

E16 - Sohoku Falls Behind

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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.)

SIGN Shiisaka Shirasawa Tunnel

[00:05] Fan

The lead pack is here!

[00:06] Fan

It's Hakone Academy and Kyoto Fushimi!

[00:08] Fan

That's #14, the guy from the sprint!

[00:10] Fan

#116 has rejoined his team, too!

[00:13] Fan

There's one Sohoku rider with them!

[00:15] Fan

It's the red guy!

SIGN Yowamushi Pedal

SIGN LINE.16 Sohoku Falls Behind

[01:54] Naruko

It's suddenly muggy. The air's hot.

[01:58] Naruko

The temperature rose sharply
once we exited the tunnel.

[02:01] Naruko

Our elevation must have
decreased quite a bit.

[02:04] Naruko

Once this downhill ends, we'll be in Numata.

[02:08] Naruko

From there, the road will
be flat for a while.

[02:10] Naruko

But once that ends,
we'll enter the mountains.

[02:14] Naruko

Naturally, since I'm a genius, I won't let
Hakone Academy or Kyoto Fushimi get away.

[02:19] Naruko

But honestly, having to do all of it myself puts me at a disadvantage.

[02:30] Naruko

Damn!

[02:32] Naruko

Kyoto Fushimi's staggering their line

[02:34] Naruko

and moving around so I can't get out of the wind behind them.

[02:37] Naruko

Is this one of Midousuji's phases?

[02:40] Naruko

They're absolutely right.

[02:42] Naruko

If I want to get out of the wind, I should go get some of my own teammates.

[02:46] Naruko

Right now, I'm just an eyesore. They won't cooperate with me.

[02:52] Naruko

My legs are starting to feel modestly exhausted from this modest attack.

[02:56] Naruko

No, wait. I'm a genius.

[03:00] Naruko

I can handle this myself.

[03:03] Naruko

I won't let modesty beat me!

[03:06] Naruko

But...

[03:07] Naruko

It would be easier if they caught up.

[03:12] Naruko

My team...

[03:14] Naruko

Onoda-kun...

[03:16] Naruko

Teshima-san...

[03:18] Naruko

Hotshot!

[03:20] Naruko

Come on!

[03:22] Naruko

Catch up!

[03:28] Teshima

This is hopeless.

[03:30] Sakamichi

Teshima-san, I'll switch with you.

[03:33] Teshima

Thanks, Onoda.

[03:34] Sakamichi

We'll catch up to the front somehow.

[03:39] Teshima

Our situation couldn't be worse.

[03:41] Teshima

We're pretty far behind the front.

[03:44] Teshima

I wish we could catch up,
but they're six plus six plus one.

[03:49] Teshima

That's thirteen riders. There's only three of us.

[03:53] Teshima

And one of us is a climber who
won't be good on the flats.

SIGN Feed Zone

[03:57] Teshima

At the feed zone earlier...

[03:59] (Flashback) Sugimoto

Teshima-san!

[04:00] (Flashback) Danchiku

Onoda-san!

[04:01] (Flashback) Sakamichi

Thank you!

[04:03] (Flashback) Miki

Teshima-san, you're five minutes
and ten seconds behind the front!

[04:08] (Flashback) Sugimoto

I-It's okay!

[04:11] (Flashback) Sugimoto

I-I'm sure you can catch up!

[04:13] (Flashback) Sugimoto

Please catch up!

[04:15] (Flashback) Sugimoto

Sohoku, go!

[04:18] (Flashback) Danchiku

Senpai!

[04:19] (Flashback) Aya

Good luck!

[04:23] Teshima

Sugimoto was tearing up.

[04:27] Teshima

In fact, he was crying.

[04:30] Teshima

I was in the feed zone last

year and the year before.

[04:32] Teshima

I know what it's like

[04:35] Teshima

to wait and wait for your team to come.

[04:39] Teshima

It makes you want to cry, but...

[04:43] Teshima

This time, I have to do something
about this situation.

[04:48] Teshima

But how?

[04:55] Ise

You must be slow if you're
still hanging around here.

[04:59] Ise

This year's Sohoku team sure is slow.

[05:04] Teshima

Pursuers? You can't be serious.

[05:06] Teshima

They caught up to us from behind?

[05:09] Ise

You're slower than last year.

[05:12] Ise

Higo blooms again!

[05:15] Teshima

Kumamoto Daiichi?

[05:19] Ise

We trained for the flats
on the plains of Kumamoto

[05:21] Ise

and polished our climbing
on the slopes of Mt. Aso.

[05:24] Ise

We are the Kumamoto Daiichi
Higo Superexpress!

[05:31] Teshima

Kumamoto Daiichi third-year Ise!

[05:33] Ise

We let Kyoto and Hakone take the sprint
and deliberately left the pack late.

[05:40] Ise

If we'd left early, we would've
ended up like you, in pieces!

[05:47] Ise

This year's Kumamoto Daiichi is smart.

[05:50] Ise

We planned to delay our move and chase after the front with all six of our members.

[05:56] Teshima

The front?

[05:58] Teshima

They're heading for the front? In that case...

[06:02] Sakamichi

E-Excuse me, Ise-san...

[06:04] Sakamichi

You rode with a very energetic guy named Taura-san last year, didn't you?

[06:10] Ise

Are you trying to say we've changed,

[06:14] Ise

tag #1, Onoda-kun?

[06:17] Sakamichi

Oh, no! Um, I'm sorry if I offended you!

[06:22] Ise

You're right.

[06:24] Ise

I took over the club after Taura-san.

[06:28] Ise

I don't want to face the pain we experienced last year again, so I've become a demon.

[06:35] Ise

The underclassmen call me the Demon Sergeant!

[06:41] Teshima

Ise!

[06:44] Teshima

Why don't we work together until we reach the front?

[06:48] Teshima

Us and Kumamoto Daiichi...

[06:51] Teshima

In a road race, the more people there are in a group, the faster they go!

[06:58] Teshima

Not a bad deal, right?

[07:03] Ise

Didn't I mention last year's painful experience?

[07:08] Ise

We're done with cooperating!

[07:12] Sakamichi

That's right.

[07:14] Sakamichi

Last year, during the third day's
final stage, Kumamoto Daiichi

[07:18] Sakamichi

was abandoned by the guys from Hiroshima.

[07:26] Ise

I've got another piece of bad news for you.

[07:30] Ise

The pack behind us is slowly gaining speed.

[07:34] Ise

If you keep riding at that pace,

[07:38] Ise

forget about the front—the pack
behind will catch up to you.

[07:45] Imaizumi

How could we have fallen so far behind?

[07:48] Imaizumi

It's because I made the wrong choice.

[07:52] Teshima

Forget about the front
because of the pack behind...

[07:55] Teshima

I didn't plan on giving up,

[07:59] Teshima

but should we leave Naruko alone and...

[08:06] Daiichi

Captain Ise!

[08:07] Daiichi

The pursuers behind us
have fallen out of sight!

[08:10] Daiichi

We've shaken off Sohoku!

[08:12] Ise

Roger that.

[08:14] Ise

They were as persistent this
year as they were last year.

[08:18] Ise

Sohoku's impressive.

[08:21] Ise

But their race is over now.

[08:24] Ise

Kumamoto Daiichi finished them off.

[08:28] Ise

Since they're not trying to catch up,
they must've lost the will to fight.

[08:33] Ise

They've given up

[08:36] Ise

on this race!

[08:49] Teshima

What's going on? Onoda?

[08:52] Teshima

What is this rising pressure?

[08:56] Imaizumi

Onoda?

[08:58] Imaizumi

Despite the circumstances,

[09:01] Imaizumi

he's smiling?

[09:05] Teshima

What's up, Onoda?

[09:07] Sakamichi

Uh, sorry.

[09:10] Sakamichi

I know I shouldn't be smiling.

[09:13] Sakamichi

I just couldn't help but imagine...

[09:17] Sakamichi

Kumamoto Daiichi said the
pack is close behind us.

[09:21] Sakamichi

The board on the referee car just said
there's two guys riding ahead of the pack.

[09:30] Sakamichi

I thought it might be possible that

[09:34] Sakamichi

Aoyagi-san and Kaburagi-kun will
catch up and ride with us again.

[09:40] Sakamichi

I'm sure we'll be faster
when there's five of us.

[09:45] Imaizumi

Aoyagi-san and Kaburagi?

[09:48] Teshima

They could catch up?

[09:51] Teshima

Faster with five?

[09:54] Sakamichi

Yeah.

[09:56] Sakamichi

But it's still just my imagination.

[09:59] Teshima

Since we've fallen behind the front,
it means we're closer to the back.

[10:04] Teshima

I hadn't even considered that.

[10:08] Teshima

I hadn't considered that
we'd increased our odds of

[10:10] Teshima

grouping up with our teammates behind us.

[10:13] Sakamichi

B-But it's not guaranteed!

[10:16] Sakamichi

It's just a possibility!

[10:20] Teshima

We can ride with Kaburagi and Aoyagi again.

[10:29] Teshima

No. We're in the middle of a race.

[10:32] Teshima

And I'm the captain.

[10:35] Teshima

That's not happening, Onoda.

[10:37] Teshima

Kumamoto Daiichi passed us,

[10:40] Teshima

but we're still chasing after the lead pack.

[10:45] Teshima

And I...

[10:47] Teshima

have abandoned them!

[10:50] (Flashback) Teshima

Then this is goodbye.

[10:53] Teshima

They're not coming.

[10:55] Teshima

We won't slow down to wait for them, either.

[10:59] Teshima

Don't look back.

[11:00] Teshima

We'll catch up to the front.

[11:03] Teshima

We'll chase after them as quickly as we can.

[11:05] Teshima

That's an order! Pedal as hard as you can!

[11:08] Teshima

We must catch up to Hakone Academy
and Kyoto Fushimi!

[11:12] Sakamichi

Yes, sir!

[11:17] Imaizumi

Onoda's smiling again?

[11:20] Teshima

Onoda, let's switch!

[11:22] Sakamichi

Th-Thank you.

[11:25] Teshima

What's going on, Onoda?

[11:28] Teshima

Why are you smiling?

[11:30] Teshima

Has the heat made you lose your mind?

[11:33] Teshima

I said we're chasing after
the front at full speed.

[11:36] Sakamichi

Yes, sir.

[11:38] Sakamichi

Oh, um... Aoyagi-san promised he'd be back.

[11:45] (Flashback) Aoyagi

I'm bringing him back.

[11:47] Sakamichi

Teshima-san, you said the
eighth reason was hope.

[11:51] (Flashback) Aoyagi

Those seven more reasons my choice
is reckless... Is there an eighth?

[11:56] (Flashback) Teshima

What? The eighth?

[11:58] (Flashback) Teshima

There's...

[12:01] (Flashback) Teshima

It's a tiny shred of hope!

[12:04] Teshima

You didn't need to remember that.

[12:07] Sakamichi

I think they've broken through the seven
obstacles and are headed this way.

[12:13] Teshima

Sorry, but that's too optimistic.

[12:17] Teshima

We're heading for the front
as quickly as we can.

[12:21] Teshima

How will they catch up?

[12:23] Sakamichi

The mountains were probably hard for them.

[12:27] Sakamichi

But this course

[12:29] Sakamichi

has been a gently sloping downhill
since we exited the tunnel.

[12:35] Sakamichi

I'm sure they'll catch up.

[12:38] Sakamichi

After all,

[12:40] Sakamichi

they're sprinters.

[12:48] Kaburagi

Aoyagi-san...

[12:50] Aoyagi

What is it?

[12:54] Fan

They're faster than the
guys we've seen so far.

[12:56] Fan

The wind was making the leaves shake.

[12:59] Fan

They're the guys who competed
for yesterday's sprint.

[13:02] Kaburagi

I can hear the fans saying we're fast,
but this is normal, right?

[13:08] Kaburagi

I'm an all-rounder, not a sprinter.

[13:12] Aoyagi

You're right.

[13:21] Teshima

No, stay strong.

[13:24] Teshima

Putting your hopes in the guys behind
you is proof you're wavering.

[13:27] Teshima

Don't turn back, Teshima Junta.

[13:30] Teshima

Aoyagi is a good guy.

[13:32] Teshima

We've fought and eaten
together for three years.

[13:36] Teshima

Pick up the pace!

[13:38] Teshima

Earnest, silent, and
considerate of his juniors...

[13:43] Teshima

But I've abandoned him!

[13:45] Teshima

He's not coming!

[13:48] Teshima

Let's go faster!

[13:50] Fan

It's the three-man Sohoku team!

[13:52] Fan

You can do it!

[13:55] Fan

Some guys are coming from behind!

[13:56] Fan

There's two of them!

[13:59] Teshima

Two?

[14:01] Teshima

No, it's some other team.

[14:04] Teshima

They're chasing after us
like Kumamoto Daiichi did.

[14:07] Teshima

Don't turn back, Teshima Junta!

[14:18] Teshima

I can't let them catch up to us!

[14:21] Sakamichi

Teshima-san!

[14:23] Sakamichi

Behind us! Look behind us!

[14:28] Teshima

Wishes made so long ago...

[14:33] Teshima

sometimes come true.

[14:39] (Flashback) Teshima

It's finally over.

[14:40] (Flashback) Teshima

Laundry, cleanup,
and prepping for tomorrow...

[14:44] (Flashback) Teshima

Working support for the Inter-High
is harder than I thought.

[14:48] (Flashback) Teshima

Being a first-year is hard.

[14:50] (Flashback) Aoyagi

Yeah.

[14:53] (Flashback) Teshima

But Aoyagi...

[14:55] (Flashback) Teshima

Someday, let's race in the Inter-High.

[14:59] (Flashback) Teshima

Let's compete on the ultimate stage.

[15:02] (Flashback) Teshima

Let's do it by the time we're third-years.

[15:06] (Flashback) Teshima

I'll be a climber, and you'll be a sprinter.

[15:10] (Flashback) Teshima

Just kidding.

[15:12] (Flashback) Aoyagi

When the time comes,

I'll pull you to the mountains.

[15:24] (Flashback) Teshima

I'm counting on you.

[15:26] (Flashback) Aoyagi

Yeah.

[15:33] Teshima

Our small wish...

[15:40] Teshima

Onoda, are those...

[15:42] Sakamichi

Yes. They're yellow jerseys.

[15:46] Teshima

I'd given up hope long ago, but...

[15:52] Teshima

Why do you always come

[15:57] Teshima

to save me only when I'm in trouble?

[16:04] Teshima

You idiot!

[16:07] Teshima

Aoyagi!

[16:12] Aoyagi

I brought the idiot back again, Junta.

[16:18] Teshima

So casually, and without a
single change in expression...

[16:23] Teshima

How can you be there like that?

[16:28] Teshima

I see them, Onoda.

[16:31] Teshima

I see them, too.

[16:35] Teshima

The teammates I thought
would never come back.

[16:42] Kaburagi

We're here, Aoyagi-san.

[16:44] Kaburagi

Three yellow jerseys.

[16:46] Kaburagi

We're almost to our team.

[16:49] Kaburagi

It's Onoda-san, Imaizumi-san,
and Teshima-san.

[16:52] Kaburagi

This is crazy. It feels
like it's been so long.

[16:55] Kaburagi

We're almost there.

[17:03] Teshima

Aoyagi...

[17:06] Teshima

That shred of hope...

[17:09] Teshima

The tiny wish I mentioned then...

[17:12] Teshima

Those wishes...

[17:15] Teshima

As we're struggling, they suddenly come true.

[17:20] Teshima

That's how it is.

[17:24] Teshima

I met you the day I was
thinking about quitting cycling.

[17:30] (Flashback) Aoyagi

..."one" for number one.

[17:33] Teshima

I failed to make it to the Inter-High,
but you charmed me.

[17:37] Teshima

When I had lost hope, you asked me
if I wanted to be your partner.

[17:43] (Flashback) Teshima

We're a two-man team.

[17:47] Teshima

During our second-year training camp,

[17:49] Teshima

when I had given up hope,
you told me to keep riding.

[17:53] (Flashback) Aoyagi

We'll go together.

[17:56] (Flashback) Aoyagi

Otherwise, there's no point.

[18:00] Teshima

During this year's training camp,

[18:02] Teshima

in the final sprint of my race against Koga,

[18:07] Teshima

you were the only one who believed in me.

[18:10] (Flashback) Aoyagi

Junta, win!

[18:13] Teshima

And now, you promised you'd return.

[18:17] Teshima

You actually left the team and returned

[18:22] Teshima

with our teammate in tow.

[18:29] Teshima

Aoyagi...

[18:31] Teshima

Our two-man team...

[18:35] Teshima

can still ride at this Inter-High!

[18:46] Onoda

Kaburagi-kun and Aoyagi-san
have just rejoined the team!

[18:51] Kaburagi

Sorry we're late!

[18:53] Teshima

How have you been, Kaburagi?

[18:55] Kaburagi

Good, sir!

[18:56] Teshima

Well done making it back!

[18:58] Teshima

You shouldn't have fallen
behind if you're feeling good!

[19:01] Kaburagi

Sorry!

[19:03] Imaizumi

In this precarious situation,
we got five of our members together.

[19:09] Imaizumi

Just like Onoda said.

[19:12] Teshima

Koga did?

[19:14] Kaburagi

He waited for me

[19:16] Kaburagi

and pushed my back during the climb.

[19:20] Kaburagi

I was really grateful.

[19:23] Sakamichi

But you're most grateful
to Aoyagi-san, right?

[19:27] Kaburagi

What are you talking about?

[19:29] Kaburagi

Aoyagi fell behind, like me.

[19:32] Kaburagi

We had no choice but to work together.

[19:35] Sakamichi

Aoyagi-san left the team by himself
so he could go back and save you.

[19:42] Kaburagi

Huh?

[19:43] Sakamichi

Teshima-san tried to stop him, but he
promised to bring you back and left.

[19:48] Kaburagi

A-Are you being serious?

[19:55] (Flashback) Aoyagi

So follow me. Don't fall behind.

[19:59] Kaburagi

Seriously?

[20:02] Aoyagi

Yeah.

[20:03] Kaburagi

Wh-Why didn't you say so?

[20:07] Aoyagi

I told you a bunch of times.

[20:10] Kaburagi

Th-Th-Th-Th-Th-Then...

[20:16] Kaburagi

I owe you the most!

[20:19] Aoyagi

Yeah.

[20:23] Sakamichi

You just noticed, Kaburagi-kun?

[20:25] Kaburagi

Huh?

[20:27] Kaburagi

I said some pretty rude things, didn't I?

[20:31] Aoyagi

Yeah.

[20:33] Kaburagi

Then I'm the most sorry to you!

[20:47] Aoyagi

I'm back, Junta!

[20:51] Teshima

Yeah! Somewhere in my heart,
I believed this would happen, Aoyagi!

[20:57] Teshima

Thanks for coming back!

[21:01] Teshima

There's five of us.

[21:02] Teshima

Kyoto Fushimi, Hakone Academy, and
Kumamoto Daiichi are ahead of us.

[21:06] Teshima

Naruko's working hard on his own.

[21:09] Teshima

Sprinters to the front!

[21:11] Teshima

Sohoku is accelerating!

[21:14] Teshima

We'll work together and
catch up to the lead pack!

[21:17] Kaburagi

Yes, sir!

[21:19] Sakamichi

Yes, sir!

[21:21] Teshima

We're going!

[21:23] Sakamichi

To the front!

[21:29] Manami

Once these flats end,
we'll be in the mountains.

[21:36] Manami

You'll come, won't you, Sakamichi-kun?

[23:14] Kaburagi

For a minute there,
I thought we were done for.

[23:18] Kaburagi

Aoyagi-san, I'm seriously
most grateful to you.

[23:21] Teshima

Then you can't be rude to him anymore.

[23:23] Kaburagi

Yes, sir. Sorry, Aoyagi-san.

[23:27] Sakamichi

How did you and Aoyagi-san
make it back here?

[23:29] Kaburagi

Well...

[23:31] Kaburagi

I-It's a secret!

[23:33] Aoyagi

Together we sang *Love*—

[23:34] Kaburagi

Aoyagi!

SIGN NEXT LINE Start of the Mountains

[23:36] Kaburagi

I prefer not using honorifics, after all.

SIGN This is a work of fiction. All characters and organizations appearing in this work are fictional. In this work, characters sometimes engage in dangerous activities. While riding bicycles on actual roads, please follow all traffic laws and ride safely.

SIGN Don't miss the next episode

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