

E39 - FIGHT FOR ROCK FOR LIFE

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(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.)

[00:17] ---

Ahiru no Sora

[01:35] ---

Yo, Mokichi!

[01:41] ---

What's up?

[01:42] ---

How should I put this...

I, uh, need your advice on something.

[01:47] ---

Your role on the team?

[01:50] ---

Yasu's kind of left me in the dust lately
with how good he's gotten.

[01:53] ---

And in the last match Chucky managed
to get 2 of those assist things... or whatever.

[01:59] ---

So I'm at a loss.

[02:01] ---

I have no idea what it is that
I can bring to the table.

[02:04] ---

Right now, I just wanna find a way
to become useful to the team. Ya know?

[02:09] ---

What do you think? Is there any position left
that Kuzu High still needs to be filled?

[02:18] ---

This is just my selfish opinion...
but speaking as the team's center...

[02:24] ---

I would like for us to have
one more outside player.

[02:31] ---

So, uh, what kinda player is that?

[02:40] ---

Sawa's made two baskets in a row now!

[02:41] ---

Yokohama Taiei

Shinmaruko

[02:42] ---

Since all of Shinmaruko's players
seem like muscleheads,

[02:45] ---

I figured they were just a brute force team,
but they've actually got a solid long-range game.

[02:50] ---

Indeed. Although the school
itself isn't well-known,

[02:52] ---

their team definitely has the potential
to compete on the national level.

[02:56] ---

They've gotten more decisive on offense
since I saw them at the Kanto tourney prelims.

[03:01] ---

I guess they really practiced hard to build up
this new wealth of confidence.

[03:04] ---

It comes as no surprise,

[03:06] ---

but it's easy to tell that
both teams are very good.

[03:08] ---

Yeah, especially when compared
to regional prelim flunkies like us.

[03:12] ---

I just can't figure it out.

[03:15] ---

Why would a team as strong as Yokohama Taiei
request to have a practice match with us?

[03:18] ---

You're going to play them?

[03:20] ---

Yes, but I'm sure they're only going to use
their freshmen players against us.

[03:24] ---

Oh really?

[03:25] ---

Then I guess that means
all the rumors were true.

[03:28] ---

What rumors?

[03:30] ---

Apparently that team always aims to complete 300 games in the span of a year.

[03:33] ---

W-wait, 300?!

[03:35] ---

And I bet you, they don't half-ass any of them by simply sending out their rookies.

[03:42] ---

Just how strong is this guy?!

[03:47] ---

Time out! Yokohama Taiei High School!

[03:51] ---

We're totally off rhythm!

[03:53] ---

So I'm rethinking our defensive matchups.

[03:55] ---

Yakku, I want you on #4.

[03:57] ---

I need you to hold him off.

[03:59] ---

Wait, that's not fair!

[04:01] ---

That gorilla has a whole 10 centimeters of height on me!

[04:06] ---

Fine, you wanna get benched?

[04:08] ---

I shouldn't have to keep telling you this.

[04:10] ---

Basketball isn't about what you can or can't do.

[04:13] ---

It's about what you're WILLING to do.

[04:16] ---

B-based on your experience, Takahashi... does Taiei really seem that formidable?

SIGN Shonan Hiratsuka Tanabata Festival

[04:21] ---

Huh? You're asking me?

[04:23] ---

Um, yes.

[04:24] ---

Well, let's see...

[04:26] ---

If you're asking whether their players are good or not, I'd have to say they are.

[04:30] ---

But Taiei's strength is what I would describe as "explosive."

[04:34] ---

"Explosive," meaning what?

[04:36] ---

Meaning that their skills as an actual "team" are pretty piss poor.

[04:39] ---

Then, does that mean we actually have a chance at beating them?!

[04:42] ---

Only in your dreams, kid!

[04:46] ---

That being said, as a fellow player of the sport...

[04:50] ---

...I wanna believe that nothing is impossible.

[04:54] ---

At the very least, the explosive power that your team used against us

[04:58] ---

was enough to totally scare the shit outta me.

[05:03] ---

They just won't let us keep the lead, huh?

[05:06] ---

Yeah, well, no team ever won a game by making themselves easy to beat.

[05:10] ---

You can play however you want, Tokiwa. I'm leaving it up to you.

[05:20] ---

If I remember right, this guy can also shoot threes.

[05:23] ---

I can't let him slip too far away from me.

[05:25] ---

Totally rock solid.

[05:26] ---

This guy really knows how to play defense.

[05:29] ---

Hey!

[05:35] ---

Now we're talking!

[05:38] ---

That pass flew right below the basket!

[05:40] ---

What a fastball!

[05:41] ---

Okay, time for defense! Let's hold them off!

[05:44] ---

I heard his name is Tokiwa!

Isn't he, like, super cool?

[05:47] ---

He's right up my alley for sure!

[06:05] ---

It went in!

[06:06] ---

Ouch...

[06:07] ---

Nice one.

[06:11] ---

I was so close.

[06:12] ---

Huh?

[06:13] ---

I thought for sure I could draw a foul.

[06:15] ---

An ace point guard, huh?

[06:17] ---

Even with all of their players
in the 2 meter range,

[06:20] ---

I doubt Maru High would have advanced this far
without him in their ranks.

[06:25] ---

But inversely, this is the
only year that he and Chiba

[06:27] ---

can both be on the team, which
makes it their last chance.

[06:32] ---

He got totally free!

[06:35] ---

Somebody caught up!

[06:39] ---

When the hell did that old
fart get right behind me?!

[06:43] ---

There it is! The first dunk of the game!

[06:48] ---

Hell yeah!

[06:51] ---

Player substitution!

Yokohama Taiei High School!

[06:55] ---

To be honest, there's a player here today
who I wanted Chiaki to get a look at.

[07:01] ---

Must be him, right?

[07:03] ---

Sei Shiraishi.

[07:06] ---

He plays small forward at 183 centimeters tall
and a weight of 71 kilograms.

[07:10] ---

Small forward? But then why Chiaki?

[07:14] ---

Because from now on, I'm thinking about...

[07:18] ---

...having Chiaki play the exact same position
as that #10 out there.

[07:24] ---

Quit rocking the boat
and just play point guard, ya bastard!

[07:32] ---

Nice pass.

[07:36] ---

They payed them back with a dunk!

[07:38] ---

Shiraishi is a point forward.

[07:41] ---

It's exactly like it sounds: he's a forward
who takes on the job of the point guard.

[07:46] ---

To put it more simply, he's a point guard
who does all of his work close to the basket.

[07:50] ---

Plus, he's an all-rounder who can score all the points
that a forward is expected to deliver.

[08:01] ---

Shiraishi... despite only
being in his 2nd year,

[08:04] ---

his skills are already on par
with those at the national level.

[08:07] ---

I've been a coach at both middle
and high school for a long time,

[08:11] ---

but I've never met another player
who is as stoic as Shiraishi.

[08:16] ---

Okay next, I want all of you to set
a future goal for yourselves.

[08:19] ---

For example, becoming a
certain type of player,

[08:22] ---

or anything else that's directly
related to basketball.

[08:25] ---

You're first, Yamamoto.

[08:27] ---

Uh, yes, sir!

[08:29] ---

I'd like to, um, well... get
better at handling the ball!

[08:34] ---

Is that all you've got?

[08:36] ---

That's nothing to write home about!

[08:38] ---

I'm going to get into Sho Academy
and become champion of the inter-high!

[08:44] ---

You're so cool, Yamada!
Always aiming for the top!

[08:47] ---

And how about you?

[08:49] ---

Shiraishi?

[08:52] ---

Personally...

[08:54] ---

I would like...

[08:57] ---

...to become an NBA player.

[09:02] ---

Shinmaruko
Yokohama Taiei

[09:03] ---

Nice, Shiraishi!

[09:04] ---

That puts us in the lead!

[09:09] ---

The idea of a point guard who also serves
as forward sounds great in theory,

[09:13] ---

but it's not accomplished
so easily in reality.

[09:16] ---

The most fundamental skill
is perfect decision making,

[09:19] ---

that's the kind of power that
leads a team to victory.

[09:22] ---

So you're saying... Chiaki could be
that kind of point forward?!

[09:26] ---

That one's named Shiraishi!

[09:28] ---

Oh my, but it's so hard to pass up on Tokiwa!

[09:31] ---

Then go for them both!

[09:33] ---

Like, OMG! Why's it so dark?
Is that you Takashi? Stop teasing me!

[09:38] ---

So, this is Yokohama Taiei.

[09:42] ---

I'd say the one who holds
the key to victory... is me.

[09:48] ---

You want to come to this high school?

[09:50] ---

Well, I'd be happy to have you, but...

[09:53] ---

...we don't do child's play.

[09:55] ---

Our training regimen doesn't even compare
to other schools.

[09:58] ---

And we've had a large number of members
outright quit the team.

[10:02] ---

It's not some happy-go-lucky club
like you have in middle school.

[10:05] ---

That's what I want.

[10:07] ---

I don't play basketball just
to show off and screw around.

[10:11] ---

I want to climb...

[10:13] ---

...straight to the top
as quickly as possible.

[10:16] ---

In goes another one!

[10:18] ---

The game's momentum has completely shifted
ever since Shiraishi came onto the court.

[10:22] ---

That guy is still just a sophomore, yeah?

[10:23] ---

And I hear he played point
guard back in middle school.

[10:26] ---

Really?

[10:27] ---

So during that one year period...

[10:29] ---

...what kind of trial did he
overcome to get this good?

[10:33] ---

Shiraishi has developed his skills
at an insane rate during the past year.

[10:37] ---

What exactly did you teach
him to make that happen?

[10:39] ---

I haven't taught Shiraishi a single thing.

[10:41] ---

Huh?

[10:42] ---

He's always had a ton
of competitive drive pent up inside.

[10:46] ---

And all it took was one sentence
to make him let it loose.

[10:50] ---

"If you wanna win, then go
score the points yourself."

[10:56] ---

Oh, looks like they've
changed their matchups.

[10:58] ---

Now it's a totally legit battle between aces.

[11:12] ---

Is he gonna pass or go for a jumper?

[11:20] ---

Defensive foul! Black #11!

[11:23] ---

I only touched the ball, you know?

[11:32] ---

He scored both of them!

[11:35] ---

Listen Chiba, you just need to pretend like you're coming to help me.

[11:38] ---

Only follow through when he actually drives to the inside.

[11:41] ---

I swear I'll put a stop to him!

[11:44] ---

Let's score one!

[11:45] ---

Make this possession count!

[11:46] ---

I swear, this guy never ceases to amaze me.

[11:49] ---

Tanabata
Hiratsuka
Shonan

[11:52] ---

He's persistent!

[11:56] ---

C'mon, Tokiwa...

[11:57] ---

Has he always been that good at playing defense?

[12:03] ---

A steal!

[12:07] ---

A double team!

[12:09] ---

Talent, huh?

[12:12] ---

Some say that talent and height are one in the same in basketball.

[12:16] ---

But coming all the way here makes it clear to me once again...

[12:19] ---

...just how ordinary I really am!

[12:26] ---

Defensive foul! Basket counts! 1 free-throw!

[12:30] ---

Shinmaruko

Yokohama Taiei

[12:33] ---

Sweet move, Chiba!

[12:34] ---

Damn straight!

[12:35] ---

I may be ordinary, but I crawled my way up
this far through teamwork!

[12:39] ---

I won't let this be the end of us!

[12:42] ---

Got it?

[12:43] ---

The last 5 minutes is where
we'll drop 'em dead!

[12:46] ---

I don't need any shitty
passes from you right now!

[12:48] ---

All I want is you to score!

[12:50] ---

Okay! Get out there!

[12:52] ---

Hoo boy! I LOVE that sort of encouragement.

[13:18] ---

He went from behind the basket!

[13:22] ---

Shinmaruko

Yokohama Taiei

[13:25] ---

It's like the ball got sucked in by the net!

[13:28] ---

How'd he do that?! And what's with the hair?

[13:31] ---

It says #15 is named Hyou Fuwa.

[13:33] ---

He's apparently still just a freshman!

[13:36] ---

A freshman? He's seriously
the same age as me?

[13:39] ---

A player of that caliber is unprecedented,
even for the likes of Taiei.

[13:48] ---

He slipped past!

[13:50] ---

It's 2-on-1 now!

[13:51] ---

That punk, he ain't the type to pass.

[14:01] ---

It may look like he's just
recklessly swinging his body weight around,

[14:04] ---

but he's actually putting his tough muscles
and flexible body to good use.

[14:09] ---

The fact is, nobody makes
it this far on talent alone.

[14:15] ---

That one was Chiba's 4th foul.

[14:17] ---

And that also puts them at 4 team fouls!

[14:19] ---

Checkmate. I guess.

[14:21] ---

Only 4 minutes left now.

[14:23] ---

If they just benched him for a little while,

[14:26] ---

we could use that time to totally run away with it.

[14:29] ---

Hey, Chiba!

[14:29] ---

I know.

[14:31] ---

Don't sweat it, we continue as-is.

[14:34] ---

Coach!

[14:34] ---

No, we can't afford a substitution.

[14:37] ---

Taking Chiba out now
would only play into the other team's hand.

[14:39] ---

He knows that perfectly well, himself.

[14:42] ---

Since he's the captain of this team.

[14:45] ---

I'm leaving everything up to him!

[14:47] ---

Listen up, this is it! This
the real end of it all!

[14:52] ---

Don't any of you dare give up
until the very last millisecond!

[14:56] ---

If you let your feet stop for even a second,
I'll bowl you over!

[14:58] ---

Right!

[15:00] ---

Chiba...

[15:01] ---

This is something that only people
who've experienced it can really understand, but...

[15:05] ---

Wearing the #4 on a jersey
is the heaviest burden

[15:08] ---

that a player can have in the
entire sport of basketball.

[15:12] ---

They have to lead the
team with their skills,

[15:13] ---

and become the pillar that holds
everyone together mentally.

[15:17] ---

Despite being behind and
with 4 fouls right now,

[15:20] ---

no one on that team is showing
any signs of anxiety.

[15:22] ---

Because the entire team's trust
is riding on that tiny little number on his back.

[15:28] ---

Taking the position of captain...

[15:29] ---

...comes with that kind of responsibility.

[15:32] ---

Chiba...

[15:37] ---

It's a 9-point game now!

[15:37] ---

Shinmaruko
Yokohama Taiei

[15:43] ---

Even at a third-rate school
full of ugly mugs like me,

[15:46] ---

there was an excellent coach and teammates
who I could trust.

[15:49] ---

Finding that much alone was a real miracle.

[15:53] ---

But despite that, I'm still trying
to wrestle my way into the inter-high.

[15:58] ---

I don't bat an eye when people give it to me straight
and say that it's a pipe dream.

[16:04] ---

But all I really want, is the right
to keep playing on the court for a few months longer!

[16:10] ---

Go, Chiba!

[16:16] ---

It's not over yet.

[16:20] ---

I refuse to let everything
come to an end here!

[16:22] ---

Defense! Defense! Defense! Defense!

[17:05] ---

Yokohama Taiei
Shinmaruko

[17:07] ---

Maru High... they lost.

[17:15] ---

National High School Athletics Championship

[17:15] ---

Shit... and just like that...

[17:19] ---

It's all over.... for real.

[17:32] ---

Quit looking like somebody just died!

[17:36] ---

We did every damn thing we
could! I've got no regrets!

[17:39] ---

Or are you telling me that somebody here
is regretting their performance today?

[17:44] ---

Uh... no.

[17:46] ---

Then hold your heads high.

[17:48] ---

We're the #4 team in all
of Kanagawa Prefecture.

[17:54] ---

Yes, sir!

[17:58] ---

Everybody always tells themselves
the exact same thing.

[18:02] ---

"It was a good match."

[18:04] ---

"We put everything we had into it."

[18:07] ---

"We have absolutely nothing to regret."

[18:10] ---

But all that bravado gets left behind,
the instant that they step off the court!

[18:23] ---

Yo.

[18:28] ---

Why did you go to some
no-name school like Shinmaruko?

[18:32] ---

Someone with your skills could've made it in
to a way better school for sure.

[18:36] ---

Because I never planned
on playing basketball in high school.

[18:40] ---

The reason I found myself standing back
on the court again,

[18:42] ---

was because our captain
was really persistent about recruiting me.

[18:47] ---

But now, a fire has been lit inside of me.

[18:50] ---

And so I just can't bring
myself to stop here.

[18:55] ---

We're gonna eat you alive next time!

[19:09] ---

Although it's just a practice match,

I didn't expect to be playing him again so soon.

[19:18] ---

I swear I'm gonna wipe
the floor with your ass!

[19:24] ---

Shit! Taiei is really damn strong!

[19:26] ---

Nabe, you bastard!

[19:28] ---

Make sure you don't forget anything.

[19:30] ---

Yes, sir!

[19:32] ---

Yo, Chib-

[19:33] ---

Hello, Chiba!

[19:36] ---

My name is Wada and I'm the basketball coach
at Johoku University.

[19:39] ---

I'd like to talk with you for a bit.

[19:42] ---

Are you... scouting me?

[19:45] ---

For real?

[19:47] ---

Sorry, but he respectfully
declines your offer.

[19:49] ---

Why the hell should I?!

[19:50] ---

Takahashi! Kojima!

[19:52] ---

Where do you get off deciding MY future?

[19:55] ---

Takahashi and I are prepurring
to go to Seishu University.

[19:58] ---

Huh?

[19:59] ---

We want you to come, man.
Let's play together!

[20:04] ---

But Seishu doesn't even
have a basketball team.

[20:07] ---

We know. That's exactly why we're going.

[20:10] ---

That's just totally asinine! Who does that?!

[20:12] ---

Besides, why the hell should
I play with you two clowns?!

[20:15] ---

What? You know them's fighting words.

[20:17] ---

Don't tell me...

[20:19] ---

Are you still upset about
what happened with Micchan?

[20:23] ---

Well now, who is Micchan?

[20:25] ---

The girl that Chiba liked
back in elementary school.

[20:28] ---

But it turns out that she
already had a crush on me.

[20:30] ---

JUST SHUT UP ALREADY!

[20:33] ---

We need you with us, Chiba. Seriously.

[20:36] ---

Let's go start a revolution together!

[20:45] ---

Let's get going, Nanao.

[20:46] ---

Huh? Don't you want to talk to them?

[20:48] ---

Nah.

[20:50] ---

They may have have lost the match,

[20:52] ---

but just like he told me, I got to see
the unique way that Chiba "rocked" the court.

[20:57] ---

It really inspired me to want to become
more of a player like him and the others someday.

[21:03] ---

Thank you very much!

[21:05] ---

Just so you know, I'm definitely not smart enough
to get into any college.

[21:09] ---

But... I was thinking about

continuing to play basketball somewhere.

[21:14] ---

Anyways, I'll consider it.

[21:17] ---

Chiba, will you also give
some thought to my offer?

[21:20] ---

Yes, thank you.

[21:23] ---

Being trusted, huh? I'm jealous of him.

[21:30] ---

Okay then, time to go home and...

[21:32] ---

It was an amazing game, huh, Kurumatani?

[21:34] ---

Tell me, what did you think
after seeing Taiei play?

[21:37] ---

They came here to watch, too?

[21:39] ---

Well...

[21:40] ---

I'm relieved since they seem pretty normal.

[21:43] ---

Whaaaaaat?!

[21:45] ---

Really, Kurumatani?

[21:47] ---

Yeah, like, literally.

[21:49] ---

Because I seriously thought
they were a team full of aliens or something.

[21:52] ---

Huh?

[21:53] ---

At the very least we have Mokichi, which means
our team has some advantage on the inside.

[21:58] ---

And while that #10 on Taiei
is a really amazing player,

[22:02] ---

I think his skills as a point guard
are actually inferior to Chiaki's.

[22:06] ---

Even when it comes to playing defense,
we have experience

[22:10] ---

dealing with guys far more
incredible than that.

[22:13] ---

Nothing I saw today compares to something
like Taro's pull-up jumper.

[22:18] ---

W-well, I dunno about that.

[22:20] ---

I could say the same for that
guy with the orange hair.

[22:23] ---

I mean, I can't deny he surprised me
in more ways than one.

[22:26] ---

But our team has a way more
impressive forward than him, yeah?

[22:30] ---

Everything I saw today pales in
comparison to the shock I had from

[22:33] ---

watching Kite play for the first time.

[22:35] ---

Even his hairstyle leaves a stronger impact!

[22:38] ---

I won't hesitate to take my own shots.

[22:41] ---

Even if I miss or even if they block me...

[22:43] ---

I'll just keep shooting endlessly!

[22:47] ---

Because as long as Momoharu is under the basket,
then there's nothing to fear!

[22:52] ---

We won't lose. The basketball team
will be revived no matter what!

[23:02] ---

Sure is tough when people expect
so much from me like that.

[23:07] ---

Kite... you came, too?

[23:09] ---

If Taiei were that easy to beat,
then we wouldn't have so many problems.

[23:14] ---

And I'm not sure I agree
with his assessment of you.

[23:17] ---

I really hope you can keep
your shit together... Captain.

[23:30] ---

Ahiru no Sora

[23:31] ---

Next episode: "Stop & Go."

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