

E48 - The Straight Story

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[00:01] ---

If you want me to teach you how,
then just be honest and say so.

[00:05] ---

No way!

[00:06] ---

What's going on?

[00:08] ---

Apparently, he couldn't get
a single shot to go in during practice today.

[00:12] ---

It's because he's trying to look cool
and only shoot with one hand.

[00:14] ---

Shut up! Shut up! Shut up!

[00:17] ---

Not sure why, but he says it's embarrassing
to have his mom teach him anything.

[00:21] ---

Miho told me that I was laaaaame!

[00:30] ---

That's the way! Look at you, getting it done!

[00:34] ---

I'm home!

[00:36] ---

Hey, guess what?
Today I only missed 4 shots at practice!

[00:40] ---

Everybody was so shocked!

[00:42] ---

So Mom, once we finish dinner can you-

[00:46] ---

What happened?

[00:48] ---

Sora! Hurry upstairs and find something warm

we can wrap your mom in.

[00:51] ---

We're going to the hospital right now.

[01:05] ---

Way to go!

[01:08] ---

He scored!

[01:27] ---

Ahiru no Sora

[01:31] ---

Nanairo no niji ga umareta asa

[01:35] ---

Tori tachi wa hane o hirogete yuku

[01:38] ---

Kotae nante doko ni mo nai kara sa

[01:42] ---

Sore o egaki ni yukou

[01:45] ---

Feel it

[01:48] ---

Feel it

[01:53] ---

Utsukushiki hane o motsu kimi wa

[01:56] ---

Taiyou o mezashi tobu no darou

[02:00] ---

Matataki no sono shunkan ni sekai o

[02:03] ---

Kaeru koto mo dekiru to shinjite

[02:08] ---

Bokura wa toumei na kokoro de umareta hazu sa

[02:15] ---

Yogoreta kutsu de habatakunda

[02:19] ---

Arch o egaku youni

[02:22] ---

Ashita no sora ga kieteshimau sono mae ni

[02:29] ---

Kanashimi no yoru o koete umarekawarunda

[02:41] ---

The Straight Story

[02:48] ---

Something bothering you?

[02:49] ---

Yeah.

[02:51] ---

Off in the distance...

the clouds seem to be getting darker.

[02:54] ---

Oh.

[02:55] ---

Yeah, looks like it might rain.

[02:57] ---

Summer came so fast! It's crazy
because it feels like the prelims just ended yesterday.

[03:02] ---

I was so surprised. I had no idea
you were on a basketball team, too, Tsukasa.

[03:06] ---

You don't really look
like much of a sportsman.

[03:09] ---

I get that a lot.

[03:11] ---

And the fact that you're
here right now means...

[03:13] ---

Yep, my team lost in the very first round.

[03:16] ---

It's a repeat of what happened last year.

[03:19] ---

Despite what you may think,
we're all pretty dedicated to the sport.

[03:22] ---

Our opponents were just too good.

[03:24] ---

What team did you have to face?

[03:26] ---

Kitasumi. They're absolute monsters
on the court, you know.

[03:30] ---

But actually, even Kitasumi
ended up losing later on.

[03:33] ---

The ones going to the inter-high
are Sho Academy and...

[03:36] ---

Yokohama Taiei.

[03:38] ---

Oh yeah! That's the place.

[03:40] ---

Don't you ever feel, like, they're different from us?
The people who strive for that sort of thing.

[03:48] ---

It honestly makes me think that our idea of "dedication"... is way off somehow.

[03:59] ---

Yeah... I know exactly what you mean.

[04:08] ---

There's a long, straight road that just stretches on and on.

[04:12] ---

The finish line is out of sight. In fact, it might not even exist.

[04:15] ---

Some people sprint onwards at top speed.

[04:17] ---

Some people walk at a leisurely pace. Some people come to a stop.

[04:21] ---

Some people never even start.

[04:24] ---

I'm certain that until very recently, I was one of those people who were running.

[04:28] ---

But then I lost my way. I started to feel insecure about it all.

[04:35] ---

Maybe the reason the sky feels so small to me now isn't just because of the buildings.

[04:42] ---

Heeeeere... we go!

[04:45] ---

Sweet, an open shot!

[04:46] ---

Two-handed?

[04:52] ---

Uh, time for defense!

[04:53] ---

Offense! Offense! Offense! Offense!

[04:54] ---

That was close! So close, Nabe!

[04:56] ---

It was the exact opposite of close.

[05:00] ---

I can't blame my fatigue on that one.

[05:03] ---

I KNEW that he was going to drive by me.

[05:07] ---

But I couldn't see it. He just slipped by me like it was nothing.

[05:11] ---

It would make sense if I had
been facing Kite or Taro...

[05:14] ---

No, that's besides the point.

[05:18] ---

It was conceited of me to think that we were
on an equal level just because we're the same size.

[05:23] ---

Defensive foul! Black #7!

[05:25] ---

That #7 is on his third foul now.

[05:27] ---

Gah, that stupid runt!

[05:32] ---

So next summer...

[05:33] ---

let's fight again with the
inter-high on the line.

[05:38] ---

In other words, he was saying
that we're not ready for a real fight yet.

[05:45] ---

We've got a long road ahead of us.
It feels so far... so very far...

[05:52] ---

Yokohama Taiei
Kuzuryu

[05:53] ---

There's 8 minutes left and we need 28 points.
That's nearing the realm of impossible.

[05:57] ---

This is the time to either put up or shut up.

[06:00] ---

Hey, bro!

[06:00] ---

Defense! Defense! Defense! Defense!

[06:01] ---

Give me more passes just like that last one.

[06:04] ---

Send the ball my way as much as you can.

[06:09] ---

Man, this team is just full of screwballs.
And I can't think of anyone more reliable!

[06:14] ---

A'ight!

[06:17] ---

They threw it from inside
to the outside again!

[06:18] ---

Kite...

[06:21] ---

Using that same pattern
ain't gonna do you any good.

[06:24] ---

There's no way I'm letting
you get open for a shot!

[06:30] ---

Hyou!

[06:34] ---

So fast!

[06:35] ---

No, Hyou's just too slow.

[06:40] ---

That kid must've dropped his knees.

[06:44] ---

It's in! The shot counts!

[06:46] ---

"Dropped his knees"?

[06:47] ---

It's an old martial arts technique.

[06:50] ---

Instead of bending your knees to build strength
for a jump, you go loose and let your body drop.

[06:55] ---

The motion starts and ends in a split second,
so it can seem like you're just hesitating.

[06:59] ---

I bet Hyou didn't even realize
when that kid started to actually make his shot.

[07:04] ---

There's no way he had somebody teach him that
technique, and it's not something pulled off so easily.

[07:10] ---

So it's either something he did
by accident under pressure, or else...

[07:14] ---

he just has an innate sense for it.

[07:18] ---

Amazing.

[07:19] ---

I can't believe there's someone aside
from Hyou who can make a shot like that.

[07:25] ---

Excuse me, Nanao.

[07:27] ---

We need as much advantage in the paint
as we can get right now. I'm going in.

[07:31] ---

Shigeyoshi...

[07:33] ---

We can keep doing man-to-man for our defense.

[07:35] ---

But...

[07:36] ---

It's okay. I've taken a long enough break.

[07:38] ---

I can last for the remaining 7 minutes.

[07:40] ---

Hey, Mokichi.

[07:43] ---

Go show 'em that you can be a man.

[07:46] ---

You know... my gender is male.

[07:51] ---

Gotta admit, you scared
me with that last one.

[07:53] ---

Huh?

[07:55] ---

You were using the exact same technique
that Yohito taught to me.

[07:59] ---

What the hell are you blabbing about, Fuwa?!
Pass the ball!

[08:07] ---

Does it really piss you off THAT much
to find someone your own age who's better than you?

[08:12] ---

I don't wanna admit it.
But reality is staring me in the face right now.

[08:17] ---

Embrace it.

[08:18] ---

If I just embrace it and move on, then all that's left for me
is to charge ahead on that straight road.

[08:27] ---

Damn this smug little freshman!

[08:29] ---

I'm through letting you
sink anymore shots, punk!

[08:33] ---

He stopped it! What a badass block!

[08:36] ---

There's more to me than just rebounds!

[08:38] ---

Just watch and I'll show you
the reason I live on the court!

[08:42] ---

Black #4! Two free-throws!

[08:44] ---

A FOUL, SERIOUSLY?!

[08:47] ---

Ah, here comes the backup.

[08:49] ---

Man, I did a whole lot of nothing again...

[08:52] ---

Yo, beanstalk.

[08:54] ---

You're not very useful to us judging by
those 4 points you scored in the first quarter.

[08:58] ---

If you're here to drag us down,
then stay on the damn bench.

[09:02] ---

Oops, sorry.

[09:04] ---

I already know. I don't need you
to make it any more clearer to me.

[09:10] ---

Okay! Nice shot!

[09:12] ---

Way to go, Fuwa!

[09:15] ---

I know fully well!

[09:20] ---

We've got a chance! Grab it!

[09:25] ---

Shit, this can't be happening right now!

[09:27] ---

Captain!

[09:30] ---

Nice rebound!

[09:32] ---

What the hell? What is this guy made out of?!

[09:37] ---

You should've dunked that, you bonehead!

[09:40] ---

Uh oh!

[09:42] ---

Not good... I let my guard down!

[09:44] ---

That was a nice block.

[09:46] ---

It's because our guy was too busy
goofing around! That big idiot!

[09:49] ---

I got it!

[09:50] ---

Good, pass it here!

[09:54] ---

Man, how slow on the uptake
can he be? Damn turtle.

[09:58] ---

We got a good chance at a fast break,
but there's nobody to lead the charge.

[10:03] ---

It's tough out here without
the shrimp around.

[10:06] ---

Makes me wanna cry.

[10:11] ---

What was that?

[10:13] ---

Huh? Is he just giving up?

[10:15] ---

No, it's going in.

[10:19] ---

It went in! It's a three!

[10:24] ---

Timeout! Yokohama Taiei High School!

[10:27] ---

If you think we've got this in the bag
then you're wrong. Quit slacking off out there!

[10:31] ---

Yes, sir!

[10:33] ---

Slow it down.

[10:34] ---

Rather than making this a game of speed,
we need to focus on hitting them in the paint.

[10:38] ---

Shift to half-court offense.
Make it work, Yozaan.

[10:42] ---

I'm putting in one of our centers.

[10:51] ---

Awesome...

[10:52] ---

I never thought I'd get my chance so quickly.

[10:56] ---

Listen up. Just go out there
and stick to the stuff you normally do.

[11:00] ---

I don't expect you to be capable
of doing everything right from the start.

[11:02] ---

You and Yakku are going to attack them
right under the basket together.

[11:06] ---

Yakku, cover him as best you can.

[11:07] ---

Roger.

[11:09] ---

What are you getting so
nervous for, you little turd?

[11:11] ---

Hurry up and get out there already!

[11:14] ---

If the other team catches up
and makes fools of us 'cuz of you,

[11:17] ---

then I'm gonna turn all the freshmen
into coneheads like you.

[11:21] ---

Get up here, Mineta! It's
not too late to back out!

[11:24] ---

We can't trust you with our futures at stake!

[11:27] ---

Shut your faces!

[11:30] ---

I'm wearing the Taiei uniform
that I've admired for so long...

[11:33] ---

I grabbed it! The thread of hope!

[11:36] ---

YOKOHAMA CITY WEST HIGH SCHOOL

[11:36] ---

Please take this, Mineta.

I want you to read it!

[11:46] ---

Offense! Offense! Offense! Offense!

[11:53] ---

Go Mineta!

[11:54] ---

Get on defense! We're gonna stop 'em!

[11:55] ---

YOKOHAMA WEST

[12:05] ---

Wasn't that Shirai from class 4?

[12:07] ---

Huh? You turned her down? What a waste.

[12:10] ---

Someone already stole my heart.

[12:15] ---

Akiyoshi!

[12:19] ---

I heard the news!

You made the prefectural tourney? Congrats.

[12:23] ---

Um, yeah. Thank you. Good
luck to the girls' team.

[12:26] ---

Oh, sure. We'll try hard!

[12:29] ---

Um, so, Akiyoshi. Are you gonna keep
playing basketball in high school?

[12:33] ---

Huh? Well, gosh... I dunno.

[12:37] ---

I'm not very good.

[12:39] ---

That's not true at all! You're
plenty good, Akiyoshi!

[12:42] ---

I guarantee it.

[12:44] ---

Thank you!

[12:46] ---

My heart was aflutter.

[12:50] ---

She was my very first love.

[12:54] ---

Shigeyoshi...

[12:56] ---

You and I have already fought once before.

[12:59] ---

Back in middle school!

[13:01] ---

Rebou-

[13:03] ---

He scored! Nice shot!

[13:05] ---

Yokohama Taiei

Kuzuryu

[13:08] ---

Looks like you know how to make
some pretty clever shots!

[13:11] ---

Did you honestly think I'd say that?

[13:13] ---

Don't you dare make any more
chickenshit shots, punk.

[13:16] ---

Right! I'll go face him head on!

[13:23] ---

This reminds me, I noticed you had actually put Mineta's
name on the practice match roster once before.

[13:29] ---

Although, I guess you took him off
after that incident where he briefly quit.

[13:34] ---

He's not the type of center
that I like to see on the court, but...

[13:37] ---

with a player like Yakuma on our team,
there are uses for more tricky players like Mineta.

[13:46] ---

Nice defense!

[13:48] ---

Shit! I'm not letting you go!

[13:50] ---

Yozan!

[14:08] ---

All right!

[14:09] ---

That was a really good pass just now.

[14:12] ---

You rarely ever see those sorts of plays
in high school basketball.

[14:16] ---

I get the feeling the triple threat of Kamiki,
Fuwa and Mineta is gonna be pretty useful in the future.

[14:24] ---

Shigeyoshi!

[14:27] ---

Huh? There's someone you're interested in?

[14:30] ---

Yeah... although I haven't
actually spoken to him yet.

[14:33] ---

His name is Shigeyoshi from Saijo Middle.

[14:37] ---

He's on the team that you guys
are playing against today, Mineta.

[14:42] ---

Son of a bitch! Dammit! Dammit!

[14:45] ---

Just watch! I'm gonna crush him into dust!

[14:50] ---

Saijo
Yokohama West

[14:52] ---

We got crushed into dust...

[14:54] ---

The game is over!

[14:56] ---

It wasn't even a contest.
I barely scored 8 points.

[15:00] ---

It was a total shut out.

[15:04] ---

But what frustrated me the most...
wasn't the thing with Akiyoshi.

[15:07] ---

Shigeyoshi, what the hell
was that out there?!

[15:10] ---

That guy put up an incredible defense
that I could only break through 4 times.

[15:14] ---

Yet somehow his seniors and coach
were all getting mad at him?!

[15:23] ---

You've got some slick moves
for being a munchkin!

[15:25] ---

Shut up.

[15:26] ---

Take that!

[15:28] ---

Whoa! Go, Mineta!

[15:33] ---

I'm gonna pay you back in full...
for the humiliation I felt!

[15:37] ---

Foul! White #29!

[15:39] ---

Right...

[15:40] ---

That was a close one, Mineta!

[15:42] ---

Nice moves! Nice effort!

[15:45] ---

Another freshman. He relies more on tact
than power and he seems pretty speedy.

[15:51] ---

This guy has a lot of skill.

[15:53] ---

When did I play him? And where?

[15:57] ---

A player of his caliber is definitely someone
that I would remember.

[16:01] ---

Ever since then, I've practiced like hell!

[16:05] ---

"Since then"?

SIGN MIDDLE SCHOOL PREFECTURAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

[16:07] ---

The first match of last
year's prefectural tourney.

SIGN MIDDLE SCHOOL PREFECTURAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

[16:09] ---

Saijo
Yokohama West

[16:10] ---

It was like God had blessed me
with a bit of luck. No, it was fate.

[16:15] ---

I knew this was my chance
to reclaim the honor I lost to you before.

[16:19] ---

But then... you weren't even there!

[16:24] ---

What the hell were you doing, dammit?!

[16:27] ---

Oh, I see.

[16:30] ---

This is yet another guy who

just charged straight down the path.

[16:34] ---

It's another example of the gap being filled while I had stopped...

[16:41] ---

Charging! Black #12!

[16:43] ---

That's their fourth.

One more and they'll have five team fouls!

[16:51] ---

Player substitution for
Yokohama Taiei High School!

[16:56] ---

And here I thought this was finally my chance to play together with him...

[17:00] ---

What do you think, Sei? How's the other team?

[17:02] ---

Nothing special. They lost in the first round of the prelims, right?

[17:06] ---

They don't seem any better or worse than the average team.

[17:10] ---

I won't deny that they have something resembling potential,

[17:13] ---

but they have horrible balance as an overall team.

[17:15] ---

This is just what their advisor Mr. Satsuki told me,

[17:18] ---

but they're apparently dead set on winning the inter-high next year.

[17:22] ---

Okay.

[17:23] ---

Nothing else to say?

[17:24] ---

They're free to try, if they want.

[17:28] ---

What do you think their odds are, Yohito?

[17:31] ---

I'd like to say it's not outside the realm of possibility, but frankly that's just not realistic.

[17:36] ---

However...

[17:38] ---

If I were the coach of Kuzu High's team,

[17:40] ---

I'm confident that I could have them ready
to face a team like ours in under a year for sure.

[17:48] ---

Defensive foul!

[17:49] ---

Crap!

[17:50] ---

That was Momoharu's fourth foul!

[17:54] ---

Five team fouls...

[17:55] ---

Sorry.

[17:57] ---

Shake it off. There's 3 minutes left.

[17:59] ---

You have to hold out for that long.

[18:01] ---

If we have to take you off the court,
then we are 100% screwed.

[18:05] ---

Shit.

[18:06] ---

Oh. This means free-throws, right?

[18:08] ---

Yes. From now on, it'll be free-throws
for them whenever we foul.

[18:13] ---

Hanazono...

[18:17] ---

He scored both of them!

[18:20] ---

Now we're up to a 29-point lead!

[18:22] ---

Looks like the only time they gave Taiei
a swift kick in the ass was the end of the third quarter.

[18:27] ---

Taiei didn't use any senior players,
but Kuzu still managed to score 70 points against them.

[18:30] ---

You've gotta give 'em credit for that.

[18:32] ---

Kuzu doesn't have any seniors. So the question now
is how much they can catch up with a year of practice.

[18:40] ---

Looks like it's physically impossible
for Kuzu to catch up to Taiei at this point...

[18:55] ---

A three!

[18:57] ---

Tetsuo! Get ready to sub in.

[19:01] ---

He's gotten enough time.

[19:04] ---

Player substitution for Yokohama Taiei!

[19:07] ---

You did a pretty solid job.

[19:09] ---

My opinion of you has changed a bit.

[19:10] ---

Damn... I know I could do even more.

[19:17] ---

Excuse me, Mr. Principal. Was the agreement that
they could form a new team only if they won this match?

[19:22] ---

No, it actually isn't a problem if they lose, so long as a
teacher steps up who is willing to serve as their advisor.

[19:29] ---

But given this situation...

[19:31] ---

I believe it might cause some internal conflict
in the team if that were to happen.

[19:34] ---

Yokohama Taiei

[19:34] ---

Kuzuryu

[19:35] ---

For better or worse, the
other team proved too strong.

[19:39] ---

There's a little under 3 minutes
left. We can't catch up.

[19:43] ---

You all are going to have to make them
understand your passion for basketball.

[19:48] ---

Miracles don't happen in basketball.

[19:51] ---

This whole mess is my fault for going
and accepting a match against a team like Taiei.

[19:54] ---

No...

[19:55] ---

It's not about winning or losing.

[19:57] ---

All of the guys have done their absolute best. I believe there MUST be a teacher who has acknowledged them.

[20:02] ---

But what worries me is that the players might have a different impression from those of us off the court.

[20:07] ---

Even if one of the teachers is willing to step up, I'm not so sure the guys will accept that they deserve it...

[20:12] ---

Right, Kurumatani?

[20:16] ---

Defense! Defense! Defense! Defense!

[20:20] ---

Yo.

[20:21] ---

There's 3 whole minutes left.
Don't you dare start taking it easy.

[20:26] ---

That's just what I was about to say to you, dude!

[20:31] ---

They can struggle, but there's no comeback on the horizon now.

[20:35] ---

Which means he can use the remaining time to play as freely as he wants.

[20:38] ---

At least, that's what I'd do.

[20:43] ---

Yes! Yes! Yes! Yes!

[20:46] ---

He's totally raring for a fight.

[20:49] ---

It's weird but I know his moves like I know the back of my hand.

[20:53] ---

It's almost like I'm watching myself back in middle school.

[21:00] ---

Okay!

[21:02] ---

Hold up. That's not the kind of player you are, is it?!

[21:09] ---

That idiot.

[21:10] ---

A three!

[21:12] ---

He's got a one-track mind that only thinks about scoring points when the ball is in his hands, eh?

[21:16] ---

But to be frank, that's not entirely a bad thing.

[21:20] ---

So long as those shots that he makes aren't for himself, but rather for the team as a whole.

[21:26] ---

Hell yeah!

[21:31] ---

Have you noticed it yet, Hyou?

[21:32] ---

You're not there yet.

[21:34] ---

The team known as Taiei still isn't riding upon your shoulders!

[21:39] ---

Hey.

[21:41] ---

You can't just rest on the bench forever, fool.

[21:44] ---

That other shrimp got the better of you, but quit pretending like that means everything is over.

[21:48] ---

I can't do anything out here by myself. Give me a hand.

[21:52] ---

Kite...

[21:54] ---

Offense! Offense! Offense! Offense!

[22:17] ---

Egaita yume tsukamu no wa

[22:22] ---

Kantan janaitte wakatteru kedo

[22:27] ---

Saisho kara muri datte dakyou shiteru

[22:32] ---

Hito no me hikari wa mienai

[22:37] ---

Miageru sora no kousei tachi wa

[22:43] ---

Itsumo inochi o moyashite hikatteru

[22:48] ---

Boku ni datte

[22:50] ---

Taiyou runner kokoro o kanzen nenshou

[22:55] ---

Goal e kakumei no hikari hanatsu yo

[23:01] ---

Last rei byou sore made

kekka nante wakaranai sa

[23:07] ---

Akireru hodo onore o

koete hashiritsuzukeru yo

[23:14] ---

Step 1! Shouri o mark shite

[23:16] ---

Step 2! Image wakasete

[23:19] ---

Step 3! Tada zenryoku de penerate

[23:30] ---

Ahiru no Sora

Next Time: The Last Period

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