

ファイル  
**FILE.9**

**A Secret letter  
from the Star**





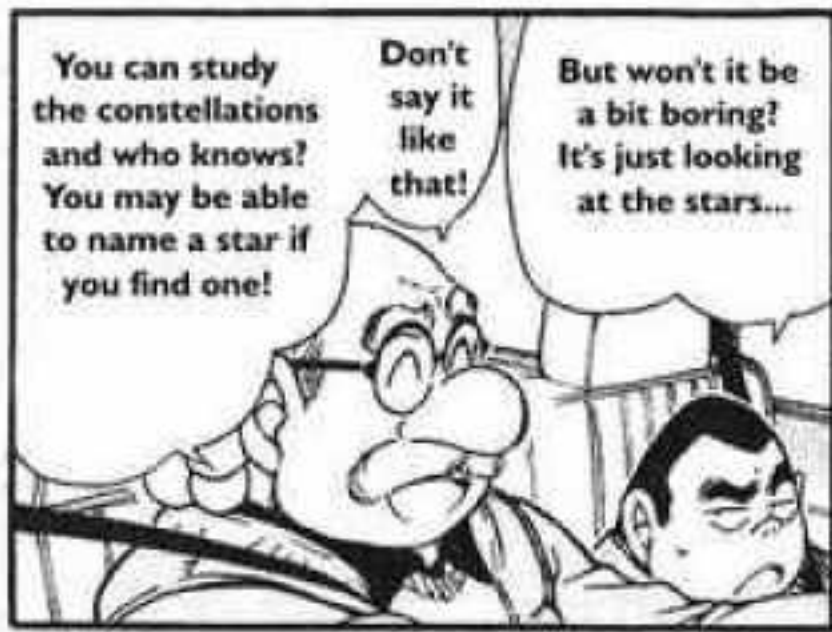
I see ...

If the moon is too bright we can't see the stars clearly...



Besides, there will be a crescent moon tonight! It's a perfect night for an astronomical observation!

In Japan, the air gets fresher & clearer in the winter, so the stars can be seen more clearly...



You can study the constellations and who knows? You may be able to name a star if you find one!

Don't say it like that!

But won't it be a bit boring? It's just looking at the stars...



ゴオオオ

Astro...



Yeah... I've found a good person which serves telescopes in Mt. Kunma!

Are we going to observe the stars now?

Astronomical observation!

Astronomical orsavation!



Name a star!

We-We can...

Eh?



No! You can only name a planet as you like...

Cool

Then how about the Beika Detective Boys Comet?

But a comet might be possible since only it's discovery is enough...

Well, a small planet might be impossible, whose discovery can be acknowledged when it's observed several times and it's orbit is confirmed, for you...

Yeah, right!



Eh?

It's better because it's cold...

Ah, that's because ...

Wouldn't a hot spring be better?

But do we really have to observe the stars outside in such a cold season?



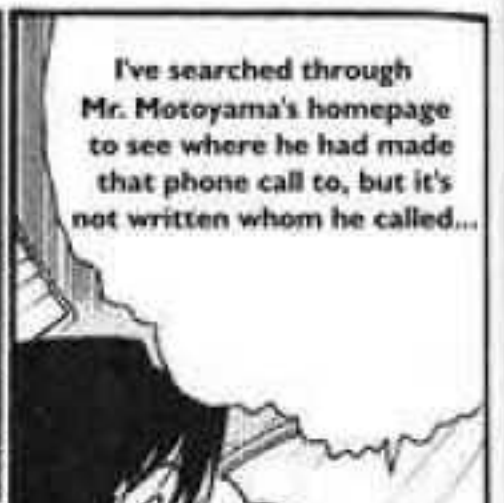
I feel uneasy about it...

I don't know why, but...



About what?

You feel uneasy...



I've searched through Mr. Motoyama's homepage to see where he had made that phone call to, but it's not written whom he called...



I'm just curious who he called during the inquiry all of a sudden...

N-no! It's nothing special...



Damn it! I should have asked him myself about it at the time...



If he called someone, it must have been a friend of Mr. Motoyama himself...

The police must have informed his parents or family of Player Nose's death...



For example... Gobayashi, Burger, Miron Comet...

Yeah, if the comet is discovered at the same time in several countries, foreigners' names can be mixed!



Well...

Then if we find a new comet and make an application quickly it will be Mitsuhiro Ayumi Haibara Comet, right?



And moreover, only the names of the first 3 people are given to it...

The comet is named after it's discoverer...

Sports Reporter  
Motoyama



This homepage will be closed within the day. Thank you for your support all this time.



By the way...



Well... but it's said to be limited to 3 persons...

Put in Conan's name too!

Why are you excluding my name?



At that time, Mr. Motoyama used his cell phone during the inquiry...

Yeah...

Conan, you said you were also there during that case, right?

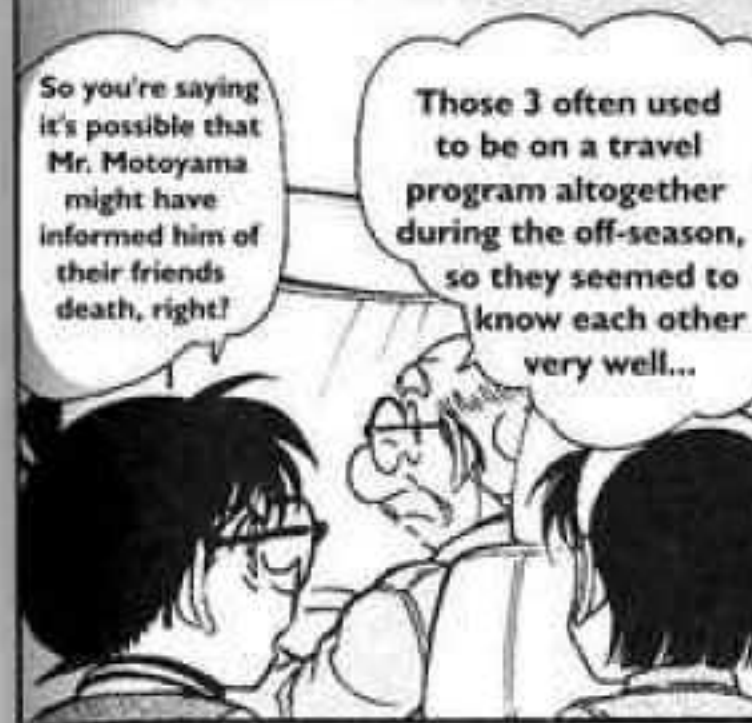


Ah! This person, he's Mr. Motoyama Masaharu, the sports reporter who killed Player Nose of the Jagos Team in Okinawa the other day, isn't he?

What have you been doing since a while ago, Conan?



\*SFX: Hiccup





But we've also received the invitation from that guy called Kouno...

As you see we're not his friends....

Hutagawa Hajime (35)  
-Lodger-



Sure....

Uncle, could I see that invitation card, please?

We came here since the contents of the card were so mysterious.....

We've never met him here since that day one year ago....



Mikami Heihachi (43)  
-Lodger-



I'd like to hear your opinions, so please come to Amachuchi Pension. Of course I'll be paying the lodging charge.

As the result of the observation over the year, I've made a great discovery which can rock the astronomical world....

天文学を専攻する  
大発見をしたいと思います。  
色々発見を奨励してください。  
ペンション 天土に建ててください。  
もちろんお代金はこちらから持ちます。  
何れか 都合が何かあるなら  
お電話ください。  
阿波 啓一



General Editor?

Then shall we go back, Mr. General Editor?

We've waited for 2 days, but he hasn't shown up yet, so it looks like a prank....



Can it be something like Godzilla Star?

What can it be? That great discovery....

Kouno Asao....

It can't be helped if you're unable to come here due to unavoidable circumstances, but please consider coming...



Oh, I see....

We've come here for the first time today, so....

N-No....



She's called Nonomiya Etsuko, she was my junior at the university....

That lady is!

I'm very sorry....



Don't play innocent!! I'm talking about Kouno Asao who's got the same couple ring as this one!!

Nonomiya Etsuko (28)  
-Lodger-



They often came to stay before but.... 1 year ago after they had a big quarrel here, Kouno disappeared....

The Kouno she talked about just now was also my junior, and those two are engaged to each other...

Amachuchi Ryoji (34)  
Pension Owner



That's probable....

But why did she think I had received his invitation when I'm a complete stranger...



But he hasn't appeared here yet, and she's drunk like that even in the day time...

And then last week, she received an invitation from Kouno telling her to come here, so Etsuko has been waiting here for three days...



O~kay!

So please be sure to return by then!

We're having dinner at 8 p.m. ....



In fact he's a great uncle who has even discovered a new comet and named it!

He's not a normal general editor!

Wow ....

Mr. Mikami here is that magazine's general editor!

Ah yes... we publish an Astronomy magazine called "Space Sunday."



No, no one knows....

Yeah ....

Isn't it true? Mr. General Editor!

Hmph, would beginners like them find it that easily?!

Hurray! Let's discover our star at any cost!



If one's lucky, he can find it ....

Even if one has extensive knowledge, it totally depends on luck as to whether he finds a star or not...



Discovered -!?

Dis...



You've got a wide view from there, so it's a perfect place to observe the stars...

Follow the road behind the pension, and go up the hill!



Well... as for its location...

Please tell us too!

Where did you discover it?!

Where?



Man...

My precious...



With your luck that found a star, will you find it for me as well? The one that disappeared into the darkness of the space, charmed by the star...

Mr. General Editor...



Ah so it's not for free....

For only 5000 yen ♡-!



If you want I'll lend you a telescope as well!



O~kay!

So please be sure to return by then!

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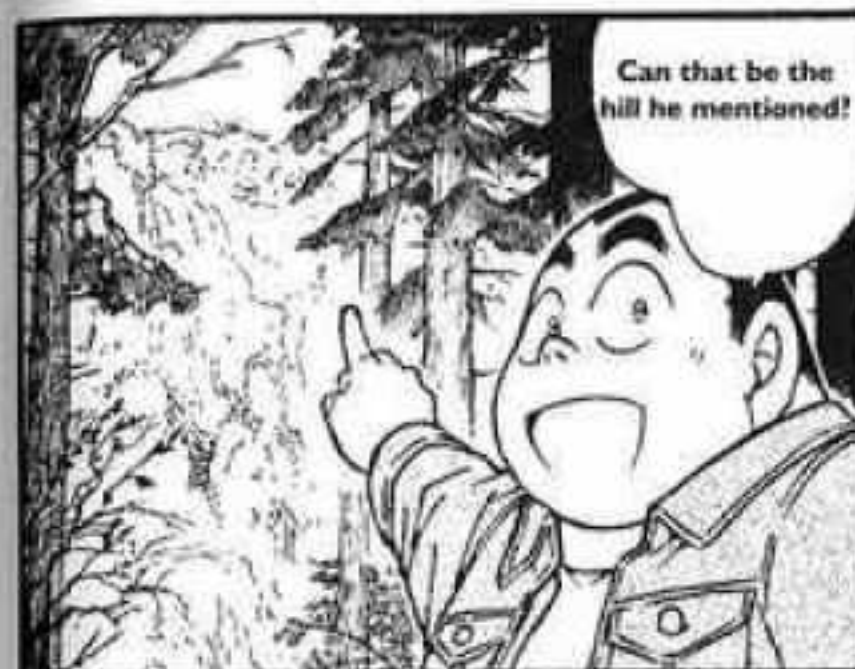
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12







A thigh bone...

A humerus...

A lower jaw bone...

ドドド



!!



Then the main part must be there!!

ドドド



No!

Yes, I think so... Perhaps someone died in an accident a long ago, and it's bones were scattered here and there by the animals or wind...



He must have fallen off the cliff!

Oh my god...



Eh?

Sku-Sku-Skull?!

Ayumi, what's wrong?!



What?!

They are scattered here as well!



B-But why in such a place...?

R-really?



The letters engraved on the ring are...

There's a ring and a cigarette case under this rock...



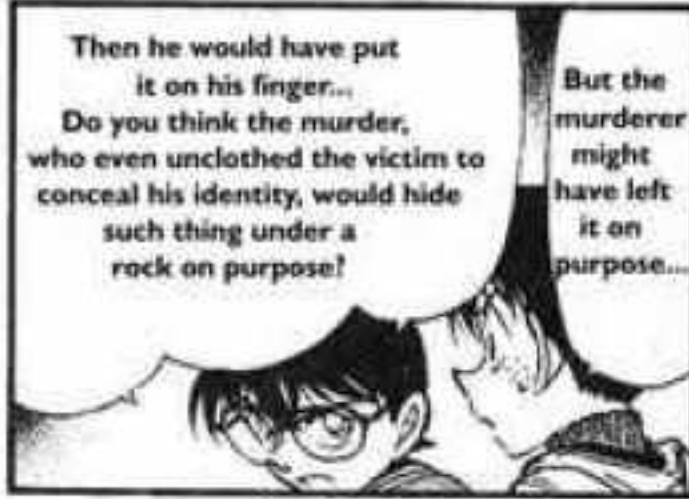
Eh?

Maybe this skull, is Kouno-san...



It's the couple ring that Miss. Nonomiya Etsuko gave to Mr. Asao...

A S A O  
E T S U K O



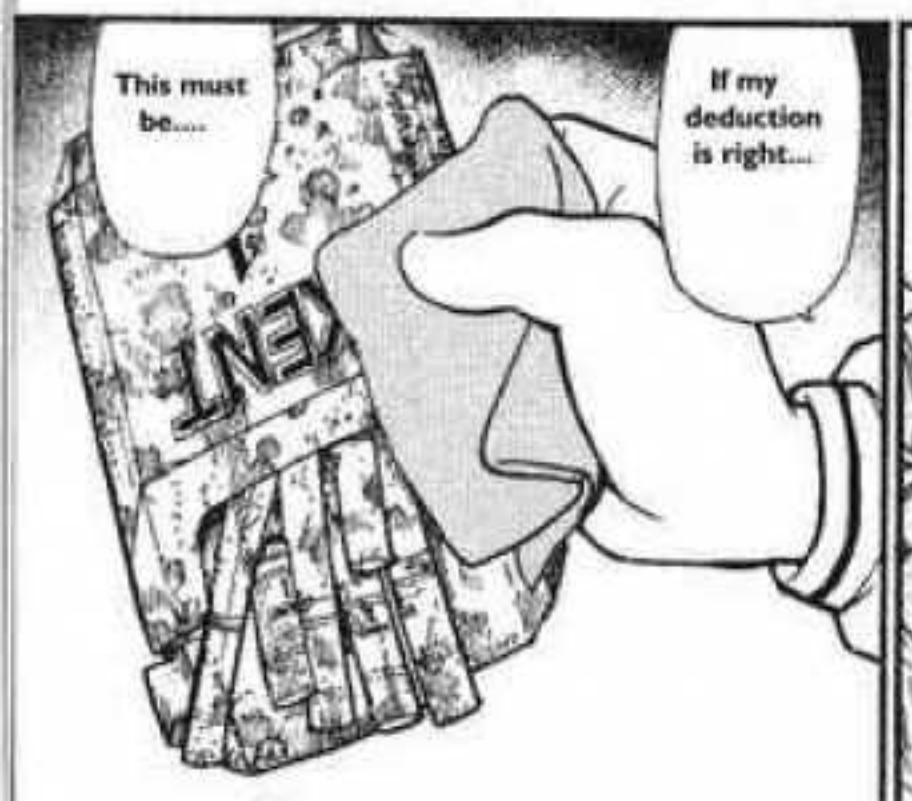
Then he would have put it on his finger... Do you think the murderer, who even unclothed the victim to conceal his identity, would hide such thing under a rock on purpose?

But the murderer might have left it on purpose...



The evidence that he was murdered....

Maybe after being pushed off that cliff, Mr.Kouno hid it before the murderer came down here...



This must be....

If my deduction is right...



Then what's that cigarette case?

Here...

Someone please lend me a handkerchief...



And a very brutal one!

This is a murder!



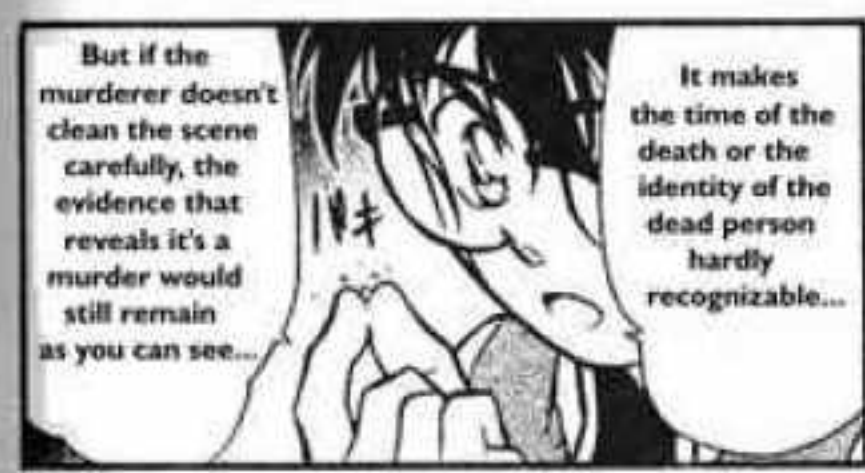
So, if the lime is sprayed on the corpse or around it, because of the rain it will give off heat speeding up the rate of decomposition of the corpse and allows only the bones remain in a short while!

The lime gives off heat when it absorbs water.



Look at this lime carefully!

What?!



But if the murderer doesn't clean the scene carefully, the evidence that reveals it's a murder would still remain as you can see...

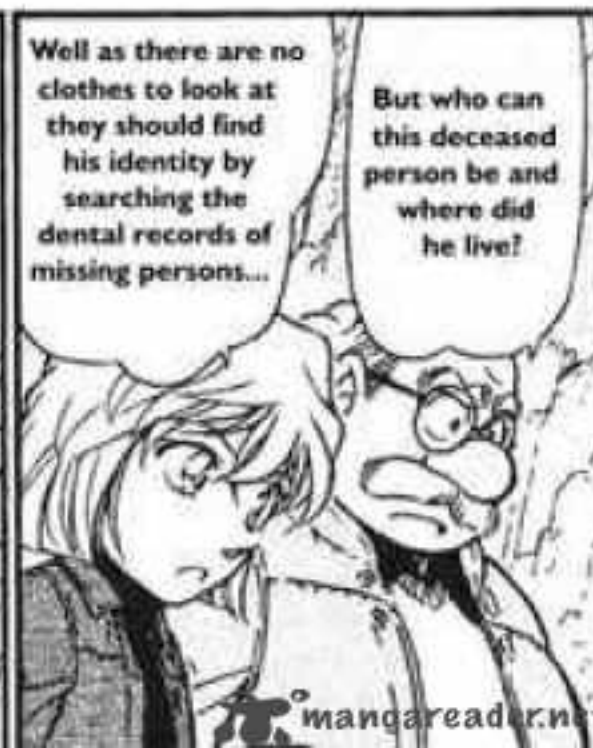
It makes the time of the death or the identity of the dead person hardly recognizable...



But he sent the invitation cards to those people...

It can't be...

P-Perhaps this skull, can this be Kouno-san those people talked about just before?



Well as there are no clothes to look at they should find his identity by searching the dental records of missing persons...

But who can this deceased person be and where did he live?



Eh?

I knew it....

There are only cigarettes!

Cigarettes?!

Yes, this was left by Mr. Kouno...

Maybe this is...



It's his dying message!