

FILE.4

SUSPECT BEHAVIORS



Scanned by John
Edited by Jane
<http://www.j-a-n-e.com/gosho>



That's right. This backyard is really big, but there is no footprint at all except ours. What should we do next then?

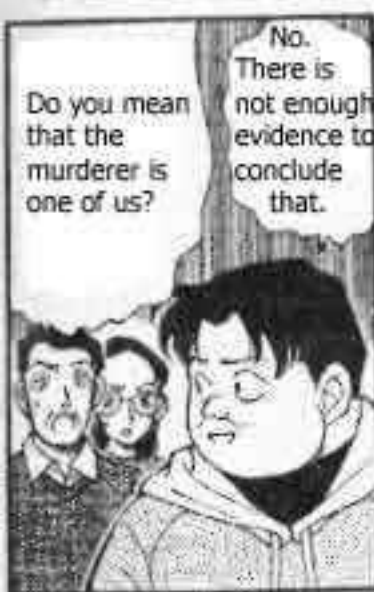
How come Mr. Hamano

was murdered?

We can't tell the reason yet

What we can tell is that he died because he was strangled.

Someone used a small string to strangle him. But somehow, his body was brought here unnoticed.





That's really possible because there is a strange message left on the monitor next to Mr. Nishiyama's body, right?



Does it mean that the murderer is watching us right now and aiming for our lives as well?



That's not funny.

Huh?



Ms. Tanaka?

I'm leaving !!!



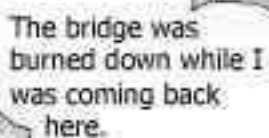
I'm not going to stay here while the murderer is still hiding around here.

You can't leave here.

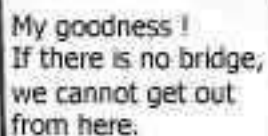




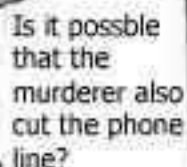
Why?



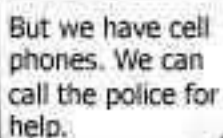
The bridge was burned down while I was coming back here.



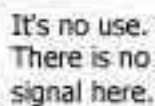
My goodness !
If there is no bridge,
we cannot get out
from here.



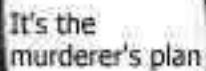
Is it possible
that the
murderer also
cut the phone
line?



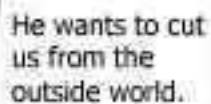
But we have cell
phones. We can
call the police for
help.



It's no use.
There is no
signal here.



It's the
murderer's plan



He wants to cut
us from the
outside world.



Whhhhh



What ?!?



What? We know the true identity of Shadow Manipulator?

Is that true, inspector Magure?

Yes, but not the true identity. We just know that Shadow Manipulator is one of the people who is attending the Magic Lovers Club meeting party at the resort house right now.

Then, if we check the log-on ID, we should know who he is.

We already checked, but he is an outside person.

Outside person?

Yes. Actually, that person has nothing to do with Magic Lovers Club and he has not used computer for a while.

Someone at the resort house has used this person's log-on ID and password to communicate in the name of "Shadow Manipulator"

Then, we are going nowhere.

Yes, but there is one more problem.

What do you mean?

There is another mysterious person

who is also at the resort house right now.

This mysterious person has also used suspect user ID to communicate.

Jane - Now we know that there are two suspects. One is "Shadow Manipulator", but who is the other? Hint: He is the famous thief.



Tik, tik, ...



It's my fault.

Huh?

I picked Mr. Hamano to be the games lead.

If I hadn't picked Mr. Hamano, he would not have kept himself alone in the room and he would not have been killed.

It's because of me.

Sonoko

Don't be too serious.



Huh?

At that time, your eyes were closed and what you did was just writing down the symbols on the papers.



It's about fate. It's also similar to "Wheel of Fortune" or a dart board. No one knows what the dart would hit to.

It's the same as your case.



You were just assisting Mr. Hamano to perform his magic. There was nothing to be worried about, right?

That's true.



Magic

assistant ?



But, is it good that we just stay here and wait for the outside help?


It looks like that.



After the bridge was already burned down, Uncle Kogoro told me from another side




that he would bring help from the police as soon as possible and told me to come and wait here.



So, the police will come here by tomorrow morning.

It's good to hear that.



But, how come Mr. Hamano and Mr. Nishiyama were murdered?

If the murderer is really Shadow Manipulator, it could be because of that chat.


Chat?



"Chat" is a kind of communications that allows computer users who are on line and log on at the same time to talk or exchange opinions about certain topics.


Although we call it a conversation, it's actually exchanging text messages over monitor screens.

I see.



But, how could "chat" be the cause of this murder?


It's about what I told you before that they once had a dispute about a magician.



Have you heard of "Furui Fuden", the veteran magician who was honored to be "The King of Evasion of Japan"?


Um...

Was he the person who died during performing a show last month?




That's right. While we were chatting about that...

Suddenly, Shadow Manipulator said something strange.



That great magician died ...

because of you all ...



What did it mean?

In one chat about half year ago, there was a talk about evasion magic show that no one has performed this kind of show recently.

Then, the accident happened, but Shadow Manipulator blamed us that our chat caused that.

That's really silly.


I was worried, so Mr.Nishiyama and I tried to check the chat records. However, Furui was not one of the people who participated in the chat half year ago. It's possible that the registered person is not the same as the log-on person. It's also possible that someone printed out the chat and and show it to him. (Furui - Jane)

So, Mr.Nishiyama and I thought about setting up this meeting party and inviting only the people who participated in the chat half year ago to his party. This is the fastest way to verify everything.

I see.


The strange thing is that Shadow Manipulator just joined Magic Lovers Club not long ago. How could he know about the chat happened half year ago?

That's why I also invited Shadow Manipulator so that we can check with him and clear up what he might misunderstand.




Shadow Manipulator always said that he could fly or become invisible.

...




Um...
If the murderer were really Shadow Manipulator,

it would mean that he has just made the impossible murder become possible.




Is it possible that ...



He has just performed the bloody magic


right in front of us ...



I'm freezing. I like to go back to my room and put on more cloth.



Huutt shuu



I like to go with you, too. I like to get this kid a sweater.

I like to go with you as well. It's safer if more people go together.



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It's silly

that we have to watch out even going into our rooms.



No. It's too heavy.

Just stay still.

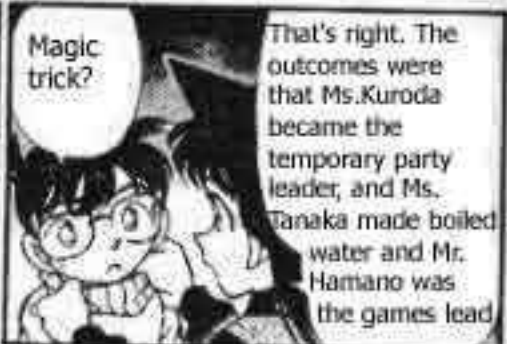


How could Sonoko become the magic assistant?

I heard that Mr. Hamano used a magic trick to assign duties to everyone.

Magic trick?

That's right. The outcomes were that Ms. Kuroda became the temporary party leader, and Ms. Tanaka made boiled water and Mr. Hamano was the games lead



Then, Mr. Hamano had to keep himself in the room because he had to be the games lead, right?

Yes. He had to stay alone in the room to think about games to play.

What were other people doing at that time?

Someone went to bring wine from the wine celler, someone was preparing the dinner table, boiling water; everyone went to do their duties.

Hurry up, Ran! We don't know if Shadow Manipulator is still hiding around.

Coming



Is
Shadow
Manipu-
lator

really the
criminal?

No one
has seen
him or
knows
how he
looks like.

The criminal
has trapped
us here ...

He must
have plans
to do
something
more.

When the
incident
happened,
everyone's
excuses
also very
suspicious

I will not allow
anything else
to happen ...

especially,
another
murder ...

Huh?



Whaaaat
is that?

Arrr...
Arrow !!!



My
good-
ness !

Who is it?
Come on
out !!!

Ak...

NO !

Come
back !

!!



Grrrr...

That's Sonoko's voice !!!



So no ko !

Where's Sonoko?

She is with Ms. Kuroda in the bathroom.



what happened?

The mirror...



We heard something breaking in the bathroom. It must be the mirror. Then, Sonoko went to check it out.

in the bathroom





Another arrow on the mirror !?!



It's from that window.



I don't know who you are and where you are from. Don't hide yourself from us. Come on out !!!

Look ! There are a lot of footprints in the woods.

Someone must be really hiding around here.



Watch out for the deep snow



Ms. Tanaka?



Are you alright?

How come?

How come we have to be in this situation?



How come?

Huh?



Or...

That is ...

Crossbow
!!!

What?

That's
right.

We can be
sure now
that the
criminal is
not one of
us.

It's good
that he left
this cross-
bow here so
that he could
not use it to
attack
anyone else



Huh?



Grrrrrr

