


**FILE 3:
THE STRANGE
NEIGHBOUR**






BUT WHERE
DID HE FALL
FROM...



DEATH
WAS
INSTANT



HOW
DO
YOU
KNOW?

EH?

THE
21ST
FLOOR
...



MR
TAKAI?

IT'S
NOT TRUE

IT'S

NO



HE'S MY
NEIGHBOUR,
MR TAKAI.





LOOK! THIS CELL PHONE!

EH?

IT'S HIS, RIGHT?



BE SURE
...

WE CAN'T
...



AND A MINUTE BEFORE THAT HE GOT MAIL FROM A MR NAKA-MACHI?

BEFORE HE DIED SOMEONE NAMED MR KAWAKAMI CALLED HIM,



O-OH, THAT WAS
...

AND THERE'S MORE! BEFORE MR TAKAI FELT A STRANGE WOMAN WAS TAKING PHOTOS OF THIS APARTMENT BUILDING IN THE DARK...



CAN WE SAY YOU'LL TELL US EVERYTHING?

ANYWAY, WE CAN INVESTIGATE MORE AFTER WE CALL THE TWO MEN NAMED AND CONTACT THE POLICE.



I DIDN'T
THINK IT
WOULD BE
MR TAKAI
...

A-AND
THEN
SOMEONE
FELL
DOWN...

Chika Shimoda (30)
Company Worker

Y-YES. THIS
IS THE FIRST
TIME I'VE COME
HERE...

I WAS GOING TO
RETURN TO HIS
ROOM AFTER I
TOOK SOME
PHOTOS
...

...OF THIS
APARTMENT FOR
YOUR
BOYFRIEND, MR
TAKAI, TO SHOW
FRIENDS THE
OUTSIDE?

WERE YOU
TAKING PHOTOS
FOR AN
ENTIRE
HOUR?

HOW STRANGE...
YOU LEFT MR
TAKAI'S ROOM
AROUND 5 O'CLOCK,
BUT HE FELL
AROUND 6
O'CLOCK...



WE WORK
AT THE
SAME
COMPANY
...

EXCUSE
ME, BUT
WHO ARE
YOU?

THEY WERE
BOTH QUITE
DRUNK...

NO... I STARTED
AFTER I DROVE
THEM HOME...



THEN HE STARTED TO YELL AT US, SAYING IF WE WANTED TO BE PROMOTED...


WE WERE GOING TO DRINK UNTIL MUCH LATER, BUT MR TAKAI GOT TOO DRUNK...



BECAUSE MR TAKAI WAS PROMOTED ...




THE FOUR OF US DRANK AT MR TAKAI'S APARTMENT TODAY FROM JUST AFTER MIDDAY.




THAT THOSE WHO DON'T WON'T GO UP NO MATTER WHAT...

WE HAD TO IGNORE OUR WORK AND ONLY THINK OF MOVING UP...


Noboru Kawakami (33)
Company Worker



Michiya Nakamachi (28)
Company Worker




'PLEASE THINK ABOUT THE PEOPLE BELOW TOO'...



YES. SO AFTER MS SHIMODA DROVE US HOME, I SENT AN EMAIL TO HIS PHONE, SAYING...

OH- IGNORE YOUR WORK TO MOVE UP?



SUMIYO HIRAYA WAS A WOMAN AT OUR WORK WHO SUICIDED LAST MONTH...



MS HIRAYA ?

AND THERE WAS ALSO THE INCIDENT WITH MS HIRAYA

Y-YES

AND I THINK SHE WORKED WITH SHIMODA TOO...

UH-HUH. SHE WAS A SENIOR IN NAKAMACHI'S JUNIOR HIGH, AND A JUNIOR AT THE COLLEGE TAKAI AND I WENT TO, SO HIRAYA WAS ALWAYS LIKE A LITTLE SISTER TO US.

SUICIDE?

BUT TONIGHT I CALLED TAKAI AND TOLD HIM

APPARENTLY TAKAI FORGOT ALL ABOUT IT...

SHE KILLED HERSELF BECAUSE SHE WAS DEPRESSED FROM OVERWORK. I THINK SHE THOUGHT MR TAKAI WAS SERIOUS WHEN HE SAID 'YOU HAVE TO COMPLETE WHAT YOU HAVE OR ELSE YOU'LL GET FIRED' BUT IT WAS ONLY A JOKE.

YOU WERE ONLY PROMOTED BECAUSE OF THE HELP FROM THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU BATHED IN BLOOD!!!

IT'S YOUR FAULT HIRAYA DIED!!

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT...

SO THE REASON MR TAKAI FELL...

HE SUDDENLY HUNG UP AND WHEN SHIMODA CALLED ME I GOT HERE AND SAW THIS.

EVEN TAKAI WAS SHOCKED BY THIS...



TH-
THIS
IS
TRUE

BUT DETECTIVE, I DIDN'T TELL
TAKAI TO DIE RIGHT NOW. I
ONLY SPOKE THE TRUTH.
SURELY THIS SHOULDN'T BE
REGARDED
AS A CRIME?



IT'S LIKE I
KILLED HIM...



TWICE
?

WE'VE
SAID THE
SAME THING
TWICE NOW

SO, IT'S
ALL RIGHT
NOW? LET
US LEAVE!



EH?

BY A FOREIGN
WOMAN, A BOY
SPEAKING OSAKA
DIALECT AND A
LITTLE BOY
WITH GLASSES

WE WERE ASKED
THE SAME
QUESTIONS
BEFORE YOU
CAME.



THE
21ST
FLOOR



YES, THEY
TOOK THE KEY
I HAD TO MR
TAKAI'S ROOM
AND WENT
TO...

DO YOU
KNOW
WHERE
THEY ARE
NOW?

D-DON'T TELL
ME, THOSE
THREE ARE...





HM?



AND SAW THIS CURTAIN!



I GUESS HE JUMPED FROM THIS WINDOW...



SO 2 OR 3 HOOKS CAME OFF, RIGHT?

THE CURTAIN AND THE RAIL WERE PULLED



LOOK CLOSER!

BUT WHY WASN'T THE CURTAIN BLOWN OUT BY THE WIND?



THIS WOULDN'T BE SUICIDE BUT...

B-BUT THEN...



WOULD SOMEONE TRYING TO SUICIDE DO THAT?



THIS PROVES HE WAS FALLING AND QUICKLY GRABBED SOMETHING...




Murder...



OH, REALLY...



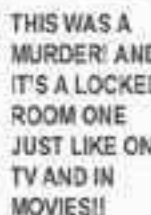
I LIVE IN THE ROOM NEXT DOOR!



WHY ARE YOU HERE




M-MS JODIE...



THIS WAS A MURDER! AND IT'S A LOCKED ROOM ONE JUST LIKE ON TV AND IN MOVIES!!



OH, YES!



THOSE TWO CAME TO VISIT AND WHEN WE WERE LEAVING THE BUILDING TO GET SOMETHING TO EAT, MR TAKAI FELL DOWN!



NO, NOT YET...




SO? HAVE YOU GOT IT? THIS LOCKED ROOM'S SECRET?



BUT, WHAT?



Y-YES, IT LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING HIT IT...



ALTHOUGH I UNDERSTAND THAT THE STRANGE MARKS ON THE GLASS OF THE WINDOW MAY HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT...

BUT WE ZOOMED IN ON ONE THAT HAD A STRANGE FIGURE IN IT AND...

MOST ARE JUST ORDINARY PHOTOS OF THE BUILDING...

THAT WAS QUICK!

INSPECTOR MEGURE! WE'VE FINISHED DEVELOPING THE PHOTOS MS SHIMODA TOOK!!

THIS IS THE PICTURE!



MAYBE HE WAS ANGRY AT THE PERSON CALLING?

SO THAT MEANS THE MARK ON THE GLASS IS FROM THE CELL PHONE THAT HIT IT... BUT WHY DID HE THROW IT?

OH, HE'S THROWING AN OBJECT INSIDE!

I KNEW IT, HE'S HANGING ON TO THE CURTAIN...


ISN'T THIS MR TAKAI?

HOW CAN THAT BE...

ISN'T THAT A CELL PHONE?

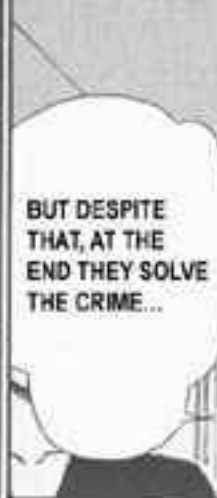
CIVILIANS SHOULDN'T BE INVOLVED!!

BE QUIET! THIS IS A JOB FOR THE POLICE!




UH-HUH. HOW DID THE CRIMINAL GET MR TAKAI TO FALL OUT OF THE WINDOW...

BUT I DON'T GET IT...




BUT DESPITE THAT, AT THE END THEY SOLVE THE CRIME...




THERE ARE SO MANY INTERFERING PEOPLE THESE DAYS...




SURELY NO ONE JUMPS FROM A WINDOW BECAUSE THEY WERE TOLD TO DIE?



THAT LEAVES MR KAWAKAMI WHO CALLED MR TAKAI...



AND THERE WAS NOTHING STRANGE IN MR NAKAMARA'S MAIL...



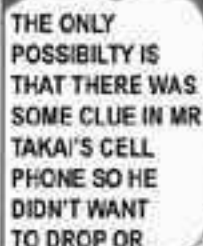
AS SHE WAS TAKING PHOTOS, THE ONLY THING MS SHIMODA COULD DO WAS USE THE FLASH...



AND THERE WASN'T ANYTHING STRANGE ON THE SCREEN...



HOWEVER, THE CELL PHONE DIDN'T BREAK...



THE ONLY POSSIBILITY IS THAT THERE WAS SOME CLUE IN MR TAKAI'S CELL PHONE SO HE DIDN'T WANT TO DROP OR BREAK IT...



WHAT GETS ME IS WHY MR TAKAI TRIED TO THROW HIS CELL PHONE BACK INTO HIS ROOM



WHAT TIME... IT'S 8 O'CLOCK

WHAT, TIME IS, IT?

WHAT'S THE TIME?

HELLO ?

HUH?



K-KAZUHA

THEN WHAT
TIME DO YOU
THINK IT IS!?
MORON!!!

S-SORRY,
[ZA] BUT
I DON'T
THINK
[ZA] I'LL
MAKE
IT...

WHAT ARE YOU
DOING? YOU
INVITED ME TO
GO TO THIS GREAT
RESTAURANT
THAT MR OTAKI
MENTIONED TO
YOU!

DAMN!!
I FORGOT I
HAD TO MEET
KAZUHA
TODAY!

WHO
IS
THAT
?

AH
...

UH OH,
BAD
CONNECTION

WAIT, [ZA]
WHERE ARE
YOU? [ZA]
I CAN'T
HEAR...

TOKYO,
I'M IN
TOKYO!!

WHERE
[ZA]
ARE
YOU...

I REALLY CAN'T
GET TO WHERE
YOU ARE
NOW...





IT SAYS
THAT IN
MY MEMO...

WHAT DO YOU
MEAN?
YOU SAID WE'D
MEET IN FRONT OF
UMEDA BIGMAN
AT 7 O'CLOCK!

YEAH,
THAT'S
RIGHT...
I'LL BE
BACK AS
SOON AS
I'VE
FINISHED
HERE...



TOKYO!?



MENO
...



