

E9 - A Toss to the Ace

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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.)

[00:02] Hinata

One more! Give me another!

[00:04] Kage

Shut up! I know that.

[00:06] Kage

Here goes.

[00:07] Hinata

Yeah.

[00:13] Hinata

Woo! That feels great!

[00:16] (Flashback) Hinata

I feel the heft of the ball,
snug in my palm.

[00:20] Hinata

I love that.

[00:27] Hinata

All right.

[00:28] Hinata

We'll use our quick attack against Neko!

[00:32] Asahi

Neko?

[00:34] Asahi

A match against Nekoma?

[00:36] Sawa

It'll be a practice match
on the last day of Golden Week.

[00:39] Asahi

Yikes.

[00:40] Sawa

What do you mean, "yikes"?
Hey, don't run away!

[00:43] Asahi

But you're scary when you get mad!

[00:45] Sawa

I'm not mad right now.

[00:49] Sawa

Well, Nekoma sounds
like ancient history to us.

[00:54] Sawa

Our generation doesn't have the same
Karasuno-Nekoma rivalry.

[00:59] Sawa

Although... "Cat vs Crow:
Battle at the Garbage Dump."

[01:04] Sawa

We've heard the stories about Neko.

[01:06] ---

It'll be our first match with them in years.

[01:09] Sawa

It does pique your interest, doesn't it?

[01:12] Asahi

But I've lost face with Suga and Nishinoya.

[01:19] Sawa

You're too much.

[01:21] Sawa

You're still a wimp in such
a big body, as usual.

[01:25] Sawa

What a contrast to Nishinoya.

[01:27] Asa

Can't you sugarcoat your words a little?

[01:31] Sawa

Don't worry. Both Suga
and Nishinoya are fine.

[01:34] Sawa

Unlike you, they have big hearts.

[01:37] Asa

Weren't you supposed to be a kind person?

[01:41] Sawa

I'm kind to everyone, except you.

[01:43] Sawa

Because you're a wimp.

[01:45] Sawa

You ditched us for a whole month,
you complain about your anxiety...

[01:50] Sawa

but those things don't matter to me.

[01:54] Sawa

If you still like volleyball,

[01:57] Sawa

that's reason enough to come back.

[02:01] Sawa

Oh, yeah.

[02:03] ---

We've got a guy who
hopes to become the ace.

[02:12] Asa

Ouch!

SIGN Haikyuu!!

SIGN Sakanoshita Shop

[03:45] Keishin

By the shores of the
coursing Hirose River,

SIGN Episode 9: A Toss to the Ace

[03:50] Kei

memories do not return.

[03:56] Kei

Amidst the dancing lights of Hayase...

[04:02] Kei

Wh-What are you doing?

[04:04] Takeda

I'm sorry. I was checking to see
if you had any customers.

[04:07] Kei

You're here about the coaching
thing again, aren't you?

[04:09] Takeda

Yes.

[04:12] Kei

I still like to play.

[04:15] ---

I even have a local team.

[04:18] Kei

But I don't want to coach. It's stuffy.

[04:21] Takeda

I see...

[04:22] Kei

And I don't want to go
to that gymnasium, either.

[04:25] Takeda

D-Do you have bad memories or something?

[04:27] Kei

The very opposite.

[04:29] ---

The place is filled with
fond memories of my youth.

[04:31] Takeda

Then, why?

[04:34] Kei

That gym and club room may still be the same,

[04:39] Kei

but I can never go back.

[04:42] Kei

It was a limited time with
its own distinctive feel.

[04:46] ---

The atmosphere belongs
to that place and time alone.

[04:50] Takeda

So it's nostalgia.

[04:52] ---

How nice.

[04:53] Kei

Shut up.

[04:55] Kei

That's why I don't want to go back.

[04:59] Takeda

Even if Nekoma High School were coming?

[05:02] Takeda

We're having a practice match

[05:04] ---

at the end of Golden Week.
The first match in five years.

[05:06] Kei

B-But wh-why now?

[05:09] Takeda

Their coach, Nekomata,
who was close friends with Coach Ukai,

[05:13] Takeda

just came out of retirement.

[05:16] Takeda

When I heard that,
I requested a practice match.

[05:20] Takeda

When you were there, Ukai-kun,

[05:21] ---

wasn't that when the
Nekoma rivalry was at its peak?

[05:25] Kei

Yeah.

[05:26] Takeda

And I hear their coach now was
Nekoma's setter seven or eight years ago.

[05:35] (Flashback) Nao

This year is our last chance, Ukai.

[05:38] (Flashback) Nao

Promise to definitely,
definitely see us at the nationals.

[05:41] (Flashback) Kei

Yeah.

[05:43] (Flashback) Kei

I promise.

[05:45] Takeda

That was when you were playing, too.

[05:48] ---

Maybe you know him?

[05:52] Kei

Hey...

[05:54] Kei

You trying to agitate me?

[05:56] Takeda

I'm sorry! I'm sorry!

[05:57] Kei

Are you kidding?

[05:58] ---

You think I'll fall for such an obvious ploy?

[06:01] Kei

What time does practice start?

[06:03] Takeda

I'm sor— Huh?

[06:06] Takeda

Um...

[06:07] Kei

Nekoma's coming.

[06:09] ---

I can't let them see my successors
in a pitiful state.

[06:11] Kei

I'm gearing up. Go there and wait.

[06:13] Takeda

Y-Yes.

[06:14] Kei

Mom! Mind the store for me.

[06:18] Takeda

All right.

[06:20] Kei

Hello, Tatsu-san?

SIGN Maturing to Greatness

[06:31] Tanaka

Say, Noya-san.

[06:33] Nishi

Huh?

[06:34] Tanaka

What kind of training did you do while you were suspended?

[06:38] Nishi

Hm, mainly block-follow.

[06:41] Nishi

Training for saving balls after they're blocked.

[06:44] Nishi

I still can't do it well, but if I get good at block-follow,

[06:48] Nishi

you guys can spike with greater confidence.

[06:53] Tanaka

This guy...

[06:54] Tanaka

He has a new bruise every time I see him.

[06:58] Tanaka

Noya-san, are you for real? You're such an awesome guy.

[07:01] Nishi

What're you crying about?

[07:04] Takeda

Good job, everyone.

[07:05] Sawa

Huddle up.

[07:08] Takeda

Let me introduce you.

[07:09] ---

This is Ukai-kun, who will be our coach starting today.

[07:18] Sawa

C-Coach?

[07:20] ---

Is this true?

[07:21] Kei

Only 'til the match against Nekoma.

[07:23] Sawa

Oh...

[07:25] Tanaka

But this is the guy from Sakanoshita Shop.

[07:28] ---

He's really a coach?

[07:29] Takeda

He's a senpai to all of you.

[07:31] ---

He's the grandson of Coach Ukai.

[07:33] All

What?

[07:34] Hinata

But that's not the name on your store.

[07:39] Kei

The store's named after
my mother's side of the family.

[07:42] Kei

We got no time to waste.
Let's get started.

[07:44] Kei

I want to see what you guys are made of.

[07:46] ---

The game will start at 6:30 PM.

[07:48] Kei

The opponents have already been invited.

[07:49] Sawa

Huh? Opponents?

[07:51] Kei

The Karasuno Neighborhood Association Team.

[08:01] (Flashback) Sawa

If you still like volleyball,

[08:03] (Flashback) Sawa

that's reason enough to come back.

[08:12] Kage

Here goes.

[08:13] Kage

Okay!

[08:15] Hinata

Here goes.

[08:17] Kei

Damn, they're not coming.

[08:19] Kei

I guess it's impossible
to get everyone on a weekday.

[08:30] Shimada

Here.

[08:32] Yama

Thank you very much.

[08:34] Takinoue

Hey.

[08:35] Shima

Hey.

[08:36] Uchizawa

Wow.

[08:37] Mori

Brings back memories.

[08:39] Yama

Um...

[08:42] Shima

Team Neighborhood Association...

[08:45] Tna

...is here!

[08:47] Kei

Hey, guys, thanks for coming on short notice.

[08:50] Tsuki

I was expecting geezers from
a neighborhood association.

[08:54] Yama

Me, too.

[08:57] Kei

All right!

[08:58] ---

Let's get started.

[09:00] Team

Yeah.

[09:00] Hinata

It's a match!

[09:03] Kei

Hey, you. What's the matter?

[09:06] Sawa

Oh, I'm sorry. He's sort of...

[09:09] Kei

What? He has a problem? Is he injured?

[09:11] Sawa

No, it's not that kind of thing...

[09:14] Kei

What, you're not injured?

[09:16] ---

Whatever the case,

I need you on the neighborhood team.

[09:19] Kei

Their libero has to work,
so he couldn't make it.

[09:22] Sawa

Well, then...

[09:27] Kei

We just need two more.

[09:29] ---

What should we do?

You guys still have more guys, right?

[09:31] Hinata

Hey, it's Asahi-san!

[09:34] Hinata

Asahi-san!

[09:36] Asahi

This guy again...

[09:38] Asahi

I... I... um...

[09:39] Tanaka

Asahi-san?

[09:40] Kei

What? You're late?

Who do you think you are?

[09:42] Kei

What's your position?

[09:44] Asahi

Wing spiker...

[09:45] Kei

We're short on players.

Hurry and warm up!

[09:49] Kei

Chop, chop!

[10:15] Kei

Now we just need a setter.

[10:17] ---

I wish I could do it,

but I have to watch the game.

[10:21] Kei

I need to borrow a setter from you guys.

[10:28] Kage

Sugawara-san.

[10:31] Kage

You're not doing this for me, are you?

[10:33] Kage

If you're stepping down

so I can step up, I'll refuse.

[10:40] Suga

Ever since you joined

the team as official setter,

[10:46] Suga

I've sort of been relieved.

[10:49] Suga

The setter is the pillar

of our team's offense.

[10:52] Suga

He must be the toughest of everyone.

[10:55] Suga

But I never felt confident

about throwing tosses.

[11:00] Suga

I've been scared

[11:02] ---

the spikers would repeatedly
be blocked because of my tosses.

[11:06] Suga

So I hid behind Kageyama's
overwhelming abilities,

[11:10] Suga

and enjoyed the relief.

[11:15] Suga

When I think of spikes getting blocked...

[11:18] Suga

It still scares me.

[11:20] Suga

But...

[11:22] ---

Let me toss to you again, Asahi.

[11:28] Suga

That's why I'll be on their team.

[11:30] Suga

Kageyama.

[11:33] ---

I won't let you outplay me.

[11:35] Kage

I won't, either.

[11:37] Suga

Nishinoya, I'm counting
on your nice receives.

[11:40] Nishi

That goes without saying.

[11:44] Sawa

All right. Let's get ready.

[11:45] Hinata

Asahi-san's here. Right?

[11:47] Kage

Yeah. For now, anyway.

SIGN Karasuno Neighborhood Assoc.

[11:50] All

Let's play.

[11:54] Sawa

They definitely have an
intimidating presence.

[11:56] Takinoue

Let's do this, high schoolers.

[12:02] Hinata

It's a battle against the ace...

SIGN Karasuno Neighborhood Assoc.

[12:21] Shimada

Nice receive.

[12:26] Taki

Hey, good one. Nice toss.

[12:29] Suga

Thank you very much.

[12:31] Hinata

Sugawara-san's quick attack!

[12:33] Sawa

Of course. Suga is an experienced setter, after all.

[12:37] Tan/Enno

He looks happy...

[12:39] Nishi

Suga-san, nice toss!

[12:41] Suga

Yeah.

[12:42] Suga

But the neighborhood folks are skillfully accommodating me.

[12:47] Suga

They're veterans, for sure.

[12:49] Taki

All right.

[12:50] Suga

My tosses still need a lot of work.

[12:53] Suga

But, I have to use lots of fast attacks,

[12:56] ---

and confidently keep building offense.

[12:59] Suga

Otherwise, the whole match will be on the ace's shoulders again.

[13:05] Nishi

Suga-san, you've become awesome.

[13:07] Suga

Huh? Really?

[13:09] ---

That's high praise coming from you, Nishinoya.

[13:12] Nishi

Why's that?

[13:13] Suga

Oh, well...

[13:16] Asahi

Suga, you've grown dependable in the short time I've been away.

[13:20] Asahi

And Nishinoya is dependable, as usual.

[13:21] Nishi

No, seriously, you've become awesome.

[13:24] Asahi

I, on the other hand,

[13:26] ---

*came moseying back, and am standing
on the court without a purpose.*

[13:30] Asahi

I feel pathetic.

[13:32] Asahi

But...

[13:36] Mori

Nice serve.

[13:37] Uchi

One more.

[13:40] Asahi

But...

[13:42] Asahi

I really do like being here.

[13:49] Taki

What was that?

[13:50] Hinata

All right!

[13:50] Kage

Yes.

[13:52] Uchi

That was an amazing jump.

[13:54] Shima

That toss was perfection itself.

[14:00] Sawa

Nice, Hinata, Kageyama.

[14:02] (Flashback) Hinata

But now I have this guy tossing to me,

[14:04] (Flashback) ---

so I can get past any blocker.

[14:06] (Flashback) Hinata

All the blockers vanish from sight...

[14:09] (Flashback) Hinata

and the view of the other side
of the net opens up.

[14:14] Asahi

The other side of the net...

[14:24] (Flashback) Sawa

Don't mind.

[14:25] (Flashback) Suga

One more.

SIGN 68th Prefecture Sporting Competition Volleyball Tournament

SIGN Karasuno Gymnasium Indoor Sports Arena

SIGN Date Tech Karasuno

[14:31] (Flashback) Suga

It's a feint. In front!

[14:32] (Flashback) Tanaka

Nice, Noya-san.

[14:34] (Flashback) Suga

Asahi.

SIGN Iron Wall of Date

Date Technical High School Volleyball Club Supporters Association

[14:41] (Flashback) Nishi

Damn.

[14:42] (Flashback) Audience

He missed, but still, that libero is amazing.

[14:45] (Flashback) Nishi

I'm sorry. I'll get the next one.

[14:45] (Flashback) Audience2

Yeah. His skills are amazingly high-level.

[14:48] (Flashback) Audience

But the offense is weak...

[14:51] Asahi

Blocked again...

[14:53] ---

*I've lost count of how many
they've blocked.*

[14:56] Asahi

I kept calling for a toss.

"Bring it to me."

[14:59] Asahi

"I will score."

[15:01] ---

But I've reached the very end.

[15:04] Asahi

I'm scared to call for a toss.

[15:07] (Flashback) Nishi

Asahi-san?

[15:08] (Flashback) Suga

Asahi?

[15:09] (Flashback) Sawa

Suga, to the right.

[15:11] (Flashback) Suga

Da-Daichi!

SIGN Date Tech Karasuno

[15:21] (Flashback) Nishi

Damn it!

[15:25] (Flashback) Nishi

I couldn't follow on any of the blocks.

SIGN Dashing Full Force

[15:31] (Flashback) Asahi

Why? Why aren't you blaming me?

[15:34] (Flashback) Asahi

We lost because of me.

[15:36] (Flashback) ---

No matter how much you followed,

[15:38] (Flashback) ---

if I can't spike and score, it's all for nothing!

[15:39] (Flashback) Sawa

Asahi.

[15:44] (Flashback) Nishi

What do you mean "it's all for nothing"?

[15:47] (Flashback) Nishi

Then why didn't you call
for a toss at the end?

[15:51] (Flashback) Nishi

You were in a position to spike.

[15:54] (Flashback) Suga

Stop it, Nishinoya.

[15:56] (Flashback) ---

I was only bringing the ball to Asahi.

He must've been tired.

[15:58] (Flashback) Asaki

Toss to me all you want.

[16:00] (Flashback) ---

I'll never score.

[16:03] (Flashback) Nishi

You don't know that 'til you spike.

[16:06] (Flashback) Nishi

Maybe the next one will score!

[16:11] (Flashback) Nishi

I kept the ball in the air.

[16:13] (Flashback) ---

It's not your place to give up.

[16:16] (Flashback) Tanaka

Noya!

[16:18] (Flashback) Nishi

I'm a libero. I'm the
cornerstone of the defense,

[16:21] (Flashback) ---

and the cornerstone of the team!

[16:23] (Flashback) Nishi

But...

[16:25] (Flashback) ---

I'm not the one who can score points.

[16:29] (Flashback) Nishi

I can't attack.

[16:31] (Flashback) ---

I don't care if your spikes don't score.

[16:34] (Flashback) Nishi

I would never blame you in the least.

[16:38] (Flashback) Nishi

But I won't stand for you
giving up so selfishly.

[16:47] (Flashback) Tanaka

A-Asahi-san.

[16:48] (Flashback) Suga

Asahi.

[16:49] (Flashback) Suga

Wait, Asahi.

[17:00] (Flashback) Nishi

Why didn't you show up at club yesterday?

[17:04] (Flashback) Nishi

Soon after New Year,
it'll be the Inter-High.

[17:09] (Flashback) Asahi

It's no fun hitting spikes that don't score.

[17:12] Asahi

What am I saying?

[17:13] ---

I don't think that at all.

[17:16] (Flashback) Asahi

You, too. You save the ball,
but if no one scores,

[17:19] (Flashback) ---

it's all in vain.

[17:20] Asahi

Stop it.

[17:22] ---

Nishinoya isn't a guy that thinks like that.

[17:25] (Flashback) Asahi

Suga felt responsible every
time my ball got blocked—

[17:27] (Flashback) Nishi

Who cares about what others think?!

[17:31] (Flashback) Dean

Hey, who's shouting?

[17:34] (Flashback) Dean

Don't make noise in the hall.

[17:37] (Flashback) Nishi

Asahi-san.

[17:38] (Flashback) Dean

Hey.

[17:38] (Flashback) Nishi

Shut up!

[17:42] (Flashback) Dean

How dare you!

[17:42] (Flashback) Student

He did that in front of the vice principal.

[17:52] (Flashback) Nishi

Don't you want to spike and score again?

[17:57] Tanaka

Nice, Hinata.

[17:59] Hinata

Thanks!

[18:00] Kage

Hinata, you serve next.

[18:03] Asahi

That's what I want.

[18:06] Asahi

No matter how many times I fail,

[18:09] ---

I still want to spike.

[18:15] Nishi

Then, I'm fine.

[18:17] Nishi

Now that you said that, I'm fine.

[18:28] Nishi

My job is to keep the ball in play.

That's all.

[18:32] Enno

Hinata, nice serve!

[18:35] Taki

Net in!

[18:36] Shima

Whoops.

[18:37] Shima

Sorry! Cover for me.

[18:39] Uchi

Long-hair guy, you do last.

[18:43] Nishi

The sky is the domain of spikers.

[18:46] ---

I can't do battle up there...

[18:50] Kage

Let's block 'em.

[18:51] Tsuki

Don't give orders.

[18:53] Tanaka

Asahi-san, I'm blocking you for real.

[18:56] Nishi

*If I keep the ball in play...
as long it stays connected...*

[18:59] (Flashback) Asahi

I want to spike again.

[19:02] Nishi

I know the ace will score for us.

[19:20] Shima

He saved it.

[19:21] Uchi

Nice follow.

[19:24] (Flashback) Nishi

Mainly block-follow.

[19:26] (Flashback) Nishi

Training in saving balls that get blocked.

[19:28] Tanaka

Noya-san...

[19:33] Nishi

Even if the ball bounces off the wall...

[19:35] ---

I'll keep it in play.

[19:38] Nishi

So call for a toss again,

[19:42] ---

ace!

[19:45] Shima

Cover.

[19:46] Suga

All right.

[19:47] Suga

*What should I do?
Who do I toss it to?*

[19:49] Suga

*The left is open.
That might be the best, but...*

[19:54] Suga

*If I toss to Asahi and
he gets blocked again...*

[19:57] Kage

Sugawara-san.

[19:59] Kage

Give it to him

[20:00] ---

'til he scores.

[20:02] Tsuki

You're a total sadist, King.

[20:04] Kage

What?

[20:06] Suga

*When the going gets rough,
when the receive is tenuous,*

[20:09] Suga

the last ball is entrusted to the ace.

[20:12] Suga

I know. I know it,

[20:16] ---

but Asahi isn't waiting for a toss,

[20:19] Suga

*and I'm putting him on the
spot against three blockers.*

[20:24] Asahi

The spike...

[20:26] Asahi

I can spike because the toss goes up.

[20:30] (Flashback) Suga

Let me toss to you again, Asahi.

[20:36] Asahi

*The toss goes up because
of the connecting receive.*

[20:41] (Flashback) Nishi

I kept the ball in the air.

[20:43] (Flashback) ---

It's not your place to give up.

[20:47] Asahi

I'm not the only one who spikes.

[20:53] Asahi

Everybody plays his own respective part.

[20:57] Asahi

And yet, I...

[20:58] (Flashback) Kage

You don't win alone.

That's just how it is.

[21:01] (Flashback) Hinata

That's why everyone calls
you an ace, Asahi-san.

[21:05] (Flashback) Sawa

If you still like volleyball...

[21:07] (Flashback) Kage

Call for a toss again,

[21:10] (Flashback) ---

ace!

[21:14] Shima

All right.

[21:15] Suga

Shimada-san—

[21:16] Asahi

Suga!

[21:22] Asahi

One more!

[21:28] Suga

Ah,

[21:29] ---

the ace awaits.

[21:32] Suga

He's calling for a toss.

[21:37] Suga

A high toss, slightly away from the net.

[21:40] Suga

*The toss, Asahi's specialty,
which I've tossed to him many times.*

[21:46] Suga

*Even if it's just a plain toss,
give it all you got... carefully...*

[21:50] Tsuki

You're rooting for the
other team, aren't you?

[21:53] Tsuki

Well, sorry to say it,
but I'm blocking them.

[21:54] Kage

Of course. What's the point of holding back?

[22:02] Asahi

The dependable guardian behind me...

[22:05] Asahi

The easy-to-spike tosses he sends me...

[22:08] Asahi

I lack nothing.

[22:10] Asahi

*I had forgotten such simple,
obvious things...*

[22:15] Asahi

I'm...

[22:17] ---

...not fighting this battle alone.

[22:21] Asahi

To strike past all obstacles...

[22:39] Asahi

That's the ace.

SIGN Next Episode Preview

[24:14] Tsuki

Tanaka-senpai, stop crying
and block properly.

[24:17] Tanaka

Jackass, I'm not crying! This is...

[24:20] Tsuki

Sure. It's sweat, right?

[24:23] Tanaka

My nose is running!

SIGN Episode 10: Yearning

[24:24] Tsuki

Next time on *Haikyuu!!*:

"Yearning."

[24:27] ---

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