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BLUE LOCK
STORY BY muneyuki kaneshiro
ART BY yusuke nomura

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BLUELOCK
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...OF SOCCER...

WITHIN THE WORLD...

BUT STRIKERS ARE SOMETHING DIFFERENT ENTIRELY...

FIRST-CLASS ...

GOALIES, DEFENDERS AND MIDFIELDERS CAN BE RAISED...

THE CREATURES KNOWN AS FIRST-CLASS STRIKERS...

WILL SUDDENLY APPEAR IN THE PLACE...
...WHERE THE GAME IS HOTTEST!

BLUELOCK

PAPER (LEFT): FEELING THE WORLD'S WALL

PAPER (RIGHT): JAPAN'S NARROW DEFEAT

CHAPTER 1: DREAM

IN THE END, SOCCER IS JUST BUSINESS.

HUH?

WE'RE MAKING MONEY, SO WHO CARES?

JAPAN FOOTBALL UNION
CHAIRMAN
HIROTOSHI BURATSUTA

EVEN IF WE DON'T DO ANYTHING, JUST REPRESENTING JAPAN IS ENOUGH TO MAKE OUR BRAND PROFITABLE.

LET'S JUST FIND SOME FOREIGN COACH WHO SEEMS GOOD OR A JAPANESE GUY...

...AND IF IT DOESN'T WORK OUT, WE'LL JUST FIRE THEM.

*MAYA YOSHIDA IS A FAMOUS JAPANESE SOCCER PLAYER.

...THE WORLD CUP.

...OF NEVER WINNING...

...THAT JAPAN CAN WIN THE WORLD CUP?!

ANRI-CHAN...

HUH?

DO YOU REALLY BELIEVE...

SHE'S SO RUDE... AND LOOK AT THOSE CURVES...
IS SHE FOR REAL...?
HER CHEST IS HUGE, TOO...
"WE CAN WIN IF WE PLAY OUR OWN TYPE OF MATCH."
"JAPAN'S PASSING-STYLE SOCCER CAN BE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONALLY."
BEEP
IT'S BECAUSE WE KEEP SAYING THINGS LIKE THIS THAT WE NEVER MAKE IT PAST THE BEST SIXTEEN.
THEY'RE SO BIG...
IF YOU'RE SAYING ALL THAT, ANRI-CHAN...
...DO YOU HAVE SOME KIND OF PLAN?
OF COURSE I DO, YOU DAMN TANUKI.
THAT'S MY DREAM!

...JINPACHI EGO.
THIS IS THE INDISPENSABLE COACH WHO WILL HELP US DESTROY AND REMAKE JAPANESE SOCCER...
PLEASE OBSERVE!
WHAM
I WILL PRODUCE...
...PLAYERS WHO CAN LEAD THIS COUNTRY TO A WORLD CUP VICTORY!!

SAITAMA PREFECTURAL FINALS

SHIRT (WHITE): ICHINAN

SHIRTS (BLACK): MATSUKAZE KOKUO

NATIONALS!!

NATIONALS!

NATIONALS!

NATIONALS!!

I'LL DECIDE IT WITH THIS SHOT!

ONE-ON-ONE WITH THE GOALIE!!

MATSUKAZE KOKUO H.S. GOALKEEPER

SHOHEI INA

I'M GOING...

...TO NATIONALS!!

ISAGI!!

I'M WIDE-OPEN!!

?!

HE'S RIGHT...

IF I PASS...

...WE'LL GET THE POINT...

"ONE FOR ALL AND ALL FOR ONE"!!

IT'S ALL OVER IF WE DON'T GET THIS!!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, ISAGI?!

COACH ?!

THAT'S RIGHT...

SOCCER IS...

TMP
AH!
ALL RIGHT!
THIS WILL TIE THE SCORE...
...A SPORT PLAYED BY ELEVEN PEOPLE...

KLONG

DAMN IT!!!
NO WAY?!
CRAP...

COUNTER! COUNTER!
THWUP

BREAK THROUGH, KIRA!!

MATSUKAZE
KOKUO H.S.
FORWARD
SECOND-YEAR
RYOSUKE
KIRA
10
17
17
TMP

OH, NO...

WHFFT

FWEET

FWEEET

WE LOST.

0-2

IT'S OVER...

MATSUKAZE KOKUO HIGH SCHOOL HAS SECURED ITS SPOT IN THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS!!
TODAY'S MATCH ENDS IN A 2-0 VICTORY FOR MATSUKAZE KOKUO!

...

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, TADA-CHAN...
IF I HAD SCORED... IF I HAD JUST SCORED...
I'M SORRY EVERYONE...
UWAAAAAAAH...!!

K-SHK
K-SHK
K-SHK
K-SHK
K-SHK
K-SHK

K-SHK
K-SHK
...BUT HOW ARE YOU FEELING ABOUT BEING INVITED TO JOIN THE NATIONAL YOUTH TEAM?
KIRA-SAN, GOING TO NATIONALS MUST BE JUST A STEPPING STONE FOR YOU....

...BECAUSE I HAVE EVERYONE ON MY TEAM!
I'M ONLY HERE...

EVEN THE WAY HE THINKS OF HIS FRIENDS IS FABULOUS!
EEEE! KIRA-KUN!

WELL...
THE ONE THING I CAN SAY IS...
RIGHT NOW, I'M FOCUSED ON WINNING NATIONALS WITH THIS TEAM.
松風黒王

IT'S FRUS-TRATING, BUT THIS IS THE EXTENT OF OUR CURRENT ABILITIES.
YOU FOUGHT WELL.

GATHER UP, ICHINAN!

...BUT YOU CAN BE PROUD OF ALL THE TIME YOU'VE SPENT FIGHTING TOGETHER.
...AND SOME OF YOU MIGHT QUIT SOCCER AFTER TODAY...
THE THIRD-YEARS ARE LEAVING AFTER THIS...

...WHEN YOU'RE ABLE TO THINK THAT THIS LOSS WASN'T FOR NOTHING...!
OOH...
SNIFF
SNIFF
URGH...
I'M CONFIDENT THE DAY WILL COME IN ALL OF YOUR LIVES...

TO ME, ICHINAN'S SOCCER TEAM...

THERE'S NOTHING IN THIS LIFE THAT'S MEANINGLESS!

NO...

...IS THE BEST TEAM IN JAPAN!!!

WE'RE JUST A TEAM THAT COULDN'T TAKE THAT LAST STEP TO NATIONALS.

IT SEEMS LIKE I WON'T BE ABLE TO BE...

A SUPER-STAR PLAYER LIKE YOU.

31 YEARS OLD
FRENCH FORWARD

EUROPE'S TOP-SCORING PLAYER OF 2018
NOEL NOA

YOU'RE WAY ABOVE JUNIOR HIGH-LEVEL!

...KEPT PLAYING SOCCER.

NICE GOAL, ISAGI!

YOCCHAN IS UNSTOPPABLE!

WHOA, HE BROKE THROUGH FIVE GUYS!!

IT'S ONE FOR ALL, AND ALL FOR ONE!!

DON'T THINK SOCCER IS A SPORT YOU CAN WIN ON YOUR OWN!

ICHINAN HIGH IS A TEAM THAT AIMS FOR NATIONALS TOGETHER!

BUT NOW IT LOOKS LIKE MY DREAM WILL END WHILE STILL A DREAM...

BECOMING AN ACE STRIKER...

REPRESENTING JAPAN...

ISAGI

11

...TO WIN THE WORLD CUP...

MY STUPID DREAM...

EVEN IF I WORK HARD, I STILL MIGHT NEED TO GIVE UP ON MY DREAM...

THERE'S ONLY ONE YEAR LEFT UNTIL I GRADUATE...

IF ONLY...

COULD I...

...I'D TAKEN THE SHOT...

...INSTEAD OF PASSING...

松風黒

OUR TEAMWORK LOST...

NO HELPING THAT...

NO...

WHAT-IFS ARE POINTLESS IN SOCCER...

A PSYCHO!

I BET HE'S A PSYCHO!

HE MIGHT BE DANGEROUS...

WHISPER WHISPER

THAT GUY IS TALKING TO HIMSELF...

YOU CAN'T WIN ON YOUR OWN...

RIGHT ...?

SOCCER IS A SPORT PLAYED BY ELEVEN PEOPLE...

YOU CAN'T WIN...

ONE FOR ALL...

...HAVE CHANGED MY DESTINY?

I WANTED TO WIN...

DAMN...

AAAAAAAAAAAGH!!

RUN AWAY!!

WAAH!!

ビ

JOLT

SLAM
I'M HOME...

WE LOST...
WE LOST...
WE LOST...
AND I'M HUNGRY.
HOW WAS THE GAME?
WEL-COME HOME.

NEITHER OF US HAVE ANY INTEREST IN SOCCER, SO SORRY ABOUT THAT!
REALLY? THEY'RE GOOD THOUGH.
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO EAT THOSE THE DAY BEFORE THE MATCH...
THAT'S TOO BAD! AND I EVEN MADE PORK CUTLETS!

IT'S FROM THE JAPAN FOOTBALL UNION!
BY THE WAY, A LETTER CAME FOR YOU, YOCCHAN!

BUT WHY...

GULP

...ME?!

JAPAN FOOTBALL UNION
日本
フットボール連合
TO BE HONEST ...
...I HAVE NO IDEA WHY I WAS CHOSEN, BUT...
WHOA...
JAPAN FOOTBALL UNION
日本
フットボール連合

I HOPE THIS ISN'T JUST ONE OF TADA-CHAN'S GRAND PRANKS...
IT DOESN'T HAVE ANY DETAILS AT ALL...
IS THIS WHERE WE'RE SUPPOSED TO MEET?

TODAY'S MEETING
MEETING PLACE
TIME 0/0 (TUES.) 8 A.M.
PLACE 0000 (3RD FLOOR)

...I'M STILL HAPPY THAT SOMEBODY HAS NOTICED ME.

GLEAM キラーン

THANKS FOR THE MATCH THE OTHER DAY.

YOU KNOW ME, RIGHT?

!

HUH? AREN'T YOU ICHINAN'S ISAGI-KUN?

RIGHT ?

SO YOU GOT CALLED HERE, TOO!

AH...

IT'S RYOSUKE KIRA...!

HUH?!

RYOSUKE KIRA KNOWS WHO I AM?!

YES...

OF COURSE I DO! I JUST LOST TO YOU...

I TOTALLY REMEMBER YOU!

YOU'VE GOT AWESOME SOCCER SENSE!

TH...
THANKS...
NO WAY....!!
SERIOUSLY....?!

I DUNNO IF YOU HAVE A HIGH-LEVEL VIEW OF THE GAME, OR JUST HIGH SOCCER IQ, BUT...
DURING OUR GAME...
...I WAS THINKING THAT YOU'D GIVE ME SOME CRAZY GOOD PASSES IF WE WERE ON THE SAME TEAM!

I'M HAVING A NORMAL CONVERSATION WITH RYOSUKE KIRA, THE GREAT YOUNG HOPE OF JAPANESE SOCCER!!
IS THAT SO?
I HAVE NO IDEA WHY THEY WANT US TO GATHER HERE, THOUGH.
I TRIED CALLING BUT THEY WOULDN'T TELL ME.
WELL, LET'S GO!
RYOSUKE KIRA JUST PRAISED ME?!

LET'S GET ALONG, ISAGI-KUN!

YOU DON'T NEED TO TALK SO FORMALLY.

WE'RE THE SAME AGE, RIGHT?

WHOA...
IT'S SO CROWDED...
I'VE SEEN SOME OF THESE GUYS BEFORE...
THAT'S SENNOU'S ACE, OKAWA.
THAT'S ISHIKARI, THE TALLEST HIGH SCHOOLER.
HE'S HUGE...
WHOA...
OH!
AND NISHIOKA, THE "MESSI OF AOMORI," IS HERE.
HM?
THE GUYS HERE...
...ARE ALL FORWARDS...?

CONGRATULATIONS, YOU UNPOLISHED LUMPS OF TALENT.

UH...

ER...

AHEM...

COUGH

SHOOM

BAM

ACCORDING TO MY PERSONAL JUDGEMENT, THE THREE HUNDRED OF YOU ARE...

...THE BEST STRIKERS UNDER EIGHTEEN.

MY NAME IS JINPACHI EGO.
I WAS HIRED TO GIVE JAPAN A WORLD CUP VICTORY.

ザワ
BUZZ
ザワ
BUZZ
ザワ
BUZZ

NOT AT ALL...
NOPE...
DO YOU KNOW HIM?
WHO IS THIS GUY...

A WORLD CUP... VICTORY?
WAIT, WHAT DID HE JUST SAY?

ONLY ONE THING IS NECESSARY FOR JAPANESE SOCCER TO BECOME THE BEST IN THE WORLD:
I'LL SAY THIS PLAINLY.
MM

...I WILL CONDUCT AN EXPERIMENT TO CREATE THE WORLD'S BEST STRIKER.

THE BIRTH OF A REVOLUTIONARY STRIKER.

WITH THE THREE HUNDRED OF YOU HERE...

THIS IS THE FACILITY CREATED FOR THAT PURPOSE...

LOOK.

?

?

STARTING TODAY, YOU'LL ALL BE LIVING HERE TOGETHER...
...WHILE UNDERGOING THE SPECIAL TRAINING I'VE DEVISED.
YOU CAN'T RETURN TO YOUR HOMES,
AND THIS MARKS THE END OF YOUR PREVIOUS SOCCER CAREERS.
BUT I PROMISE THIS...
WHOEVER SURVIVES THIS BLUE LOCK...
...AND OUTLASTS THE OTHER TWO HUNDRED NINETY-NINE...
BLUE LOCK
BLUE LOCK
"BLUE LOCK."

THE LAST REMAINING PERSON...

...WILL BECOME THE WORLD'S BEST STRIKER.

THAT CONCLUDES MY EXPLANATION.

THANK YOU.

GLEAM

WHAT'S WITH THIS GUY...?

...

?

WHAT'S HE TALKING ABOUT...?

RYOSUKE KIRA!

!

I CAN'T CONSENT TO YOUR EXPLANATION.

UMM!

EXCUSE ME!

EACH OF US HAVE OUR OWN PRECIOUS TEAMS.

AND SOME OF US ARE PREPARING FOR NATIONALS.

RUNNING OFF TO SOME PLACE THAT MAKES NO SENSE...

I CAN'T...

...ABANDON MY TEAM TO PARTICIPATE IN THAT.

YEAH!
THAT'S RIGHT!
AND WHAT'S THAT STUFF ABOUT LIVING TOGETHER?
YEAH!
I'VE GOT NATIONALS, TOO!

YEAH...
GATHERING US SOMEWHERE LIKE THIS OUT OF THE BLUE...
BRING OUT SOMEBODY LEGIT!
WHO ARE YOU, ANYWAY?!

I REALLY DON'T GET THIS AT ALL...
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
TALKING ABOUT A WORLD CUP VICTORY...
OR "THE BEST IN THE WORLD"...

YOU'RE ALL REALLY SICK, HUH...
I SEE...

THEN PISS OFF.
IF YOU WANT TO LEAVE, I WON'T STOP YOU.
YOUR TEAMS ARE PRE-CIOUS ...?
INSTEAD OF BECOMING THE WORLD'S BEST...
...YOU'D RATHER BE THE BEST HIGH SCHOOLER IN OUR COUNTRY'S SOCCER BACKWATER?
HUH?

LISTEN...

JAPANESE SOCCER'S TEAMWORK CAPABILITY IS THE BEST IN THE WORLD.

YOU CAN SAY IT'S A GIFT OF OUR COUNTRY'S PROPENSITY FOR CONSIDERING OTHERS.

?

?!

I GET DEPRESSED WHEN I THINK ABOUT PEOPLE LIKE *YOU* CARRYING THE FUTURE OF JAPANESE SOCCER.

HUH?

UH...

...IS SECOND-RATE.

BUT BESIDES THAT, EVERYTHING ELSE...

VOOM

BLUE

JUST WHAT IS SOCCER?

LET ME ASK YOU...

"TREASURING OUR BONDS"?

"FOR MY FRIENDS' SAKE"...?

A SPORT IN WHICH ELEVEN PEOPLE COMBINE THEIR POWER...?

WRONG.

AND THAT'S WHY THIS COUNTRY'S GAME HAS ALWAYS BEEN WEAK.

I'LL TELL YOU... SOCCER IS...

...A SPORT IN WHICH YOU SCORE MORE POINTS THAN YOUR OPPONENT.

WHAT'S HIS DEAL...?

HE'S CRAZY...

WHOEVER SCORES THE MOST POINTS IS THE BEST.

WHFFT

IF YOU WANT TO PLAY AT "GETTING ALONG," THEN PISS OFF.

THEY'RE MY HEROES!

AND YOU'RE WRONG.

...

HMMM?

KAGA-WA?

...HM?

HONDA?

THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHERS...

PLAYERS LIKE HONDA...

OR KAGAWA...

WATCHING ELEVEN PEOPLE BATTLE TOGETHER...

WE GREW UP WATCHING OUR JAPANESE TEAMS COOPERATE!

THEN THEY'RE TRASH.

NONE OF THEM HAVE WON THE WORLD CUP, RIGHT?

I'M TALKING ABOUT BEING THE BEST IN THE WORLD.

GUH...

GOT IT?

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE BEST STRIKER IN THE WORLD SAID?

TAKE NOEL NOA, FOR EXAMPLE...

HE BEAT OUT MESSI AND RONALDO TO TAKE THE BALLON D'OR...

"INSTEAD OF ASSISTING MY TEAMMATES TO WIN BY 1-0..."
NOEL NOA
"...IT FEELS BETTER TO PULL OFF A HAT TRICK AND LOSE 3-4."
YOU SEE?
"I DON'T CARE ABOUT MY TEAM."
"I JUST WANT TO STAND OUT."
ERIC CANTONA, THE GREATEST SOCCER PLAYER OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY, SAID...
ERIC CANTONA
CANTONA
7

"THE WORLD'S BEST FORWARD, MIDFIELDER, DEFENSE, GOALKEEPER"...

AND THE GREATEST PLAYER OF ALL TIME...

"WHICHEVER YOU ASK ABOUT, THE ANSWER IS STILL ME."

...THREE-TIME WORLD CUP WINNER PELE, SAID...

PELE

...THAT.

...YOU CAN NEVER BECOME THE WORLD'S BEST STRIKER.

IF YOU'RE NOT THE WORLD'S TOP EGOTIST...

WHAT HE'S SAYING...HAS TO BE WRONG...

NOBODY'S EVER TOLD ME THIS BEFORE...

I'M JUST A NAMELESS STRIKER...

NOW, YOU LUMPS OF TALENT.

LET ME ASK ONE FINAL QUESTION...

THE LONE HERO WHO WILL STAND...

...ATOP TWO HUNDRED NINETY-NINE CORPSES.

NO WAY...

I DON'T HAVE ANY ACHIEVEMENTS TO SPEAK OF...

IMAGINE...
YOU'RE AT THE LAST MATCH OF THE WORLD CUP...
EIGHTY THOUSAND SPECTATORS...
YOU'RE ON THAT FIELD.

THE SCORE IS 0-0...

0 - 0

JAPAN

GERMANY

THE GAME HAS GONE INTO OVERTIME...

THE LAST PLAY...

YOU'VE BROKEN THROUGH AND RECEIVED A PASS FROM YOUR TEAMMATE...

ISAGI
77
IT'S A ONE-ON-ONE SHOWDOWN WITH THE GOALKEEPER...

astrolly
THERE'S A TEAMMATE TWENTY FEET TO YOUR RIGHT.
IF YOU PASS, YOU CAN ALMOST CERTAINLY GET A POINT...
BUT YOU GAMBLE YOUR NATION'S HOPES...
...AND THE ASSURANCE OF VICTORY...

ONLY THOSE...
...SORTS OF CRAZY EGOTISTS...
...TO SHOOT WITHOUT HESITATION.

SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
I'LL...
...SAY THIS ONCE MORE...
...MAY PROCEED AHEAD.
FLW
OOSH

THINK OF EVERYONE BESIDES YOURSELF ON THE FIELD AS SUPPORTING ACTORS.

SOCCER IS A SPORT THAT EXISTS FOR YOU STRIKERS.

WHY...CAN'T I STOP SHAKING...?

THIS GUY IS...
REJOICE IN YOUR OWN GOALS OVER ALL ELSE...
THAT'S...
...WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A STRIKER.
...AND LIVE FOR NOTHING BUT THAT MOMENT.
...GRIPPING MY FATE IN HIS HANDS...
ICHINAN

I'M A STRIKER!!
HIGH SCHOOL
TOHINAN

I'M GOING, TOO!
DAMN...!!
LET ME IN THERE!!
ISAGI-KUN?!
AND ME!!
ME, TOO!!
SOME-BODY ONCE SAID...

FIRST-CLASS STRIKERS...

...WILL SUDDENLY APPEAR...
...WHERE THE GAME IS HOTTEST!
...IN THE PLACE...

KLUNG...
ゴゥ

ALL THREE HUNDRED...

...ARE PARTICI-PATING,

HUH...

I'LL ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH WHAT YOU SAY...

THERE'S NO GOING BACK NOW.

IT MIGHT...
...MEAN RUINING TWO HUNDRED NINETY-NINE LIVES...

I'M TRUSTING YOU WITH THE FUTURES...
...OF JAPANESE SOCCER AND THESE THREE HUNDRED BOYS.

THAT'S WHAT "BLUE LOCK" IS.
...BUT ONE GREAT STRIKER WILL BE BORN.

ANRI-CHAN...
SHALL WE START IT?

YES...
...

THE PLACE WHERE...
...THE GAME IS HOTTEST IN THE WHOLE WORLD...

BLUE LOCK

CHAPTER 2: MOVING IN

THIS IS...
...BLUE LOCK...!!
THE PLACE WHERE MY SOCCER LIFE WILL CHANGE FOREVER...
BLUE LOCK
BLUE LOCK
BLUE LOCK
...“IT” WAS THERE.

!
EACH OF US RECEIVED A UNIFORM.

NEXT... YOICHI ISAGI-KUN.
AFTER GETTING OFF THE BUS, OUR PHONES AND WALLETS WERE CONFIS-CATED...

WHAT DOES THIS NUMBER MEAN...?
299
Z
299... Z...

I ENTERED THE FACILITY AS I WAS TOLD...

NOW THEN, PLEASE HEAD TO THE ROOM INDICATED BY YOUR UNIFORM'S LETTER,

CHANGE INTO YOUR UNIFORM, AND THEN STAND BY.

...AND MADE MY WAY THROUGH THE MAZE OF CONCRETE WALLS.

I'M 299-Z, SO...I NEED ROOM Z.

THIS STARTS NOW...

VRRR...

BLUE LOCK...

ROOM Z

THERE IT IS...

AH!

WITHOUT MY PHONE, I CAN'T TALK TO ANY GIRLS...

ISAGI-KUN!
IS THIS OUR DORM...?

KIRA-KUN...
HA HA... I'M RELIEVED, TOO.

THANK GOOD-NESS...
I'M IN THE SAME ROOM AS SOMEONE I KNOW!

?

AH, MY BAD.
FWAP
GAH!

HIS BODY IS CRAZY...
AH... IT'S FINE.

WATCH...
...YOUR STEP.

...FLEW AWAY.
MY CLOTHES...

AH...
HE'S SLEEPING ...?!

Z Z Z Z...
HUH?

PASS TO ME... ZICO...

HEY...

ZICO...

PASS...

WHAT'S HE DREAMING ABOUT...?

WHAT'S WITH HIM...?

MY DAD PROMISED ME THAT I WOULDN'T HAVE TO INHERIT THE TEMPLE IF I COULD BECOME A PRO SOCCER PLAYER!

FROM THE TIME I WAS BORN, I WAS FATED TO INHERIT THE FAMILY TEMPLE...

...BUT I HATE HAVING MY LIFE PREDETER-MINED LIKE THAT!

!
THERE HE IS...!!
ARE YOU DONE CHANGING? YOU LUMPS OF TALENT...
UMM
HI, HI.
WAVE ワキ
WAVE ワキ
JINPACHI EGO...!!

THE OTHERS IN YOUR ROOM ARE YOUR ROOMMATES...

...AND YOUR RIVALS, WHO WILL PUSH EACH OTHER HIGHER.

ざわ BUZZ

BUZZ ざわ

ざわ BUZZ

?!

NOW ANYONE CAN TELL WITH A GLANCE WHERE YOU STAND AMONGST THE THREE HUNDRED OF YOU.

299

DAMN... I'M WAY TOO LOW...

I'M #299...

I'VE USED MY PERSONAL JUDGEMENT TO QUANTIFY YOUR ABILITIES...

...AND RANK YOU.

SAGI

THAT'S THE NUMBER DISPLAYED ON YOUR UNIFORMS.

THAT RANKING WILL CHANGE BY THE DAY...
...AND WILL GO UP OR DOWN DEPENDING ON TRAINING AND GAMES.
...FOR THE U-20* WORLD CUP...
...HAPPENING SIX MONTHS FROM NOW.
?!!
FINALLY, THOSE IN THE TOP FIVE...
...WILL UNCONDITIONALLY BE REGISTERED...
*U-20 – A WORLD CUP FOR PLAYERS UNDER TWENTY YEARS OLD.
BY THE WAY...
REPRESENT JAPAN... IN THE U-20?!

WHAT YOU NEED TO SUCCEED HERE IS *EGO.*

AND SO NOW, WE'LL HOLD A LITTLE ENTRANCE TEST TO MEASURE YOUR APTITUDE.

THOSE OF YOU WHO FAIL BLUE LOCK...

...WILL FOREVER LOSE TO RIGHT TO REPRESENT JAPAN.

FLOOR: JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE

TIME FOR SOME TAG.

NOW...

KLUNK
THE TIME LIMIT IS ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-SIX SECONDS.
!!
IF YOU GET HIT WITH THE BALL, YOU'RE "IT."
UHH...
HUH?
WHOEVER'S "IT" WHEN TIME RUNS OUT...
...HAS TO PISS OFF BACK HOME.
BMP
BOOP
ALSO, YOU CAN'T USE YOUR HANDS...

VMM
JOLT
ビクッ
HUH...?
IT
THOSE ARE THE RULES...
RANKING 300
GURIMU
IGARASHI
02:15
RANKING 300
GURIMU
IGARASHI
...BUT THIS IS AN EGOTISM TEST I'VE DEVISED IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN WHO HAS THE ESSENCE OF A STRIKER...
EVEN PROS WILL PLAY TAG AS PART OF THEIR WARM-UP...

THIS IS NO ORDINARY GAME OF TAG.

PREPARE YOURSELVES FOR BATTLE.

NO HARD FEELINGS ABOUT WHO GOES HOME, OKAY...?

BUT I'LL DO IT.

GUYS...

トン

TMP

I'LL RISK MY ENTIRE SOCCER LIFE...

...ON THIS GAME OF "TAG"...

ANYONE WHO LOSES HERE WILL FOREVER...

...LOSE THE RIGHT TO REPRESENT JAPAN...

WHAT'S THAT ABOUT-- AND I'M STUCK AT #299?!

CAN I BEAT THESE GUYS...?!

ALL RIGHT...

...NO...

I'VE JUST GOTTA DO IT...!!

THERE'S NO POINT WRACKING MY BRAIN ABOUT THIS...

RAAAH!!

KICKOFF!!!

YOU'RE MY TARGET, #299!

SORRY, ISAGI-KUN!

SPREAD OUT! DON'T PACK IN HERE!

URGH...

HEY... DON'T COME OVER HERE!

IS HE FOR REAL...?!

HUH?!

AH!!

WHOA!!

FWOO

THWAP

HOMAGE TO THE THREE TREASURES!!

ANYONE WILL DO...

COME ON...!!

ROLL

ROLL

THIS IS HARDER THAN I THOUGHT!!

DAMN!

I'M ONLY PARTICIPATING TO PROVE HIM WRONG...

KCCH

KCCH

!

...THIS IS RIDICULOUS...

KIRA-KUN...

I CAN'T SEE HOW THIS GAME IS "TOP TRAINING"...

DON'T MESS WITH ME!!

DAMMIT!!

...IS DEFINITELY WRONG...!!

HAVING OUR SOCCER LIVES DECIDED BY KICKING A BALL AROUND AND PLAYING TAG FOR TWO MINUTES...

KA-POW

ヤ

OWW...
HEY!!
THAT'S A FOUL, RIGHT?!
FOUL!!

?!

GAH!!

の
HEAVE
IF THIS WAS A GAME, THAT'D MEAN A RED CARD...!!

WE JUST CAN'T USE OUR HANDS, RIGHT?

MM...

MORNIN'.

WHAT'S HIS DEAL...?!

LET'S FIGHT FAIR AND SQUARE.

HEY.

I HATE DIRTY METHODS.

...SOMEONE'S A GOODY-GOODY.

YOU WERE WIDE OPEN! HOMAGE!

WHAM

RANKING 291

IT

FENSUKE KUNIGAMI

VMM

ビキ TWITCH

URGH...

YOU BASTARD ...

I'LL CRUSH YOU, IGA-GURI...!!

THUD

FORWARD
BLUE LOCK
RANKING #291
RENSUKE
KUNIGAMI
WHOOSH
?!!
WHAT ?!
STOP IT...
HEY!!
GRAB

OOF!

AH...

MY BAD... WASN'T AIMING FOR YOU...

THOOM

?!

?!

HOMAGE!

WHUMPT

DAMN...

COUGH

IT

VMM

RANKING 299

YOICHI ISAGI

01:03

ISAGI-KUN?!

00:59
ONLY A MINUTE TO GO...
MY ENTIRE SOCCER LIFE!!
HAAH
HAAH
HAAH
I'VE GOTTA HIT SOMEONE... OR IT'S ALL OVER!!
I DON'T WANT...
...TO LET THIS END HERE...!!!
WHOOSH

SAFE!
WHFFT
WAH!!
WHAK

DAMN!!

ONLY FIFTY SEC-ONDS...!!

50

?!

RAAAH!! I'M GOING ALL-OUT FOR THIS LAST MINUTE!!!

WHOOSH

YOU'LL NEVER CATCH ME!!!

WHAT'S EVEN BEING TESTED...?!

DOES THIS HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH "EGO"...?!

IS THIS GAME OF TAG SERIOUSLY GOING TO DECIDE MY FUTURE...?!

I'M TRIPPING OVER MY FEET...

DAMN...

ANYTHING IS OKAY... I JUST WANT TO WIN...

?!

YOU...

HEY!

GRAB

NYA HA HA!

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE ♡

HEY!!

GET OFF...

GRIP

I TOLD YOU TO PLAY...

GO GET HIM!

...FAIR AND SQUARE!!

OH?!

FLING

WHAM

OWW...

HURRY UP AND MOVE!!

OOF!

THROB

WOBBLE ぶる...

HEY...

TIME OUT...

AH... CRAP...

THROB

?!!

GO, ISAGI-KUN!!

HIT HIM...!! NOW'S YOUR CHANCE!!

...

H-HEY...

WAIT...

THIS ISN'T...

YOU CAN'T...!!

KCCH

NO... I HAVE TO...

I HAVE TO HIT HIM...

PLEASE...

STOP...

BUT...

...THAT MEANS IGARASHI'S SOCCER LIFE WILL END...

?

CLENCH

THIS IS JUST THE KIND OF PLACE BLUE LOCK IS...

IF I DON'T DO ANYTHING, I'LL LOSE...!!

I MUST BE AN IDIOT... WHY AM I HESITATING...?!

FOR THE FIRST TIME, I UNDERSTAND WHAT THAT REALLY MEANS...

SO MAKING MY DREAM COME TRUE...
...BASI-CALLY...
...THERE'S ALSO A LOSER...
"WINNING" MEANS...
...MEANS THAT I NEED...
...TO END SOMEONE ELSE'S DREAM.

FREEZE

"I WANTED TO WIN..."

"IT'LL BE SAFER TO KEEP RUNNING UNTIL THE END..."

"I'M #299..."

"IF I PASS, WE CAN GET A POINT..."

AT THIS RATE, I'LL BE THE SAME AS I WAS BEFORE...

I CAME HERE TO CHANGE MY LIFE...

...TO BECOME THE WORLD'S BEST...

I'M HERE...

IF I DON'T BEAT SOMEONE STRONGER THAN ME...

IT
RANKING 299
YOICHI ISAGI
00:13
I LIKE YOU!
...THEN NOTHING WILL CHANGE!!
YOU GET IT! ♪
IF YOU'RE GONNA CRUSH SOMEONE...
NNGH...
?!!

...GO FOR THE STRONGEST GUY ♪
HUH?
BMP
FORWARD
BLUE LOCK
RANKING #290
MEGURU
BACHIRA

BEEP
IT
VMM
RANKING 290
MEGURU BACHIRA
?!!
WAH!!
19

ME?!

WHOOSH

?!

KIRA-KUN...?!

FWSSH

WHAP

WHFF
KCCH
?!

BMP
BLUE LOCK

カーン
WHFFT

3
ISAGI-KUN...
...STRONG-EST GUY...
THE...

WHAM!!
BON!

POW!!

...
IT
RANKING 289
RYOSUKE KIRA
VMM
00:02
...AH!
...
ROLL
ROLL
BMP
BMP
BMP

ビズズズ
...ISAGI
...
...KUN?
DRIP
WHAT... ARE YOU DOING?
LOSE
RANK 39
RYOSUKE
KIRA
00:00

I JUST...
IT'S...
NO...
I'M SORRY...

THE BALL...
...JUST...
...CAME TO ME...

...HUH?

HUH ...?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHAT... IS THIS...?

RESULTS ARE EVERYTHING HERE.

GOOD WORK, YOU LUMPS OF TALENT.

CLAP

CLAP

CLAP

VMM

DON'T GIVE ME...

NOW GET OUT, LOSER!

RYOSUKE KIRA...

YOU'RE DISQUALI-FIED!!

WHY DO I...

THESE GAMES...

HOW IS THIS... SUPPOSED TO LET US WIN THE WORLD CUP...?

DON'T MESS WITH ME...

ARE YOU SAYING ISAGI-KUN OR IGA-GURI HAVE MORE TALENT THAN ME?!

HUH?!!

WHFFT

I'M THE JEWEL OF JAPANESE SOCCER!!

GOT ME?!

HUH ?!

WHY DOES SOMEONE AS TALENTED AS ME NEED TO HAVE HIS FUTURE DESTROYED?!

...KIRA-KUN...?

...

WHAT DOES THIS HAVE TO DO WITH SOCCER?!

WHAT WAS THE POINT OF PLAYING TAG, ANYWAY?!

THIS ISN'T SOCCER!!

TAKE A GOOD LOOK AROUND, YOU MEDIOCRE ELITE.

IN BLUE LOCK...

...EVERYTHING IS RELATED TO SOCCER.

*ABOUT 54X132 FEET.

?!

...IS 16.5 X 40.32 METERS.*

?

THE SIZE OF THAT ROOM...

HUH...?

THAT'S THE SAME SIZE AS THE PENALTY AREA.

40.32m

16.5m

BASICALLY, HOW WELL YOU CAN POSITION YOURSELF HERE DETERMINES YOUR WORTH AS A STRIKER...

IT'S A STRIKER'S WORKPLACE.

ABOUT SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF ALL GOALS HAPPEN HERE.

...LACKS THE TALENT TO BE A STRIKER.

ANYONE WHO CAN'T SURVIVE ON THAT BATTLEFIELD...

...WHAT'S REQUIRED OF THE ONES RUNNING AWAY...
...IS A TACTICAL RELATIONAL AWARENESS, OR POSITIONING...
S...
SO WHAT?!
BUT PLAYING TAG STILL ISN'T SOCCER!!
I GET THE SIZE OF THE ROOM!

THIS IS WONDERFUL SOCCER TRAINING, IDIOT.
WHAT'S REQUIRED OF THE ONE WHO'S "IT" IS PRECISE DRIBBLING...
...AND THE ABILITY TO AIM AND SHOOT WHILE MOVING...

SOCCER LASTS NINETY MINUTES!!
WHAT COULD YOU HAVE LEARNED ABOUT ME IN A MERE TWO MINUTES?!
BUT...I MEAN...

B... BUT...
I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING THE LAST TEN SECONDS...!!
12:16
THE AVERAGE TIME THAT A PLAYER SPENDS IN POSSESSION OF THE BALL IN A NINETY-MINUTE GAME...
...IS ABOUT ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-SIX SECONDS.
45
WOULD YOU SAY THAT...
...ABOUT A MATCH?
HUH ...?
YOU RECEIVED AN EQUAL AMOUNT OF GAME TIME AND YOU LET IT GO TO WASTE.
REMEM-BER...
...THERE WAS STILL ONE SECOND LEFT ON THE CLOCK...
THE INSTANT YOU WERE HIT WITH THE BALL...

OUCH!
LAST PLAY!
IF YOU HAD HIT IGA-GURI, WHO WASN'T MOVING, YOU WOULD'VE SURVIVED.

BUT YOU LET THAT SLIP AWAY...

YOU'RE ALL CROWDED INTO THE PENALTY AREA...
LET'S SAY IT WAS THE FINAL MOMENTS OF A GAME... THE LAST PLAY...

...MISSED THE GOAL...
YOUR TEAM-MATE'S SHOT...

THAT'S WHY YOU DIDN'T REALIZE...

...AND HIT YOU.

AND IN THAT MOMENT...

...THAT THE BALL DROPPED RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU...

...AND IF...

...YOU GAVE UP AND ACCEPTED YOUR DEFEAT.

...YOU ALMOST CERTAINLY...
...YOU HAD JUST STRETCHED YOUR LEG A LITTLE BIT...
...WOULD'VE WON.

WHOEVER'S "IT" IN THIS GAME OF TAG...

...CAN BECOME THE LOSER BY RETAINING POSSESSION OF THE BALL...

...BUT THEY ALSO HAVE THE POWER TO MAKE THEMSELVES THE WINNER BY HITTING ANYONE ELSE.

AND YOU STOLE THE BALL TO GO AFTER THE STRONGEST ONE...
MEGURU BACHIRA...
YOU AVOIDED THE FALLEN IGA-GURI...
YOICHI ISAGI...
...AND TRIED TO DEFEAT SOMEONE STRONGER THAN YOUR-SELF.
THAT'S WHAT I'M SEARCHING FOR...
...WHICH CAN'T BE SWAYED BY OTHERS' COMMON SENSE...
THAT OBSESSION WITH YOUR OWN VICTORY...
...THE EGOTISM OF A STRIKER.
AND YOU RAN FROM THAT...

BUT...
HE...
BACHIRA...
...CAME OUT...
...OF NO-WHERE...
BACHIRA...
...CAME OUT...
...OF NO-WHERE!!
...KUN...
KIRA...
...SO YOU LOSE.
RYOSUKE KIRA.
NOW PISS OFF.

SHUDDER ぶるッ

...

THIS IS WRONG...

I...

...KNOW IT...

GRIT 歯ぎしり

...WHO ENDED KIRA-KUN'S SOCCER CAREER ...?!

I'M THE ONE...

WHY DID I KICK IT...?!

WHAT AM I DOING...?!

THEN WHY DO I...

...FEEL...

...THIS EXCITED ?! ....

NO...

IT WASN'T MY FAULT...

MLEM

IT'S HIS...

GLANCE

...THEN YOU WOULD'VE LOST...!!

IF I HADN'T KICKED IT...

Y-YOU...

WHY DID YOU PASS TO ME...?

HUH...?
RESULTS ARE EVERYTHING HERE, RIGHT?

HEH!
HM?
I JUST THOUGHT YOU'D KICK IT.
YOUR FACE SAID SO.

I WON BY TRUSTING IN YOU ♪
THIS GUY... REALLY IS CRAZY...!!
RIGHT?

ABSURD ...?
IS IT GOING TO STAY THIS WAY...?
...IS TOTALLY THIS... ABSURD...

THIS IS THE WORLD OF COMPETITION.

YES, IS IT ABSURD.

...AS THEY SURVIVE BY RISKING THEIR LIVES.

...FACE THESE COMPETITIONS EVERY DAY...

THE WORLD-CLASS STRIKERS YOU SO CASUALLY ADMIRE...

...FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE YOU'VE BEEN BORN...

RISKING YOUR LIVES...

HOW'S IT FEEL?

YOU REALIZE HOW SHABBY AND MEDIOCRE YOUR SOCCER LIVES WERE UP UNTIL NOW?
IT'S CLEAR NOW, RIGHT?
AND YOU TREMBLED, DIDN'T YOU...?
"YES...! I SURVIVED!!"
ARE YOU SPOOKED?
ARE YOU SHOCKED?
THIS IS...
...JUST THE WAY THINGS ARE IN BLUE LOCK.

THAT'S VICTORY.

CARVE IT INTO YOUR BRAINS!!

SHUDDER

SHUDDER

SHUDDER

CONGRATU-LATIONS...

YOU'VE PASSED THE BLUE LOCK ENTRANCE TEST.

THERE ARE ELEVEN OF YOU IN EACH ROOM...

FROM NOW ON, YOU'LL BE LIVING TOGETHER...

...AND SHARING A COMMON DESTINY...

WATARU KUON
JINGO RAICHI
SOMETIMES YOU'LL COOPERATE...
YUDAI IMAMURA
SOMETIMES BETRAY EACH OTHER...
ASAHI NARUHAYA
OKUHITO IEMON
GURIMU IGARASHI
GIN GAGAMARU
RIVALS CARVING OUT A SHARED DREAM...
HYOMA CHIGIRI

MEGURU BACHIRA
RENSUKE KUNIGAMI
...AS BLUE LOCK'S TEAM Z.
YOICHI ISAGI

BLUELOCK

CHAPTER 3: MONSTER

RUNNING TEST

ISAGI!

IGA-GURI!

HAAH...

HAAH...

HAAH...

JUST GO HOME BEFORE YOU CRY AFTER LOSING TO ME, YOU WEAKLINGS!

HA HA! ♪

YOU TWO ARE TOO WEAK!

YOU THINK YOU CAN BECOME THE WORLD'S BEST STRIKER LIKE THAT?!

TEAM Z
BLUE LOCK RANKING #294
JINGO RAICHI

12.5 MPH
ENDURANCE TIME 1:13:49

NEED SOME WATER?

URGH...

ARE YOU OKAY, ISAGI-KUN?

!

THERE ARE SOME JERKS IN OUR ROOM...

THERE ARE NICE GUYS, TOO...

...BUT IT'S TOUGH KEEPING UP WITH THEM.

THANKS.

LET'S JUST DO WHAT WE CAN.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT WHAT HE SAYS.

TEAM Z
BLUE LOCK
RANKING #293
WATARU KUON

ONE, TWO...

JUMPING TEST

WHOA, THAT'S SO HIGH!!
THIS GUY'S STRENGTH IS CRAZY, TOO...

TUP
HUH?
ARE YOU FEELING UNWELL TODAY?

FWOOP
?!
24 IN.
26.8 IN.

WHAT A CONFIDENCE KILLER...
THIS IS ALL I CAN DO AT FULL POWER...
UH... I GUESS... HA HA...

THE SCHEDULE IN BLUE LOCK IS PROGRAMMED DOWN TO THE MINUTE.
TIME TO EAT!
AH!
DING
DONG
DING
DONG

MEAL TIME

BESIDES RICE AND MISO SOUP...

*FERMENTED SOYBEANS WITH A STICKY TEXTURE AND PUNGENT ODOR.

HE GETS GYOZA!
REALLY?! I'M SO JEALOUS...

WISH I HAD NATTO...
THAT SUCKS...
I ALWAYS SEEM TO GET PICKLED RADISH.

LOOK.
MUST BE NICE TO HAVE A HIGH RANKING...

CHOMP
CHOMP
MUNCH
MUNCH
TEAM Z
BLUE LOCK
RANKING #296
GIN
GAGAMARU

I'LL TAKE ONE OF THOSE ♪
YOINK

OR MAYBE HE WAS RAISED BY BEARS...
MAYBE IT'S A RELIGIOUS THING?
?!
WHY... ISN'T HE USING CHOP-STICKS?

WHSSH

SORRY, I ATE IT ALREADY!

CHOMP

HEY, SHRIMP ...

GIVE THAT BACK...

TEAM Z
BLUE LOCK
RANKING #297

ASAHI NARUHAYA

...
ZZZ
くかぁ

"YOU THINK ISAGI-KUN HAS MORE TALENT THAN ME?!"
"HUH?"
"ARE YOU FEELING UNWELL TODAY?"
"JUST GO HOME BEFORE YOU CRY AFTER LOSING TO ME, YOU WEAKLINGS!"

TWITCH ビキ
I DON'T HAVE TIME TO REST...!!
...I'M TOO ANXIOUS TO SLEEP...
TWITCH ビキ

TO BE HONEST...
FWUMP ズゴッ

AND I'M EATING NOTHING BUT NATTO!
THEY'RE ALL STRONGER THAN ME...
I DON'T THINK I COULD BEAT ANYONE HERE...
VRRR
AT THIS RATE... I'LL DEFINITELY DROP OUT...

...I TURNED AND KICKED IT AT KIRA-KUN...

PLUS, I STILL DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY...

...I CAN'T JUST SIT STILL!

PRAC-TICE...

PRAC-TICE...

BUT...

IN ANY CASE, I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF BATTLES ARE WAITING FOR ME HERE...

BOMP

OOF!!

AH...

?

SOLO TRAINING?

ISAGI ♪

...OKAY.

ONE ON ONE ♪

WANNA TRAIN WITH ME?

BACHIRA !!

TEAM Z INDOOR TRAINING FIELD

YEAH.

WHEN WE WERE PLAYING TAG... YOU PASSED TO ME...

AND YOU...

...SAID YOU DID IT BECAUSE YOU THOUGHT THAT I'D HIT KIRA-KUN.

BECAUSE...
...THERE'S A MONSTER INSIDE ME.
HUH?!
FWOOM
SHFF
KCCH
KCCH
IT ONLY COMES OUT AND TALKS...
...WHEN I'M PLAYING SOCCER...

GAH...

I WON'T LET HIM GET THROUGH...

"MOVE AROUND MORE."

"STEAL THAT GOAL."

BUT IN THAT MOMENT...

...THE MONSTER INSIDE ME SAID...

KCCH

TMP

"PASS TO ISAGI"...

WHAP

"HE HAS"...
THUNK
...."A MONSTER INSIDE, TOO."

FREEZE

I PLAY SOCCER WHILE LISTENING TO THAT VOICE.

CALL IT INTUITION.

THAT'S ALL.

...

WHAT'S HE TALKING ABOUT...?

THE MONSTER'S VOICE.

YOU CAN HEAR IT, RIGHT?

BUT...

...IS A ME I DON'T KNOW...

THE ONE WHO KICKED THEN...

A MONSTER...

...INSIDE ME...?

...THE TRUE FORM OF THE MONSTER INSIDE ME...!!

I WANT TO KNOW...

THAT COULD BE...

...A HINT TO HELP ME SURVIVE THIS PLACE.

SO, ISAGI...

I'M GLAD THAT I CAME TO BLUE LOCK...

...SINCE I COULD MEET YOU.

BUT...

YEAH...

BRING IT ♪

...AND EVERYTHING YOU DO IS CRAZY...

YOU'RE AMAZING AT SOCCER...

I DON'T UNDER-STAND WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT...

WHAT'S WITH BACHIRA ...?

WANNA GO AGAIN?

FWIP

BACHIRA...

...GIVES ME COURAGE.

FWOOP

WHOOSH

I SWEAR...

...I'LL SURVIVE THIS PLACE ....!!

NYA HA!

YEAH, LIKE THAT!

YOUR EYES LOOKED LIKE THAT BACK THEN!

!

ERR... WE'VE FINISHED COMPILING THE DATA FROM THE PAST THREE DAYS' STAMINA TESTS.

DING DONG DING DONG ♪

WE WILL PRESENT THE NEW RANKINGS.

PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR ROOMS.

TEAM Z ROOM

LOOK, #275!

CHECK IT OUT! I'VE GONE UP A LOT FROM #300!!

AH! ISAGI!

THE REASON IT'S SHITTY HERE IS BECAUSE YOU'RE ALL SO SHITTY AT SOCCER, IDIOT.

CAN WE REALLY GET GOOD AT SOCCER IN THIS SHITTY PLACE?!

ARGH!!

ARE YOU KIDDING ME? HOW COULD WE ENJOY THIS?!

YOU ATE MY GYOZA, DIDN'T YOU?

HE'S RIGHT! I WANNA EAT SOME REAL FOOD!

VOOM ポッ

ALLOW ME...

...TO SAY A LITTLE ABOUT BLUE LOCK.

HUH?!

THIS FACILITY IS COMPOSED OF FIVE WINGS.

...ARE SPLIT INTO GROUPS OF FIVE AND ARE LIVING TOGETHER IN EACH WING.

TEAMS B THROUGH Z, TWENTY-FIVE IN ALL...

SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
...I'M STILL AT THE BOTTOM? THAT WAS SOME SHORT-LIVED JOY...
HUH...?
SO EVEN THOUGH I WENT FROM 300 TO 275...

BY THE WAY, SINCE ONE PERSON WAS KICKED OUT OF EACH ROOM DURING TAG...
...THERE ARE CURRENTLY TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE OF YOU IN BLUE LOCK.
x25
300 - 25 = 275 PEOPLE

RANKS 1 THROUGH 11 ARE TEAM B, 12 THROUGH 22 ARE TEAM C... SO YOU GET IT, RIGHT?
YOU'RE SPLIT INTO TEAMS IN ORDER OF RANK.

ADDITIONALLY, YOUR TEAM IS MADE OF THE BOTTOM TIER IN THIS WING, NUMBERS 265 TO 275.
...WING #5.
YOUR TEAM Z...
...IS IN THE LOWEST RANKED OF THE FIVE WINGS...

...ARE IN THE BOTTOM TIER...?!
EVEN THESE GUYS, WHO ARE WAY BETTER THAN ME...

COME ON, LET'S CALM DOWN...

LOOK WHO'S TALKING, TRASH.

HUH?!

TCH!

SERI-OUSLY?!

DON'T LUMP ME IN WITH THIS TRASH...

YOU TALK BIG.

JUST WATCH ME.

NOW THEN, LET'S BEGIN...

BLUE LOCK
1st
SELECTION
...BLUE LOCK'S FIRST SELECTION.
V
Z
5
W
Y
X

CHAPTER 4: RIGHT NOW

*SPAIN'S CLUB TEAMS HAVE A REGULATION THAT FORBIDS FOREIGN MINORS FROM SIGNING PRO CONTRACTS.

...DROP DEAD.
I'D RATHER...
JAPAN
SAE ITOSHI
AGE 17
MIDFIELDER

*CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - THE PINNACLE OF SOCCER TOURNAMENTS IN WHICH EUROPE'S CLUB TEAMS BATTLE EACH OTHER.

THERE'S NO FORWARD IN THIS COUNTRY WHO CAN RECEIVE MY PASSES.

I WAS JUST BORN IN THE WRONG COUNTRY.

K-CHAK
カチャ

THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT.
I ONLY CAME BACK BECAUSE MY PASSPORT EXPIRED.

IT SEEMS LIKE THERE'S A PRESS CONFERENCE IN THE EVENT HALL...
AH...
JAPAN FOOTBALL UNION PRESS CONFERENCE
...
DOES IT SEEM CROWDED HERE?

JAPAN FOOTBALL UNION PRESS CONFERENCE
BLUE LOCK PROJECT
JAPAN NATIONAL TEAM
K-SHK
...SO WE'VE GATHERED THREE HUNDRED OF THE MOST OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOLERS...
...AND ARE TRAINING THEM AS STRIKERS TO LEAD JAPAN TO A WORLD CUP VICTORY.

JAPAN FOOTBALL UNION PRESS CONFERENCE

BLUE LOCK PROJECT

WE CALL IT THE *BLUE LOCK PROJECT.*

CHAIRMAN HIROTOSHI BURATSUTA

ANRI TEIERI

JAPAN

THEIR LIVES WILL BE WASTED ...?
CLATTER
PANIC ふた
PANIC あた
WELL... OF COURSE, WE HOLD THE STUDENTS' WISHES IN THE HIGHEST ESTEEM...
AND THE PARENTS HAVE ALL SIGNED THEIR CONSENT ALREADY...

THIS INSANE PROJECT IS NECESSARY FOR JAPANESE SOCCER TO ADVANCE TO THE NEXT LEVEL!!
WHAM!
DAMN RIGHT!!
ANRI TIERI
CHAIRMAN HIROTOSHI BURASUTA
ANIM

AREN'T YOU THE INSANE ONES...?
WHAT'S WITH HER...?

DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE...
ANRI-CHAN...?

...THE MOMENT WHEN—

—A HERO IS BORN IN THE WORLD OF JAPANESE SOCCER?!

NOW THEN, LET'S BEGIN...

...BLUE LOCK'S FIRST SELECTION.

1ST SELECTION

FOR THE FIRST SELECTION, ALL OF YOU IN WING 5...

...WILL HAVE A ROUND ROBIN TOURNAMENT FOR ALL FIVE TEAMS.

	V	W	X	Y	Z
V					
W					
X					
Y					
Z					

IT'S A SURVIVAL MATCH.

WIN » 3 POINTS

DRAW » 1 POINT

LOSE » 0 POINTS

AFTER THE FINAL MATCH...

...THE TOP TWO TEAMS WILL CLEAR THE SELECTION.

EVEN THOUGH WE'RE ALL FORWARDS...?
HYOMA CHIGIRI
HUH?
SO ALL ELEVEN OF US IN TEAM Z COUNT AS ONE TEAM?

I'D DO IT IF I HAVE TO...
KNOCK IT OFF...
OKUHITO IEMON

YUDAI IMAMURA
THAT MEANS WE'LL JUST HAVE TO PLAY ALL THE OTHER POSITIONS!
YOU CAN BE THE GOALIE!
YOU'VE GOT A GOALIE'S FACE ♪

HUH?!
YOU'RE ON DEFENSE, IGA-GURI.
NO, IT'S ME.
NO, ME.
HUH?
THEN I'LL BE CENTER FORWARD.
*CENTER FORWARD – A FORWARD WHO COVERS THE FRONT LINE AND CENTRAL AREA OF THE FIELD. WAITS TO SCORE POINTS.

NORMALLY THAT WOULD NEVER HAPPEN...!
A TEAM MADE OF ELEVEN FORWARDS...?

...WERE JUST ROLES THAT WERE CREATED AS PART OF SOCCER'S EVOLUTION.

THE POSITIONS AND TACTICS THAT HAVE BEEN STUPIDLY IMPRINTED ON YOUR BRAINS...

LISTEN. SOCCER IS PRIMARILY A GAME ABOUT SCORING POINTS.

WHEN SOCCER FIRST STARTED, ALL PLAYERS WERE STRIKERS.

HAVING ALL ELEVEN PLAYERS AS FORWARDS MAKES PERFECT SENSE.

REBUILD SOCCER... FROM ZERO...

REBUILD IT FROM ZERO IN YOUR HEADS.

PLAY SOCCER FROM THAT STARTING POINT.

OVER THE LAST QUARTER-CENTURY...

THE PRO LEAGUE WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1992...

...AND WE FIRST ENTERED THE WORLD CUP IN 1997.

AND THAT'S BECAUSE OUR CITIZENS HAVE FERVENTLY BELIEVED IN THEIR DREAMS.

...JAPANESE SOCCER HAS MADE INCREDIBLE PROGRESS ON A GLOBAL SCALE.

2010

THEN WE DISPROVED THE RUMORS AND MADE IT INTO THE GROUP LEAGUE AGAIN IN 2010.

2002

OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH KOREA FIRST GOT US INTO THE WORLD CUP BEST SIXTEEN IN 2002.

THEN IN 2018 WE NEARLY BEAT BELGIUM, WHO WAS ALMOST A FINALIST...

THE WORLD'S SOCCER FANS HAD TO ADMIT...

...THAT JAPANESE SOCCER HAD GROWN TRULY STRONG.

IT WAS SO CLOSE...

...AND FRUSTRATING...

AFTER JUST ONE MORE STEP, WE WOULD'VE STOOD SHOULDER TO SHOULDER WITH THE WORLD'S BEST.

ANRI TEIERI

...JAPANESE SOCCER IN ITS CURRENT STATE MUST DIE.

BUT IN ORDER TO TAKE THAT "ONE MORE STEP"...

AND AT SOME POINT, THE DREAM WE HAD SERVED ITS PURPOSE...

...COULD COMPETE WITH THE WORLD.

...AS WELL AS TO PROVE THAT JAPANESE SOCCER...

ざわ BUZZ

ざわ BUZZ

THE DREAM OF OUR PREDECESSORS WAS "TO ENTER THE WORLD CUP"...

...FOR US TO FIND A NEW DREAM!

WHICH MEANS...

...THAT NOW IS THE TIME...

DON'T TRUST THE COMMON SENSE YOU'VE LEARNED UP UNTIL NOW.

AND POUND THIS NEW CONCEPT INTO YOUR BRAINS.

THROW IT AWAY.

...ISN'T THE TEAMWORK OF ELEVEN PEOPLE.

WHAT JAPAN NEEDS MOST OF ALL TO WIN THE WORLD CUP...

MESSI...

C. RONAL-DO...

NEY-MAR...

SOCCER'S EVOLUTION IS LIMITLESS THANKS TO THOSE LONE HEROES.

IT'S FOR JUST ONE PERSON...

...TO BE A HERO.

THE DEFENSIVE SYSTEM WAS CREATED TO STOP THEM...

...AND NEW TACTICS ARE REQUIRED TO SURPASS THAT.

THAT'S THE KIND OF SPORT SOCCER IS!

...AND EVEN THE WORLD!

ONE PERSON'S LIGHT CAN CHANGE A TEAM...

...A COUNTRY...

...OF A NEW STAGE!

RIGHT NOW, JAPANESE SOCCER IS ON THE CUSP...

...BUT THOSE THREE HUNDRED HIGH SCHOOLERS WHO WILL PLAY THE LEADING PARTS!

AND IT'S NOT US JADED ADULTS...

BLUE LOCK PROJECT
JAPAN NATIONAL TEAM
DO YOU HAVE THE COURAGE...
...TO DREAM OF WINNING THE WORLD CUP?
ARE YOU READY FOR BATTLE?

...THIS CONFERENCE.
THAT CONCLUDES...
HAS THE ASSOCIATION GONE MAD?!
YOU'RE BETTING TOO MUCH ON YOUNG TALENT!
YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!
WE NEED TO LEAVE TO CATCH OUR FLIGHT TO SPAIN...
ITOSHI-CHAN...
CANCEL IT.
HUH?
...IS IN BLUE LOCK!!!
ALL OF IT...

I'LL SEE FOR MYSELF...

...WHAT KIND OF FORWARD THIS COUNTRY CAN PRODUCE.

THE ONE WHO WILL SURVIVE...

...IS ME!

CONTINUED IN VOL. 2

Blue Lock 1

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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