

# DETECTIVE CONAN

Vol. 33 - File 08

## Clean Scent







HIT HER ONCE ON THE HEAD WITH THE VASE ...

MOST LIKELY THE CULPRIT HAD CARRIED THE VASE FROM THE FRONT HALL, LURKED BEHIND THE VICTIM, AND ...



THE MURDER WEAPON IS A VASE FILLED WITH WATER AND FLOWERS ...



THE MURDERED IS IDEZUKI EIKO, 46... SHE WAS A RESIDENT OF THIS CONDOMINIUM ...

RIGHT ...

CAUSING SKULL FRACTURE ...



THAT'S WHY SHE WAS IN THIS AUDIO ROOM ...

ALONG WITH THE MONEY I ALSO GOT HER A MOVIE VIDEO SHE WAS LOOKING FOR. SHE SAID SHE WANTS TO WATCH IT RIGHT AWAY ...



I... I WAS BORROWING MONEY FROM HER... SHE WAS HERE TODAY TO PICK IT UP...

SO? MR. MORITA HIDEO, WHAT WAS YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO HER? WHY WAS SHE HERE AT YOUR APARTMENT?



THE VCR SHE USED MUST HAVE BEEN THIS ONE ACCORDING TO THE REMOTE SHE WAS HOLDING IN HER OTHER HAND ...

THE TAPE SHE WAS WATCHING IS THE ONE SHE HELD IN HER LEFT HAND AND ...

MS. IDEZUKI WAS ON THE FLOOR, BLEEDING FROM HEAD... IS THAT IT?

WHEN I CAME INTO THIS ROOM AFTER I HEARD THE VASE BROKE ...

Y... YES ...

\* SAMURAI MOVIE

'THE PATH YOU MUST BE TAKING IS AS BEAUTIFUL AS FLOWERS, AND LIVE AS...'

I'M SURE IT STARTED LIKE THIS ...

IT BRINGS BACK MEMORIES ...

OH, 'SAKURA SAN-JURO!' \*

'STRONG AS A TRUNK!'

桜三郎

THAT LADY WAS PLAYING IT SO LOUD!

WE ALL HEARD THAT!

RIGHT?

HUH?





IT SEEMS CONAN HAS ALREADY FOUND THE WATCH ...

THE WINDUP WATCH HIS WIFE LOST THE DAY BEFORE SHE PASSED AWAY!



WE CAME HERE TO HELP MR. MORITA FIND HIS LOST ITEM!

W... WHY ARE YOU ALL HERE!?



Y... YEAH ...

RIGHT ?



SO MOURI ISN'T HERE ...

HMM ...



A... AT FIRST I ASKED MR. MOURI BUT HE REFUSED MY REQUEST... THEN MR. AGASA AND THE CHILDREN AT HIS OFFICE OFFERED TO GIVE ME A HAND ...

BUT WHY DID YOU ASK CHILDREN FOR A HELP ...?



N... NOTHING. WE WANTED TO CONFIRM ONE THING WITH HIM, THAT'S ALL ...



DID YOU NEED HIM FOR SOMETHING? HUH?



SHE WAS ATTACKED FROM BEHIND WHEN SHE GOT THE TAPE OUT OF THE VCR AFTER WATCHING IT ...



HMM... THE TAPE IS REWOUND TO THE BEGINNING, MEANING ...

IT'S TRUE!

D... DEFINITELY!

YOU SURE?

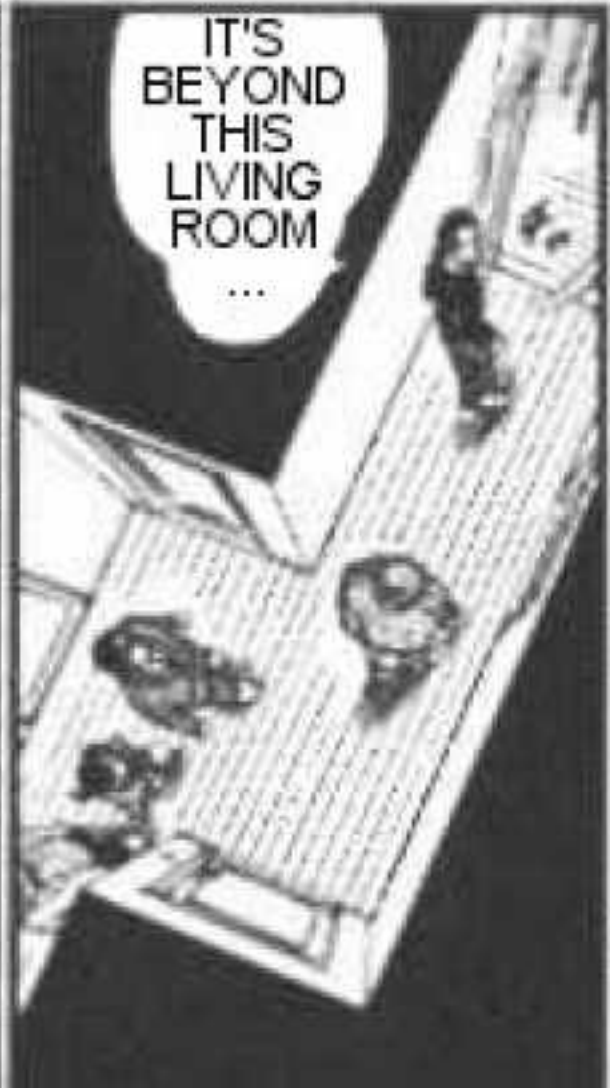
I... I THINK I WAS IN THE BATHROOM ...

MAY I ASK WHERE YOU WERE AT THE TIME...?

THE CULPRIT WAS AN OUTSIDER, THAT'S FOR SURE !!

THEN WE HEARD SOMEONE RUNNING AND SHUTTING THE FRONT DOOR!

WE HEARD THE VASE BREAK JUST WHEN CONAN FOUND THE WATCH! MISTER WAS WITH US IN THE BATHROOM!



HERE ...

IT'S BEYOND THIS LIVING ROOM ...

KITCHEN? WHERE IS IT?

NO, HE WENT ALONE TO THE KITCHEN TO PREPARE US SANDWICHES ...

SO MR. MORITA WAS WITH YOU AND THE CHILDREN THE WHOLE TIME?





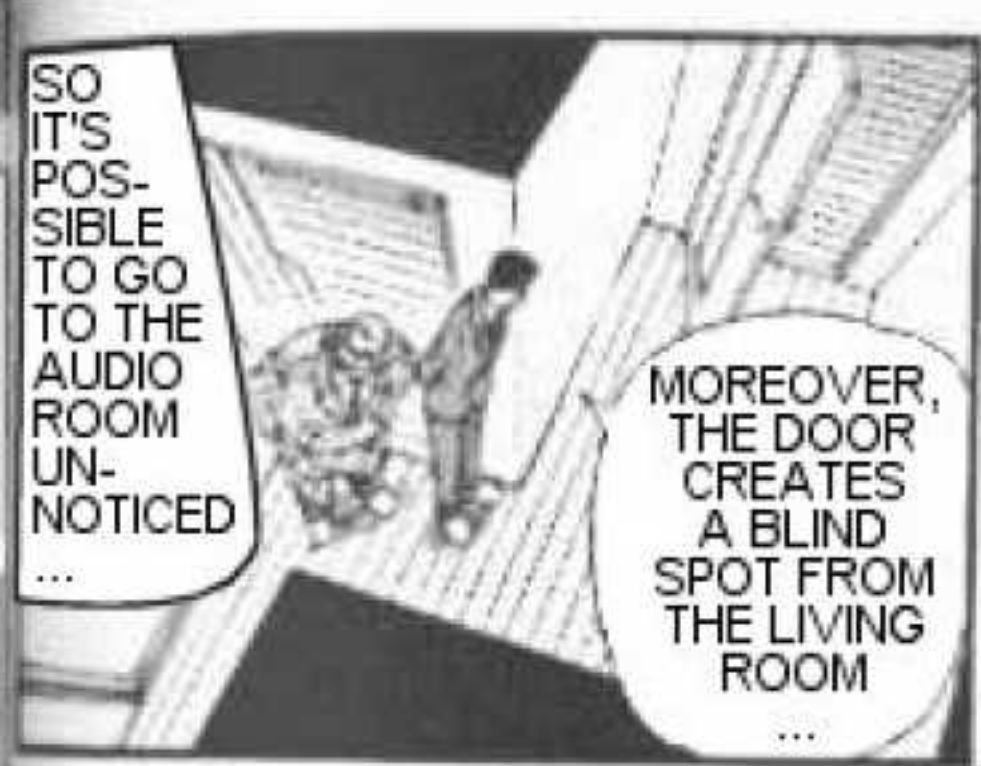
OH...  
A CORRIDOR  
FROM THIS  
DOOR DIRECTLY  
CONNECTS THE  
KITCHEN AND  
THE AUDIO  
ROOM  
...

Y...  
YES  
...



IN THE  
LIVING  
ROOM  
NEXT TO  
THIS  
KITCHEN  
WITH THE  
CHILDREN  
...

MR.  
AGASA,  
WHERE  
WERE  
YOU THEN?



SO  
IT'S  
POS-  
SIBLE  
TO GO  
TO THE  
AUDIO  
ROOM  
UN-  
NOTICED  
...

MOREOVER,  
THE DOOR  
CREATES  
A BLIND  
SPOT FROM  
THE LIVING  
ROOM  
...



WHILE  
PRETENDING  
TO PREPARE  
SNACKS IN THE  
KITCHEN, IT WAS  
POSSIBLE FOR  
YOU TO SNEAK  
OUT OF THERE,  
KILL MS.  
IDEZUKI, AND  
COVER THE  
WHOLE  
THING UP!

ASSUME ALL THE SOUNDS  
OF BREAKING THE VASE,  
SOMEONE RUNNING, AND  
THE DOOR SHUTTING  
WERE PLAYED FROM  
A RECORDED TAPE.

WH...  
WHAT  
ARE YOU  
IMPLYING,  
INSPECTOR!?



YOU SAW THE  
TEA AND  
SANDWICHES IN  
THE AUDIO ROOM?  
AYUMI AND I  
BROUGHT THEM  
TO MS. IDEZUKI  
...

HUH  
?

UH-UH.  
THAT'S  
IMPOS-  
SIBLE!



B...  
BUT  
...

CONSIDERING THE EAR-  
SPLITTING VOLUME OF  
THE TV, THERE'D BE  
NO WONDER IF THE  
VERY SOUND OF THE  
MOVIE SHE WAS WATCHING  
ERASED THE  
REAL BREAKING  
SOUND OF  
THE VASE  
...





OH, OKAY ...

SINCE THEN, MR. MORITA WAS WITH US UNTIL WE HEARD THE VASE BREAK AND FOUND HER DEAD ...

AT THAT TIME SHE WAS STILL WELL AND ALIVE!

IN SHORT, SHE HAD AN UNSAVORY REPUTATION ...

SHE SEIZED EXPENSIVE GOODS AS INTERESTS WHEN THEY COULD NOT REPAY THE MONEY BY DUE DATE!

THE VICTIM MS. IDEZUKI WAS LENDING MONEY TO FEW OTHER RESIDENTS.

INSPECTOR! WE ARE DONE WITH THE FIRST ROUND LEGWORK WITHIN THE CONDOMINIUM!

HMM... LOOKS LIKE IT WAS AN OUTSIDER'S DOING IF HER WHEREABOUTS WAS WIDELY KNOWN ...

IT'S BECAUSE OF THE TV VOLUME... APPARENTLY SHE OFTEN VISITED HERE TO WATCH VIDEOTAPES IN THE AUDIO ROOM ...

WHAT !?

ALSO IT SEEMS THE RESIDENTS OF THIS CONDO KNEW ABOUT HER BEING HERE TODAY!

UH-UH ...

I GUESS YOU DON'T HAVE ANY ROLE TO PLAY IF IT WAS AN OUTSIDER ...

SIR !!

ALL RIGHT!! CHECK UP EVERY INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS BORROWING MONEY FROM MS. IDEZUKI!!! STARTING FROM THE ONES WITH BIGGER DEBT!!



DON'T YOU FIND IT STRANGE? THE WINDUP WATCH WAS SUPPOSEDLY LOST THREE WEEKS AGO. YET IT IS STILL TICKING ACCURATELY AFTER ALL THIS TIME ...

BUT YOU JUST SAID HE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT ...

HUH?

IN ALL LIKELIHOOD, IT WAS MR. MORITA'S DOING ...

THERE IS NO WAY IT WAS LEFT ALONE FOR THE PAST THREE WEEKS ...

A WINDUP WATCH CAN ONLY WORK FOR 50 HOURS AT THE MOST ...

MOST LIKELY TO SECURE HIS ALIBI ...

YEAH, JUST A SET UP TO GET US HERE ...

THAT MEANS THAT WATCH WAS ...

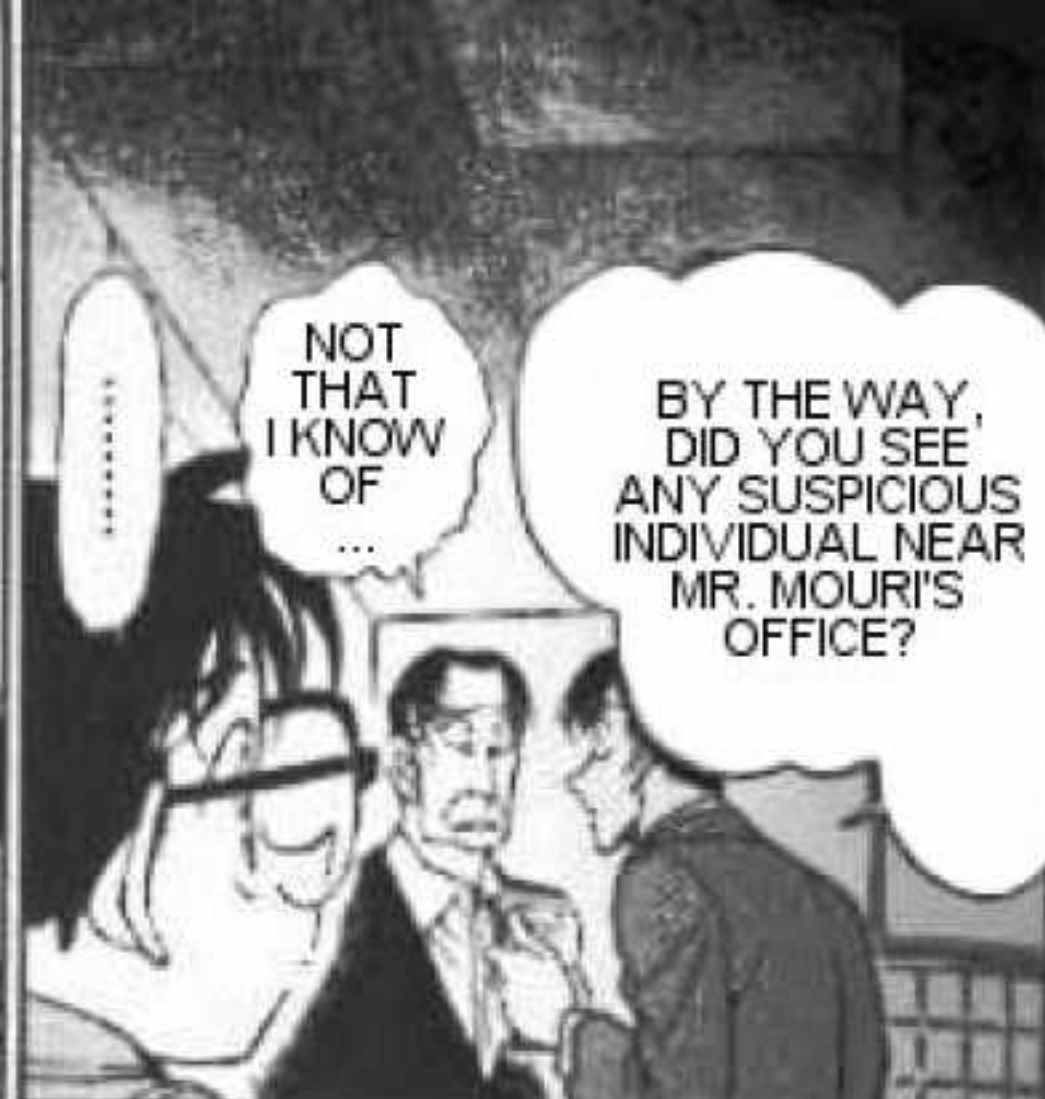
... PULL IT OFF?

HOW DID HE ...

EVEN WHEN HE WAS IN THE KITCHEN, I DID SEE HIM EVERY TWO, THREE MINUTES. NOR HE HAS ACTED SUSPICIOUS SINCE WE FOUND MS. IDEZUKI DEAD ...

HOWEVER, MR. MORITA WAS DEFINITELY NOT IN THE AUDIO ROOM AT THE TIME OF MURDER ...





UM, THAT'S ...

WHY DO YOU ASK SUCH THINGS?

NOT THAT I KNOW OF ...

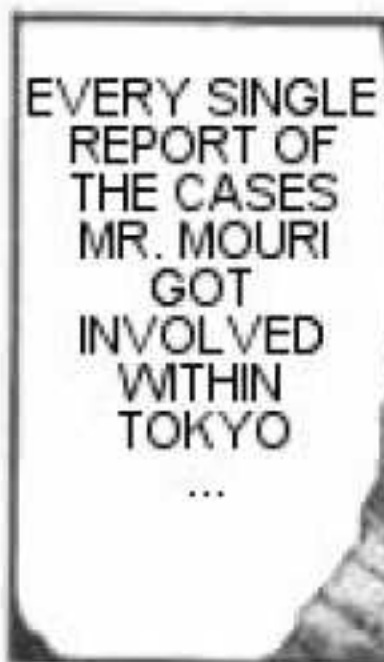
BY THE WAY, DID YOU SEE ANY SUSPICIOUS INDIVIDUAL NEAR MR. MOURI'S OFFICE?



HUH ?

LOOKS LIKE THERE IS SOMEONE SPYING ON MR. MOURI ...

WE STILL HAVEN'T DECIDED WHETHER WE SHOULD INFORM HIM BUT ...



EVERY SINGLE REPORT OF THE CASES MR. MOURI GOT INVOLVED WITHIN TOKYO ...

MANY REPORTS HAD DISAPPEARED FROM MPD ...



UM... IT WAS ...

SO? WHEN DID THEY GO MISSING?

SINCE SUPERINTENDENT MATSUMOTO HAD KEPT COPIES OF THOSE REPORTS, IT DIDN'T CAUSE ANY PROBLEM IN COURT BUT... SURPRISINGLY THE STOLEN REPORTS WERE SENT BACK TO MPD JUST YESTERDAY IN AN ENVELOPE WITH NO RETURNING ADDRESS OR NAME ON IT...

WHAT ?



!!

THE DAY OF THE BUS JACK INCIDENT  
...

EITHER WAY, REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO THE POLICE IF YOU SAW SOMEONE SUSPICIOUS! GOT IT?

BUT THEN AGAIN, IT COULD JUST BE A BIG PRANK SO ...

WE HAVE BEEN INVESTIGATING IF FAMILIES OF THE ARRESTED CRIMINALS ARE HOLDING GRUDGE AGAINST MR. MOURI. THE PROBLEM IS WE CAN'T YET SPECIFY A POSSIBLE SUSPECT... WE DON'T KNOW IF WE SHOULD PROVIDE BODYGUARDS...

YEP!

THEY COULD BE ...

MAYBE THE TARGET ISN'T UNCLE ...

NO ...

IT'S NOTHING ... NO BIG DEAL ...

HEY, SHINICHI... WHAT DID DETECTIVE TAKAGI SAY?

THEY COULD BE AFTER ...

HMM?





...  
I  
GUESS  
...

YEAH,  
LIKE  
YOU  
SHOULD  
TALK!

YOU  
NEVER  
TELL US  
ANYTHING  
...

WHAT  
?

WHILE PURSUING THE TRUTH  
AND JUSTICE WITHOUT  
THINKING ABOUT CONSE-  
QUENCES... YOU STAND THE  
STRAIN OF ALL PRESSURE  
ALONE IN ORDER TO  
PROTECT EVERYONE ...



I WONDER  
IF YOU  
REALIZE  
IT  
...

SUCH BOY-LIKE  
TEMPERAMENTS  
OF YOURS ARE  
ASTONISHINGLY  
INTRIGUING,  
HOWEVER...

STRANGLING  
HER, US, AND  
YOURSELF  
WITH  
LONELINESS  
AND DANGER  
...

THAT  
CLEAN  
SCENT  
OF YOURS  
IS  
...





ISN'T IT COMING FROM THAT MICRO-WAVE?



YOU'RE RIGHT... SMELLS LIKE SOMETHING IS BURNT ...

DON'T YOU SMELL SOMETHING ...?

HUH ?



YES, DEFINITELY! THE SMELL IS COMING FROM HERE!

BUT THERE IS NOTHING INSIDE ...



CO-NAN ?



!?



... THEN THAT MUST BE SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE ...

OR RATHER, IT LOOKS LIKE THEY WERE DUMPED BECAUSE THEY DIED ...

DRY FLOWERS!

I CAN HAVE THEM, RIGHT ?

OH! LEFTOVER SANDWICHES !!

COULD IT BE IN THE OTHER ROOM ...?

SOMETHING AS BIG AS THAT CAN'T BE HIDDEN SO EASILY ...

DAMN! WHERE IS IT !?

GEEZ, YOU ARE A HEAVY EATER ...

HUH ?

COULD IT BE ...?

W... WAIT A MINUTE ...

SANDWICHES !?



IN THAT  
CASE,  
IN THE  
AUDIO  
ROOM  
...

THERE  
WAS A  
TRICK  
AFTER ALL  
!!

I  
FOUND  
IT!!

THERE  
!!

HMM  
?

BOY, I THOUGHT  
HE WAS  
SHARP...  
HE CERTAINLY  
ACTS LIKE  
A CHILD  
...

OKAY,  
OKAY!  
I'LL GET  
IT FOR  
YOU  
NOW  
...

BEHIND  
THAT  
CURTAIN  
ABOVE  
THE TV!  
PLEASE,  
GET IT!  
PLEASE!

UM, I AM LOOKING  
FOR MY PAPER  
PLANE...  
EARLIER I  
COULDN'T GET  
IT BY MYSELF  
...

WHE-  
RE  
IS  
IT?



I DON'T  
SEE ANY  
PAPER  
PLANE  
...

OH?  
CONAN?  
IT'S NOT  
HERE  
...

YES. I'VE PUT  
ALL OLD VCRS  
UP ON THE  
SHELF...  
I DON'T USE  
THEM  
ANYMORE  
...

YOU  
SURE  
HAVE  
A LOT  
OF  
VCRS  
...

Y...  
YES  
SIR!

HEY, WHAT  
ARE YOU  
DOING?  
GET HIM  
DOWN  
NOW!

HUH?  
?

OH,  
WOW!!  
THERE  
ARE SO  
MANY  
APPLIAN-  
CES  
!!

A  
TIMER?

CONAN  
!?







SO THAT WAS IT ...

I SEE ...



WITHOUT EVEN REALIZING SO ...

MS. IDEZUKI WAS WATCHING HER VERY LAST FILM



AND OF ITS CRUEL ENDING ...



HAVING NO CLUE ABOUT THE STORY BEING WRITTEN BY MR. MORITA ...