

E43 - The Best Lineup

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.)

[00:17] ---

Ahiru no Sora

[00:21] ---

The morning yields a rainbow of seven colors

[00:25] ---

The birds all spread their wings wide

[00:28] ---

There are no answers to be found anywhere

[00:32] ---

So let's go and create them

[00:35] ---

Feel it

[00:38] ---

Feel it

[00:43] ---

You have beautiful wings of your own

[00:46] ---

And you will use them to fly up to the sun

[00:50] ---

For that one sparkling moment

[00:53] ---

Believe that you can change

even the world itself

[00:58] ---

We were surely born with transparent hearts

[01:05] ---

Using our dirty shoes we will take flight

[01:09] ---

Drawing an arch in the air

[01:12] ---

Before the sky of tomorrow

disappears completely

[01:19] ---

Pass through a night of sorrow and be reborn

[01:31] ---

The Best Lineup

[01:33] ---

Let's move.

[01:34] ---

Yeah!

[01:40] ---

Let's score one!

[01:41] ---

Okay!

[01:43] ---

Oh look, Tetsuo's out there now.

[01:46] ---

Even he's getting playtime today.

[01:47] ---

Man, I wanna get out there too!

I wish they'd give us a chance.

[01:53] ---

He's shorter than the last guy.

[01:55] ---

It's such a huge relief knowing that

Taiei isn't a team of behemoths!

[02:00] ---

Did you just laugh at me, punk?

[02:01] ---

Huh? No, I wasn't laughing at all.

[02:04] ---

Tell me, how tall are you?

[02:07] ---

160 centimeters.

[02:08] ---

You liar!

[02:09] ---

Cheeky bastard.

[02:10] ---

Now you've gone and pissed me off.

Get ready to suffer the consequences, fool!

[02:14] ---

I get the feeling he's
not actually that good...

[02:17] ---

And I can't imagine he's faster
than that #16 from earlier.

[02:21] ---

Watch this! My special...!

[02:24] ---

Huh?

[02:25] ---

Traveling!

[02:27] ---

We're making a substitution!

[02:29] ---

The hell was that?

[02:30] ---

I guess Taiei has their own resident idiot.

[02:33] ---

Remember, Kite!

[02:35] ---

Patience is a virtue!

[02:36] ---

We need to take this slow and steady!

[02:38] ---

Yeah, yeah. Just pass the ball in already.

[02:42] ---

Stay alert for any threes coming from #15.

[02:44] ---

Okay.

[02:46] ---

The champions of the Kanto tournament.

[02:48] ---

And one of the teams going to the inter-high.

[02:51] ---

This reminds me of an old movie I saw once.

[02:53] ---

Huh?

[02:54] ---

It had Ken carrying a young girl on his back.

[02:57] ---

Who's Ken?

[02:58] ---

Ken Takakura, the actor.

[03:00] ---

There's a scene where he charges in to

[03:01] ---

fight a platoon of soldiers and
tanks armed with only a pistol.

[03:06] ---

Defense! Defense! Defense! Defense!

[03:10] ---

Keep going, keep going!

What happens after that?

[03:13] ---

Calm yourself down, dude.

[03:18] ---

I have no idea.

[03:20] ---

Cuz that's where the movie ended.

[03:23] ---

This punk!

[03:24] ---

Wait, Kite!

[03:26] ---

He never listens to anything we say!

[03:32] ---

Damn him!

[03:40] ---

Defensive foul! White #11! Two free-throws!

[03:43] ---

Man, he hasn't changed at all.

[03:46] ---

Old habits die hard...

[03:52] ---

Whoa, this guy is legit.

And he's just a freshman...

[03:56] ---

What the hell, Kite?

[03:57] ---

What the hell, Kite?!

[03:58] ---

Did you even hear a word Nanao said?

[04:00] ---

I'mma miss the second shot.

[04:02] ---

Huh?

[04:03] ---

You'll miss it? Are you telling
him to get the rebound?

[04:07] ---

Having him get our rebounds
is kinda pointless, if you ask me.

[04:10] ---

What did you just say?!

[04:11] ---

That was uncalled for.

[04:14] ---

Despite how he looks, Momoharu
is exceptionally good at laundry and cleaning.

[04:17] ---

Thanks to him, my room is
always clean as a whistle!

[04:20] ---

That's totally unrelated to basketball!

[04:22] ---

This ain't the time to be
throwing around wimpy passes.

[04:25] ---

We're facing Yokohama Taiei.

[04:27] ---

They'll chew us up and spit us out
unless we stay on the offensive.

[04:35] ---

He sunk the first one!

[04:38] ---

Kite is dead serious about
missing the second shot.

[04:42] ---

Yeah, I know.

[04:44] ---

That jackass...

[04:46] ---

He should know that rebounding free-throws
isn't so damn easy!

[04:57] ---

Nice rebound!

[04:58] ---

Keep it up, Shibasaki!

[05:06] ---

Nice shot!

[05:09] ---

Pass it here!

[05:13] ---

I think they're getting a
little too antsy right now.

[05:15] ---

Especially that #11, he's trying to do
too much on his own.

[05:20] ---

Even with his skills, that's a totally reckless move
against a team like Taiei.

[05:26] ---

Go in! Go in!

[05:29] ---

Aw, crap!

[05:30] ---

He can't manage to get
any of his shots in now!

[05:33] ---

What happened to that energy
he had at the start?

[05:36] ---

Kurumatani, you need to take control!

[05:38] ---

There's about 2 minutes left.

Get everybody focused on defense!

[05:43] ---

You could've rebounded that one, too.

[05:45] ---

Shut it!

[05:49] ---

Make space before taking any shots and then-

[05:50] ---

Hold up!

[05:52] ---

I want to let Kite handle things
for the remaining 2 minutes.

[05:55] ---

Sorry for being selfish like this!

[05:58] ---

Kurumatani...

[06:00] ---

Yokohama Taiei
Kuzuryu

[06:05] ---

Two defenders?

[06:10] ---

Charging! Black #7!

[06:12] ---

Dammit.

[06:14] ---

They haven't had much luck
passing the ball around since #11 came in.

[06:17] ---

So he's just a show off, how pathetic.

[06:19] ---

Having someone like him as shooting guard
is the absolute worst.

[06:22] ---

He can't read the flow of the game.

[06:25] ---

It looks the opposite of that to me.

[06:27] ---

Defense! Defense! Defense! Defense!

[06:29] ---

The best play here is to pass the ball around

[06:31] ---

and create an opening that

guarantees some points.

[06:34] ---

During that last timeout, I bet their manager probably gave them similar instructions.

[06:40] ---

However...

[06:41] ---

If Kuzu High has faith in their man under the basket, then that changes everything.

[06:45] ---

That movie I saw may have ended there.

[06:48] ---

But my story... hasn't ended yet!

[06:54] ---

There was a moment where I tried to wager everything I had on this team.

[06:57] ---

Please... prove to me that I didn't make the wrong decision!

[07:02] ---

If my team was playing in this situation..

[07:06] ---

...we would never back down!

[07:11] ---

Out of bounds! White team's ball!

[07:14] ---

Gah! That was so close!

[07:15] ---

Shit... Taiei ended up with the ball.

[07:18] ---

Shiba, be really careful around that #4.

[07:21] ---

Not only can he jump crazy high, but he can bounce back in a flash.

[07:25] ---

If you get sloppy around him, he'll draw a foul off you for sure.

[07:28] ---

If there's one advantage that Kuzu High has over Taiei,

[07:32] ---

it's gotta be all those rebounds the younger Hanazono gets.

[07:35] ---

But putting it another way, getting rebounds is the one thing they can't afford to concede.

[07:39] ---

This match will be over
the instant that he snaps under the pressure.

[07:47] ---

Kite, that asshole...

[07:48] ---

He just does whatever he wants
the instant he gets on the court!

[07:53] ---

Only 2 minutes left.

[07:55] ---

I hope they're not planning
to just shoot a bunch of threes.

[08:01] ---

Oh c'mon, you can't be serious.

[08:03] ---

Offense! Offense! Offense! Offense!

[08:07] ---

You damn prick!

[08:18] ---

He moves so fast, it was all a blur to me!

[08:22] ---

Nice pass!

[08:28] ---

Nice block!

[08:30] ---

Black #11!

[08:32] ---

That hurt like hell, asswipe!

[08:34] ---

The first quarter hasn't ended
and we've already got 4 players with fouls...

[08:38] ---

Th-this is bad for my heart...

[08:40] ---

Uh, are you okay?

[08:44] ---

Goddammit.

[08:46] ---

I can't shoot for shit and
I even suck on defense!

[08:49] ---

Son of a bitch!

[08:50] ---

Yasuhara, I've got some bad news for you.

[08:53] ---

Huh?

[08:54] ---

You and that #10 are on
totally different levels.

[08:58] ---

It's impossible for you to get past him
and impossible for you to stop him.

[09:03] ---

Dude, what's wrong?

[09:05] ---

Seems like he's been hit with a hard truth
he didn't want to face.

[09:09] ---

Th-then what the hell am I supposed to do?!

[09:12] ---

Don't get me wrong. I'm not expecting you
to do anything against him.

[09:17] ---

What I'm saying is that our guys
are surprisingly reliable in times like these.

[09:22] ---

What does that mean...?

[09:24] ---

Wait.

[09:29] ---

Thinking about it, Kite and I haven't
talked like that in a while.

[09:33] ---

Ever since that mess happened.

[09:42] ---

He missed the second shot!

[09:44] ---

Hell yeah! Nice, Momoharu!

[09:48] ---

Our guys are reliable?
Is he telling me to just let him handle it?

[09:53] ---

I mean, I get that I'm not
helping at all right now!

[09:56] ---

Okay, pass it!

[09:58] ---

And then charge right in!

[10:03] ---

Chiaki's telling me to make a flash cut
to the space in low-post!

[10:08] ---

There's a ton of sweat pouring out of me
right now and it's not 'cuz of the heat.

[10:18] ---

This is the first time since I started playing
that I've understood just how amazing Chiaki is.

[10:22] ---

My hands are trembling so
much, I might fumble it!

[10:26] ---

Please! Let me make this one shot!

[10:32] ---

Good.

[10:46] ---

A three!

[10:47] ---

We managed to get back on the scoreboard!

[10:50] ---

A'ight! Switch to defense
and let's stop 'em dead!

[11:09] ---

Whoa! Nice steal AND nice shot!

[11:12] ---

Payback for that last one.

[11:16] ---

That little brat.

[11:18] ---

Their whole team is full
of irritating jackasses.

[11:21] ---

Good job, good job! I'll
give you some candy later!

[11:26] ---

This is rock bottom.

[11:28] ---

You should think it over carefully.

[11:30] ---

Come rise to the top with my team...

[11:33] ---

or waste 3 years of your life with that one.

[11:39] ---

All right! We finally found our rhythm!

[11:42] ---

Keep going until we take the lead!

[11:44] ---

Defense! Defense! Defense! Defense!

[11:49] ---

This guy has a really strong presence...

[11:52] ---

I can tell he's gonna try and slip by.

[11:54] ---

No wait... it's a three!

[12:00] ---

I can't possibly go any lower than this.

[12:03] ---

Which means the only place
for me to look is up.

[12:07] ---

Defensive foul! White #20!

[12:10] ---

Basket counts! One free-throw!

[12:13] ---

I'm gonna take this team...
all the way to the top!

[12:17] ---

Hot damn! A 4-point play!

[12:19] ---

He hasn't made the free throw yet.

[12:37] ---

The wind has started to find its way inside.

[12:39] ---

It's gotten a little cooler now.

[12:41] ---

Is this some sort of break?

[12:44] ---

Well, the first quarter is over and they managed
to score a whole 27 points against Taiei.

[12:49] ---

I'd like to give them some
props for that, but...

[12:52] ---

the shorty's consecutive three-pointers
at the start were kind of a surprise attack.

[12:55] ---

So I can't credit that to
their skills as a team.

[12:58] ---

They scored 27 points,
but only 8 of those were from in the paint.

[13:04] ---

Not to mention that all of those baskets
were scored by the older Hanazono.

[13:08] ---

On the other hand, nearly all of Taiei's points
have been scored in the paint

[13:11] ---

aside from that one three-pointer by #20.

[13:14] ---

It just goes to show that their defense is full of holes.

[13:17] ---

Anybody can see that there's a clear gap in skill between them.

[13:20] ---

Kuzu High still doesn't have their best lineup out, though.

[13:23] ---

Huh?

[13:24] ---

You know, that #12.

[13:26] ---

Depending on how they use him and his height,

[13:28] ---

the tide could shift pretty drastically in their favor.

[13:32] ---

Y-you're letting them score too much.

[13:34] ---

W-we're very sorry.

[13:38] ---

They racked up 35 points in the span of 10 minutes...

[13:40] ---

how does that happen after we practiced defense so much?

[13:43] ---

We're sorry.

[13:45] ---

On top of all that, you even ignored my instructions.

[13:48] ---

I'm sorry.

[13:49] ---

Not to mention we had someone show up late just before the match started.

[13:52] ---

That's got nothing to do with it.

[13:59] ---

It's all going just as I expected!

[14:00] ---

HUH?!

[14:02] ---

Actually, I'm relieved that we didn't fall any further behind than this.

[14:05] ---

Shigeyoshi, get yourself ready.

[14:07] ---

Oh? Is he subbing in?!

[14:09] ---

Are you sure? Do we really
want to use him this early?

[14:12] ---

It's just for the start
of the second quarter.

[14:15] ---

Plus, I really want to see
how Taiei will react to it.

[14:19] ---

In any case, I plan to keep him on the court
when we need him this time,

[14:22] ---

even if he gets exhausted partway through.

[14:27] ---

We're gonna switch our
matchups under the basket.

[14:30] ---

Shibasaki, you're out.

[14:31] ---

You let them get too many rebounds.

[14:35] ---

Ah, here he comes.

[14:37] ---

Okay! Show me what you've got!

[14:40] ---

Yes, sir!

[14:44] ---

What's up, Mineta?

[14:45] ---

Oh, uh, it's nothing.

[14:49] ---

He went to Saijo middle...

[14:53] ---

Good to play with you again, Mokichi!

[14:55] ---

Yeah, it's been awhile.

[14:57] ---

I'm really glad we found our
way back onto the court.

[15:03] ---

I'm gonna really get the ball moving
between everybody, so let's make a comeback!

[15:06] ---

Sure. Don't go overboard.

[15:09] ---

Ah... it's so hot...

[15:12] ---

Jeez, you're huge. How tall are you?

[15:15] ---

196 centimeters.

[15:17] ---

I gave him a conservative estimate.

[15:21] ---

His shoulders seem pretty thin. I can't imagine he's the type that'll use force to push through.

[15:26] ---

Anyways, why'd they decide to use him in the second quarter?

[15:30] ---

It's scorching in here...

[15:31] ---

None of the usual seniors are playing today,

[15:34] ---

which means I'm free to stretch my wings as far as I want.

[15:36] ---

Oh. They made a substitution, too.

[15:39] ---

#19, Masaomi Itoga.

[15:41] ---

They must plan to swap as much as they want, since they've got the numbers.

[15:45] ---

But we've only got a total of 8. It sucks, huh Yasu?

[15:50] ---

You okay, Yasu?

[15:52] ---

Huh? Yeah...

[15:54] ---

I played for 10 minutes and couldn't do a single damn thing.

[15:58] ---

Being worthless I can deal with, but I can't stand dragging everybody else down!

[16:02] ---

Son of bitch.

[16:09] ---

Yo. Long time no see.

[16:14] ---

Are you gonna help me get
some adrenaline pumping?

[16:17] ---

'Cuz this game has been a snoozefest.

[16:19] ---

Offense! Offense! Offense! Offense!

[16:21] ---

Oh, it looks like they decided
to toughen up in the paint.

[16:24] ---

They've gotta do something, or else this

[16:26] ---

game is gonna end before it
even reaches the second half.

[16:29] ---

But just because he's tall doesn't mean
he's gonna be effective against Taiei.

[16:33] ---

Even we couldn't beat them in the end.

[16:35] ---

Kuzu High better realize it'll
take more than this to win.

[16:39] ---

Alrighty then! You're gonna
have to deal with me.

[16:42] ---

I kind of screwed the pooch earlier,
but I'm not letting you get the better of me this time.

[16:46] ---

Letting a runt like you
make fun of my height

[16:48] ---

would be the shame of my family
for generations, dammit!

[16:52] ---

When did I do that?

[16:59] ---

Wow, I'm impressed you reacted to that!

[17:02] ---

He's really getting on my nerves!

[17:04] ---

Seriously? You can't shake him?

[17:06] ---

They've got 3 giants
perched under the basket,

[17:09] ---

so what's the best way to break through them?

[17:11] ---

Going above them is impossible, no, wait...

[17:14] ---

How about this?!

[17:16] ---

An alley-oop!

[17:17] ---

Stupid Tinytetsu! You can't
get it through that easily!

[17:24] ---

Wha-?!

[17:26] ---

He's got more than height...
there's also his arm length!

[17:29] ---

Just how much range does he have?!

[17:35] ---

Okay, that's one down.

[17:37] ---

Mokichi! That was awesome!

[17:39] ---

Don't get too full of yourself!

[17:41] ---

I would've loved a chance to play
against their best lineup at least once.

[17:45] ---

Defense! Defense! Defense! Defense!

[17:48] ---

Hey.

[17:50] ---

We can hardly hear you!

[17:52] ---

There are heaps of players who are taller
than 2 meters at the inter-high.

[17:57] ---

Anyone scared of someone at his height
simply isn't fit to compete on a national level.

[18:06] ---

Weird, he's not putting any strength into it.

[18:08] ---

Is he just that weak? Or wait...

[18:10] ---

Is he not going to come any closer?

[18:14] ---

A hook shooter?!

[18:17] ---

This bastard!

[18:19] ---

Blow 'em away, Mokichi!

[18:21] ---

Our center is all about finesse!

[18:23] ---

Nice, Mokichi!

[18:25] ---

Thanks.

[18:26] ---

So he must be their real center.

[18:29] ---

Okay then, this is where
the real showdown begins.

[18:32] ---

Offense! Offense! Offense! Offense!

[18:37] ---

Box and 1, huh?

[18:39] ---

The little guy is covering Tetsuo man-to-man.

[18:42] ---

Must be hard for them to find good ways
to use a short player like that.

[18:44] ---

Yeah, but we've got the
same problem with Tetsuo.

[18:47] ---

But honestly, Tetsuo isn't
even really that good anyway.

[18:52] ---

That feeling I got from him earlier.

[18:54] ---

It was similar to Kite and Taro.

[18:57] ---

No...

[18:59] ---

Maybe I was just imagining it.

[19:04] ---

Stop him, Momoharu!

[19:08] ---

So tall!

[19:10] ---

Sei!

[19:13] ---

Nice cut, Kite!

[19:16] ---

Out of bounds! White team's ball!

[19:19] ---

Are you a freshman? You're pretty slick.

[19:21] ---

Thanks.

[19:23] ---

Shiraishi, was it?

[19:26] ---

He hasn't done much yet,
but I get the feeling that we should watch out for him.

[19:30] ---

Our goal for the second quarter is simple:
focus on shoring up our defense in the paint.

[19:34] ---

It seems like their #15
isn't at his best today,

[19:37] ---

which means we can definitely turn this around
if we keep up our guard on the outside!

[19:41] ---

Most of our sophomores
are on the smaller side.

[19:44] ---

I never once thought
about making this a battle of height.

[19:47] ---

Our goal for this match is figure out
how to make the most of our shorter players.

[19:54] ---

He came from behind the board!

[19:57] ---

What was that?!

[19:59] ---

It was like the ball got
sucked into the hoop!

[20:01] ---

Are you a magician?!

[20:03] ---

Dumbass. Even Chiaki can
pull off a move like that.

[20:06] ---

W-without a doubt!

[20:08] ---

Yokohama Taiei
Kuzuryu

[20:08] ---

Defense! Defense! Defense! Defense!

[20:10] ---

If we can stop them here,
the momentum will shift!

[20:13] ---

Hold them off no matter what!

[20:15] ---

Tetsuo!

[20:21] ---

There was one more thing
I wanted to test with this game...

[20:26] ---

What?

[20:27] ---

Yo, that dude just went
straight for the corner.

[20:30] ---

Is that "isolation" strategy or whatever?

[20:32] ---

No, it's not. That's a zone offense.

[20:35] ---

What does that mean?

[20:36] ---

Well, that point guard probably isn't going
to participate in any of the offensive.

[20:40] ---

Which means, it's 4-on-4 right now.

[20:43] ---

This is pretty much like saying
#23 is irrelevant to the game.

[20:47] ---

It may be what the coach ordered,
but that's way too harsh.

[20:49] ---

That wasn't an order.

[20:51] ---

Huh?

[20:52] ---

The point guard is responsible for making
their own call in each situation.

[20:55] ---

That's how Taiei plays.

[20:59] ---

I hate to admit it, but I can't do
any of the tricky moves that Sei can.

[21:03] ---

By doing this, I can at least open up some space
near the three-point line.

[21:07] ---

It should be easier to penetrate to the basket now than in a normal 5-on-5 situation!

[21:11] ---

And on top of that...

[21:14] ---

...our shooting guard and small forward are ruthless masters of driving!

[21:18] ---

He got left in the dust!

[21:19] ---

At that point in the game, I had made two very critical mistakes...

[21:26] ---

The first was not giving instructions to Kurumatani

[21:29] ---

the instant the other team started using a zone attack formation.

[21:36] ---

He stopped it!

[21:39] ---

Nice block, Mokichi!

[21:40] ---

It's so crazy how he does that!

[21:42] ---

With Mokichi on our side, we totally own the paint!

[21:46] ---

And the second was...

[21:49] ---

Losing track of the right time to sub Shigeyoshi out of the game.

[21:55] ---

Those were the starting point... for the vicious chain of disasters that followed.

[22:17] ---

I know that realizing dreams

[22:22] ---

Is not an easy thing to accomplish, but

[22:27] ---

Those who say it's impossible from the beginning

[22:32] ---

Can't see light with their eyes

[22:37] ---

Up above in the sky are the fixed stars

[22:43] ---

That always shine bright with life

[22:48] ---

I can, too

[22:51] ---

Taiyou runner with a heart burning at maximum

[22:55] ---

Radiating the light of
revolution towards the goal

[23:01] ---

Nobody can know the outcome
until the very last second

[23:07] ---

I'll keep on running and improving
until I don't recognize myself

[23:14] ---

Step 1! Focus on winning

[23:16] ---

Step 2! Imagine the future

[23:19] ---

Step 3! Just penetrate through at full power

[23:30] ---

Ahiru no Sora

Next Time: Fuse

[23:31] ---

Next time: "Fuse."

Revision #1

Created 2024-01-09 05:58:21 UTC by whimsee

Updated 2024-01-09 05:58:22 UTC by whimsee