

E3 - Battles go better when you're fighting alongside someone whose signature move is the opposite of yours

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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.)

SIGN Old AV Room

[00:02] Hanabi

Hey...

[00:03] Hanabi

How did you change yourself, Tomozaki?

[00:05] Tomozaki

Me?

[00:06] Hanabi

I'm not good at, like,
getting along with people.

[00:11] Tomozaki

Well, in my case...

[00:15] Tomozaki

Oh, right.

[00:16] Tomozaki

Hang on a sec.

[00:18] Hanabi

Something wrong?

[00:19] Tomozaki

Nothing.

[00:21] Tomozaki

Um, in my case, I practiced my expressions,
posture, and the way I talked.

[00:28] Tomozaki

In the past, I didn't emote much,

[00:31] Tomozaki

I slouched all the time,

[00:32] Tomozaki

and I always mumbled.

[00:35] Tomozaki

The epitome of socially awkward.

[00:37] Hanabi

But you sound so cheerful now,
and your whole vibe has changed.

[00:43] Tomozaki

Oh... you think so?

[00:46] Hanabi

Still got a weird way of
getting embarrassed, though!

[00:48] Tomozaki

I haven't worked on that yet...

[00:51] Tomozaki

But I think the very first thing you should
do is figure out exactly where you are.

[00:57] Hanabi

Where I am?

[00:59] Hanabi

What do you mean?

[01:01] Tomozaki

Well, you see...

[01:03] Hanabi

You still *laugh* weird, too!
It's creepy!

[01:06] Tomozaki

I have to agree...

[01:08] Tomozaki

Okay, that should be enough.

[01:10] Recorded Hanabi

*Still got a weird way of
getting embarrassed, though!*

[01:12] Recorded Tomozaki

I haven't worked on that yet...

[01:14] Recorded Tomozaki

*But I think the very
first thing you should do*

[01:15] Hanabi

Hey! I've been bugged!

[01:16] Tomozaki

Wait—just listen. Tama, c'mon—

[01:17] Recorded Tomozaki

is figure out exactly where you are.

[01:20] Recorded Hanabi

Where I am?

What do you mean?

[01:24] Recorded Tomozaki

Well, you see...

[01:25] Recorded Hanabi

You still laugh weird, too!

It's creepy!

[01:28] Tomozaki

How was that?

[01:30] Hanabi

I'm pretty harsh, huh?

[01:32] Tomozaki

Right!

[01:33] Tomozaki

The way a person talks might not be exactly how they picture it.

[01:38] Tomozaki

Once you know how you talk, maybe you'll figure out how you can change it.

[01:43] Hanabi

Maybe so...

[01:45] Hanabi

Okay! I'll give it my best shot!

SIGN 2nd Stage: Lv. 3

Battles are better when you're against someone whose signature move is the opposite of yours

[03:20] Tomozaki

Okay,

[03:20] Tomozaki

lift the corners of your mouth.

[03:25] Tomozaki

Now run through the vowels.

[03:30] Tomozaki

Okay! See how that feels?

[03:32] Hanabi

Uh-huh!

[03:33] Tomozaki

You catch on quick. That's our Tama!

[03:36] Hanabi

Yay!

[03:38] Tomozaki

Think you can practice on your own?

[03:40] Hanabi

Woo!

[03:42] Tomozaki

You're *really* good. Better than me, even.

[03:46] Hanabi

Eh?!

[03:47] Tomozaki

You're fully proficient.

[03:49] Hanabi

Hey! You haven't taught me anything yet!

[03:51] Tomozaki

Yeah, but... your basic
ability is way beyond mine.

[03:55] Tomozaki

I don't think your expressions
or the way you talk

[03:58] Tomozaki

are what's keeping you from
getting along in class.

[04:01] Hanabi

Then what could it be?

[04:04] Tomozaki

Hmm...

[04:05] Tomozaki

Maybe try not arguing
with Konno for a while?

[04:13] Hanabi

Got it.

[04:15] Mimimi

Tama!

[04:16] Mimimi

Sorry I kept you!

[04:18] Mimimi

Hey...

[04:19] Mimimi

Tomozaki, too?

[04:21] Mimimi

What? Why?

[04:23] Tomozaki

Um, well... this and that...

[04:25] Hanabi

Aoi's not with you?

[04:27] Mimimi

She'll have her hands full with
student council stuff for a while.

[04:31] Mimimi

So, Brain,

[04:32] Mimimi

what exactly is going on here, hmm?

[04:35] Tomozaki

Oh... er...

[04:36] Tomozaki

It-It's just...

SIGN Sewing Room 2

[04:44] Tomozaki

You're dead set against changing Tama, right?

[04:48] Aoi

I told you, didn't I? There's nothing wrong with Tama.

[04:51] Aoi

So she *shouldn't* change.

[04:54] Tomozaki

Even if she *wants* to?

[04:58] Tomozaki

That's what she told me:

[05:00] Tomozaki

the situation is making Mimimi sad, so she wants to change herself.

[05:04] Tomozaki

That's what *she* wants to do—loud and clear.

[05:08] Aoi

I see.

[05:09] Tomozaki

I'd like you to help her, if it's possible.

[05:14] Aoi

If Hanabi changes, none of this matters.

[05:19] Tomozaki

Hinami...

[05:22] Tomozaki

On that day,

[05:23] Tomozaki

the mood in the classroom shifted a little.

[05:29] Tomozaki

This had always been where Konno and Tama would start up their squabbling,

[05:34] Tomozaki

and the class's mood would take a nosedive.

[05:44] Tomozaki

Yes!

SIGN Old AV Room

[05:50] Tomozaki

Great job, Tama! You really restrained yourself.

[05:53] Hanabi

Uh-huh. It's frustrating,

[05:55] Hanabi

but I know there are more important things.

[05:58] Tomozaki

At this rate, though, things might not get worse,

[06:02] Tomozaki

but they won't get dramatically better, either.

[06:05] Hanabi

Yeah... I guess not.

[06:07] Tomozaki

Now to create an atmosphere that'll make the rest of the class take your side.

[06:17] Hanabi

I just don't know what they're all thinking.

[06:21] Hanabi

I kinda know what Konno is thinking, but...

[06:25] Hanabi

The rest of the class? It's a total mystery.

[06:28] Tomozaki

Right...

[06:30] Tomozaki

"Mood" and "flow" sure are tough.

[06:33] Hanabi

For you, too?

[06:34] Tomozaki

I've started to understand them a little lately,

[06:38] Tomozaki

but it took me about five months to get to this point.

[06:41] Hanabi

We probably don't have that kind of time.

[06:45] Tomozaki

Right.

[06:46] Tomozaki

We need some kind of big game-changing move

[06:49] Tomozaki

that'll flip everything on its head in a short span of time.

[06:53] Tomozaki

But we'll need help.

[06:57] Mizusawa

Well, well, you two! In a bit of a pinch, are you?

[07:01] Tomozaki

Mizusawa?

[07:04] Mizusawa

I knew it, Fumiya.

[07:08] Mizusawa

You *are* secretly up to something, after all.

[07:11] Tomozaki

Wh-What do you mean?

[07:13] Mizusawa

I thought you two might be scheming,
so I kept an eye on you.

[07:17] Mizusawa

This is about Erika's harassment, isn't it?

[07:19] Tomozaki

Uh... yes. It is, actually.

[07:22] Mizusawa

Hit the nail on the head!

[07:26] Mizusawa

You been holding up okay?

[07:28] Hanabi

I'm fine.

[07:30] Mizusawa

Oh, am I a third wheel here?

[07:34] Tomozaki

It's not that.

[07:36] Tomozaki

Wait, did you specifically drop
by to see how we were doing?

[07:40] Mizusawa

Eh, you know.

[07:41] Mizusawa

If you're going to stand up to Erika,

[07:43] Mizusawa

shouldn't you have a slightly shady
character like me in the mix?

[07:50] Tomozaki

Say...

[07:51] Tomozaki

You and Nakamura don't really
get along with Tama, do you?

[07:55] Mizusawa

And there it is.

[07:57] Mizusawa

Well, she's like you—so that's good.

[07:59] Mizusawa

See...

[08:00] Mizusawa

Tama won't bend, right?

[08:03] Mizusawa

And Shuji and Erika are both boss types,
so they're like oil and water with her.

[08:08] Mizusawa

They had this huge blow-up fight
and dragged me and Takei into it...

[08:14] Mizusawa

I took Shuji's side, so I can see why I'd come off badly to her.

[08:21] Mizusawa

So... yeah.

[08:22] Mizusawa

Anyway, if you need any help,

[08:24] Mizusawa

I'll be around.

[08:27] Mizusawa

Later.

[08:30] Tomozaki

Hang on, Mizusawa!

[08:34] Tomozaki

I know what we have to do first!

[08:37] Tomozaki

Tama, as of today, your task will be...

[08:39] Tomozaki

"Make friends with Mizusawa"!

SIGN Bottom-Tier Character Tomozaki S2

SIGN Old AV Room

[08:47] Mizusawa

Aha...

[08:48] Mizusawa

Practice for getting along with the rest of the class, eh?

[08:52] Mizusawa

And you want me to be her study partner.

[08:55] Tomozaki

Yeah.

[08:56] Tomozaki

I think one reason she can't integrate herself well

[08:59] Tomozaki

has to do with putting up emotional barriers and becoming unbendable.

[09:03] Tomozaki

This could be the first step to cracking that shell.

[09:08] Mizusawa

Okay. I'll lend a hand—for you, Fumiya.

[09:12] Mizusawa

The rest is up to Tama.

[09:17] Hanabi

I'll give it a shot!

[09:22] Mizusawa

We've never properly talked

like this, have we?

[09:26] Hanabi

You're right...

[09:27] Mizusawa

Do you hate me like you hate Shuji?

[09:30] Hanabi

I've seen you hanging out with Nakamura and saying a lot of mean things about me.

[09:36] Mizusawa

Is that so... Mean things, huh.

[09:38] Hanabi

I don't like that, so I've been avoiding you.

[09:41] Mizusawa

Avoiding—

[09:44] Mizusawa

Huh.

[09:46] Mizusawa

Hey, Fumiya, she's got you beat in the bluntness department.

[09:49] Tomozaki

You ain't seen nothin' yet.

[09:51] Mizusawa

Seriously?

[09:53] Mizusawa

Okay, so... it does sound like you hate me, then.

[09:56] Hanabi

But, I mean, I can't know what kind of person you are

[09:59] Hanabi

if I don't try talking to you first.

[10:01] Mizusawa

Hmm. In that case, is there anything you want to ask me?

[10:06] Hanabi

Not really.

[10:09] Mizusawa

I had a feeling.

[10:11] Hanabi

Oh—there *is* one thing I've wondered about.

[10:14] Mizusawa

Yeah? Hit me.

[10:16] Hanabi

Do you like Aoi?

[10:18] Tomozaki

T-Tama!

[10:20] Hanabi

Are the rumors true?

[10:22] Hanabi

Aoi is so full of secrets...

I can't help but wonder.

[10:26] Mizusawa

Hmm...

[10:33] Mizusawa

Sure, I like her.

[10:36] Hanabi

So it's true?!

[10:37] Mizusawa

As a friend.

[10:40] Hanabi

Oh.

[10:41] Mizusawa

I see... You're into love and romance, huh?

[10:45] Hanabi

N-No I'm not!

[10:48] Mizusawa

There's no one you like?

[10:50] Hanabi

No! And I wouldn't tell you if I did!

[10:52] Mizusawa

Ah, so there *is* someone. Who is it?

[10:55] Hanabi

Hey!

[10:57] Hanabi

Don't go thinking I'm
interested in someone!

[10:59] Mizusawa

Hmm...

[11:01] ---

After-school strategy meetings...

Just the two of you...

[11:04] Mizusawa

Pretty fishy.

[11:06] Hanabi

No, it isn't! And it would
never be Tomozaki, anyway!

[11:10] Tomozaki

Y-You don't have to deny
it quite so vehemently...

[11:14] Hanabi

I-I'm sorry!

[11:16] Tomozaki

No, no. I get it.

[11:17] Mizusawa

Man, you two are a riot!

[11:22] Mimimi

Tama!

[11:23] Mimimi

I'm here!

[11:25] Mimimi

Oh, Takahiro's with you today?

[11:28] Mizusawa

Yo.

[11:29] Mimimi

Why? What's going on here?!

[11:33] Mimimi

What?

[11:34] Mimimi

I see! They're both protecting you, eh?

[11:37] Mimimi

Aren't *you* the smooth operator, Tama!

[11:40] Mimimi

A beauty on each arm!

[11:41] Tomozaki

Is it still "a beauty" when it's two guys?

[11:44] Hanabi

I don't think so.

[11:46] Mimimi

It's not?! Then what is it?

[11:49] Mizusawa

A knight on each arm? Something like that.

[11:52] Tomozaki

That might work for *you*,

[11:54] Tomozaki

but I don't see myself
as a beauty *or* a knight.

[11:57] Mimimi

Not that again! C'mon,
you can be plenty cool.

[12:03] Mimimi

Have some confidence for once, wouldya?!

[12:05] Tomozaki

S-Sure...

[12:07] Mimimi

It makes me all sad to see you
down on yourself all the time.

[12:11] Hanabi

I was kind of thinking that too.

[12:14] Mizusawa

Yeah, you do tend to do that, Fumiya...

[12:17] Tomozaki

I-I do, huh?

[12:19] Mimimi

Okay, Brain! Minami Nanami
expects great things from you!

[12:23] Tomozaki

I'll do my best...

[12:25] Tomozaki

Wait—why are we talking about *me*?!

[12:31] Hanabi

Okay, we're headed home.

[12:34] Mimimi

You two are staying?

[12:35] Tomozaki

We've got work after this.

[12:37] Mizusawa

And some time to kill.

[12:39] Hanabi

Thanks for today.

[12:41] Tomozaki

Sure.

[12:42] Mizusawa

See you tomorrow.

[12:44] Mizusawa

So anyway...

[12:45] Mizusawa

I'm glad Tama stopped fighting
with Erika. It's the right move.

[12:49] Mizusawa

If she kept that up, she'd practically be giving
the class free reign to come after her.

[12:56] Tomozaki

And all it takes is a shallow excuse
for "attacks" to become "punishment."

[13:00] Tomozaki

You see that a lot online.

[13:03] Mizusawa

So what's the next move?

[13:05] Mizusawa

You're making headway in character creation,

[13:07] Mizusawa

are you thinking of ways to break
down the walls she's put up

[13:12] Mizusawa

between her and the rest of the class?

[13:13] Tomozaki

Mmm, it'd be nice to come up with a
cut-and-dried way to make it all better...

[13:19] Tomozaki

The key is being able to
get in a lot of practice

[13:22] Tomozaki

in a setting where it's okay to fail.

[13:25] Mizusawa

True enough. Gotta have that safety net.

[13:30] Mizusawa

Should I invite Takei next time?

[13:33] Tomozaki

Takei?

[13:34] Mizusawa

She can mess up with him
as much as she wants.

[13:38] Tomozaki

Oh!

SIGN Takei

Read: Right

Takei: I'm off to bed!!

Read: OK

[13:39] Mizusawa

I'll let him know.

[13:41] Mizusawa

But you gotta keep things simple with Takei.

[13:44] Mizusawa

I'll just say we want him to cheer Tama up.

[13:48] Mizusawa

And *don't* tell Shuji.

[13:51] Mizusawa

Tama plus Shuji equals conflict
waiting to happen.

[13:56] Mizusawa

We're better off keeping our
support for Tama under wraps.

[14:00] Tomozaki

Ooh, right.

[14:02] Mizusawa

I could wind up with a target on my
back just for helping out like this.

[14:08] Tomozaki

You're something else, Mizusawa.

[14:11] Mizusawa

What d'you mean?

[14:12] Tomozaki

It's just... you're a good guy.

[14:15] Tomozaki

You can do everything, but you're never mean.

[14:20] Mizusawa

I don't know about that.

[14:22] Mizusawa

You'll find that I'm
actually quite the schemer.

[14:25] Tomozaki

R-Really?

[14:26] Mizusawa

Like how I came to check on you two earlier.

[14:30] Mizusawa

I did it in part because I was
hoping Aoi would be there.

[14:34] Mizusawa

Me, I'm just another guy
doing what he wants.

[14:40] Mizusawa

A certain someone once told
me that was the way to go.

[14:46] Tomozaki

Oh...

[14:50] Aoi

I mean,

[14:51] Aoi

even if what you're doing
goes against my own policy,

[14:55] Aoi

I don't have the right to stop you.

[14:58] Tomozaki

This is about trying to change Tama, right?

[15:02] Aoi

If it's what Hanabi herself
wants, my hands are tied.

[15:07] Aoi

All I can do is see my own methods through.

[15:13] Aoi

We'll suspend these meetings
for the time being.

[15:16] Aoi

They'll resume once the
situation has improved.

[15:26] Tomozaki

Konno's harassment continued
as usual that day.

[15:30] Tomozaki

Bumping into Tama's desk,

[15:34] Tomozaki

trash-talking Tama with her

minions so as to be overheard...

[15:40] Tomozaki

And Tama kept on putting up with it.

[15:42] Tomozaki

The class's mood became even more sympathetic toward her.

[15:48] Tomozaki

But what had me even more curious...

[15:50] Tomozaki

was what Hinami was doing.

[15:54] Tomozaki

During every break period, she'd casually chat with Mao Kamimae,

[15:57] Tomozaki

one of Konno's girls.

[16:04] Mizusawa

Takei said he'd join us after soccer practice.

[16:07] Mizusawa

He's a real dum-dum, so don't feel too uptight around him.

[16:11] Mizusawa

In some ways, he's a little like you.

[16:14] Hanabi

What? We're nothing alike!

[16:16] Tomozaki

No, he's right.

[16:18] Hanabi

Don't take his side!

[16:20] Tomozaki

He says exactly what's on his mind. I'm the same way, too.

[16:26] Tomozaki

But you know...

[16:28] Tomozaki

Takei's always been a key member of our class.

[16:31] Tomozaki

What's so different between him and us?

[16:33] Mizusawa

Could be any number of things, but a big one

[16:36] Mizusawa

is whether the group is used to you.

[16:39] Tomozaki

Used to...?

[16:41] Mizusawa

Remember when we were choosing

our sports tournament event,

[16:45] Mizusawa

and Takei wanted to do soccer?

[16:47] Mizusawa

Everyone just rolled with it
all, "Oh, *this* idiot again."

[16:53] Mizusawa

But with Tama...

[16:57] Tomozaki

Right... Even though she was just
naming her choice of event too...

[17:01] Tomozaki

the mood got a little weird when she did it.

[17:04] Hanabi

Yeah, and Minmi came to my rescue.

[17:09] Mizusawa

Takei has this certain charm, right?

[17:12] ---

And that's a big part of his character.

[17:15] Mizusawa

But Tama can be a little prickly,
and her charm doesn't come across.

[17:21] Hanabi

I'm not sure about all that...

[17:24] ---

How am I supposed to be charming?

[17:28] Mizusawa

Charm is about having a
consistent vulnerability.

[17:33] Tomozaki

A consistent vulnerability?

[17:36] Mizusawa

For example... let's see...

[17:38] Mizusawa

Liking cheese too much, say.

[17:41] Tomozaki

Ah!

[17:43] Hanabi

Like Aoi?

[17:44] Mizusawa

She's very obvious about her
lust for cheese: innocent,

[17:49] Mizusawa

but with an almost exaggerated zeal.

[17:52] Mizusawa

The people around her say, "Oh, that
Aoi," and it becomes part of her charm.

[17:57] Tomozaki

I see...

[17:58] Hanabi

I wonder if she does that on purpose.

[18:02] Mizusawa

Who can say?

[18:04] Mizusawa

Either way, it's food for thought, right?

[18:07] Takei

Sorry!

[18:08] Takei

I'm so—

[18:10] Takei

late!

[18:14] Mizusawa

See? All charm, this one.

[18:17] Takei

Sorry, Tama!

[18:19] Takei

I wish I could've done something to help!

[18:22] Hanabi

Thanks for thinking of me, though.

[18:24] Takei

I wanted to stop her, but
I didn't have the guts.

[18:27] Hanabi

I get that. Konno's scary!

[18:29] Takei

She sure is!

[18:31] Takei

But I think you're totally
in the right here, Tama.

[18:34] Hanabi

Oh, yeah? Thanks.

[18:36] Takei

Don't thank me! I'm apologizing here!

[18:41] Hanabi

It's fine, it's fine!

[18:42] Takei

At least you've got people in your corner!

[18:45] Takei

Me, Yuko... Sakura was
worried about you, too!

[18:50] Hanabi

Yuko? Sakura?

[18:52] Takei

Yuko Ueda and Sakura Kashiwazaki.

[18:55] Takei

Heck, even Mao was just telling Erika, "Rein it in, girl!"

[19:00] Hanabi

Um...

[19:01] Hanabi

Who's Mao?

[19:02] Takei

Mao! Mao Kamimae, Erika's pal!

[19:06] Hanabi

Really?

[19:08] Takei

Really!

[19:09] Tomozaki

Can I ask you something, Tama?

[19:12] Hanabi

What is it?

[19:12] Tomozaki

You're not really interested in your classmates, are you?

[19:17] Tomozaki

Their names weren't ringing any bells.

[19:21] Tomozaki

I was the same way.

[19:23] Tomozaki

I couldn't care less about any of them.

[19:26] Tomozaki

But once I started talking with all sorts of people,

[19:29] Tomozaki

I saw that they all had their own thoughts and concerns.

[19:33] Tomozaki

I gradually started taking an interest in people other than myself,

[19:36] Tomozaki

and found myself wanting to know specific things about them.

[19:40] Tomozaki

I noticed that simply asking those questions led to natural conversations.

[19:45] Tomozaki

That's why I do think it's good to practice a cheerful speaking style,

[19:51] Tomozaki

but more than that, I realized it's important to take an interest in others

[19:55] Tomozaki

and work on accepting them.

[19:59] Hanabi

Yeah...

[20:00] Hanabi

If I don't care about my classmates...

[20:04] Hanabi

I can't get along with them.

[20:09] Takei

Whoa... that was awesome!

[20:12] Takei

Go, Army Boy—Tomozaki!

[20:16] Mimimi

Tama!

[20:17] Mimimi

I'm here!

[20:19] Mimimi

Wait...

[20:20] Mimimi

Now Takei is in the mix?!

[20:22] Takei

You got that right!

[20:24] Aoi

Huh? What's all this?

[20:27] Mizusawa

It's Team Tomozaki, meeting to do something about Tama's situation.

[20:32] Tomozaki

Wait, why is this *my* team?

[20:35] Mizusawa

You started this, didn't you? Our fearless leader.

[20:39] Tomozaki

Leader? I mean...

[20:41] Mimimi

That's our Tomozaki! Brain *and* leader!

[20:44] Tomozaki

I don't need any more titles, thank you very much.

[20:49] Aoi

Are you thinking about changing, Hanabi?

[20:52] Hanabi

Hmm? What's up, Aoi?

[20:54] Aoi

Oh, sorry. I was just curious.

[20:59] Hanabi

I *am* thinking I'd like to change.

[21:02] Aoi

I see...

[21:04] Hanabi

Do you think I'm better off *not* changing?

[21:07] Aoi

I... I don't want you to.

[21:12] Aoi

Maybe I just don't want to think
that facing things head-on

[21:16] Aoi

is the wrong thing to do.

[21:19] Tomozaki

Hinami?

[21:20] Aoi

But I can't make that decision for you.

[21:24] ---

It's just what I want, that's all.

[21:27] Hanabi

Thanks for your concern, Aoi.

[21:31] Hanabi

But I've got Tomozaki and
the others backing me up.

[21:34] Hanabi

I think I'm going to give it a solid try.

[21:37] Hanabi

I'm counting on you, okay?
Just the tiniest bit, though.

[21:40] Tomozaki

There's that excessive honesty again.

[21:44] Aoi

I see. You *are* two peas in a pod.

[21:50] Aoi

You've got my support, too!

[21:52] Hanabi

Thanks, Aoi!

[21:54] Tomozaki

As I watched Hinami, back to
being our perfect heroine,

[21:58] Tomozaki

a thought popped into my head:

[22:01] Tomozaki

Maybe the expression Hinami revealed
when she took off her mask

[22:06] Tomozaki

was just another mask after all.

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