

E27 - THE HARD PLAY

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

Translator:

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Timer:

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[00:02] ---

Defense!

[00:15] ---

Shinjo suddenly changed up their defense!

[00:17] ---

Man-to-man, huh?

[00:18] ---

Hey, Nanao... I'm worried about one thing.

[00:23] ---

I hate to say it, but...

[00:25] ---

Not everyone on our team wins
when it comes down to individual skill.

[00:29] ---

You think it's gonna be easy
to take me one-on-one, then?

[00:40] ---

Captain...

[00:41] ---

Don't sweat it. He just took the bait.

[00:44] ---

Roku, let me fill you in.

[00:49] ---

He's driving to the basket!

[00:59] ---

There are no openings for
me... to pass through!

[01:01] ---

Have you noticed it, Tokiwa?

[01:04] ---

Of course.

[01:06] ---

By arranging their defense
to focus on one side,

[01:08] ---

they cut the space the point
guard can work with in half.

[01:11] ---

It's a fast break!

[01:16] ---

Stop right there, dammit!

[01:20] ---

No way I'm just gonna let you drop it in!

[01:22] ---

Hiyah!

[01:37] ---

However, we can still win this.

[01:41] ---

Geniuses are actually...
surprisingly fragile.

[01:54] ---

His pass timing is way off!

[01:56] ---

What's wrong with you, Chiaki?!

[02:00] ---

This is really throwing me off my game!

[02:09] ---

The worst part is that Chiaki has

[02:11] ---

been thrown off
both offensively and defensively,

[02:13] ---

which affects the rhythm of the entire team!

[02:15] ---

We need this basket... no matter what!

[02:28] ---

What's the deal, Chiaki?

This ain't like you, man.

[02:31] ---

Huh?

[02:32] ---

Do you wanna go watch this game
from the bench, or what?!

[02:36] ---

Easy for you to say, pea-brain.

[03:08] ---

Ahiru no Sora

[04:12] ---

Shinjotowa / Kuzuryu

[04:16] ---

Let's go, let's go! Shinjo!

[04:17] ---

Let's go, let's go! Shinjo!

[04:19] ---

Crush 'em, crush 'em! Shinjo!

[04:20] ---

Crush 'em, crush 'em! Shinjo!

[04:22] ---

Let's go, let's go! Shinjo!

[04:23] ---

Let's go, let's go! Shinjo!

[04:25] ---

Crush 'em, crush 'em! Shinjo!

[04:26] ---

Crush 'em, crush 'em! Shinjo!

[04:28] ---

Let's go, let's go! Shinjo!

[04:29] ---

Let's go, let's go! Shinjo!

[04:35] ---

Whoa, look at that #4 go!

[04:37] ---

Wait, damn you!

[04:42] ---

Pushing! White #7!

[04:47] ---

I hadn't even actually pushed yet!

[04:49] ---

Come on, Chiaki! That's your second foul,
please be more careful!

[04:53] ---

Don't bother chasing him.
You're not quick enough.

[04:56] ---

We'll jump in to help,
so have some more faith in your backup.

[05:05] ---

He drove it in!

[05:06] ---

Awesome moves, Tamo!

[05:08] ---

Kuzuryu

[05:08] ---

They're catching up! Only 4 points now!

[05:10] ---

They managed to hold on to the lead
for the first quarter...

[05:14] ---

...but they're still slowly being cornered.

[05:16] ---

That's 'cuz Shinjo is totally controlling the pace of this game.

[05:20] ---

It's only a matter of time until they catch up.

[05:23] ---

Let's score some points this time!

[05:25] ---

Wow, Kuzu High really knows how to hustle!

[05:28] ---

They're just as fast as Shinjo!

[05:34] ---

No, not quite.

[05:35] ---

Shinjo made it back quicker!

[05:42] ---

So low!

[05:45] ---

He's taking their center head on!

[05:47] ---

But that height gap is ridiculous!

[05:52] ---

No way... he's taking a shot?!

[05:59] ---

I got this!

[06:03] ---

Counter!

[06:05] ---

Crap!

[06:11] ---

Shinjotowa

[06:11] ---

He nailed it!

[06:12] ---

Now we're just one basket away!

[06:14] ---

Nice, Captain!

[06:15] ---

Shinjotowa has a really solid team.

[06:18] ---

Defense! Defense! Defense! Defense!

[06:23] ---

I thought their main offensive strategy would be to play in the paint...

[06:26] ---

...but so far it's been

mostly just run and gun.

[06:29] ---

With all of their plays coming at us so fast,
there's no time to consider defense,

[06:32] ---

since everyone is just focused
on getting back up the floor.

[06:36] ---

All the stamina that we lose now,
is going to hurt us badly in the endgame.

[06:43] ---

Traveling!

[06:44] ---

Huh?!

[06:44] ---

Damn!

[06:45] ---

Yasu!

[06:47] ---

Just piss off. Piece of shit.

[06:52] ---

Kuzuryu

[06:53] ---

Only down by 2 now.

[06:56] ---

Let's go, let's go! Shinjo!

[06:57] ---

Let's go, let's go! Shinjo!

[06:59] ---

Crush 'em, crush 'em! Shinjo!

[07:00] ---

Crush 'em, crush 'em! Shinjo!

[07:01] ---

One more basket! Let's play it safe!

[07:02] ---

Let's go, let's go! Shinjo!

[07:03] ---

Let's go, let's go! Shinjo!

[07:05] ---

They're slowing down.

[07:07] ---

Finally...

[07:08] ---

Guess this means they want to
tie it up here no matter what.

[07:11] ---

Takahashi...

[07:17] ---

It's not gonna happen. I'm
not gonna let you do it!

[07:26] ---

A three-pointer!

[07:34] ---

It went in!

[07:37] ---

Shinjotowa

[07:37] ---

It's a comeback!

[07:38] ---

And they made it look so easy, too!

[07:40] ---

Sly dog.

[07:43] ---

How was that "playing it safe"?

[07:45] ---

It's just another one of
Takahashi's signature moves.

[07:48] ---

He's always been good at faking people out
for as long as I can remember.

[07:50] ---

Let's go! Let's go! Takahashi!
You rock! You rock! Takahashi!

[07:57] ---

Incredible...

[07:58] ---

An all-rounder that's 190 centimeters tall.

[08:01] ---

This guy is literally the
ideal basketball player.

[08:04] ---

Defense!

[08:06] ---

I want to get out there...
and play against him.

[08:10] ---

We're taking the lead back!

[08:17] ---

Whoa! They're not backing down!

[08:18] ---

They're charging at them like bulls!

[08:34] ---

Don't let him past you, Yukio!

[08:39] ---

What the-?!

[08:40] ---

Did you just see that?!

[08:42] ---

How does that #11 do it?!

All his moves seem superhuman!

[08:53] ---

Shit! This guy jumps a lot
higher than his looks lead on.

[08:57] ---

It got blocked!

[09:00] ---

Sweet! We got the ball!

[09:02] ---

Hey, Chiaki!

[09:03] ---

A pass?!

[09:05] ---

No!

[09:06] ---

He's going straight for it!

[09:16] ---

Charging! White #7!

[09:25] ---

That's his third...

[09:26] ---

It's still only the first half,
but their playmaker is having foul trouble!

[09:35] ---

Timeout! White team!

[09:37] ---

Hey.

[09:40] ---

You sly dog.

[09:44] ---

Hell yeah!

[10:04] ---

Everything is in Shinjo's favor now.

[10:07] ---

You were amazing out there, Takahashi!

[10:09] ---

We can totally win this!

[10:10] ---

They're getting too damn
smug over taking the lead.

[10:13] ---

It's still just a one point difference!

[10:17] ---

That's not what's hurting us.

[10:18] ---

Huh?

[10:19] ---

The real issue is... the fact
that Chiaki has three fouls.

[10:23] ---

Especially so early into the game.

[10:25] ---

I thought it took 5 fouls to get ejected.

That means he's still got two left!

[10:28] ---

You're looking at it the wrong way.

[10:30] ---

He's ONLY got two left.

[10:32] ---

Just think about what happens
if he gets one more foul after this.

[10:35] ---

He'll end up playing conservatively
simply due to the high risk of ejection.

[10:41] ---

So really, it's your fourth
foul that knocks you out.

[10:45] ---

Normally, this is where we'd just pull him out
and save him for the second half.

[10:49] ---

But we might end up screwing ourselves over

[10:51] ---

with only one point guard out on the court.

[10:53] ---

Not to mention we'd be losing
one of our taller players.

[10:55] ---

Even if we did let the shrimp
take over in his place,

[10:57] ---

a zone defense would give us major trouble.

[11:00] ---

I guess it's still too much for
Sora to handle right now...

[11:04] ---

It's risky as hell,
but we're just gonna have to keep Chiaki in.

[11:08] ---

They've really brought him to his knees...
I've never seen Chiaki like this before.

[11:14] ---

Come on!

[11:15] ---

It's time to launch our rescue operation
to save that poor bra!

[11:18] ---

Great. Then I shall take the first peek!

[11:22] ---

The Chiaki that I know
is always brimming with confidence.

[11:25] ---

Dude, we've been through so much.
You could've picked better scenes.

[11:28] ---

Let's stay calm for now.

[11:31] ---

Like Nabe said earlier, Chiaki has

[11:32] ---

two fouls left before he actually
gets ejected from the game.

[11:36] ---

We're not at an impasse just yet.

[11:40] ---

Hey, man, what's an "impasse"?

[11:42] ---

It's like a "dead end." She
means we still have a chance.

[11:45] ---

That being said, I want to avoid having
one of our main players foul out.

[11:49] ---

So I'm going to bench
both Chiaki and Yasuhara for the time being.

[11:52] ---

Me, too?

[11:54] ---

Kurumatani will be point guard.

[11:56] ---

I want Chucky to go out
as our shooting guard and

[11:59] ---

focus on providing support for Kurumatani.

[12:02] ---

S-sure.

[12:03] ---

And then...

[12:04] ---

Shigeyoshi will play center.

[12:07] ---

Making Momoharu our power forward.

[12:09] ---

You're in charge of the inside
for both offense and defense.

[12:13] ---

Natsume, in addition to your
usual dribble penetration

[12:16] ---

I want you to start shooting from long-range.

[12:17] ---

Ideally, I want you to draw

[12:19] ---

enough attention
to get our opponents to double team you.

[12:22] ---

Even if you miss, you can trust the guys
under the basket to back you up, right?

[12:26] ---

Well... yeah.

[12:31] ---

What kinda look is that?

[12:33] ---

As for you, Kurumatani...

[12:35] ---

Listen close.

[12:36] ---

If benching Chiaki is enough
to let our opponents run away with the game,

[12:39] ---

then this team has no future
no matter what we do.

[12:44] ---

Can you fill the hole that
Chiaki is leaving behind?

[12:57] ---

Without a doubt.

[13:00] ---

Let's do this!

[13:03] ---

Shinjo ball!

[13:04] ---

Shi-n-jo! Shi-n-jo! Shi-n-jo!
Shi-n-jo! Shi-n-jo!

[13:10] ---

I lied.

[13:13] ---

It already seems hopeless
without Chiaki and I

[13:15] ---

didn't want to give them
any more reasons to worry.

[13:18] ---

The truth is that I'm full
of nothing but doubts.

[13:22] ---

But even so, I've gotta do this!

[13:26] ---

I've gotta become a player like Chiaki...
one who everyone can rely on!

[13:32] ---

Looks like Kuzu High
changed up their defense.

[13:35] ---

A 3-2 zone, eh?

[13:37] ---

Dude, that #12 is downright huge!

[13:39] ---

He's got to be taller than
even Shinjo's #8, for sure!

[13:44] ---

So that's how they're playing it.

[13:47] ---

Roku, switch with me.

[13:49] ---

Huh?

[13:50] ---

So, #4 moved to the low post.

[13:53] ---

Is he planning to take on the big guy?

[14:00] ---

Shit! They passed it above him so easily!

[14:04] ---

Those overhead passes are
just gonna keep coming

[14:06] ---

so long as that shorty
is playing point guard.

[14:08] ---

It's all gonna come down
to their strength under the basket.

[14:11] ---

He's forcing his way in.
He'll get fouled for charging like that!

[14:16] ---

Okay!

[14:21] ---

So slick!

[14:24] ---

You saw me coming, huh?

[14:34] ---

The streak continues!

[14:36] ---

I guess just adding in that
super tall dude wasn't enough!

[14:41] ---

Yeah, I get it! It's MY fault
for letting him get past me!

[14:44] ---

Jeez, I didn't realize you
could be such a jackass!

[14:46] ---

Dammit!

[14:48] ---

Everyone on the team...
knows how you must feel.

[14:52] ---

So I think...

[14:54] ---

...that's exactly why Nanao decided
to ask you that question... in front of all of us.

[14:59] ---

And in that moment, you answered clearly.

[15:03] ---

It psyched me up. Seeing your bravery.

[15:07] ---

Mokichi...

[15:13] ---

Let's do our best.

[15:14] ---

Y-yeah.

[15:17] ---

Let's do it! This one's going in the basket!

[15:21] ---

Don't react! Stay in position!

[15:24] ---

Shinjo switched to zone, too!

[15:26] ---

It's a showdown in the paint!

[15:28] ---

With Chiaki on the bench,
we can't afford to let them pull way ahead!

[15:34] ---

Kuzu High's big guy has to be
around 2 meters tall at least.

[15:38] ---

Seems like Shinjo has slightly
more skill overall, though.

[15:42] ---

Yo, check that out.

[15:44] ---

Huh?

[15:45] ---

Those are players from Saijo.

[15:47] ---

But their team doesn't play today...

[15:55] ---

Hey, Chucky! Make sure you take up
a defensive safety position!

[15:58] ---

If there's a pass, don't
just stay where you are!

[16:01] ---

Please remember all of the things
that we worked on in practice!

[16:05] ---

Kurumatani! Keep your eyes on the shot clock!

[16:08] ---

I can't just repeatedly try
to shoot a bunch of threes.

[16:10] ---

I'm not doing my job unless we score
by breaking their zone-D apart.

[16:13] ---

But time is running short...

[16:15] ---

Stay calm. Stay calm.

[16:17] ---

Defense! Defense! Defense! Defense!

[16:23] ---

This one... he's up to something!

[16:26] ---

He definitely doesn't look like the type
to try to bulldoze his way through, but...

[16:29] ---

...he's positioned himself
way too far from the basket!

[16:33] ---

What the hell is he thinking?

[16:38] ---

Once they move in closer to the basket,
that guy seems even more like a giant!

[16:41] ---

His reach is insane!

He's gotta be more than 2 meters tall!

[16:44] ---

So tall!

[16:46] ---

Nobody stands out more than him!

[16:48] ---

What a relief! I'm glad
Mokichi is on our side!

[16:53] ---

Now #11 is making his way in!

[16:55] ---

They've got a chance!

[16:58] ---

Slowpoke! Hurry and throw it at me!

[17:11] ---

It's a hook!

[17:12] ---

From way high!

[17:25] ---

I can't believe he stopped
a shot from that high!

[17:29] ---

All right! I got the ball!

[17:31] ---

Huh?!

[17:32] ---

Out of bounds! Shinjo ball!

[17:34] ---

Holy cow, #4 is awesome!

I've never seen anybody get that much air!

[17:38] ---

No way...

[17:40] ---

Even though Mokichi is more than 5 cm taller,
he still got blocked...

[17:46] ---

What's up?

[17:47] ---

They're discussing something.

[17:51] ---

Before the out of bounds call,
there was a different violation from Shinjo.

[17:54] ---

As a result, Kuzuryu will receive 2 points.

[17:55] ---

What?! Why?!

[17:58] ---

Must have been goaltending.

[18:00] ---

Seriously? In a high school game like this?

[18:02] ---

Goal what now?

[18:04] ---

What'd they say?

[18:05] ---

"Goaltending."

[18:07] ---

After the ball is shot and
starts falling from its apex,

[18:11] ---

nobody can touch it until it hits the rim.

[18:13] ---

The shot that Shigeyoshi just made
started with the ball well above the rim.

[18:18] ---

In other words, it began falling
from its apex the moment he let go.

[18:21] ---

So, if I get this right,
you're saying that he was shooting downwards?

[18:25] ---

That's pretty much the gist of it.

[18:28] ---

As far as the rules are concerned,
the hook shot that he makes is impossible to block.

[18:32] ---

You can consider that a warning.

[18:36] ---

My hook isn't something... that you can stop.

[18:41] ---

That punk... He intentionally provoked me
to make sure I went for the block.

[18:47] ---

He's one crafty fox.
Way more vicious than he looks on the outside.

[18:51] ---

Actually get the ball in before
you start talkin' shit.

[18:54] ---

That's our Mokichi!

[19:02] ---

Get past this!

[19:08] ---

Shinjotowa

[19:09] ---

Defense! Defense! Defense! Defense!

[19:11] ---

It's okay. Don't sweat it, Chucky!
Let's score one of our own!

[19:14] ---

Sure thing!

[19:15] ---

I can't waste the momentum
that Mokichi helped us start building.

[19:19] ---

I gotta score. I gotta score!

[19:22] ---

Kurumatani...

[19:26] ---

Shi-n-jo! Shi-n-jo! Shi-n-jo! Shi-n-jo!

[19:33] ---

This ain't good! Can that shorty
really hold it together?

[19:35] ---

He looks like he's starting to choke!

[19:38] ---

White team ball! Throw in!

[19:43] ---

Don't get so freaked out.

[19:45] ---

It'll be okay.

[19:48] ---

All you have to do... is focus on scoring.

[19:52] ---

You're not fighting out here all by yourself.

[19:56] ---

You've got it wrong,
passing and shooting aren't important.

[19:59] ---

Scoring points is.

[20:01] ---

You couldn't score enough points by the end,

and that's why you lost.

[20:05] ---

Fool.

[20:09] ---

Whether it's man-to-man or zone.

The basics don't change.

[20:17] ---

Right.

[20:19] ---

Thank you.

[20:23] ---

I'm gonna break apart their

zone with some passes!

[20:25] ---

Let's make sure we fill

up any gaps they leave!

[20:27] ---

Get your hands up real high!

[20:29] ---

Watch out for passes that come in low!

[20:31] ---

Let's make this one count!

[20:33] ---

A hook shot is totally worthless

unless you're close enough to the basket.

[20:36] ---

And I'm definitely not letting you

shoot anything from that area!

[20:45] ---

A three pointer?!

[20:46] ---

Just like Takahashi did earlier!

[20:48] ---

That damn shrimp!

[20:51] ---

He missed!

[20:53] ---

Very close.

[20:56] ---

Great! We'll rebou-

[21:01] ---

He knew!

[21:02] ---

He expected #15 to shoot from long-range!

[21:08] ---

Chucky!

[21:13] ---

He's wide open!

[21:15] ---

Th... This is my first shot!

[21:26] ---

Nope! Can't do it!

[21:28] ---

Nice fake!

[21:29] ---

Yeah right...

[21:32] ---

There's only one defender in front of him!

[21:33] ---

But he's at a height disadvantage!

[21:36] ---

He stopped?! For a jumper?!

[21:40] ---

He went backwards at that speed?!

[21:42] ---

A fadeaway!

[21:44] ---

Shinjitowa

[21:45] ---

They followed through! It's down to 1 point!

[21:48] ---

You've gotten pretty damn good, Chucky!

[21:50] ---

You better believe it!

[21:51] ---

Yeah! All right!

That's the way!

That was a nice really move, Chucky!

[21:54] ---

That's right! I'm not alone!

[21:57] ---

I've got a whole team!

[23:30] ---

Ahiru no Sora

Next Time: Vow

[23:31] ---

Next time: "Vow."

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