

E8 - Nine Schools Competition Part I

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[00:00] ---

7-12-2095 / Kokonoe Temple

[00:30] ---

Who's there?

[00:34] ---

Hey, Haruka.

[00:38] ---

I never thought that Shiba would catch onto me, let alone you, Master.

[00:43] ---

If you want to pull the wool over his eyes,

[00:45] ---

you'll have to disguise your presence, not extinguish it.

[00:49] ---

I see,

[00:51] ---

I learned something today!

[00:53] ---

What brings you here, Ms. Ono?

[00:57] ---

You can let your guard down.

[00:59] ---

Haruka's a student of mine.

[01:02] ---

Sorry to intrude. It looks like you were practicing your Mirage Bat technique.

[01:07] ---

So Ms. Shiba, are you entering the Nine Schools Competition?

[01:10] ---

Correct! Miyuki's competing in the Mirage Bat and Ice Pillars Break tournaments.

[01:17] ---

Two competitions? That's amazing!

[01:21] ---

It would be nice if you would answer my question, too.

[01:25] ---

Haruka, do you mind?

[01:29] ---

Even if I said no, you'd just tell them when I'm not around, right?

[01:33] ---

All right, since Haruka herself has given me the go-ahead...

[01:36] ---

Haruka here is a Public Safety investigator for the police department.

[01:41] ---

To be precise,

[01:43] ---

I became a secret investigator for Public Safety after I was assigned as a counselor to First High School.

[01:49] ---

Also, since I've trained under Master Kokonoe for a year, starting two years ago,

[01:55] ---

that makes you my senior apprentice, Shiba.

[01:58] ---

Considering that, it was a tremendous Concealment spell you pulled off.

[02:01] ---

Well, that's the kind of magic I specialize in.

[02:04] ---

I see.

[02:05] ---

So you're a BS Magician, then?

[02:08] ---

I don't like being referred to that way.

[02:12] ---

Shiba, normally my status as an investigator would be confidential.

[02:16] ---

So I'm counting on you to keep it off-the-record.

[02:19] ---

Very well.

[02:21] ---

Then in exchange, so to speak,
[02:23] ---
if any incidents like the Blanche
plot were to happen again,
[02:26] ---
will you keep me
informed ahead of time?
[02:29] ---
Yes.
[02:30] ---
Give-and-take it is.
[04:07] ---
Come on, come on! Outta my way!
[04:11] ---
Tatsuya!
[04:19] ---
Yoshida!
[04:26] ---
Game over!
[04:27] ---
9-2, Class E wins!
[04:32] ---
That guy rocks, huh?
[04:34] ---
Yeah.
[04:35] ---
He gets a good read on the ball,
and he's more agile than he looks.
[04:45] ---
Nice play!
[04:47] ---
Hey, way to go, Yoshida.
[04:49] ---
Right back atcha.
[04:51] ---
Sorry if this sounds offensive,
[04:53] ---
but that was totally unexpected.
[04:54] ---
Mikihiko.
[04:56] ---
I don't like being called
by my last name.
[04:59] ---
Call me by my first name, okay?
[05:01] ---
Sure thing! Then call me Leo!

[05:05] ---

Do you mind if
I call you Mikihiko, too?

[05:08] ---

Needless to say, you can call me Tatsuya.

[05:11] ---

Okay, Tatsuya.

[05:13] ---

Actually, the thing is,

[05:14] ---

I've been wanting to
talk to you for a while.

[05:18] ---

What a coincidence.

[05:20] ---

Actually, same here.

[05:21] ---

You know what,
I'm starting to feel left out...

[05:24] ---

You're just imagining things, Leo.

[05:26] ---

I've been wanting to talk to you, too.

[05:29] ---

After all, it's not everyday that I meet people
who have the stomach to put up with that Erika.

[05:36] ---

I think I might have
missed something...

[05:40] ---

Mikihiko, do you know
Erika from before?

[05:44] ---

Uh, well...

[05:46] ---

More or less.

[05:47] ---

I guess Miki and I are
what you call childhood friends?

[05:51] ---

Although for the last six months
or so, he's been avoiding me.

[05:55] ---

Is that right?

[05:56] ---

E-Erika!

[05:58] ---

Why are you dressed like that?

[06:01] ---

What do you mean?

[06:02] ---

This is a traditional girls' training outfit.

[06:05] ---

Tradition?

[06:07] ---

You sure?

[06:08] ---

I think those spats are
designed rather unusually.

[06:10] ---

These are not spats!

[06:12] ---

But it's not an underskirt either, is it?

[06:15] ---

Even I wouldn't wear just an underskirt
without a skirt! There'd be no point!

[06:20] ---

These are called bloomers.

[06:22] ---

Bloomers? Sounds like a broom.

[06:26] ---

Is that how you used to dress
when you cleaned your house?

[06:29] ---

Of course not, for heaven's sake!
I told you, it's a training outfit for girls!

[06:33] ---

Are bloomers what I think they are?

[06:36] ---

Back when people's
morals were in tatters,

[06:38] ---

schoolgirls would sell them to middle-aged
guys to earn extra pocket money!

[06:45] ---

Shut your mouth, moron!

SIGN Student Council HQ

[06:49] ---

For the nine Magic University Affiliated
High Schools around the country,

[06:53] ---

the Nine Schools Competition is
a high-profile event.

[06:57] ---

The essay contest held in
the fall is research-oriented,

[07:00] ---

while during the Nine Schools
Competition held in the summer,

[07:03] ---

each school goes head-to-head
in sports-type magic contests.

[07:06] ---

Of course, since the school's
honor is on the line,

[07:08] ---

the contestants are
chosen based on merit.

[07:12] ---

So the Student Council is taking
the lead preparing for it, right?

[07:16] ---

Yes. As far as selecting our athletes, thanks to
Jumonji's help, we've managed to finalize our roster, but...

[07:22] ---

The issue is choosing engineers.

[07:24] ---

I mean the technical staff.

[07:27] ---

You're still short on engineers, then?

[07:29] ---

Yes.

[07:30] ---

The third year class is particularly
skewed towards practical skills.

[07:35] ---

As for the second years, we do
have A-chan and Isori... But...

[07:39] ---

Kei Isori, huh? I'd say
he's more of a pure theorist,

[07:44] ---

and not too adept
at fine-tuning, right?

[07:48] ---

If only you could find a way to fine-tune at least
your own CAD, Mari, my job would be so much easier...

[07:54] ---

Well, I see we do have
a serious problem.

[08:00] ---

Hey, Rin. Would you take on
the role of an engineer after all?

[08:03] ---

Not possible.

[08:04] ---

With my skills, I believe that I'd only
end up thwarting Ms. Nakajo and the others.

[08:13] ---

All right, I'll be heading out now.

[08:17] ---

Um... in that case,
wouldn't Shiba fit the bill?

[08:20] ---

After all, it seems that Shiba's
the one who adjusts Miyuki's CAD...

[08:30] ---

Talk about a blind spot!

[08:31] ---

Right...

[08:33] ---

I must be slipping... how could I
not have come up with that?

[08:40] ---

If I'm not mistaken, a first year has
never been elected to the technical staff.

[08:44] ---

There has to be a first
time for everything!

[08:46] ---

Precedents were made
to be overturned.

[08:49] ---

You two are progressive thinkers,
so you might see it that way,

[08:52] ---

but for a first year, and
a Course 2 student to boot...

[08:55] ---

And on top of that, I've been standing out
in a bad way, in more ways than one...

[08:59] ---

Well...

[09:01] ---

Trust between engineer and user is
a crucial part of CAD fine-tuning.

[09:06] ---

Appointing someone who might bring on a backlash

from the athletes doesn't sound like a good idea...

[09:12] ---

I'd like my brother to fine-tune my CAD
for the Nine School Competition as well...

[09:18] ---

Am I asking too much?

[09:21] ---

That's right!

[09:22] ---

Having an engineer you can trust is
a lot of moral support. Right, Miyuki?

[09:27] ---

Yes.

[09:28] ---

All right, then. There's going to be a prep
session after school, so let's talk it over then.

[09:45] ---

I see you've brought
the Silver Horn with you today!

[09:48] ---

Yes,

[09:50] ---

I just got a new holster for it,

[09:52] ---

so I thought I'd break it in.

[09:54] ---

What? Would you mind
showing it to me?

[09:58] ---

That's fine with me.

[10:00] ---

Go ahead.

[10:02] ---

It's a genuine Silver model!

[10:05] ---

I'm loving the way it's cut. This exquisite
curve, conducive to quick-drawing!

[10:10] ---

A nod to usability that never gets lost
in its cutting-edge technology!

[10:14] ---

Oh, how I adore you, Lord Silver...

[10:19] ---

It's so unusual for
Miyuki to miss, isn't it?

[10:23] ---

Must be a coincidence.

[10:26] ---

I wonder what kind of
person Taurus Silver is?

[10:29] ---

Does he intrigue you?

[10:31] ---

For sure, he intrigues me!

[10:33] ---

I mean, it's that Taurus Silver!

[10:36] ---

Starting with making
Loop Casting a reality,

[10:39] ---

he's an engineering genius

[10:40] ---

said to have catapulted specialized
CAD software forward by at least ten years!

[10:47] ---

I see I'm not well-informed. Who knew
that he was held in such high regard...

[10:52] ---

Hey, hey, Shiba, what kind of person
do you think Taurus Silver is?

[10:57] ---

Let's see...

[10:59] ---

He might actually be
a Japanese youth like you or me.

[11:06] ---

Japanese, did you say?

[11:08] ---

Since he works exclusively
for FLT, a Japanese firm.

[11:12] ---

By the way, A-chan...

[11:13] ---

Yes?

[11:14] ---

Weren't you supposed to finish your
assignment during the lunch break?

[11:18] ---

Chairwoman!

[11:21] ---

I'll help you out just a little, all right?

[11:23] ---

For real?

[11:24] ---

So what kind of assignment is this, exactly?

[11:29] ---

Actually, it's a report on the Three Major Puzzles of Weight-based Magic.

[11:35] ---

I understand the parts about actualizing a Gravity Control Type Thermonuclear Fusion Reactor,

[11:39] ---

and actualizing a Quasi-perpetual Motion Machine based on Infinite Inertial Expansion,

[11:44] ---

but I can't figure out how to explain why General-purpose Flying Spells can't be actualized...

[11:50] ---

In order to use magic to fly, every time you accelerate, decelerate, ascend and descend,

[11:56] ---

you need to layer a new spell over the magic already being executed.

[12:01] ---

Since the necessary Phenomena Interference Magic increases each time,

[12:05] ---

the most you can hope for is ten layers.

[12:08] ---

This is why Flying Spells aren't feasible in the real world.

[12:12] ---

I was thinking that if layering was necessary,

[12:17] ---

you could just cancel the ongoing spell and launch a new one in its place...

[12:21] ---

But if it's that simple, then somebody must have already tried it, right?

[12:26] ---

Not to mention, it's like unleashing Area Interference after the fact...

[12:30] ---

The year before last,

[12:32] ---

in England, they conducted an experiment based on the concept you just spoke of...

[12:36] ---

But it ended in failure.

[12:38] ---

What was the reason?

[12:41] ---

It doesn't say here.

[12:45] ---

What do you think, Tatsuya?

[12:47] ---

That experiment was
fundamentally flawed.

[12:53] ---

A magic sequence can't be used
on another magic sequence.

[12:56] ---

That's true even in the case of
Area Interference.

[13:00] ---

Unless it's a spell that directly
wipes out the magic sequence,

[13:03] ---

it's no exception to this rule,
even if it's an anti-magic spell.

[13:10] ---

In other words,

[13:12] ---

they're just using magic needlessly?

[13:14] ---

Yes.

[13:16] ---

The British scholars who planned that experiment
must have misunderstood the nature of anti-magic.

SIGN Nine Schools Competition Part I

SIGN First High School Extracurricular

Activities Federation HQ

[13:33] ---

The Student Council hereby nominates Tatsuya Shiba
of Class 1-E as a member of the engineering staff.

[13:39] ---

A Course 2 student?

[13:40] ---

Yeah, but he's on the Disciplinary
Committee, right?

[13:42] ---

Is he up to fine-tuning CADs?

[13:45] ---

They don't even have a clue
about how good Tatsuya is!

[13:47] ---

Yeah.

[13:48] ---

I know I'd like to have
Tatsuya take on the job.

[13:52] ---

Apparently, some
among us aren't convinced.

[13:56] ---

It would probably be best to
have them actually see Shiba's skills.

[14:02] ---

What are we going to do, specifically?

[14:04] ---

We should just have him
adjust an actual CAD.

[14:09] ---

I'd be happy to serve as the guinea pig.

[14:11] ---

That would be dangerous!

[14:12] ---

If his tuning turns out to be sub-par,
injury will be the least of your problems!

[14:16] ---

All right then, since I'm the one who
nominated Shiba, I'll gladly take on that role.

[14:22] ---

No, that role...

[14:24] ---

Please allow me to take it on.

[14:32] ---

The task is to copy Kiriwara's CAD's settings
over to this CAD for competitive use,

[14:39] ---

and to make it immediately usable.

[14:42] ---

However, I'm not to tamper with
the Activation Sequence itself.

[14:46] ---

Is that correct?

[14:48] ---

Yes, that's what we want you to do.

[14:52] ---

What's the matter?

[14:54] ---

I don't really recommend copying
the settings of a CAD with different specs...

[15:01] ---

Well, it can't be helped.

[15:03] ---

I'll take a "Safety First" approach.

[15:19] ---

Thank you very much.

[15:21] ---

You can remove it now.

[15:32] ---

What's that guy doing?

[15:34] ---

Strictly keyboard in this day and age?

[15:36] ---

That's beyond old-school!

[15:39] ---

Totally manual fine-tuning, huh?

[15:42] ---

Hey, Kei. Is that something amazing?

[15:45] ---

Yeah.

[15:46] ---

It's just that there seem to be a lot of people who don't get what it is that he's doing.

[15:53] ---

I'm finished.

[16:05] ---

Kirihara, how does that feel to you?

[16:09] ---

No issues at all.

[16:11] ---

It feels absolutely natural to me.

[16:14] ---

So he does seem to have passable skills...

[16:17] ---

But you can't say that he's got finesse.

[16:19] ---

His methods are too irregular.

[16:21] ---

I, for one, strongly support naming Shiba to the team!

[16:25] ---

The skills he just showed us are extremely advanced.

[16:29] ---

Doing all that fine-tuning manually... that's something I could never hope to do.

[16:34] ---

Sure, his skills may be advanced,

[16:36] ---

but if the end-product is
pedestrian, there's no point.

[16:40] ---

Kirihara's personal CAD is a model boasting
higher specs than the one for competitive use.

[16:45] ---

Preventing the user from
picking up on the difference...

[16:49] ---

I believe that such skills
should be rated highly...

[16:52] ---

Well, I guess you could say that...

[16:55] ---

Chairwoman?

[16:56] ---

I support adding Shiba
to the engineering team.

[17:00] ---

Hanzo?

[17:01] ---

In the Nine Schools Competition,

[17:03] ---

our school's prestige will be on the line.

[17:06] ---

"Because he's a first year,"
or "there's no precedent..."

[17:09] ---

We cannot afford to dwell on
such trivial matters.

[17:14] ---

I also agree with what
you just pointed out, Hattori.

[17:18] ---

Shiba just showed us that he has the skills
to be a member of our school's team.

[17:23] ---

I, too, support adding
Shiba to the team.

[17:32] ---

It's been a long time.

[17:33] ---

*Yes, long time no see,
Special Officer.*

[17:36] ---

If that's how you're referring
to me, are we on a secret line?

[17:41] ---

I'm really amazed at how adept you are at
breaking into civilian landlines every single time.

[17:46] ---

Not that it was easy.

[17:48] ---

*Special Officer, isn't the security
around your house way too hard-core?*

[17:53] ---

That's because hackers
these days are relentless.

[17:57] ---

So Major, what's
on your agenda today?

[18:02] ---

First, some work-related news.

[18:04] ---

Right.

[18:05] ---

*Today, we finished
overhauling the Third Eye.*

[18:09] ---

*At this juncture, we'd like you to update
the software and run some functionality tests.*

[18:15] ---

Very well. I'll head over there
tomorrow morning.

[18:18] ---

*No, we're not so pressed for time
that you need to miss school.*

[18:23] ---

No, I'm scheduled to report to
FLT on my next day off anyway.

[18:27] ---

I see.

[18:29] ---

*Then, tomorrow morning,
report to the usual place.*

[18:32] ---

Understood, sir.

[18:36] ---

Moving on, Special Officer,

[18:37] ---

rumor has it that you'll be taking part

in the Nine Schools Competition, too?

[18:43] ---

Yes, sir.

[18:44] ---

*The competition site is in
the Southeast Fuji Training Area.*

[18:48] ---

*Well, of course it's
the same every year, but...*

[18:51] ---

Watch your back, Tatsuya.

[18:54] ---

In that same area,

[18:56] ---

*we've repeatedly spotted what are most likely
members of an international crime syndicate.*

[19:01] ---

*Considering the timing, we think they're
targeting the Nine Schools Competition.*

[19:05] ---

You said it was an international
crime syndicate?

[19:09] ---

I had Mibu look into it.

[19:11] ---

First High School, second year,

[19:13] ---

Sayaka Mibu... you're
talking about her father?

[19:15] ---

That's right.

[19:17] ---

*After retiring from the army, Mibu transferred to
the Cabinet Information Management Agency,*

[19:21] ---

*and he's currently in charge of
international crime units.*

[19:24] ---

I'm surprised.

[19:26] ---

*According to Mibu, they might very well be
members of a Hong Kong-based crime syndicate,*

[19:29] ---

the No-Head Dragons.

[19:33] ---

*I'll be in touch as soon as
I receive any additional information.*

[19:37] ---

Thank you very much.

[19:44] ---

Brother,

[19:45] ---

I've brought you some coffee.

[19:47] ---

Perfect timing. I was just
about to go get you my--

[19:56] ---

Is that your Mirage Bat
costume, by any chance?

[19:59] ---

That's correct!

[20:03] ---

What do you think?

[20:04] ---

You look very pretty.

[20:06] ---

It really suits you well.

[20:09] ---

Thank you very much...

[20:15] ---

The Flying Spell...

[20:18] ---

Congratulations!

[20:19] ---

So you've succeeded in launching
a Sustained Gravity Control Type Flying Spell!

[20:26] ---

Once again, Brother, you've
made the impossible possible.

[20:30] ---

I am so proud to be your
younger sister, Brother!

[20:35] ---

Thanks, Miyuki.

[20:37] ---

This has brought me
one step closer to my goal.

[20:42] ---

On my next day off,

[20:43] ---

I'm going to test this out at FLT,
but first I want you to try it, Miyuki.

[20:50] ---

With pleasure!

[20:52] ---

Shiba Residence / 2nd Floor Underground

[20:56] ---

I'm going to begin now.

[21:10] ---

Tell me...

[21:12] ---

Do you find the successive processing
of the Activation Sequences draining?

[21:15] ---

I'm fine. No headache,
and no sense of fatigue.

[21:18] ---

That's good.

[21:20] ---

All right, now let's see you slowly
move in a horizontal direction.

[21:24] ---

Very well.

[21:31] ---

Does the spell feel choppy?

[21:33] ---

No, not at all. The time recorder
function is working perfectly.

[21:38] ---

The cornerstone of this
system is its recording function,

[21:41] ---

which allows it to accurately record
the activation points of each ongoing spell.

[21:45] ---

Humans aren't made to do
this kind of digital processing.

[21:49] ---

I figured that all I had to do was
use the machine to supplement it.

[21:52] ---

Just as I expected of you, Brother!

SIGN Nine Schools Competition Part II

SIGN NEXT TIME

Revision #1

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