



KA,  
KAORU!?



HUH?

SHE STILL HAS A PULSE. IF WE QUICKLY GET HER OUT OF THE WATER AND TO A HOSPITAL SHE MAY LIVE.

..DID THIS HAPPEN!?

H-HOW ON EARTH..

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HURRY !!











A RAINCOAT, SOME RAGGEDY GLOVES, AN EMPTY BOTTLE FOR EYE DROPS, AND A HANDKERCHIEF-

EH?

.. THAT THING WAS LYING OUTSIDE!



WHEN I OPENED THE DOOR ..

AND THERE WAS BLOOD LEADING TO THE FRONT DOOR .



IF THE INSIDE OF THIS BOTTLE WAS ANESTHETIC, THEN THE CRIMINAL MAY HAVE USED IT TO PUT THE VICTIM TO SLEEP BEFORE SLITTING HER THROAT AND DROPPING IT ON THE HANDKERCHIEF..

THERE'S A LITTLE LIPSTICK ON THE HANDKERCHIEF..



THE RAINCOAT AND GLOVES ARE BLOODY. IT'S POSITIVE THAT THE MURDERER WAS WEARING THIS AT THE TIME OF THE CRIME..

IT WAS NEXT TO THE DOOR, SO WE HAD IT MOVED INSIDE BEFORE THE AMBULANCE CAME..



A STALKER !

BUT, WHO'D DO SUCH A HORRIBLE THING TO MS. KAORU?



THERE WAS ALWAYS A STRANGE LETTER LEFT IN THE FRONT ALONG WITH THE TRICK..

BUT KAORU'S CASE WASN'T MERELY A "TRICK"..



IT'S A TRICK OF RINGING THE FRONT DOOR-BELL THEN RUNNING AWAY..

DING-DONG?

IT'S THE STALKER WHO ALWAYS DID THE "DING-DONG" TRICK TO ANNOY KAORU!



EVERY TIME IT'S SOMETHING WORSE, MORE STRANGE NOTES TYPED IN A WORD PROCESSOR..!!

"I'LL COME.. EVEN IF I DIE."

"I'LL COME AGAIN"..."  
"I'LL COME NEXT TIME.."



SINCE THERE WERE LOTS OF PEOPLE, WE WEREN'T THAT AFRAID AND LEFT IT OPEN..

IT WAS OPEN!

AT THE TIME HOW WAS THE DOOR?



OH..! SO THAT'S WHY MS. KAORU TRIED TO HIT ME WHEN I RUNG THE BELL.



SO THE STALKER NOTICED THE DOOR WAS OPEN AND WENT INSIDE TO MEET MS. KAORU, WHO HAD JUST COME OUT OF A BATH. THEN THE CRIMINAL PUT HER TO SLEEP WITH MEDICINE AND SLIT HER THROAT WITH THE WEAPON..



CAREFUL?

I DON'T THINK ANYONE SAW THAT PERSON, 'CAUSE THE CRIMINAL'S A CAREFUL PERSON..



YES!

OKAY TAKAGI! START ASKING PEOPLE AROUND THE APARTMENT! SINCE IT ISN'T RAINING, BUT THE CRIMINAL WAS WEARING A RAINCOAT, SOMEONE IS BOUND TO HAVE REMEMBERED SEEING HIM!



I, I GUESS..

THAT MEANS, THE CRIMINAL TRIED TO RUN AWAY WITHOUT STEPPING ON BLOOD. RIGHT?



BUT WHEN I WENT, THERE WAS BLOOD ALL OVER THE PLACE, AND NOT ONE DROP WAS STEPPED ON!

BECAUSE NORMALLY IF YOU WERE WEARING A BLOODY RAIN-COAT, YOU'D STEP ON THE BLOOD THAT DRIPPED.



IN, INSPECTOR..

BUT THAT'S STRANGE, SINCE THE CRIMINAL WAS A CAREFUL PERSON, WHY DIDN'T HE SEE THE SHOES AT THE FRONT AND NOTICE THERE WERE A LOT OF PEOPLE HERE?



YES, AND IF IT WAS SOMEONE KAORU KNEW..

..TO MAKE IT LOOK LIKE HE RAN OUTSIDE..

..MAYBE THE CRIMINAL HELD THE RAINCOAT IN HIS HAND, WALKED WHILE LETTING THE BLOOD DRIP ON THE FLOOR, THEN JUST THREW THE COAT OUTSIDE?



- THE CRIMINAL COULD BE ONE OF US..



HEY, HEY! THEN THE CRIMINAL IS -

THEY CAN JUST CALL KAORU OUT OF THE BATHROOM. WHEN SHE COMES OUT NOT KNOWING ANYTHING, PUTTING HER TO SLEEP WOULDN'T BE DIFFICULT..





TE-TERUMI!

ISN'T THAT RIGHT? INSPECTOR..



WE WAITED IN FRONT OF THE BATHROOM WHILE YOU WERE CHANGING, AND WE WENT BACK TO THE BATHROOM TOGETHER.

EVEN SO, YOU'RE NOT THE MURDERER, MS. YOKO..



THAT'S TRUE.. THE ROOM WE WENT IN TO CHANGE, WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE BATHROOM KAORU WAS USING AND THE LIVING ROOM! IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO SECRETLY KILL HER.

YUKI ...



YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT! SOMEONE SO FRIENDLY WITH MS. KAORU - THAT HE WOULD WALK TO THE BATHROOM WITH HER - COULDN'T HAVE KILLED HER!

THEN, I'M SAFE TOO. I WAS WITH THIS KID WHEN WE FOUND KAORU.



ISN'T THERE SOMETHING YOU HAVE TO FIND, FIRST?

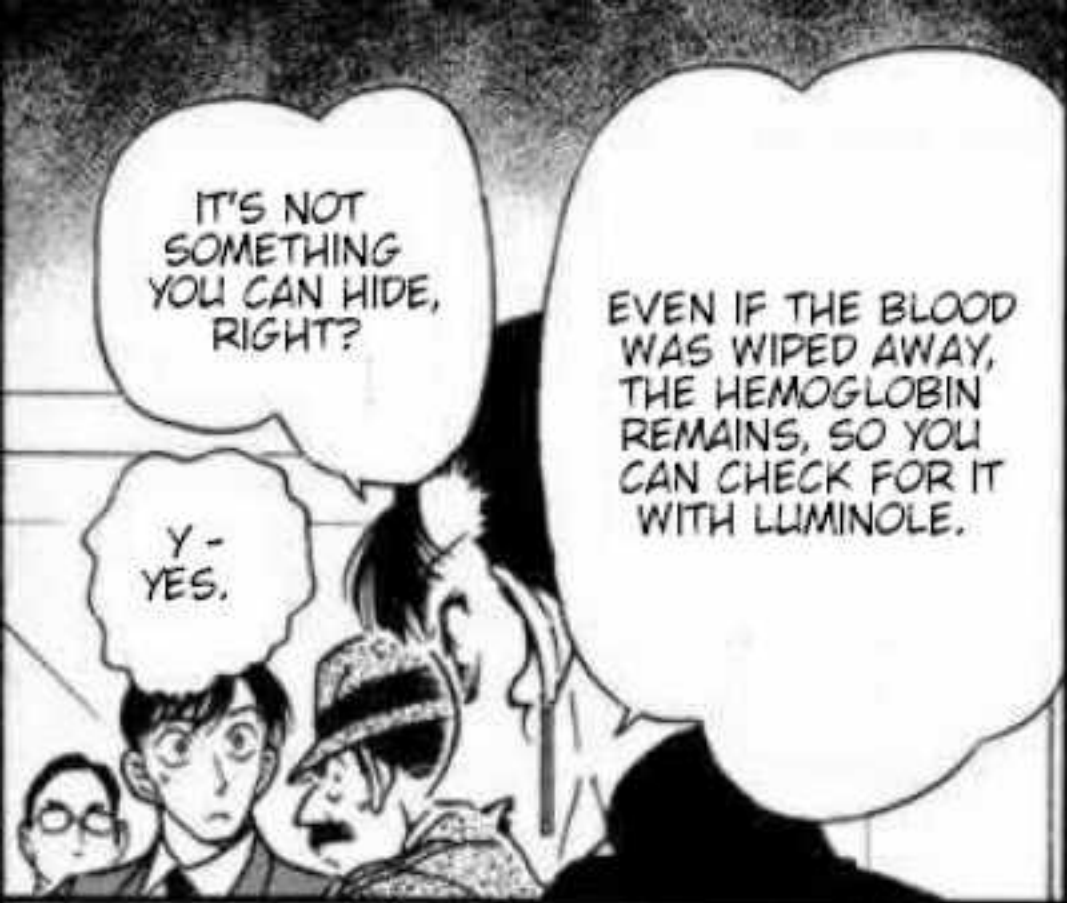
WELL, LET'S TALK TO EVERYONE INDIVIDUALLY FIRST..



SO YOU COULD'VE ATTACKED HER AT THAT TIME ...

AH, YEAH..

HUH? YOU WALKED TO THE BATHROOM WITH HER?



IT'S NOT SOMETHING YOU CAN HIDE, RIGHT?

EVEN IF THE BLOOD WAS WIPED AWAY, THE HEMOGLOBIN REMAINS, SO YOU CAN CHECK FOR IT WITH LUMINOLE.

Y-YES.



THE SHARP THING USED TO SLIT KAORU'S THROAT, IF FOUND IN ONE OF OUR BAGS OR IN THIS APARTMENT ROOM, THE CRIMINAL WAS HERE! IF NOT, THE CRIMINAL WAS FROM THE OUTSIDE! I DON'T THINK ANY CRIMINAL WOULD HIDE THE WEAPON IN THIS HOUSE.

THE WEAPON ...



I'M A LITTLE INTO MYSTERIES NOW, BECAUSE OF SOMEONE..

BUT YOU KNOW A LOT..



YES SIR !!

EVERYONE ELSE, LOOK HARD FOR THE WEAPON!!

OKAY, TAKAGI-CHECK MR. KENZAKI! THE POLICE WOMEN-CHECK THE WOMEN IN THIS ROOM!



OH, OKAY ...

I TOLD THE PEOPLE IN THE AMBULANCE TO CALL HERE IF HE DOES ANYTHING STRANGE..



DON'T WORRY!

THAT'S BAD...

BUT, DETECTIVE, IF MR. MAKUMA WAS THE CRIMINAL HE COULD'VE GOTTEN RID OF THE WEAPON..



YEAH, THE WOUND IN HER THROAT WAS QUITE DEEP. THE OPERATION IS STILL TAKING PLACE.

YOU ASKED, RIGHT?

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO MS. KAORU?



UM..

AH, OKAY..

NEXT, MS. YUKI, PLEASE!



ALL WE CAN DO IS LEAVE IT TO GOD..



BUT, WITH MAKUMA'S BEGGING, KAORU GOT THE PICK.

AT FIRST TERUMI WAS A CHOICE, TOO..



YEAH, AN ANNOYING JOURNALIST WHO ALWAYS FOLLOWED SAMONJI. BUT TO TAKE CARE OF HER FATHER, SHE QUIT AND CHANGED WITH KAORU.

SAY.. MS. YUKI WAS A REGULAR ON "DETECTIVE SAMONJI"?



BUT, KAORU JUST SAYS THAT AND REALLY CARES FOR HIM. "HE GAVE UP TOO SOON, HE LACKS COURAGE" IS WHAT SHE SAID.

OH ...



MR. MAKUMA ALSO WANTED TO BE A STAR, AND WAS AT THE SAME STUDIO AS US.. BUT HE EASILY GAVE UP HIS DREAM AND WENT TO BE KAORU'S MANAGER.

THEN MS. KAORU - SHE WAS CALLING MR. MAKUMA A DEPRESSING MAN, BUT..



WE EVEN CHECKED MR. KENZAKI'S NECKLACE JUST IN CASE, BUT THERE WERE NO LUMINOLE RESULTS.

AND MISS TERUMI'S EARRINGS ...

YES, MISS YUKI'S FAKE NAILS..

AND DID YOU ALSO CHECK THEIR ACCESSORIES?

YEAH! NOT FROM INSIDE THE ROOM NOR DOWN THE DRAIN PIPE.

AND UNTIL THE DETECTIVES GOT THERE, HE WAS SITTING ON THE CHAIR WITH HIS HEAD DOWN..

I HEARD THEY EVEN CHECKED HIS GLASSES, BUT NOTHING.

AND MR. MAKUMA AT THE HOSPITAL?



NO, IT ISN'T..

A CRIMINAL FROM OUT SIDE SEEMS MORE SUSPICIOUS..

HMMM... THEN WAS THE WEAPON BROUGHT OUT-SIDE BY THE CRIMINAL?

THE OTHER POLICEMEN ARE CHECKING AROUND THE APARTMENT JUST IN CASE, BUT NOTHING THAT COULD'VE BEEN THROWN OUT THE WINDOW HAD BLOOD!



THEN JUST SUDDENLY WALKING INSIDE, THEY COULD NOT HAVE DONE SUCH A CRIME..

IF THEY DIDN'T KNOW FROM THE BEGINNING THAT MS. KAORU WAS IN THE BATH..



AND IT SEEMS THE INSIDE OF HER DRAWERS WERE SLIGHTLY SCATTERED!

WHAT !?

THERE WAS A LISTENING DEVICE IN THE DOLL, APPARENTLY FROM A FAN!!



BUT IF THE CRIMINAL WAS FROM INSIDE, THERE SHOULD BE A WEAPON. WHY CAN'T IT BE FOUND!?

INSPECTOR!



IF THE CRIMINAL WAS A BIG FAN, THEY COULD'VE ATTACKED HER AND TAKEN SOMETHING AS A PRESENT FOR THEMSELVES..

THAT MEANS, THAT IF THE CRIMINAL HAD BEEN LISTENING, THEY'D KNOW THAT MS. KAORU WAS ENGAGED AND IN THE BATH..



AND THE DRAWER THAT GUY TALKED ABOUT..

THIS IS HER ROOM..



I'M ON IT!!

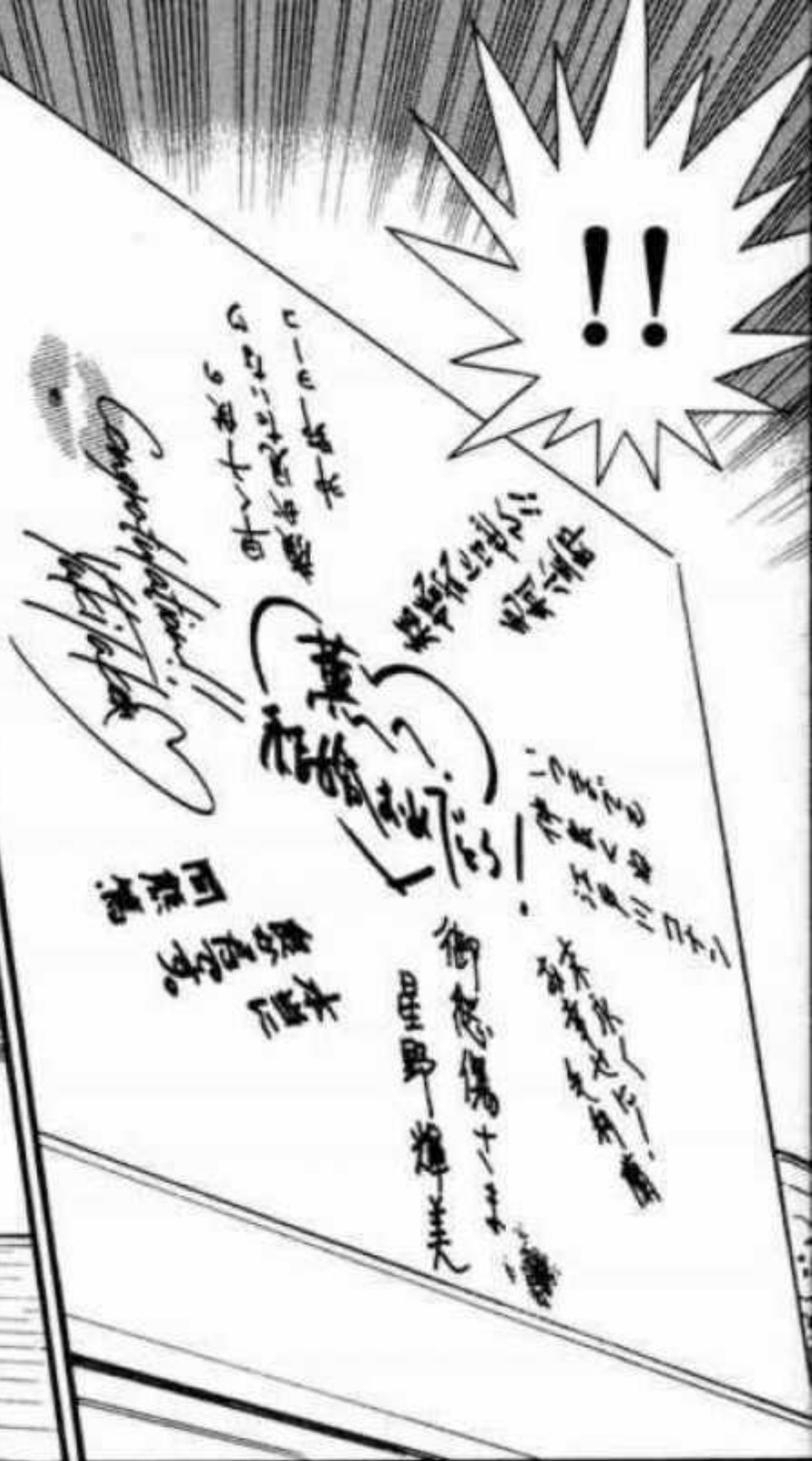
THEN CALL HER STUDIO IMMEDIATELY, AND FIND OUT IF THERE WERE ANY DANGEROUS FANS TO BE AWARE OF!





SO THAT'S WHY..

I SEE ..



I KNOW THE WEAPON THAT THE CRIMINAL USED!!



GOT RID OF IT!!

AND HOW THE CRIMINAL ...