

E17 - Return

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 December 17th, 2001 10:38 pm

SIGN Hakuryou University Nuclear Research Laboratory

SIGN Return

[01:48] Takeru

Where are we?

[01:49] Yuuko

The nuclear research lab
attached to Hakuryou College.

[01:52] Takeru

Sensei, when I get back to the other side...

[01:57] Yuuko

The Shirogane who's originally
from this world will be left behind.

[02:00] Yuuko

The effects you've caused
will remain intact, though.

[02:04] Yuuko

Which is why you need to go back.

[02:07] Yuuko

Otherwise, we could be looking at
five billion dead on this world, too.

[02:11] Yuuko

Go on, get us in there.

[02:13] Takeru

Right.

[02:15] Yuuko

If my hypothesis is right, you won't
even be able to die on the other side.

[02:21] Yuuko

More accurately, you're capable of dying,

[02:25] Yuuko

and have already done so
quite a few times without remembering.

[02:29] Takeru

A few times?

[02:32] Yuuko

I'm wondering if the trigger for the loops

[02:34] Yuuko

that other world experiences
might be your death.

[02:37] Yuuko

That could explain why your
memory is spotty, as well.

[02:41] Takeru

Then that's why my memories
of the previous loops is so vague?

[02:45] Yuuko

Until you remove whatever's
turned you into a causality conductor,

[02:49] Yuuko

you're going to be indefinitely locked
inside of a cyclical fragment of space-time.

[02:56] Yuuko

Come on, let's get going.

[03:07] Yuuko

This is what we're going to use
to send you to the other world.

[03:11] Takeru

This stuff?!

[03:12] Yuuko

Oh, come off it. I had to
improvise with what I had available.

[03:16] Takeru

But it's been over 24 hours
since I came here.

[03:20] Yuuko

Relax. This'll be enough to send you back.

[03:26] Takeru

How can you be so sure?

[03:28] Yuuko

I learned how from my counterpart.

[03:31] Takeru

Were you able to communicate
with the other world?!

[03:32] Yuuko

Can you imagine how much easier
this would've been in that case?

[03:35] Yuuko

I found it in the documents
you brought me the first time around.

[03:40] Yuuko

She had a few contingencies outlined.

[03:43] Yuuko

Including one for what to do if you
went AWOL and didn't want to come back.

[03:49] Yuuko

She couldn't afford to let you go until she
had the formulas that would save the world.

[03:55] Yuuko

An understandable bit of insurance.

[03:57] Yuuko

But there were a few falsehoods
subtly slipped into what was written, too.

[04:01] Yuuko

By the other me, of course.

[04:03] Yuuko

My theory for inter-world travel
did have unresolved problems.

[04:06] Yuuko

And she had all the answers
for how to deal with them.

[04:09] Yuuko

I didn't realize what she had done until
the causality influx led to Marimo's death.

[04:16] Yuuko

I was too excited at my theory for
inter-world travel being proven true.

[04:21] Yuuko

And I'm pretty sure the other me
expected that to happen,

[04:23] Yuuko

and altered what she wrote
to keep me from realizing the outcome.

[04:27] Takeru

She went as far as tricking
an alternate version of herself?

[04:31] Takeru

I swear, I'm going to fix
whatever's causing this.

[04:34] Yuuko

I thought you might start sulking again.
Glad to see I was wrong.

[04:38] Takeru

Right now, my only concern is getting back
to the other world and finishing my job.

[04:42] Takeru

Rubbing the other Yuuko-sensei's
nose in it will be an added bonus.

[04:46] Yuuko

I would love it if you did that.

[04:52] Yuuko

You're about to be forced
to encounter situations

[04:55] Yuuko

where your choices will get people killed
over and over again.

[05:00] Yuuko

You'll have to choose to let people die
in pursuit of achieving your goals.

[05:05] Yuuko

Are you going to be able to endure that?

[05:08] Yuuko

Will you always be able to
make the practical choice?

[05:12] Takeru

Either way, because
I'm the causality conductor,

[05:15] Takeru

I'm the only one who can save
the worlds I've passed through.

[05:20] Takeru

Right?

[05:23] Yuuko

You know what to do?

[05:24] Takeru

Yeah.

[05:25] Takeru

I'm gonna save the multiverse!

[05:29] Yuuko

A successful transfer is linked
to a strong sense of purpose.

[05:33] Yuuko

That resolve, your feelings for Kagami,
Marimo, and everyone else,

[05:38] Yuuko

will guide you back to the other world.

[05:42] Security Guard

No good! It won't open!

[05:47] Yuuko

Damn it all! When we're doing this
to save them, too! So annoying.

[05:52] Takeru

Sensei!

[05:52] Yuuko

All we need now is power.

[05:54] Takeru

If I vanish now, Sensei, the police will—

[05:56] Yuuko

Shut up! Conversation over!

[05:59] Yuuko

Or are you already losing your nerve?

[06:02] Takeru

I'm not going to let my feelings stop me from doing my duty ever again.

[06:08] Takeru

I'm going to do what only I can do, and I'll feel sad once it's over!

[06:16] Yuuko

Maybe Marimo had better taste in men than I thought.

[06:20] Yuuko

You love Kagami, right?

[06:22] Takeru

Sensei?

[06:23] Yuuko

Answer the question!

[06:24] Takeru

I-I do!

[06:26] Yuuko

I can't hear you!

[06:28] Yuuko

Are your feelings as soft as your voice?

[06:30] Takeru

I love Sumika!

[06:33] Yuuko

Louder!

[06:34] Takeru

I love her!

[06:36] Yuuko

Louder!

[06:36] Takeru

I love her!

[06:38] Yuuko

Still not enough! Again!

[06:40] Takeru

I'm in love with Kagami Sumika!

[06:46] Security Guards

There they are!

[06:48] Security Guards

Damn! It's locked...

[06:49] Security Guards

Open up!

[06:51] Yuuko

That's parapositronium light!

This is gonna work!

[06:54] Takeru

Sensei...

[06:57] Yuuko

Shirogane, Kagami is somewhere
in the other world.

[07:01] Yuuko

That's how this miracle happened.

[07:05] Yuuko

Now, go take care of business,
Shirogane Takeru!

[07:08] Takeru

Sensei!

[07:26] Takeru

I'm back.

[07:27] Yuuko

Well, I didn't expect to find you in here.

[07:32] Takeru

Sensei...

[07:36] Takeru

I'm sorry for the pathetic way I behaved.

[07:39] Takeru

You might not need me anymore,
but please, let me stay here again!

[07:45] Takeru

Please give me another chance!

[07:48] Takeru

I have to save all of the worlds
I've interacted with!

[07:52] Takeru

All the worlds that have
gone wrong, because of me!

[07:55] Yuuko

I think you've misunderstood something.

[07:59] Yuuko

I never gave you any kind of opportunity,
or took one away from you.

[08:04] Yuuko

Did you forget? Weren't we only working
together because our interests were aligned?

[08:11] Yuuko

You got to play savior thanks to me.

[08:15] Yuuko

And I got to obtain vital formulas
for the completion of Alternative IV.

[08:19] Yuuko

It's that simple.

[08:21] Takeru

Playing savior...

[08:23] Takeru

She's got a point.

[08:25] Yuuko

So, what can you do for me now?

[08:30] Yuuko

This needs to be mutually beneficial.

[08:35] Yuuko

Since you don't seem to have any idea,
I'm going to arrange an interview.

[08:38] Yuuko

Depending on the outcome of that,
I can find a role for you.

[08:43] Yuuko

And that'll give you a place here.

[08:46] (Flashback) Yuuko

Now, go take care of business,

[08:48] (Flashback) Yuuko

Shirogane Takeru!

[08:50] Takeru

Please!

[08:57] Yuuko

The 00 Unit is ready.

[08:59] Yuuko

It was completed the day after you left.

[09:02] Takeru

It was?!

[09:04] Yuuko

I don't know what you're so surprised about.

[09:06] Yuuko

That outcome was guaranteed as soon as
you made it back with the formulas.

SIGN To me

SIGN To me

SIGN To me

SIGN To me

[09:14] Yuuko

Yes. That's right.

[09:17] Yuuko

Could you bring the 00 Unit to my office?

[09:20] Takeru

So, about this interview...

[09:22] Yuuko

Don't rush me.

[09:28] Yuuko

There they are.

[09:30] Yuuko

Yashiro, right this way.

[09:33] Takeru

Kasumi?

[09:38] Sumika

*If I forgot about you... I wouldn't be
the same person anymore!*

[09:39] Takeru

Sumika?

[09:42] Sumika

I swear, I'll never forget you!

[09:44] Yuuko

Kagami is somewhere in the other world.

[09:46] Takeru

What is Sumika doing here?!

[09:48] Yuuko

Let me make the official introduction.

[09:50] Yuuko

You're looking at the ultimate objective,
and product, of Alternative IV.

[09:53] Yuuko

The harbinger of mankind's victory.

[09:56] Yuuko

The 00 Unit.

[09:58] Takeru

Is this some kind of joke?!

[10:00] Yuuko

I wasn't trying to be funny.

[10:04] Yuuko

We're in the presence of the key
to eradicating the BETA.

[10:09] Yuuko

You and I—

[10:10] Sumika

Kill them... I'll kill them all.

[10:14] Sumika

The BETA! The enemy, the enemy!
Kill, kill them, I'll kill them!

[10:17] Takeru

Sumika? Sumika!

[10:20] Sumika

I'll slaughter them all!

[10:24] Sumika

BETA! Kill! Kill them, kill them...

[10:28] Sumika

Kill them all...

[10:28] Yuuko

Well? Anything?

[10:31] Kasumi

No. I don't see anything.

[10:33] Takeru

Sumika! Are you okay?!

[10:35] Sumika

No! No!

[10:41] Yuuko

She's never reacted like that before.

[10:44] Yuuko

I guess you really are special.

[10:53] Yuuko

Oh, are you crying?

[10:57] Yuuko

Honestly, and here I thought
you had your head on straight this time.

[11:02] Yuuko

You pass, though.

This was a successful interview.

[11:06] Yuuko

You've got your place at the table.

[11:08] Takeru

Hang on a second. I don't understand!

[11:11] Yuuko

You'll be helping to debug
and adjust the 00 Unit.

[11:14] Yuuko

Although I prefer to call it "tuning."
Sounds more elegant.

[11:18] Takeru

Tuning?

[11:24] Yuuko

Our interests have aligned again.

[11:26] Yuuko

For the last week, you've been
on a top-secret mission for me.

[11:31] Yuuko

Got it?

[11:33] Yuuko

It was a dangerous, grueling mission on
the front lines that put your talents to use.

[11:38] Yuuko

The documentation already attests to that.

[11:42] Takeru

Did she anticipate me coming back?

[11:45] Yuuko

Do you understand?

[11:47] Yuuko

I don't mind impulsiveness,
because it makes you easy to use,

[11:50] Yuuko

but unless you get a handle on it,

[11:52] Yuuko

you're gonna spend your whole life
as someone else's tool.

[11:56] Yuuko

I'll call for you tomorrow.

[11:58] Yuuko

In the meantime, try and cool off a bit,

[12:01] Yuuko

Shirogane Takeru.

[12:04] Takeru

Understood.

[12:25] Takeru

Why does the 00 Unit look like Sumika?

[12:30] Takeru

Is there some reason?

[12:34] Meiya

Takeru? Takeru, is that you?

[12:40] Takeru

Meiya...

[12:41] Meiya

Have you just returned?

[12:43] Meiya

I imagine your special mission
must have been difficult.

[12:46] Takeru

Meiya...

[12:47] Takeru

Meiya, back then, I was—

[12:51] Meiya

This is for leaving without letting us know!

[12:54] Meiya

This is for making us worry!

[13:01] Meiya

And that was... my appreciation
for your safe return.

[13:06] Meiya

Fool... You are such a fool!

[13:10] Meiya

I thought I might never see you again!

[13:15] Takeru

Meiya...

[13:16] Takeru

Meiya, I'm so sorry. I was...

[13:19] Meiya

It doesn't matter. Not anymore.

[13:22] Meiya

It seems you've found the resolve
to grapple with your destiny.

[13:27] Takeru

Yeah. Finally.

[13:29] Takeru

The way you acted during the coup...

[13:34] Takeru

And the things that Her Majesty
told me about...

[13:38] Meiya

She spoke to you?

[13:40] Takeru

And the day Sergeant Jinguuji died...

[13:44] Takeru

I think I actually understand
what you really meant now.

[13:50] Takeru

On the front lines, I...

[13:53] Takeru

I encountered some people
I thought I'd never see again.

[13:59] Takeru

And to make sure I never lose them again...

[14:03] Meiya

Takeru...

[14:05] Takeru

Sorry.

[14:07] Takeru

I should be back with the unit tomorrow.

[14:10] Takeru

I'll see you then.

[14:12] Meiya

The others were quite worried
about you, as well.

[14:16] Meiya

I'm curious to see just how many
blows you can weather.

[14:20] Takeru

I thought you said you hit me
for their sake already?

[14:23] Meiya

A man shouldn't let such

trivial details concern him.

[14:26] Takeru

I guess so...

SIGN December 18th, 2001

[14:37] Michiru

All right, it looks like we've finally got
A-01 assembled in its entirety.

[14:41] Michiru

Shirogane!

[14:42] Shirogane

Ma'am!

[14:43] Tama

Takeru-san!

[14:44] Michiru

Starting today, you're part of A-01 Squadron.

[14:44] Mikoto

Takeru!

[14:50] Takeru

Second Lieutenant Shirogane Takeru!

[14:52] Takeru

It's an honor to be serving with you!

[14:54] Michiru

Very good. And good work
on your special mission.

[14:57] Michiru

We know better than anyone else
that the XO never runs an easy operation.

[15:03] Michiru

We operate under a independent
command structure,

[15:06] Michiru

undertaking high-risk missions
in service of Alternative IV.

[15:11] Michiru

We were a regiment when founded,
but are down to a squadron's numbers.

[15:17] Michiru

The personnel you see are all we've got.

[15:17] Takeru

Suzumiya? Kashiwagi?

[15:20] Takeru

You guys are here too, huh?

[15:21] Michiru

And we can't count
on any kind of reinforcements.

[15:25] Michiru

So you can imagine how glad we are

to have a superstar like you in the lineup.

[15:28] Michiru

Hope you're ready to be worked, and hard.

[15:31] Takeru

It'd be my pleasure, Captain!

[15:33] Michiru

All of the pilots in our squadron are graduates of the same training school.

[15:36] Michiru

Which makes us all Sergeant Jinguuji's students.

[15:40] Michiru

You're joining us, so make sure not to do anything to shame our teacher.

[15:43] Takeru

Ma'am!

[15:44] Michiru

Good. Welcome to A-01 Squadron. We're glad to have you.

[15:49] Michiru

I'm Captain Isumi Michiru.

[15:50] Takeru

Yes, Captain!

[15:52] Isumi

Ease up on the protocol. The XO ordered us to keep things efficient around here.

[15:57] Isumi

Let me introduce you to the squadron's leadership.

[16:00] Isumi

On the far right is First Lieutenant Suzumiya Haruka, our command post officer.

[16:04] Isumi

She monitors battlefield operations from the command vehicle.

[16:06] Isumi

She's a lot scarier than she seems, so watch yourself.

[16:09] Haruka

C-Captain!

[16:10] Haruka

What are you saying? Don't you know how important first impressions are?

SIGN A-01 Squadron Command Post Officer

First Lieutenant Suzumiya Haruka

[16:15] Michiru

Sorry, sorry.

[16:17] Haruka

It's nice to meet you, Lieutenant.

[16:19] Takeru

It's a pleasure, ma'am!

[16:20] Michiru

Next is First Lieutenant Hayase Mitsuki,
who's in command of B-Flight.

[16:24] Hayase

Welcome to the Isumi's Valkyries.

[16:26] Takeru

Valkyries?

[16:28] Hayase

It's the squadron's nickname.

SIGN A-01 Squadron B-Flight

First Lieutenant Hayase Mitsuki

[16:30] Hayase

Though having a guy added
to our number kinda ruins the name.

[16:36] Isumi

And then C-Flight's commander,
First Lieutenant Munakata Misae.

[16:40] Isumi

She's a bit of a man-hater. Watch yourself.

SIGN A-01 Squadron C-Flight

First Lieutenant Munakata Misae

[16:44] Munakata

Captain, I am not a man-hater.

[16:47] Michiru

So she says.

[16:49] Michiru

Good for you, Shirogane!
Maybe you've got a shot.

[16:53] Michiru

Make sure to familiarize yourself
with your other squadmates ASAP.

[16:57] Michiru

Finally, you need to learn the squadron's motto.

[17:00] Michiru

Carry out your mission at all costs!

[17:04] Michiru

Squadron, recite!

[17:06] A01

Carry out your mission at all costs!

[17:08] Michiru

Fight to your very last breath!

[17:10] A01

Fight to your very last breath!

[17:12] Michiru

Make your death count!

[17:14] A01

Make your death count!

[17:16] A01

Make your death count!

[17:18] Michiru

There it is.

[17:19] Michiru

Lieutenant Shirogane Takeru?

[17:21] Takeru

Carry out your mission at all costs!

[17:24] Takeru

Fight to your very last breath!

[17:26] Takeru

Make your death count!

[17:28] Isumi

Good. Now, you've got a week's worth of catching up to do.

[17:32] Isumi

Brace yourself.

[17:34] Takeru

Roger that.

[17:36] Isumi

That is all. Shirogane stays behind, and the rest of you are dismissed.

[17:44] Hayase

Hey, Shirogane!

[17:46] Takeru

Lieutenant Hayase!

[17:47] Hayase

You don't have to act so buttoned up around here.

[17:50] Takeru

Sorry, force of habit.

[17:52] Hayase

I heard you're pretty torn up about what happened to Sergeant Jinguuji.

[17:57] Takeru

Lieutenant, listen, I'm...
I'm sorry I couldn't protect her.

[18:01] Hayase

You're not the only one who feels that way, okay?

[18:04] Hayase

We're all her students here.

[18:07] Hayase

And all of us feel responsible
for what happened.

[18:10] Hayase

But we're all trying to keep it together.
Do you get why?

[18:16] Takeru

Survivors need to put their experience to use
to help as many people survive as possible.

[18:22] Marimo

*I wanted to put my experience to use to help
as many pilots live for as long as possible.*

[18:28] Takeru

Because there's no other way
to make it up to those who have died.

[18:35] Hayase

You got it.

[18:37] Hayase

Seems you understand!

[18:40] Hayase

And your classmates seem really worried.

[18:43] Hayase

So try and act like nothing happened.

[18:47] Hayase

That's the etiquette among pilots.

[18:49] Hayase

And it's only once you can pull that off
that you're considered fully fledged!

[18:54] Takeru

Understood!

[18:56] Touko

Lunch was very good.

[18:58] Kashiwagi

I'm looking forward to dinner, too!

[19:00] Touko

Of course you are.

[19:03] Akane

Hey, Lieutenant Shirogane!

[19:06] Takeru

Hello, there.

[19:08] Touko

We didn't get to introduce
ourselves earlier, did we?

SIGN A-01 Squadron C-Flight

Second Lieutenant Kazama Touko

[19:11] Touko

I'm Second Lieutenant Kazama Touko.

SIGN A-01 Squadron C-Flight

Second Lieutenant Kashiwagi Haruko

[19:13] Kashiwagi

I'm Second Lieutenant
Kashiwagi Haruko.

[19:16] Kashiwagi

This is Second Lieutenant
Suzumiya Akane.

SIGN A-01 Squadron C-Flight

Second Lieutenant Suzumiya Akane

[19:18] Kashiwagi

She's Lieutenant Suzumiya's
little sister.

[19:21] Akane

So you're the ace pilot
everyone's talking about!

[19:23] Akane

Hope you're ready for some competition.

[19:25] Touko

And this is Second Lieutenant Usuki Sakura.

SIGN A-01 Squadron A-Flight

Second Lieutenant Usuki Sakura

[19:28] Sakura

Nice to meet you.

[19:30] Kashiwagi

Great to have you on the squad.

[19:32] Takeru

It's a pleasure to meet all of you.

[19:34] Touko

We should get going.

[19:36] Akane

See you around!

[19:37] Takeru

See you later.

[19:40] Sakura

Here.

[19:41] Sakura

I don't need it.

[19:48] Takeru

Thanks.

[19:52] Ayamine

Stop that.

SIGN Quiet in the mess hall!

[19:55] Takeru

I'll have meal A.

[19:57] Kyouzuka

Sure thing!

[19:58] Kyouzuka

Well, I'll be! You been okay?

[20:01] Takeru

Yeah.

[20:02] Kyouzuka

Well, hang in there!

[20:03] Takeru

Thank you!

[20:05] Chizuru

Shirogane!

[20:06] Takeru

Guys!

[20:08] Meiya

We were all waiting for you to arrive.

[20:10] Chizuru

I-I wasn't exactly waiting.

[20:13] Ayamine

So all that fidgeting was a coincidence?

[20:16] Chizuru

Did you say something?

[20:17] Ayamine

Not really.

[20:18] Mikoto

Come on, you two!

[20:20] Tama

Th-That's right!

[20:24] Takeru

It's good to be back, guys.

[20:26] Meiya

I'm sure you faced a difficult task.

[20:28] Mikoto

We were seriously worried!

[20:31] Chizuru

I'm just glad you're okay.

[20:34] Tama

And you managed to
make it back, so that's great!

[20:37] Ayamine

Welcome back, Shirogane.

[20:39] Ayamine

Now that you're here, we can finally go.

[20:41] Chizuru

We were waiting for you to get back
so we could all go together.

[20:58] Chizuru

The body was already sent back
to her family, so it's mostly symbolic.

[21:08] Takeru

Sergeant Jinguuji... Jinguuji-sensei...

[21:15] Takeru

I survived, and I'm going to do
everything I can.

SIGN This is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places and incidents
either are products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously.

Revision #1

Created 2024-03-26 22:17:35 UTC by whimsee

Updated 2024-03-26 22:17:36 UTC by whimsee