

FILE.7 THE HAUNTED HOUSES MYSTERY

3



SCANS: KAZUHA
EDIT: MAHOTOU
TRANSLATION: JOLLY-CHAN





GO AWAY...
GO AWAY...

JUST HAVE A LOOK!

WHAT?!



WHAT THE~?
NOW YOUR TELEVISION IS CURSED, TOO!!

SHUUUU

BUT IT JUST CAN'T BE...



YES, THIS BATHROOM IS REALLY CURSED!

LIKE WHAT?



WE WANTED TO, BUT SOMETHING VERY BAD HAPPENED!

DIDN'T YOU LOT GO HOME ALREADY?

HUH? WHAT'S WRONG BOY...



LEAVE THIS PLACE NOW

IT'S THE GHOST!



IT STINKS HORRIBLY AND THERE'S NO WATER COMING!

EH?



WHO IS IT?!

W,



WHAT ARE YOU DOING? THERE'S NO TAPE IN THE RECORDER!

BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!



BUT THE WATER SEEMS TO FLOW PROPERLY

KCH

WELL, THE SMELL'S HONESTLY NOT NICE



HUH?



WHO DID THIS?!



THE WATER BECAME RED?!

FOOSH



W-WHAT?



D, DETECTIVE?

HAHA! YOU LOOK AS IF YOU WERE A REAL DETECTIVE!

THOSE WERE ONLY TRICKS?

THAT'S WHAT YOU WANTED TO SAY, RIGHT? BANCHOU-SAN...



YES, I AM...

NO WAY! YOU'RE NOT THE FAMOUS "SLEEPING KOGOROU", ARE YOU?!



LET'S START WITH THE RED WATER IN THE TOILET.

BEHIND THOSE HAUNTING PHENOMENA, THAT OCCURED IN THIS APARTMENT...

AND NOW IT'S TIME TO REVEAL THE SECRETS...



THAT CAN'T BE!!

N, NO WAY...

THE GHOST IS BACK!



I'M SURE YOU ALL SAW THAT EXPERIMENT IN YOUR CHEMISTRY LESSONS AT SCHOOL.

AMMONIA AND ALCOHOL?

AS WELL AS THE FAINT SMELL OF ALCOHOL, COMING FROM THE TANK...

FIRST NOTICE THE STRONG SMELL OF AMMONIA THAT I NOTICED WHEN I ENTERED THE BATHROOM.



AFTER ALL YOU MADE THEM ALL UP YOURSELF!

AND IT'S IMPOSSIBLE SEEING THEM PLAYED BY ANYBODY BUT YOU.

YES, THAT'S RIGHT. IT'S JUST A TRICK, PLAYED ON US TO MAKE US BELIEVE IN THE EXISTENCE OF THAT GHOST. JUST LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE.

BE-CAUSE THAT'S...

WHEN YOU GUYS CAME TO THE FRONT DOOR WITH US, I SNEAKED INTO AN APARTMENT AND SEARCHED FOR THIS BOTTLE!

LUNCLE KOGORO ASKED ME TO FIND IT.

BUT WHERE DID YOU GET THAT LITTLE BOY?

THAT'S TRUE ...

IF YOU POUR THIS INTO THE TOILET'S WATER, THE CHEMICAL REACTION WILL CERTAINLY BE TRIGGERED! AND IN THIS DIRTY TOILET NOBODY WOULD NOTICE THE STRONG SMELL OF THE AMMONIA.

THEN THE THREE OF THEM TOGETHER WILL PRODUCE A RED LIQUID, LIKE MAGIC!

IF YOU MIX SOME PHENOLPHTHALEIN WITH ALCOHOL AND ADD A FEW DROPS OF THIS COLORLESS LIQUID TO ALKALINE AMMONIA, WHICH IS COLORLESS AS WELL...

IT WAS IN BANCHO SAN'S APARTMENT!

THE RED COLOR IN THIS EXPERIMENT IS ALMOST PINK. NOBODY'D THINK OF BLOOD WHEN SEEING A PINK LIQUID ...

BUT WOULD THIS REALLY WORK? AS FAR AS I KNOW...

...THEN THE TWO LIQUIDS WILL BE MIXED WHEN YOU FLUSH, MAKING THE WATER GO RED.

SO IF NOW YOU POUR SOME OF THE PHENOLPHTHALEIN-LIQUID INTO THE TANK AND POUR AMMONIA INTO THE WATER IN THE TOILET...

AND AN EERIE VIDEO!

A BOTTLE OF CHLORO-FORM ...

PHENOLPHTHALEIN ...

THERE WERE MANY INTERESTING THINGS ...

BUT HAVING URINE IN THE TOILET WON'T BE SUFFICIENT TO TRIGGER THIS CHEMICAL REACTION.

THAT'S TRUE, BUT THE LIGHT IN THIS BATHROOM ISN'T VERY BRIGHT, MAKING THE LIQUID LOOK DARKER AND MORE BLOOD-LIKE.



SO IT WAS...

H, HEY ...

THERE WAS A STRANGE WOMAN AND SHE WAS LIKE 'GO AWAY, GO AWAY!' THE WHOLE TIME!

WHAT KIND OF VIDEO?

THA.. THAT'S ...

THIS IS LIQUID AMMONIA!

POP!

YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT. THAT'S WHY FOR THIS TRICK YOU NEED A CERTAIN CHEMICAL ...

TRUE, URINE CONTAINS AMMONIA, BUT IT'S MORE NEUTRAL OR ALMOST ACIDIC, BUT SURELY NOT ALKALINE ...

THERE IS A WALL ON WHICH YOU COULD STAND AND THERE YOU HAD A GOOD VIEW ON OTONASHI-SAN'S TV AND YOU WERE IN ITS EARSHOT SO THAT YOU COULD SWITCH IT TO THE RIGHT CHANNEL, WHILE THE RECORDER IN YOUR APARTMENT PLAYED THE VIDEO.

YOU USED THE MULTI-FUNCTIONAL REMOTE CONTROL FROM OUTSIDE THROUGH THE WINDOW FACING THE UNFINISHED BUILDING...

YES, I ASKED OTONASHI-SAN TO HELP ME AND SO WE SENT THE VIDEO WHICH WE GOT FROM YOUR APARTMENT TO YOUR TV.

SO THE VIDEO I JUST SAW WAS PLAYED ON YOUR VIDEO RECORDER?

THIS WAS A VIDEO WHICH BANCHO-SAN PLAYED ON HIS VIDEO RECORDER!

THAT'S EXACTLY IT. THE EERIE WOMAN WHICH MY DAUGHTER RAN SAW IN OTONASHI-SAN'S TV ...

WE WERE SUPPOSED TO SUDDEENLY FALL ASLEEP ALL AT ONCE AND ONE OF US SHOULD WAKE UP FIRST IN THE DARKNESS. BEING STILL A BIT CONFUSED AND TIRED, THIS PERSON WAS SUPPOSED TO SEE THE STRANGE "GHOST" OF THAT WOMAN!

YOU ALSO POURED CHLOROFORM INTO THE AIR CONDITIONER, WHEN THE LIGHT OUTSIDE WAS STILL QUITE BRIGHT. THIS WAY YOU MADE ALL OF US IN OTONASHI-SAN'S APARTMENT LOSE CONSCIOUSNESS...



AND THE ANTENNA SENT IT TO OTONASHI-SAN'S TV.



BANCHO-SAN PLUGGED THE ANTENNA'S CABLE INTO HIS VIDEO RECORDER & THIS WAY BROADCASTED THE VIDEO VIA THE ANTENNA

IT'S NOT DIFFICULT, IF YOU USE THIS HOUSE'S ANTENNA ...

BUT HOW DID HE DO THIS?

THERE IS NOTHING GHOST-LIKE ABOUT THIS SILHOUETTE.



THE SILHOUETTE ON THE WINDOW THAT'S LOOKING AT US THE WHOLE TIME!

BUT AT LEAST THE SILHOUETTE IS REAL, RIGHT?

I GET IT...

YOU HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT THE TV IS SWITCHED ON AT ALL!



BUT THIS CAN ONLY WORK, IF OTONASHI-SAN'S TV IS SET ON THE RIGHT CHANNEL, CAN'T IT? AND BEFORE THAT...



TH-THOSE ARE ALL ...



JUST TAKE A CLOSER LOOK.

OTONASHI-SAN ...

IT'S A SIMPLE TRICK THAT EVEN I CAN PERFORM.

IN THIS REMOTE CONTROL YOU ONLY HAVE TO SET THE MANUFACTURER OF THE DEVICE YOU WANT TO CONTROL TO BE ABLE TO CONTROL OTHER PEOPLE'S TELEVISIONS ...

HE MUST HAVE USED A MULTI-FUNCTIONAL REMOTE CONTROL



YEAH, AND MAKING THIS VIDEO IS JUST AS EASY, ALL HE NEEDS IS ONE OF THOSE CHARACTERS FROM HIS PRIVATE CREEPY COLLECTION AND HIS OWN DISGUISED VOICE...

WELL, EXCEPT FOR THE CHLOROFORM YOU CAN GET ALL THOSE CHEMICALS ALMOST ANYWHERE...



THE PROOF THAT ONLY YOU CAN BE THE CULPRIT WHO INVENTED ALL THOSE APPARITIONS!

AND THE FACT THAT YOU ACTED AS IF YOU DIDN'T NOTICE THE MOTHS WHEN YOU WENT TO THE WINDOW IS THE PROOF!



OR, TO BE PRECISE, ALL MALE MOTHS.



MOTHS !?



BUT WHY DID YOU PUT SO MUCH EFFORT INTO A GHOST STORY?



AND SOON THE MALE MOTHS WILL CREATE A NICE, FLOATING GHOST-LIKE SILHOUETTE!

YOU ONLY NEED A CHEMICAL THAT ATTRACTS MOTH. THEN WITH THIS CHEMICAL YOU DRAW A HUMAN SILHOUETTE ON THE SCREEN AND BLUE EYES AND A MOUTH MADE OF BLACK PAPER ON THE RIGHT SPOTS.



THAT'S BECAUSE HE DIDN'T WANT HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE CRIME FOUR YEARS AGO TO BE DISCOVERED.

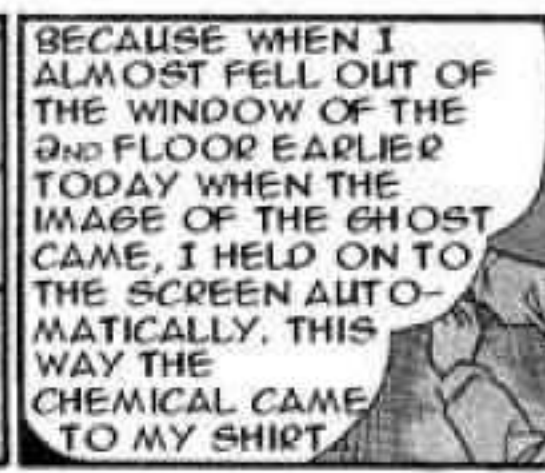


HE WANTED TO SCARE US, OTONASHI-SAN'S GUESTS, AND MAKE OTONASHI-SAN HIMSELF FINALLY LEAVE THIS HOUSE...



YES, IT'S THE SCREEN FROM THE 2ND FLOOR THAT WAS JUST ATTACHED TO THIS 1ST FLOOR WINDOW

SO THIS IS...



BECAUSE WHEN I ALMOST FELL OUT OF THE WINDOW OF THE 2ND FLOOR EARLIER TODAY WHEN THE IMAGE OF THE GHOST CAME, I HELD ON TO THE SCREEN AUTOMATICALLY. THIS WAY THE CHEMICAL CAME TO MY SHIRT.



THE PROOF FOR THAT IS THE FACT THAT MANY MOTHS FLEW TO MY ARM



YOU MEAN THERE'S SOMEBODY IN THE BUILDING NEXT DOOR?



AND THE PALE BLUE LIGHT CAME FROM THE SCREEN OF A HAND-HELD TELEVISION

THE FLOATING RED LIGHT WAS THE EMBERS OF A CIGARETTE ...



YOU SAID YOU SAW A MOVING LIGHT IN THE UNFINISHED BUILDING NEXT DOOR, DIDN'T YOU?

YOU MEAN THE GIRL BURNT TO DEATH IN THE PARK ACROSS THE ROAD?



THEREFORE HE WENT TO THE WINDOW WHEN THE SILHOUETTE STARTED TO FADE & OPENED IT SUDDENLY, MAKING ALL THE MOTHS GO AWAY AT ONCE.

BUT IT'D HAVE BEEN FOUND OUT, IF WE HAD SEEN EVEN ONE MOTH ON THE SCREEN

SO THE MOTHS FLEW AWAY, BECAUSE THEY FELT MORE ATTRACTED BY THESE LIGHTS THAN BY THE CHEMICAL ON THE SCREEN

EXPLAINING THAT THE SILHOUETTE STARTED TO FADE BY ITSELF IS EXPLAINED JUST AS EASILY. BANCHO-SAN USED A TIMER TO SWITCH ON ALL THE BLACK LIGHTS AT ONCE.



MOVE IT!!

DAMN IT!!

I'M TALKING ABOUT THE MAN WITH THE PROMINENT SCAR ON HIS CHEEK WHO WAS SEEN AND RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF TWO CULPRITS IN THE MURDER CASE FROM FOUR YEARS AGO BY AN EYE-WITNESS!



BURNT IN COFFIN IN THE PARK!

DID YOU SEE THIS MAN?

EXACTLY. HE HAS BEEN HIDING THERE, BECAUSE NO ONE HAS BEEN IN THIS BUILDING FOR A LONG TIME NOW.



DA DA DA

WHA-?

EH?

AH-!

BANCHO-SAN HAD TO SAVE HIM FROM BEING ARRESTED, BECAUSE IF HE WAS CAUGHT, WITH NO DOUBT HE WOULD HAVE ENDANGERED THE SECOND CULPRIT, TOO...

WHEN SOMEBODY NOTICED THE EMBERS OF THE CIGARETTE, HIS ACCOMPLICE'S HIDING PLACE THREATENED TO BE DISCOVERED. THAT'S WHY BANCHO-SAN INVENTED THE GHOST STORY AND MADE THE RESIDENTS LEAVE ONE AFTER ANOTHER THE UNFINISHED BUILDING WHICH HIS ACCOMPLICE HAS BEEN HIDING IN CAN ONLY BE SEEN FROM THIS HOUSE.

I GUESS BANCHO-SAN IS THE SECOND PERSON THAT THE EYE-WITNESS COULDN'T SEE CLEARLY ...



RAN! DON'T LET HIM ESCAPE!!

I BLESS HE WANTED TO LEAVE HIS SELF-MADE PRISON ONCE THE WHOLE THING WOULD HAVE BEEN FORGOTTEN, BUT IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT NOW.

YOU MOVED INTO THIS HOUSE, 'CAUSE YOUR ACCOMPLICE COULDN'T LEAVE THE HOUSE WITHOUT BEING RECOGNIZED AND BECAUSE YOU HAD TO BRING HIM FOOD AND OTHER THINGS...



MOVE IT GIRL!!

OR THE CURSE WILL KILL YOU!!

FLT

EH?



THOSE ARE THE POLICE CARS I CALLED !!

THIS NOISE MARKS THE END OF YOUR STUPID HIDE & SEEK GAME ...



CAN YOU HEAR THIS?



THE HAUNTED HOUSE CASE AND THE BURNT CORPSE CASE FROM FOUR YEARS AGO COULD BE SOLVED AT LAST.

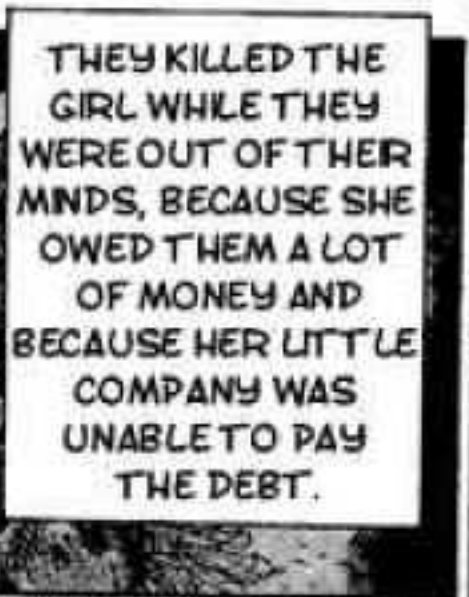


AFTER THAT, THE POLICE ARRIVED. THE INVENTOR OF THE HAUNTED HOUSE AND HIS ACCOMPLICE, THE FLOATING LIGHT WERE ARRESTED.

U, URA-KEN...



A SHOCKINGLY BANAL BACKGROUND FOR ALL THE THINGS THAT FOLLOWED AFTER.



THEY KILLED THE GIRL WHILE THEY WERE OUT OF THEIR MINDS, BECAUSE SHE OWED THEM A LOT OF MONEY AND BECAUSE HER LITTLE COMPANY WAS UNABLE TO PAY THE DEBT.



FLOP



EH?

WHAT THE HECK?



IF YOU'RE NOT A GHOST...

WASH

I'M SO NOT SCARED OF YOU...



SO ALL THOSE APPARITION WERE JUST STUPID TRICKS...

OH!

AND AFTER THAT...



... IF YOU REALLY THINK THAT WAY...



W-WELL, BE-CAUSE...

SONOKO? WHY ARE YOU CRYING?



BECAUSE I KNOW THAT THEY DON'T EXIST!

AND I'M NOT SCARED OF GHOSTS ANY-MORE...



... THEN I
CAN NEVER
SHOW YOU
MY TRUE
FACE AGAIN!



HEH
...

HEEEE-
EEELP!

DAD
DADA...



THIS
IS
JUST A
LITTLE
MAKE-
UP.



FLK



AS LONG
AS YOU
DON'T KEEP
YOUR WICKED
PERSONALITY!

YOU
REALLY
SHOULD
KEEP IT!

AND BESIDES,
YOUR FEAR OF
GHOSTS IS
VERY CUTE.
THERE'S NO
REASON
TO BE EMBAR-
RASSED.

