

FILE.4

... THE BURNING TRUTH ...



OUR
BUNGALOW
...

AS444

IS BEING
BURNED
...

OH
NO
...

ASAMI
...

IS STILL
INSIDE
....

WE
MAY BE
ABLE TO
SAVE
HER
...

IF WE
GO NOW
!!

WHERE IS
THE KEY
OF THE
RENTAL
CAR ?

NOGUJI
HAS IT
...

WHHAATT
HAPPP
PPPENS
?

DO YOU
WANT TO
KNOW
WHAT
HAPPENS
?!?!?

OUR
BUNGALOW IS
ON FIRE
!!
THIS IS
WHAT'S
HAPPENING
!!

WHAT
?



ASAMI
...

ASAMI
...

I WISH
NOTHING
HAPPENED
TO YOU YET
.....

ASAMI
...



THE FIRE IS SO STRONG !!

A SA MI !!

A SA MI !!

IT LOOKS LIKE NO ONE HAS YET ESCAPED FROM THE BUNGALOW

T...THEN SHE IS STILL INSIDE !!

SHOULD WE TRY TO CALL HER ? THE PHONE IS IN THE LIVING ROOM, ISN'T IT?

IT'S NO USE. THE ROOM MIGHT BE GONE ALREADY.

DAMN !!

DON'T DO THAT !

OOPS !!

FIRE

CLICK

O...OH
NO
.....

FW
FW

THE FIRE
HAS GONE
EVERY
WHERE
.....

NOOO
!!

ASAMI
!!

WATCH
OUT!
COME
BACK
HERE!

MOVE
AWAY THE
MOTORCYCLE
!!

THERE WILL BE
MORE TROUBLE
IF ITS GAS GOT
SPARKED
!!

I GOT
IT !!

HUH
?

SHUU
...

SHUU
...

SHUU
...

I'LL GO
IN NOW
!!

HUH
?

ASAMI
!!!

HEY
....

アサミ

WHAT ?
RAN AND
CONAN WENT
INSIDE ?

SAWAI
HAS JUST
FOLLOWED
THEM
!!

DAMN
!!

AK
.....



!?

ASHU

A
SA
MI
!!



MR.MOURI
YOU CAN'T
GO INSIDE
!!

RELEASE ME !!
MY
DAUGHTER
IS INSIDE
!!



RAN
!!

ASHU



RAN
...



WAKE
UP
...

RAN
...



SO NO KO ...

RAN !!



WHERE AM I ..?

AT A LOCAL HOSPITAL YOU WERE BROUGHT HERE



WHAT ABOUT ASAMI ?!?

SHU ...



SHE IS SLEEPING OVER THERE ...



SHE INHALED SOME SMOKE, BUT THAT HAS NO HARM TO HER LIFE.



I'M GLAD SHE IS SAFED.

DON'T YOU REMEMBER YOU ARE THE ONE WHO CARRIED HER OUT ?



VERY LITTLE, I REMEMBER ONLY I INTENDED TO BREAK IN



AFTER WE FOUND HER, SAWAI TOOK US TO A SAFE PLACE.

AFTER I WAS OUT, I HAD NO IDEA WHAT HAPPENED NEXT.

BUT YOU WERE INCREDIBLE THAT YOU WORE A HELMET BEFORE YOU WENT IN.

ALTHOUGH THE FIRE-FIGHTERS DIDN'T LIKE TO SEE YOU WENT INSIDE, THEY SAID THAT YOU DID A GOOD JOB TO ALSO WEAR A HELMET.

REALLY
.....

THANKS TO CONAN. I DIDN'T INTEND TO WEAR THE HELMET AT THE BEGINNING, BUT CONAN HANDED IT TO ME.

HE SAID THAT THE HELMET WOULD PROTECT MY FACE AND MY HAIR FROM THE FIRE.

CONAN GAVE YOU THAT IDEA?

THIS KID DID INCREDIBLE THING AGAIN.

UM
...

RIGHT
...

UM
...

THE FIRE STARTED AROUND 2:50 AM ?

YES. PEOPLE FROM THE BUNGALOW NEXT DOOR SAW THE SMOKE.

SOMEONE SET FIRE ?

NO. THE FIRE STARTED FROM THE LIVING ROOM AND POSSIBLY FROM THE BIRTHDAY CANDLES.

BUT, THEY THOUGHT YOU WERE SETTING A BONFIRE.

BIRTH-DAY CANDLES ?

BECAUSE OF CARELESSNESS, THE CANDLES WERE LEFT UNBLOWN. THE CANDLES FELL ONTO THE FLOOR AND BURNED THE GIFT-WRAP PAPER. THEN, THE FIRE SPREADED TO THE CURTAIN.

HOW COME YOU FORGOT TO BLOW THE CANDLES ?

DON'T BLAME ME I'M SURE I ALREADY BLEW THEM.

DON'T BE SO SURE. AT THAT TIME, EVERYONE WAS IN A HURRY TO GO OUT.

BUT I REALLY DID BLOW THE CANDLES !!

BUT THE CANDLE STICKS ALMOST ALL GONE...

IF IT'S NOT BECAUSE OF THE CANDLES, THERE IS ONE MORE POSSIBILITY.

IT'S ASAMI HERSELF WHO SET THE FIRE.

WHAT ?

WHAT
!?

ASAMI
MURMURED
ABOUT
SHINICHI
?

YES. WHEN SHE
WAS BROUGHT IN
HERE, SHE WAS
UNCONCIOUS.
ALSO, SHE
MURMURED

SOMETHING
LIKE
...

KUDO,
I'M
SORRY.
I'M SO
SORRY.

WHAT
DID SHE
MEAN
BY THAT
?

HOW
WOULD I
KNOW?
THAT'S
WHAT I
HEARD.

ARE
YOU
THIRSTY
?

I'LL GO
BUY YOU
A DRINK.


I'LL GO
WITH YOU.

DOOR CLOSED




FORGOT TO
BLOW OUT
THE
CANDLES ?
IS IT AN
ACCIDENT ?

IS
THAT
POSSIBLE
?




THEN, HOW
COME
ASAMI WAS
FOUND
SLEEPING
ON THE
FLOOR
?

SHE WAS
SUPPOSED
TO SLEEP
ON THE
SOFA,
WASN'T
SHE ?

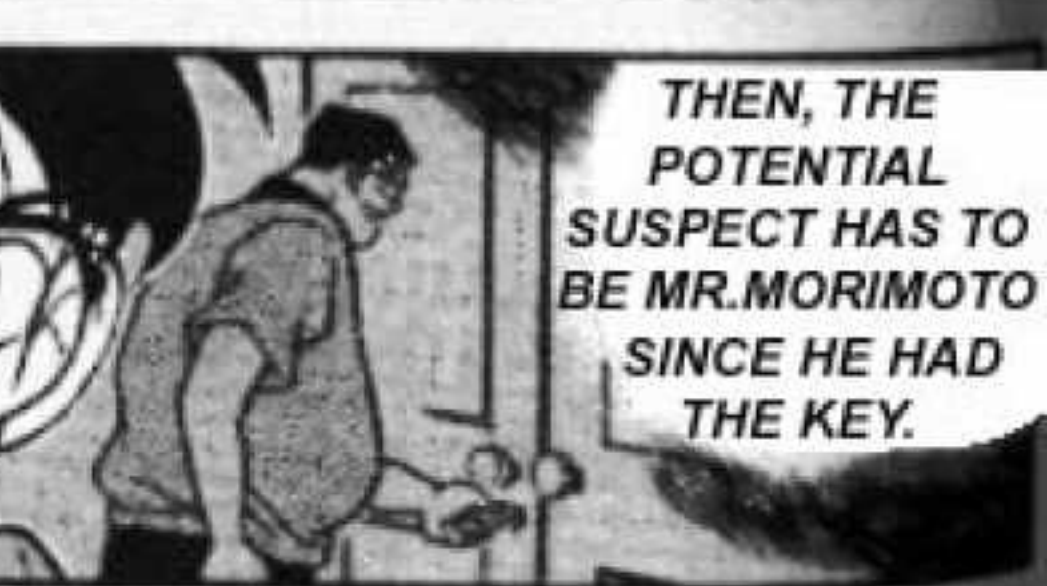


BESIDES, THE
FURNITURE IN THE
ROOM LOOKED
MISPLACED. IT
LOOKS LIKE
SOMEONE...

MOVED
THE
FURNI-
TURE
AROUND.



IS IT POSSIBLE
THAT SOMEONE
CAME BACK
HERE AND SET
THE FIRE
?




THEN, THE
POTENTIAL
SUSPECT HAS TO
BE MR. MORIMOTO
SINCE HE HAD
THE KEY.



NO,
THERE IS
MORE
...

IF THE WINDOW
WAS OPEN, ANYONE
COULD GET IN
WITHOUT HAVING
THE KEY.



I MUST
THINK
HARDER
...

THE FIRE
STARTED AT 2:50
AM. AROUND 3 AM,
EVERYONE WAS
STILL AT THE
KARAOKE
BOX
ACROSS
FROM THE
STATION.

FROM THE KARAOKE BOX, IT WOULD TAKE AROUND 5 MINUTES DRIVE OR 15 MINUTES WALK TO GET HERE.

SINCE NO ONE DISAPPEARED FROM THE BOX MORE THAN 30 MINUTES, THE PERSON WHO COULD COME BACK HERE, SET FIRE, AND RETURN TO THE BOX HAD TO BE MR. NOGUJI WHO CARRIED THE CAR KEY.

HOLD ON. THE CAR WAS PARKED IN FRONT OF THE BOX...

BEFORE 3 AM, PEOPLE WENT TO THE RESTROOM AT THE STATION OR WENT TO BUY SOMETHING AT THE SHOP NEARBY. IF THE CAR DISAPPEARED, SOMEONE HAD TO NOTICE IT...

WHAT ABOUT MS. JIKA'S MOTOR-CYCLE ?

NO. IT WAS ALREADY PARKED HERE BEFORE WE CAME BACK.

IT'S NOT POSSIBLE

FOR THE PEOPLE AT THE KARAOKE BOX TO SET FIRE !!

ALSO, IT'S NOT POSSIBLE THAT SOMETHING WAS USED TO SET UP THE FIRE AUTOMATICALLY. IF THERE WAS SUCH EQUIPMENT, THE FIRE-FIGHTERS MUST HAVE FOUND IT.

OR, UNCLE KOGORO'S ASSUMPTION IS RIGHT ?

THAT ASAMI WAS THE ONE WHO SET FIRE !!



YES !
AT THAT
TIME,
THAT
PERSON
.....

SAID
SOME-
THING
STRANGE
...

I WOULD BE VERY SURPRISED IF
THERE WAS NO FIRE. WHO WAS
SILLY ENOUGH TO PUT THE
BIRTHDAY CAKE WITH BURNING
CANDLES ON THE CHAIR LIKE
THIS ?

HUH
?

THE CAKE
WAS ON
THE CHAIR,
REALLY?

YES. THE CHAIR
WAS TOTALLY
BURNED OUT
AND THE
CAKE WAS
MESSED UP.

WHERE WAS
THIS CHAIR
PLACED
?

OVER
THERE

NEXT TO
THAT SMALL
WOODEN
CABINET

IT'S ALSO
BURNED
OUT.

!?

RAN,
DON'T YOU
THINK IT'S
STRANGE
...?

WHAT
?

ASAMI WAS
A MEMBER OF THE
TENNIS CLUB FOR 2
YEARS. SHE WAS SO
GOOD THAT SHE WAS
SELECTED TO BE A
REPRESENTATIVE TO
THE NATIONAL COM-
PETITION.

UM
...

FOR SOME
REASON, THE
YEAR AFTER
THAT, SHE
BECAME THE
MANAGER OF
THE SOCCER
CLUB.

WHY DID
SHE DO
THAT
?

I
THINK
...

SHE WANTED
TO HAVE
MORE TIME
TO CONCEN-
TRATE
ON HER
STUDY.

HUH
?

A...

ASAMI
?



WHAT ?
THE CUSTOMERS
WHO CAME INTO
THIS SHOP
AROUND
3 AM?



YES.
DO YOU
STILL
REMEMBER
WHO THEY
WERE ?

THEY WERE
THE PEOPLE
WHO WENT TO
THE KARAOKE BOX,
BUT STOPPED BY HERE
TO BUY CIGARETTE
AND TOMATO DRINK.

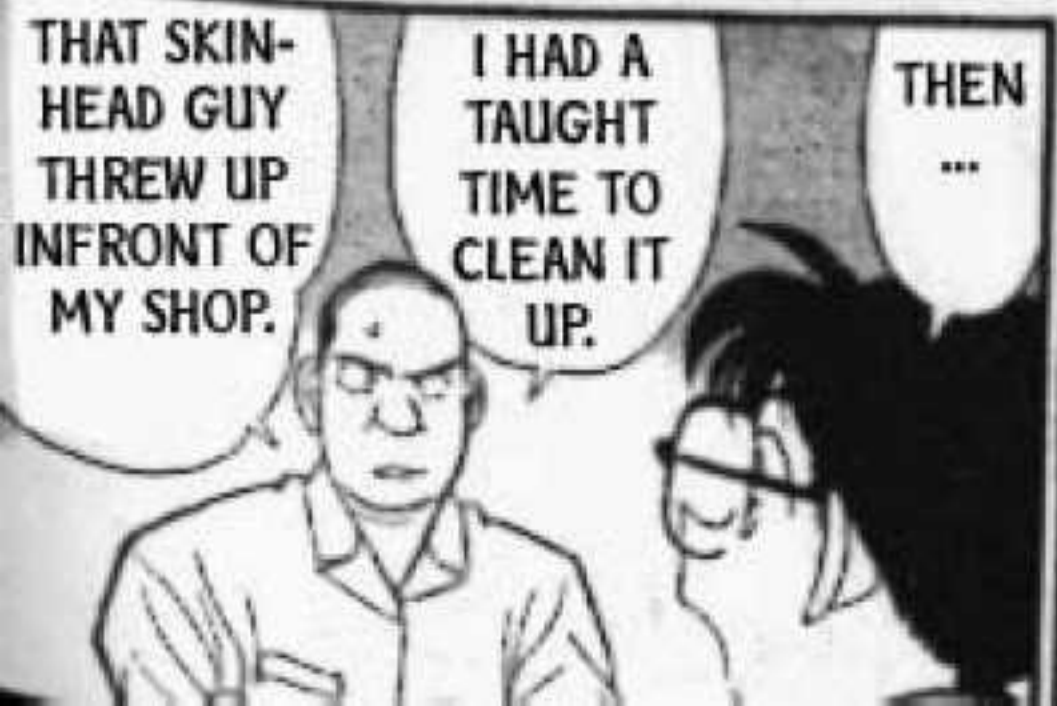


HOW
DID
THEY
LOOK
?

ONE GUY HAD
BROWN HAIR AND
WORE GLASSES,
A GIRL IN BLACK DRESS,
AND ANOTHER GUY
WHO HAD A
SKIN-HEAD STYLE
HAIR.



MR. SAWAI,
MS. HAYASAKA,
AND
MR. NOGUJI
!!!




THAT SKIN-
HEAD GUY
THREW UP
IN FRONT OF
MY SHOP.

I HAD A
TAUGHT
TIME TO
CLEAN IT
UP.

THEN
...



DID
ANYTHING
LIKE THIS
HAPPEN
..?



YES...IT'S
LIKE THAT.
YOU SAID
LIKE YOU
WERE HERE
!!!

AT THAT TIME,
I ALSO WARNED
THAT PERSON
THAT, IT WAS
THE WRONG
SIDE, BUT
DIDN'T LISTEN
TO ME.

MORE-
OVER,
THE PAPER
WAS VERY
DIRTY
.....



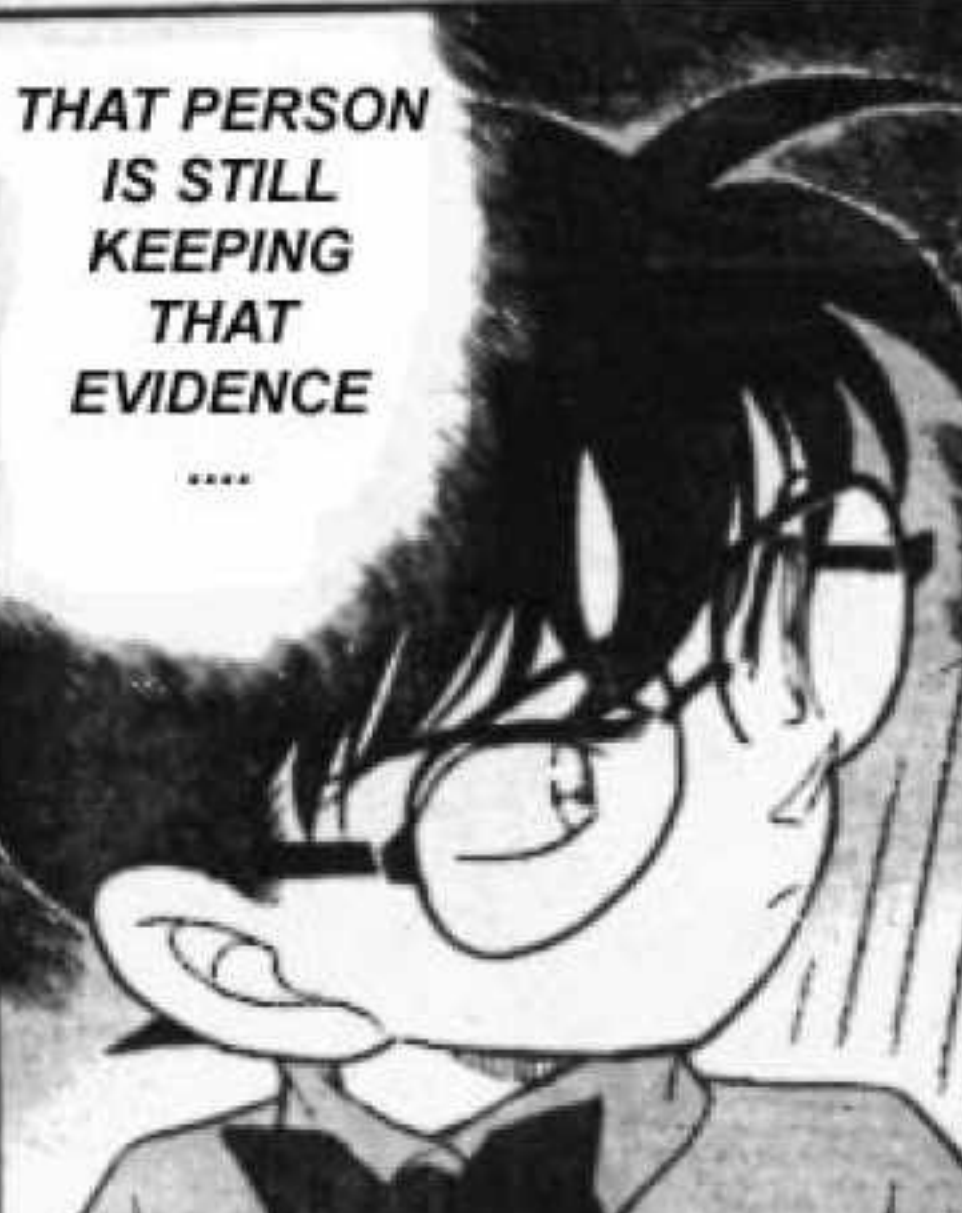
THAT
PERSON WAS
REALLY
BIZARRE
.....



I'M
RIGHT
...

IT'S THAT
PERSON
WHO SET
THE FIRE
...

AND,
IF MY
DEDUCTION
IS CORRECT
.....



THAT PERSON
IS STILL
KEEPING
THAT
EVIDENCE
.....

IN HANDS
.....