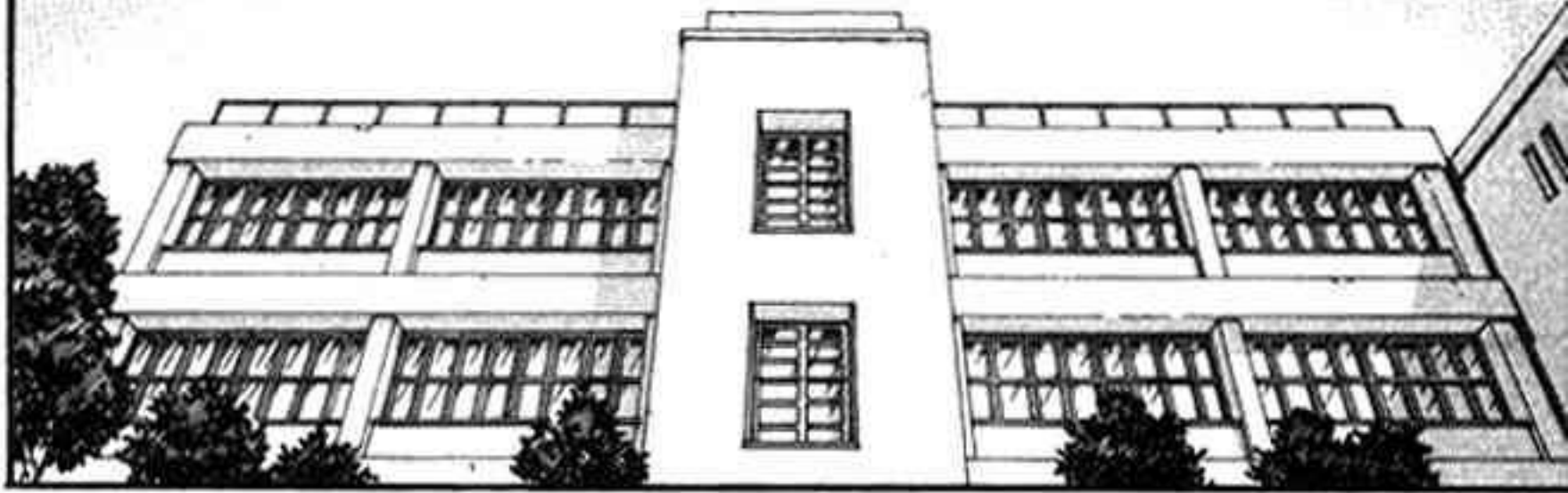


FILE 8: GENTA'S MISFORTUNE



LUNCH TIME!!



YES!

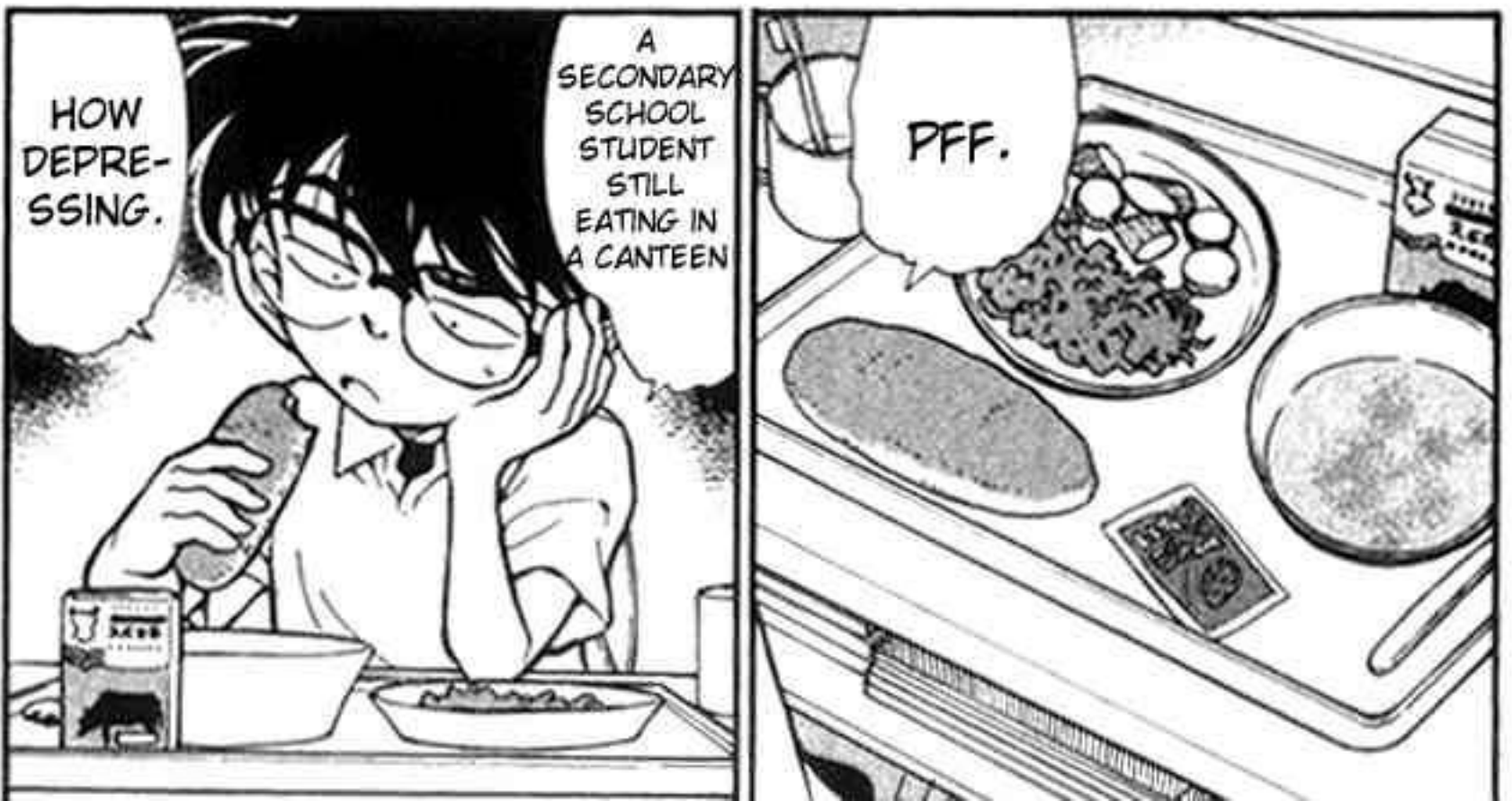
GOOD, YOU KIDS BEHAVE WELL AND LEAVE NOTHING ON YOUR PLATE!

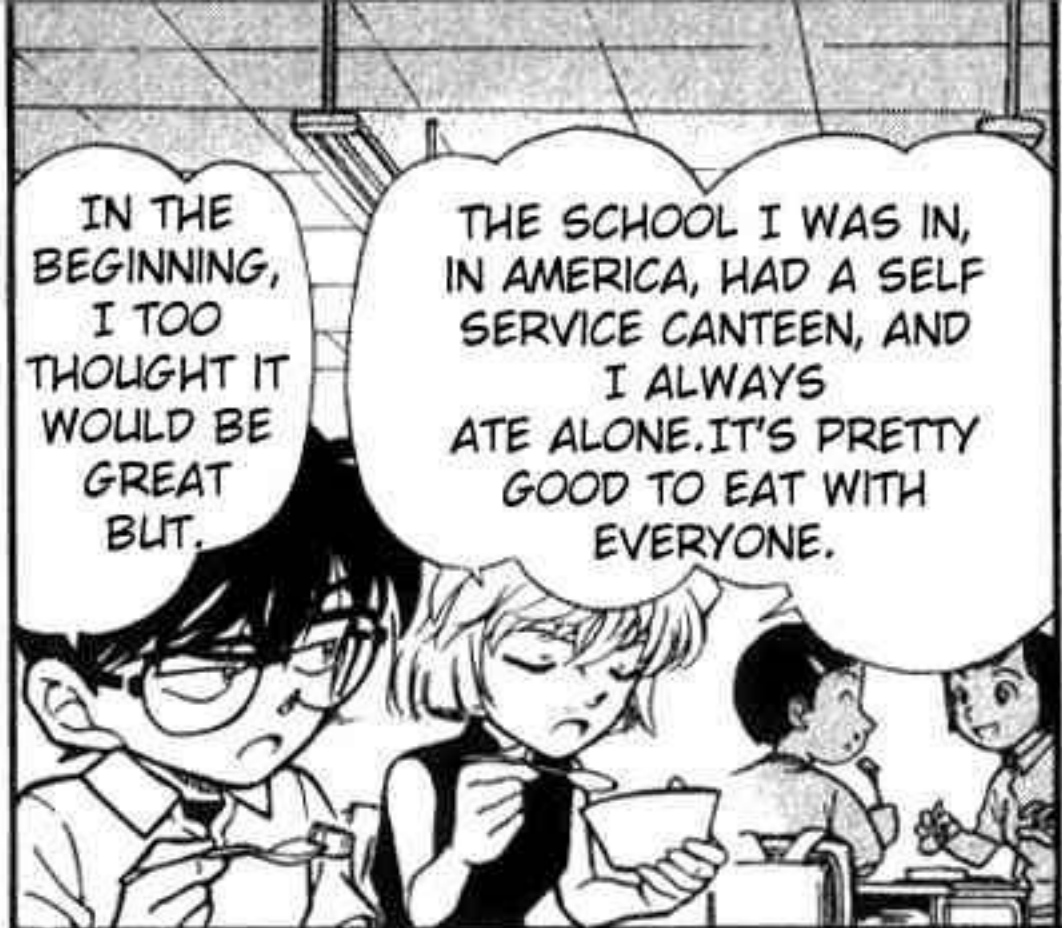


HOW DEPRESSING.

A SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENT STILL EATING IN A CANTEEN

PFF.





IN THE BEGINNING, I TOO THOUGHT IT WOULD BE GREAT BUT.

THE SCHOOL I WAS IN, IN AMERICA, HAD A SELF SERVICE CANTEEN, AND I ALWAYS ATE ALONE. IT'S PRETTY GOOD TO EAT WITH EVERYONE.



HEIN ?

WELL, I FIND THIS GREAT.



YES, THERE IS ALWAYS SOMEONE LIKE HIM, SAVING SOMETHING HE DOESN'T LIKE FOR THE END.

NO! I LEFT THEM ON THE SIDE SO I CAN FINISH THEM LATER WITH ONE BITE!

OH! MITSUHIKO YOU'RE LEAVING YOUR CARROTS AGAIN?



HERE IT IS EASY TO GUESS WHO WILL WIN.

AND ONE IMBECILE ALWAYS PREPARES TO RACE, TO SEE WHO CAN EAT THE FASTEST



TAP

IT WASN'T GENTA?



HEIN?

YEAH

YAHOO!!! I WON!!!!



LMM,
SURE.



CAN I GO
REST
IN THE
NURSE'S
OFFICE?

SENSEI,
I DON'T
FEEL WELL.



YOUR
KIDDING?
A VORA-
CIOUS
PERSON
LIKE
HIM.

YOU THINK
MAYBE HE
IS ON A
DIET?

THIS IS BAD!!
GENTA ATE
NOTHING!!



EVEN IF HE
IS BEING
BULLIED,
IT WOULD
BE SAFER
IF HE
WENT
HOME
WITH US
RIGHT?

COME ON
GENTA IS NOT
THE KIND
WHO WILL
LET ANYONE
BULLY HIM.

MAYBE
SOMEONE
IS BULLYING
HIM.



YEAH, AND
AFTER SCHOOL
HE DOESN'T
EVEN WAIT
FOR US AND
GOES HOME
BY HIMSELF.

MURMUR
COME TO THINK
OF IT, IT HAS BEEN
TWO OR THREE
DAYS SINCE HE
PLAYED WITH US



MAYBE IT IS
A FAMILY
PROBLEM.?



BUT STILL.

IMAGINE IF HIS PARENTS DECIDE TO DIVORCE, I DON'T SEE ANYWAY WE CAN HELP HIM.



SOMEONE SICK IN HIS HOUSE, OR MAYBE HIS PARENTS ARE CONSTANTLY QUARRELING.

HEIN?



IT JUST HAPPENED THAT I WENT TO GENTA'S HOUSE YESTERDAY.

HIS PARENTS LOVE EACH OTHER, AND THEY WORK IN THEIR RESTAURANT TOGETHER!



IT'S NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL!

SENSEI.



HIS MOM TOLD ME THAT, WHEN HE COMES BACK TO HIS HOUSE HE WOULD HIDE UNDER HIS BED TREMBLING WITH FEAR.

ONE THING FOR SURE: SOMETHING IS MAKING HIM SCARED.



SURE.

IF HE TELLS YOU SOMETHING, PLEASE TELL ME!

MAYBE HE WILL TELL YOU GUYS!



WHEN I ASK HIM HE DIDN'T TELL ME. WRONG HE ALWAYS ANSWERS: "NOTHING"

WHAT'S MAKING HIM SCARED.





BY A
KILLER
!!!

I AM
BEING
FOLLOWED
!!!

KILLER?!

A.

HEY,
HAIBA-
RA!

YEAH, ME
OR OTHER
GIRLS
MAYBE,
BUT NOT
YOU.

HAHAHAHA

SINCE
WHEN DID
KILLERS
START
PICKING ON
PRESCHOOL
KIDS?!

STOP IT
GENTA!

WAIT.

I'M STUPID!
I SHOULD
HAVE KEPT
MY MOUTH
SHUT.





IT WAS DARK SO I COULDN'T SEE WHO IT WAS. BUT WHEN I STOPPED, HE STOPPED. WHEN I STARTED WALKING AGAIN, HE STARTED WALKING AS WELL.

I WAS WALKING DOWN A STREET WHEN I HEARD SOME FOOTSTEPS.



EXPLAIN IT TO US MORE!

WE WON'T LAUGH, PROMISE!



IT'S NOT A COINCIDENCE !!!

MUST BE A COINCIDENCE!



NO, IT WAS A KILLER!! I WAS PUSHED OFF A BRIDGE AND ONE DAY A CAR, SET ON FIRE CAME TOWARDS ME.

IT MUST'VE BE ECHO OF YOUR OWN FOOTSTEPS.



HE WANTS ME.

BECAUSE.



A BIG BOLT.

HEIN ?

DONG



VLAN

YOU SHOULD NOW
GO TO A TEMPLE
AND START
PRAYING.

YOU ARE
JUST
HAVING A
BAD DAY
THAT
ALL!

THE
SUPPORT
MUST HAVE
GOTTEN
RUSTY AND
FALLEN BY
ILL LUCK.

THE
SHOP'S
SIGN.

AAH.

HEIN?

NO, IT WASN'T
BY LUCK OR A
ILL DAY.





LOOK HERE!

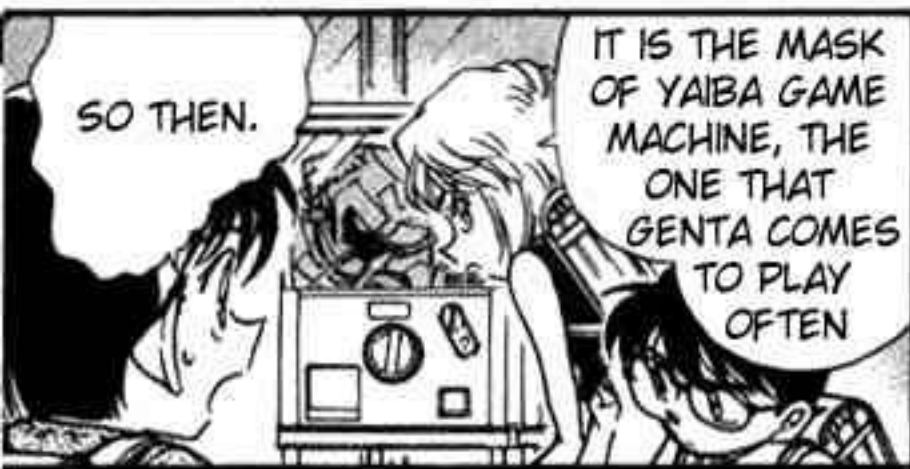
NO. THE TARGET WAS PRECISE.

SO ANYONE WHO COMES ACROSS HERE IS IN DANGER.



THIS IS MADE SO THAT THE SUPPORT WON'T BREAK.

LOOK, YOU CAN SEE THAT THE CABLE WAS CUT INTENTIONALLY.



SO THEN.

IT IS THE MASK OF YAIBA GAME MACHINE, THE ONE THAT GENTA COMES TO PLAY OFTEN



NO DOUBT.

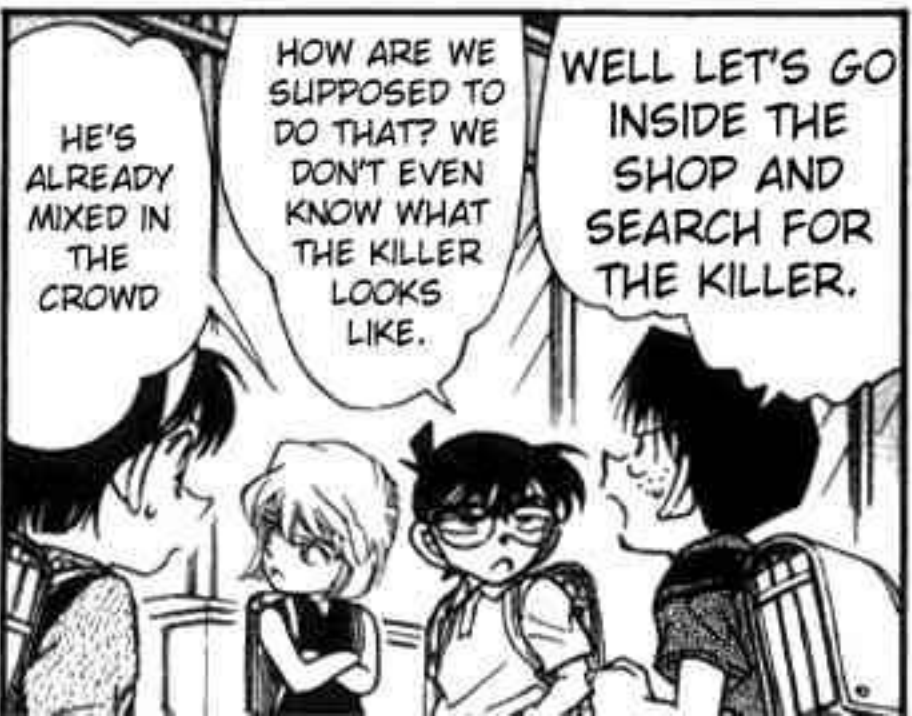
EXACTLY. SOMEONE INDEED WANTS GENTA'S LIFE.



MURMUR MURMUR

WE MUST KNOW WHY YOU ARE A TARGET!

GENTA TELL US FROM THE BEGINNING,



HE'S ALREADY MIXED IN THE CROWD

HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO THAT? WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THE KILLER LOOKS LIKE.

WELL LET'S GO INSIDE THE SHOP AND SEARCH FOR THE KILLER.



YES. THE ONE THAT THE POLICE ARE NOW SEARCHING FOR.

THE ONE WHO ATTACKS OLD AND YOUNG WOMEN, AND USES FORCE TO TAKE THEIR PURSE?



YOU SAW THE PURSE-SNATCHER?



YES, LIKE ONE WEEK LATER. BUT HE WASN'T A WANTED BURGLAR YET. AND I FORGOT WHERE I SAW HIM.

DID YOU TELL THE POLICE YET?



THAT'S WHERE I SAW HIM IN THE CROWD.

WELL FIVE DAYS AGO, THERE WAS A CRIME AND I WENT THERE TO SEE.



HE SEES YOU GUYS TOGETHER?

BUT THERE IS A GUY WHO SAW THE THEIF AT THE SAME TIME AS ME. AND I KNOW WHERE HE IS!

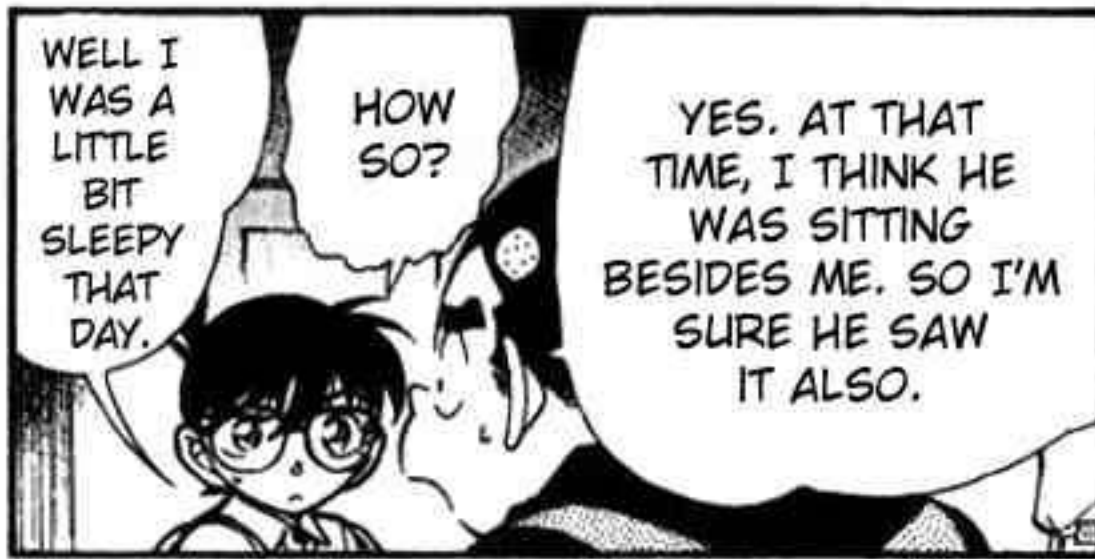


WELL I TOOK HIS HAND AND TOOK HIM TO A POLICEMAN! AND I SAID: "HE KNOWS WHERE I SAW THE THIEF!".

AND SO?



THIS GOLDEN HAIR TYPE GUY WHO WAS BESIDE ME WHEN I SAW THE THIEF!!



WELL I WAS A LITTLE BIT SLEEPY THAT DAY.

HOW SO?

YES. AT THAT TIME, I THINK HE WAS SITTING BESIDES ME. SO I'M SURE HE SAW IT ALSO.



YOU SURE THAT THIS GUY SAW THE THIEF AT THE SAME TIME AS YOU?

BUT, HE SAID THAT HE DIDN'T KNOW ME AND KNEW NOTHING ABOUT THE THIEF.



ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T REALLY REMEMBER IT WHERE IT WAS?

I DON'T REALLY KNOW MUCH.



AND THE THIEF?

I DID NOT SEE HIM COMING TO SIT BESIDES ME.



I... I RECEIVED A PHONE CALL.

REALLY. WHY DON'T YOU TELL THE POLICE THAT YOU FEEL MENACED.

AFTER ALL THE DETAILS YOU GAVE US, THERE IS A GOOD REASON YOU HAVE BEEN TARGETED.



IN THE TRAIN.?

A PLACE WHERE WE CAN SIT AND CAN SLEEP. MAYBE A THEATER.?

YES



"YOU, YOUR FAMILY AND EVERYBODY THAT YOU KNOW"!!

"IF YOU TELL ANYONE THAT YOU SAW ME, I WILL KILL YOU"!!



YES. IF THE POLICE AGREE TO HELP YOU. THEN GOD ONLY KNOWS WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT

BLUMMER. IF HE CALLED YOU, THAT MEANS HE KNOWS WHERE YOU LIVE AS WELL



THAT'S WHY YOU DIDN'T TALK TO US.

YES.



HEIN?

HE MIGHT BE SPYING ON US RIGHT NOW.



AH.



LMM. HE WAS ALSO WEARING A WEIRD T-SHIRT. BLACK WITH A WHITE PICTURE

SO THE THIEF IS LEFT-HANDED.



I TOLD THE OFFICER: HE WAS HOLDING HIS CIGARETTE WITH HIS LEFT HAND!



AND, DO YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING ELSE ABOUT THE THIEF



BUT HIS FACE, IT DOESN'T LOOK THE SAME

HEIN?

SO IT WAS YOU? YOU WANTED GENTA'S LIFE?!

LIKE THAT!! THE SAME T-SHIRT AS HIM!!

AH !!!



202!!

AND THE NUMBER OF THE T-SHIRT WASN'T 1999 BUT.



GOOD! LET'S GO TAKE A LOOK AT THIS SHOP.

HEIN?
IN A SHOP CALLED "BONES"

SAY. WHERE DID YOU BUY THIS T-SHIRT.



...

AA

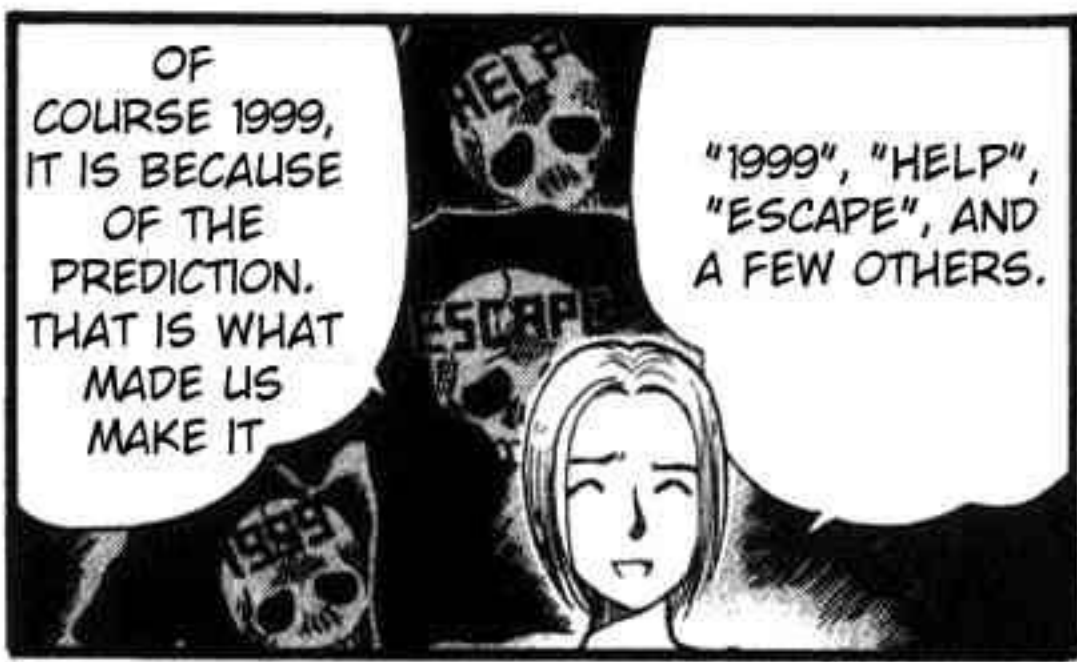


WHAT KIND OF MODELS DO YOU HAVE?

WE HAVE A LOT OF DIFFERENT MODELS, BUT "202" ... I DON'T REMEMBER THAT ONE.



AH! YES, WE DO SELL THESE KINDS OF T-SHIRT IN OUR SHOP.



OF COURSE 1999, IT IS BECAUSE OF THE PREDICTION. THAT IS WHAT MADE US MAKE IT

"1999", "HELP", "ESCAPE", AND A FEW OTHERS.



WELL LET'S GO



WELL YOU KNOW, WE STOPPED SELLING THEM AFTER THE YEAR 2000. AND I CAN'T REMEMBER ALL THE CLIENTS

YOU DON'T REMEMBER ANYONE STRANGE WHO BOUGHT ONE OF YOUR T-SHIRTS.



OF COURSE, YOU WERE SLEEPY BECAUSE YOU ATE TOO MUCH!

BUT HIM, HE ATE NOTHING.

THEN MAYBE IN A RESTAURANT?

NO. IN NEITHER PLACE ARE YOU ALLOWED TO SMOKE..

YOU SURE THAT IT WASN'T IN A THEATER OR IN A TRAIN?

IT WOULD BE A LOT SIMPLER IF YOU REMEMBERED WHERE YOU SAW THE THIEF.

HOW CAN YOU REMEMBER ALL THIS AND FORGET THE PLACE?

I DID NOT LET HIM OUT OF MY SIGHT, AND HE SPEND HIS TIME READING A NEWSPAPER AND SMOKING.

NO HE DID NOT EVEN SEE ME.

DID HE TELL YOU SOMETHING?

BUT IT'S WEIRD. IN PUBLIC, WHEN YOU FEEL YOU'RE BEING WATCHED, YOU GET NERVOUS RIGHT

I DON'T KNOW!

THATS IT.

OF COURSE !!





A LEFT-
HANDED
PERSON.



THE T-SHIRT
WITH 202.



AND HE WASN'T
NERVOUS EVEN IF
YOU LOOKED AT HIM
UP CLOSE.



I GOT
IT GENTA...



THAT
THIEF

I KNOW WHERE
YOU SAW...