Chapter 32

One out of two

1===

According to your "theory"...

Someone could have messed with this room and placed something here right?

Yes!

[Of course, this is to buy time,]

[So I did not bring the evidence.]

2===

However…

Can you spot any changes?

Sfx open switch

… I only come here to sleep…

[There must be opportunities to turn this around…]

[There must be!]

It's mostly boxes i haven't opened since I moved in.

There are hardly any boxes…

But for an empty room…

There sure is a lot of kitchenware…

3===

But i think it's better if we open the boxes and check.

But the tape is still intact?

No,

Maybe the entire box had been swapped,

It's a very common method!

I'm using anti-pick locks so it's unlikely to be broken into in the first place…

Uhhh… I've seen it in mystery novels,

Where the entire door was destroyed then replaced to create the 'closed room'.

...ha?

4===

It's not very realistic…

But someone could have stolen the spare key from the landlord,

Or one of your colleagues created a copy of your key.

Then…

If, someone really tried to frame me for the disappearance of Nobuto,

What would they put on my home?

...uh, something realistic would be…

Wallet or cellphone… something he always carries on him…

5===

But there isn't anything…

It seems so…

Put it back…

Uhh… then… Maybe they is something in the fridge…

I'll take a look.

Eh?

What?

You had a lot of kitchenware, so i assumed you'd have a lot of ingredients as well…

It's because I'm busy.

So… you cook when you have time?

6===

I told you right? That I'm opening a diner?

Ah! Yes you did…

So he was serious…

There isn't anything weird here.

Uhh…

Other places…

Maybe something on the balcony…?

Wait, stay here.

I'll go.

7===

I see.. please…

Sfx sha sha

He's worried that I'll figure out the floor number? Though I already know.

He is still very cautious…

There's nothing.

I see…

Absolutely no openings…!

Even though I'm already at this step…!?

Uhh… next…

Is this the bedroom?

8===

There is the closet… just like in the floor plan…

What's in the closet?

… Safe.

Safe!?

9===

… ah, is it because of the anti gang act?

Pretty much. Our organization hasn't been designated as a yakuza so it's fine…

But if we are, the bank account will be frozen.

Almost no one uses bank.

Eh!? You are not designated!?

… Yeah… we disband every two month,

When we regroup we change the name and members.

So that's how it is…?

So it's more like a shadow organization rather than a yakuza…?

10===

Eh? But someone mentioned some kind of fee… #check chap1

[Nobuto said that.]

… Is that related to what we are doing?

Sorry…

[So the parent organization is still yakuza?]

Something like this…?

Graph:

Yakuza

Kubo Nobuto father

Shadow organization

Takeda Kyoichi Nobuto others

Bottom level

11===

Then the one running the club…

No, just want to chat…

We should check the safe as well…

[I want info on that safe!]

Turn around.

Okay.

If you look I'll kill you.

12===

Sfx: bi bi bi bi

[Four digits.]

[Dial pad.]

Ka-cha

...Can i turn around?

No.

Sfx close

Okay.

13===

Nothing unusual.

...i see…

Satisfied?

Hold on,

How difficult would it be if someone want to put something into the safe?

I think it's possible to open it right?

Only i know the password.

Even if they guess randomly, there is only one in ten thousand chance of opening it…

So it is a numbered dial pad.

14===

No, if we don't think carefully it might be bad for us.

It they are trying to frame you, they'll probably hide the evidence somewhere difficult to find,

We should check all the storage spaces just to be safe…

Why,

Why are you trying so hard?

If I become the culprit wouldn't you be the one benefiting from it?

15===

Uh….

That's because…

[Shit! I did not prepare an answer for this question!]

Bending the truth… is not something I want as a fan mystery stories…

No, I lied.

It's because I believe I will benefit from it.

Ho…? How so…?

16===

If Takeda-an try to frame you…

I think we could become allies and frame Takeda-san instead…

Haha,

17===

Me? Teaming up with you…?

Haha… we would becone the strongest team…

Huh?

You make be laugh!

What Takeda thinks is a different matter from finding the culprit.

I think it's you…

…! But why…

Why do you keep think that? That I'm the culprit…

18===

… Because I think you are suspicious.

"Justice sides with power",

That's why I joined the syndicate.

My father had conflicts sigh yakuza and committed suicide, when i was in grade 2.

I don't think it's suicide, but murder.

But the yakuza had the numbers, destroying evidence, providing allebi for each other,

Making the culprit disappear.

… Is what i think.

19===

Uh… that yakuza and your organization…

It's different.

"The weak does not even have the right for justice"...

Which is why…

This time...

With the backing of the "power"...

**I will do what I think is right**!

[This is not what i intended to find out…]

20===

[But at this moment,]

[I knew,]

[Tomorrow… one of us…]

[...Will die.]

Therefore, the day I team up with you,

Will never happen!

End.