

# 19 - The Confusion of the Demon

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**[01:15] narr**

The battle between Akagi and Washizu.

**SIGN** Episode 19

**SIGN** The Confusion of the Demon

**[01:18] Nar**

The first match is coming to an end.

**[01:20] Nar**

Forced into a disadvantageous situation,

**[01:22] Nar**

Akagi tries to regain ground  
with his desperate bluff.

**[01:39] Aka**

Pon.

**[01:41] Aka**

Pon.

**[01:43] Aka**

Pon.

**[01:49] Was**

*A honitsu?*

**[01:53] Was**

*Little punk...*

**[01:58] Oug**

*Akagi's desperate bluff at  
the most crucial moment.*

**[02:03] Oug**

*Now we have to see if it  
works on Washizu or not.*

**[02:10] Was**

*I see.*

**[02:12] Was**

*He was waiting for me to break up  
my closed wait on the character tiles.*

**[02:15] Was**

*He called three times after I broke it,*

**[02:18] Was**

*making the 6 of characters  
difficult to discard.*

**[02:21] Was**

*Don't think you've got me, though.*

**[02:24] Was**

*There's no doubt that the  
luck's with me this hand.*

**[02:32] Was**

*The winner will be me.*

**[02:40] Was**

*I'm in tenpai?*

**[02:42] Was**

*If this 6 of characters passes,*

**[02:44] Was**

*I'll be in tenpai, with  
a 2, 5, 8 of bamboo wait.*

**[02:47] Was**

*He has the 5 of bamboo,  
so I could win right away.*

**[02:53] Was**

*If this 6 of characters passes, I win.*

**[02:57] Was**

*Discard the 6 of characters and win.*

**[03:01] Was**

*Normally, that configuration  
after three calls*

**[03:04] Was**

*means that this 6 of  
characters is his target.*

**[03:07] Was**

*I would never be able to  
discard it, but here, I can.*

**[03:12] Was**

*Looking at it more broadly,  
the game's flow is currently on my side.*

**[03:16] Was**

*Meaning the tile I must discard*

**[03:17] Was**

*to get into tenpai can't  
be Akagi's winning tile.*

**[03:20] Was**

*His wait is probably...*

**[03:24] Was**

*a closed wait for the 8 of characters.*

**[03:27] Was**

*I will make it pass.*

**[03:29] Was**

*This 6 of characters will pass.*

**[03:49] Was**

*No, no. This is a bad habit of mine.*

**[03:52] Was**

*I always want to finish them off quickly.*

**[03:54] Was**

*But if I think about it, there's no reason for me to do him this favor.*

**[03:58] Was**

*I know he's waiting on the 8 of characters.*

**[04:00] Was**

*Or possibly, he's not in tenpai.*

**[04:02] Was**

*I don't think he will win from this 6 of characters,*

**[04:05] Was**

*and yet it's not 100% safe, either.*

**[04:08] Was**

*Which means there's no reason to push myself to discard it.*

**[04:12] Was**

*If I just take a moment to think about it,*

**[04:14] Was**

*it doesn't matter if he is waiting for the 8, or the 6 and 9 of characters.*

**[04:19] Was**

*There are very few of those tiles left anyway.*

**[04:23] Was**

*For starters, Suzuki has a 6, 9 and three 8 of characters.*

**[04:28] Was**

*I also have a 6 of characters and I've discarded a 9 of characters.*

**[04:33] Was**

*And he has two 6 of characters.*

**[04:37] Was**

*Regardless of which tile he is waiting for, there's only one left of each.*

**[04:42] Was**

*Either the last 8 or 9 of characters.*

**[04:45] Was**

*That's it.*

**[04:46] Was**

*Which are grim chances.*

**[04:48] Was**

*There's no way he can  
draw them himself.*

**[04:50] Was**

*So his tenpai is effectively dead.*

**[04:52] Was**

*Even if the danger is low,*

**[04:54] Was**

*there's no reason for me to  
risk playing into his hand.*

**[04:58] Was**

*I can play around that tile  
and keep the game going.*

**[05:10] Nar**

If anything, Akagi's lack  
of luck caused this.

**[05:13] Nar**

Whether it's for the 6,  
or the 8 and 9 of characters,

**[05:16] Nar**

these waits are all almost dead.

**[05:19] Nar**

But that bad luck was actually fortunate.

**[05:22] Nar**

Akagi survived.

**[05:24] Nar**

He survived in order to survive.

**[05:32] Was**

*What?*

**[05:34] Was**

*He switched out that tile  
and discarded a west wind?*

**[05:37] Was**

*So he wasn't in tenpai?*

**[05:39] Was**

*Damn it...*

**[05:44] Nar**

He is slowly recovering.

**[05:47] Nar**

The game was mostly going  
in Washizu's favor,

**[05:49] Nar**

but slowly, some of that luck  
is starting to return to Akagi.

**[05:52] Nar**

That was his aim from  
the very beginning.

**[05:55] Nar**

If Washizu and Akagi had both  
simply let their hands progress

**[05:59] Nar**

in this fourth hand, Washizu  
would have most likely won first.

**[06:02] Nar**

Luck was not on Akagi's side.

**[06:05] Nar**

To win, Akagi had to force Washizu  
to make a compromise somewhere.

**[06:12] Was**

*What?*

**[06:15] Nar**

The chance to win only comes after  
Washizu has made that compromise.

**[06:21] Was**

*What the hell is he doing?*

**[06:24] Was**

*There's no doubt that he's been  
going for a honitsu up until now.*

**[06:28] Was**

*But since he discarded  
the 6 of characters*

**[06:30] Was**

*and kept the 3 of circles,  
that is no longer possible.*

**[06:33] Was**

*Which means...*

**[06:36] Was**

*a toitoi?*

**[06:38] Was**

*If that black tile is a 3 of circles,*

**[06:40] Was**

*he has a toitoi with east winds  
and red dragons, for a mangan.*

**[06:44] Was**

*The cop has a 3 of circles, too.*

**[06:47] Was**

*It's over.*

**[06:49] Was**

*If he's in tenpai, the other will  
play into his hand and it'll be over.*

**[07:05] Was**

*I guess he's not in tenpai.*

**[07:09] Was**

*Of course.*

**[07:10] Was**

*How could you be in tenpai?*

**[07:12] Was**

*You don't have the luck  
to get a toitoi right now.*

**[07:17] Was**

*Luck is on my side this hand.*

**[07:20] Was**

*I'll be in tenpai before  
you complete your toitoi.*

**[07:26] Was**

*That's right.*

**[07:27] Was**

*You can't get into tenpai that easily.*

**[07:29] Was**

*Did you think you'd get your hands  
on the last 3 of circles that easily?*

**[07:34] Was**

*While you're wasting time,  
I'll be making my comeback.*

**[07:38] Was**

*Yes, this will work.*

**[07:40] Was**

*Nice and easy.*

**[07:44] Was**

*Now I can have a three-way  
wait on the bamboo tiles.*

**[07:47] Was**

*An ideal formation.*

**[07:49] Was**

*I'll keep these.*

**[07:51] Was**

*The question is, do I get rid of  
the circles or the characters?*

**[07:55] Was**

*We're already on the 13th turn.*

**[07:56] Was**

*There aren't many draws left.*

**[08:00] Was**

*Then I should probably make  
it a 5, 8 of characters wait*

**[08:03] Was**

*so Suzuki can deal  
into my hand right away.*

**[08:05] Was**

*That's what I'll do.*

**[08:07] Was**

*I want to get rid of my circles...*

**[08:10] Was**

*Except...*

**[08:14] Was**

*He's an odd kid.*

**[08:16] Was**

*His game of Mahjong's basically  
on the verge of death,*

**[08:19] Was**

*yet it seems to be closely following mine.*

**[08:22] Was**

*It's positioned in a way that  
restricts my movements again.*

**[08:26] Was**

*He's most likely aiming for a toitoi,*

**[08:30] Was**

*but he could also have a  
2, 5 or 1, 4 of circles wait.*

**[08:37] Was**

*Since he already has a 1  
of circles in his discards,*

**[08:41] Was**

*he could have a closed  
wait on the 4 of circles.*

**[08:44] Was**

*At any rate, he could also win with  
just the east winds and red dragons.*

**[08:47] Was**

*For the dealer, a 40 fu,  
2 han hand is worth 3,900.*

**[08:51] Was**

*It's not like he can take the lead  
if that cop deals into his hand.*

**[08:55] Was**

*He couldn't, even if he drew it himself.*

**[09:00] Was**

*He'll just get to stay dealer,  
but it won't overturn my 6,800 lead.*

**[09:08] Was**

*But not if I discard that tile.*

**[09:11] Was**

*If I deal into that 3,900 hand,  
it would be enough to put him on top.*

**[09:16] Was**

*So then, discarding any circle  
tiles would be reckless.*

**[09:21] Was**

Wait.

**[09:23] Was**

*Suzuki has a 5 of circles.*

**[09:26] Was**

*That means I can get Suzuki  
to test it out for me.*

**[09:30] Was**

*If he discards it and it passes,  
I can discard it, too.*

**[09:35] Was**

*He won't take over the lead  
if Suzuki deals into his hand.*

**[09:40] Was**

*We'd start a new match and it  
won't be much skin off my nose.*

**[09:45] Was**

*This is the best way.*

**[09:49] Nar**

Washizu discards the 6 of circles  
and sends his underling a sign.

**[09:53] Nar**

Suzuki gets the message

**[09:58] Nar**

and discards the highly  
risky tile, the 5 of circles.

**[10:02] Nar**

But Akagi doesn't move.

**[10:11] Was**

*It went through.*

**[10:12] Was**

*So that means he's got a closed  
wait for the 4 of circles,*

**[10:15] Was**

*or is possibly not even in tenpai.*

**[10:18] Was**

*Either way, seeing that he  
can't win off my 5 of circles,*

**[10:21] Was**

*it's the end of the road for him.*

**[10:24] Nar**

He draws an 8 of bamboo.

**[10:26] Nar**

Once Washizu discards the 5 of  
circles, he will be in tenpai.

**[10:30] Was**

*I won!*

**[10:31] Was**

*I just have to discard this 5 of circles,*

**[10:33] Was**

*then Suzuki will deal the 5 of characters  
into my hand and it will be over.*

**[10:36] Was**

*Victory.*

**[10:37] Was**

*There were some twists and  
turns, but in the end,*

**[10:40] Was**

*this brat was also no match for me.*

**[10:44] Was**

*There is simply nobody  
who can defeat me.*

**[10:49] Aka**

*Ron.*

**[10:50] Was**

*What?!*

**[10:57] Yasu**

*Akagi!*

**[10:58] Oug**

*You did it!*

**[10:59] Oug**

*You did it, Akagi!*

**[11:02] Aka**

*East wind, red dragon.*

**[11:03] Aka**

*A 40 fu, 2 han hand, as dealer.*

**[11:05] Aka**

*Old man, this 3,900 direct  
hit puts me back on top.*

**[11:09] Aka**

*The first match is over.*

**[11:11] Was**

*It can't be!*

**[11:12] Was**

*How could he ignore Suzuki's 5 of circles?*

**[11:15] Was**

*Sure, getting it from me  
would put him back on top,*

**[11:18] Was**

*but he didn't have the luxury of waiting!*

**[11:21] Was**

*It's not such a big deal that he figured out*

**[11:24] Was**

*that I'd discard the 5 of circles.*

**[11:26] Was**

*With this game's clear tiles,*

**[11:29] Was**

*making such predictions isn't that difficult.*

**[11:32] Was**

*He may have predicted the sequence of*

**[11:34] Was**

*Suzuki discarding the 5 of  
circles after I discarded my 6*

**[11:36] Was**

*as paving the way for me to  
discard the 5 of circles again,*

**[11:40] Was**

*and ignored Suzuki's 5  
of circles based on that.*

**[11:46] Was**

*But that's something you could say  
only under normal circumstances.*

**[11:52] Was**

*This is different.*

**[11:53] Was**

*If I had won this hand,  
he would have died!*

**[11:57] Was**

*He would have lost his life!*

**[11:59] Was**

*That's not something you can just do.*

**[12:02] Was**

*Even if he suspected, no,  
even if he was 99% certain*

**[12:04] Was**

*that Suzuki dealt the 5  
of circles so that I could*

**[12:07] Was**

*safely discard it afterwards...*

**[12:09] Was**

*so long as that certainty isn't 100%,*

**[12:11] Was**

*so long as there remains even  
a 1% feeling of uncertainty,*

**[12:15] Was**

*there's no way that he  
could ignore the chance*

**[12:18] Was**

*to save his life with Suzuki's 5 of circles!*

**[12:22] Was**

*Does this kid not want to save himself?*

**[12:25] Was**

*Does he not want to keep living?*

**[12:28] Was**

*To see the next day?*

**[12:32] Was**

*You lunatic!*

**[12:39] Nar**

The first match ended with Akagi's victory.

**[12:42] Nar**

Akagi receives the bonus payment  
for the direct hit off Washizu,

**[12:45] Nar**

the 3.9 million yen.

**[12:48] Nar**

Now the regular payments will be settled.

**[12:52] Nar**

Akagi is in first place with 38,500.

**[12:55] Nar**

Washizu is in second place with 37,500.

**SIGN** | Hand | # | Akagi | Washizu

| Points | Points

**SIGN** East

**SIGN** First

Match

**[12:59] nar**

Akagi receives a 20,000 bonus  
for being in first place,

**SIGN** South

**[13:01] nar**

and a 30,000 ranking bonus,  
bringing him to a total of 88,500.

**[13:06] table**

Payment

**[13:06] nar**

Washizu only receives  
the 10,000 ranking bonus

**[13:08] nar**

for being in second place,

**[13:09] nar**

bringing him to 47,500.

**[13:12] nar**

The difference between  
the two is 41,000 points.

**[13:15] nar**

This is the base for the amount  
of money Akagi can receive.

**[13:18] nar**

Were he to exchange it all for

money, it would be 41 million yen.

**[13:22] nar**

But that's not all.

**[13:23] nar**

With the direct hit bonus of 3.9 million,

**[13:27] nar**

the total in bonus payments  
increases to 11.5 million yen.

**[13:29] nar**

Meaning Akagi has taken 52.5  
million yen from Washizu

**[13:33] nar**

in this first East-South match.

**[13:36] nar**

That would be about  
500 million yen today.

**[13:41] Oug**

*He could win.*

**[13:43] Oug**

*I don't think someone else could do it,*

**[13:45] Oug**

*but with Akagi, I'm starting to  
believe it's not impossible.*

**[13:49] Oug**

*He just needs to survive  
six East-South matches.*

**[13:52] Oug**

*If he does that, he can strip  
Washizu of his entire fortune.*

**[13:57] Nar**

The money Akagi is entitled to  
should correspond to 41,000 points.

**[14:02] Nar**

41 million yen.

**[14:05] Nar**

But Akagi has lost 600 CCs of blood  
in this East-South match.

**[14:10] Nar**

So first, he must transfuse this blood

**[14:13] Nar**

back into his body before  
the next match starts.

**[14:18] Nar**

If not, should Washizu get a  
direct hit mangan off of him,

**[14:22] Nar**

it would cost him 8,000 points.

**[14:23] Nar**

800 CCs would be withdrawn.

**[14:25] Nar**

Combined with the current 600 CCs,  
that would total 1,400 CCs.

**[14:28] Nar**

It might not be a lethal amount,

**[14:30] Nar**

but it would be enough  
to muddle his thinking.

**[14:33] Nar**

Keeping that in mind, it is essential  
that he get that blood back.

**[14:38] Nar**

Accordingly, Washizu deducts  
600 CCs worth of money,

**[14:42] Nar**

6 million yen, from the 41 million,

**[14:46] Nar**

and hands Akagi the remaining 35 million.

**[14:50] Nar**

Ougi has no objections.

**[14:53] Nar**

However...

**[14:54] Aka**

That's not necessary.

**[14:55] All**

What?

**[14:57] Aka**

I want all my winnings in cash.

**[14:59] Oug**

Akagi!

**[15:01] Yasu**

Akagi, don't be ridiculous!

**[15:03] Was**

*What?*

**[15:05] Oug**

Akagi, come here!

**[15:08] Oug**

What are you thinking? You'll die!

**[15:12] Oug**

You'll die in a heartbeat if you  
underestimate Washizu like that.

**[15:18] Aka**

A heartbeat from death  
is the right place to be.

**[15:21] Aka**

If I were only a tiny push,  
a tiny step away from death,

**[15:27] Aka**

that's the source of hope for Washizu.

**[15:30] Aka**

Ougi-san.

**[15:32] Aka**

We can't strip Washizu of his hope.

**[15:35] Aka**

Even as they get burned,

**[15:38] Aka**

as long as there is hope,  
people will pursue it.

**[15:46] Nar**

In the end, Akagi enters the next match  
without taking back a single drop of blood.

**[15:53] Nar**

He starts off with a 600 CC deficit.

**[15:57] Nar**

Naturally, this means that he is in  
even more danger than in the first match.

**[16:02] Nar**

Should he get hit  
directly with a mangan,

**[16:04] Nar**

it would mean losing  
800 on top of the 600.

**[16:07] Nar**

After having 1,400 CCs of  
blood taken from his body...

**[16:12] Nar**

He would be on the verge of death.

**[16:18] Oug**

*It's unthinkable.*

**[16:20] Oug**

*To us it's unfathomable, but Akagi  
himself decided to do it this way.*

**[16:26] Oug**

*That means it's probably necessary.*

**[16:28] Oug**

*This genius's instinct and sense  
demand drastic measures.*

**[16:34] Oug**

*So that he may win.*

**[16:37] Oug**

*We can't understand his  
sense or calculations.*

**[16:40] Oug**

*They're in another realm.*

**[16:43] Oug**

*All we can do is pray.*

**[16:46] Oug**

*All we can do is pray that this  
act doesn't blow up in his face.*

**[16:50] Oug**

*Prayer is all we have.*

**[16:52] Oug**

*To pray that the unjust and irrational  
nature of Mahjong won't show itself here.*

**[17:00] Oug**

*That's how dangerous this game is.*

**[17:04] Oug**

*Here, strength does not  
always equal victory.*

**[17:06] Oug**

*Even the strongest are powerless  
against the fierce wind of pure luck,*

**[17:10] Oug**

*and Akagi is no exception.*

**[17:13] Oug**

*All we can do is pray that luck  
won't flow towards Washizu.*

**[17:18] Oug**

*If it's just moderate luck,  
Akagi can make it through.*

**[17:22] Oug**

*He should be fine.*

**[17:23] Oug**

*So don't let Washizu get it!*

**[17:26] Oug**

*That kind of fierce and uncontrollable luck!*

**[17:29] Nar**

*Unfortunately, Ougi's fears  
were half on the mark.*

**[17:39] Was**

*A preemptive strike.*

**[17:41] Was**

*Tsumo.*

**[17:42] Was**

*Tanyao, tsumo, two dora.  
Mangan. 4,000; 2,000.*

**[17:49] Nar**

*From the very beginning of the  
second hand, the luck is with Washizu.*

**[17:52] Nar**

He draws his winning  
tile for a mangan hand.

**[17:54] Nar**

He gains a 10,000 point lead.

**[17:57] Nar**

After that, he wins from

**[18:00] Nar**

his underling dealing into his hand.

**[18:02] Nar**

Then another tsumo win.

**[18:05] Nar**

The East round is one-sided.

**[18:07] Nar**

He has a 25,800 point lead on Akagi.

**[18:11] Nar**

Then there are the bonus payments  
he receives from Akagi.

**[18:14] Nar**

The two tsumo wins add up to 500 CCs.

**[18:18] Nar**

Combined with the 600 CCs lost in the  
first game, that is a total of 1,100 CCs.

**[18:22] Nar**

It is over half the lethal amount.

**[18:29] Nar**

Even if he can avoid direct hits, it's  
useless if Washizu continues to be so lucky.

**[18:35] Nar**

He won't get around  
having his blood drawn.

**[18:39] Nar**

Were he to deal into a mangan  
hand, it would be 1,900 CCs.

**[18:43] Nar**

Certain death.

**[18:45] Nar**

It's a harsh situation.

**[18:46] Nar**

The East round is rough.

**[18:49] Nar**

As it is, Ougi's fears have  
been completely realized.

**[18:53] Nar**

But the flow of the game changes  
once they move into the South round.

**[18:58] Nar**

South Hand 1.

**[19:00] Nar**

Akagi unexpectedly gets  
a tanpin, sanshoku hand.

**[19:03] Nar**

It's an ideal big hitter.

**[19:06] Nar**

He also has two dora.

**[19:10] Nar**

On top of that, many of his tiles are black,

**[19:12] Nar**

making his waits difficult to read.

**[19:16] Nar**

These black tiles prove  
to be very effective.

**[19:21] Aka**

Ron.

**[19:23] Aka**

Tanpin, sanshoku, two dora.

**[19:25] Aka**

Haneman.

**[19:29] Nar**

In Washizu Mahjong,  
it's rare to see a direct hit

**[19:31] Nar**

with a tanpin sanshoku hand.

**[19:33] Was**

*Damn it.*

**[19:36] Nar**

With this win, Akagi catches  
up to Washizu in one move.

**[19:40] Nar**

Their gap has now narrowed  
to 1,800 points.

**[19:42] Nar**

It is also the first direct  
hit in this second match.

**[19:47] Nar**

He gets a chance to transfuse  
some of his blood back.

**[19:51] Nar**

This is big, as well.

**[19:53] Nar**

With this 12,000 point win,  
he is now able to regain

**[19:58] Nar**

all of the 1,100 CCs of

blood he's lost until now.

**[20:02] Nar**

He will be released from the fear  
of dealing into a mangan hand

**[20:08] Nar**

and the instant death that would follow.

**[20:12] Nar**

Or so it seemed.

**[20:14] Aka**

I don't need it.

**[20:20] Oug**

Why, Akagi?!

**[20:23] Oug**

Why?

**[20:24] Oug**

No matter how you slice it,  
you've got to get that blood back!

**[20:27] Oug**

Akagi!

**[20:29] Aka**

Money.

**[20:31] Aka**

I'm going to only grab  
money here like a miser.

**[20:36] Aka**

Only then can I chase down Washizu.

**[20:40] Aka**

Only then can I...

**[20:42] Aka**

kill Washizu.

**[20:52] Nar**

Akagi attacks with little  
regard for his own life.

**[20:56] Nar**

But will it be effective against Washizu?

**[21:00] Nar**

The second match of Washizu  
Mahjong has only just begun.

**[22:16] Nar**

Next time, "Hope and Folly."

**SIGN** Next Episode

**SIGN** Hope and Folly

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