

E9

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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.)

[00:05] Ekoda

Thank you for calling. This is the Phoenix
Life Insurance customer service center.

[00:09] Customer

Um... My husband passed away...

[00:11] Ekoda

My condolences. This must
be a difficult time for you.

[00:15] Ekoda

Great. More death...

[00:15] Ekoda

May I ask the name on the
policy or the customer number?

[00:18] Customer

It's Idenoguchi Shuhei.

[00:20] Ekoda

Idenoguchi Shuhei-sama, correct?

[00:24] Kouhai

Looks like you hit the
jackpot today, sis!

[00:27] Ekoda

Four out of the five claims
I've processed have been suicides.

[00:29] Ekoda

And don't call me "sis."

[00:31] Kouhai

But that's what you are, *sis*!

[00:33] Kouhai

Wow, I go for a quick break and
come back to find 40 callers waiting?

[00:37] Kouhai

I am now entering "operations mode"!

[00:39] Kouhai

Operations, switching on!

[00:41] Kouhai

Thank you for calling.

[00:43] Ekoda

Looks like someone's having fun.

[00:43] Kouhai

This is the Phoenix Life Insurance customer service center.

[00:46] Ekoda

I sit here day after day, in the same seat, with the same scripted responses...

[00:49] Co-worker

Thank you for your call.

[00:50] Ekoda

Wow, look at that beautiful sunset.

[00:53] Ekoda

And I'm the only one who's noticed it.

[00:56] Ekoda

There's something soothing about that...

[00:58] Kouhai

Hey, sis!

[01:00] Boss

I don't see hands moving.

[01:03] Ekoda

I guess I must've spaced out for a sec...

[01:05] Boss

And while you space out, the calls stack up.

[01:08] Ekoda

Sorry about that.

[01:10] Kouhai

Y'know... I heard she's got a toyboy.

[01:13] Ekoda

I heard she's got a bunch of toyboys.

[01:16] Coworker

Wait, what? A bunch?

[01:18] Ekoda

I threw in a few extra.

[01:20] Customer

Yeah, the last person I talked to was terrible. Can I speak to a manager?

[01:22] Ekoda

Great. I've got a whiner.

[01:24] Ekoda

One moment, please.

[01:26] Ekoda

And the signal is...

SIGN Smoke

& mirrors

[01:31] Ekoda

My supervisor's currently away from his desk, but I can take your call.

[01:35] Customer

Fine. Just put me on with that Kato person I was talking to earlier.

[01:35] Ekoda

Excuse #1.

[01:37] Ekoda

We have several Katos here.

[01:39] Ekoda

I can find out who you were speaking to if you give me your name and policy number.

[01:44] Customer

What a pain in the ass.

[01:46] Ekoda

Stormy weather all around, huh?

[01:48] Customer

06294028461, Yamada Yoko.

[01:53] Customer

Now, put Kato on.

[01:54] Ekoda

I'm terribly sorry, ma'am...

[01:56] Ekoda

The Kato in question is currently on another call.

[01:59] Yamada

All right, fine!

[01:59] Ekoda

Excuse #2.

[02:01] Ekoda

Oh, she's gone.

[02:03] Ekoda

And so's the power?

[02:05] Boss

It's just a blackout!

[02:05] Kouhai

Game over, man!

[02:06] Boss

Backup power should kick in any second!

[02:08] Boss

Everyone, remain calm!

[02:08] Ekoda

Ah, here we go.

[02:09] Boss

Please don't leave your desks!

[02:10] Ekoda

The lights are taking their time, though.

[02:15] Kouhai

Selecting optimal course of action:
conserve energy for moment of reactivation.

[02:21] Ekoda

More than 50 callers waiting...

[02:23] Ekoda

*Is it even worth bothering,
in the circumstances?*

[02:26] Boss

Please get back to work!

[02:30] Coworker

I can't take it!

[02:31] Boss

Hey! Don't just run off!

[02:34] Kouhai

Returning to duty!

[02:35] Kouhai

Re-entering "operations mode"!

[02:37] Kouhai

Ops, on!

[02:41] Kouhai

Thank you for your call.

SIGN No snacking!

SIGN No snacking!

SIGN No snacking!

SIGN Verify their
information!

[02:43] Kouhai

This is the Phoenix Life Insurance
customer service center.

SIGN No snacking!

SIGN We can go out for seafood after work!

SIGN Verify their
information!

SIGN No snacking!

SIGN We can go out for seafood after work!

SIGN Verify their
information!

SIGN No snacking!

SIGN We can go out for seafood after work!

SIGN Verify their
information!

SIGN I understand
your frustration!

SIGN You got this!

[02:43] Ekoda

It's utter chaos in here.

SIGN No snacking!

SIGN We can go out for seafood after work!

SIGN Verify their
information!

SIGN I understand
your frustration!

SIGN You got this!

SIGN You got this!

[02:45] Ekoda

I want to run away, too.

[02:47] Ekoda

*But it's not in my nature to go off the deep end
and lose control when all hell breaks loose.*

[02:52] Ekoda

Thank you for your call. You're through to
Phoenix Life Insurance customer services.

[02:56] Customer

Um... My son caught a STD and...

[03:33] Narrator

They say that ten different people
produce ten different versions.

SIGN Ten Versions

SIGN Ten People

[03:37] Narrator

But what if there were new Ekoda-chans?

SIGN Sugii

Gisaburo

SIGN Takahashi

Ryosuke

SIGN Daichi Akitaro

SIGN Mochizuki

Tomomi

SIGN Misawa Shin

SIGN Takahashi Takeo

SIGN Yonetani

Yoshitomo

SIGN Kobayashi

Osamu

SIGN Kojima

Masayuki

SIGN Shigino Akira

SIGN Nagahama Hiroshi

SIGN Morimoto Koji

SIGN 12 Women

SIGN 12 Versions!?

[03:43] Narrator

12 women, 12 versions?!

SIGN Over the course of the next 12 episodes of the anime "Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan," we'll be checking in with the directors of each episode, and the voice actress portraying Ekoda-chan!!

[03:45] Narrator

Over the course of the next 12 episodes of the anime "Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan,"

[03:49] Narrator

we'll be checking in with the directors of each episode,

[03:51] Narrator

and the voice actress portraying Ekoda-chan.

[03:53] Narrator

Today, we *would* be unveiling the director of Episode 9: Takahashi Takeo,

SIGN Director

SIGN Takahashi Takeo

[03:58] Narrator

but he passed up the chance to appear!

SIGN Episode 9's Director

SIGN Takahashi Takeo

SIGN Episode 9's Ekoda-chan

SIGN Koshimizu Ami

[04:01] Narrator

Surely that would only be allowed on a show as free-spirited as Ekoda-chan?

[04:04] Narrator

We'll speak to Ekoda-chan's VA for this week, Koshimizu Ami-san,

[04:07] Narrator

and it's going to be a little different from usual!

SIGN Playing Ekoda-chan

SIGN Koshimizu Ami

[04:09] Narrator

"Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan" special feature:
The Director and Ekoda-chan's Naked Chat!

SIGN Rinshi!! Ekoda-Chan

SIGN The Director and Ekoda -chan's

SIGN The Director and Ekoda -chan's

SIGN The Director and Ekoda -chan's

SIGN The Director and Ekoda -chan's

SIGN The Director and Ekoda -chan's

SIGN Naked Chat

SIGN Naked Chat

SIGN Naked Chat

[04:15] Narrator

We're baring all for you!

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

[04:17] Takahashi 2

Regarding the round-table
discussion with Director Takahashi...

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN Regarding Director Takahashi...

SIGN Takahashi Takeo x Koshimizu Ami

SIGN Rinshi!!

Ekoda-Chan:

The Director

and

Ekoda-chan's

Naked

Chat

SIGN Episode 9's Ekoda-chan

Koshimizu Ami

SIGN Project/Production

Manager

Kataoka Yoshiro

[04:20] Koshimizu

Right.

[04:21] Takahashi 2

Whenever he's on camera, he tends
to just freeze up completely.

[04:25] Koshimizu

Right.

[04:26] Takahashi 2

And seeing as how that'd
create a whole heap of issues,

[04:29] Takahashi 2

he opted to sit this one out.

[04:31] Takahashi 2

With that in mind,

I, the voice actor, Takahashi Ryosuke,

SIGN Episode 9's Director

Takahashi Takeo

(VA: Takahashi Ryosuke)

[04:36] Takahashi 2

will be performing the role of
Takahashi Takeo for this episode.

[04:41] Koshimizu

Yay!

[04:42] Kataoka

So that's...

[04:42] Koshimizu

Yay!

[04:44] Kataoka

I was wondering why the director looked so different. That explains everything.

[04:48] Kataoka

Thanks for coming.

[04:48] Koshimizu

Seriously!

[04:49] Koshimizu

It's good to have you here.

[04:51] Kataoka

Our director is an industry veteran,

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN The director and Koshimizu-san's first meeting...

[04:53] Kataoka

and from where I sit, you're quite the veteran yourself, Koshimizu-san.

[04:57] Kataoka

Do you remember when you first encountered each other?

[05:00] Takahashi 2

We first met on a project I directed called "Spice and Wolf."

[05:06] Koshimizu

That's right.

[05:06] Kataoka

Was "Spice and Wolf" a TV series? Or a movie?

[05:09] Koshimizu

Well...

[05:10] Koshimizu

It was a TV series I was in, and looking back...

[05:14] Koshimizu

I guess it must've been... about ten years ago? Maybe a little more?

[05:21] Koshimizu

Yeah.

[05:23] Kataoka

What were your impressions of Koshimizu-san back then, Director?

[05:25] Takahashi 2

I was impressed with how well she handled interviews,

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN First impressions of Koshimizu-san

[05:29] Takahashi 2

in spite of her youthfulness.

[05:31] Koshimizu

Thank you so much!

[05:33] Koshimizu

So *that's* what you thought.

[05:35] Kataoka

And what were your impressions
of the director, Koshimizu-san?

[05:37] Koshimizu

Well, just like today,

SIGN First impressions of Director Takahashi

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

[05:40] Koshimizu

he seemed so shy, he could have really
used a voice actor to speak for him.

[05:44] Kataoka

Shy...

[05:45] Koshimizu

Whenever the director talked,
it was a bit like... "Yes."

[05:50] Koshimizu

And I'd be like, "Wait, what?"

[05:52] Koshimizu

And he'd just whisper: "Yes, well..."

[05:54] Koshimizu

That's how he is. Shy.

[05:56] Kataoka

A director's job is to helm the project.

SIGN It's okay to be a quiet director?

[06:00] Kataoka

So if he puts everything in his head or
everything he wants to say into the show,

[06:04] Kataoka

then, whether he utters
a word or not doesn't matter,

[06:08] Kataoka

as long as it's all up there
on the screen, I think.

[06:14] Koshimizu

You might have a point there. Right?

SIGN The 3-Minute World

of "Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan"

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

[06:24] Kataoka

How did you come up with
the concept for this episode?

[06:24] Censor Bar

Takahashi
Takeo

SIGN Behind the concept

SIGN Takahashi Takeo x Koshimizu Ami

[06:29] Ami

Oh, now that you mention it...

[06:29] Kataoka

I'd love to know.

[06:30] Ami

That's a good question.

[06:32] Takahashi 2

The concept behind the original work,
along with this adaptation,

[06:35] Takahashi 2

was something the producer
outlined beforehand.

[06:38] Takahashi 2

So my focus was on how to best utilize
the short three-minute run-time.

[06:42] Kataoka

You'll notice that his answer just now

[06:44] Kataoka

was about the episode format.

[06:47] Kataoka

I get the feeling that it's his way
of saying, "You know this already!"

[06:52] Koshimizu

The thing that impressed me

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN Is three minutes long or short?

[06:54] Koshimizu

is that, compared to the length of a typical
TV episode, three minutes isn't a lot of time.

[07:01] Koshimizu

And there's the fact that
Ekoda-chan is a 4-koma manga,

[07:03] Koshimizu

so adapting one strip into three minutes
would stretch the material a little thin.

[07:07] Koshimizu

So the issue becomes, how do you
expand on what you're working with,

[07:12] Koshimizu

while still keeping it contained
to a single episode?

[07:14] Koshimizu

And when I was doing the voice-over,
I was like, "So that's how you do it!"

[07:18] Koshimizu

That's the impression I got.

[07:19] Koshimizu

Now, out of curiosity...

[07:20] Koshimizu

You're currently doing the director's voice...

[07:23] Takahashi 2

Right.

[07:24] Koshimizu

But what did you think of it, Takahashi-san?
Takahashi the voice actor, I mean.

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN What did Takahashi-san (the guy portraying the director) think?

[07:28] Takahashi 2

Let's see, I think, once I saw the
video in the voice-over session...

[07:32] Takahashi 2

The way the cuts were put
together to look so seamless,

[07:38] Takahashi 2

combined with the seriously
fast pace of the story...

[07:43] Takahashi 2

Even though it was only three
minutes' long, the way it played out...

[07:46] Takahashi 2

I thought it was really bold and cool.

[07:49] Koshimizu

It's really amazing how
it's got these parallel stories.

[07:51] Koshimizu

You see all of them playing out at the same
time. Over the course of three minutes.

[07:53] Censor Bar

Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN Creating such a vibrant world in just 3 minutes is an impressive feat

[07:56] Koshimizu

But you see the lives of so many
people playing out at once.

[07:59] Takahashi 2

It's really impressive
in terms of how efficient it is.

[08:03] Kataoka

This story takes place in a call
center for a life insurance firm.

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN Using a life insurance firm call center as a setting

[08:08] Koshimizu

Right.

[08:09] Kataoka

Choosing that for his setting
is really interesting.

[08:12] Koshimizu

I agree.

[08:13] Kataoka

I mean, the phone operators
who work in a job like that...

[08:16] Kataoka

They end up taking
some pretty heavy calls.

[08:18] Koshimizu

True.

[08:19] Kataoka

They're on the phone with people

[08:23] Kataoka

who are going through very
dramatic moments in their lives.

[08:29] Kataoka

And I imagine they get exposed
to a lot of different reactions,

[08:32] Kataoka

and I found it impressive
how that was represented.

[08:34] Koshimizu

You've got a point.

[08:36] Koshimizu

The way you kinda get a feeling
for the lives of these callers,

[08:42] Koshimizu

as well as the people taking their calls.

[08:45] Koshimizu

The fact that everything plays
out over just three minutes,

[08:49] Koshimizu

but you get bombarded with so much!

[08:51] Koshimizu

Nicely done!

[08:53] Kataoka

I was impressed myself.

[08:54] Koshimizu

Right?

[08:55] Takahashi 2

Right.

[08:57] Kataoka

When you were putting together the episode,
did anything give you trouble?

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN Any difficulties putting the episode together?

[09:01] Takahashi 2

This episode uses POV perspective,
with no 3D modeling in sight,

[09:06] Takahashi 2

and we see everything through
the eyes of the main character.

[09:10] Takahashi 2

I don't believe this has ever
been done in TV anime,

[09:13] Takahashi 2

and the process of nailing down how
to choreograph it was a great deal of work,

[09:18] Takahashi 2

but I believe we've produced something
hitherto unseen in this medium.

[09:22] Koshimizu

You're right!

[09:23] Kataoka

I thought as much.

[09:24] Koshimizu

Now that you mention it, yeah.

[09:26] Koshimizu

When you put it like that,

[09:29] Koshimizu

it makes me want to tell everyone
to go re-watch the episode somehow.

[09:34] Kataoka

Something you mentioned, Koshimizu-san,

[09:37] Kataoka

is that you took a lot of
your inspiration for lines

[09:42] Kataoka

from the way the perspective

of the camera moved.

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN The camera perspective made it easier to get into character

[09:46] Kataoka

It's interesting how the set up of the shots contain that kind of insight.

[09:49] Koshimizu

You've got a point.

[09:51] Koshimizu

I think that might well be the case.

[09:54] Kataoka

So it's only three minutes...

[09:57] Kataoka

Yeah.

[09:58] Kataoka

but the voice-over process took almost two hours.

[10:01] Koshimizu

Right.

[10:02] Kataoka

And I'm sure you had to do a lot of thinking about how to nail the character.

[10:07] Kataoka

Looking back now,

SIGN Things emphasized during the voice-over recording

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

[10:10] Kataoka

did anything strike you as being noteworthy,

[10:12] Kataoka

or did you have any moments of inspiration?

[10:14] Koshimizu

Well, earlier, the director said something about

[10:18] Koshimizu

how it focuses on showing how many different things

[10:21] Koshimizu

can happen at once in the same space.

[10:24] Koshimizu

And Ekoda-chan is slap bang in the center of everything that's going on.

[10:30] Koshimizu

So there's this confined space, and here's Ekoda-chan,

SIGN Building an environment around Ekoda-chan

[10:33] Koshimizu

and in her orbit is all this
stuff that's happening.

[10:36] Koshimizu

And in order to highlight that
she's at the center of it all,

[10:41] Koshimizu

for her internal monologue, and for her
interactions with other characters, too,

[10:46] Koshimizu

I wanted to talk with a level of intimacy

[10:50] Koshimizu

that would encourage the audience
to see through her eyes.

[10:58] Koshimizu

While everyone else is
yammering on and making a fuss,

[11:02] Koshimizu

there's that one scene where
she just stares out the window...

[11:07] Koshimizu

I thought that was incredibly realistic.

[11:10] Koshimizu

I think that, in life, you're
sometimes in conversations

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN The realism of Ekoda-chan

[11:13] Koshimizu

where you're just going, "Yeah, you're right."

[11:16] Koshimizu

Like, if there's three of you talking,

[11:18] Koshimizu

and your whole contribution is,
"Mmhm. Mmhm. Mmhm."

[11:21] Koshimizu

And then, you get distracted,
or start thinking about something else...

[11:25] Koshimizu

I think everyone has moments like that.

[11:27] Koshimizu

The way that was depicted...

[11:30] Koshimizu

I really wanted to get across how you feel
inside when you have those moments.

[11:41] Kataoka

I would think that's really hard to do, as well.

[11:44] Kataoka

I asked the director if he wanted
to make a quiet episode or a busy one.

[11:50] Kataoka

And he said he wanted a busy one.

[11:52] Kataoka

So everyone except Ekoda-chan

[11:54] Kataoka

is making a lot of noise.

[11:55] Koshimizu

Right.

[11:56] Kataoka

And amidst that cacophony,
she peers out the window...

[12:00] Koshimizu

Right! Exactly!

[12:02] Koshimizu

But y'know, the way things get more
and more chaotic in the second half,

[12:07] Koshimizu

that was something I thought was really fun.

[12:10] Koshimizu

And cramming so many points
of interest into just three minutes

[12:19] Koshimizu

wasn't just entertaining;
it was really amazing, too.

[12:22] Kataoka

Right.

[12:23] Kataoka

There's the part where she looks
out the window and it's dusk,

[12:26] Kataoka

and then later, a thunderstorm rolls in.

[12:28] Kataoka

You generally don't associate
those two things with each other.

[12:33] Kataoka

So putting them back to back is
something of a surprise to the viewer...

[12:37] Kataoka

Coupled with the way the bit
with the sunset helps to break up

[12:41] Kataoka

the noise of the episode, and keeps it
from turning into pure noise.

[12:44] Kataoka

And with Ekoda-chan's internal monologue in the mix, too.

[12:47] Koshimizu

It helps modulate the tempo.

[12:50] Kataoka

I would've thought having that variation would make the vocal performance harder.

[12:54] Koshimizu

Oh, no, not at all!

[12:55] Koshimizu

Having to mix it up just adds to the fun.

[12:56] Kataoka

Ah, I see.

[12:58] Koshimizu

That's what I think.

SIGN Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan

SIGN The Director and

Ekoda -chan's

Naked Chat

SIGN Episode 9's Director

SIGN Takahashi Takeo

SIGN Episode 9's Ekoda-chan

SIGN Koshimizu Ami

SIGN Rinshi!!

Ekoda-Chan:

The Director

and

Ekoda-chan's

Naked

Chat

[13:06] Narrator

The first half highlighted the attention to detail shown by Director Takahashi Takeo,

[13:10] Narrator

along with his innocent personality.

[13:13] Narrator

In the second half, we're going to hear Koshimizu Ami-san's candid opinions,

[13:16] Narrator

and philosophy on life.

[13:19] Narrator

Watch this and you too can become like Ekoda-chan! Maybe.

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN Koshimizu Ami-san's Smorgasbord

of Behind-the-Scenes Stories

[13:25] Kataoka

Did you have any first impressions
when the script dropped in your lap?

SIGN Takahashi Takeo x Koshimizu Ami

[13:29] Koshimizu

Good question! Well...

[13:31] Koshimizu

When you look at a script,

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN First impressions when reading the script

[13:33] Koshimizu

there's the section that describes
what's going on in the scene,

[13:39] Koshimizu

and below that, it has who's
speaking and their lines.

[13:43] Koshimizu

That's how voice-over
scripts are structured.

[13:45] Koshimizu

So I'm scanning it, reading about the
scenes, and looking over the lines,

[13:50] Koshimizu

and I'm like, "This is a lot!"

[13:53] Koshimizu

That was my first impression, I'd say.

[13:57] Koshimizu

You can easily tell when
looking at a script

[14:01] Koshimizu

whether the story's going
to unfold at an even pace,

[14:04] Koshimizu

or go at breakneck speed
with a buttload of action.

[14:07] Koshimizu

To make it easier to picture,

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN The story's atmosphere being apparent in the script

[14:09] Koshimizu

imagine you've got the scene here,
and the spoken lines underneath.

[14:14] Koshimizu

And then, down here, you've

also got overlapping dialogue,

[14:18] Koshimizu

so it's a lot going on all at once.

[14:19] Koshimizu

So as I'm reading it, my reaction is, "What's the recording going to be like tomorrow?"

[14:24] Koshimizu

"Oh, boy!" Basically.

[14:26] Kataoka

So, as you're reading,

[14:28] Kataoka

I imagine you're formulating your approach to voicing her in your head, yes?

[14:31] Kataoka

Did any of those ideas change when you got in the studio and were given direction?

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN Anything you noticed about the direction you received?

[14:37] Koshimizu

I think that can be said of any character, to be honest,

[14:41] Koshimizu

because voice actors read the script themselves and have their own take on them,

[14:45] Koshimizu

and well, their ideas aren't exactly *wrong*,

[14:49] Koshimizu

but additional takes are done to explore the dialogue from a whole range of angles,

[14:55] Koshimizu

and I thought there was a lot of that in this recording,

[14:58] Koshimizu

exploring all the different possibilities.

[15:03] Kataoka

Did you find any of Ekoda-chan's lines particularly memorable?

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN Any memorable lines?

[15:09] Koshimizu

That's a good question!

[15:11] Koshimizu

Something I think most women might tune in on,

[15:16] Koshimizu

is how, at the very end,
she's talking to herself,

[15:18] Koshimizu

and she lets slip that she wants to run away,

[15:21] Koshimizu

because of the crazy
situation she finds herself in,

[15:25] Koshimizu

but she's just not the kind
of person who does that.

[15:28] ---

My reaction to that was: "I feel you."

[15:31] Kataoka

You could relate to that?

[15:32] Koshimizu

I totally got that part.

[15:34] Koshimizu

That feeling of wanting to
join in with the mass hysteria,

[15:37] Koshimizu

but you just can't.

[15:39] Koshimizu

Something about that
really resonated with me.

[15:44] Koshimizu

It left a deep impression.

[15:46] Kataoka

Have you been in a lot of situations
where you end up thinking that?

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN Moments where she's felt like that

[15:50] Koshimizu

Where I want to quit,
but can't bring myself to?

[15:53] Kataoka

Yeah.

[15:54] Koshimizu

Well, I think that, in moments like that,

[15:57] Koshimizu

you always tend to get
further by toughing it out.

[16:03] Koshimizu

After thirty-something years on Earth,
I think that's something I've figured out.

[16:08] Koshimizu

Whenever I stick it out,

instead of just giving in,

[16:13] Koshimizu

I always end up with
something to show for it,

[16:17] Koshimizu

whether it's experience gained,
or something I've learned.

[16:20] Koshimizu

So I feel like the right move is
to hang in there and not give up.

[16:25] Kataoka

What do you think about
Ekoda-chan's way of life?

[16:29] Koshimizu

That's a tough one!

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN Regarding Ekoda-chan's way of life

[16:31] Koshimizu

There's so much to her...

[16:34] Koshimizu

Like, how she's an expert at saying
one thing and thinking another,

[16:37] Koshimizu

and how you can't say she lives
in a totally selfish way...

[16:41] Koshimizu

But in spite of that, she's
always loyal to her desires.

[16:45] Koshimizu

She's the kind of character
that I find pretty remarkable,

[16:49] Koshimizu

because her life's so different from mine.

[16:54] Kataoka

You made a good point there.

[16:57] Kataoka

About how she's totally
honest about what she wants.

[16:59] Koshimizu

Yeah, exactly!

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN The way Ekoda-chan is true to her desires

[17:01] Koshimizu

I think it's impressive.

[17:02] Kataoka

It's remarkable, isn't it?

[17:03] Koshimizu

I think that sort of thing
requires a lot of courage.

[17:07] Koshimizu

So it's really interesting
to see someone live like that.

[17:11] Kataoka

Yeah.

SIGN Q&A with

Director Takahashi

[17:17] Kataoka

As fun as having our
own little conversation is,

SIGN Takahashi Takeo x Koshimizu Ami

[17:19] Kataoka

there are some questions
only the director can answer.

[17:22] Kataoka

The adaption of "Rinshi!!
Ekoda-chan" we're doing here

[17:25] Kataoka

involves 12 directors each doing
one three-minute episode.

[17:30] Koshimizu

That's remarkable.

[17:31] Kataoka

Doing a show where you're only making one out
of 12 episodes is an odd project to take on,

[17:38] Kataoka

so I'm curious as to what made
you agree to be a part of this.

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN Your reasons for working on this project

[17:44] Koshimizu

True. I was just thinking how,
in terms of flavor,

[17:49] Koshimizu

Ekoda-chan is a bit different
from your previous works.

[17:53] Koshimizu

So I'm curious, too!

[17:55] Koshimizu

Why'd you agree to do it?

[17:57] Takahashi 2

I received the offer from a studio

[17:59] Takahashi 2

I've had the pleasure of working with several times before, Creators in Pack,

[18:05] Takahashi 2

and after hearing about the details of the project, I agreed to work on it.

[18:08] Koshimizu

I see!

[18:10] Kataoka

Just looking at the footage is enough to tell you it turned out great.

[18:13] Kataoka

The way the storyboards were adapted was done very faithfully,

[18:18] Kataoka

which made me think you must have a great relationship

[18:21] Kataoka

with the people at Creators in Pack.

[18:23] Kataoka

I'm really curious about what your thoughts were,

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN Regarding character design

[18:28] Kataoka

or what you wanted to achieve with the character designs.

[18:33] Takahashi 2

I asked Ijuin-san, who did the character designs

[18:35] Takahashi 2

for an anime I worked on in 2017, "Citrus," to handle that.

[18:40] Takahashi 2

I received a request from the production side

[18:45] Takahashi 2

for elements of sexuality to be included in the episode,

[18:48] Takahashi 2

so that was the main theme going into the design.

[18:51] Takahashi 2

I believe the character designs captured the essence of the source material,

[18:56] Takahashi 2

while also fulfilling
the producer's requests.

[18:58] Koshimizu

That's a good point.

[18:59] Koshimizu

The story Ekoda-chan's in this time,
compared to ones she's usually in...

[19:03] Koshimizu

She's wearing clothes, for a start!

[19:04] Kataoka

Yeah, she is.

[19:07] Koshi

So it becomes a question of "How else
do you go about injecting sexiness into it?"

[19:12] Kataoka

The actual story doesn't
seem all that sexual at first.

[19:15] Koshimizu

'Cause she's clothed!

[19:16] Kataoka

Exactly.

[19:17] Kataoka

So I think for Takahashi-san to respond
to that request with this kind of episode,

[19:25] Kataoka

I think it gives us the sense that
his concept of sex appeal is sort of...

[19:30] Kataoka

...subtle.

[19:31] Koshimizu

I get that feeling, too.

[19:32] Koshimizu

Like, it's really pure in nature.

[19:32] Kataoka

Right, right.

[19:34] Koshimizu

Which I guess is why...

[19:35] Kataoka

Right.

[19:36] Koshimizu

We have a stand-in.

[19:38] Koshimizu

A stand-in for the director.

[19:41] Kataoka

What are your thoughts
on love and marriage?

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN The director's thoughts on love and marriage

[19:43] Takahashi

In terms of cost-effectiveness,

[19:46] Takahashi

the price Ekoda-chan pays for her lifestyle
might seem higher than its worth.

[19:49] Takahashi

Personally, I think a life focused
on things like romance and marriage

[19:53] Takahashi

without worrying about
finances would be wonderful.

[19:56] Takahashi

Although, in the case of Ekoda-chan,

[19:57] Takahashi

her behavior can seem a bit risky at times.

[20:03] Koshimizu

That's true, in a way. Lately, it seems like...

[20:08] Koshimizu

attitudes on marriage
among the younger generation

[20:13] Koshimizu

seem to be changing quite a bit.

[20:17] Kataoka

So, Director, if you were Ekoda-chan...

SIGN If you were Ekoda-chan...

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

[20:23] Kataoka

What kind of life would you lead?

[20:24] Koshimizu

A question with gender-swapping
as the premise!

[20:28] Takahashi 2

I've never lived in Ekoda before,

[20:31] Takahashi 2

so I'd love to take a stroll
around and see what it's like.

[20:33] Koshimizu

What the heck?!

[20:33] Kataoka

That answer...

[20:36] Koshimizu

He dodged it well.

[20:37] Kataoka

Indeed he did.

[20:38] Kataoka

What would you like to do if you were Ekoda-chan, Koshimizu-san?

SIGN If Koshimizu-san was Ekoda-chan...

[20:42] Koshimizu

We're just so different, both in terms of our lives and our careers...

[20:47] Koshimizu

There's so much that's distinct...

[20:49] Koshimizu

I kinda think I'd like to just see what her life is like, as-is.

[20:54] Kataoka

Good point.

[20:56] Koshimizu

What is that even like?

[20:57] Koshimizu

This episode actually gave me a glimpse into what it might be like, in some small way.

[21:03] Koshimizu

Being able to see the world, and the people in it, through Ekoda-chan's eyes...

[21:08] Koshimizu

What does she think?

[21:10] Koshimizu

I'd love a peek.

[21:12] Kataoka

It really is fascinating.

[21:13] Kataoka

Granted, you got a condensed taste of it for three minutes.

[21:17] Koshimizu

Very condensed!

[21:19] Koshimizu

But it's true, we did.

[21:22] Kataoka

As we wrap up, I'd like to ask both of you one last thing.

[21:27] Kataoka

What do you think is the appeal of Ekoda-chan?

SIGN Takahashi

Takeo

SIGN The appeal of Ekoda-chan

[21:30] Koshimizu

What do you think?

[21:31] Takahashi 2

My wife is a fan of Ekoda-chan.

[21:34] Koshimizu

Right.

[21:34] Takahashi

But, in my opinion, my wife and Ekoda-chan are very different.

[21:39] Takahashi

But for my wife, she's able to relate to a lot of the material in the manga,

[21:43] Takahashi

which makes me think that many of the readers who enjoy it

[21:46] Takahashi

must feel the same way.

[21:47] Koshimizu

Oh, I really feel you on that one.

[21:51] Koshimizu

I think that, since there's such a variety of different scenes,

[21:57] Koshimizu

there's at least one thing that everyone can relate to,

[22:02] Koshimizu

and that's the charm of Ekoda-chan.

[22:08] Narrator

That's it for today's discussion.

SIGN Next Episode Preview

[22:11] Narrator

Next time on "The Director and Ekoda-chan's Naked Chat,"

SIGN Ekoda-chan's

VA

SIGN Director

[22:15] Narrator

we'll go behind the scenes on the quirky tenth episode of "Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan."

SIGN Director

[22:19] Narrator

What secrets will the Director and Ekoda-chan reveal about production?

SIGN Ekoda-chan's

VA

SIGN Director

[22:24] Narrator

Looks like next week will be another must-see episode!

SIGN Ekoda-chan's

VA

[22:28] Narrator

Look forward to it!

SIGN Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan

SIGN The Director and Ekoda -chan's

SIGN Naked Chat

SIGN Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan

SIGN Until she's ready

SIGN Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan

Until she's ready

SIGN Glasses

SIGN Face

SIGN Clothes

SIGN Shading

SIGN Rinshi!! Ekoda-chan

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