

# 23 - The Power of Brute Luck

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**[01:14] Nar**

The genius from the  
darkness, Akagi Shigeru.

**[01:16] Nar**

Washizu Iwao, the monster  
of the Showa Era.

**[01:19] Nar**

The Washizu Mahjong deathmatch

**[01:21] Nar**

with both of their demises  
on the line continues.

**[01:24] Nar**

Akagi managed to take the  
lead in the first and second

**[01:27] Nar**

matches by outwitting Washizu.

**[01:30] Nar**

Washizu is being backed into a corner.

**[01:32] Nar**

However, he puts his pride as the  
king who ruled from the shadows

**[01:35] Nar**

on the line and stays in the fight.

**[01:38] Nar**

Now the third match has begun.

**[01:40] Nar**

A new battle is about to commence.

**SIGN** Episode 23

**SIGN** The Power of Brute Luck

**[01:49] Nar**

Akagi has lost 1,100 CCs  
of blood thus far.

**[01:53] Nar**

He has only 900 CCs left before death.

**[01:57] Nar**

He's on his last legs.

**[02:07] Was**

*I'll finish him.*

**[02:09] Was**

*Destroying this man would be a fitting end to my reign in Japan.*

**[02:22] Was**

*If possible, I want to win by outranking him.*

**[02:25] Was**

*These high stakes led to very special conditions,*

**[02:29] Was**

*and those in turn created this special situation.*

**[02:35] Was**

*I don't want to use tricks to defeat him,*

**[02:37] Was**

*but crush him with my skills alone.*

**[02:40] Was**

*That will truly prove my superiority.*

**[02:44] Was**

*I will end you.*

**[02:48] Nar**

However...

**[02:49] Aka**

Tsumo.

**[02:56] Aka**

Tsumo, ittsuu, three dora.

**[03:01] Aka**

Haneman.

**[03:06] Nar**

Akagi strikes first.

**[03:09] Nar**

By continuously discarding what is unnecessary,

**[03:12] Nar**

he ends up with an ideal hand.

**[03:14] Nar**

It is the type of ideal win that only comes when

**[03:16] Nar**

the flow of the game favors you.

**[03:18] Nar**

He pulls away from Washizu.

**[03:24] Was**

Don't get cocky, boy.

**[03:29] Was**

We're just getting started.

**[03:30] Was**

It's only East Hand 1.

**[03:32] Was**

The fight is just starting.

**[03:38] Man**

No.

**[03:40] Man**

*This could get rough.*

**[03:42] Man**

*Based on what we've seen so far,  
we have to admit that this man*

**[03:47] Man**

*might be one grade higher  
than Washizu-sama.*

**[03:52] Man**

*He is like a demon.*

**[03:56] Man**

*And now the luck seems entirely  
with him this third match.*

**[03:59] Man**

*Unless something big happens...*

**[04:04] Man**

*we'll lose!*

**[04:06] Nar**

Should Washizu waste his chance  
as dealer here in East Hand 2,

**[04:12] Nar**

the game will most likely go to Akagi.

**[04:16] Nar**

He must win, even with  
a 1,500 or 2,000 hand.

**[04:20] Nar**

It is crucial for Washizu to turn  
the flow of the game around.

**[04:25] Nar**

But Akagi won East Hand 1.

**[04:29] Nar**

The game is favoring him even more.

**[04:31] Nar**

Washizu is in a bad position.

**[04:33] Nar**

Just as everybody was thinking  
that his hand is sinking,

**[04:35] Nar**

that it can only go down...

**[04:41] Nar**

An auspicious turn.

**[04:44] Nar**

Could this be Washizu's magic?

**[04:47] Nar**

He has no melds,

**[04:48] Nar**

but he is 3 tiles away from a possible tanpin, sanshoku hand.

**[04:52] Man**

*Not bad.*

**[04:54] Man**

*He could fight back with this.*

**[04:59] Man**

*The problem is Akagi's hand.*

**[05:04] Man**

*He has four black tiles.*

**[05:06] Man**

*I can't be too certain, but from what I can see, it's not good.*

**[05:10] Man**

*There's some hope.*

**[05:12] Man**

*And yet...*

**[05:14] Man**

*Washizu-sama's born aptitude,*

**[05:16] Man**

*his power,*

**[05:19] Man**

*the strength of his luck...*

**[05:21] Man**

*Ordinary standards can't measure how good his luck is.*

**[05:24] Man**

*No matter how many times his back comes*

**[05:26] Man**

*up against the wall, he comes out alive.*

**[05:29] Man**

*He is the type who will overcome the worst odds to come out on top.*

**[05:37] Man**

*The same was true for the recent vampire murders.*

**[05:41] Man**

*Even though he had to*

*sacrifice much of his fortune,*

**[05:44] Man**

*he survived despite having  
committed those atrocities.*

**[05:48] Man**

*This man will always survive.*

**[05:54] Man**

*If you consider that...*

**[05:56] Man**

*there is still a chance we may win.*

**[05:59] Man**

*Akagi may be a better player,  
but Washizu-sama has better luck.*

**[06:04] Man**

*And with that luck,  
bestowed by the heavens,*

**[06:07] Man**

*he can bring Akagi to his knees.*

**[06:10] Man**

*He has a chance at victory!*

**[06:14] Nar**

*As if to confirm Yoshioka's thoughts,  
Washizu draws a 9 of bamboo,*

**[06:17] Nar**

*which puts him two tiles from tenpai.*

**[06:22] Nar**

*But he loses the chance to get  
a tanpin, sanshoku, tanyao.*

**[06:26] Man**

*That's fine.*

**[06:27] Man**

*Right now, that is fine.*

**[06:30] Man**

*Speed is of the essence.*

**[06:31] Man**

*More than anything, he needs  
to focus on staying dealer.*

**[06:37] Nar**

*But in the next turn...*

**[06:41] Nar**

*He loses his chance  
at a pinfu because his*

**[06:43] Nar**

*2 of bamboo pair turns into a triplet.*

**[06:47] Nar**

*Though his hand is progressing,  
it's doing so in the worst way.*

**[06:50] Nar**

His hand becomes increasingly cheaper.

**[06:52] Nar**

This just confirms that  
Washizu is in a bad position.

**[06:58] Nar**

In a normal situation,

**[06:59] Nar**

useless draws at this point in the  
game would be par for the course.

**[07:02] Nar**

But right now,  
Washizu is forcing these tiles.

**[07:08] Nar**

He is like a writhing dragon  
ascending into the stormy sky.

**[07:19] Nar**

A dragon who climbs through  
the sky amidst violent winds.

**[07:22] Nar**

And yet, no matter how  
strong this dragon may be,

**[07:26] Nar**

if it tries to force its way  
upward against fierce headwinds,

**[07:31] Nar**

it will exhaust its strength and weaken...

**[07:36] ---**

and eventually fall.

**[07:38] Nar**

Even if...

**[07:44] Nar**

it's the monster called Washizu.

**[07:48] Man**

*Now the sanshoku is gone, too.*

**[07:50] Man**

*It's a completely worthless hand.*

**[07:52] Man**

*But right now,  
he needs to get into tenpai.*

**[07:55] Man**

*He has a two-sided wait.*

**[07:57] Man**

*Should he get the dora, the 6 of  
circles, instead of the 9 of circles,*

**[08:01] Man**

*it will be a riichi, ippatsu, with one dora.*

**[08:03] Man**

*With any reverse dora,  
it could even be a mangan.*

**[08:10] Nar**

However,

**[08:14] Nar**

even that is gone.

**[08:18] Nar**

Everything drawn cheapened his hand.

**[08:20] Nar**

The potential for the mentanpin,  
sanshoku is gone without a trace.

**[08:24] Man**

*At least he's in tenpai.*

**[08:26] Man**

*And with this single wait  
on the 1 of circles...*

**[08:31] Man**

*Suzuki can deal into his hand right away.*

**[08:34] Man**

*At least he can win.*

**[08:37] Nar**

At this time, Washizu delays  
calling a riichi for one turn.

**[08:42] Nar**

This is because Suzuki  
could declare a kan.

**[08:45] Nar**

It's not too late to declare riichi  
after Suzuki's kan reveals the new dora.

**[08:50] Suz**

Kan.

**[08:54] Nar**

In the current situation, he can't  
expect miracles from the new dora.

**[08:57] Nar**

The flow of the entire game is against him.

**[09:00] Nar**

Everyone is thinking along those  
lines for this concealed kan.

**[09:03] Nar**

And yet...

**[09:20] guy**

*It's a...*

**[09:21] Yasu**

1 of bamboo!

**[09:22] Man**

So the new dora is the 2 of bamboo?

**[09:25] Nar**

That means Washizu has...

**[09:29] Nar**

three dora!

**[09:30] Nar**

Three dora!

**[09:32] Nar**

Three dora!

**[09:42] nar**

An unexpected development.

**[09:44] nar**

Despite fighting an uphill battle,

**[09:46] nar**

Washizu gets three dora from  
the new dora indicator.

**[09:48] nar**

Usually something like  
this does not happen.

**[09:52] guy**

*This is how strong Washizu-sama's luck is.*

**[09:57] guy**

*This is what he was born with.*

**[09:59] guy**

*No, it surpasses even that...  
This is brute luck.*

**[10:26] was**

Riichi.

**[10:39] guy**

*That's it.*

**[10:40] guy**

*He's got a dealer mangan in the bag now.*

**[10:43] guy**

*Now Suzuki just has to deal  
the 1 of circles into his hand.*

**[10:47] nar**

Riichi, ippatsu, three dora.

**[10:48] nar**

If he gets any reverse dora,  
it'll be a haneman or even a baiman.

**[10:53] nar**

Washizu gets a hand that  
can cause an instant upset.

**[10:56] guy**

*He can defeat Akagi!*

**[11:13] guy**

*What?*

**[11:15] guy**

*The 2 of characters?*

**[11:16] guy**

*What's going on?*

**[11:18] guy**

*Why didn't he deal that  
1 of circles into his hand?*

**[11:22] guy**

*The 1 of circles we need  
for the dealer mangan...*

**[11:32] guy**

*I get it!*

**[11:34] guy**

*Akagi has a 1 of circles.*

**[11:37] guy**

*And it looks like both the 1 and  
3 of circles are useless to him.*

**[11:42] guy**

*So he'll be discarding those because...*

**[11:46] guy**

*Suzuki already has a  
triplet of the 2 of circles*

**[11:48] guy**

*he needs to complete that sequence.*

**[11:51] guy**

*It's hard for him to complete the  
sequence and it's a bad wait, too.*

**[11:57] guy**

*It's a closed wait he  
must want to get rid of.*

**[11:59] guy**

*The 3 of circles is already a  
safe tile with Washizu-sama.*

**[12:03] guy**

*And since Washizu-sama  
didn't have Suzuki deal*

**[12:06] guy**

*the 1 of circles into his hand just now,*

**[12:09] guy**

*Akagi most likely thinks it'll pass, as well.*

**[12:13] nar**

*If one assumes that*

**[12:15] nar**

*Suzuki's tiles do not contain the  
winning tile, but only safe tiles,*

**[12:19] nar**

*the logic of the second*

discard pile is established.

**[12:25] nar**

Washizu set up a trap  
by using that logic.

**[12:32] guy**

*He added it to his hand!*

**[12:34] guy**

*If Akagi discards the 1 of circles...  
he'll lose 1,200 CCs.*

**[12:42] guy**

*With the 1,100 CCs he already  
lost, that'll be 2,300 CCs.*

**[12:47] guy**

*That's nearly half of  
what a human body holds.*

**[12:50] guy**

*Of course he won't survive that.*

**[12:52] guy**

*He'll die!*

**[12:54] guy**

*He simply can't survive!*

**[12:57] nar**

*It's a veritable discard of death.*

**[13:01] guy**

*If it's the 1 of circles, it's...*

**[13:03] wash**

*Death!*

**[13:20] wash**

*Of course.*

**[13:22] wash**

*He would figure this one out.*

**[13:25] wash**

*He can see through this kind of trap.*

**[13:29] wash**

*That's to be expected of this kid.*

**[13:32] wash**

*His senses are extraordinary and  
far surpass those of normal people.*

**[13:37] wash**

*But here, that's just fine.*

**[13:41] wash**

*If I always stick to the formula*

**[13:43] wash**

*of riichi followed by my winning  
tile being discarded instantly,*

**[13:45] wash**

*the only thing I can gain is points.*

**[13:47] ---**

*There's never anything on top.*

**[13:52] wash**

*And that's no fun.*

**[13:54] wash**

*That won't breed any fear.*

**[13:57] wash**

*I am going to stick with this trap.*

**[14:00] wash**

*It'll be fun to sow the seed of suspicion.*

**[14:05] wash**

*Even if it's an obvious trap,*

**[14:07] wash**

*I'll deliberately sow the seed of suspicion.*

**[14:13] wash**

*Instead of the usual routine of riichi  
followed by my winning tile,*

**[14:17] wash**

*I'll wait one turn for  
seemingly no reason.*

**[14:20] wash**

*It'll be fun to see what he'll  
make of the new pattern.*

**[14:25] wash**

*In other words, he'll be shaken.*

**[14:29] wash**

*I'm going to shake your confidence  
in that second discard pile.*

**[14:34] wash**

*That'll show its effects later.*

**[14:38] wash**

*In a heavier,*

**[14:41] wash**

*heavier,*

**[14:43] wash**

*heavier scene.*

**[14:47] wash**

*The second discard pile you took  
advantage of will breed doubt.*

**[14:50] wash**

*You thought you were smart, but soon  
you will drown in your own cleverness.*

**[14:59] nar**

*Washizu's first draw after his riichi.*

**[15:02] nar**

*If he gets the ippatsu here,  
he will have a haneman hand.*

**[15:05] nar**

He'll get 6,000 from everybody and  
Akagi will lose 600 CCs of blood.

**[15:09] nar**

A total of 1,700 CCs, an amount  
that could easily be fatal.

**[15:16] was**

*If I draw it, you will die.*

**[15:22] was**

*If this is the 1 of circles...*

**[15:28] was**

*Die!*

**[15:42] nar**

He's right. If that had been the 1  
of circles, Akagi would have died.

**[15:46] nar**

With no recourse, with no way of  
defending himself, Akagi would have died.

**[15:56] was**

*That's right.*

**[15:58] was**

*Why was I in such a rush?*

**[16:03] was**

*I lost my composure just because  
I lost the first two matches*

**[16:07] was**

*and because I let him take  
an early lead in the third.*

**[16:10] was**

*It's stupid to even feel  
like I've been cornered.*

**[16:15] was**

*I am the one with the  
utmost advantage here.*

**[16:19] was**

*He should be the one who's shaking.*

**[16:25] was**

*He kept that one.*

**[16:27] was**

*If I draw it, he'll either die instantly or be on the verge of dying.*

**[16:32] was**

*If he were to deal into my hand,  
he'd die without question.*

**[16:38] was**

*He'll dry out and die.*

**[16:42] was**

*All he'll have left to do*

*is die a pathetic death.*

**[16:54] was**

*That's right.*

**[16:55] was**

*It's the opposite.*

**[16:57] was**

*The exact opposite.*

**[17:02] was**

*He's the one who's being  
cornered and pressured.*

**[17:05] was**

*He's the one who's struggling.*

**[17:10] nar**

*Indeed, by merely getting into a tenpai*

**[17:11] nar**

*with a haneman hand, Washizu can  
decisively corner his opponents.*

**[17:17] nar**

*That doesn't apply to just Akagi.*

**[17:25] was**

*That's right, be afraid.*

**[17:28] was**

*I'm the one on the higher ground!*

**[17:35] was**

*Even if I missed the ippatsu,*

**[17:36] was**

*one reverse dora will be  
enough for a haneman.*

**[17:40] was**

*The haneman that'll bring death to Akagi.*

**[17:43] was**

*Meaning this is the draw that'll kill him.*

**[17:46] was**

*The draw that'll kill him.*

**[17:49] was**

*The draw that'll kill him.*

**[18:15] suz**

*Washizu-sama, what should I do?*

**[18:18] suz**

*Should I discard this?*

**[18:20] was**

*No no. Why rush?*

**[18:24] was**

*Let me have more fun.*

**[18:27] was**

*I can win at any time.*

**[18:29] was**

*Take a good look at their hands.*

**[18:34] was**

*That cop's hand is nowhere.*

**[18:36] was**

*That pair of red dragons could be key,*

**[18:38] was**

*but unless he can turn it into a triplet,*

**[18:41] was**

*he'll take ages to get into tenpai.*

**[18:44] was**

*And Akagi is... two away from tenpai, at best.*

**[18:50] was**

*He's out, too!*

**[18:53] nar**

*Since Suzuki has three of the 2 of circles,*

**[18:56] nar**

*Akagi would have to wait for the last  
2 of circles, even if he was in tenpai.*

**[19:01] was**

*We'll keep going.*

**[19:02] suz**

*Yes, sir.*

**[19:06] was**

*We still have a lot of time to spare.*

**[19:09] nar**

*That same turn, Akagi...*

**[19:17] was**

*Fun! How fun!*

**[19:20] was**

*This is really fun.*

**[19:22] was**

*Now the 3 of circles has become his pair.*

**[19:25] was**

*So the 1 of circles is isolated now.*

**[19:29] was**

*Which means that maybe...*

**[19:37] was**

*Will it come out?*

**[19:43] was**

*So you won't discard it after all?*

**[19:45] was**

*I suppose you still have  
more unnecessary tiles.*

**[19:49] was**

*But this man probably knows.*

**[19:53] was**

*That he can't discard that 1 of circles.*

**[19:56] was**

*I'm sure that he knows that the  
1 of circles in Suzuki's hand is my trap.*

**[20:09] was**

*Oh, well.*

**[20:10] was**

*It doesn't matter how well  
you can read our hands.*

**[20:19] was**

*If I draw it here, that's it.*

**[20:22] was**

*Everything will be over.*

**[20:27] was**

*That's right.*

**[20:28] was**

*If I draw it now, it'll be done.*

**[20:34] was**

*The 1 of circles!*

**[20:36] was**

*If I draw it, I can kill him.*

**[20:39] was**

*The 1 of circles!*

**[20:41] was**

*If I draw it, I can kill this man!*

**[20:46] nar**

Death is already standing behind Akagi.

**[20:49] nar**

This is East Hand 2 of the fatal third match.

**[20:53] nar**

The monster Washizu with his brute luck...

**[20:57] nar**

What does he have in his grasp?

**[21:00] nar**

Is it Akagi's death sentence?

**[21:04] nar**

Or is it...

**[22:16] nar**

Next time, "The Will of the Demon."

**SIGN** Next Episode

**SIGN** The Will of the Demon

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