

E14 - Nine Schools Competition Part VII

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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.)

[00:00] ---

I'm Masaki Ichijo, a first
year at Third High School.

[00:04] ---

And I'm Shinkuro Kichijoji, also
a first year at Third High School.

[00:09] ---

I'm Tatsuya Shiba, a first
year at First High School.

[00:12] ---

So tell me, what do the Crimson Prince and
Cardinal George want with me before their match?

[00:18] ---

Hey, if you know not only about me, but
George, too, this should be quick and dirty.

[00:24] ---

Tatsuya Shiba... I've never
heard that name before.

[00:28] ---

But I'll always remember
it from now on.

[00:31] ---

You're most likely the most prodigious engineer
in the history of the Nine Schools Competition.

[00:35] ---

We know it's probably rude
to do this before the match,

[00:38] ---

but we came to see
what you looked like.

[00:41] ---

I'm humbled to be called
a prodigy by the boy genius

[00:45] ---

who discovered one of the Cardinal

Codes at the tender age of thirteen...

[00:49] ---

But you're right, it's unorthodox.

[00:51] ---

Miyuki, go on ahead and get ready.

[00:54] ---

Very well.

[01:03] ---

Isn't it almost time
for your match, Prince?

[01:07] ---

We'll be competing
in Monolith Code tomorrow.

[01:11] ---

What about you?

[01:13] ---

I'm not in charge of that event.

[01:15] ---

I see... That's unfortunate.

[01:18] ---

We'd love to compete
against your players one day.

[01:21] ---

Though needless to say,
we'd be sure to win.

[01:25] ---

Sorry to take up your time.

[01:28] ---

We'll be looking forward
to the next time.

[03:11] ---

8-8 / Sixth day of the competition

[03:14] ---

Is it just me...

[03:16] ---

Or is this like, totally freaky?

[03:18] ---

All the players wearing shades!

[03:21] ---

Well, why wouldn't they?

[03:23] ---

To counter Ms. Mitsui's Optical Magic,
it's the most affordable sure-fire strategy.

[03:29] ---

What's your problem, anyway?

[03:31] ---

Well, because! They're just playing

right into Tatsuya's hands, aren't they?

[03:35] ---

I can't believe they'd go
cheap and use goggles...

[03:38] ---

Do you think she'll try to blind them
with the spray this time?

[03:42] ---

I don't know about that...

[03:43] ---

I just don't see Tatsuya stooping to
a simplistic strategy like that.

[03:46] ---

On your marks.

[03:50] ---

Late start?

[03:51] ---

No, she's keeping pace!

[04:07] ---

What the...

[04:08] ---

...heck was that?

[04:09] ---

It looked like a shadow
dropped onto the course.

[04:27] ---

I see, so that's where
she's going with this.

[04:28] ---

Huh? What is it?

[04:29] ---

Because they're wearing dark-colored goggles,
her opponents' field of vision is dark.

[04:33] ---

So they're under the false impression that the water route
ends at the border between the light and dark areas,

[04:37] ---

and they end up trying
not to enter the dark areas.

[04:47] ---

Who knew that you could
use Illusion Magic this way!

[04:59] ---

Thanks to everyone's
outstanding efforts,

[05:01] ---

our own players have swept the

Rookie Women's Pillars Break Final league.

[05:09] ---

Ms. Shiba, Ms. Kitayama, Ms. Akechi,
congratulations on a job well done!

[05:15] ---

In recognition of this brilliant feat, the Tournament
Committee has approached us with a proposal.

[05:20] ---

Regardless of
the standings in the Final,

[05:23] ---

the total points awarded to
our school will be the same,

[05:27] ---

so they want to know if
we'd like to skip the Final,

[05:29] ---

and have all three of you
share first place.

[05:33] ---

Um... Uh... Actually,
I'm not feeling up to it.

[05:38] ---

I was thinking of withdrawing anyway,
before you mentioned this proposal.

[05:43] ---

I see.

[05:46] ---

I'd like to compete.

[05:52] ---

This is my chance to go
all out against Miyuki... and I...

[05:57] ---

...don't want to pass it up.

[05:59] ---

Is that right?

[06:04] ---

What do you want to do, Miyuki?

[06:07] ---

If Ms. Kitayama wishes
to compete against me,

[06:11] ---

then I have no reason to refuse.

[06:16] ---

8-8 / Sixth day of the competition
Women's Rookie Event Ice Pillars Break Finals

[06:51] ---

I can't make a dent...

Just as I expected of you, Miyuki.

[06:57] ---

In that case...

[07:00] ---

Wielding two CADs at once?

[07:03] ---

Shizuku,

[07:04] ---

so you've mastered that technique?

[07:11] ---

Phonon Maser?

[07:13] ---

*Who would've thought she'd
unleash such a high-level spell?*

[07:16] ---

*Unfortunately for you,
you're too naïve, Shizuku!*

[07:26] ---

Niflheim? No way...

[07:29] ---

*Wide-range Freezing Magic that can
create even liquid nitrogen, of all things!*

[08:14] ---

Congratulations on winning.

[08:19] ---

Thank you.

[08:28] ---

Too bad for you, huh, Shizuku?

[08:32] ---

Yeah... I'm bitter that I lost.

[08:37] ---

Shizuku...

[08:40] ---

*From the start, I didn't think
I had a chance of winning.*

[08:45] ---

I see...

[08:47] ---

But I was way overmatched!

[08:53] ---

I feel so bitter, Honoka!

[09:02] ---

I'm so sorry.

[09:09] ---

*Hey, want to go have some tea?
I'm getting a little hungry.*

[09:20] ---

Thank you.

SIGN Nine Schools Competition Part VII

[09:38] ---

*Three years ago, when the New
Soviet Union invaded Sado,*

[09:43] ---

*he joined the defense lines as
a volunteer soldier at barely thirteen,*

[09:47] ---

*and, by using "Rupture" magic,
massacred the enemy forces.*

[09:51] ---

*He is a magician with
experience in live combat.*

[09:54] ---

*Due to this feat, he came to be
known as the Ichijo's Crimson Prince.*

[10:02] ---

*A genius magician who identified one of
the Cardinal Codes, thought to exist only in theory.*

[10:07] ---

*A prodigy that there is no researcher of the fundamental
Magic Sequences who doesn't know his name.*

[10:15] ---

*The fact that those two have enrolled in the same grade
at the same school is a nearly criminal coincidence.*

[10:22] ---

*At the very least, they should be
peerless at the Rookie level.*

[10:26] ---

*It's unfortunate for
Morisaki and the others.*

[10:30] ---

Well, if there is one saving grace,

[10:32] ---

*it's the fact that Rupture is classified as a lethal
Rank A spell - and can't be used in this tournament.*

[10:39] ---

*Well, we did win
the first match as expected,*

[10:42] ---

*and our second match is against
Fourth High, who are dead last so far.*

[10:46] ---

*Surely they won't let
this win slip away...*

SIGN First High School

[10:53] ---

What's the status?

[10:56] ---

Brother!

[10:58] ---

What happened? An accident?

[11:00] ---

Yes, if you can
call it an accident...

[11:02] ---

Miyuki, that was no accident.

[11:05] ---

It was a deliberate Over-attack.
A clear violation of the rules!

[11:08] ---

Shizuku, it's too soon to be
making such rash statements.

[11:13] ---

After all, there's still no proof.

[11:16] ---

So how are Morisaki
and the others?

[11:19] ---

They're critically injured.

[11:21] ---

The match was held
in an urban arena,

[11:24] ---

and they were subjected to a Battering Ram
attack inside a deserted building.

[11:29] ---

They got buried under the rubble.

[11:32] ---

If used indoors with people inside, Battering
Ram is elevated to lethal Rank A status.

[11:39] ---

This goes far beyond the reckless
surfing in that Battle Board race.

[11:42] ---

In my mind, it's a clear
violation of the rules.

[11:44] ---

Yes... Although it didn't
escalate into complete disaster...

[11:48] ---

All three of them are confined

to bed for the next three days.

[11:51] ---

But the situation is
rather murky, isn't it?

[11:55] ---

Were all three of them
inside that same building?

[11:58] ---

They got blitzed right after
the match started.

[12:01] ---

That's not possible unless you've studied
the enemy before the start signal.

[12:04] ---

There's no question that their jumping the gun,
never mind using Battering Ram, was a deliberate act.

[12:09] ---

I see... Then the tournament
staff is sure to be in a panic.

[12:14] ---

Because they couldn't prevent
them from making that false start?

[12:17] ---

That's not really much of an issue.

[12:20] ---

Because a case could be made that
the direct cause of this accident was the fact

[12:24] ---

that they set the starting point of
this event in a decrepit abandoned building.

[12:28] ---

My guess is that the tournament staff wants to call off
the Rookie Division Monolith Code event itself.

[12:34] ---

True, there were some
calls for cancellation.

[12:37] ---

But the prelims are going on
without us and Fourth High, anyway.

[12:41] ---

Worst case scenario, we'll just have to
forfeit our second preliminary match.

[12:45] ---

Worst case or not, I don't think
we have any choice but to forfeit.

[12:50] ---

Well, about that, Jumonji's

negotiating right now.

[12:56] ---

Listen, Tatsuya, there's something
I'd like to talk to you about.

[13:03] ---

Would you mind coming
with me for a moment?

[13:06] ---

So let me cut right to the chase.

[13:10] ---

Are you asking me if I think
this was another act of sabotage?

[13:18] ---

Yes.

[13:19] ---

After Mari's incident, you did point out the possibility
that the CAD had been tampered with, didn't you?

[13:25] ---

Yes.

[13:26] ---

The Fourth High staff swears that they didn't
equip the CADs with Battering Ram,

[13:31] ---

but if you're right and our school's being
sabotaged, what do you think their motive is?

[13:41] ---

Revenge, maybe?

[13:42] ---

Or retaliation for
what happened last spring?

[13:46] ---

This is separate from
that incident in the spring.

[13:49] ---

What makes you so sure?

[13:51] ---

The night before the tournament started,
some intruders tried to break into the hotel.

[13:56] ---

There were three in all, and
they were all armed with handguns.

[14:00] ---

That's the first
I've ever heard of this.

[14:02] ---

Because I was sworn to secrecy.

[14:04] ---

But I do know just a little
about their background.

[14:08] ---

I hear it's a criminal syndicate
based in Hong Kong

[14:11] ---

that's making these moves on
this year's Nine Schools Competition.

[14:15] ---

Please don't do
anything too dangerous.

[14:18] ---

If anything, I'd say I was the one
constantly getting dragged into these things.

[14:24] ---

How did it turn out?

[14:26] ---

Just as we'd planned.

[14:28] ---

First High has no choice but
to withdraw from Monolith Code.

[14:32] ---

Out of all the events, Monolith
Code commands the most points.

[14:35] ---

The points earned in the Rookie events may only be half
that of the Official events, but they'll still feel the blow.

[14:45] ---

It's not as if your approach is going to
change compared to the prelims.

[14:48] ---

At the end of the day,
Mirage Bat is all about stamina.

[14:52] ---

Under no circumstances should you
try to wear down your opponents.

[14:55] ---

All you need to do is to stay
calm and pace yourselves.

[14:59] ---

Both of you - as long as you focus on
playing to your own strengths, you'll be fine.

[15:03] ---

Don't worry. We've got
a one-two finish in the bag.

[15:06] ---

- Right! Very well.

- Yeah, I hear you!

[15:11] ---

8-9 / Seventh day of the competition
Women's Rookie Event Mirage Bat Finals

[15:31] ---

Damn! How can he make such
a tiny Activation Sequence function?

[15:35] ---

You'd think it was
Taurus Silver himself!

[15:38] ---

"You'd think it was
Taurus Silver himself?"

[15:41] ---

Utilizing cutting-edge
research results

[15:43] ---

to connect the main system of a Generalized model
to the sub-system of a Specialized model...

[15:48] ---

Inferno...

[15:50] ---

Phonon Maser...

[15:52] ---

Niflheim...

[15:54] ---

Every one of them is
an Advanced Magic Program

[15:57] ---

whose Activation Sequence has only ever
been made public to Rank A magicians...

[16:01] ---

You'd think it was
Taurus Silver himself?

[16:04] ---

No, this is... It would be impossible unless
Taurus Silver himself were behind it...

[16:10] ---

Let's see... He might actually be
a Japanese youth like you or me.

[16:14] ---

No way!

[16:16] ---

No way, no way, no way!

[16:31] ---

No way...

SIGN First High Occupied

[16:56] ---

Tatsuya, good work today.

[16:59] ---

The results you produced exceeded our expectations, and we thank you for that.

[17:03] ---

It's thanks to the players and their efforts.

[17:06] ---

Of course it's their achievement for working so hard.

[17:09] ---

But every one of us here recognizes how significant your contribution was.

[17:15] ---

Thank you very much.

[17:18] ---

According to the current standings, First High is tops in points scored.

[17:21] ---

Third High is in second place, and in terms of just the Rookie events,

[17:24] ---

they're fifty points behind us.

[17:26] ---

Even if we were to withdraw from Monolith Code now,

[17:29] ---

we'd be assured of a second-place finish in the Rookie Division.

[17:32] ---

Before the Rookie events started, I would've been satisfied with that, but...

[17:38] ---

Now that we've come this far, I'd like to shoot for first place in the Rookie events, as well.

[17:44] ---

Did you know that Masaki Ichijo and Shinkuro Kichijoji will be competing for Third High in Monolith Code?

[17:50] ---

Yes.

[17:51] ---

With those two teamed up, there's little chance that they'd suffer an upset in this tournament.

[17:58] ---

And so, Tatsuya...

[18:01] ---

Can we ask you
to compete in Monolith Code?

[18:05] ---

Would it be all right
to ask you two questions?

[18:09] ---

Yes. What would they be?

[18:11] ---

The two remaining preliminary matches have been
postponed till tomorrow, is that right?

[18:16] ---

That's right. In light of the situation, they've
agreed to change tomorrow's schedule.

[18:22] ---

I was under the impression that players couldn't be
replaced even in the case of debilitating injury.

[18:29] ---

They've made an exception
for that as well.

[18:33] ---

Why was I chosen?

[18:38] ---

Well, because I felt that you would be
the best possible substitute.

[18:43] ---

Forget about your scores
on the actual skills test.

[18:45] ---

In terms of live combat skills, you're
probably No. 1 among the first year guys.

[18:49] ---

Monolith Code isn't live combat.

[18:52] ---

It's a Magic Competition in which
physical attacks are banned.

[18:55] ---

In terms of magic-only
battle strength, too,

[18:58] ---

I do think that you're
in a class of your own.

[19:01] ---

But I'm not a player.

[19:04] ---

If it's a replacement you need, I'm sure there are
plenty of players entered in just a single event.

[19:11] ---

Even if the First Course students' pride was taken out of the equation,

[19:15] ---

selecting a substitute from among the staff, despite the availability of other players,

[19:19] ---

would surely leave lasting psychological damage.

[19:29] ---

Don't be such a child, Shiba!

[19:32] ---

You're already a member of this team.

[19:36] ---

Regardless of whether you're a player or a staff member,

[19:40] ---

you're one of twenty-one students chosen from among the two hundred first years.

[19:45] ---

And due to our current crisis, our team leader, Saegusa, has chosen you as a substitute.

[19:54] ---

As long as you're a member of this team, you'll fulfill your duty as a member.

[19:58] ---

But...

[19:59] ---

As long as you're a member, there'll be no defying our leader's decisions.

[20:03] ---

If you believe that one of those decisions is flawed,

[20:07] ---

then those of us who serve as the leader's assistants will be the ones to block it.

[20:10] ---

Aside from us, no other member has the right to raise any objections.

[20:15] ---

That's right...

[20:16] ---

No matter who they might be.

[20:20] ---

Don't use your status as a Second Course student as your way out.

[20:24] ---

Don't allow yourself to wallow in

the ranks of the weak, Shiba.

[20:27] ---

Substitute or not,

[20:28] ---

as long as you've been chosen,
then fulfill that mission.

[20:33] ---

Very well.

[20:35] ---

I'll carry out my duty.

[20:39] ---

So who are the other team
members besides myself?

[20:43] ---

You decide yourself.

[20:45] ---

We'll leave the selection of
the other two members to you.

[20:49] ---

If you need time, then
come back here in an hour.

[20:52] ---

No, there's no need for that.
But I'm not sure that they'll agree to do it.

[20:58] ---

We'll be present
if you need to persuade them.

[21:01] ---

Can it be anybody? Even if
I choose from outside the team?

[21:06] ---

I don't think that would be...

[21:06] ---

It's fine. We've already made
enough exceptions for this.

[21:11] ---

One or two more won't matter.

[21:14] ---

Jumonji...

[21:16] ---

Then my picks are Mikihiko Yoshida of 1-E,
and Leonhard Saijo, also of 1-E.

[21:21] ---

Hey, Shiba!

[21:24] ---

Fine.

[21:26] ---

Tatsuya, would you mind telling us the reason why you chose those two?

[21:30] ---

Of course not.

[21:32] ---

The biggest reason is that I've hardly watched any of the men's matches or practice sessions.

[21:38] ---

I know nothing about their specialties or characteristics.

[21:43] ---

The match is tomorrow.

[21:45] ---

If I were to research them from scratch, there wouldn't be enough time for strategizing or fine-tuning.

[21:49] ---

You mean that you're familiar with those particular two?

[21:52] ---

Yes. Not only are Yoshida and Saijo my classmates, but I also know them well.

[22:00] ---

That's a valid point.

[22:01] ---

After all, without knowing them well, teamwork will be tough. So...

[22:08] ---

What's the non-biggest reason?

[22:13] ---

Their ability.

SIGN Nine Schools Competition Part VIII

SIGN NEXT TIME

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