

# E17 - The Unexpected Pitcher

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**[00:05] Ump**

Out!

**[00:12] Tao**

Don't jump to any conclusions, okay?

**[00:15] Tao**

It's not like I've been  
taking it easy up till now.

**[00:20] Tao**

Headfirst slides don't make you any faster,  
you can get hurt, and there's no real upside.

**[00:26] Tao**

I just wanted to get my uniform  
as dirty as everyone else's.

**[02:08] Dai**

Okay, we got two runs back!

**SIGN** The Unexpected Pitcher

**[02:11] Dai**

The momentum's with us!

**[02:12] Dai**

The real fight starts here!

**[02:14] All**

Yeah!

**[02:19] Ide**

We're three runs ahead.

**[02:21] Sek**

I didn't expect them to narrow the gap.

**[02:24] Mic**

We need to disrupt their rhythm here  
before they build up a real head of steam.

**[02:29] Uoz**

Yeah.

**[02:40] Fuj**

Oh! She's pitching this inning, too?!

**[02:43] Fuj**

You got this, Chisato!

**[02:45] Kao**

So Chisato-chan can even  
play as a long reliever?

**[02:49] Fuj**

Hm, well, I don't think  
she's done it all that much before,

**[02:53] Fuj**

but it should be a piece  
of cake for my Chisato.

**[02:56] Fuj**

She's got real talent and excels  
at anything she turns her hand to!

**[03:00] Kao**

Huh.

**[03:02] Fuj**

No, I mean it.

**[03:03] Fuj**

She takes after me in that regard!

**[03:04] Ann**

*Bottom of the fifth.*

**[03:06] Kao**

Sorry, what?

**[03:06] Ann**

*Oobi Middle to bat.*

**[03:06] Fuj**

You got this, Chisato!

**[03:08] Ann**

*Batting first, second base, Idemitsu-kun.*

**[03:12] Dai**

*We faced the bottom  
of their order last inning,*

**[03:14] Dai**

*but we've cycled back  
to the top for this inning.*

**[03:17] Ump**

Play!

**[03:19] Dai**

*Please get us through this somehow, Chisato!*

**[03:28] Sek**

Nice, Idemitsu!

**[03:29] Uoz**

Follow it up, Michiru!

**[03:37] Dai**

*This is bad. It's early in the inning  
and Chisato hasn't found her form yet.*

**[03:42] Dai**

*But we just started*

*believing we can catch up.*

**[03:49] Dai**

*There's no way we can let them  
pull further ahead this inning.*

**[03:52] Ani**

Chisato, focus!

**[03:58] Ump**

Ball!

**[04:00] Ide**

Hey, lead, lead, lead!

**[04:05] Ump**

Ball two!

**[04:08] Dai**

*She can't get it in the strike zone.*

**[04:10] Dai**

Senpai.

**[04:13] Dai**

Timeout.

**[04:17] Dai**

What's up? Is something wrong?

**[04:19] Chi**

I'm sorry, I didn't want to say this,

**[04:23] Chi**

but I'm way too tired to pitch.

**[04:27] Chi**

Maybe it's because

I haven't pitched in ages,

**[04:29] Chi**

but my grip strength suddenly  
deserted me this inning.

**[04:32] Dai**

H-Hold on a sec! Don't do this to me, Chisato!

**[04:36] Dai**

We don't have any other pitchers!

**[04:38] Yay**

What's going on?

**[04:39] Tao**

I guess Chisato could only  
handle being a short reliever.

**[04:44] Dai**

You can focus solely on your control.

Please, just get us through this inning.

**[04:50] Dai**

I'll come up with a plan for beyond that,  
like putting Nishina in again or something.

**[04:54] Chi**

Huh? Uh, all right.

**[05:00] Ump**

Play!

**[05:02] Chi**

*That's easier said than done, though.*

**[05:10] Ump**

Foul!

**[05:14] Chi**

See? I told you.

**[05:17] Upz**

They're out of pitchers, huh?

**[05:19] Upz**

Fujii can't pitch two innings.

**[05:24] Ump**

Ball three!

**[05:26] Chi**

This blows!

**[05:28] Ump**

Ball! Ball four!

**[05:32] Kao**

It looks like Chisato-chan's  
reached her limit.

**[05:35] Fuj**

Are you okay, Chisato? You got  
tired between innings, didn't you?

**[05:39] Fuj**

You poor thing.

**[05:42] Fuj**

Hey, Daigo! Why are you forcing  
her to be a long reliever?!

**[05:46] Kao**

You literally just said she takes  
after you and can do *anything*...

**[05:55] Dai**

*Chisato can't go on like this.*

**[05:57] Dai**

I-I'm sorry. We need a timeout, please.

**[06:01] Ump**

Timeout!

**[06:03] Yay**

Daigo.

**[06:06] Yay**

Want me to pitch?

**[06:09] Dai**

Huh?

**[06:11] Dai**

Huh?!

**[06:12] Dai**

You want to pitch, Sawa-san?!

**[06:13] Yay**

What's with that reaction?

It's not like I've never pitched before.

**[06:19] Dai**

Really?

**[06:21] Dai**

But you never mentioned that when we were choosing positions way back.

**[06:26] (Flashback) Yay**

I'll take second.

**[06:27] (Flashback) Tao**

Shortstop for me, then.

**[06:30] Yay**

Well, pitcher's the most tiring position, and it's a heck of a lot of responsibility.

**[06:34] Yay**

Why would I volunteer for that?

**[06:34] Txt**

be1\fs18\bord4\b1\shad0\an8\pos(85.333,30)\3c&H75EDFC&\c&H021E24&\i1}That's\* your reason?

**[06:34] Txt**

be1\fs18\bord4\b1\shad0\an8\3c&H75EDFC&\c&H021E24&\pos(548,199.333)\i1}That's\* your reason?

**[06:34] Txt**

be1\fs18\bord4\b1\shad0\an8\3c&H75EDFC&\c&H021E24&\pos(103.333,222)\i1}That's\* your reason?

**[06:37] Dai**

**That's *your* reason?**

[06:40] Dai\*\*

But are you sure about this?

**[06:43] Dai**

You haven't pitched in a long time, right?

**[06:45] Dai**

And you haven't warmed up your arm.

Isn't that jumping in at the deep end?

**[06:49] Yay**

Deep end or not, I gotta do something to get that glum look off your face.

**[06:58] Yay**

I may not have pitched in a while,

**[07:01] Yay**

but that doesn't mean

I can't find the strike zone.

**[07:05] Yay**

Well, I'll see what I can do.

**[07:09] Ann**

*Field change for Fuurin Academy.*

**[07:14] Ann**

*Sawa-san moves from second base to pitcher.*

**[07:15] Nis**

A switch?

**[07:17] Ann**

*Fujii-san moves from pitcher to second base.*

**[07:22] Uoz**

What? Did she say Sawa?

**[07:27] Uoz**

Can she even still pitch?

**[07:36] Tao**

Yayoi.

**[07:38] Tao**

Hey, you're not serious, right? I mean, you—

**[07:42] Yay**

Shush.

**[07:44] Yay**

Daigo will hear you.

**[07:47] Yay**

He won't shut up if he finds out,  
so you can't tell him.

**[07:56] Dai**

Last one!

**[08:03] Dai**

*They're pretty good.*

**[08:05] Dai**

*The speed's decent and  
the control's not bad, either.*

**[08:09] Ann**

*Batting third, shortstop, Seko-kun.*

**[08:13] Yay**

Oh, I'm sorry. Gimme a sec.

**[08:19] Ump**

What's going on? Please hurry it up.

**[08:23] Yay**

Right. I'm ready now.

**[08:27] Ump**

Play!

**[08:55] Ump**

Strike!

**[08:58] Mic**

No way... That was fast.

**[09:01] Uoz**

*You gotta be kidding.*

**[09:02] Uoz**

*Her pitches look even more intense now,*

*despite what happened.*

**[09:07] Mut**

Incredible.

**[09:09] Tao**

*You... You don't have to go overboard, Yayoi.*

**[09:18] Ump**

Foul!

**[09:20] Dai**

*Is this real?*

**[09:22] Dai**

*Sawa-san could pitch like this all along?*

**[09:25] Dai**

*Why didn't she tell me?*

**[09:29] Ump**

Ball!

**[09:30] Sek**

*She's only thrown fastballs so far.*

**[09:33] Sek**

*I remember, even back then,  
she was already pitching breaking balls.*

**[09:42] Ump**

Foul!

**[09:46] Yay**

*Not bad, Sekocchi. Fastballs  
aren't enough against you.*

**[09:51] Yay**

Daigo!

**[09:54] Ump**

Timeout!

**[09:58] Mic**

*She has an arm like that and  
didn't even try out for Senior?*

**[10:11] Mic**

*Now it's even clearer that I can't afford  
to lose to these ambitionless time-wasters.*

**[10:16] Dai**

Huh? You can throw breaking balls too?

**[10:20] Yay**

Yep.

**[10:21] Yay**

So you can call my pitches.

**[10:23] Yay**

Curveballs, shootballs, sliders...

**[10:25] Yay**

I can throw whatever you want.

**[10:28] Dai**

But I've never seen you throw any of those.

**[10:31] Dai**

I don't know which one I should pick.

**[10:34] Dai**

What pitch do you feel  
most comfortable with?

**[10:43] Ump**

Play!

**[10:45] (Flashback) Yay**

The one I feel most comfortable with?

**[10:49] (Flashback) Yay**

I guess that'd be...

**[11:09] (Flashback) Yay**

...the forkball.

**[11:11] Ump**

You're out!

**[11:14] Ani**

Heck yeah!

**[11:16] Mut**

What was that just now?

**[11:18] Mut**

A forkball?

**[11:22] Yay**

One out, you guys!

**[11:26] Sek**

I expected another fastball,  
but it nosedived.

**[11:30] Dai**

*I heard rubber-ball forkballs  
didn't sink all that sharply.*

**[11:34] Dai**

*Sawa-san, you're something else!*

**[11:36] Ann**

*Batting fourth, catcher, Uozumi-kun.*

**[11:40] Ann**

*So you've still got it, huh, Sawa?*

**[11:42] Ann**

*We might've been evenly matched  
back then, but not now.*

**[11:46] Ann**

*I refuse to accept that any girl other  
than Michiru is up to my standard!*

**[11:51] Ump**

Strike!

**[11:53] Tao**

*Another breaking ball? And a forkball, too.*

**[11:56] Tao**

*That's the worst choice of pitch, Yayoi!*

**[12:01] Ump**

Foul!

**[12:03] Uoz**

*We need some more runs.*

**[12:05] Uoz**

*If we don't score any runs here,  
the momentum will be with them.*

**[12:10] Uoz**

*We absolutely must...*

**[12:13] Uoz**

*...get more runs!*

**[12:27] Mic**

Yes, it went through!

**[12:35] Ump**

Out!

**[12:37] Dai**

Yes! We survived!

**[12:39] Yay**

Nice double play, Tao!

**[12:44] Txt**

Fuurin Academy

**[12:44] Txt**

Fuurin Academy

**[12:44] Txt**

Oobi

**[12:47] Uoz**

Damn, we got nothing.

**[12:59] Yay**

Thanks. You're a lifesaver.

**[13:02] Tao**

Yeah, I saved you. Because I want  
you to pitch as little as possible.

**[13:12] Mut**

Yayoi, that was amazing!

**[13:14] Mut**

Why'd you wait till now to pitch for us  
when you have an arm like that?

**[13:19] Nis**

Yeah, seriously. Not cool, man.

**[13:22] Nis**

You probably woulda been  
made ace on the spot.

**[13:25] Yay**

Nah, no way. I just rode my luck  
and it all worked out this time.

**[13:29] Mut**

That wasn't riding your luck!

**[13:32] Chi**

I guess Sawa-senpai's okay, then?

**[13:32] Mut**

You'll make me mad,  
saying stuff like that, Yayoi!

**[13:35] Ani**

I gotta say, the way that forkball  
sank was pretty darn brutal.

**[13:41] Uoz**

Two innings left.

**[13:42] Uoz**

This inning with Sawa and the meat  
of their order is our biggest challenge.

**[13:46] Uoz**

Nice and steady, Michiru.

**[13:49] Mic**

I know.

**[13:51] Ann**

*Batting third, pitcher, Sawa-san.*

**[13:53] Dai**

Let's go! We're on fire!

**[14:03] Ump**

Strike!

**[14:06] Yay**

*Looks like she's not gonna  
give me any easy fastballs.*

**[14:11] Yay**

*Then, I'll have to swing...*

**[14:13] Yay**

*...when she tries to rack up the count...*

**[14:21] Yay**

*...with a breaking ball!*

**[14:29] All**

Yeah!

**[14:31] Tao**

Nice batting!

**[14:34] Tao**

*Damn you, Sawa.*

**[14:35] Tao**

*She managed to hit Michiru's  
slider on her first swing!*

**[14:39] Tao**

*That was crazy good. Now, it's my turn.*

**[14:42] Kao**

Isn't that the first time the first  
batter in the inning got a base hit?

**[14:47] Fuj**

Yeah. The game's turning in our favor!

**[14:50] Fuj**

Keep it going, Daigo!

**[14:52] Txt**

Pop

**[14:54] Kao**

*Bah, why's that idiot ignoring his messages?*

**[14:57] Kao**

*The game's almost over! Is he really gonna miss this all-important final?!*

**[15:02] Kao**

*Batting fourth, catcher, Shigeno-kun.*

**[15:05] Mut**

You got this, Daigo!

**[15:08] Ani**

Keep us motorin'!

**[15:12] Ump**

Strike!

**[15:14] Dai**

*So fast!*

**[15:15] Dai**

*But Sawa-san and the others got us to this point...*

**[15:22] Ump**

Strike two!

**[15:26] Dai**

*I need to do this...*

**[15:29] Dai**

*...and set up something big!*

**[15:37] Ump**

Out!

**[15:38] Ump**

Out!

**[15:41] Ani**

Aw, heck no! A double play?

**[15:44] Fuj**

Gah! Seriously? A double play?!

**[15:48] Nis**

Well, damn. You serious, captain?

**[15:54] Dai**

Sorry.

**[15:59] Nis**

H-Hey! Don't go getting all depressed!

**[16:02] Nis**

I'll smash one outta the park and create a chance for us!

**[16:05] Dai**

Please do.

**[16:10] Ump**

Strike three! You're out!

**[16:21] Dai**

*Why was I so hasty to get something on that slider?*

**[16:27] Dai**

*The captain can't waste a chance like that.*

**[16:31] Mut**

Daigo!

**[16:32] Mut**

Why are you spacing out?

**[16:34] Mut**

You shouldn't keep the pitcher waiting.

**[16:37] Dai**

Oh, uh, right.

**[16:47] Ump**

Out!

**[16:51] Txt**

Fuurin Academy

**[16:51] Txt**

Fuurin Academy

**[16:51] Txt**

Oobi

**[16:54] Ani**

Nice pitchin', Senpai.

**[16:56] Yay**

Thanks.

**[16:58] Uoz**

Okay, it's the last inning!

**[17:00] Uoz**

Let's get these next three out and go to Regionals!

**[17:04] Txt**

Sagara

**[17:04] Txt**

Sawa

**[17:04] Txt**

Shigeno

**[17:04] Txt**

Nishina

**[17:04] Txt**

Kabashima

**[17:04] Txt**

Tanba

**[17:04] Txt**

Kandori

**[17:04] Txt**

Sakura

**[17:05] Ann**

*Top of the seventh.*

**[17:07] Ann**

*Fuurin Academy to bat.*

**[17:09] Mic**

*Right. Three up, three down to end this.*

**[17:11] Ann**

*Batting sixth, left field, Kabashima-san.*

**[17:17] Mic**

*For my own sake, and for the guys  
who quit Senior to play alongside me,*

**[17:21] Mic**

*I'll take the middle school rubber-ball crown!*

**[17:23] Tao**

Go get 'em!

**[17:25] Mut**

Please, Anita!

**[17:28] Nis**

You hafta get on base, Anita!

**[17:30] Nis**

We still have a chance here!

**[17:39] Fuj**

Yes!

**[17:40] Kao**

It went through!

**[17:45] Chi**

Yes! We got a runner!

**[17:47] Tao**

Nice batting!

**[17:48] Mut**

We can get those three runs easy!

**[17:51] Mic**

*Who on earth are these girls?*

**[17:55] Mic**

*How can they hit my pitches so easily?!*

**[17:58] Uoz**

*Calm down, Michiru. The only ones  
with skill are the ex-Little players.*

**[18:03] Ann**

*Batting seventh, first base, Tanba-kun.*

**[18:07] Uoz**

*Get their bottom three  
batters out and it's over!*

**[18:12] Ani**

Tanba! Ya'd better do this!

**[18:15] Nis**

Hey, he's two years older than you.

**[18:23] Ump**

Strike three! You're out!

**[18:27] Tan**

Sorry.

**[18:29] Kan**

No worries!

**[18:33] Kan**

Leave it to me.

**[18:36] Nis**

Oh, yeah, southpaws are her specialty!

**[18:39] Ani**

She might actually pull somethin' off again!

**[18:50] Ump**

Out!

**[18:55] Mic**

*One to go.*

**[18:57] Ann**

*Batting ninth, right field, Sakura-san.*

**[19:06] Mut**

*I'm not giving up!*

**[19:14] Mut**

*I don't want to lose!*

**[19:19] Mut**

*So fast...*

**[19:21] Mut**

*But...*

**[19:23] Mut**

*...I want a hit!*

**[19:25] Ump**

Foul!

**[19:26] Ani**

Good swing! That'll get ya a hit!

**[19:30] Ump**

Foul!

**[19:34] Ump**

Foul!

**[19:37] Ump**

Foul!

**[19:40] Mut**

*I swear... I'm going to get you!*

**[19:44] Mic**

*So annoying!*

**[19:46] Ump**

Foul!

**[19:54] Kan**

Mutsu! You can do it!

**[19:56] Tao**

Stay tough!

**[20:02] Ump**

Foul!

**[20:03] ---**

Mutsuko...

**[20:08] (Flashback) Mut**

Come on, pull yourself together.

**[20:10] (Flashback) Mut**

This game's not over yet.

**[20:12] (Flashback) Dai**

Y-Yeah...

**[20:14] (Flashback) Mut**

Is it the double play earlier  
that's getting you down?

**[20:18] (Flashback) Dai**

No, I just can't face you guys  
when you've been working so hard.

**[20:23] (Flashback) Dai**

Not after the captain and cleanup  
wrecked the team's chances.

**[20:29] (Flashback) Mut**

How dense are you?

**[20:36] (Flashback) Mut**

Here.

**[20:37] (Flashback) Mut**

You're the one who's been  
working the hardest up to now.

**[20:41] (Flashback) Mut**

As our catcher and our captain,  
you've been carrying us this whole time.

**[20:46] (Flashback) Mut**

So why beat yourself up  
over one measly double play?

**[20:52] (Flashback) Mut**

We're your team, Daigo.

**[20:55] (Flashback) Mut**

So chin up!

**[20:58] Dai**

Mutsuko! Keep us alive!

**[21:06] Mic**

All right!

**[21:15] Uoz**

What?!

**[21:17] Tao**

Yeah!

**[21:19] Yay**

Stop, stop!

**[21:32] Dai**

*Nice, Mutsuko!*

**[21:33] Dai**

*Two outs, runners on first and third!*

**[21:35] Dai**

*Our chances are much better now!*

**[21:39] Uoz**

*Dammit.*

**[21:40] Uoz**

*What a time to make an error.*

**[21:43] Mic**

*So you're gonna make me struggle for this, huh?*

**[21:48] Mic**

*But this ends now.*

**[21:57] Mic**

*I will win this game with my pitching!*

**[22:13] Gor**

Three runs behind and  
two outs in the last inning?

**[22:16] Gor**

Well, isn't this fun?

**[22:23] Gor**

I call this the starting line  
in baseball, Daigo!

**[24:00] Mic**

How?

**[24:01] Mic**

Even boys can't get good hits on my pitches.

**[24:04] Mic**

What is it with these girls?!

**[24:06] Yay**

I wonder why...

**[24:07] Yay**

I wasn't planning on trying this hard.

**[24:10] Mic**

I know...

**[24:11] Mic**

I know this will be the only time  
I get to play alongside these guys!

**[24:16] Yay**

Captain, we've come this far. We gotta win!

**[24:18] Yay**

Let's kick it up a notch!

**[24:20] Yay**

Next time: "We've Come This Far."

**SIGN** We've Come This Far

**[24:22] Mic**

Run to the stage of your dreams!

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Revision #1

Created 2024-02-07 03:04:58 UTC by whimsee

Updated 2024-02-07 03:04:59 UTC by whimsee