You ascend the ornate staircase to the next floor. At the top, you find a door with an ox engraved into it. Upon opening the door, you are greeted with a strange room, completely different aesthetically from the rest of the building. The floor is lined with a strange small white tiles. Tables and chairs of a strangely western appearance fill the room. At the far side is a large red counter with a large sign suspended from the ceiling above it. The sign seems to be illuminated by some strange magic. It speaks of strange gibberish, listing “deals”, “chicken nuggets”, and something called the “happy hour”, likely referring to when sacrificial rituals are scheduled to begin. Behind the counter is a window leading into what looks to be a kitchen of some sort.

Suddenly, a figure leaps up from behind the counter! (was he just ducking below it, waiting for you?) A man in glorious samurai armor stands before you. The armor is gold, with red and blue accents. Instead of wearing a helmet, he wears a golden crown. His face seems rather lanky with short hair and freckles. His skin is pale, as if he hasn’t gotten much sun. Certainly because he is a warrior of the night. He opens his mouth and begins speaking, his voice shrill and breaking. (Surely an intimidation method)

“Halt!” he screeches. “I am like, the first Zodiak member of this tower, man! I am the fearless, the powerful, the handsome samurai, BURGER QUEEN EMPLOYEE! My beef patties, like, represent cows, which are, like, kinda like oxen!” Dear God!!! Convoluted explanations for how he represents a bull aside, a man with such a powerful-sounding name must be of incredible strength!

“I am, like, gonna kill you now!” he continues, drawing his weapon. It appears to be an incredibly long, razor-sharp spatula! He readies his blade, then stops.

“But, like, before ya die, ya gotta try our new soft serve! We just got this new machine, and we’ve confirmed that it’s, like, unbreakable! We had it built out of this new material and everything! It’s called neverbreakium! It’s completely unbreakable to all things except pandas, which I, like, see you have one, so like, please don’t break it, man.”

Within the room is the mighty BURGER QUEEN EMPLOYEE. The only obvious exit is a door to the EAST with a sign that says “SOFT SERVE”.

[east]

The room beyond the door is very large, but completely empty other than a strange metal contraption at the far end. Another glowing sign is attached. This one says “SOFT SERVE”. This strange SOFT SERVE MACHINE seems to be some sort of device for making materials softer.

[use bamboo]

Use bamboo on what?

[soft serve machine]

Upon throwing the piece of bamboo at the machine, BUSTA KILLA roars and charges toward it. Slamming his body into it, the device crunches and curls, sparks flying off of it. You hear a panicked scream from the main room as BURGER QUEEN EMPLOYEE runs in.

“Stop, stop, what are you doing?!” he shouts. “That was, like, 300,000 yen, man!”

He approaches the machine carefully, trying to assess the damage. As he leans forward, ice cream is shot at high-power into his face, knocking him to the ground. He gets up, dazed, and says “I’m oka-”

Before he can say anything else, the machine explodes, reducing him to ash.

The room contains ASH and the exit is WEST.

[examine ash]

On his body you find the KEY to the next floor and a bag. The bag is labeled “Inconceivable Whapper! Now made with bamboo!” You may be able to use this as bait for Busta Killa!

[west]

You are back in the strange room with the tables. A door that wasn’t there before leads to the WEST.

[open door]

The door is locked.

[use key]

On what