

21 - A Ray of Illusion

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

Translator:

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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.)

[01:13] Nar

The genius from the
darkness, Akagi Shigeru,

[01:15] Nar

versus Washizu Iwao, the
monster of the Showa Era.

[01:19] Nar

Akagi bets his blood;
Washizu wagers his entire fortune.

[01:24] Nar

The second match, South Hand 4.

[01:27] Nar

While Akagi leads by 9,200 points,
the fateful west wind that enables

[01:33] Nar

Washizu's haneman and an upset falls
in the hands of his underling, Suzuki.

[01:40] Nar

900 CCs stand between Akagi and death.

[01:43] Nar

The footsteps of destruction
draw closer and closer.

SIGN Episode 21

SIGN A Ray of Illusion

[01:59] Oug

He'll die.

[02:01] Oug

*One misstep and that dora
west wind will end it all.*

[02:07] Oug

Akagi will be killed.

[02:11] Oug

*Three of Washizu's tiles are black,
which means that there is*

[02:15] Oug

*no way he's got a double pon wait
for the west wind and some other tile.*

[02:18] Nar

That's because only one of the four
of a particular tile is black.

[02:22] Oug

At least that risk is zero.

[02:25] Oug

But...

[02:27] Oug

*With this setup, he could have
Suzuki discard the west wind.*

[02:34] Was

Pon.

[02:36] Oug

*Then switch to a naked wait and
have Suzuki deal into that, too.*

[02:43] Oug

*He'd have the green dragon, west wind
honitsu with three dora. A haneman.*

[02:47] Oug

He'll take the lead.

[02:49] Oug

Or...

[02:53] Nar

Were he to be in a chanta tenpai...

[02:56] Nar

he could still have Suzuki
deal him the dora west wind

[02:58] Nar

and then deal him the 9 of
characters for his single wait.

[03:05] Nar

That would be a green dragon, west wind
chanta with three dora, a haneman.

[03:10] Nar

It would cause an upset.

[03:12] Oug

He'll die.

[03:15] Oug

*If that's the state of the
enemy's hand, it's over.*

[03:20] Oug

Akagi will be killed and I'll lose an arm.

[03:26] Oug

We'll lose all the money, too.

[03:27] Oug

We'll be bankrupt. On the retreat.

[03:33] Oug

If the dora west wind comes out now...

[03:51] Oug

If it comes out now...

[04:12] Oug

We're saved.

[04:15] Oug

The enemy's hand isn't quite there.

[04:19] Oug

*It goes without saying
that he's in tenpai.*

[04:22] Oug

*But he can't win right away,
even if he calls the west wind.*

[04:28] Oug

Which means we still have a chance.

[04:33] Oug

If he gets into tenpai now...

[04:36] Oug

If he...

[04:39] Nar

But Akagi's draw is useless.

[04:42] Oug

*Damn, a north wind at a
critical time like this!*

[04:45] Oug

What a lousy draw.

[04:47] Oug

I'm begging you!

[04:49] Oug

We can't waste a single second here!

[04:54] Oug

No!

[04:55] Oug

*Why didn't you discard
the west wind, the dora?*

[04:58] Oug

*It's the shackle that's been
binding you this whole time!*

[05:02] Oug

*So isn't this precisely
the time to get rid of it?*

[05:05] Oug

Since the enemy didn't call it this turn?

[05:08] Oug

If you wait a turn,

assuming that Washizu didn't have

[05:14] Oug

*a honitsu already,
but looked like this instead...*

[05:18] Nar

If he draws the 7 of bamboo,

[05:19] Nar

*he can switch to a double pon wait
for the west wind and 7 of bamboo.*

[05:24] Oug

*Once that happens, he won't be able
to discard the west wind anymore.*

[05:29] Oug

Were he to discard it,

[05:31] Oug

*it would be a mangan direct hit with the
green dragon, west wind, three dora.*

[05:34] Oug

He'd lose his lead.

[05:35] Oug

There's no way he could discard it then.

[05:38] Oug

If you think of that,

[05:40] Oug

*wasn't this your only opportunity
to get rid of that damned west wind?*

[05:47] Oug

So why didn't you?

[05:51] Oug

Wait.

[05:53] Oug

Is it possible that Akagi thinks

[05:55] Oug

*Washizu is waiting to win
on a single west wind wait?*

[05:59] Oug

*Even if he's almost certain
that Washizu has a pair,*

[06:02] Oug

*he may think there's a slight chance
that he's got a single wait.*

[06:07] Oug

Is that why he couldn't discard

[06:12] Oug

this dora west wind?

[06:16] Oug

There's a 9,200 point gap between them.

[06:18] Oug

*Washizu can't make up that
difference from a tile dealt by Suzuki.*

[06:23] Oug

But were Akagi to deal into his hand,

[06:24] Oug

*it would be a green dragon
honitsu with two dora, a mangan.*

[06:28] Oug

*Does he think Washizu could be
waiting on a single west wind?*

[06:32] Oug

Is that the illusion...

[06:35] Oug

the fear...

[06:37] Oug

that has him trembling?

[06:44] Oug

He got it.

[06:45] Oug

*Now he can get in tenpai and have
a closed wait on the 2 of characters.*

[06:48] Oug

He can get into tenpai!

[06:51] Oug

*But to do that, he has to...
he has to discard the west wind!*

[07:00] Oug

Akagi!

[07:02] Nar

*If Washizu has a single
wait on a west wind,*

[07:06] Nar

*he'll have a green dragon honitsu
with two dora, a mangan.*

[07:08] Nar

He would overturn Akagi's lead.

[07:12] Oug

This tile is the angel of death itself.

[07:15] Oug

A tile that leads to death.

[07:17] Oug

He can't discard it.

[07:20] Nar

But if Washizu

[07:21] Nar

already has two west winds and is

waiting for something else entirely,

[07:25] Nar

keeping the west wind in his hand will
cause a fatal stall in Akagi's game.

[07:30] Nar

Something he can't do.

[07:34] Oug

*Washizu's tenpai is a sure thing and
Suzuki can give him the dora at any time.*

[07:41] Oug

*That's a haneman with the green dragon,
west wind honitsu and three dora.*

[07:44] Oug

He can gift Washizu 12,000 points easily.

[07:47] Oug

*Which means this last hand is
not the time to fool around.*

[07:52] Oug

If he doesn't get into tenpai, it'll be fatal.

[07:57] Oug

*He'll lose even that
faint chance he has now.*

[08:02] Oug

So which is it?

[08:04] Oug

*Do you see it as a single
wait, or as a pair?*

[08:33] Was

I thought you'd try to make it pass here.

[08:38] Was

If it came down to that.

[08:45] Oug

It passed!

[08:46] Oug

Akagi's instinct won out.

[08:49] Oug

*He finally made it to tenpai
by discarding that dora.*

[08:55] Nar

Akagi has an iipeikou with a closed
wait for the 2 of characters.

[08:58] Oug

*Now we just need Yasuoka to get
a 2 of characters and we'll win.*

[09:12] Nar

Of course, Washizu is currently in tenpai.

[09:14] Nar

It just happened to be that

[09:16] Nar

the tile he was waiting for
was a 2 of characters.

[09:18] Nar

The same wait as Akagi's.

[09:45] nar

Washizu is in a closed wait for a 2
of characters, the same wait as Akagi.

[09:53] nar

Since the wait is for the
same 2 of characters,

[09:55] nar

it might seem like their chances
of winning are the same,

[09:59] nar

but that couldn't be
further from the truth.

[10:02] nar

Akagi can only win with
this 2 of characters,

[10:06] nar

but Washizu can also use the dora,
the west wind, to change his hand.

[10:11] nar

If you consider that his underling
can deal into his hand right away,

[10:14] nar

the number of Washizu's winning
tiles increases greatly.

[10:20] nar

For instance, if he draws the 1 of
characters and changes his wait to this

[10:24] nar

double pon wait, he can win by Suzuki
dealing the west wind into his hand.

[10:33] nar

Alternatively...

[10:34] nar

If Suzuki draws that 1 of characters,

[10:37] nar

he can just call the west wind and then
have Suzuki deal that into his hand.

[10:44] nar

That would be enough for
the haneman upset with

[10:47] nar

the green dragon, west wind
chanta, with three dora.

[10:49] nar

On top of that, if you stick with the
situation where Washizu calls the west wind,

[10:58] nar

then if Washizu draws any honor or circle tiles

[11:02] nar

near the ones in Suzuki's hand,
he can win from those, too.

[11:07] nar

Basically, once he draws one,
he can keep it in his hand

[11:11] nar

and discard a character tile.

[11:13] nar

Then he just has to call Suzuki's west wind

[11:17] nar

and have Suzuki deal into his single wait.

[11:24] nar

That will become the haneman
hand that will overtake Akagi.

[11:28] nar

Under the premise that
he calls the west wind,

[11:32] nar

Washizu has a total of nine
different tiles he can wait on.

[11:36] nar

On the other hand,
Akagi only has one.

[11:41] nar

Only this closed 2 of characters.

[11:44] nar

A huge gap!

[11:46] nar

Akagi is at a huge disadvantage.

[11:49] nar

Akagi knows that better than anybody else.

[11:53] nar

And then he gets a chance
to switch up his hand.

[11:59] oug

What will you do?

[12:02] nar

Will he stick with his closed
wait for the 2 of characters?

[12:05] nar

Or discard the 3 of characters to
get a 1, 4, 7 of characters wait?

[12:08] nar

Or discard the 1 of characters
to get a 3, 6 of characters wait?

[12:12] oug

I guess the safest bet would be
to discard the 3 of characters

[12:17] oug

and go for the more favorable
1, 4, 7 of characters wait.

[12:22] oug

*In any case, he should just
stay in tenpai for now.*

[12:25] oug

*He can declare riichi after Yasuoka
has drawn the winning tile.*

[12:30] oug

*Declaring riichi without
having the goal in sight*

[12:32] oug

would just be doing Washizu a favor.

[12:36] nar

If he loses the riichi wager,

SIGN Akagi 41900 points

SIGN Difference 9200 points

SIGN Washizu 32700 points

[12:38] nar

the difference between them

[12:40] nar

would shrink by 2,000 to just 7,200 points.

SIGN Difference 7200 points

SIGN Washizu 33700 points

SIGN Akagi 40900 points

[12:43] nar

That will remove the necessity for Washizu

[12:46] nar

to get 12,000 points to take the lead,

[12:48] nar

as the 8,000 from a mangan would suffice.

[12:51] oug

He can't do that.

That'll just hurt him too much.

[12:55] oug

So he has to be careful with the riichi.

[12:58] oug

*Of course, waiting to declare
riichi until Yasuoka has the winning tile*

[13:02] oug

*will delay his win by one turn,
and that itself may be fatal, too.*

[13:07] oug

But still, a riichi here can't happen.

[13:11] oug

It's unthinkable!

[13:30] nar

But Akagi...

[13:34] nar

contradicts Ougi's expectations completely,

[13:38] nar

and declares it!

[13:45] aka

Riichi.

[13:49] nar

And it's a 3, 6 of characters wait.

[13:55] oug

*He went for the wait with the most
unlikely tiles, and he declared riichi?!*

[14:00] oug

Why would he do that now?!

[14:08] oug

Could it be... a premonition?

[14:14] oug

*Did he have a premonition
that Yasuoka will*

[14:17] oug

*draw his winning tile
in the next turn?*

[14:21] oug

*If that's the case, I suppose
I could understand it.*

[14:25] oug

*But is something like
that really possible?*

[14:30] yasu

*Akagi... Are you really telling
me that I'm going to draw it now?*

[14:37] yasu

Is that what you're feeling right now?

[14:42] yasu

Is your instinct telling you

[14:45] yasu

that I'll draw it?

[14:51] oug

Did he get it?!

[14:52] oug

Did he?!

[15:19] was

What?

[15:21] was

Since he declared riichi,

[15:23] was

*I thought the cop would deal
straight into his hand.*

[15:25] was

But that is not the case.

[15:30] was

You've dug your own grave.

[15:33] was

*You buckled under the pressure of
the match and fell in by yourself.*

[15:40] was

I'm sure you must know what it means.

[15:44] was

*The meaning of the 9,200
point difference between us.*

[15:50] was

*Until now, I needed a mangan tsumo,
or a haneman if I win off Suzuki,*

[15:55] was

in order to take the lead.

[15:58] was

*But once you declare riichi,
everything changes.*

[16:02] Was

*Now a tsumo on a 5,200
hand or a mangan hand*

[16:05] Was

*from a tile dealt by
Suzuki will be enough.*

[16:08] Was

I can take your lead.

[16:16] Was

*You should have never called
a riichi unless you were*

[16:19] Was

*absolutely certain your partner
could deal into your hand.*

[16:25] Was

Did you crack from the pressure?

[16:28] Was

I can't say I don't understand that.

[16:31] Was

My advantage over you was just too much, too overwhelming.

[16:35] Was

Maybe you thought I would end the match in the next turn.

[16:40] Was

You thought that and decided to make it all or nothing.

[16:47] Was

Making the cop your last ray of hope, you declared your riichi.

[16:52] Was

You figured that if you have to die anyway,

[16:56] Was

you'd die while running towards victory.

[17:03] Was

Like a prisoner about to make a break,

[17:06] Was

knowing he has practically no chance to escape but trying it anyway...

[17:13] Was

You wanted to believe in miracles?

[17:23] Was

Reality is overwhelmingly cruel.

[17:27] Was

It's that tiny ray of hope that seals your fate.

[17:34] Was

While I had the advantage, only your riichi finally managed

[17:40] Was

to break the balance of power.

[17:44] Was

The final door has opened.

[17:46] Was

The angel of death has crept in!

[18:01] Was

Pon!

[18:04] Was

And now, I win!

[18:12] Oug

Oh, no!

[18:13] Oug

He'll play into his hand and it'll be over!

[18:17] Nar

A mangan with the green dragon,
west wind, and three dora.

[18:20] Oug

He'll die.

[18:27] Oug

He'll die!

[18:38] Was

Ron!

[18:48] Was

I win!

[18:49] Was

And now you'll die!

[18:55] Was

And still, you don't tremble?

[18:58] Was

But now you'll have your blood drawn
from you and you will most certainly die.

[19:02] Was

I wonder how long you can remain calm.

[19:21] Yasu

Th-The 3 of characters?

[19:24] Aka

Too bad.

[19:27] Aka

It's a head bump.

[19:38] Was

Wh-What?

[19:42] Aka

You were getting all worried,
so you tried to force an ending.

[19:47] Aka

If you hadn't done that,
you would have won.

[19:49] Aka

If you had restrained yourself,

[19:51] Aka

you would have won in
another three or four turns.

[19:53] Aka

What are you scared of?

[20:00] Aka

You're actually quite the
coward, Washizu Iwao.

[20:07] Was

This is impossible!

[20:08] Was

A 3, 6 of characters wait?

[20:10] Was

And you declared your riichi by discarding the 1 of characters?!

[20:14] Nar

Akagi could have stayed with the

[20:16] Nar

closed wait for the 2 of characters for an iipeikou.

[20:18] Nar

Or if he had to declare riichi, he could have done it

[20:20] Nar

with a 1, 4, 7 of characters wait for more possibilities to win.

[20:23] Nar

And yet he deliberately chose the 3, 6 of characters wait.

[20:28] Was

He manipulated me?

[20:31] Was

He saw through my hand and manipulated me?!

[20:41] Was

This bastard!

[20:45] Nar

The second match ends, again with Akagi as the victor.

[20:49] Nar

But Washizu is the man once known as the king of the shadows.

[20:53] Nar

There is no way he will back down now,

[20:56] Nar

from this battle where both

[20:57] Nar

Akagi and Washizu have wagered their own demise.

[21:00] Nar

The night of darkness gets deeper... and darker.

[22:16] Nar

Next time, "The Shackles of Artifice."

SIGN Next Episode

SIGN The Shackles of Artifice

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