FILE.3 蘭の推理
Ran's Deduction

Detective Conan Volume 42 File 03
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NOW, COME CLEAN ABOUT IT!!

コンビニエンス
SundayMart

YOU'RE THE CULPRIT, AREN'T YOU? AYA-KUN...

IT'S ALL A MISUNDER-STANDING!!

I DIDN'T STEAL ANYTHING FROM THE STORE!!

AYA...

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IF ONLY CONAN-KUN WERE HERE... HE'D NOTICE SOMETHING...

ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT ME TO CALL HIM?

No! No!

COOL KID IS BUSY TAKING CARE OF AI-CHAN!

WE SHOULDN'T DISTURB HIM!

R, RIGHT...

YOU HAVE SONOKO-SAMA, THE MYSTERY QUEEN!

WE DON'T NEED THAT BRAT!

NO PROB-LEM!!

WELL, SURE... BUT WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING, OR ELSE AYA WILL...

SOMEHOW THE DAILY SALES OF THE STORE DON'T MATCH WITH THE NUMBER OF ITEMS IN STOCK...

FIRST THINGS FIRST, LET'S ORGANISE FACTS ABOUT THIS CASE...

UNSURPRISINGLY, THE OWNER IS ACCUSING AYA OF STEALING THEM...

AND FOR SOME REASON IT ONLY HAPPENS ON THE DAYS WHEN AYA CLOSES AFTER CLEANING...

DRINKS AND FOOD LIKE JUICE, OOLONG TEA, LUNCH PACKAGES, AND SNACKS...

THE MISSING ITEMS ARE DVD'S, VIDEOGAMES, CDS...

YEA... WHAT BOTHERS US ARE THE THREE CUSTO-MERS AYA MENTIONED...

SO, HOW AM I GOING?

WE STARTED INVESTIGATING BECAUSE THERE MUST BE SOMEONE ELSE RESPONSIBLE FOR IT ALL...

BUT AYA IS OUR FORMER JUNIOR HIGH CLASSMATE AND WE KNOW SHE'S A GOOD GIRL,

A WILLFUL GRAND-MA...

LAST PERSON BARGAINS FOR ALMOST EXPIRED LUNCHES AND LECTURES HOW THE STORE SHOULD COMPARE ITS PRICES TO OTHER STORES...

WHO GIVES IN WHEN A LINE'S BEEN CUT...

THE OTHER IS A RESERVED AND TIMID SALARYMAN WITH DOWNCAST EYES...

A UNI-VERSITY STUDENT...

THE FIRST PERSON IS A GAME MANIAC WHO STAYS UNTIL CLOSING TIME READING GAME MAGAZINES...

AS FOR THE GRAND-MA...

THE SALARYMAN PURCHASED A TOOTHBRUSH, BATTERIES, SHAVERS, TOWELS... ITEMS LIKELY TAKEN FOR TRAVELLING...

RETORT FOOD LIKE CUP NOODLES FOR THE GAME MANIAC...

THE THINGS THEY OFTEN BUY ARE..

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WE KNOW THAT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN IT!

MAYBE IT WAS A SHOPLIFTER OR A THIEF AFTER ALL...

HMMM, THEY'RE ALL SUSPICIOUS, YET UNSUSPICIOUS...

SHE CHATS WITH THE CLERK AND LEAVES WITHOUT A PURCHASE!

No-thing!

A THIEF WOULD HAVE
No chance!
NONE AT ALL!
MOREOVER, THE ITEMS STILL WENT MISSING EVEN WHEN HE WATCHED THE STORE FROM A CAR PARKED ACROSS THE STREET ALL NIGHT LONG...
BUT THEY DIDN'T CATCH A SHOPLIFTER DURING BUSINESS HOURS...
SURE THEY WEREN'T RUNNING AFTER CLOSING TIME
REMEMBER THAT THE OWNER HAD SET SURVEIL-LANCE CAMERAS?
B-BUT...
NO WONDER SHE'S BEING SUSPECTED...
EXACTLY A MONTH AFTER SHE WAS FIRST ACCUSED OF AND BLAMED FOR THE SAME INCIDENT BY THE OWNER!
THE PROBLEM IS, IT STARTED HAPPENING AGAIN ON THE DAY OF HER SHIFT,
H-HEY...
SHE'S ALSO QUITE FOND OF VIDEO-GAMES...
COME TO THINK OF IT, AYA LIKES JUICE AND SNACKS...

AT A TIME LIKE THIS, SHINICHI WOULD...
THINK... THINK HARDER...
O-OF COURSE WE ARE!
AREN'T WE TRYING TO PROVE HER INNOCENCE?!

SHINICHI WOULD...

THE KEY IS DIFFERENCES FROM THE ORDINARY...

WHEN A CASE RISES, SOMETHING MUST BE DIFFERENT FROM USUAL... PAY ATTENTION TO DETAILS, FINDING THE DIFFERENCE IS THE FIRST STEP...

DIF-FERENCES FROM THE ORDI-NARY...

I SEE... SO IF THINGS GO MISSING ON ONLY THE DAY OF AYA'S SHIFT...

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF IT'S SOMETHING ANYONE WOULD DO OR HOW SMALL IT SEEMS. UNUSUALNESS IS THE BIGGEST CLUE!

NOTHING IS MORE BIZARRE THAN THOSE CHANGES IN LITTLE DETAILS...

HEY

DO YOU DO SOMETHING SPECIAL WHEN YOU WORK?

EH?

N-NO, I JUST CLEAN THE STORE...

AND YOU? HAVE YOU NOTICED SOMETHING?

N-NO, NOTHING...

ANYTHING WOULD DO! PLEASE THINK!

.....

SEE!

THE BOXES OF FOOD ITEMS ARE ORGANISED EVEN WHEN THEY WERE DELIVERED NEAR THE CLOSING TIME!

OH YEAH! THE STORE IS ESPECIALLY TIDY WHEN AYA-CHAN IS IN!

HPM...

YOU TOO, RIGHT?

ALL THE OTHER EMPLOYEES INCLUDING MYSELF LEAVE THEM TO THE PEOPLE ON MORNING SHIFTS AND GO HOME...

PICKING OUT ALMOST EXPIRED PACKAGES ONLY... YOU PROBABLY THOUGHT IT'S ALRIGHT TO STEAL THEM BECAUSE THEY'D BE THROWN OUT ANYWAYS, BUT A THEFT IS A THEFT!

SAME FOR THE LUNCHES ...

B-BUT THAT ISN'T...

YOU CAN'T FOOL ME WITH SUCH A CONSCIENCIOUS ACT...

SHI...

HMM ~~~ ?

CAN YOU?

WELL? CAN YOU FIND THE REAL CULPRIT THEN?

H, HEY, THE POLICE?!

I WON'T MIND CALLING THE POLICE AND HAVE THEM INVESTIGATE, YOU KNOW!?

SHINICHI...

RAN...?!

EH?

IT'S NOTHING...

AH, NO...

WHAT'S WRONG?

HM?

SHE'S PROBABLY LISTENING TO THAT TAPE AGAIN...

BESIDES, I THOUGHT I SHOULD LEAVE HER ALONE...

IT'S OKAY, THE HEATER'S ON THERE...

HEY, HEY... ISN'T SHE STILL SICK?

OH... SHE'S LOCKING HERSELF IN THE LAB IN THE BASE-MENT...

HUH? WHERE'S HAIBARA? I HAVEN'T SEEN HER HERE...

I will never lose faith in you. Do your best...

If so, I'm totally on your side!

Shiho ...

Won't you regret...

what you are about to do?

OKAA-SAN...

Oh, by the way...

Bye-bye, honey...

COUGH!

Well, it'll be your 19th birthday next time...

EH?

Maybe you are old enough to hear this...

I'm really...

Who are you?

SE, SENSEI...?

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING? YOU SEEM TO HAVE BEEN SUNK IN THOUGHT...

No idea...

NONE AT ALL!

HEY, IT'S MY FIRST TIME SEEING YOU WITHOUT GLASSES...

THEY SEEM QUITE OLD...

Oh Yes!

THIS PAIR IS THE ONLY REMAINING ITEM,

THAT BELONGED TO MY PRECIOUS PERSON...

AFTER ALL!

COULD THEY BE MOMENTOS OF HER OLD LOVER?

ANYWAY, HAVE YOU TWO FIGURED OUT WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

N-NO...

KYA...

BATHROOM, BATHROOM...

WHOA... LOOK AT THE LINE FOR THE WC...

IT'S GETTING BUSIER

HEY, DIDN'T AYA SAY THAT.

THE THREE SUSPICIOUS FIGURES OFTEN ASK FOR THE WC?

.....

WE'RE RUNNING A BUSINESS HERE...

AND YOU THREE, WOULD YOU STAND OUTSIDE IF YOU AREN'T BUYING ANYTHING?

Y, YES...

GET ON THE CASH REGISTER UNTIL THEN...

WE'LL FINISH THE TALK LATER...

HMMM ~~~~~ MM···

OH? YOU'RE EARLIER TODAY...

WE'VE GOT YOUR ORDERS!

EXCUSE FOR A SEC!

GOT ANY-THING SENSEI?

WE'LL FINISH UP THE DELIVERIES TO OTHER PLACES FIRST...

THEN WE'LL COME BACK LATER!

UM... NO, CUSTOMERS ARE MAKING A LINE THERE...

WE'LL LEAVE THEM IN THE HALLWAY BY THE WC AS USUAL...

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SOMETHING ABOUT GETTING RID OF THE IMPOSSIBLE...

SHINICHI ALWAYS SAYS IT LIKE A LONG SHOT...

HUH?

HEY, WHAT WAS THAT FAMOUS LINE OF HOLMES...?

HOWEVER IMPROBABLE,

WHEN YOU HAVE ELIMINATED THE IMPOSSIBLE, WHATEVER REMAINS,

When you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth.

MUST BE THE TRUTH!

I THINK I'VE GOT IT...

I GOT IT...

AHH, NO...

WHAT? WHAT? HAVE YOU FIGURED OUT SOMETHING?

AH, YES!

WAS IT THIS LINE?

REALLY CORRECT?

BUT IS MY DEDUCTION...

IT'S ALREADY PAST 9PM!

9:03PM

OH NO!

B-BUT I REALLY DIDN'T DO IT...

WELL? ARE YOU READY TO CONFESS?

Y, YEAH...

THE STORE'S GETTING EMPTY...

I HAVE TO CALL MAMA...

WHAT SHOULD I DO...

WHAT?!

YOU LEAVE ME WITH NO CHOICE BUT TO CALL THE POLICE...

HE WOULD...

IF HE WERE IN MY POSITION...

WHAT SHOULD I DO...

IT'D GET AYA INTO DEEPER TROUBLE...

IF I'M WRONG... IT'S FAR OFF...

I COULD SHARE MY DEDUCTION, BUT...

HELLO?

H-HELLO?

UN-KNOWN CALLER!

UN,

EH?

RING

RING

RING

RING

Hey, Ran

What's up?

SHINICHI!!!

SHI,