

DETECTIVE CONAN

Vol. 34 - File 10

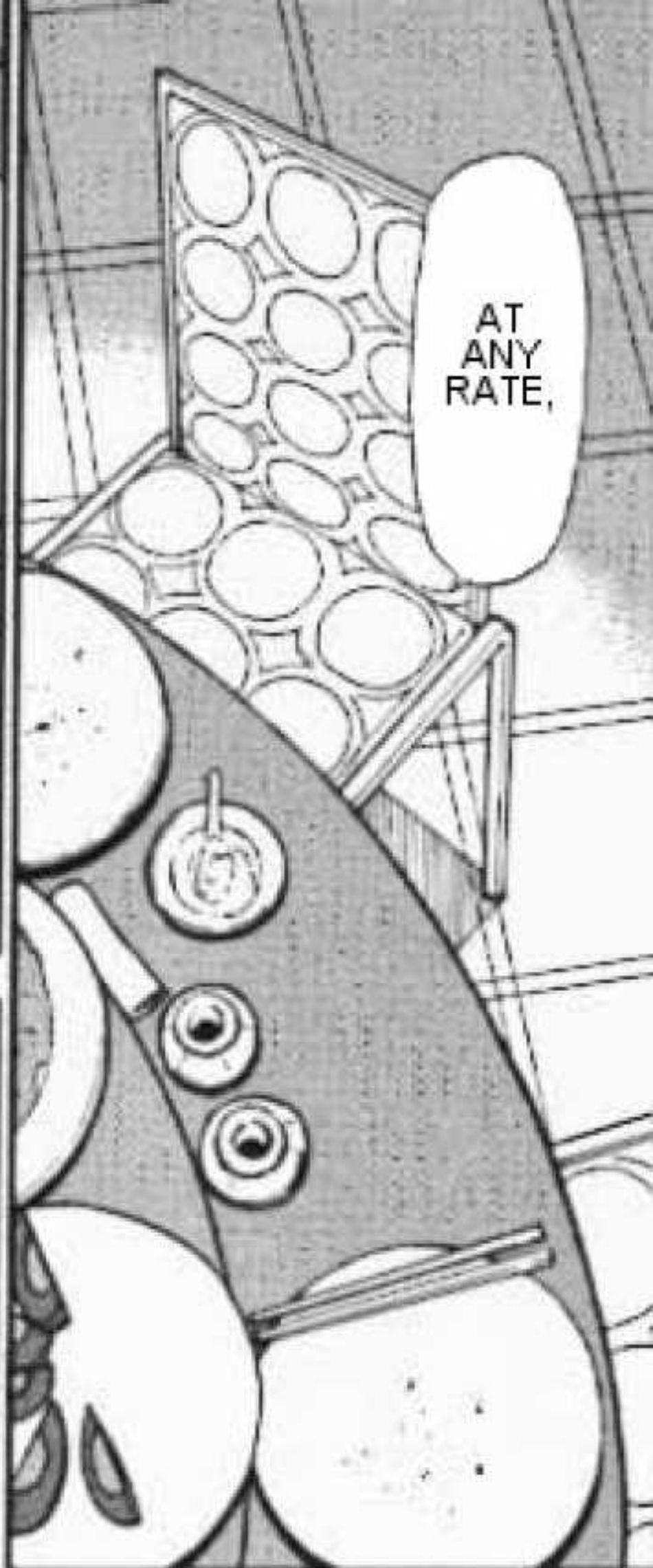
CLEARED MEMORY





AND SWITCHED IT WITH THAT OF THE VICTIM'S OVER THE TABLE ...

THE CULPRIT POISONED HIS OWN WASH-CLOTH WITH POTASSIUM CYANIDE IN THE WASH-ROOM,



AT ANY RATE,



BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND ... HOW IN THE WORLD ...?

RIGHT... WITHOUT GETTING CAUGHT BY RAN, CONAN, OR ME WHO WAS SITTING NEXT TO THE VICTIM AT THE TIME ...

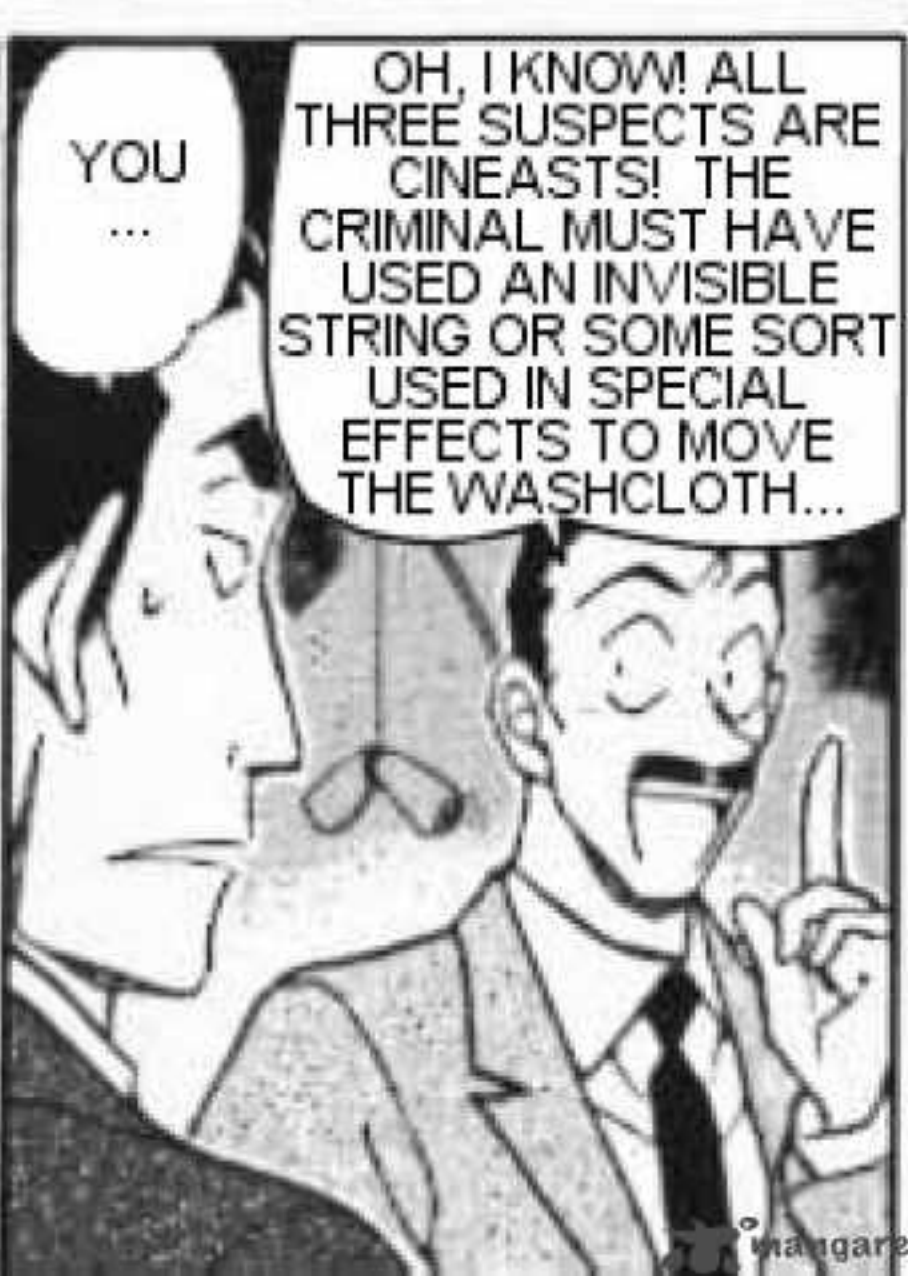


HUH ?



AC ...

A ...



YOU ...

OH, I KNOW! ALL THREE SUSPECTS ARE CINEASTS! THE CRIMINAL MUST HAVE USED AN INVISIBLE STRING OR SOME SORT USED IN SPECIAL EFFECTS TO MOVE THE WASHCLOTH...



.....
DON'T YOU THINK THE AC IS WORKING TOO WELL IN HERE?



AC-
CHOO !!
..



WITH BIZARRE VOICE AND DANCE AS SIGNALS, HE DOES A COMPLETE TURNAROUND...



MY BROTHER ONCE TOLD ME ABOUT DETECTIVE MOURI... THAT ALTHOUGH HE OFTEN SEEMS TO STRIKE THE WRONG NOTE, IT IS ONLY A DISGUISE

WHAT'S THE MATTER, CHIEF?



AS IF HE IS POSSESSED BY SOMETHING

HE TURNS INTO A DIFFERENT MAN



AH... BUT ISN'T THAT THE BIZARRE DANCE

MY BROTHER MUST HAVE BEEN EXAGGERATING







AS FOR THE REST OF YOU, SIT ACCORDINGLY TO THE LAST SEATING ARRANGEMENT. IN CLOCKWISE ORDER FROM HIS RIGHT, ME, MR. ISO-GAMI, MR. ITOU, AND MR. KITAURA...

INSPECTOR YOKOMIZO, PLEASE TAKE THE VICTIM'S SEAT ...



I'M FINE!

SHE ISN'T FEELING WELL ...



WHY IS THAT ?

AND HAVE ANOTHER OFFICER TAKE MY DAUGHTER'S SPOT NEXT TO MR. KITAURA...



RAN ...

I CAN HANDLE IT ...



BI-ZARRE INCIDENT ?

NOW THAT EVERYTHING IS SET, LET'S SOLVE A BIZARRE INCIDENT JUST BEFORE THE MURDER...



LASTLY, CONAN SITS IN BETWEEN RAN AND THE VICTIM ...



Y...
YEAH
...

SEE? THERE IS
SOY SAUCE
ON THE
TURNTABLE
IN FRONT
OF UNCLE.



WHAT
?

SOMEONE
WAS BEING
MEAN TO
ME BY
ROTATING
IT
...

IT'S
THE
TURN-
TABLE
!



OVER
AND
OVER
...

BUT IT KEPT
GOING BACK
TO UNCLE
RIGHT
BEFORE I
COULD
REACH...



I TRIED TO
ROTATE
THE TABLE
TO GET IT
...



TO THIS
PO-
SI-
TION
...

BUT THE
TABLE
ROTA-
TED
BACK
...



I TUR-
NED
THE
TABLE
LIKE
THIS
TO
GET
IT...

IT WAS THE
SAME FOR
THE CHILI OIL
IN FRONT OF
MR. KITAURA
TOO!



THAT MUST
MEAN SOME-
ONE WAS
BEING MEAN
TO ME, RIGHT?






**DON'T
EAT
!!**



HOW CAN WE LET A CHILD EAT WITH HIS BARE HANDS AFTER HE TOUCHED IT?!




WE DON'T EVEN KNOW IF THERE IS POISON STILL ON THE TABLE!




JUST THINK FOR A WHILE! THIS IS THE EXACT TABLE A MAN WAS KILLED!!



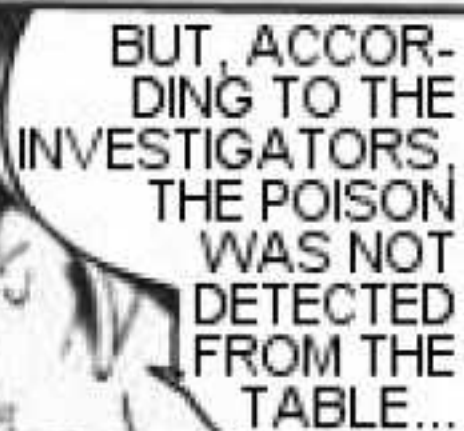
IS ANYTHING WRONG?



WHAT?



NO, MR. ISOGAMI IS RIGHT... THERE MIGHT BE SOME POISON STILL LEFT...



BUT, ACCORDING TO THE INVESTIGATORS, THE POISON WAS NOT DETECTED FROM THE TABLE...



WHERE WE ALL FAILED TO SEE ...



AT A BLIND SPOT ...



I'D PUT MY HAND ON TOP OF IT, OF COURSE ...



THIS TURN-TABLE ...

WHAT?



COME ON! SPILL IT ALREADY!!

WHO IS IT AND WHERE THE HECK THE POISON WAS ON!?

HOW WOULD YOU TURN IT?



HMM?

WHAT IF TWO PLATES ARE PLACED CLOSE TOGETHER AND STICKING OUT OF THE TABLE, LIKE THOSE 'CRAB-IN-EGGS' AND 'PEA-TAN'?



WITH MY FINGERS LIKE THIS ...

PINCH THE EDGE OF THE TABLE ...



THEN I'D HAVE TO ...





WHAT IF THOSE TWO DISHES ARE MR. KAWABATA'S LEAST FAVORITES?

... NO, IT IS NOT EASY TO HAVE THE VICTIM TOUCH A PLACE LIKE THIS...



THAT THE POISON WAS ON THE BACKSIDE OF THIS TURNABLE!?

C... COULD IT BE ...



WHAT IF HE HATED THEM SO MUCH THAT HE DIDN'T EVEN WANT TO SEE THEM?

HUH?



WHERE IS THE CHILI OIL WHEN THOSE TWO DISHES ARE IN FRONT OF YOU IN THE VICTIM'S SEAT?

NOW, INSPECTOR, PLEASE CONFIRM ONE THING!



YES... MR. KAWABATA WAS ALLERGIC TO EGGS SO...

WERE THEY?



I... I GET IT!



IT'S IN FRONT OF MR. KITAURA ...



THE CRIMINAL KEPT TURNING IT BACK UNTIL MR. KAWABATA TOUCHED THE RIGHT SPOT!

THAT'S WHY THE TABLE WAS TURNED MANY TIMES WHEN THE KID TRIED TO GET THE CHILI OIL!



YOU MUST FIRST PUT THE POISON ON THE SPOT IF YOU WANT SOMEONE TO TOUCH IT.

THEN WHY DID THE TABLE TURN IN THE CASE OF SOY SAUCE TOO...?



BUT WAIT... IT EXPLAINS FOR THE CHILI OIL, BUT THE SOY SAUCE IS IN FRONT OF THE KID.



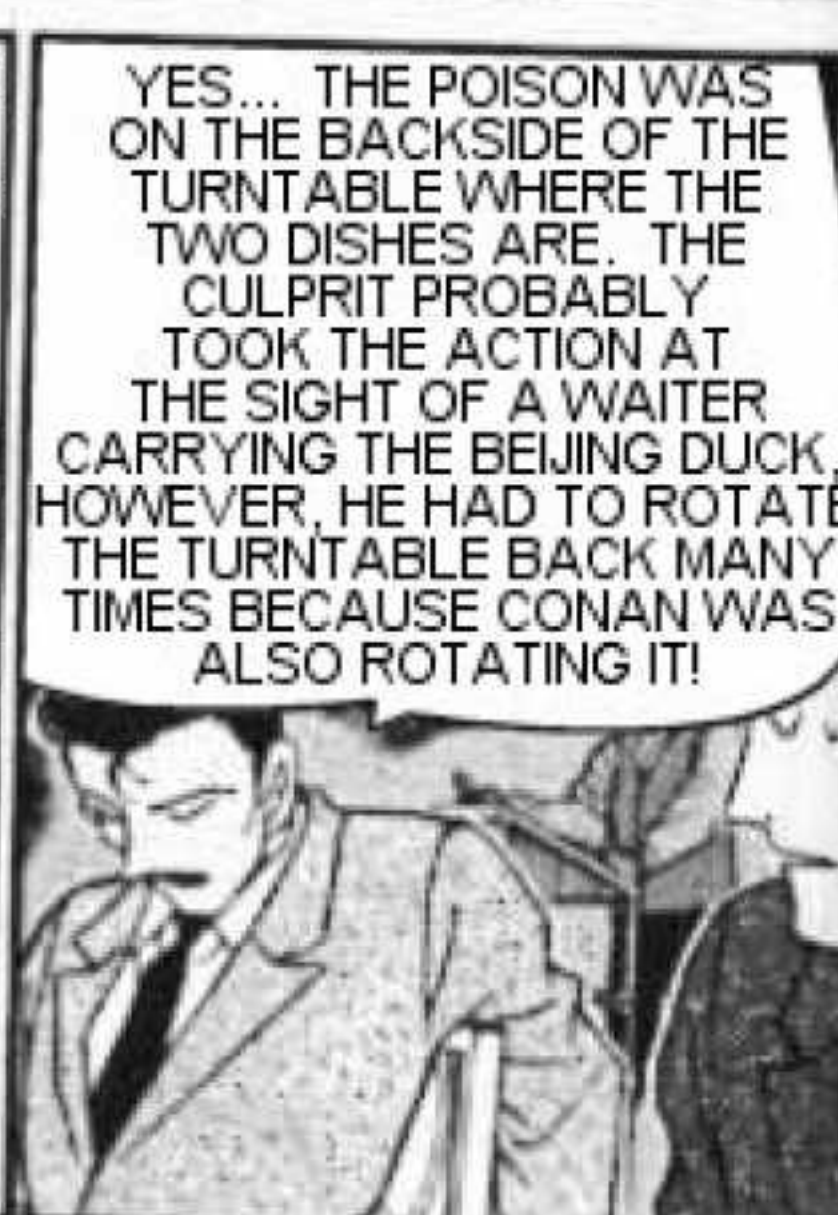
IF NOT, SOMEBODY ELSE MIGHT TOUCH IT...

MOREOVER, IT MUST BE DONE JUST BEFORE BEIJING DUCK -EATEN BY HAND- WAS SERVED...



YES, THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR MR. KAWABATA'S DEATH ...

THAT MEANS... THE PERSON WHO FACES THOSE TWO DISHES WHEN THE SOY SAUCE IS IN FRONT OF YOU IS...



YES... THE POISON WAS ON THE BACKSIDE OF THE TURNTABLE WHERE THE TWO DISHES ARE. THE CULPRIT PROBABLY TOOK THE ACTION AT THE SIGHT OF A WAITER CARRYING THE BEIJING DUCK, HOWEVER, HE HAD TO ROTATE THE TURNTABLE BACK MANY TIMES BECAUSE CONAN WAS ALSO ROTATING IT!



SO YOU'RE SAYING THE CRIMINAL HADN'T SET THE TRAP YET WHEN THE KID WAS TRYING TO GET THE SOY SAUCE?

THAT WAS ORIGINALLY MR. ISOGAMI'S ...

THEN HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE WASH-CLOTH WITH PLENTIFUL CYANIDE?



MR. ISOGAMI ...

THE MURDER IS YOU ...



MR. ISOGAMI SWITCHED HIS WASHCLOTH WITH THAT OF THE VICTIM'S WHEN MR. KAWABATA COLLAPSED, TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE CONFUSION

HE TOOK IT TO THE WASH-ROOM, GOT THE POISON ON, BROUGHT IT BACK AND RUBBED IT AGAINST AT THE SPOT BEHIND THE TURNTABLE.



A-
LONG
WITH
THE
SOUP
STAIN
...

THAT'S RIGHT... MR. KAWABATA'S WASHCLOTH, NOW IN MR. ISOGAMI'S POSSESSION, HAS SOMETHING ELSE ON IT...

THE FACT THAT MR. KAWABATA WAS WEARING A PAIR OF DENIM PANTS...

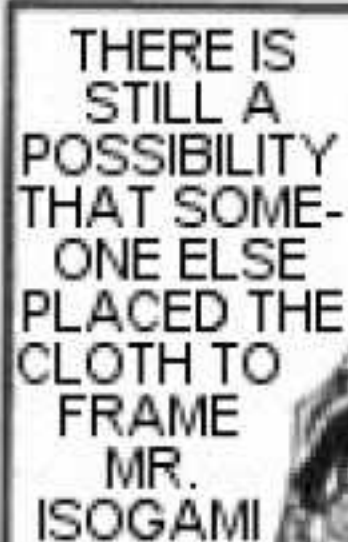
YOU MISSED ONE POINT ...

HE NEEDED TO MAKE SURE NO ONE WOULD FIND OUT ABOUT THE SWITCH SO... MR. ISOGAMI STAINED HIS WASHCLOTH WITH THE SAME SOUP, JUST LIKE MR. KAWABATA'S... OR SO HE THOUGHT...






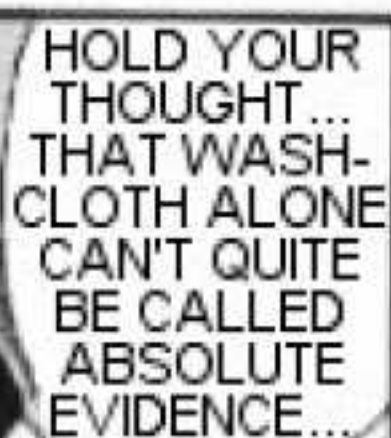
A BLUE STAIN FROM MR. KAWABATA'S PANTS...




THERE IS STILL A POSSIBILITY THAT SOMEONE ELSE PLACED THE CLOTH TO FRAME MR. ISOGAMI ...



EH?



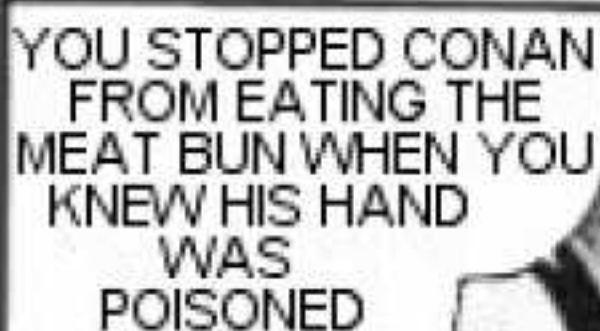
HOLD YOUR THOUGHT... THAT WASH-CLOTH ALONE CAN'T QUITE BE CALLED ABSOLUTE EVIDENCE...



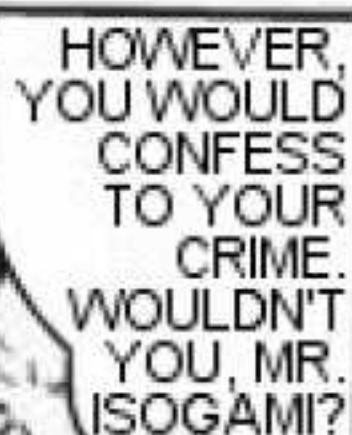
THE WASH-CLOTH IS ABSOLUTE EVIDENCE. SINCE THIS IS AT HIS SEAT, MR. ISOGAMI MUST BE THE CRIMINAL!



I SEE ...



YOU STOPPED CONAN FROM EATING THE MEAT BUN WHEN YOU KNEW HIS HAND WAS POISONED ...



HOWEVER, YOU WOULD CONFESS TO YOUR CRIME. WOULDN'T YOU, MR. ISOGAMI?



YOU STILL HAVE GOOD CONSCIENCE ...

NO, IT WASN'T. THAT WAS A HO-MI-CI-DE ...

BUT IT WAS AN ACCIDENT DURING FILMING ...

RIKA...? THE ONE WHO DIED A YEAR AGO...?

I WOULDN'T HAVE DONE IT, IF ONLY THAT MAN WHO LET RIKA DIE HAD GOOD CONSCIENCE ALSO...

HUMPH! GOOD CON-SCIENCE, HUH?

HE KNEW ABOUT THE SUDDEN CHANGE ALL ALONG ...

KAWABATA WAS FULLY AWARE OF THE FACT THAT STUNTMAN AND RIKA WERE SWITCHED FOR THE LAST ACTION SCENE ...

BUT WHY? YOU KEPT MAKING FUN OF HER, THAT SHE WAS SUCH AN AMATEUR ...

HE DIDN'T STOP HER DESPITE HIS POWER AND OPPOR-TUNITY ...

HE SAID HE ONLY DID HER A FAVOUR BY ACKNOWLEDGING HER WISH TO DO HER OWN SCENES... WITH DISGUSTING GRIN, HE SAID IT WAS A SMASH HIT BECAUSE OF HER DEATH...

A... ARE YOU SE-RIOUS ...!?

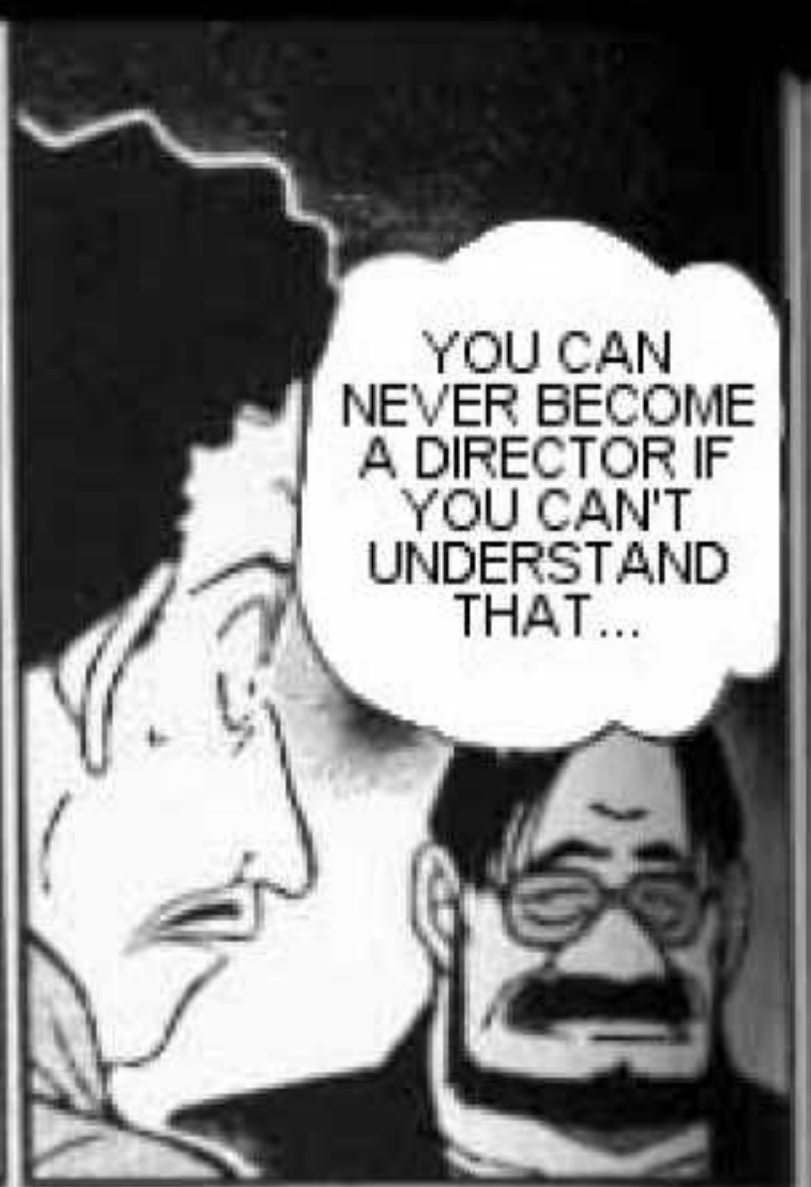
EVEN IF SHE IS A BAD ACTRESS OR UN-ATTRAC-TIVE...

FOOL... THROUGH THE CAMERA LENS, A DIRECTOR FALLS IN LOVE WITH HIS HEROINE IN THE COURSE OF FILMING



TELL ME, DETECTIVE... YOU PROBABLY HAD WIPED OFF THE POISON IN ADVANCE BUT ...

LET'S GET TO THE STATION ...

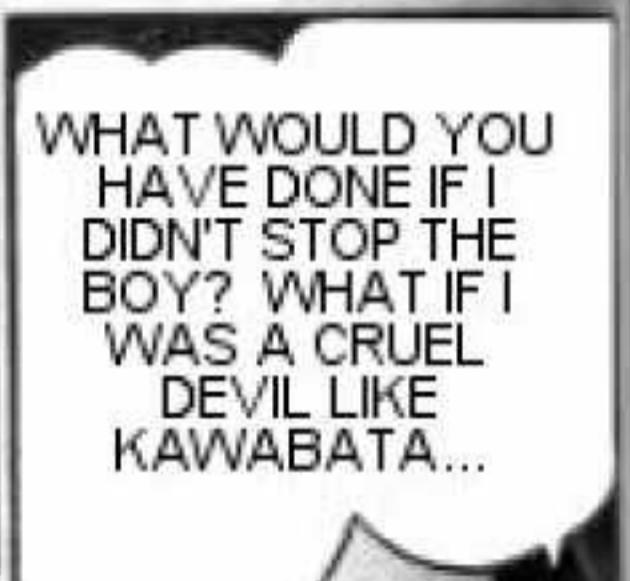


YOU CAN NEVER BECOME A DIRECTOR IF YOU CAN'T UNDERSTAND THAT...



TO THE WAY YOU COULD HAVE NEVER EXCUSED YOURSELF ...

IN THAT CASE, I WOULD HAVE CHANGED MY APPROACH ...



WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE IF I DIDN'T STOP THE BOY? WHAT IF I WAS A CRUEL DEVIL LIKE KAWABATA...



EH ?

I HAVE TO COMPLAIN TO GOD FOR MAKING ME HAVE CONSCIENCE ...

THAT'S TOO BAD ...



NOT THAT I AM THE TYPE TO BELIEVE IN GOD OR SPRITS...



AS A FILM DIRECTOR, I WISH YOU HAD SHOWN ME THE THIRD DEGREE...

GOD ?

WHOSE
VOICE
WAS IT
...?

HUH?
WHO
SAID
THAT?

I WONDER,
IS THERE
REALLY
GOD...

RAN
...?

R...

WHO
IS
SHE
...?

A VOICE
OF A
CALM
WOMAN...

AH...
I CAN
ALMOST
HEAR IT
...

...
CESS
...

THE
NOISES
OF THE
RAIN
ARE
CLEARING
UP
...

...
CES-
SARY
...

IS A
REASON
NECESSARY?

GET
LOST
!!

THAT'S
RIGHT...
NO ANGEL
HAD SMILED
UPON ME
...

NOT
EVEN
ONCE
...

SO IT WAS THAT TIME ...



SHARON ...



IN THE CITY I VISITED WITH SHINICHI ...



WHEN I MET THAT MAN...



RAN !?



* HERE CONAN IS CALLING HER WITHOUT 'NEECHAN'. SHINICHI CANNOT PRETEND TO BE CONAN WHENEVER HE IS WORRIED ABOUT RAN.