

ファイル
FILE.3

三人のアリバイ

Alibis of the Three





YOU PRACTICE IAI, DON'T YOU, MISTER?



EH?



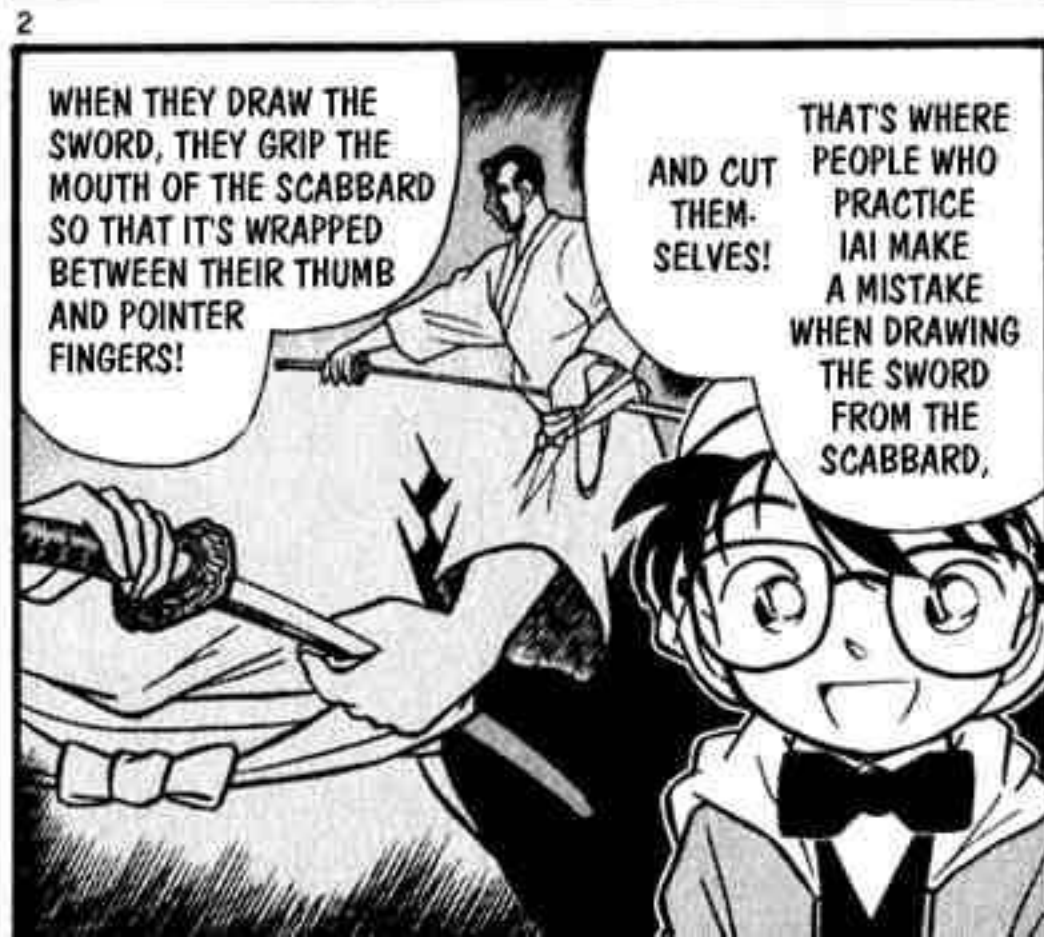
RIGHT BETWEEN YOUR THUMB AND POINTER FINGER?

SEE THOSE THIN SCARS...



FROM YOUR LEFT HAND!

H-HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT, LITTLE BOY...?



WHEN THEY DRAW THE SWORD, THEY GRIP THE MOUTH OF THE SCABBARD SO THAT IT'S WRAPPED BETWEEN THEIR THUMB AND POINTER FINGERS!

THAT'S WHERE PEOPLE WHO PRACTICE IAI MAKE A MISTAKE WHEN DRAWING THE SWORD FROM THE SCABBARD, AND CUT THEMSELVES!





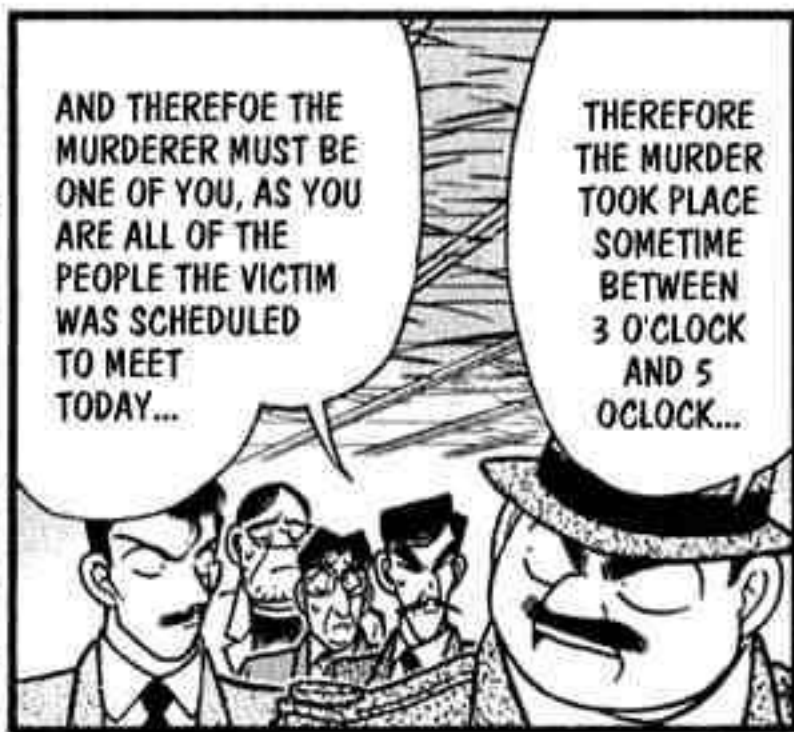




NOW NOW,
PLEASE DON'T
GET FLUSTERED!
WE DON'T HAVE
ANY IDEA WHO
IT COULD
BE!

IT WASN'T
ME!

W-
WHAT?!



AND THEREFOE THE
MURDERER MUST BE
ONE OF YOU, AS YOU
ARE ALL OF THE
PEOPLE THE VICTIM
WAS SCHEDULED
TO MEET
TODAY...

THEREFORE
THE MURDER
TOOK PLACE
SOMETIME
BETWEEN
3 O'CLOCK
AND 5
OCLOCK...



FURTHERMORE,
WE CAN POSTULATE
FROM THE FACT
THE VICTIM HELD
A 3RD RANK
SKILL OF IAI...



WE CAN ASSUME
THE VICTIM WAS
KILLED AT THE
END OF A SWORD
FIGHT WITH THE
MURDERER...

FROM LOOKING
AT THE DISARRAYED
CONDITION OF
THE ROOM AND
THE COUNTLESS
SWORD WOUNDS
ON THE VICTIM...



NO, THIS
IS A MIS-
UNDER-
STANDING!

HEHEHE... SO YOU
CAME BACK TO THE
SCENE OF THE CRIME
TO MAKE SURE YOU
DID THE JOB
RIGHT...

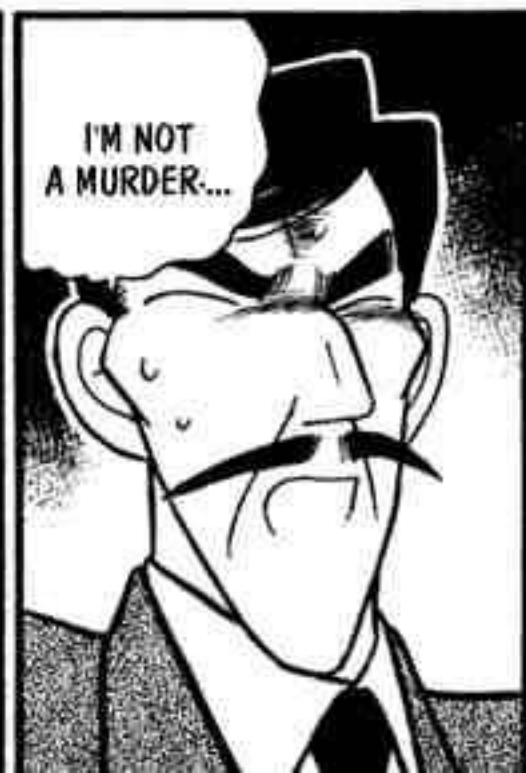


WHAT?!

THAT THE
KILLER WAS
A RATHER
ACCOMPLISHED
SWORDSMAN
HIMSELF...
SUWA
YUUJI-SAN?



HEY,
SOMETHING'S
FUNNY
HERE...



I'M NOT
A MURDERER...





LOOK, ISN'T HE HOLDING THE SWORD BACKWARDS?

EH?



TO-TOU-SAN!

HRM! EVEN MY DAUGHTER HAS TO BUTT IN...

WELL, THAT'S TRUE...



NO, MISTER!

HE MUST HAVE BEEN A SOUTHPAW!



AND THEY ALL THEIR SHINAI WITH THEIR RIGHT HAND IN FRONT AND THE LEFT BEHIND!

I COULD ALWAYS SEE THE KENDO CLUB NEARBY...

WHEN I DID KARATE PRACTICE,



THEN THAT MUST MEAN...

AH...



IT'S LIKE RAN SAYS, HE'S HOLDING THE KATANA BACKWARDS...

HE'S HOLDING IT RIGHT, RIGHT HAND IN FRONT, LEFT HAND BEHIND!



LOOK AT THAT PICTURE!

DAMN BRAT AGAIN...



DOESN'T THIS SEEM LIKE A LOT OF SWORD MARKS ON THE CEILINGS AND WALLS, EVEN FOR A SWORDFIGHT?

AND ALSO...



THAT SOMEONE PUT THIS SWORD IN HIS HANDS?!

EEH?!



IN ORDER TO MAKE IT SEEM AS IF SUWA-SAN, WHO PRACTICES IAI WAS THE ONE!!

YES! THE KILLER MADE ALL THESE SLASHES AROUND THE ROOM TO MAKE IT LOOK AS THE VICTIM CROSSED SWORDS WITH SOMEONE!



AND MUST HAVE ALSO KNOWN SUWA-SAN WOULD BE VISITING AS WELL...

IN OTHER WORDS, THE MURDERER MUST HAVE BEEN ONE OF THOSE VISITING THE VICTIM TODAY...



BUT, WHOEVER IT WAS MADE THE MISTAKE OF PUTTING THE SWORD IN THE WRONG GRIP...

M-MY GOD...



AH, VERY WELL...

FOR MARU-SAN'S SAKE, IT MAY PROVE USEFUL TO THE INVESTIGATION TO HAVE ME START...

PLEASE WAIT, INSPECTOR!



ANYWAY! WHY DON'T I HAVE YOU TWO TELL ME YOUR NAMES AND YOUR REASONS FOR COMING TODAY...

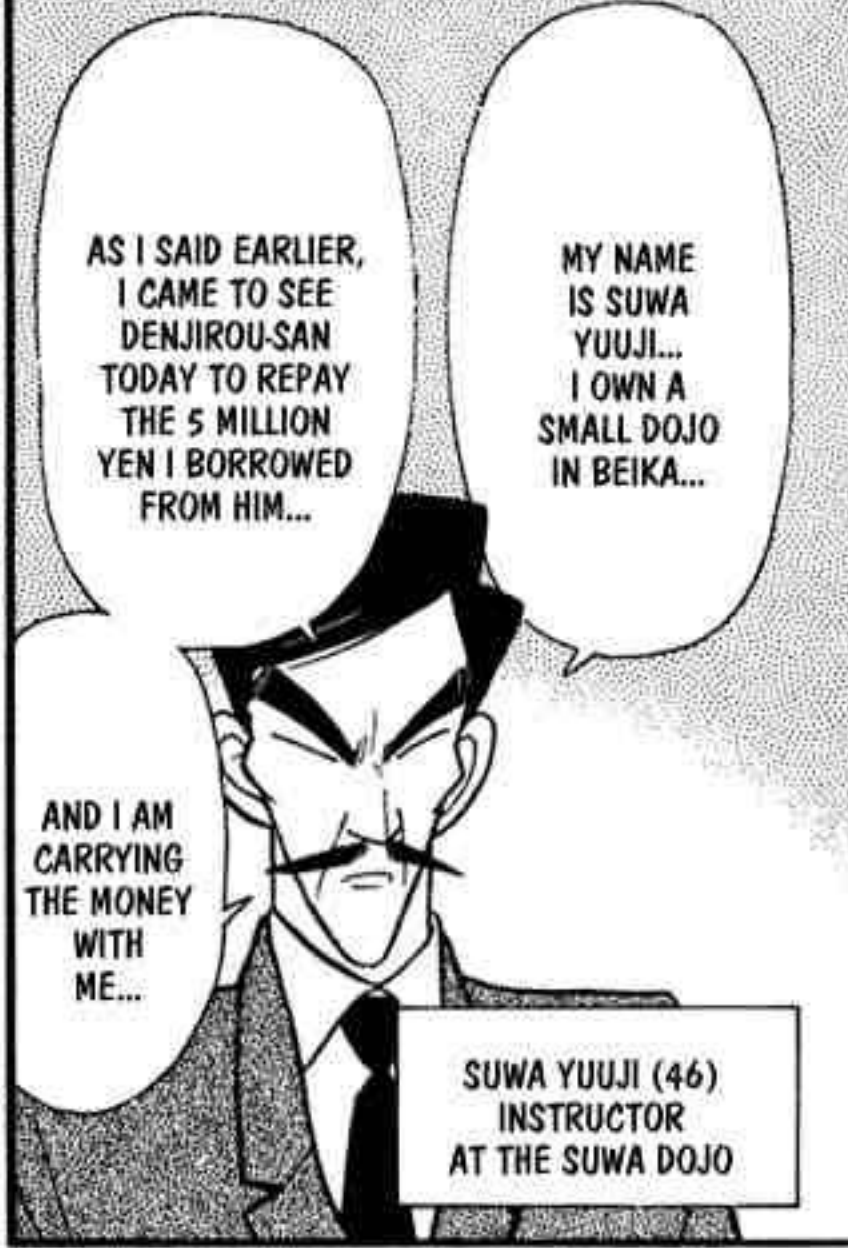
ME NEITHER...

HEY MAN, I DON'T NOTHIN' ABOUT THAT GUY!!



I MUST HAVE BEEN MEDITATING IN THE DOJO BY MYSELF AT THAT TIME...

JUST TO BE SURE, WHERE WERE YOU DURING THE INTERVAL IN WHICH THE CRIME TOOK PLACE, FROM 3 O'CLOCK TO 5 O'CLOCK?



AS I SAID EARLIER, I CAME TO SEE DENJIROU-SAN TODAY TO REPAY THE 5 MILLION YEN I BORROWED FROM HIM...

MY NAME IS SUWA YUUJI... I OWN A SMALL DOJO IN BEIKA...

AND I AM CARRYING THE MONEY WITH ME...

SUWA YUUJI (46)
INSTRUCTOR
AT THE SUWA DOJO



HUH? ME?

VERY WELL... NEXT!



NO, THERE ISN'T...

AND THERE IS NO ONE WHO CAN VERIFY THAT CLAIM?



I BORROWED SOME MONEY JUST LIKE THIS GUY DID! BUT MINE WAS 10 MILLION!

I'M AKUTSU MAKOTO, AN ENGRAVER!!

AKUTSU MAKOTO (48)
ENGRAVER



WHAT?!

SO YOU DON'T HAVE AN ALIBI EITHER...



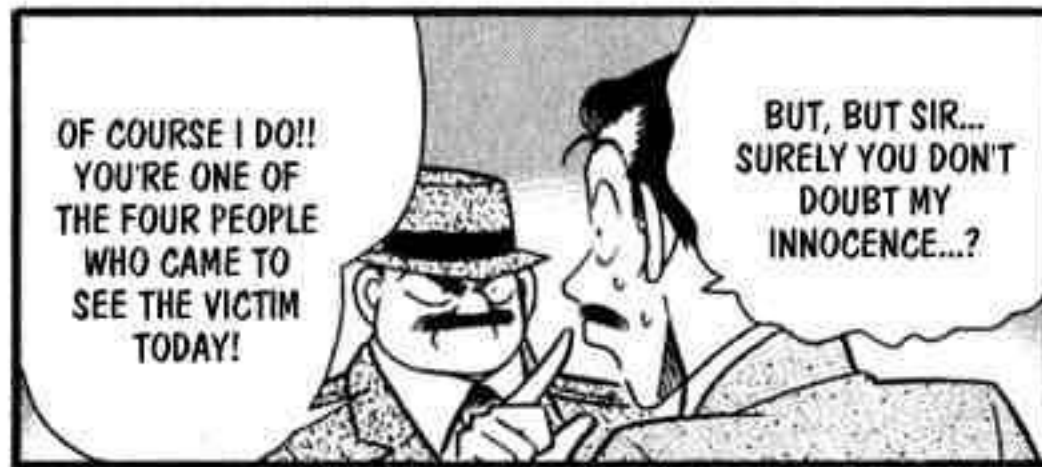
FROM 3 TO 5 O'CLOCK, I WAS WORKING ON MY PRODUCTS IN THE STUDIO...

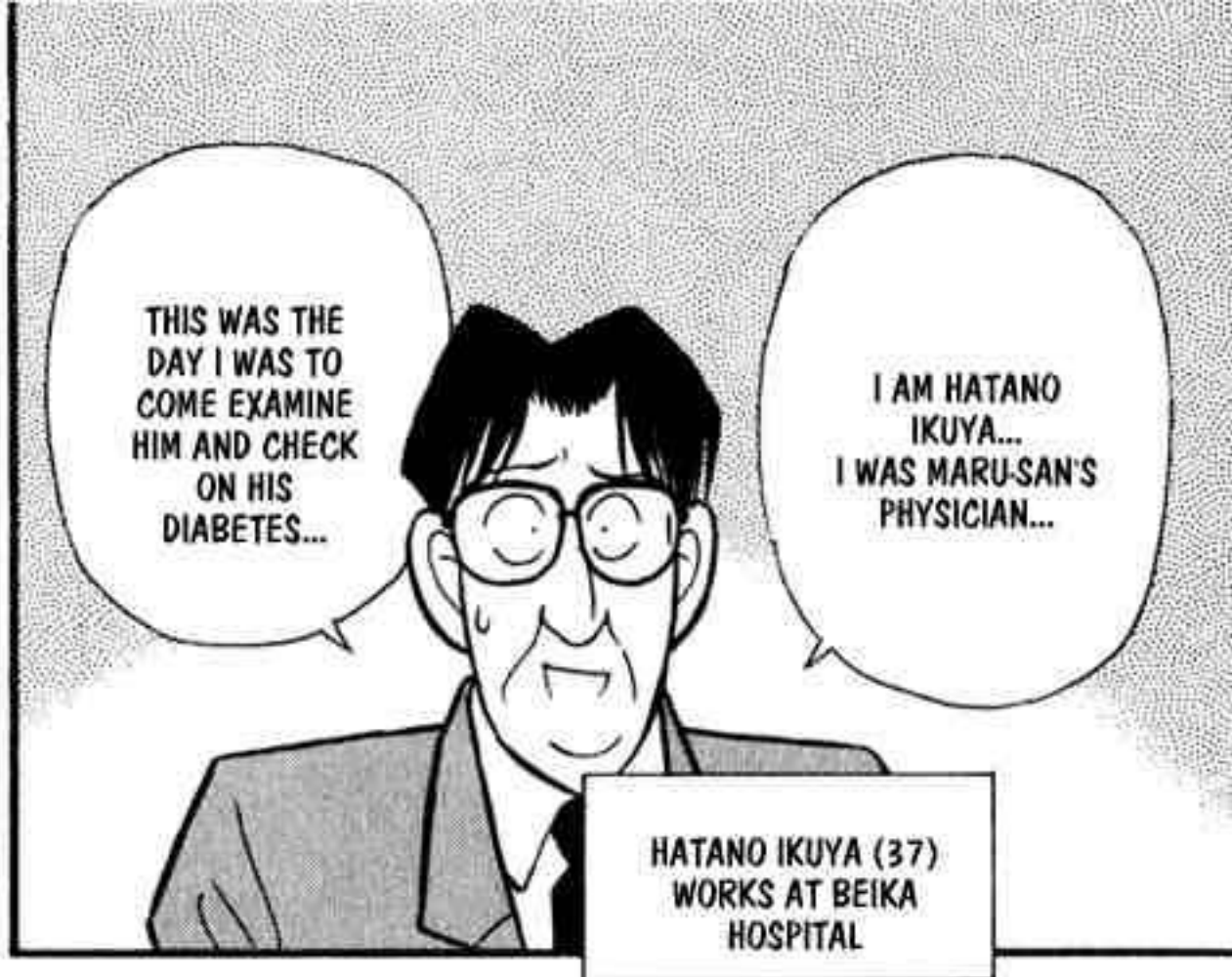


UH, WELL, I WAS GOING TO, BUT I COULDN'T MAKE IT UP IN TIME...

AND YOU CAME TO RETURN THE MONEY...?

SO I CAME TO DISCUSS LENGTHENING THE LOAN PERIOD...











**PLEASE
WAIT,
INSPECTOR!**



AAHH!

**DO I NEED
TO DO THIS
THE HARD WAY?
SHALL I ASK
YOU THE TRUTH
BACK AT THE
STATION?**



**BECAUSE
FROM LUNCH
TO THIS
EVENING...**

**HATANO-
SENSEI
IS INNO-
CENT...**



MADAM...?



**WHAT
IS IT
NOW...?**

.....

**AT THE
HOTEL...?**



**THIS
MAN...**

**DON'T YOU
UNDER-
STAND
YET?**



**HE WAS
WITH ME
AT THE
BEIKA
HOTEL!!**



IS THE
ONE I'M
HAVING
AN AFFAIR
WITH!!



WHAT?!



THE
PER-
SON...



THIS
IS...



YES,
THAT'S
RIGHT!

THEN, THE MAN
IN THE PHOTOGRAPHS
I TOOK WHEN
INVESTIGATING
YOUR INFIDELITY
IS...



YOU'RE
TALKING
ABOUT!







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