.

[06:32] Oc

True.

[06:33] Oc

He should be training to play professionally.

[06:38] Oc

But I could say the same about your cleanup.

[06:42] YC

Oh?

[06:42] YC

Do you really think so?

[06:44] YC

He's my son. Thanks.

[06:47] Ka

What's important is how
they grow as individuals.

[06:51] Ka

It's really difficult to find
the balance as the head coach.

[06:57] Ka

After all, Furuya isn't our only player.

[07:01] YC

Yes, you're absolutely right.

[07:03] YC

Spoken like a true mentor.

[07:07] YC

Though you're boring.

[07:10] YC

I'm just a coach for hire.

[07:13] YC

If I don't produce results, I'm fired.

[07:17] Oc

I'm sure he's in the same shoes.

[07:20] YC

Well, then. Maybe it'll be spring or summer,

[07:23] YC

or even fall.

[07:25] YC

When we face each other in the tournament,

[07:27] YC

let's go all out.

[07:32] YC

Let's go home!

[07:33] YY

Yes, sir!

[07:35] Ra

Are we done already?

[07:36] Sa

Yes, we are.

[07:39] Oc

*Their team is centered
around the ace and the cleanup.*

[07:44] Oc

I wouldn't want to face an energetic

team like this in the tournament.

[07:51] C1

In the end,

[07:52] C1

Kawakami couldn't hold Yakushi's
batters down, either.

[07:55] C2

Kind of sad,
since Furuya was doing really well.

[07:59] C3

Not to mention our batters
got shut down by Sanada.

SIGN Seido Yakushi

[08:04] C2

What happened to last year's Seido?

[08:07] C1

The group stage is in two weeks,

[08:10] C1

and the tournament's in a month.

[08:12] C1

Are we gonna be ready?

[08:25] Ka

You didn't stand a chance.

SIGN Seido Yakushi

[08:27] Ka

This is where you are right now.

[08:30] Ka

This is the current team.

[08:33] Ot

This atmosphere is bad.

[08:36] Ot

We shouldn't have accepted the game.

[08:39] Ka

Batters! Especially the second-years!

[08:42] Ka

You lack assertiveness in the box!

[08:45] Ka

Perhaps you're putting the focus
on batting for the team.

[08:48] Ka

But if you can't stick to your own style
of batting, what's the point?

[08:52] Ka

I haven't been giving you any
instructions in the practice games

[08:56] Ka

because I knew you would do well

[08:58] Ka

if you swung like you do in practice.

[09:01] Ka

You've lost my faith in your batting skills.

[09:07] Ka

The starting roster is going to be flexible.

[09:10] Ka

I'll let whoever's doing well play,
regardless of your grade.

[09:14] Ka

So keep that in mind.

[09:17] Ka

Stretch, then be done for the day.

[09:19] SS

Yes, sir!

[09:20] Ka

Miyuki, Kawakami,

[09:23] Ka

Sawamura.

[09:26] Ka

You guys stay.

[09:31] Ka

What do you think about
your pitching today, Sawamura?

[09:37] Sa

Sir.

[09:38] Sa

I couldn't pitch to where
Miyuki-senpai requested.

[09:44] Ka

Are you aware?

[09:47] Ka

You're unable to pitch to the inside.

[09:55] Sa

I am.

[09:58] Mi

In the final, you walked off
after throwing a hit-by-pitch.

[10:02] Mi

Your body might be unconsciously
avoiding the inside pitch.

[10:09] Oc

He has the yips.

[10:17] Oc

*Due to an error or a hit-by-pitch
at a crucial moment,*

[10:20] Oc

*what used to be an easy task
can become impossible.*

[10:25] Oc

Since it's a mental problem,

[10:28] Oc

and he has the yips,

[10:30] Oc

he's going to be useless in the fall tournament.

[10:39] Ka

Sawamura.

[10:41] Ka

Practice on your own starting tomorrow.

[10:43] Ka

Avoid any contact with a ball.

[10:45] Ka

Your practice will mainly consist of
running to strengthen your lower body.

[10:52] Sa

*I'm on a separate regimen
right before the season?*

[10:55] Sa

Does that mean...

[10:56] Ka

Kawakami, you gave up some hits,

[10:59] Ka

but you did well keeping your pitches low.

[11:02] Ka

Make sure you fine-tune your technique
before the season starts.

[11:05] Ka

Yes, sir.

[11:06] Sa

Of course.

[11:09] Sa

With how I pitched today,

[11:12] Sa

I'm...

[11:15] Sa

...useless.

[11:18] Ka

At the moment,

[11:19] Ka

our batting lineup is much
weaker than last year's.

[11:22] Ka

So we have to shift our focus to defense.

[11:25] Ka

We'll have many close games
that'll put pressure on defense.

[11:29] Ka

No matter how well Furuya's feeling,

[11:31] Ka

he still doesn't have
the stamina to pitch a full game.

[11:35] Ka

In order to take the fall tournament,

[11:38] Ka

we'll need to rely on both of you.

[11:44] ---

Huh?

[11:45] S1

Did you see Sawamura today?

[11:47] S2

He was running all day in Field B.

[11:50] S1

Why?

[11:51] S1

Because of yesterday's game?

[11:53] S2

Well...

[11:55] S1

What? He has the yips?

[11:58] S2

One of my junior high teammates
couldn't pitch to first.

[12:04] S3

Tojo might have a chance at pitching now.

[12:07] Ka

Are you dumb?

[12:08] Ka

He gave it a lot of thought
before making the switch.

[12:12] Ch

Mind elaborating on that, Kanemaru?

[12:18] Ka

Chris-senpai.

[12:21] R1

Yakushi and Seido had a practice game?

[12:24] R2

Yeah.

[12:25] R2

The game went 7-2,

[12:27] R2

with Yakushi making a comeback.

[12:29] R1

Those two played right before the fall season?

[12:33] R1

I wish I'd been there.

[12:35] R2

Me, too.

[12:36] R1

So Yakushi won.

[12:39] R2

Without the third-years,

[12:41] R2

the teams can change drastically.

[12:45] R2

I'm sure the scores of the game
represent the current state of both teams.

[12:49] R1

True.

[12:50] R1

Yakushi's still has their core players
from last year.

[12:53] R1

It really comes down to how much

[12:57] R1

team building each school
can do over the break.

[13:00] R2

Yeah.

[13:05] R1

Wow! What a huge crowd!

[13:08] R2

And that goes for every team,

SIGN Inashiro Vocational School

[13:11] R2

*regardless of how well
they performed in the summer.*

[13:19] R1

Summer break's about to end,

[13:22] R1

but the third-years are still practicing.

[13:25] R2

Some of them are playing
in the USA-Japan game,

[13:29] R2

and there's the National
Sports Festival in September.

[13:33] R1

So the more you play at nationals,

[13:35] R1

the longer you get to play as third-years.

[13:38] R1

The crowd is crazy, too,

[13:40] R1

since they were the runner-up at nationals.

[13:43] R2

*It's been ten days since the national final,
and the crowd hasn't died down.*

[13:46] R2

*They spent most of their
summer break at nationals,*

[13:49] R2

and got a sense of accomplishment

[13:53] R2

from making it big there.

[13:55] R2

However,

[13:56] R2

*the team building for the fall
is inevitably delayed.*

[14:00] R1

Harada-kun, do you have a second?

[14:02] Ha

Sure.

SIGN Inashiro Vocational School

[14:04] R1

Good job at nationals.

[14:06] R1

Have things calmed down on your end?

[14:08] Ha

I'd say so.

[14:10] R1

I'm sure there's a lot of pressure
on whoever's replacing you.

[14:13] R1

Have you already found a new captain?

[14:16] Ha

Yes.

[14:17] Ha

All the players and coaches
picked Fuku-chan as the new captain.

[14:21] R1

Fuku-chan?

[14:23] R1

Who's that?

[14:24] Ha

He wasn't on the roster for nationals,

[14:27] Ha

and I doubt he'll make
the starting lineup this year, either.

[14:30] Ha

But he's the most responsible
person on the team,

[14:35] Ha

and he takes great care of the field.

[14:39] Ha

Even Narumiya acknowledges him.

[14:41] R1

That's interesting.

[14:44] R1

Whoa!

[14:45] Ca

Man, it's hot.

[14:46] S1

Hey, Carlos!

[14:47] S1

Don't take your shirt off here!

[14:49] S2

There was one ball on the field yesterday.

[14:52] S2

And two the day before that.

[14:53] S2

If you can't even properly
clean up after practice,

[14:55] S2

just go kill yourself.

[15:00] S3

Hey! Don't drink straight from the bottle!

[15:02] S3

Think of the others!

[15:05] Ha

None of the starters could possibly
be a captain, so there's that, too.

[15:10] R1

I see.

[15:12] R1

Oh, where's Narumiya-kun?

[15:15] R1

He seems like the biggest lone wolf.

[15:18] Ha

He's probably in the bullpen.

[15:20] R1

Oh?

[15:21] R1

Is he already preparing for the fall?

[15:24] Ha

Not at all.

[15:25] Ha

He hasn't pitched at all
since he came back.

[15:29] Ha

The coach plans to use the third-years
for the sports festival, too.

[15:33] Ha

He's pretty fatigued from nationals,

[15:37] Ha

and he still has a long road ahead of him.

[15:42] Ha

But you know how he is.

[15:45] Ha

I'm sure he's being sour in the bullpen.

[15:52] I1

Okay. Nice pitch.

[15:53] Na

Ball! That was a ball!

[15:56] Na

Just a bit too low! Too bad!

[15:58] I1

Please don't interfere
just because you're not pitching.

[16:02] Na

Why not? I do whatever I want!

[16:05] I1

You can't.

[16:06] I1

You're an upperclassman.
Please don't be so selfish.

[16:09] Na

What's that?

[16:10] Na

An upperclassman can't be selfish?

[16:12] Na

How do you define an upperclassman, then?

[16:13] I2

Wow! He's not holding back.

[16:16] I2

Now that Masa-san's not
holding the reins anymore,

[16:20] I2

no one's stopping him.

[16:22] I1

I'm actually a little rattled.

[16:25] I1

I feel like I should practice
catching your pitches more.

[16:28] Na

Don't worry about that.

[16:30] Na

I'll throw wherever you hold the mitt.

[16:36] I1

Then how am I different from a wall?

[16:39] Na

You don't look happy.

[16:41] Na

You think I don't understand anything?

[16:43] I1

I didn't say that much.

[16:46] I1

He's sharp.

[16:48] Na

Don't worry.

[16:49] Na

I don't expect you to replace
Masa-san right off the bat.

[16:56] I1

Well, I suppose if you put it that way...

[17:00] Na

But I don't plan to lose, either.

[17:05] Na

Not until we take the top.

[17:15] Na

Just FYI, I'm pretty selfish.

[17:17] I1

Yes, sir.

[17:18] Na

I'll say no to your request on the mound.

[17:20] I1

I know.

[17:21] Na

I get a ton of fan letters, too.

[17:25] I1

Oh, okay...

[17:26] Na

And this is just between you and me, but

[17:29] Na

a first-year in the brass band
asked me out yesterday.

[17:34] I1

No one cares!

[17:38] R1

The group stages for the fall start soon.

[17:40] R1

After the sports festival in September,
the third-years will retire,

[17:44] R1

and the fall tournament
will start in October.

[17:47] R1

They have to do team building
on top of all of that?

[17:52] R1

The winning teams don't exactly
have it easy, do they?

[17:57] R2

But this is an experience
unique to teams that've won,

[18:01] R2

and it's all part of experiencing nationals.

SIGN Ambition

[18:07] R2

From the teams that lost in the first round

[18:11] R2

to the teams that made it
to the national final,

[18:15] R2

every team is spending
their summer getting ready

[18:17] R2

to line up at the same starting line again.

[18:30] S1

Hey, baseball team!

[18:31] S1

How was your summer "break"?

[18:34] Ka

Shut up.

[18:35] S2

Man, you guys were so close.

[18:38] S1

People were crying on the bleachers.

[18:40] S1

One of my friends said it was more
intense than a game at nationals.

[18:45] Ka

You're still talking about that?

[18:47] Ka

That's ancient history for us, man.

[18:50] S1

And I have to say, I've gotta
give Sawamura some credit.

[18:54] S1

He was pitching so confidently
on the Jingu mound.

[18:57] S1

So loudly, too.

[18:59] S2

He's nothing like that in class.

[19:02] S1

Remember what he said in class
at the beginning of the year?

[19:06] (Flashback) Sa

I'll be the ace of the team,
and my name is Eijun Sawamura!

[19:10] (Flashback) Sa

And you'd better remember my name!

[19:12] S1

Everyone laughed at him when he said that,

[19:15] S1

but maybe he'll really be the ace one day.

[19:21] S1

Did I say something weird?

[19:25] Ka

No.

[19:27] S1

Hey, Haruno!

[19:29] S2

Did something happen
to Sawamura over the break?

[19:33] S2

He looks like a different person!

[19:38] S2

He looks so gloomy now!

[19:41] S1

He's reading a book, too!

[19:44] Ha

*That's *The Book of Five Rings*.*

[19:45] Ha

It's the book Miyamoto Musashi
wrote before his death

[19:47] Ha

about his upbringing
and his way of the sword.

[19:50] S2

Musashi?

[19:52] S2

Is he trying to be a samurai now?

[19:55] S1

Well, I kind of like the gloomy Sawamura.

[19:59] Ha

*Is he trying to learn something
from a man who never lost?*

[20:05] Ka

The second trimester started,

[20:07] Ka

and the group selection for the fall closed in,

[20:10] Ka

but Sawamura was still on a separate regimen.

[20:21] Ha

Now he's reading a book on Rickson Gracie.

[20:25] (Flashback) Ch

I see.

[20:27] (Flashback) Ch

The inside pitch.

[20:29] (Flashback) Ka

Fearlessly throwing close to
the pitcher was his style of pitching.

[20:35] (Flashback) Ka

It's like he lost his biggest weapon.

[20:40] (Flashback) Ch

True.

[20:42] (Flashback) Ch

If he has the yips, it could be bad.

[20:46] (Flashback) Ch

But he was throwing fine
in other practice games, right?

[20:50] (Flashback) Ka

Y-Yes, sir.

[20:52] (Flashback) Ch

Then perhaps it's best not
to make a big deal out of this.

[20:58] (Flashback) Ka

Aren't you gonna say something to him?

[21:00] (Flashback) Ch

I believe he'll turn this around and
come out even stronger in the end.

[21:06] (Flashback) Ch

That's the kind of guy he is.

[21:09] (Flashback) Ch

Isn't he?

[21:15] Ka

*I don't have time to worry
about someone else.*

[21:18] Ka

*Having a flexible roster
means I have a chance, too!*

[21:37] Sa

The season's closing in,

[21:40] Sa

yet what am I doing?

[21:44] Sa

How can I start, much less be the ace...

[21:51] Sa

...if I can't get any outs?

[21:55] Sa

Damn it.

[22:01] Sa

I'm so weak.

[23:35] Mi

We go into the group stages
with a lot of worries

[23:39] Mi

and a lot of work to do.

[23:41] Sa

I can't play outfield,

[23:43] Sa

and I haven't even been
in the bullpen recently.

[23:45] Sa

What does the coach want from me?

[23:47] Ku

What are we gonna do, Miyuki?

[23:48] Ku

Don't we need Sawamura
in order to win this season?

[23:52] Mi

Next time on *Ace of the Diamond*:
September Sky.

SIGN September Sky

[23:54] Oc

Why doesn't Coach Kataoka
just give up on him?