

FILE.5

... UNLOCK YOUR HEART ...



WHAT
!?

ASAMI
DISAPPEARED
FROM THE
HOSPITAL
?

RAN,
ARE YOU
SURE
?

YES.
SHE WAS
SLEEPING IN
THE BED
BEFORE WE
LEFT FOR A
MOMENT.

DAD,
WHAT
SHOULD
WE DO
?

SEARCH
AROUND
THE
HOSPITAL
!!

SHE MAY
STILL BE
IN THAT
AREA
!!

WHERE
IS SHE
PLANNING
TO GO
?

NO
IDEA
...

SHE MAY
BE TRYING
TO COMMIT
SUICIDE.

C..
COMMIT
SUICIDE
!?!

YES !!
IT HAS TO
BE ASAMI
WHO SET
THE FIRE

.....

NO
...

PRICK

AH
...

M...
MR. MOURI
?

IS THAT
WHAT
YOU
THINK
?

ACTUALLY,
IT'S NOT
ASAMI
.....

SHE IS
NOT THE
SUSPECT,
BUT THE
VICTIM.

THE
VICTIM
?

YES,
BECAUSE
SHE
ALMOST
DIED IN
THE FIRE.



AND THE PERSON WHO SET UP THIS

IS ONE OF YOU

WHAT ?

BUT, WE ALL WERE AT THE KARAOKE BOX WHEN THE FIRE STARTED.

IT WOULD TAKE AROUND 15 MINUTES TO RUN FROM THERE TO HERE.

BUT IT'LL TAKE ONLY 5 MINUTES IF USING A CAR OR A MOTORBIKE

AT THAT TIME, NO ONE USED THE CAR. ALSO, THE MOTORBIKE WAS PACKED HERE, AT THIS BUNGALOW.

THERE IS NO WAY THAT ONE OF US COULD COME BACK HERE AND SET THE FIRE

IT'S ALSO NOT POSSIBLE TO USE ANY EQUIPMENT TO SET THE FIRE. IF THERE WAS, THE FIREFIGHTERS WOULD KNOW.

IF SUCH EQUIPMENT

WAS SOMETHING THAT WE NORMALLY USE ?

HUH ?

SOMETHING THAT WE CAN USE TO SEND A MESSAGE REMOTELY ...?



THE
OFFENDER
WAS ABLE TO
SET FIRE
REMOTELY

.....

BY USING AN
EQUIPMENT
THAT THE
SHOP NEARBY
THE KARAOKE
BOX HAS

.....



WHAT
!?



HEY
KID
!

EVERY-
THING
HAS BEEN
PREPARED
...




THANK
YOU VERY
MUCH
!




WHAT'S
PRE-
PARED
?

UNCLE KOGORO
TOLD ME TO TELL THE
FIREFIGHTERS HOW THE
FIRE GOT STARTED AND
WE ARE GOING TO REDO
IT. WE'LL USE THE
SAME WAY THE
OFFENDER
USED.



HA
HA
HA

HUH?
IS THERE
ANYTHING
FUNNY
?



BECAUSE IT'S TOO
SIMPLE TO DO. I
CAN'T BELIEVE I'VE
BEEN FOOL.



?



I SEE ...

THE ROOM HAS BEEN SET UP LIKE BEFORE THE FIRE HAPPENED.

WHAT DO WE HAVE TO DO NEXT ?



EXCUSE ME !!

CAKE ?



I JUST BOUGHT IT FROM A NEARBY SHOP !

PLEASE PUT IT ON THE TOP OF THE CHAIR.



THAT'S IT !

WE JUST WAIT FOR THE REST TO HAPPEN.



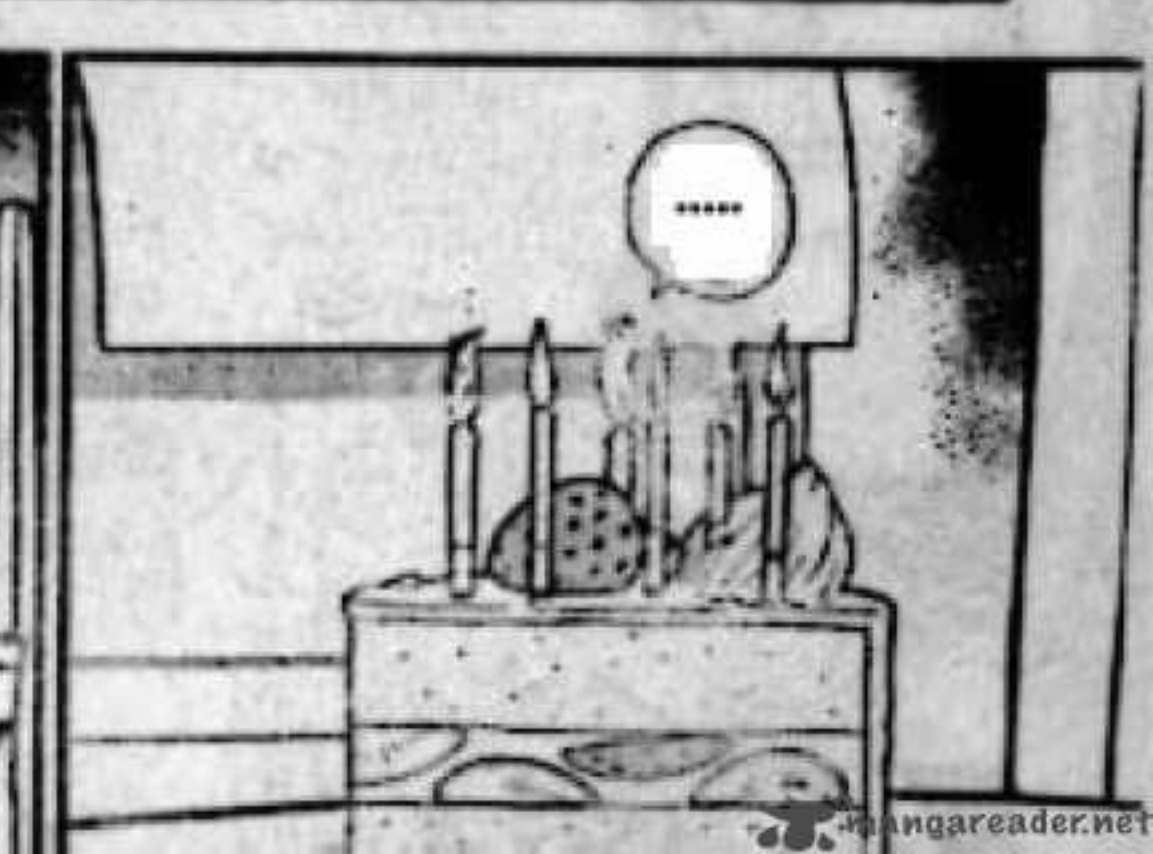
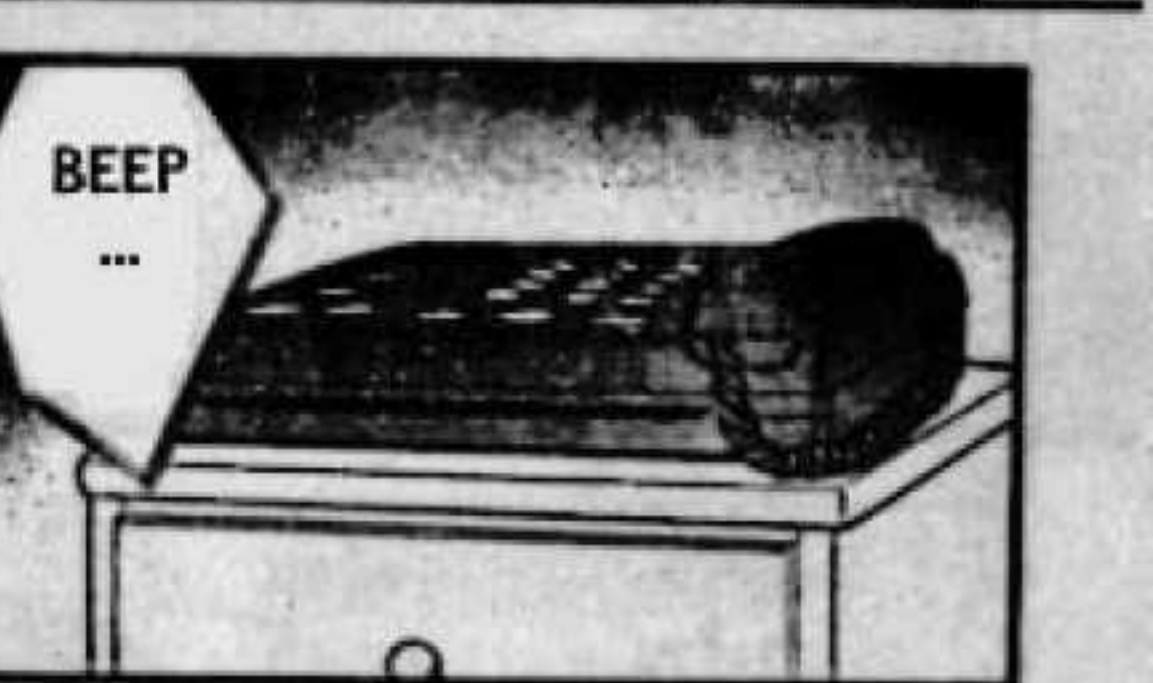
ARE WE WAITING FOR THE CANDLES TO FALL ONTO THE FLOOR ?

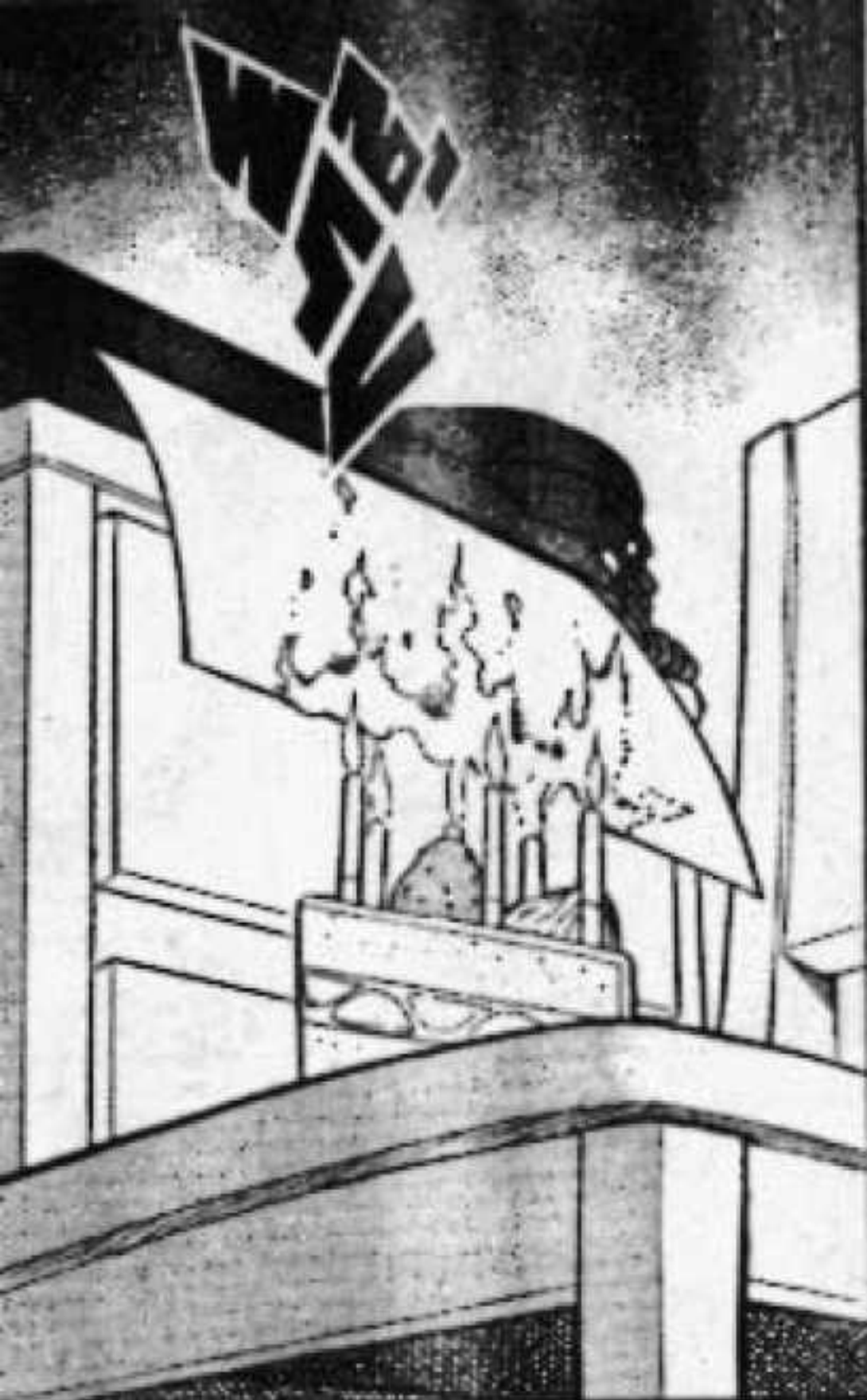
OR, THE CANDLES MAY FALL ONTO THE GIFT BOX AND THAT'S HOW THE FIRE STARTED.



IF SO, IT'S THEN JUST AN ACCIDENT

NOTHING SUSPICIOUS





THE CANDLES SET FIRE ON THE FAX PAPER !?

I ASKED THE OWNER OF THE SHOP NEARBY THE KARAOKE BOX SENT THIS FAX TO HERE

IT'S THE SAME WAY AS THE OFFENDER DID.



IT'S TOO FUNNY



ISN'T IT TOO SIMPLE ?

THAT'S WHAT THE OFFENDER HAS IN MIND.

IF THE OFFENDER USED MORE COMPLICATED PLAN, MORE EVIDENCE COULD BE LEFT AT THE CRIME SCENE. SO, THE MOST PRACTICAL WAY IS TO USE THE SIMPLIEST WAY THAT LEFT NO EVIDENCE SO THAT EVERYONE WILL BELIEVE IT'S AN ACCIDENT.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT ? THE PERSON WHO WENT INTO THE SHOP TO BUY CIGARETTE AT THAT TIME





MR.SAWAI
MANABU
?



S...
SAWAI
..?

IT'S NOT
TRUE,
RIGHT
?

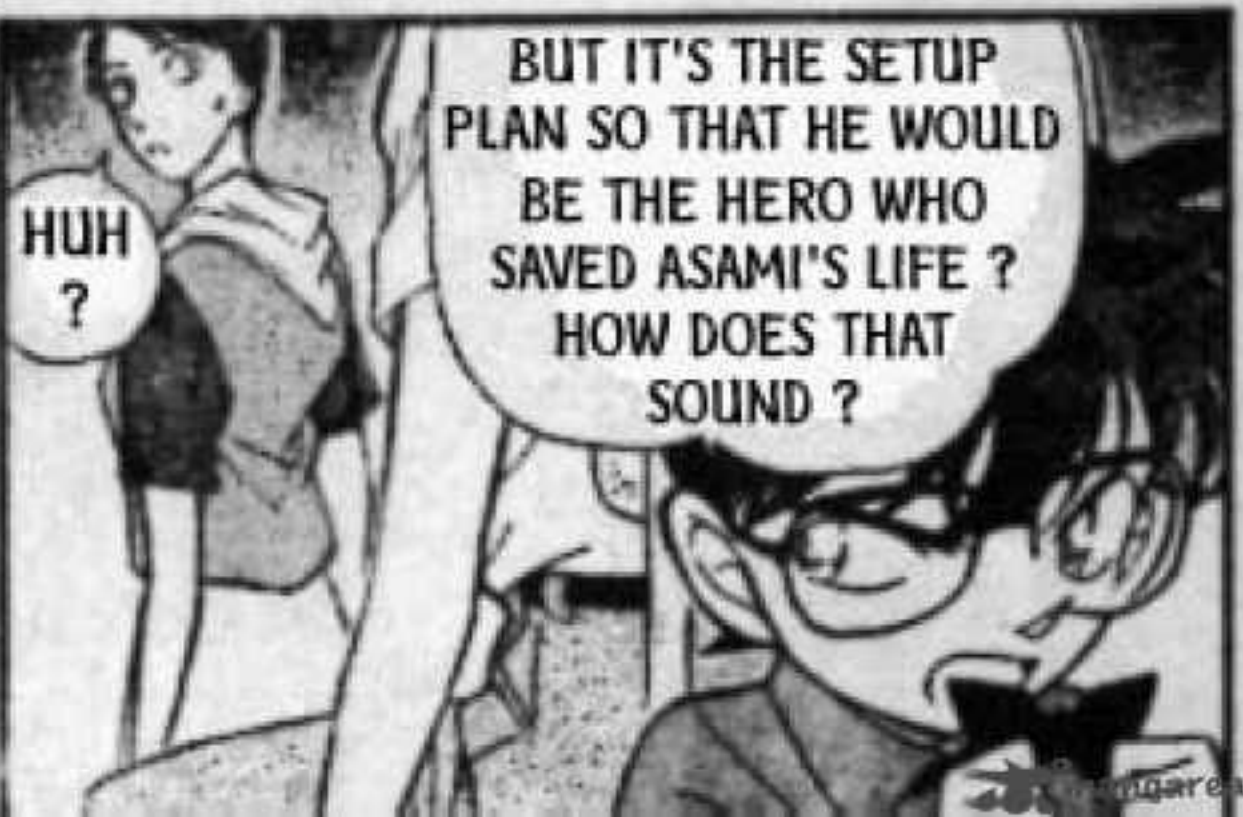


BUT,
HE ALSO
RISKED HIS
LIFE TO TRY TO
SAVE ASAMI,
DIDN'T HE ?

RIGHT, IF
HE REALLY
WANTED TO
KILL HER,
HE SHOULD
NOT HAVE
TRIED TO
SAVE HER.

MOREOVER,
THE FIRST
PERSON WHO
SAW THE FIRE
WAS HIM !!

WHAT IF HE
DIDN'T
INTEND TO
KILL HER
?



HUH
?

BUT IT'S THE SETUP
PLAN SO THAT HE WOULD
BE THE HERO WHO
SAVED ASAMI'S LIFE ?
HOW DOES THAT
SOUND ?

HE PLAN WAS

.....

HE MIGHT HAVE PUT SOME KIND OF SLEEPING PILL INTO ASAMI'S DRINK TO MAKE HER SLEEP.

WHEN EVERYONE WAS IN A HURRY TO GO TO THE KARAOKE BOX, YOU CAME INTO THIS ROOM AND REARRANGED THE FURNITURE. YOU DIDN'T WANT ASAMI TO GET HURT FROM FIRE, SO, YOU LAID HER DOWN ON THE FLOOR INSTEAD.

WHILE EVERYONE WAS HAVING FUN AT THE KARAOKE BOX, HE CAME TO THE NEARBY CONVENIENT STORE TO SEND THE FAX TO THIS BUNGALOW TO SET FIRE.

THE OWNER OF THE STORE CONFIRMED THAT MR. SAWAI WENT TO SEND THE FAX ABOUT THE SAME TIME THE FIRE STARTED.

MOREOVER, PIECES OF BURNED FAX PAPER WERE FOUND HERE

.....

BURNED PAPER ?

I GOT THE PAPER FROM A FIRE FIGHTER.

THERE ARE 2 PIECES, BUT THEY DON'T FIT TOGETHER.

THAT'S STRANGE BECAUSE ONLY ONE FAX CAME IN BEFORE THE FIRE.

RIGHT, UNCLE KOGORO !

H... HOLD ON



YES, I DID SEND A FAX FROM THE CONVNIENT STORE !!

BUT, I SENT IT TO A FRIEND OF MINE HE ASKED ME TO COME UP WITH A GOOD TITLE FOR HIS NOVEL.



THE TITLE POPPED UP IN MY HEAD WHILE I WAS SINGING THE KARAOKE. SINCE IT'S TOO LATE, I DECIDED TO SEND THE FAX INSTEAD.

REALLY? YOU SENT THE FAX TO YOUR FRIEND?

DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY ABOUT THE FAX CONFIRMA-TION PAPER ?



AFTER YOU SENT THE FAX YOU SHOWED THE CONFIRMA-TION PAPER TO THE STORE'S OWNER, RIGHT?

THE PAPER SHOWED THE DATE AND TIME WHEN THE FAX WAS SENT AS WELL AS THE RECEIVER'S PHONE NUMBER. YOUR FINGER PRINT WAS ALSO ON THE PAPER.



THAT'S STRANGE ...

I'M QUITE SURE I SENT THE FAX TO THE RIGHT RECEIVER



ANY WAY, I MIGHT HAVE PUNCHED IN THE WRONG FAX NUMBER !

BECAUSE I WROTE HIS FAX NUMBER NEXT TO THE BUNGALOW'S FAX NUMBER
.....



MOREOVER, I'M THE PRESIDENT OF LOGIC AND ANALYSIS CLUB
.....



I WON'T USE THIS UNRELIABLE METHOD.



THAT'S WHY YOU HAD TO SEND A TEST FAX FIRST, RIGHT ?



HUH ?

AFTER YOU REARRANGED THE FURNITURE, YOU WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT THE CHAIR AND THE CAKE WERE IN THE RIGHT POSITION

.....

YOU TESTED IT BY USING THE FAX MACHINE TO COPY A PAPER

.....

YOU HAD TO FEED A PAPER INTO THE FAX MACHINE. THE NEAREST PAPER WAS

.....

THE GREETING PAPER FROM PROFESSOR TAKAMURA, SO YOU USED IT TO TEST.

YOU TOOK THE COPIED PAPER TO THE STORE AND SENT THE FAX WITH THE COPIED PAPER.

THAT COPIED PAPER HAD CAKE CREAM ON IT BECAUSE THE PAPER FELL ONTO THE CAKE DURING COPYING

THE STORE'S OWNER TOLD YOU NOT TO FEED IN THE DIRTY PAPER BECAUSE IT WOULD DAMAGE THE FAX MACHINE

HE ALSO TOLD YOU THAT YOU FED IN THE WRONG SIDE OF THE PAPER, BUT YOU DIDN'T LISTEN TO HIM.

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU REALLY INTENDED TO SEND THE EMPTY PAPER. YOU WERE AFRAID THAT IF TWO IDENTICAL PAPERS FOUND BURNED, THAT WOULD LOOK SUSPICIOUS.

THAT'S ENOUGH !!

YOU CAN'T CONCLUDE LIKE THAT WITHOUT ANY CONCRETE EVIDENCE !!

IF YOU'RE GOING TO ALLEGE ME LIKE THAT, YOU MUST HAVE PROOF !!

YOU STILL DON'T WANT TO CONFESS ?

YOU STILL
KEEP IT
WITH YOU,
RIGHT
?

THAT FAX
PAPER
?

WHAT
!?

HUMANS LIKE US ARE STUPID
SOMETIMES. ALTHOUGH WE
KNOW THAT IT'S NOT SAFE TO
KEEP IT WITH US, WE STILL DON'T
WANT TO THROW IT AWAY. WE'RE
AFRAID IF PEOPLE SEE IT,
PEOPLE MAY SUSPECT US.

YOU
ARE NO
DIFFER-
ENT

YOU HAVE
NOT THROWN
IT AWAY YET.

OH
NO
!?

YOU STILL KEEP
THE FAX PAPER
THAT HAS CREAM
ON IT WITH YOU,
RIGHT ?

THE
GREETING
FAX FROM
PROFESSOR
NAKAMURA
.....

EXCUSE
ME
.....

DON'T
TOUCH
ME
!!

UM
.....

THIS IS
REALLY
STUPID
.....



I SHOULD HAVE THROWN

THIS KIND OF THING AWAY SINCE THE BEGINNING



T...THEN YOU ARE...

YES. I SET THE FIRE EXACTLY THE SAME WAY AS THIS DETECTIVE HAS EXPLAINED.



HOW DID YOU KNOW IT'S ME ?

BECAUSE WHEN WE GOT HERE AND SOMEONE SUGGESTED TO CALL MS.ASAMI, YOU SAID THAT THE ROOM MIGHT BE GONE ALREADY.



I SEE. I SHOULD NOT HAVE SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT IF I WERE NOT THE PERSON WHO SET THE FIRE

HOW COME YOU HAVE TO DO THIS TO ASAMI ?

BECAUSE I WANT HER TO LOOK AT ME AS A HERO

HUH ?

WHO RISKS HIS LIFE TO SAVE HER LIFE FROM FIRE

LAST MONTH, SHE REFUSED TO BE MY GIRLFRIEND. I WAS REALLY SHOCKED BECAUSE NO GIRL HAD REFUSED ME BEFORE.

I INTENDED TO SET A SMALL FIRE. I HOPE IT WOULD BE EASY TO PUT OUT. I DIDN'T THINK THE FIRE WOULD SPREAD THAT FAST. DAMN IT !!



IT'S REALLY YOU



JUST WANT TO WIN MY HEART, YOU DID ALL THIS ?

A... ASAMI ?



I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE POLICE.

SA WA I



IF OUR HEARTS DON'T WANT TO ACCEPT IT

THERE IS NO WAY TO FORCE OUR HEARTS TO OPEN



RIGHT

THE GIRL LIKE YOU, JUST OPEN YOUR MOUTH, EVERY MAN IS WILLING TO BE YOUR SLAVE.



WHO TOLD YOU THAT?

YOU DIDN'T KNOW ME WELL



PREVIOUSLY, I ALSO ...



I ...

.....



WHAT ?!
SHINICHI
REJECTED
YOU
!?



YES !
I ASKED HIM TO BE
MY BOYFRIEND, BUT
HE INSTANTLY
REJECTED ME !!

BUT THE
RUMOR
WAS DIF-
FERENT



ACTUALLY,
I STARTED
THAT
RUMOR
!!

I WANTED HIM
TO GET BACK TO
ME BECAUSE
HE WAS MY
FIRST LOVE.



BUT,
IT LOOKED
LIKE HE
DIDN'T CARE
AT ALL
.....

UM
...

MAY I ASK YOU
SOMETHING
?

WHY
WERE YOU
INTERESTED
IN HIM ?
WHAT DID
YOU SEE
IN HIM?

WELL
...



I WAS NOT
REALLY
INTERESTED IN
HIM AT THE
BEGINNING

I LOOKED AT HIM AS AN
OUTSTANDING NEW
MEMBER OF THE
SOCCER CLUB, WHO WAS
GOOD ENOUGH TO BE
A REAL PLAYER
RIGHT
AWAY.

ONE DAY, I BAKED A LEMON PIE FOR
MY FRIENDS IN THE TENNIS CLUB. I
ALSO GAVE SOME TO THE SOCCER
CLUB. EVERYONE SAID THAT THE PIE
WAS VERY DELICIOUS
EXCEPT HIM.



WHO SAID THIS IS DELICIOUS? IT'S NOT



SHINICHI ALWAYS HAS DIFFERENT TASTE FROM THE OTHERS !!

NO NO THE PIE WAS REALLY BAD AT THAT TIME.

I ASKED MY FRIENDS AGAIN, THIS TIME THEY TOLD ME HONESTLY THAT THE PIE WAS BAD.



I FELT VERY ASHAMED. SO, I BAKED A LEMON PIE EVERY DAY UNTIL HE SAID IT'S GOOD. BUT, IT'S ALREADY 3 MONTHS LATER.

I HAD NO IDEA THAT I ALREADY BECAME THE MANAGER OF THE SOCCOR CLUB. MAYBE BECAUSE I HAD ONLY LEMON PIE IN MY HEAD.



UNLIKE SOMEONE WHO CAN BAKE A GOOD LEMON PIE THE FIRST TIME SHE TRIED!

HUH?



DID YOU HAVE ANY IDEA THAT I TRIED TO TEACH YOU FALSELY?

BECAUSE I WANTED TO EMBARRASS YOU.....

WHY DID YOU TRY TO DO THAT?



DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT HE REPLIED AFTER I TOLD HIM MY FEELING?

AH... AH AH



SHUT UP! I WANT TO KNOW !!

OOPS !!



HE SOFTLY TOLD ME THAT

I ALREADY
HAVE A GIRL I
LIKE. WE'VE
KNOWN EACH
OTHER SINCE
WE WERE
LITTLE KIDS.

SHE IS STRONG,
STUBBORN, BUT
GENTLE AND
SENSITIVE.

SHE HAS
EVERYTHING
IN HER
.....

HOW'S
THAT
?

THAT'S YOU,
RAN !!!

OOPS
...

IS THERE
SUCH GIRL
?

UM
.....

HO
HO
...