

E8 - There are some problems a bottom-tier character can't fix alone

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

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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.)

[00:00] ---

"Saitama Prefectural Tournament"

[00:20] ---

"Asahara" "Kusunoki"

[00:31] ---

Aw, man. We lost.

[00:33] ---

But I'm glad we made it so far again this year!

[00:36] ---

Great work out there!

[00:37] ---

Shake it off!

[01:16] ---

"Bottom-Tier Character Tomozaki"

[02:35] ---

Nanami! Are you listening?

[02:35] ---

"Lv. 8: There are some problems
a bottom-tier character can't fix alone"

[02:38] ---

Whoa! Um, sorry about that!

[02:40] ---

I wasn't sleeping--I just
blacked out for a sec.

[02:44] ---

But I wasn't sleeping!

[02:46] ---

Yeah, okay, okay.

[02:48] ---

Now, this depiction here...

[02:51] ---

This was a common way to portray

their beliefs or principles at that time.

[02:59] ---

Nanami's been like that
since the election, hasn't she?

[03:04] ---

Uh-huh. That might have set her off.

[03:07] ---

Nanami's trying to compete with Hinami, right?

[03:12] ---

Yeah, but... where'd you hear that?

[03:16] ---

I didn't. I can imagine it.

[03:19] ---

Imagine it?

[03:20] ---

Like how?

[03:22] ---

Like, why would this person
do something like that,

[03:26] ---

or how might that person be feeling.

[03:30] ---

Because, um, my novel...

[03:32] ---

Oh. It helps you write.

[03:38] ---

I just sort of imagine all
kinds of people's feelings.

[03:43] ---

I mean, it's mostly idle daydreaming.

[03:46] ---

What kind of person is Hinami?

[03:50] ---

Huh?

[03:51] ---

I don't really understand her.

[03:54] ---

Her motivation,
the reasons driving her actions...

[03:59] ---

I try to imagine it, but I draw a blank.

[04:02] ---

It must be awfully tough to compete with someone

[04:05] ---

whose motivations you don't understand.

[04:09] ---

You can't see the goal.

[04:11] ---

A goal you can't see, huh?

[04:24] ---

Minmi's overdoing it. Again.

[04:44] ---

What should I even do when she's like this?

[04:51] ---

Should I get her to stop?

[04:54] ---

Or let her keep going?

[04:57] ---

Yeah. I wonder.

[05:12] ---

Ah, it's so nice and cool at this time of night!

[05:16] ---

Um... Hey.

[05:18] ---

Hmm?

[05:19] ---

As a friend who fought Hinami
beside you, craving that win...

[05:29] ---

Are you overworking yourself now
because you still want to beat her?

[05:36] ---

How can I put this?

[05:38] ---

I'm saying this because
I think you'll understand:

[05:42] ---

It sucks so much that I want
to quit right here and now.

[05:45] ---

But it'll probably suck even more if I do.

[05:50] ---

I get how rough it is to stop making
an effort halfway through and lose.

[05:55] ---

So I want to respect Mimimi,

[05:58] ---

sore loser of a gamer that I am.

[06:01] ---

In that case... go get 'em, Mimimi.

[06:16] ---

Oh, Aoi. Morning!

[06:20] ---

Good morning, Mimimi.

[06:22] ---

Early again, huh?

[06:24] ---

Yeah, I guess!

[06:34] ---

"Asahara" "Kusunoki"

[06:38] ---

Aw, man. We lost.

[06:40] ---

But I'm glad we made it so far again this year!

[06:43] ---

Great work out there!

[06:44] ---

Shake it off!

[06:46] ---

How can you smile--and laugh?

[06:49] ---

That girl who beat us out there
just now put in a *ton* of effort.

[06:54] ---

We've only made it to the prefectural
tournament! That's nothing!

[06:59] ---

It's not good... not good at all!

[07:02] ---

We know you worked hard, Minami...

[07:05] ---

But the prefectural tournament? That's huge!

[07:07] ---

And you're the one who got us this far.

[07:10] ---

We did fine--really!

[07:15] ---

Yeah. I guess... I guess you're right.

[07:20] ---

I'm glad.

[07:25] ---

Mimimi!

[07:30] ---

Yikes. That was a close one!

[07:32] ---

I nearly took a tumble! Tee-hee!

[07:38] ---

"Sewing Room 2"

[07:40] ---

If this keeps up, she'll soon
reach her breaking point.

[07:44] ---

She's probably practicing at home, too--

[07:46] ---

and likely not sleeping much at all.

[07:50] ---

I'd like to talk some sense
into her before she collapses,

[07:53] ---

but it's bound to backfire,
coming from me.

[07:56] ---

Hey, why is Mimimi so obsessed with you?

[08:03] ---

It was a prefectural basketball
tournament in middle school.

[08:06] ---

I'm the one who made her school lose.

[08:11] ---

But that's not my story to tell.

[08:20] ---

Here I am, Tomozaki!

[08:23] ---

What did you want to talk about?

[08:24] ---

Oh, uh...

[08:26] ---

I wanted to ask you about middle-school Mimimi.

[08:31] ---

Mimimi was a starter from year one.
She was really good.

[08:36] ---

I guess you could say it was a one-woman team.

[08:38] ---

But she felt a little out of place, too.

[08:41] ---

We faced Hinami's team in the last
tournament of our third and final year,

[08:45] ---

it was basically a showdown between two aces,

[08:48] ---

and we wound up taking the L.

[08:51] ---

The others were like, "I'm just glad
we made it to the prefectural tournament,"

[08:55] ---

but I think Mimimi was really and truly crushed.

[09:09] ---

It's raining.

[09:10] ---

Yeah.

[09:12] ---

Maybe that's a good thing.

[09:14] ---

The clubs won't meet in this weather,
and Hinami can't practice.

[09:20] ---

Mimimi can take the day off, too.

[09:22] ---

Right? She did leave really
quickly after homeroom--

[09:29] ---

Hey. Is that...?

[09:33] ---

Oh, no way.

[09:36] ---

We have to stop her!

[09:43] ---

Aoi?

[09:44] ---

Yeah.

[09:46] ---

And Minmi...

[09:48] ---

She must have... gone home.

[09:51] ---

Probably.

[10:06] ---

Minmi? Hey, Minmi!

[10:09] ---

Oh, sorry! What's up, Tama?

[10:13] ---

Did you take the day off yesterday?

[10:15] ---

Sure did! I'm all rested up and feeling great!

[10:18] ---

I'm heading to practice. What about you?

[10:21] ---

Yep! I'll be there in a sec.

[10:23] ---

Oh...

[10:49] ---

Oof, those clouds... Looks like rain again.

[10:52] ---

Hmm?

[10:54] ---

Mimimi?

[11:20] ---

Tomozaki?

[11:27] ---

Mimimi, what about today's practice?

[11:30] ---

Ah, well, you know.

[11:32] ---

Um... Yamashita--she told me.

[11:37] ---

About your middle-school basketball team.

[11:40] ---

Aw, nuts! My cover's been blown!

[11:43] ---

Curse you for ratting out your senior,
Yumi, you scoundrel!

[11:48] ---

Is that when it started?

[11:50] ---

This whole not wanting to lose to Hinami?

[11:55] ---

It's because I don't shine.

[11:58] ---

Huh?

[11:59] ---

After I lost to Aoi,

[12:01] ---

I went alone to see her play
in the national tournament.

[12:01] ---

"The 47th National Middle-School
Basketball Tournament"

[12:06] ---

Aoi's school wound up finishing in second place.

[12:11] ---

All her team members were smiling
and congratulating one another,

[12:16] ---

but Aoi looked disappointed,
biting her lip and glaring at the emcee.

[12:21] ---

"Kusunoki"

[12:22] ---

The moment they announced: "First place
goes to Such-and-So Middle School,"

[12:27] ---

Aoi started crying,
the tears welling up and falling.

[12:32] ---

She didn't cry when her team came in second.

[12:35] ---

She only cried when she heard
another team came in first.

[12:39] ---

Like, is being number one all this girl sees?

[12:42] ---

That's... wow.

[12:45] ---

Right?

[12:47] ---

But at the same time, I was ashamed of myself,
because I couldn't be like Aoi.

[12:52] ---

I'd changed my behavior to match the mood.

[12:56] ---

I realized that I was just an ordinary person.

[13:00] ---

All the more reason for me
to want to be special, like Aoi.

[13:04] ---

I was surprised to spot Aoi at our
high-school entrance ceremony.

[13:09] ---

Especially when she came up
to me afterward and said:

[13:12] ---

"Didn't we play each other in round two
of the prefectural tournament?"

[13:15] ---

I've been thinking about you
ever since that game."

[13:20] ---

And that's not all.

[13:22] ---

She said, "You must have practiced like crazy.
I could tell, playing you."

[13:27] ---

And then: "I wish I could have
played on the same team as you."

[13:33] ---

That really saved me, you know?

[13:38] ---

So Aoi is someone I'm grateful for,

someone I look up to the most--

[13:44] ---

and the person I least want to lose to.

[13:48] ---

We became friends after that,
joining the track-and-field club together.

[13:52] ---

But... around the second term
of first year, was it?

[13:55] ---

Even though Aoi's specialty was the sprint,

[13:57] ---

she took first place on our team
in my event, the high jump.

[14:00] ---

Her beating me made me realize once again:

[14:04] ---

I really can't be someone special after all.

[14:08] ---

If you want to shine,
you've got to come in first.

[14:12] ---

But I felt like even that was impossible.

[14:16] ---

Mimimi...

[14:17] ---

That's pretty much it!
Sorry to be such a downer.

[14:21] ---

No, not at all.

[14:23] ---

Thanks. I feel better having talked about it!

[14:25] ---

But... but you don't *have* to come in first.

[14:29] ---

The way I see it,
you shine pretty brightly already.

[14:34] ---

Thanks!

[14:37] ---

Sorry, Tomozaki--looks like I forgot something.
Head on home without me.

[14:42] ---

Later!

[14:42] ---

Hey, Mimimi--

[14:46] ---

My words hadn't gotten through to her.

[14:49] ---

It was painfully clear,
even to a bottom-tier scrub like me.

[14:56] ---

She didn't show up.

[14:57] ---

Not to Saturday's practice,
not to today's morning session.

[15:01] ---

Oh.

[15:02] ---

Even though coming in first isn't everything...

[15:05] ---

That's something I never expected.

[15:08] ---

Huh?

[15:09] ---

I mean, you're just like me, aren't you?

[15:12] ---

The *Tackfam*-mastering nanashi?

[15:16] ---

What do you mean, I'm just like you?

[15:16] ---

"Teachers' Lounge"

[15:19] ---

Of course I want to win in a one-on-one battle.

[15:19] ---

"Club Resignation Notice"

[15:21] ---

But if only first place matters,

[15:23] ---

that would make pretty much
the whole world useless.

[15:27] ---

In fact, I'd say it's more like I
don't want to lose to *me*.

[15:32] ---

Is that how you *really* feel?

[15:33] ---

Yeah.

[15:34] ---

Tackfam's a battle against myself.

[15:38] ---

I see.

[15:41] ---

Minmi, you're quitting the club?!

[15:44] ---

Yeah. Thought about it over the weekend.

[15:46] ---

Is it true?

[15:50] ---

Sorry, Aoi!

[15:51] ---

I gave it a lot of thought and, well,
my body just can't take any more.

[15:55] ---

I wanted to keep running track with you, Mimimi.

[15:59] ---

I'm sorry, Aoi.

[16:01] ---

No, it's not that! No need to apologize!

[16:06] ---

I wonder what happened?

[16:08] ---

Hmm... a misunderstanding, maybe.

[16:12] ---

And yet... no one did anything wrong.

[16:17] ---

Sorry, Tama--I'm heading home, okay?

[16:20] ---

Eh?

[16:21] ---

Bye, Tama! See you tomorrow!

[16:23] ---

Mimimi!

[16:26] ---

Want to... go home together?

[16:28] ---

Huh?

[16:31] ---

Come on. With Tama, too. The three of us.

[16:37] ---

I'll skip practice!

[16:42] ---

Apologies!

[16:43] ---

Out of consideration for Tomozaki's courage,
I'll be leaving with those two.

[16:50] ---

Wow, it sure is muggy. That's summer for you!

[16:53] ---

And this is totally a textbook Japanese summer!

[16:57] ---

Hey, Minmi?

[16:59] ---

Hmm?

[17:00] ---

Do you hate Aoi now?

[17:04] ---

You *did* quit track and all.

[17:07] ---

O-Of course I don't!

[17:10] ---

Really?

[17:11] ---

I mean, Aoi's a really great girl.

She can do anything.

[17:14] ---

She's respectable, dependable.

[17:18] ---

She really gets me.

[17:21] ---

And she shines... and she's special...

[17:24] ---

Then why are you quitting?

[17:27] ---

You know I could never... hate Aoi.

[17:32] ---

Uh-huh.

[17:34] ---

And even though...

[17:36] ---

Even though I could never...

I could never hate her...

[17:40] ---

Aoi's just...

[17:42] ---

She's *such* a great girl. Always working so hard.

[17:45] ---

But never bragging about it.

[17:48] ---

Always looking out for me.

[17:51] ---

Understanding exactly how I feel.

[17:55] ---

So really, I *love* Aoi.

[17:59] ---

Uh-huh.

[18:02] ---

I mean, I *should* love her,

[18:04] ---

but she beats me in schoolwork,
beats me in sports...

[18:08] ---

And then, all of a sudden,

[18:10] ---

I'm *jealous* of her.

[18:12] ---

Like, she bugs me, or she's in my way...

[18:15] ---

...or I want her g-gone!

[18:18] ---

And here I am,
thinking these things, and I... I...

[18:24] ---

And it's *awful*! It's just the worst!

[18:27] ---

If a sore loser like me stayed in that club,

[18:32] ---

I'd wind up thinking that way again.

[18:34] ---

And I'd hate myself for it.

[18:37] ---

So much that I couldn't stand it.

[18:41] ---

Even when we practiced together, I'd think,

[18:44] ---

"Why doesn't she stop practicing?"

[18:47] ---

"If she really cared about me,
she'd quit right away."

[18:52] ---

"How clueless can you get?"

[18:54] ---

I actually thought that!

[18:56] ---

And I...

[18:58] ---

I don't want to think
that way about Aoi anymore.

[19:02] ---

Sure.

[19:08] ---

That's why I quit.

[19:11] ---

How can she work so hard, I wonder?

[19:19] ---

T-Tama?!

[19:21] ---

Hey! Stop tha-- It tickles!

[19:24] ---

You want to be number one, no matter what?

[19:28] ---

I-It's just...

[19:30] ---

I'm nothing.

[19:33] ---

But Minmi...

[19:35] ---

You're my hero.

[19:38] ---

Huh?

[19:39] ---

Always smiling and saying you're fine,
then working yourself too hard.

[19:44] ---

But you keep that to yourself
as you help me out.

[19:48] ---

I like Aoi a lot, too,

[19:52] ---

but you're my one and only hero, Minmi.

[19:56] ---

But...

[19:58] ---

And if you *still* wanna be number one...

[20:03] ---

To me, you're the world's number-one idiot!

[20:05] ---

So make do with that!

[20:12] ---

Wh-What's the big idea?!

[20:14] ---

Just doing what an idiot does!

[20:17] ---

Tama!

[20:18] ---

H-Hey, now!

[20:20] ---

Who's an idiot, hmm? Say it again!

[20:21] ---

C'mon, Minmi!

[20:23] ---

Mmm, your neck smells amazing!

[20:26] ---

Quit sniffing me, idiot! Back off already!

[20:33] ---

And so,

[20:34] ---

after Mimimi apologized to the club,

[20:38] ---

she was approved to rejoin--
the day after she'd resigned.

[20:43] ---

Her feelings for Hinami--a mix
of gratitude, respect, and envy--

[20:47] ---

seem to have mellowed quite a bit,
thanks to Tama.

[20:51] ---

Though Mimimi's sexual harassment
seems to have increased threefold.

[20:56] ---

And I'm preparing to face my biggest challenge

[21:00] ---

before summer vacation starts tomorrow.

[21:03] ---

Shuji, um... Here. A birthday present.

[21:07] ---

Oh, hey. Thanks.

[21:11] ---

Your task for today:

SIGN "Today's Task Give Nakamura his present and talk to him for 3+ minutes"

[21:13] ---

Give Nakamura his birthday present
and talk to him for at least three minutes.

[21:17] ---

"PitCam"

[21:22] ---

Na-Nakamura!

[21:23] ---

Yeah? What is it, Tomozaki?

[21:25] ---

Um... this is... a birthday present.

[21:28] ---

Huh?

[21:32] ---

A controller?

[21:33] ---

See, um, the controller is key,
uh... especially in versus play.

[21:38] ---

I-I can get behind someone who works hard and hates to lose...

[21:43] ---

And as a gamer and huge *Tackfam* fan, I, um...

[21:47] ---

I'll take it.

[21:53] ---

What?! That wasn't three minutes?

[21:56] ---

N-Now what?

[21:58] ---

Uh, hey!

[21:59] ---

What?

[22:00] ---

Well, um... er...

[22:06] ---

S-So is it true that Hinami and Mizusawa are dating?

[22:10] ---

"Cafe Restaurant Gesto"

[22:13] ---

"S-So is it true that Hinami and Mizusawa are dating?"

[22:22] ---

C'mon, Minmi, cut that out.

[22:26] ---

I-I'm so sorry, Tomozaki!

[22:28] ---

Jeez, give it a rest.

[22:29] ---

And? Is there any truth to the rumors, Miss Hinami?

[22:35] ---

The truth is... we're dating.

[22:38] ---

What?!

[22:38] ---

What if I actually said that?

[22:40] ---

Huh? Jeez!

[22:44] ---

Of course we're not dating.

[22:49] ---

Well, now that everything's out in the open...

[22:54] ---

I'm really sorry for everything, gang!

[22:57] ---

This sure is out of the blue, Minmi.

[23:00] ---

By way of apologizing for causing such a fuss...

[23:05] ---

...please accept these!

[23:08] ---

And these are...?

[23:10] ---

Apology gifts! Also known as
proof of our friendship!

[23:14] ---

Just like mine, but in different colors!

[23:17] ---

Aren't they the *cutest*?

[23:19] ---

I don't know, Mimimi...
any way you look at it--

[23:22] ---

They're adorable.

[23:23] ---

Huh?!

[23:24] ---

They're so *cute*!

[23:27] ---

Oh, this is fantastic!

[23:28] ---

Yeah! Are you sure we can have these?

[23:31] ---

Of course! Abso-fruit-ly!

[23:36] ---

You call *this*...

[23:38] ---

...*cute*?

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