Chapter 29: Thumb Turn Bypass

1===

[Thumb Turn bypassing is a technique used by criminals to break through a door,]

[By inserting the tool through the door slit or mail box opening,]

Label: Outside, Inside, thumb turn

[The invader will be able to twist the thumb turn from the outside,]

[Bypass the locking mechanism, and open the door]

2===

To successfully setup the evidence, it is important to create a “locked room mystery”.

Therefore, any destructive entry is a no go...

I’ll be inserting the tool from the door slit…

First…

I need to search for photos of this apartment building…

Got it! Housing ads!

Inside views…

Label: {

* Elevator
* Parking included
* Pets allowed (see details)}

Building view (left -> right):

{  
Closet

Bath

6 sqm

Washroom

LDK (living/dining/kitchen) 12 sqm

Balcony

}

7 minutes from bus stop

10 year

9th floor

3===

This one! Picture of the doorway…

Thumb turn… location and shape…!!

Alright…!!

Let’s do this…

Through the slit

Sfx: tssss tssss

[Inside]

Sfx: tssss tsss

Did it go through…?

4===

Then… bring it around….

Like…

This?

Sfx: tsss

...Oh?

Feels like it’s touching the inside of the door…?

Then move it down to the position of the thumb turn…

Sfx: Ding~

5===

Shit… Someone is coming! Pull it out!

Eh?

Stuck…!?

It’s out!

It can’t be Kyoichi!?

6===

... It’s not him, thank god…

Hello~

Hi…

Phew…

Good, he didn’t suspect anything…

I’m running out of time! Let’s try again!

[If I can’t get back to Reika’s apartment before Kyoichi returns, it’s over…]

7===

Assume I need 30 minutes to get back…

Sfx: Ring

Considering the location where Kyoichi and Reika are meeting… and the time he needs…

It's from home! It's from my wife!

Sfx: Ring

Phone: Home

Hello? Tetsuo?

Kasen? How did it go?

It's fine, I brought Reika back home.

Really? Good!

As expected of you…

8===

Thank God…

They are fine…

Wait…? In that case Kyoichi…

Ah Reika?

Hey Dad?

Where are you? What are you doing?

Kyoichi should be on his way back to Reika's apartment right now…

I thought you were taking time off for your injury?

Shit! I don’t have time…!!

9===

Sorry…! I have some other things to deal with…

Weekend…

I will properly rest this weekend!

Tssss---

He hang up…

For the three of us…

To safely…

Make it to the weekend.

I have to open this… as soon as possible…!

Sfx: zu zu

[Tosu Tetsuo did not notice…]

10===

[He could not notice…]

Pull

Sfx: pa da

[As someone who often breaks into other houses…]

[Kyoichi is using protections against the thumb turn technique.]

Shit…!

It won't open…!!

11===

I guess a video tutorial alone is enough…?

Should I continue…!?

Or should I seek other options…!?

This is a gamble…!!

There are no guarantees to neither option...!!

[Continue…]

[Other ways…]

[Continue…]

[Seek other ways…!!]

12===

Home invasion is just an idea from mystery novels,

To find realistic ways to break in…

First step is to look for "unique features of the building"...!!

There is floor plan, like the one from the housing ads…

Kyoichi apartment is on the 9th floor of a 10 floor building…!!

If possible…

Invade from the roof…!!

Sign: do not enter, management

Ha

Ha

13===

Of course it's locked…!!

Other path…

Window..!!

Ka da

It's open…!!

This window…

14===

I should be able to go through, barely…

But the roof…

No fence or rail to hang rappel off of…

Sfx: clap clap

Hand…!

How long has it been since it’s last opened…

I'll wipe it clean for now so it won't leave any traces…

15===

But what is the point of cleaning it…?

Thumb turn bypass failed…

I don't have time or tool to get down to Kyoichi's apartment...

I need to go back to Reika's apartment, so there is no time...

Or let Kasen do it!? No way, it’s too dangerous…

Even if I made it down to Kyoichi's balcony, there is no way to open the door without leaving traces…

16===

If invasion is impossible…

Then I can't place the evidence…

Isn't this…already…

checkmate…?

17===

I will protect Reika,

And you will protect the two of us…

Don't stop…!

Keep moving…!

Keep thinking…!

There has to be something…!!

First…

Get back…!!

18===

Stop by the hardware store…

I will be right back!

Black light,

Stapler and scissors…

Sandpaper

And phone charger…

I will prepare it…

On my way back…!!

19===

Paka

Paka

It's done!

Sir?

We have arrived…

Ah okay!

This is 3000!

No need for change!!

20===

Fuck…

Fooling me around…

Wasted two hours of my time.

Huh? Why are you so tired?

I'm… sorry...i was… bored… So I… Did some exercise…

End