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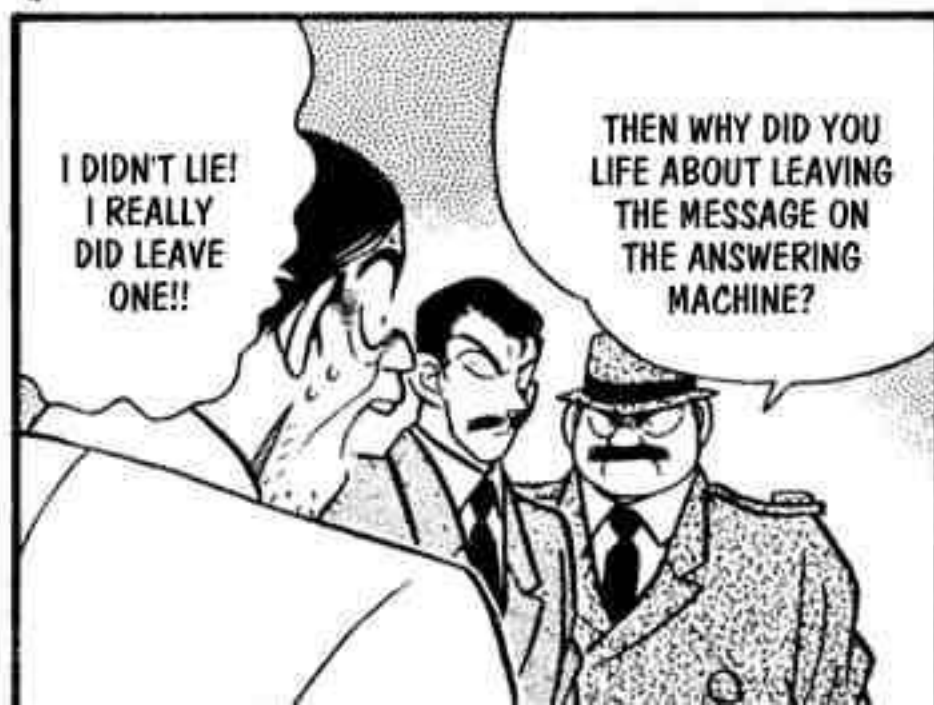
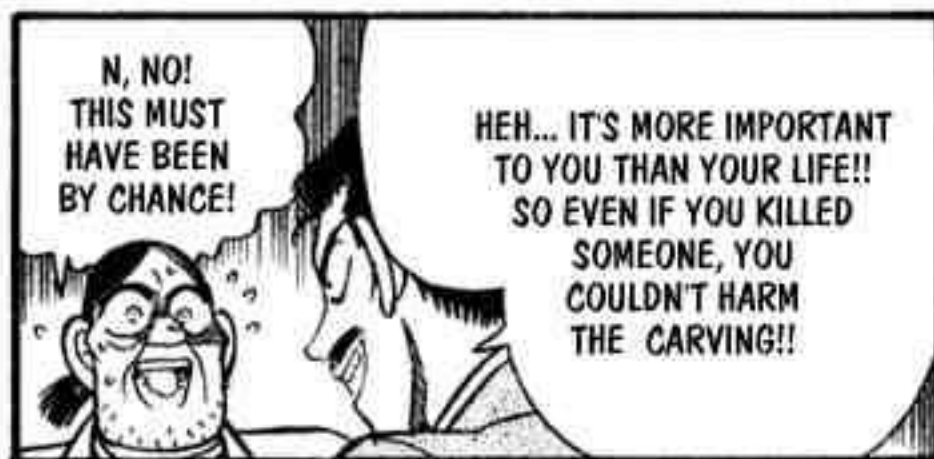
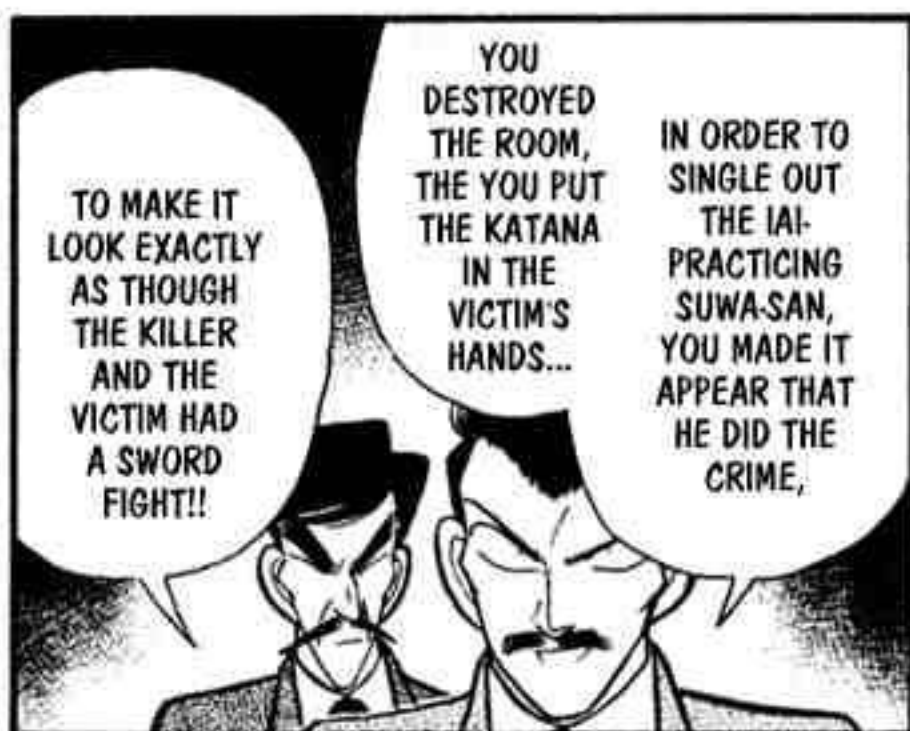
留守番電話の謎

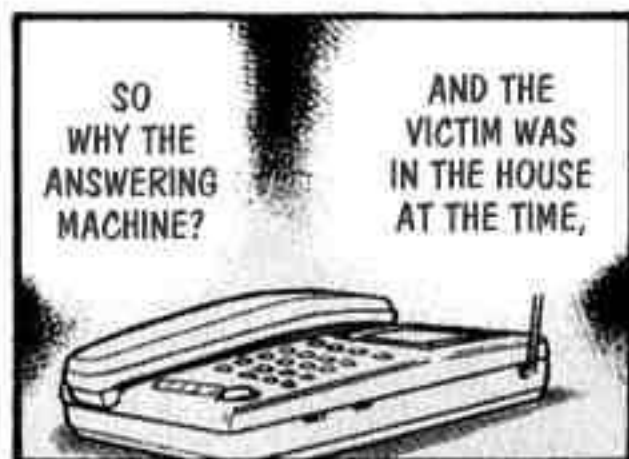
The Mystery of the Answering Machine













WHEN I THOUGHT I FINALLY GOT THROUGH, IT WAS JUST THE ANSWERING MACHINE...

OH YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT, IT RANG A BUNCH OF TIMES...



HEY MISTER! WHEN YOU CALLED, WAS THERE ANYTHING WEIRD ABOUT IT?



YEAH, I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT...

YOU HEARD IT, RIGHT, TOU-SAN? WE GOT WORRIED BECAUSE NO ONE CAME TO ANSWER IT...

WASN'T THAT THE FIRST CALL, THAT RAN A LOT OF TIMES?



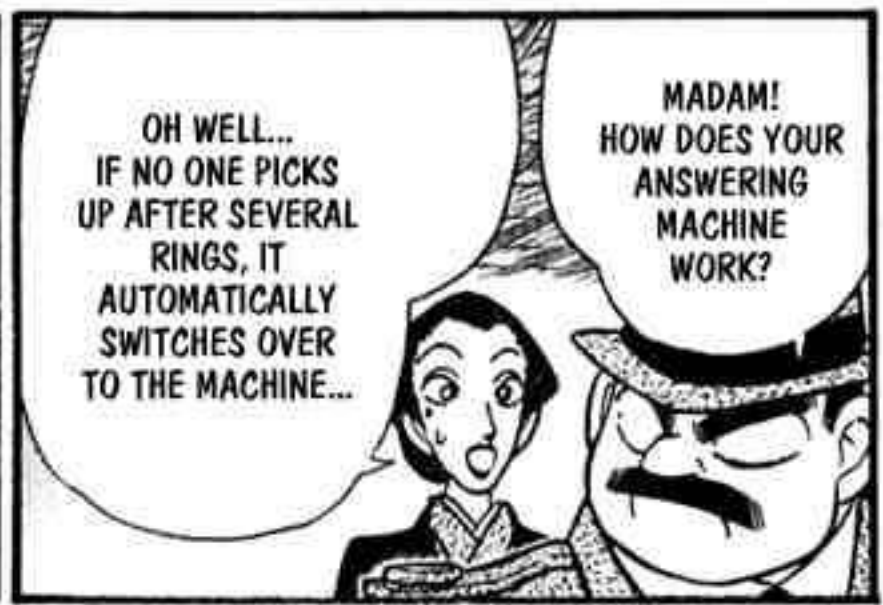
LIKE, YOU DIDN'T GET THROUGH, OR...



HM! JUST WAIT, LET ME CHECK ONE MORE TIME!

SEE?! JUST LIKE I SAID!

whirl



OH WELL... IF NO ONE PICKS UP AFTER SEVERAL RINGS, IT AUTOMATICALLY SWITCHES OVER TO THE MACHINE...

MADAM! HOW DOES YOUR ANSWERING MACHINE WORK?



I wish to talk about your iai advancement test next month...

This is Suwa... I think I will come a little earlier than our agreed time of 6 o'clock...

Beep



The appointment time is 5 o'clock, so I'm leaving right now... bye...

Click

4:38...

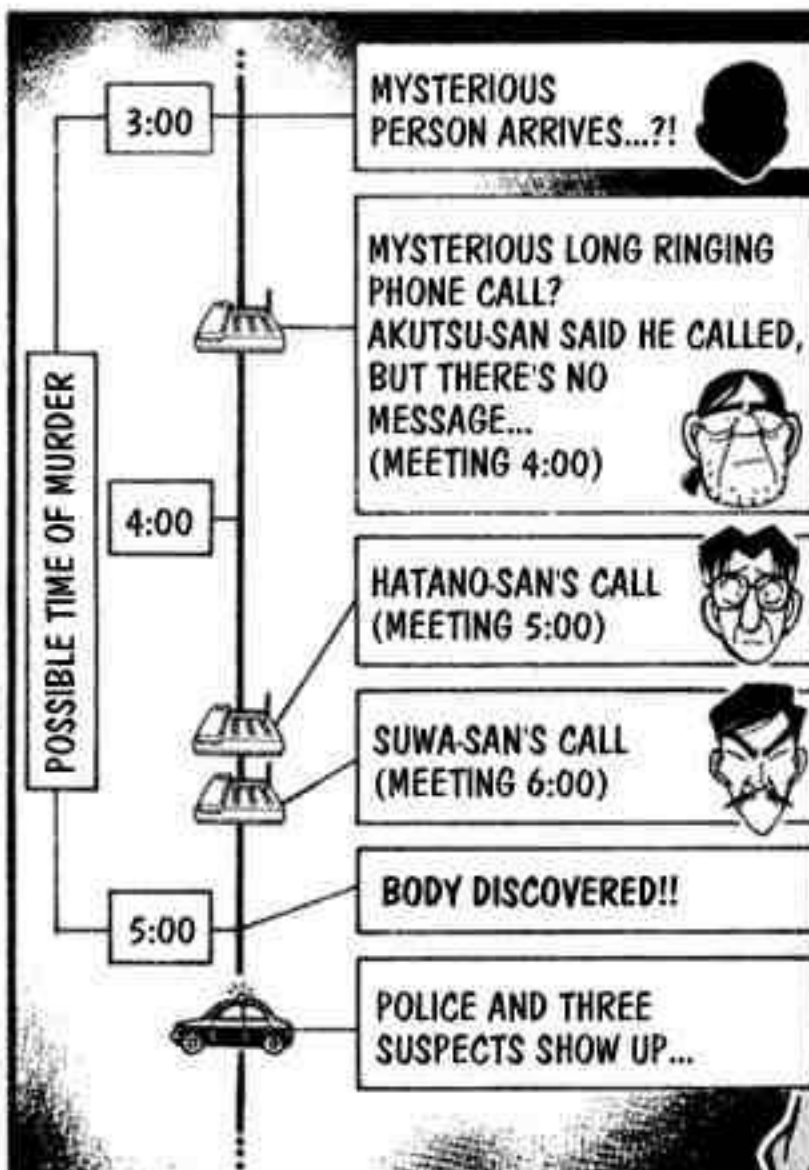
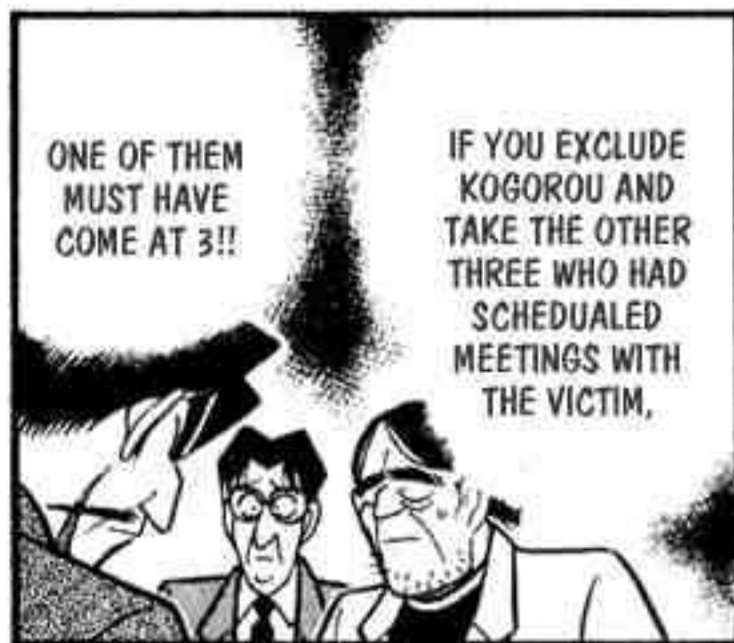
Uh, this is Hatano... Maru-san are you there? oh dear...

Beep





AKUTSU-SAN SAID, 'I'LL BE LATE', AT 4 O'CLOCK!





THINK ABOUT IT!
PLEASE, INSPECTOR...
IF I WAS THE ONE,
I WOULD HAVE TAKEN
THE CARVING HOME
WITH ME!!

THEN
THE CULPRIT
MUST BE...

HMM...
YOU COULD
HAVE BEEN
CARRYING
SOME-
THING
ELSE...



WAIT...
OUT OF THE
THREE, ONLY
ONE OF THEM
IS SAYING A
STRANGE
MESSAGE...

IN A WAY
THAT A
NORMAL
PERSON
WOULDN'T
SAY IT...



!?



THE KEY TO
THE SAFE
SHOULD
BE IN THE
CABINET

MA'AM, ARE
THERE ANY
OTHER VALU-
ABLES IN
THIS ROOM?



WHAT?!



IT'S GONE?!
THE SAFE
KEY IS GONE!!



BUT IT'S STRANGE...
MY HUSBAND ALWAYS
KEPT IT IN
HERE...



MADAM...

AH,
HERE IT IS,
IN ANOTHER
DRAWER...



DON'T BE
STUPID...

THEN
YOU DID
DO IT...



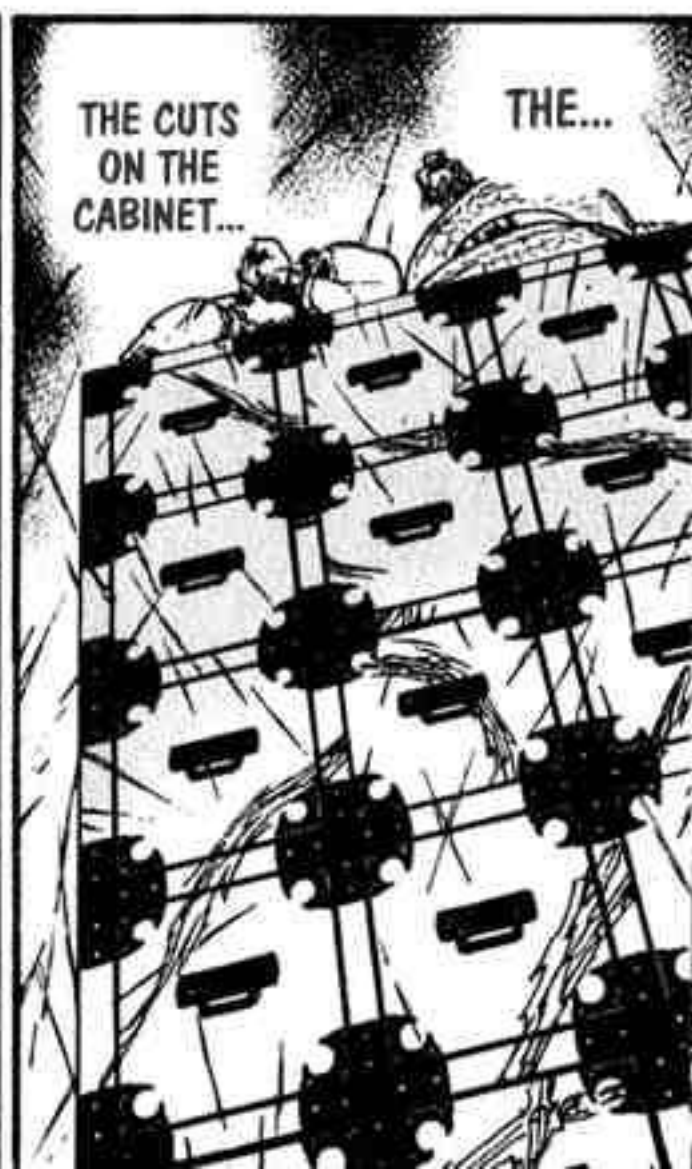
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THAT
MEANS...



THEY DON'T
CONNECT!!



THE CUTS
ON THE
CABINET...

THE...









THE CUTS ALL
OVER THE ROOM
WEREN'T JUST
TO IMPLICATE
SUWA-SAN...

I SEE NOW...
SO THAT'S
IT...

THEY HAD
THIS MEANING
TOO...



ALL RIGHT,
I'LL USE THE
DARTS IN MY
WATCH...

AND
MAKE
HIM FALL
ASLEEP...



I HAVE TO
LET THEM KNOW
ABOUT THIS
RIGHT NOW...



AS
USUAL...

PUN!



NEXT I USE THE BOW-TIE VOICE CHANGER TO MAKE HIS VOICE...

ZZZZ...

O OTOU-SAN?



HMM... YOU'RE FINE FOR TODAY...

AND I TOO, IF POSSIBLE...

UMM... MAY I GO HOME NOW? I HAVE SOME WORK AFTER THIS...

SHIT...



H-HEY, WHOA...

VERY WELL, AKUTSU-SAN! I THINK I'LL TAKE YOU DOWN TO THE STATION FOR QUESTIONING...



'CAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO KEEP ME ANYWAY!!

I GOT IT! YOU POLICE CAN TAKE ME ANYWHERE THE HELL YOU FEEL LIKE!!



M, MOURI-KUN...?

EH?



WAIT JUST ONE SECOND!



I,
INGENIOUS
TRICK...?

THIS TIME I
TRULY DO
UNDERSTAND,
INSPECTOR...



THE
CULPRIT...

THE
ONE WHO
KILLED
MARU
DENJIROU-
SAN...



YES...
THE TRICK
THAT WAS
USED TO
DECEIVE
OUR EYES...

OH...
YOU MEAN THAT?
THE WAY THE
ROOM WAS
DESTROYED TO
MAKE THE CRIME
APPEAR TO BE
SOMEONE?
ELSE'S...



AND I
KNOW WHO IT
WAS THAT
COMMITTED THE
HOMICIDE AND
USED THIS
INGENIOUS
TRICK...



**WAS
YOU!!!**

