

18 - The Conflict of Strategy

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

Translator:

Editor:

Timer:

QC:

(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 One Strike.

[00:03] Mori

One strike...

[00:06] Mori

It's necessary to hit the enemy's
vital point in one strike.

[00:13] Elise

You suck.

[00:15] Mori

All right.

[00:18] Elise

Hey! What are you doing?

[00:21] Mori

Writing a letter to a friend.

[01:54] Margaret

Load all the cargo from my
country into hatch number three!

[01:58] Margaret

Damage anything, and you pay for it!

[02:01] Margaret

Honestly...

[02:03] Margaret

Why must I direct the loading of cargo?

[02:17] Nathaniel

Cut it out.

[02:18] Margaret

Huh?

[02:19] Nathaniel

Your gaze is such a nuisance,
I can't hear the voice of God.

[02:22] Margaret

Is that so? What a pious minister you are.

[02:27] Margaret

Then I'm sure you must love this verse...

[02:30] Margaret

"Dust to dust."

[02:39] Nathaniel

Genesis 3:19.

[02:43] Margaret

While everyone else is
scattered upon the land,

[02:45] Margaret

it's our duty to protect this ship.

[02:49] Margaret

Did you forget that?

[02:52] Nathaniel

Are you sure you aren't
the one who has forgotten?

[02:55] Nathaniel

It is my sacred duty to
pass judgment on sinners.

[02:59] Nathaniel

Any number of enemies is
welcome to come at me.

[03:02] [SONG] Text

Guild Operative
Nathaniel H.

[03:02] Nathaniel

They will atone for their
sins with their lives.

SIGN Ability: The Scarlet Letter

[03:07] Nathaniel

Or do you wish for atonement as well?

[03:08] [SONG] Text

Guild Apprentice
Margaret M.

[03:10] Margaret

You aren't even worthy of polishing my shoes.

SIGN Ability: Gone with the Wind

[03:15] Guy

Um... Excuse me—

[03:19] Guy

Th-This letter was found among the cargo.

SIGN Dear Guild

[03:22] Nathaniel

A letter?

[03:27] Nathaniel

Dear Sir and Madam...

[03:30] Mori

*I hope this letter finds
you in the best of health.*

[03:35] Elise

Rintarou, you jerk! Idiot!

[03:36] Mori

*I write regarding the
recent military conflict.*

[03:38] Mori

While it may sound presumptuous,

[03:39] Mori

*I wish to inform you of the Guild
assets that we will next obliterate.*

[03:42] Mori

Give me back my crayon!

[03:44] Nathaniel

"These are the guild assets that
we will next obliterate..."

[03:50] Nathaniel

"First, your luxury liner, the Zelda.

[03:54] Nathaniel

Second, the life of Mr. Nathaniel.

[03:58] Nathaniel

Third, the life of Ms. Margaret."

[04:01] Margaret

What?

[04:02] Nathaniel

"Sincerely, Mori Ougai,
Boss of the Port Mafia."

[04:06] Margaret

Obliterate us and the ship?

[04:09] Margaret

Unthinkable.

[04:12] Guy

We'll depart once all cargo is on board.

[04:15] Nathaniel

How long?

[04:16] Guy

About two more hours, I believe...

[04:18] Nathaniel

Get it done in thirty minutes.

[04:19] Guy

Thirty minutes?!

[04:21] Nathaniel

You can have the freight helicopter unload

[04:22] Nathaniel

on the deck helipad while the
regular loading is going on.

[04:26] Nathaniel

And strengthen security around the ship.

[04:29] Margaret

Are you serious?

[04:30] Margaret

This silly threat letter is just a prank.

[04:34] Nathaniel

Are you sure?

[04:36] Nathaniel

Given that our Guild has no base on land,

[04:39] Nathaniel

this ship is essentially our front-line base.

[04:41] Margaret

So what?

[04:43] Nathaniel

This moment, as we're replenishing supplies, is when we're most vulnerable.

[04:47] Nathaniel

Our enemy, this supernatural organization, may not be a threat to our lives

[04:51] Nathaniel

but should they launch a surprise attack, they could sink this ship.

[04:56] Guy

Mr. Nathaniel.

SIGN Episode 18:

[05:00] Guy

We've found a suspicious man.

[05:06] Guy

He was found on the pier.

[05:07] Guy

He tried to escape, so we restrained him.

[05:10] Guy

He was carrying this.

[05:13] Margaret

He's just a thug from some island nation.

[05:16] Nathaniel

I saw your face pictured in a report,

[05:19] Nathaniel

Port Mafia Bomber.

[05:21] Kajii

Oh, who am I? Where am I?

[05:26] Nathaniel

I hear you once attempted to bomb a train, but were stopped by the Detective Agency.

[05:30] Kajii

That was an experiment!

[05:31] Kajii

Every failure is a valuable sample!

[05:34] Margaret

Shall I make a mummy out of him?

[05:36] Nathaniel

No, I already have a good
idea of the enemy's hand.

[05:40] Nathaniel

He was, no doubt, in charge
of planting a bomb.

[05:44] Nathaniel

What a shoddy organization.

[05:49] Kajii

His blood...

[05:50] Nathaniel

The Scarlet Letter is the Word of God...

[05:53] Nathaniel

A judgment ability that penalizes the immoral
and leaves on them a mark that never fades.

[05:56] Kajii

W-Wait!

[05:57] Kajii

O-Okay, I get it! I surrender!
I'll tell you everything!

[06:00] Kajii

The truth is, I'm an ambassador representing
the commander-in-chief of the universe...

[06:03] Kajii

If you hurt me, you'll be in real trouble!

[06:03] Margaret

Oh, give me a break.

[06:09] Nathaniel

It appears that

[06:11] Nathaniel

you refuse to repent and atone for your sins.

[06:16] Nathaniel

These lemon-shaped bombs are your ability.

[06:19] Nathaniel

How truly foolish.

[06:22] Nathaniel

Even a common man can make bombs.

[06:24] Nathaniel

You thought you could sink this
ship with an ability like this?

[06:29] Nathaniel

You've obviously underestimated the Guild.

[06:37] Nathaniel

May God's grace be with you.

[06:41] Guy

We will now unload the

supplies onto the ship.

[06:46] Kajii

God... God, eh?

[06:50] Kajii

Are you saying you can hear the voice of God?

[06:54] Kajii

Science is the only language that allows us to understand this universe God created.

[07:00] Margaret

The explosion didn't affect him?

[07:02] Kajii

I have bad news for you.

[07:04] Kajii

It's the job of you clergymen to believe,

[07:08] Kajii

but the very foundation of science is to question everything.

[07:11] Kajii

You should have questioned this bomb-making ability a bit more.

[07:16] Kajii

It is true that I made these bombs on my own time.

[07:20] Kajii

And my true gift is the ability to take no damage from lemon-shaped bombs!

[07:26] Kajii

Lemons! That beautiful spindle shape is the ultimate geometry,

[07:29] Kajii

as well as the destroyer of this tedious world!

[07:31] Kajii

On that note, here's a present for you from

[07:34] Kajii

the commander-in-chief of the universe and myself...

[07:39] Nathaniel

It can't be...

[07:42] Nathaniel

Everyone get away from the ship!

[08:03] Margaret

The ship...

[08:04] Margaret

Just who is that man?!

[08:06] Nathaniel

It appears the threat

letter was no mere prank.

[08:11] Nathaniel

And two targets still remain.

[08:16] Nathaniel

The enemy will be upon us shortly.

[08:18] Nathaniel

We will engage them here.

[08:20] Nathaniel

If we stop their surprise attack,

[08:22] Nathaniel

no number of gifted enemies
can be a match for us.

[08:27] Mori

...is probably what our enemy will think.

[08:31] Mori

The Guild's gifted members
are indeed formidable.

[08:34] Mori

Even our elite would have a
difficult time bringing them down.

[08:40] Mori

Which is why...

[08:44] Mori

I've just played my most
eager, motivated piece.

[08:57] Akutagawa

This sea breeze is suffocating.

[09:15] Akutagawa

Let's get this over with quickly.

[09:18] Nathaniel

Are you a Port Mafia assassin?

[09:20] Akutagawa

How are you feeling, irmão of the Guild?

[09:23] Nathaniel

Pretty awful.

[09:24] Nathaniel

A bit like I've had a run-in with
the devil spoken of in the Bible.

[09:29] Nathaniel

May I ask your name?

[09:32] Akutagawa

Diablo.

[09:34] Nathaniel

Then this must be Mount Hermon.

[09:37] Nathaniel

Are you a trial sent to test this
humble servant's faith in God?

[09:41] Akutagawa

Is it a trial you want?

[09:43] Akutagawa

Then I'll give you one!

[09:49] Nathaniel

Do not call me "irmão."

[09:51] Nathaniel

I am a minister, not some
relic of ancient Rome!

[09:55] Nathaniel

Don't think that will be
enough to test my faith,

[09:58] Nathaniel

you trash!

[10:02] Nathaniel

Repent, little guy of the Port Mafia!

[10:05] Akutagawa

Interesting!

[10:11] Nathaniel

*The enemy's ability is intermediate-range
matter manipulation,*

[10:14] Nathaniel

both offensive and defensive?

[10:17] Nathaniel

That's similar to my own.

[10:20] Nathaniel

In that case...

[10:23] Both

*The one whose ability holds
the most potential will win!*

SIGN Rashoumon

[10:26] Akutagawa

Rashoumon!

[10:30] Nathaniel

The Scarlet Letter!

SIGN The Scarlet Letter

[10:37] Akutagawa

Is that all you can do, irmão?

[10:42] Nathaniel

You are no devil at all.

[10:46] Akutagawa

What?

[10:49] Akutagawa

The blood on my coat is turning into writing?

[10:53] Nathaniel

You are merely a soulless beast
that craves the flesh of the weak.

[10:58] Nathaniel

I'm sure you've only fought gifted enemies

[11:01] Nathaniel

who were weaker than you up until now.

[11:06] Margaret

The Port Mafia is nothing.

[11:08] Margaret

I will take back my family's honor!

[11:15] Akutagawa

My coat is falling apart...

[11:17] Akutagawa

A weathering ability?

[11:19] Margaret

I cannot lose to one like you,

[11:23] Margaret

who has never known defeat or humiliation!

[11:30] Akutagawa

Never known defeat, you say?

[11:39] Nathaniel

Margaret!

[11:41] Akutagawa

Defeat and humiliation are always with me.

[11:50] Akutagawa

I am a remnant, going through the darkness.

[11:54] Akutagawa

As such, despair of this nature

[11:59] Akutagawa

will not ruin me!

[12:10] Akutagawa

Not now...

[12:12] Nathaniel

*That's not a wound caused
by The Scarlet Letter.*

[12:15] Nathaniel

*Could it be... he was seriously
injured when he came here?*

[12:19] Akutagawa

This is nothing! Come at me!

[12:21] Akutagawa

Fight me with all you've got.

[12:24] Akutagawa

Otherwise, there was no
point to me coming here!

[12:29] Nathaniel

Why would you go to such lengths?

[12:31] Akutagawa

My only hope is for one word.

[12:35] Akutagawa

A simple, trivial word
from a certain person...

[12:38] Akutagawa

For the sake of hearing that word,

[12:41] Akutagawa

I have come through countless
humiliating defeats!

[12:47] Nathaniel

*This man is a ruthless
killer from the Port Mafia,*

[12:51] Nathaniel

*yet at the same time,
he longs deeply for something.*

[12:54] Nathaniel

Something worth giving his life for...

[12:57] Nathaniel

*And with an intensity that nearly
rivals that of religious faith.*

[13:03] Nathaniel

You asked me to fight with all I've got, yes?

[13:08] Nathaniel

I've changed my mind. I will grant your wish.

[13:18] Akutagawa

What?!

[13:47] Akutagawa

Rashoumon...

[13:49] Akutagawa

Jaws of Endless Gates!

SIGN Jaws of Endless Gates

[14:05] Nathaniel

Margaret...

[14:23] (Flashback) Naka

People need to be told they're worthy
of being alive by someone else, or they can't go on.

[14:27] (Flashback) Naka

Why can't you understand such a simple thing?!

[14:32] (Flashback) Naka

Those words...

[14:35] Akutagawa

I don't need you to tell
me that. I already know.

[14:40] Rampo

Man, I'm so bored!

[14:42] Rampo

I wanna go outside!

[14:44] Yukichi

Nothing out of the ordinary in the footage?

[14:47] Akiko

Just a bunch of nothing.

[14:50] Yukichi

The only way to get into this hall

[14:53] Yukichi

is through the underground railroad tunnel.

[14:56] Yukichi

Even if the enemy does try to enter,

[14:58] Yukichi

the security camera footage will
tell us before they get here.

[15:03] Akiko

And there are lots of
traps along the way, too.

[15:06] Rampo

War is so boring.

[15:10] Rampo

My emergency snacks ran out in half a day.

[15:14] Rampo

I know!

[15:15] Rampo

Hey, Yosano-san, let's play hanafuda on this!

[15:18] Akiko

Oh? What are we going to bet?

[15:22] Mori

Attacking enemy bases always
makes my heart dance with joy.

[15:26] Mori

It's time for the next move.
How go the preparations?

[15:29] Guy

Everything is ready.

[15:31] Mori

You have more than enough force to
crush the Armed Detective Agency.

[15:36] Mori

I look forward to hearing a superb melody.

[15:39] Akiko

What's the matter?

[15:40] Rampo

President, I think we should
call back the defensive teams.

[15:44] Yukichi

The enemy?

[15:46] Yukichi

How many are attacking?

[15:51] Rampo

One.

[16:03] Kirako

Mii-chan...

[16:05] Kirako

As soon as this whole mess is over,
I'll come for you, okay?

[16:11] Kirako

N-N-Naomi-chan!

[16:13] Naomi

Haruno-san...

[16:13] Kirako

I-I-I was working! Really!

[16:15] Kirako

We office workers are
part of the company, too!

SIGN Tokyo Daily News

[16:20] [SONG] Text

40 Killed, 300+ Injured in Cruise Liner
Explosion at Yokohama Commercial Port

[16:24] Naomi

An explosion on a cruise liner
at a commercial port in Yokohama?

[16:28] Naomi

That's not the Guild's ship, is it?

[16:31] Naomi

Then what caused the explosion?

[16:33] Kirako

It was the other enemy,
the one who loves explosions.

[16:36] Kirako

The Agency may be his next target...

[16:40] Kirako

I hope my brother is safe...

[16:45] Kirako

Don't worry, Naomi-chan.

[16:48] Naomi

We know Mii-chan is okay, after all!

[16:51] Kirako

Please forget that.

[16:55] Akiko

Cameras 3, 4, and 8 have stopped transmitting.

[16:58] Yukichi

Activate the automatic turrets!

[17:12] Chuuya

*You'd send these puppets
to receive a special envoy?*

[17:15] Chuuya

You're so short-staffed, I could cry.

[17:18] Chuuya

*Could you send out something
that's actually alive?*

[17:21] Rampo

President...

[17:24] Yukichi

Are you of the same opinion as I am?

[17:33] Chuuya

Oh, come on...

[17:34] Chuuya

Only two?

[17:36] Akiko

If you're dissatisfied with your reception,
come back after making an appointment.

[17:40] Chuuya

You think the Mafia needs an appointment
to raise hell in an enemy base?

[17:44] Kenji

Oh! I don't think they do!

[17:46] Akiko

If you want to raise hell, have at it.

[17:49] Akiko

But that's not what you came here for.

[17:52] Akiko

Am I right?

[17:54] Chuuya

How do you know?

[17:55] Akiko

We're a detective agency, you know.

[17:57] Akiko

What good would we be if we couldn't figure
out a client's intentions at a glance?

[18:03] Chuuya

Where's your president?

[18:04] Akiko

Over there.

[18:08] Chuuya

Here's a present from my boss.

[18:12] Yukichi

Those are...

[18:14] Yukichi

Members of the Guild?

[18:16] Chuuya

We reeled them in with bait.

[18:18] Chuuya

The time and location they'll appear is written here.

[18:21] Chuuya

You don't get many chances like this, do you?

[18:24] Chuuya

You can get one over on that detestable Guild!

[18:30] Yukichi

The chance to ambush gifted Guild members is indeed attractive...

[18:35] Akiko

I see. That's a titillating proposal.

[18:39] Chuuya

Isn't it?

[18:40] Akiko

But I've got an even better one.

[18:42] Akiko

How about I hack off your limbs

[18:45] Akiko

and make you cough up your plans?

[18:49] Chuuya

Now that's a brilliant idea.

[18:52] Chuuya

Give it a try.

[18:53] Akiko

Kenji!

[18:54] Kenji

Got it!

[18:58] Kenji

Hi-yah!

[19:00] Chuuya

Nice!

[19:02] Kenji

Watch out, now!

[19:06] Chuuya

This is exactly what a job ought to be like!

[19:15] Akiko

What?!

[19:18] Akiko

That ability...

[19:20] Akiko

You're Nakahara Chuuya, the gravity manipulator, aren't you?

[19:23] Chuuya

That damn Dazai must have blabbed...

[19:25] Kenji

He's standing upside-down,

but his hat isn't falling off!

[19:29] Kenji

City folk really are amazing.

[19:37] Chuuya

Now...

[19:39] Chuuya

Who wants to fight against gravity?

[19:46] Yukichi

Here's my answer, special
envoy of the Port Mafia.

[19:49] Chuuya

Huh?

[19:50] Yukichi

It's true that if the Detective
Agency defeats the Guild,

[19:53] Yukichi

you will slash the enemy's strength
without lifting a finger.

[19:56] Yukichi

If you're lucky, the Detective Agency and
the Guild might even take each other out.

[20:02] Chuuya

But you have nothing to lose yourself.

[20:05] Chuuya

Right?

[20:06] Yukichi

If what you say is true, then yes.

[20:09] Rampo

Sheesh...

[20:10] Yukichi

What are you hiding?

[20:12] Chuuya

Nothing.

[20:14] Yukichi

What action is the Port Mafia going to take?

[20:18] Chuuya

They don't have to take any action.

[20:22] Rampo

I see. So that's what's going on.

[20:27] Rampo

*The Guild must have suspected
a trap, just like we do.*

[20:32] Rampo

But they fell for it.

[20:35] Rampo

Because the bait was just too appetizing.

[20:38] Rampo

What did you use to bait the Guild?

[20:43] Steinbeck

No matter what nation you're in,
being in the countryside soothes the soul.

[20:47] Steinbeck

So, the Port Mafia's gift is just ahead.

[20:51] Lovecraft

This is obviously a trap to
lure us out. Why should we go?

[20:56] Steinbeck

Because the bait's so appealing.

[20:59] Steinbeck

If we succeed in the abduction,

[21:00] Steinbeck

we've basically defeated
the Detective Agency.

[21:03] Yukichi

You used our office staff as bait?!

[21:05] Chuuya

You can still get them out of there in time.

[21:08] Chuuya

*Plus, the Guild has no idea
that you're about to act.*

[21:12] Chuuya

It'll be an easy win.

[21:14] Yukichi

Is anything he's said untrue?

[21:17] Rampo

No, unfortunately.

[21:21] Rampo

Times like these are when the
truth is the most effective.

[21:27] Chuuya

"Even if they know it's a pitfall,
the Agency will still fall right into it."

[21:32] Chuuya

My boss's words.

[21:35] Yukichi

Order the office staff
to evacuate immediately.

[21:38] Yukichi

And...

[21:41] Yukichi

Put me through to Kunikida.

[23:16] Doppo

We're the only ones who
can get to them in time?

[23:19] Doppo

Right...

[23:21] Doppo

Right. We'll head straight there.

[23:28] Tanizaki

The president?

[23:30] Doppo

Yeah.

[23:32] Tanizaki

What'd he say?

SIGN Episode 19:

Will of Tycoon

[23:36] Doppo

We're going head-to-head with the Guild.

Revision #1

Created 2026-01-04 23:29:21 UTC by whimsee

Updated 2026-01-04 23:29:21 UTC by whimsee