

E14 - Towards Victory

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

Translator:

Editor:

Timer:

QC:

(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

[00:07] ---

Nabe and Chucky both ditched
the training camp?!

[00:10] ---

It's better to leave them be.

[00:12] ---

They're only going to get in our way
if we let them loaf around here.

[00:15] ---

Even if you found those two,
what are you planning to say to them?

[00:20] ---

That shouldn't matter, we
can't just leave them hanging!

[00:26] ---

We're so damn pathetic...

[00:28] ---

Yep.

[00:34] ---

Chucky! Nabe!

[01:02] ---

Ahiru no Sora

[02:12] ---

You're quitting?

[02:13] ---

Yeah... it's just like Kite said.

[02:13] ---

Towards Victory

[02:15] ---

Having us around is only going
to drag the rest of you down.

[02:18] ---

That's ridiculous! You know that Kite
wasn't totally serious when he said all that...

[02:22] ---

Nah, we're done now.

[02:24] ---

We got taught a real lesson about how much we underestimated the game of basketball.

[02:28] ---

Huh?

[02:29] ---

Speaking of, how long have you been playing for?

[02:33] ---

I think probably since I was about three-years old.

[02:36] ---

Three-years old? He's been playing for 12 years, then...

[02:40] ---

That figures. High school basketball clubs are meant for guys like you.

[02:44] ---

Total noobs like us can practice all we want, but we'll never catch up to the rest of you.

[02:49] ---

Not to mention all the stress and pain it takes to get good.

[02:52] ---

Neither of us is determined enough for that.

[02:58] ---

P-please just wait! Um...

[03:00] ---

Huh?

[03:01] ---

U-uh... so...

[03:04] ---

Tell me... do you think basketball is fun?

[03:15] ---

It bores me out of my mind, dude.

[03:17] ---

Yep.

[03:34] ---

Shit! Goddammit!

[03:43] ---

Shit, why the hell did I dream about that...?

[03:49] ---

This sucks...

[03:50] ---

Yep.

[03:53] ---

Hey, you hungry?

[03:55] ---

Yep.

[03:57] ---

Let's go get ramen or something.

[04:00] ---

Nah... ramen's bad news, ain't it?

[04:03] ---

Huh?

[04:04] ---

Ramen Shop

Rairaiken

[04:04] ---

Remember what Nao told us?

[04:06] ---

We shouldn't be eating
super oily food like ramen.

[04:08] ---

Are you stupid? None of what she said
applies to us anymore.

[04:12] ---

Oh, that's right...

[04:18] ---

Those kids at the park were really good.

[04:21] ---

Yep.

[04:22] ---

But you know, we had a huge
height advantage on all of them.

[04:26] ---

Maybe we should've just focused
on blocking passes they made to the sides?

[04:30] ---

You know it's not that easy, man.

[04:32] ---

For example, those times
when the ball comes in like this...

[04:35] ---

Chili Oil

[04:35] ---

We can't do much until we learn
how to deal with those screen things.

[04:39] ---

Oh yeah, totally.

[04:42] ---

What the hell are we even doing?

[04:44] ---

It shouldn't matter to us anymore.

[04:51] ---

This sucks...

[04:54] ---

We have a whole 8 days of vacation left,

[04:55] ---

but we already did all
the fun stuff yesterday.

[04:59] ---

Tell me... do you think basketball is fun?

[05:09] ---

Whatever. Let's hit the arcade or something-

[05:11] ---

OMG, I can't believe you!

[05:14] ---

I told you that I wanted to go on a date
to the amusement park!

[05:16] ---

I didn't have a choice!

You know that I can't just skip practice.

[05:20] ---

Boo!

[05:21] ---

Wait, that's the kid from yesterday!

[05:23] ---

How's a middle school punk
already got a girl like that?!

[05:26] ---

Trust me... when I get to high school,
I'm going to the inter-high no matter what!

[05:31] ---

The inter-high, huh? That's awesome.

[05:34] ---

I just can't get enough of basketball players,
they're so cool!

[05:42] ---

Don't cling to me so much...

[05:43] ---

Hey, Nabe...

You don't like it?

[05:44] ---

Huh?

[05:45] ---

Listen, I've been hiding something from you
for a long time now.

[05:49] ---

You, too? Same for me, to be honest.

[05:52] ---

I see... Okay, so let's confess on 3.

[05:55] ---

Okay!

[05:57] ---

Here we go? 1... 2...!

[05:59] ---

The truth is...

[06:01] ---

...my dream is to go to the
inter-high basketball tourney!

[06:08] ---

I'm begging you!

[06:10] ---

If this keeps up any longer,
then those two really will quit!

[06:13] ---

If you consider them friends,
then you should say something to them!

[06:16] ---

No way. Too much effort, dude.

[06:18] ---

It's because I'm their friend
that I don't want to say nothin'.

[06:22] ---

Yasuhara...

[06:28] ---

Hello? Is this Madoka?

[06:31] ---

Yeah. I'm on my way to the hospital
to check on Momoharu.

[06:35] ---

Chitose Central Park

[06:35] ---

No, that's not why I'm calling.
Actually, I'm at Chitose park and...

SIGN Shinjo Middle 22 Kuzu High

[06:43] ---

Shit!

[06:46] ---

Dammit!

[06:51] ---

It's Nabe and Chucky...
they're both playing...

[06:56] ---

Hey, are you done yet?

[06:58] ---

Nothing's gonna change if we keep this up.

[07:00] ---

Shut up!

[07:01] ---

We've only summoned up 10% of our full power!

[07:04] ---

It makes sense that we
can't score any baskets...

[07:06] ---

...but why the hell are we powerless
to stop them from taking any shots?!

[07:11] ---

This is pointless.

[07:13] ---

They can spend a whole
lifetime and still never win.

[07:15] ---

Kite...

[07:19] ---

I don't understand how they're
getting past us so easily.

[07:21] ---

We should at least have some advantage
based on our overwhelming height!

[07:27] ---

Am I wrong?

[07:29] ---

Is our height the reason
they keep getting past us?

[07:31] ---

In that case...

[07:35] ---

He went low!

[07:39] ---

That was a perfect cross step just now!

[07:43] ---

Come on, kid! Hand that ball over! It's mine!

[07:47] ---

Dammit!

[07:52] ---

Shit, I don't know how to
actually score a basket...

[07:54] ---

Pass it here, Chucky!

[08:02] ---

Huh?

[08:04] ---

All right!

We won!

[08:06] ---

Yay!

[08:06] ---

Cut the crap!

[08:08] ---

You can't just barge in out of nowhere!

[08:10] ---

Sorry... it seemed like a lot
of fun, so I just went for it.

[08:15] ---

Don't you think so too, you guys?

[08:17] ---

Basketball is a lot of fun, right?!

[08:19] ---

W-well, it's a good way to kill some time.

[08:22] ---

Yep.

[08:25] ---

Seriously? I thought you two
were done with basketball.

[08:29] ---

Your footwork is sloppy
and you move like snails.

[08:32] ---

Your body just can't keep up
because you don't train properly.

[08:35] ---

Gah! This jackass!

[08:37] ---

Although...

[08:39] ---

...well, your defense was a
lot better than it was before.

[08:47] ---

This is great news. Right, Yasuhara?

[08:49] ---

They both came back to the team!

[08:51] ---

Huh? Yeah, sure, but they've always been
half-assed about everything.

[08:56] ---

Worrying about them causes more problems
than it solves, usually.

[08:59] ---

Huh?

[09:00] ---

The only reason you guys hopped back on board
was cuz of a lady, ain't it?

[09:04] ---

You know it, Yasu!

[09:05] ---

You're the only one on this
team that really gets us!

[09:14] ---

I'm back from the brink.

[09:16] ---

I pulled myself out of the depths of Hell itself,
and now I fear nothing!

[09:21] ---

This is my chance to leave them all in awe
at the strength of their captain!

[09:27] ---

Hey! You bums!

[09:28] ---

Get ready to train your asses off!

[09:42] ---

Huh? Oh, hey there, Momoharu.

[09:44] ---

You got released from the hospital already?

[09:47] ---

What kind of reaction is that?!
I'll have you know that I-

[09:50] ---

Gorilla chop!

[09:52] ---

You bastard! What the hell was that for?!

[09:55] ---

That's what you get for slacking
off for 3 days, Captain.

[09:59] ---

Here, take this.

SIGN Momoharu's Training Schedule Stretches - 20 minutes Court run with hands up - 25 down
and back Shuttle runs - 25 sets Jumping exercises (5 sets of each) Knee Jumps 10 Standing Broad
Jump 10 Go for it!

[10:00] ---

It's a training schedule
especially for you, Momoharu.

[10:02] ---

Seriously...?

[10:08] ---

Stop, that's wrong.
You can't just try to jump as high as you can.

[10:12] ---

You need the right timing.

[10:13] ---

Timing?

[10:15] ---

Whenever you jump, there will always be a moment that you stop in midair.

[10:19] ---

That's when you should shoot.

[10:20] ---

The moment that I stop, huh?

[10:24] ---

Also, it's better to aim for the backboard than go for the basket directly.

[10:30] ---

The same basic ideas apply to both free throws and jump shots.

[10:34] ---

Once you get the hang of it, you can start doing the same thing from a farther distance.

[10:37] ---

I can handle shots near the basket, but distance is another problem.

[10:41] ---

I still don't get what you mean by shooting being all in the knees...

[10:45] ---

You've already got a good example to follow, over there.

[10:53] ---

You could even say it's perfect.

[10:55] ---

Th-that's incredible...

[10:57] ---

I never realized just how much he was bending his knees.

[11:00] ---

It's like one smooth motion from the moment he catches to the moment he shoots.

[11:05] ---

I still can't believe we have such an incredible player here!

[11:09] ---

He really did shoot 1,000 of them!

[11:11] ---

He's a monster, that's for sure.

[11:19] ---

I'm done... my legs won't move anymore.

[11:28] ---

It's really dark, isn't it?

The night sky in this area.

[11:32] ---

Madoka...

[11:33] ---

You're originally from Nagano, right, Sora?

[11:36] ---

I bet the night sky out there
is full of beautiful stars.

[11:39] ---

Th-that's right. Although I never really took
the time to stop and look at it closely.

[11:44] ---

I think it's probably very beautiful.

[11:48] ---

I'm jealous...

[11:51] ---

Behold the great sport of Dribbling Sumo!
Bring it on!

[12:03] ---

Actually... I think I prefer
how things are over here.

[12:06] ---

I like the sky a lot more the way it is here.

[12:16] ---

It would be great if you
guys went to the inter-high.

[12:24] ---

Right?

[12:25] ---

Y-yeah.

[12:27] ---

She's so pretty...

[12:29] ---

Hm? Did you say something?

[12:31] ---

No! N-nothing at all!

[12:36] ---

I knew it...

[12:37] ---

...coming here was the right decision.

[12:43] ---

A practice match?

[12:44] ---

Yeah. We're already halfway

through our training camp,

[12:47] ---

so tomorrow we'll start focusing more
on strategy and tactics.

[12:51] ---

I thought having a match on the very last day
would be a fitting conclusion to everything.

[12:55] ---

Are there even any teams out there
who would be willing to face us?

[12:59] ---

Can't we just ask those middle schoolers
from the other day?

[13:01] ---

Please at least have a shred of pride!

[13:06] ---

Um, actually, I already-

[13:08] ---

I've missed you so much, Naopei.

[13:11] ---

Huh?!

[13:12] ---

Wha-?!

[13:15] ---

T-Taro!

[13:17] ---

Wassup, long time, no see!

[13:19] ---

Oh jeez, you didn't need
to come all the way here!

[13:22] ---

Don't be like that, I went out of my way
so I could see you.

[13:24] ---

We haven't seen each other
since spring vacation,

[13:26] ---

I wanted to see how you've been filling out.

[13:29] ---

Just who the hell are you, pal?!

[13:32] ---

Oh, sorry.

[13:34] ---

My name is Taro Kabachi. I'm the ace
of the Kitasumiyoshi High basketball team.

[13:38] ---

Nao is one of my cousins. Nice to meetcha.

[13:42] ---

A cousin?!

[13:44] ---

Then tell me this.

Have you ever been in the bath with her?

[13:47] ---

Yeah, when we were really young.

[13:49] ---

What kind of body did she have?

Can you draw me a little sketch from memory?

[13:53] ---

As I recall, she's got a mole
on her butt and her chest.

[13:54] ---

S-stop it!

[13:55] ---

Don't say another word!

[13:57] ---

I know that's not what you
came here to talk about!

[13:59] ---

Right.

[14:00] ---

Well, since you asked me about
setting up a practice match,

[14:04] ---

I just came to see what we're dealing with.

[14:08] ---

I dunno why, but something
about his hairstyle kind of irks me.

[14:12] ---

Now, then...

[14:16] ---

...you there!

[14:16] ---

Huh? Me?!

[14:18] ---

You smell like the resident ace of this team.

[14:21] ---

Huh?

[14:23] ---

How about it?

[14:25] ---

Let's say we have a showdown
between aces in a one-on-one.

[14:28] ---

And if you meet my standards,

then our team will agree to have a match with yours.

[14:34] ---

Just step in and shut him down.

[14:38] ---

All right, then. Let's do this thing!

[14:40] ---

R-right!

[14:42] ---

You can do it, Nabe!

[14:46] ---

This way, huh?!

[14:49] ---

A dribble through the legs
into a spin... he's slick!

[14:55] ---

Huh...?

[15:00] ---

Th-this is a pretty nice
court you've got here.

[15:02] ---

With a court this clean, then I'm sure
all your skills must be equally as impressive.

[15:07] ---

Okay! We accept a practice
match with your team!

[15:12] ---

Thank you so much!

[15:13] ---

Huh?

[15:17] ---

You've got real guts, kid.

[15:19] ---

Bring some tissues to
cry into after you lose!

[15:22] ---

Later!

[15:23] ---

Later!

[15:24] ---

Yo, somebody say something to him.

[15:25] ---

Later!

[15:26] ---

Is the team at his school even any good?

[15:27] ---

LATER!

[15:28] ---

How did they manage in the Kanto tourney?

[15:30] ---

They lost in the very
first round. To Maru High.

[15:33] ---

Oh yeah? Then they're nothing but chumps!

[15:35] ---

We totally managed to hold
our own against Maru High!

[15:38] ---

Yep!

[15:39] ---

Oh, but...

[15:40] ---

Huh?

[15:41] ---

The only time that Maru High
was forced into overtime during the tourney

[15:43] ---

was when they played against Taro's team
at Kitasumiyoshi High.

[15:49] ---

Seriously?!

[15:50] ---

The final score was 112 to 107.

[15:52] ---

I think it was an intense game
that either team could have won.

[15:56] ---

Then maybe we should aim
a little bit lower...

[15:58] ---

Don't be silly!

[16:00] ---

Both Maru High and Kitasumi are

[16:01] ---

opponents that we have to
fight against sooner or later!

[16:05] ---

So basically, that means...

[16:07] ---

...we better start practicing
how to shoot a basket properly.

[16:14] ---

Who said anything about
learning how to dunk?!

[16:17] ---

Right now, everyone is going to start practicing how to screen!

[16:23] ---

The first screen we'll do is a fundamental move known as the "pick and roll."

[16:27] ---

As the screener, Momoharu will send a sign to the ball-handler, Natsume,

[16:31] ---

before he starts to make his move.

[16:34] ---

Then he'll sneak directly behind the defensive player, Kurumatani.

[16:38] ---

The ball-handler will confirm that the

[16:41] ---

screener is in position, with their arms down and feet planted.

[16:46] ---

Then the ball-handler will pass by the screener as closely as possible.

[16:50] ---

The screener will "pick" off the defense and then "roll" quickly to the basket.

[16:54] ---

It will be a successful play if they manage to create a situation where it becomes 2-on-1.

[16:59] ---

Wow!

[17:00] ---

So if we learn how to do this screen thing, then it should lead to Sora and Kite

[17:04] ---

having more chances to score, right?

[17:06] ---

Naturally!

[17:07] ---

We may not be able to actually score any points, but...

[17:10] ---

...we'll do all the other stuff that only we can accomplish!

[17:14] ---

Despite what they may think, this means they'll be directly involved in scoring points!

[17:21] ---

Oh?

[17:24] ---

Quit showing off.

[17:25] ---

You've gotten really good at
dribbling the ball, Yasuhara!

[17:28] ---

That was some quick thinking.

[17:31] ---

You've got the smarts to
be a forward, Yasuhara.

[17:33] ---

Oh yeah?

[17:34] ---

You can't get too careless
around him anymore, Tinytown.

[17:35] ---

The team is starting to come together.
Those guys are really getting the hang of it.

[17:36] ---

That's true.

[17:39] ---

They really are.

[17:40] ---

I think the idea of a practice
match in the near future

[17:43] ---

motivated them a lot more
than a stretch goal like the inter-high.

[17:47] ---

Kitasumiyoshi High has a pretty well-known reputation
around here for being tough.

[17:50] ---

Yeah.

[17:51] ---

Apparently, they've been recruiting

[17:53] ---

really fast players to help
boost their offense this year.

[17:56] ---

I'm not so sure our team
will be good enough to handle them...

[17:59] ---

It's okay. We can win, no doubt!

[18:07] ---

Things are totally different
from when we played against Maru High.

[18:11] ---

Everyone is putting their best
into the game for the team's sake!

[18:14] ---

Each time a pass goes through, or a screen works,
it helps us to build confidence!

[18:20] ---

This must be the "teamwork"
that Nanao has been talking about!

[18:25] ---

I know that this team...

[18:27] ---

...can become really incredible!

[18:40] ---

To sum it up, our offense will be centered around
Kurumatani and Natsume

[18:43] ---

and we'll use a series of
basic screens to back them up.

[18:47] ---

I'm a little concerned about
the lack of pass windows available to Natusme, but...

[18:50] ---

Why's that? If you just give me the ball,
then I'll keep scoring the points.

[18:55] ---

Regardless of how things go during the match,

[18:58] ---

our team has to be able to
at least score 70 points

[19:00] ---

or we won't make any progress.

[19:02] ---

I think we can manage that with two scorers.

[19:05] ---

I can get 30 points and Tinytown can get 20.

[19:09] ---

The remaining 20 points can be scored randomly
amongst the others.

[19:14] ---

However, that doesn't solve all our problems.

[19:17] ---

There's still one major
weakness that our team has.

[19:20] ---

Yes, our defense.

[19:23] ---

Think back to the game we played

against the girls' team.

[19:26] ---

Putting aside the fact you didn't
use your height advantage,

[19:28] ---

the other team still scored too often.

[19:31] ---

Sora's lack of height is a
pretty big problem for us, huh?

[19:35] ---

If I coached the other team,
that is definitely where I would focus my attack.

[19:40] ---

So that means you're on the bench!

[19:42] ---

No! Anything but that!

[19:44] ---

Needless to say, we can't afford
to just leave Kurumatani off the court.

[19:47] ---

Having a three-point shooter like him
is a huge benefit to us.

[19:53] ---

We also need him out there to help spread out
the other team's defense.

[19:57] ---

With that said,

[19:58] ---

I'm proposing that we make this
the basic pattern for our defense.

[20:00] ---

Take a look.

[20:03] ---

Interesting. That's a good plan.

[20:05] ---

Wait a sec, does this mean that I...?

[20:07] ---

Starting tomorrow, we'll practice
this formation together with our offense

[20:10] ---

until everyone has mastered it completely.

[20:13] ---

And in order to make this
defense absolutely perfect...

[20:16] ---

...Kurumatani will need to return back to doing
footwork practice by himself tomorrow.

[20:26] ---

The defense is getting shaken off!
Look carefully before you pass!

[20:48] ---

The water went in my nose!

[20:51] ---

Here, use this.

[20:55] ---

Th-thanks...

[20:57] ---

Sorry. Are you mad?

[20:59] ---

Huh?! I'm not mad at all.

[21:01] ---

Why?

[21:02] ---

I mean... I made you practice separately
from everyone else.

[21:06] ---

I feel like I'm being a bully...

[21:08] ---

I don't mind, since that's
what we need to win.

[21:10] ---

But...

[21:12] ---

I want to win... really bad.

[21:16] ---

It becomes clearer the
longer that we practice.

[21:18] ---

Everyone is gradually starting
to trust each other more as they play.

[21:22] ---

I can tell everyone has started to believe...
that our team really has a shot at this.

[21:31] ---

Back when we played against Maru High,
there was really nothing that went in our favor.

[21:34] ---

But despite all of that,
it was still really frustrating to lose.

[21:38] ---

Back then, if we had a stronger defense...

[21:41] ---

Back then, if my shots
hadn't missed the mark...

[21:45] ---

I want to experience more
than just regrets like those.

[21:47] ---

I want to know what it feels like
to share the joy of victory with a team.

[21:52] ---

Yeah.

[21:53] ---

You guys can definitely win.

[21:57] ---

Yeah!

[23:30] ---

Ahiru no Sora
Next Time: The Boys' Spirit

[23:31] ---

Next time: "The Boys' Spirit."

Revision #1

Created 2024-01-09 05:56:33 UTC by whimsee

Updated 2024-01-09 05:56:33 UTC by whimsee