

E9 - The Signpost

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.)

[00:00] Iwanome

Come on. Relax.

[00:03] Iwanome

As much as I'd like to interview
you about yesterday's fire,

[00:08] Iwanome

we're off duty.

[00:10] Iwanome

It's our lunch break.

[00:13] Iwanome

So I thought I'd get my fortune told.

[00:16] Iwanome

How about you, Arase?

[00:18] Arase

I think I'll pass.

[00:21] Arase

What if he tells me I'm so
unlucky I should quit the force?

[00:26] Iwanome

Nothing's ever easy with you.

[00:30] Iwanome

So, how about just me, then?

[00:34] Polka

Very well.

[00:35] Polka

Show him to the next room.

[00:37] Misaki

Okay!

[00:38] Misaki

Right this way! Follow me!

[02:14] Iwanome

Still, a student telling fortunes?

[02:17] Iwanome

That's not a problem if you register
your business within a month...

[02:22] Iwanome

But forget all that red tape.

[02:26] Iwanome

Do me a favor, kid.

[02:29] Iwanome

Set this poor civil servant
on the right path.

[02:33] Polka

I can't locate people
who escaped from prison.

[02:37] Iwanome

Huh?

[02:39] Iwanome

Well, that's our job anyway.

[02:43] Iwanome

We'll figure something out.

[02:45] Iwanome

Besides, I'd rather try to prevent murders...
If you can see the future and all.

[02:51] Polka

My readings aren't precognition.

[02:54] Polka

I merely trace paths.

[02:58] Polka

Both the path you have walked,
and the infinite paths spread out before you.

[03:04] Sayo

He never looks that way at home.

[03:06] Xiaoyu

Wow. He really looks the part.

[03:10] Xiaoyu

*I guess he's seen his share
of trouble, at least.*

[03:14] Xiaoyu

If the fake Polka is doing something shady,

[03:18] Xiaoyu

*I could snitch to these guys.
They seem like cops.*

[03:22] Polka

I suppose I don't need to
divine your profession.

[03:26] Iwanome

Well, it's not like I can hide it.

[03:29] Polka

Let me look closer.

[03:31] Polka

Around you, I see defenders

of many people's safety.

[03:36] Polka

Countless hands that both
chastise and shelter young boys.

[03:41] Polka

Against those who wield malicious blades,
they are shields.

[03:44] Iwanome

*So, he already knows I work
for Community Safety.*

[03:45] Polka

At times, they become cords of
steel to bind those weapons.

[03:47] Iwanome

*Takumi Kuruya is probably pulling
this info from somewhere.*

[03:50] Polka

There is one who feels concern for you

[03:52] Iwanome

*I'd guess he's got an earpiece
hidden in that hood.*

[03:52] Polka

and wishes for your own safety.

[03:55] Takumi

Iwanome from the Community Safety Division?

[03:58] Takumi

Damn it.

[03:59] Takumi

We just keep running into trouble.

[04:03] Polka

In your dealings with your
ancestors and family,

[04:06] Polka

you will see many cards depicting
members of the opposite sex.

[04:10] Iwanome

He even knows about the matchmaking?

[04:14] Polka

I see you still bear a
grievous scar from your past.

[04:19] Polka

A wound as grave as a torn-off wing.

[04:23] Polka

So long as that wound weighs you down,
your path will never escape the seabed.

[04:29] Iwanome

Well, isn't that fascinating?

[04:33] Iwanome

So, Mr. Fortune Teller,
will you tell me how to heal myself?

[04:38] Polka

Do you *wish* to be healed?

[04:42] Iwanome

I wonder.

[04:44] Iwanome

But if the person who gave me
that wound has a path,

[04:49] Iwanome

I'd love for you to tell me about it.

[04:51] Polka

Your torn-off wing shall
spell out a signpost for you.

[04:56] Iwanome

Huh?

[04:59] Iwanome

Whoa!

[05:00] Iwanome

Th-That one scared me a little.

SIGN BA-DUMP

SIGN BA-DUMP

[05:04] Iwanome

Hm?

[05:09] Sayo

Wow.

[05:10] Sayo

How does he do that?

[05:12] Xiaoyu

*I recognize this sound! It's the same
as the writing I heard last night!*

[05:17] Xiaoyu

I get it now.

[05:18] Xiaoyu

*He was practicing this magic
trick during that whole chat!*

[05:30] Arase

Iwa-san?!

[05:35] Iwanome

How...?

[05:37] Iwanome

Polka Shinoyama...

[05:40] Iwanome

What do you know?

[05:43] (Flashback) Hosorogi

Iwanome.

[05:44] (Flashback) Iwanome

Hm?

[05:44] (Flashback) Iwanome

Whoa!

[05:45] (Flashback) Iwanome

You're treating me? Now there's a surprise.

[05:48] (Flashback) Iwanome

Hey, these are my favorite brand.

[05:51] (Flashback) Hosorogi

Cigarettes don't suit me after all.

[05:54] (Flashback) Iwanome

Hm?

[05:56] (Flashback) Iwanome

What's this symbol?

[05:57] (Flashback) Hosorogi

Memorized it yet?

[05:59] (Flashback) Iwanome

Well, yeah.

[06:02] (Flashback) Hosorogi

Never forget it.

[06:05] (Flashback) Iwanome

Huh?!

[06:06] (Flashback) Hosorogi

But never show this symbol to anyone else.

[06:09] (Flashback) Hosorogi

It is both the signpost we must follow

[06:14] (Flashback) Hosorogi

and a one-way ticket to death.

[06:18] Iwanome

Why did you draw this?!

[06:20] Polka

I merely showed you the path.

[06:24] Polka

Obey the dictates of your own heart.

[06:33] Iwanome

Sorry! My bad!

[06:35] Iwanome

I didn't mean to scare you!

[06:38] Iwanome

Here you go.

[06:39] Iwanome

This is your fee.

[06:44] Polka

Um... I can't accept this much money.

[06:46] Iwanome

Don't sweat it. I threw in extra because I wrinkled your outfit.

[06:50] Iwanome

Anyway, I think we're done here for today.

[06:54] Iwanome

Bye. Be seeing you, Polka Shinoyama-kun.

[06:59] Polka

The Corpse God.

[07:02] Polka

The one who told your fortune here
is not Polka Shinoyama,

[07:07] Polka

but the Corpse God.

[07:09] Iwanome

If you say so. I guess a fortune
teller needs a good name.

[07:14] Iwanome

But...

[07:16] Iwanome

I don't know about that one.

[07:17] Iwanome

It makes you sound like a troublemaker.

[07:24] Polka

What did he mean by "troublemaker"?

[07:27] Sayo

Do you know those guys?

[07:30] Misaki

They're policemen.

[07:31] Sayo

Huh. It seemed like they
came because of the fire.

[07:35] Xiaoyu

The way that officer acted wasn't normal.

[07:39] Xiaoyu

What was written on that piece of paper?

[07:42] Xiaoyu

It might be tied to the fake Polka's secrets.

[07:46] Xiaoyu

Maybe I should do some digging.

[07:49] Xiaoyu

Young miss.

[07:51] Xiaoyu

I'll run out to buy us dinner.

[07:53] Sayo

Okay. Thanks.

[07:55] Sayo

I'd like that.

[07:57] Sayo

Buy shark stuff, too, if you get a chance.

I don't mind duplicates.

[08:02] Xiaoyu

V-Very well.

SIGN Curry

Restaurant

SIGN Nancy

[08:04] Iwanome

Nice, big chunks of meat. Tender shrimp.

[08:09] Iwanome

You savor the first bite,

[08:12] Iwanome

and then the spice hits you!

[08:14] Iwanome

I can't get enough!

[08:15] Arase

You always make that face here, Iwa-san.

[08:19] Arase

You look hideous.

[08:29] Iwanome

If you've got more to say to me, say it.

[08:32] Iwanome

This is so awkward.

[08:33] Arase

Oh? It's not a sore subject, then?

[08:36] Iwanome

I didn't really want to get into it,

[08:38] Iwanome

but eating away in silence is worse.

[08:41] Arase

I'll speak freely, then.

[08:43] Arase

What got into you back there?

[08:44] Iwanome

Oh, yeah. Sorry. I lost control.

[08:48] Arase

That isn't like you.

[08:49] Arase

Threatening people is *my* job.

[08:52] Arase

I'm the stick, and you're the
poisoned carrot, remember?

[08:58] Iwanome

Hey, now you're quoting me.

[09:01] Iwanome

I can't argue with myself.

[09:03] Arase

What was written on that piece of paper?

[09:09] Iwanome

Sorry. Give me some time to get my thoughts in order while we walk.

[09:13] Iwanome

I'll tell you when we get to our next stop.

[09:15] Arase

All right. I'll wait.

[09:17] Arase

I'm relieved that you're back to your usual self.

[09:21] Iwanome

Yeah. I've got to keep cool, whether I like it or not.

[09:25] Iwanome

I screwed up because I got too heated.

[09:29] Xiaoyu

There they are.

[09:31] Xiaoyu

I think I'll shadow them a little while longer.

[09:36] Xiaoyu

I bought food and shark merch at Village Vanguard,

[09:39] Xiaoyu

so I've done my job perfectly!

[09:44] Yakuza Boss

I laughed when I heard the Shinoyama house burned,

[09:48] Yakuza Boss

but I never expected this place to go up, too.

[09:51] Yakuza A

But, boss, isn't the safe fireproof?

[09:54] Yakuza Boss

There's something I need to get out of it.

[09:57] Yakuza A

Something you don't want the cops...

SIGN Fire Safety

[09:59] Fire-Breathing Bug 3

...or firefighters to see?

[10:02] Yakuza Boss

Cut the chitchat!

[10:04] Yakuza Boss

Just keep watch for—

[10:05] Fire-Breathing Bug 3

Click-clack, click-clack, it's begun.

SIGN Fire

Safety

SIGN Fire

Safety

[10:11] Yakuza Boss

Wha...?

[10:12] Fire-Breathing Bug 3

The marching toys have come, rum-tee tum.

[10:14] Yakuza Boss

What the...?

[10:19] Fire-Breathing Bug 3

Little toy soldiers, all in a row.

[10:26] Fire-Breathing Bug 3

Horsies and doggies follow, rum-tee tow.

SIGN Fire

Safety

SIGN Fire Safety

[10:36] Fire-Breathing Bug

Damn summer bug.

[10:39] Fire-Breathing Bug

Suit yourself.

[10:43] Solitaire

I certainly shall.

[10:47] Solitaire

Round and round!

[10:52] Solitaire

Sheepskin parchment? No...

[10:55] Solitaire

And not pigskin either.

[10:57] Solitaire

Could this be... human skin?

[11:01] Solitaire

Is this the "bug" you mentioned,

Fire-Breathing Bug-kun?

[11:05] Solitaire

I've picked the theme for
my comeback performance.

[11:08] Solitaire

Let's all liven up the world together!

[11:16] Takumi

Man, that sucked.

[11:19] Takumi

But why'd that detective
suddenly lose it like that?

[11:23] Takumi

What did the ghosts haunting him tell you?

[11:26] Polka

No one was haunting him.

[11:30] Misaki

What, really?

[11:32] Polka

Haunted people aren't all that common.

[11:35] Polka

In those cases,

[11:37] Polka

I use the information Takumi-kun
digs up to offer advice.

[11:41] Takumi

Wait, so you wrote something random
down and it happened to set him off?

[11:46] Polka

No, the writing was—

[11:47] Iwanome

So, why did you hide it?

[11:50] Clarissa

Oh? What secrets do you
think I'm keeping from you?

[11:55] Iwanome

To be honest, I'd given up hope.

[11:58] Iwanome

But, yeah... I guess I had to believe

[12:02] Iwanome

that you-know-who wouldn't
give up the ghost that easily.

[12:05] Clarissa

What are you talking about?

[12:07] Iwanome

It's too late for games.

[12:09] Iwanome

Who could cover someone's
tracks for five straight years?

[12:12] Iwanome

In this town, only you.

[12:15] Iwanome

I know that you have a connection
to Polka Shinoyama, too.

[12:20] Xiaoyu

Who is "you-know-who"?

[12:21] Iwanome

Still, I sure didn't expect to get
a message via fortune telling.

[12:27] Iwanome

What Polka Shinoyama wrote...
no one but our mutual friend would know it.

[12:32] Iwanome

And aside from me, you're the only other one who might get told about it.

[12:39] Clarissa

I'm sorry. This isn't making sense to me.

[12:43] Clarissa

Which "mutual friend" is this?

[12:47] Iwanome

Don't play dumb.

[12:49] Polka

I was asked to stay out of it,

[12:51] Polka

and that's just what I did.

[12:54] Polka

So I don't know what was on that paper, either.

[12:58] Polka

It was too dark to see clearly.

[13:00] Takumi

Huh? Hey, wait...

[13:02] Takumi

You mean the one who wrote to that detective was...?

[13:05] Iwanome

The inspector the police shunned because we went wild together...

[13:10] Iwanome

And your precious senpai.

[13:14] Iwanome; Polka

Hosorogi-san.

[13:15] Misaki

What? Then...

[13:16] Misaki

Hosorogi-san knows that detective?

SIGN Shinjuku is a surprisingly small world—

SIGN But it has depth in equal measure.

[13:23] Misaki

Ooh!

[13:25] Clarissa

Now there's a name that takes me back.

[13:28] Iwanome

Yeah. I haven't said it in a long time.

[13:31] Clarissa

You look happy... but a little angry at the same time.

[13:36] Iwanome

Can you blame me? I've been the only one stuck playing the clown.

[13:40] Iwanome

Well, if I'm pissed off at you,
it's more because of Polka Shinoyama.

[13:45] Clarissa

Has he done something to upset you?

[13:48] Iwanome

The point of the Community Safety
Division isn't to shepherd children.

[13:53] Iwanome

It's to protect their past, present,
and future. All three together.

[13:58] Iwanome

That was the policy, way back
when Hosorogi-san was in charge.

[14:04] Clarissa

My, that's strange.

[14:06] Clarissa

Are you suggesting that Hosorogi-san
recruited Polka—a child?

[14:11] Iwanome

Out of desperation, maybe?
Or it was all your idea.

[14:16] Iwanome

If it's the former, I've got some complaints.
All the more reason I want a reunion.

[14:20] Iwanome

We can't go dragging kids
into our screwed-up problems.

[14:25] Clarissa

I certainly don't recall recruiting any.

[14:29] Clarissa

As for Polka Shinoyama-kun,
I simply rent a building to him as a favor.

[14:34] Clarissa

It's my chance to connect with a
key figure in the Shinoyama Group.

[14:38] Clarissa

Do you think I'd let such
a juicy fruit pass me by?

[14:41] Iwanome

I see. A self-interested favor
would make a convincing motive.

[14:47] Iwanome

But you'd never have told him about
Hosorogi-san if that were the real story.

[14:53] Iwanome

What if they got curious

and did some digging?

[14:55] Iwanome

That kid would be in danger,
and so would the girl in glasses.

[14:59] Iwanome

After all, this was bad enough to
force Hosorogi-san into hiding.

[15:04] Clarissa

You sound so certain that
Hosorogi-san is still alive.

[15:08] Iwanome

I've received too much info that
would make sense only to me.

[15:13] Iwanome

Fine, then. Play dumb if you want.

[15:16] Iwanome

But pass on the message.

[15:18] Iwanome

This time, I'll clean the rot out of the police,

[15:21] Iwanome

and make a place for
Hosorogi-san to come back to.

[15:27] Izuna

Clarissa, what was that about?

[15:28] Clarissa

Never you mind.

[15:30] Koruto

But what if Polka-kun
found Hosorogi-san's...?

[15:33] Clarissa

It doesn't matter.

[15:35] Clarissa

That old senpai of mine is far too
obsessed with money to think of me.

[15:40] Xiaoyu

Hosorogi and Clarissa.

[15:43] Xiaoyu

I'd better investigate this bar's staff.

[15:48] Xiaoyu

*I'll crush every last pest that
tries to get near His Lordship.*

[15:54] Takumi

A police IA inspector?!

[15:56] Polka

What's that?

[15:58] Takumi

A cop who investigates police

corruption and stuff.

[16:01] Polka

Oh, I see. There were similar positions in my world, too.

SIGN Imperial Dazzling Corps

Office of Audit and Arrest

Deputy Commander

Jangrad Dimorigh XIV

[16:06] Misaki

So, you used to be those detectives' boss, Hosorogi-san?

SIGN We were in different divisions.

SIGN But we knew each other.

[16:12] Takumi

For real?

[16:14] Takumi

I can't believe this. Have you ever acted like an inspector?

SIGN Heh heh heh...

They called me "the delinquent inspector" and "the filth that hunts dirt."

[16:22] Misaki

That's so cool!

[16:23] Takumi

Is it, though?

[16:25] Polka

So, what did you write on that paper, Hosorogi-san?

SIGN If you're curious, pay me for the info.

[16:32] Takumi

Are you *sure* you used to be an inspector?!

SIGN My fee is one million!

I won't take a yen less!

[16:35] Polka

But I need that money...

SIGN Oh, there are endless ways to make money.

You're in good hands with me.

[16:39] Takumi

What makes you so confident?

[16:41] Takumi

Anyway, whatever you wrote is the reason that cop grabbed Polka.

SIGN Indeed!

For that, I humbly apologize.

SIGN I hate to drag you into this,
but it involves one of my regrets.

[16:51] Polka

In that case, I guess I don't have a choice.

[16:53] Takumi

What do you mean?

[16:55] Polka

In exchange for services,
I'll resolve some of Hosorogi-san's regrets.

[17:00] Polka

That was our pact.

[17:02] Takumi

Without regrets,
won't Hosorogi-san just move on?

SIGN I'm not as ungrateful as all that!

[17:09] Polka

If those officials work well,
will you have one less regret?

SIGN Well, I can only hope it works.

[17:15] Polka

I suppose so.

[17:16] Hosorogi

Regrets, huh?

[17:18] Hosorogi

*One of these days,
I'll have to face up to Lisa.*

SIGN Tokyo

Detention

House

[17:23] Solitaire

The world is smaller than it seems.

[17:25] Solitaire

If you truly desire a reunion,

[17:28] Solitaire

it's surprisingly easy to achieve.

[17:31] Solitaire

Don't you agree,

[17:32] Solitaire

Prisoner No. 243291343432497-kun?

[17:38] Grocer

You made up that number at random.

[17:42] Grocer

That can't be what you came
all the way here to say,

[17:45] Grocer

Ten'a Sorimura... Or should I say

the Phantom Solitaire?

[17:50] Solitaire

Then I suppose I'll call you Grocer-kun!

[17:53] Solitaire

Still, I'd hoped for a bit more surprise,
or at least a laugh at my number gag.

[18:00] Grocer

If you want me to laugh,
offer me something worth laughing at.

[18:04] Grocer

If my enjoyment outweighs my laughter,
I'll refund you the difference.

[18:08] Solitaire

Oh, well. I'll get a laugh
out of you eventually.

[18:12] Solitaire

I'm just here to shop today.

[18:14] Grocer

We appreciate your patronage.

[18:17] Solitaire

I'd like to buy

[18:19] Solitaire

information.

[18:20] Solitaire

Everything you know about
this symbol, if you please.

[18:24] Grocer

I recognize it, of course.

[18:26] Grocer

Now then,

[18:28] Grocer

let's talk price.

[18:30] Grocer

I'll accept information worth
beginning to tell you for.

[18:35] Solitaire

The Grocer—

[18:38] Solitaire

According to metropolitan police records,

[18:40] Solitaire

*the name originates in a merchant
family with a century of history.*

[18:43] Solitaire

And now this man, arrested by Tsubaki Iwanome,

[18:48] Solitaire

*is supposedly the fifth-generation
owner of this family business.*

[18:54] Solitaire

*He is also an anomaly in this
strictly regulated prison.*

[18:59] Solitaire

*The fact that this space is permitted
speaks to the Grocer's true nature.*

[19:06] Solitaire

The state of this solitary cell

[19:08] Solitaire

*testifies to the power that he
gained by dealing with the state.*

[19:15] Solitaire

*It is neither the pen nor the sword, but trade
which is the most blatant form of might.*

[19:20] Solitaire

*Everything is on the table, from human
lives to the fates of nations,*

[19:25] Solitaire

*as well as goods—mass-produced,
limited, stolen, lost, and sacred.*

[19:30] Solitaire

The sole exception is their own minds.

[19:35] Solitaire

Although I'm not fond of violence,

[19:38] Solitaire

when I must fight,
I fight with playing cards.

[19:43] Solitaire

And why...

[19:45] Solitaire

...do you think...

[19:47] Solitaire

...that all people have used
cards as weapons since antiquity?

[19:51] Grocer

Pardon our ignorance, but our
store knows of no such history.

[19:55] Solitaire

The answer is simple:

[19:57] Solitaire

Because it's cool!

[20:00] Grocer

I see.

[20:01] Grocer

You've wasted my time.
That will cost you dearly.

[20:05] Solitaire

What?!

[20:06] Solitaire

Not so fast!

[20:07] Solitaire

You asked for information to begin our talk,
so I gave you my very best!

[20:13] Grocer

Your idea of quality mystifies me.

[20:16] Grocer

In this store, at least, the Phantom
Solitaire's stock has plummeted.

SIGN Solitaire

[20:20] Solitaire

Be reasonable!

[20:22] Grocer

I wish *you* would.

[20:23] Solitaire

Fine, then! One more exclusive tidbit!

[20:26] Grocer

Oh?

[20:27] Solitaire

Rubbing your hands with oil slightly
reduces the risk of paper cuts.

SIGN GOOEY

SIGN SLIMY

SIGN STICKY

[20:33] Grocer

Why not just wear rubber
gloves or use hand cream?

[20:37] Grocer

Learning that a master criminal like
you is actually a complete fool

[20:41] Grocer

is worth something, I suppose.

[20:44] Solitaire

Mind your manners.

[20:45] Grocer

Please allow us to offer
you all we can in exchange.

SIGN Tasty Stick

[20:49] Grocer

This should do.

[20:51] Solitaire

Thirty yen?!

[20:52] Solitaire

All right!

[20:53] Solitaire

I'll take them because they're tasty,
but you can't distract me with food!

[20:56] Solitaire

Give me the information I came here for!

[21:00] Grocer

The symbols on playing
cards all have meaning.

[21:03] Solitaire

Yes?

[21:04] Grocer

On French cards, spades are swords,
clubs are clubs,

[21:09] Grocer

hearts are chalices,
and diamonds are coins.

[21:13] Grocer

Almost every symbol in this world,
no matter how simplified,

[21:18] Grocer

is likewise imbued with some significance.

[21:22] Grocer

For example,

[21:23] Grocer

this diagonal line signifies a sword.

[21:27] Grocer

An old knight order in central and
eastern Europe used a similar insignia,

[21:32] Grocer

but the two are completely unrelated.

[21:35] Grocer

Now, that concludes your free sample.

[21:38] Grocer

You must purchase more with
information of equal value.

[21:41] Solitaire

Very well.

[21:43] Solitaire

This is for my performance.
I'll pay whatever you ask.

[21:46] Grocer

Are you certain?

[21:48] Grocer

We adjust our prices to our
customers' circumstances.

[21:53] Grocer

And by "circumstances," we do not mean

[21:55] Grocer

the contents of their wallets.

[22:09] Male Announcer

*Well, today is the day that
the Phantom Solitaire set.*

[22:13] Male Announcer

Have there been any developments?

[22:15] Takumi

Oh, that's today?

[22:17] Misaki

I can't wait to find out what he'll do!

[22:19] Takumi

Well, terrorist bombing
doesn't seem like his style.

[22:22] Sayo

Morning.

[22:24] Sayo

Nice day, huh?

[22:26] Takumi

It's already noon.

[22:27] Sayo

Don't worry. Bedroom security officers
don't need to make that distinction.

[22:32] Takumi

What's reassuring about that?

[22:34] Misaki

Good morning!

[22:35] Sayo

Morning.

[22:44] Sayo

Hey, what's that?

[22:47] Takumi

Hm?

[22:51] Misaki

Oh, wow!

[22:55] Male Announcer

*Oh, it looks like something
just happened in Shinjuku!*

SIGN Fire Safety

[23:04] Male Announcer

The sky is full of blimps.

[23:10] Polka

How...?

[23:15] Polka

I thought I reincarnated
to a different world.

[23:20] Misaki

Do you recognize that symbol, Polka-kun?

[23:23] Polka

I'm sure of it.

[23:26] Polka

That's...

[23:28] Polka

...the emblem of the fallen
empire from my old world.

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