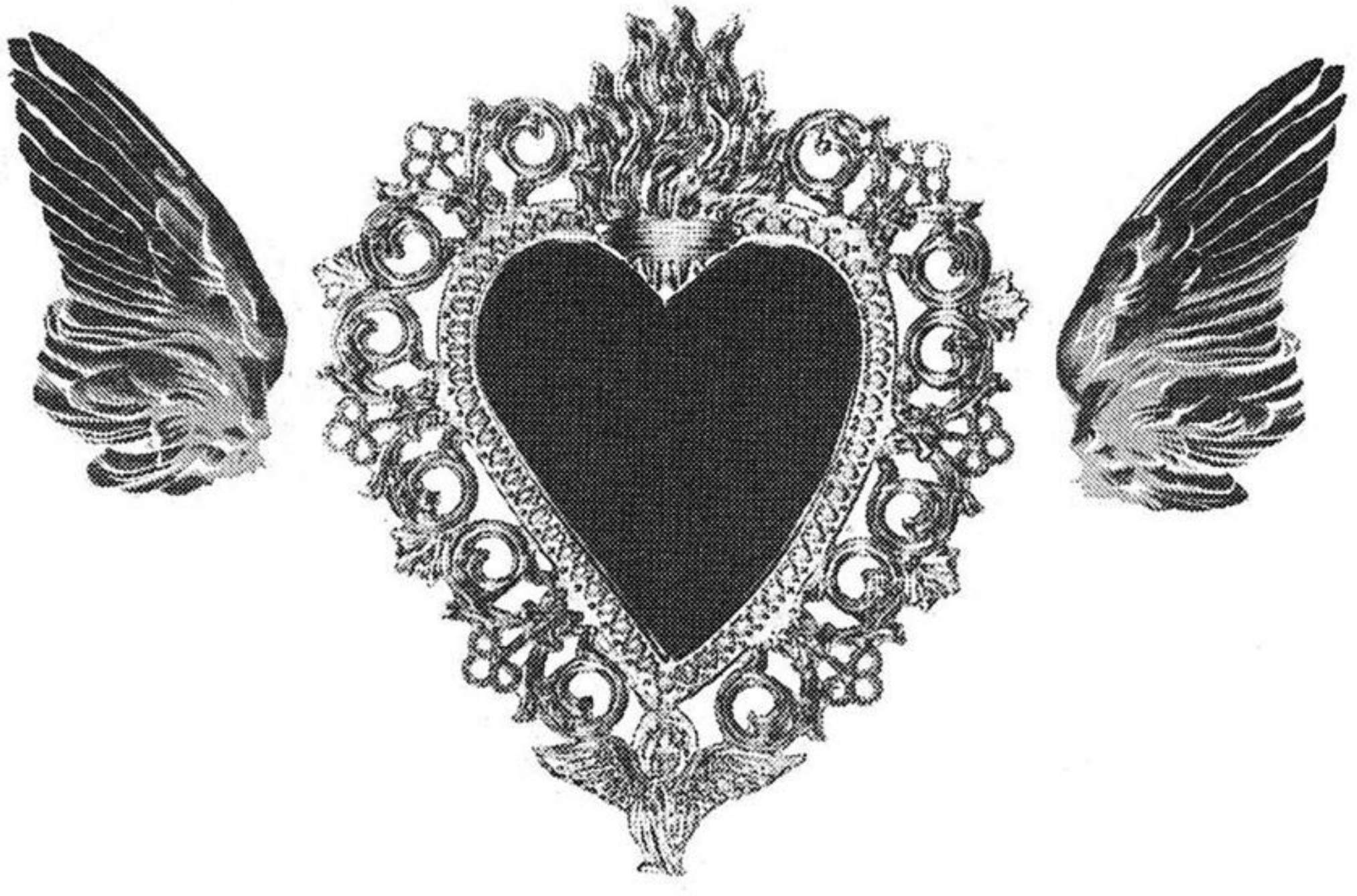


chapter 23 Hard Run

THE ONLY LEAD WE HAVE IS THE HOTEL EMPLOYEE'S STATEMENT THAT SHE HASN'T BEEN BACK SINCE LATE AT NIGHT ON DECEMBER 27...

AS FOR NAOMI MISORA...

HOTEL

SO IF WE OPEN AN OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION, WE SHOULD KEEP QUIET ABOUT THE KIRA ANGLE AND RELEASE ONLY SKETCHES OF HER, NOT PHOTOS.

IF WE GO PUBLIC SAYING HER DISAPPEARANCE IS RELATED TO THE KIRA CASE, THERE'S A CHANCE KIRA WOULD KILL HER IF SHE'S STILL ALIVE.

THERE'S A LIMIT TO HOW MUCH WE CAN FIND OUT WITH JUST A COUPLE PEOPLE ASKING AROUND.

ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME THAT WE STARTED AN OFFICIAL SEARCH?

BUT IF WE DO, THEY'LL BE INTERESTED ALL RIGHT, BUT THEY WON'T GET INVOLVED BECAUSE THEY'RE AFRAID OF KIRA.

MAN...THIS IS REALLY HARD. IF WE DON'T TIE IT TO THE KIRA CASE, PEOPLE WON'T BE INTERESTED.

READ THIS WAY

IN WHICH CASE, THERE'S NO POINT EVEN SEARCH-ING FOR HER...

DEAD WOMEN TELL NO TALE...?

SHE CAN'T BE ALIVE...

SHE'S BEEN MISSING FOR FOUR WHOLE MONTHS NOW...

WHAT IS IT?

RYU-ZAKI!

BUT IF SOMEONE HEARD SOME-THING FROM HER, YOU'D THINK THEY'D HAVE COME FORWARD LONG AGO.

AND IT'S ODD THAT HER BODY'S NEVER TURNED UP. IF IT DID, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO FIND ANOTHER LEAD THERE.

EVEN IF SHE'S DEAD, SOMEONE MIGHT'VE TALKED TO HER AND HEARD SOMETHING.

BIP

SAKURA TV, QUICK... YOU HAVE TO SEE THIS!

A Message from Kira
Four Terrifying Videos

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

HELD HOSTAGE BY KIRA?

I WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE ONCE AGAIN THAT THESE TAPES ARE NOT BEING BROADCAST AS A HOAX OR FOR PURPOSES OF SENSATIONALISM.

IN OTHER WORDS, WE ARE BEING HELD HOSTAGE BY KIRA AND HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO AIR THESE VIDEOS. AT THE SAME TIME, WE FEEL THAT DOING SO IS OUR PROFESSIONAL DUTY.

5:54

A Message from Kira Four Terrifying Videos

EXACTLY AS PREDICTED, THESE TWO MEN DIED YESTERDAY AT SEVEN P.M. OF HEART ATTACKS.

THE FIRST TAPE ANNOUNCED THE TIME AND DATE OF DEATH FOR SEIICHI AND SEIJI MACHIBA, WHO WERE ARRESTED THE OTHER DAY.

WE'RE LOOKING AT RATINGS OF 60 PERCENT, NO, 70 PERCENT FOR SURE ...

FOUR DAYS AGO, AN ENVELOPE CONTAINING FOUR VIDEOTAPES ARRIVED AT THIS STATION, ADDRESSED TO ONE OF OUR DIRECTORS. IT WAS, WITHOUT A SHADOW OF A DOUBT, SENT BY KIRA.

...IF THIS IS REALLY TRUE, THEY'RE RIGHT. NOBODY BESIDES KIRA COULD DO THAT...

WHO BESIDES KIRA IS CAPABLE OF CARRYING OUT SOMETHING LIKE THIS? FROM THIS FACT, WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT THE SENDER OF THESE VIDEOS WAS NONE OTHER THAN KIRA.

WE HAVE NOT VIEWED THIS VIDEO OURSELVES, BUT KIRA'S INSTRUCTIONS STATE THAT IT FORETELLS YET ANOTHER DEATH-

THE ENVELOPE WE RECEIVED CONTAINED INSTRUCTIONS FROM KIRA TELLING US TO AIR THIS, THE SECOND VIDEO, AT EXACTLY 5:59 P.M. TODAY.

56

...essage from Kira Four Terrifying Videos

AND CONTAINS A MESSAGE TO PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD.

5:55

...

THE TIME IS 5:59 P.M. YOU ARE NOW GOING TO SEE KIRA'S VIDEO.

NO WAY... NOT EVEN SAKURA WOULD GO THIS FAR...

THIS HAS GOT TO BE ANOTHER ONE OF THEIR FAKE STORIES, RIGHT...?

...FUZZY, MACHINE-GARBLED VOICE AND HANDWRITTEN LETTERS... OBVIOUSLY RECORDED ON A HOME VIDEO CAMERA...

559

I AM KIRA.

KIRA

559

IT IS NOW 5:59 AND 38, 39, 40 SECONDS...

IF THIS VIDEO IS AIRED EXACTLY AT 5:59 P.M. ON APRIL 18TH...

IS THAT OUT OF RIVALRY? OR IS THAT ALL HE COULD COME UP WITH...? EITHER WAY, THIS IS JUST TOO CHILDISH... IS THAT ON PURPOSE...?

559

GOTHIC FONT OF THE SAME TYPE I USED WHEN I DID THAT BROADCAST...

KIRA

BIP

NO WAY...

WHAT THE...

CHANGE THE CHANNEL!

PLEASE SWITCH CHANNELS TO TAIYO TV.

THE NEWS ANCHOR, MR. KAZUHIKO HIBIMA, WILL DIE OF A HEART ATTACK AT PRECISELY SIX P.M.

SWITCH BACK TO SAKURA.

!

6:00

日休 私語

MR. HIBIMA HAS CONSISTENTLY REFERRED TO KIRA AS "EVIL" IN HIS NEWS REPORTS. THIS WAS HIS PUNISHMENT.

DONE.

WATARI, BRING ANOTHER TV SET HERE... NO, TWO TV SETS.

RYUZAKI ...

BUT ONE DEMONSTRATION ALONE DOES NOT SERVE AS ABSOLUTE PROOF. I WILL PRESENT YOU WITH ANOTHER. MY NEXT TARGET IS A COMMENTATOR WHO HAS ALSO CONDEMNED ME REPEATEDLY. HE IS SCHEDULED TO APPEAR LIVE ON THE AIR AT THIS TIME...

GO TO CHANNEL 24!

KIRA

WE HAVE TO MAKE THEM STOP THIS BROAD-CAST OR SOME-THING TERRIBLE IS GOING TO HAPPEN!

THEY SAID KIRA WOULD BE SENDING A MESSAGE TO PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD...

...

I TRUST YOU NOW BELIEVE THAT I REALLY AM KIRA.

I'LL GET SAKURA TV'S PHONE NUMBER!

DASH!

DAMMIT! THEN I'M GOING OVER THERE TO MAKE THEM STOP IT MYSELF!

UKITA!

HUMPH ...

MY FRIEND WHO WORKS THERE HAS HIS CELL PHONE TURNED OFF!

IT'S HOPELESS... EVERY SINGLE NUMBER I'VE TRIED IN THE ENTIRE STATION'S BUSY...

DAMN YOU, KIRA... ...

6:03

KIRA

PLEASE LISTEN TO ME CAREFULLY. I DO NOT WANT TO KILL INNOCENT PEOPLE.

I HATE EVIL AND LOVE JUSTICE. I DO NOT CONSIDER THE POLICE MY ENEMIES, BUT MY ALLIES IN MY FIGHT AGAINST EVIL.

KIRA

IF ALL OF YOU WILL JOIN ME IN THIS MISSION, IT CAN BE EASILY ACCOMPLISHED.

WEE OOO WEE OOO

MY AIM IS TO RID THE WORLD OF EVIL AND CREATE A JUST SOCIETY.

DAMN!

AND THEN, SIMPLY WAIT. IN A SHORT TIME, THE WORLD WILL BE CHANGED FOR THE BETTER. I'M SURE YOU WILL ALL AGREE.

IF YOU DO NOT TRY TO CAPTURE ME, NO INNOCENT PEOPLE WILL DIE.

AND EVEN IF YOU DO NOT AGREE WITH ME, IF YOU REFRAIN FROM PUBLICIZING YOUR VIEWS IN THE MEDIA OR IN PUBLIC, YOU WILL BE SPARED.

WEE OOO

...

I CAN DO IT. I CAN CHANGE THE WORLD AND MAKE IT A PLACE INHABITED ONLY BY GOOD, KIND-HEARTED PEOPLE.

KIRA

HOSPITAL

IT'LL ONLY MAKE YOUR CONDITION WORSE. YOU NEED TO REST.

YOU SHOULDN'T BE WATCH-ING THIS...

ZAP

KLIK

KIRA

SACHIKO... I AM THE HEAD OF THE TASK FORCE CHARGED WITH ARRESTING KIRA...

BAM

SAKURA TV

SKREECH

DAMMIT, IT'S LOCKED!

WHUMP

I DON'T BELIEVE THIS—

FWUP

TUMP TUMP

POLICE! OPEN UP!

THUNK

KLAK

URGH!

DAMN... IT...

WE ARE CANCELLING OUR SCHEDULED PROGRAM TO BROADCAST LIVE FROM IN FRONT OF SAKURA TV.

JUST IMAGINE IT— A WORLD PROTECTED BY THE POLICE AND MYSELF... A WORLD WITH NO PLACE FOR EVIL—

WE URGE ALL OUR VIEWERS TO PLEASE STAY CALM. REGARDING THE BROADCAST CURRENTLY BEING AIRED ON SAKURA TV, DETAILS WILL BE REPORTED AS SOON AS THEY ARE AVAILABLE...

THIS JUST IN! SOMEONE IS REPORTED TO HAVE COLLAPSED IN FRONT OF SAKURA TV!

NHN

WE ARE REPORTING LIVE FROM IN FRONT OF SAKURA TV. FOR SAFETY REASONS I CANNOT STAND IN FRONT OF THE CAMERA, BUT WHAT YOU ARE SEEING HERE IS LIVE COVERAGE!

SAKURA TV

OH MY... GOD! KIRA GOT HIM ...?!

UKITA!!

!

FORGET IT, AIZAWA-SAN. WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?

DASH

IF YOU GO OVER THERE NOW, YOU'LL ONLY GET KILLED.

TO UKITA, WHERE ELSE? AND I'M GOING TO GET THOSE DAMN VIDEOS AND BRING THEM BACK HERE.

AND IF WE MANAGE TO CONFISCATE THE ENTIRE PACKAGE, THE WAY IT WAS SENT, THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE WE CAN TRACK KIRA DOWN.

I WANT TO STOP THAT VIDEO AS MUCH AS YOU DO.

I'M TRY-ING TO TELL YOU TO CALM DOWN AND BE REALISTIC.

YOU TRYING TO TELL ME TO SIT HERE AND WATCH TELEVISION, RYUZAKI?!

PARAMEDICS ARE NOW CARRYING THE BODY AWAY.

MAKING THIS A WORLD FREE OF EVIL, FREE OF CRIME, IS...

WE URGE OUR VIEWERS TO STAY AWAY FROM SAKURA TV. IT IS DANGEROUS TO APPROACH SAKURA TV.

BUT IF UKITA WAS MURDERED BY KIRA, WHOEVER GOES THERE NOW WILL END UP DEAD, TOO.

READ THIS WAY

BUT IF YOU'RE RIGHT, IT WOULD MAKE MUCH MORE SENSE FOR KIRA TO MURDER EVERYONE ON THE TASK FORCE...

THAT MIGHT BE TRUE.

KIRA KNOWS OUR REAL NAMES. HAS TO. THERE'S NO OTHER EXPLANATION!

THIS MEANS HIS PHONY POLICE ID DIDN'T HELP HIM!!

IT HAPPENED BEFORE THE OTHER NETWORKS STARTED REPORTING FROM IN FRONT OF SAKURA TV.

...UKITA-SAN WAS KILLED BECAUSE HE WENT OVER THERE.

ALL I CAN SAY FOR SURE AT THIS TIME IS...

I DEDUCED THAT KIRA NEEDS TO KNOW SOMEONE'S NAME AND FACE TO KILL THEM, BUT FROM SEEING THIS, I'D HAVE TO CONCLUDE THAT SEEING THEIR FACE ALONE COULD BE ENOUGH...

THAT, OR HE SET UP A SURVEIL-LANCE CAMERA THERE IN ADVANCE.

AND THAT MEANS KIRA IS EITHER INSIDE SAKURA, OR SOMEPLACE WHERE HE CAN SEE PEOPLE ENTERING SAKURA.

...

PLEASE UNDER-STAND.

I'LL SAY IT AGAIN— IF YOU GO THERE NOW, YOU WILL BE KILLED.

WELL, IF KIRA'S AROUND THERE RIGHT NOW, THAT'S ALL THE MORE REASON FOR US TO GO!!

RISKING YOUR LIFE AND DOING SOME-THING THAT COULD EASILY ROB YOU OF YOUR LIFE ARE EXACT OPPOSITES.

GRAB

UKITA MIGHT'VE BEEN MURDERED!! BY KIRA!! I THOUGHT WE WERE RISKING OUR LIVES TO ARREST THAT BASTARD!!

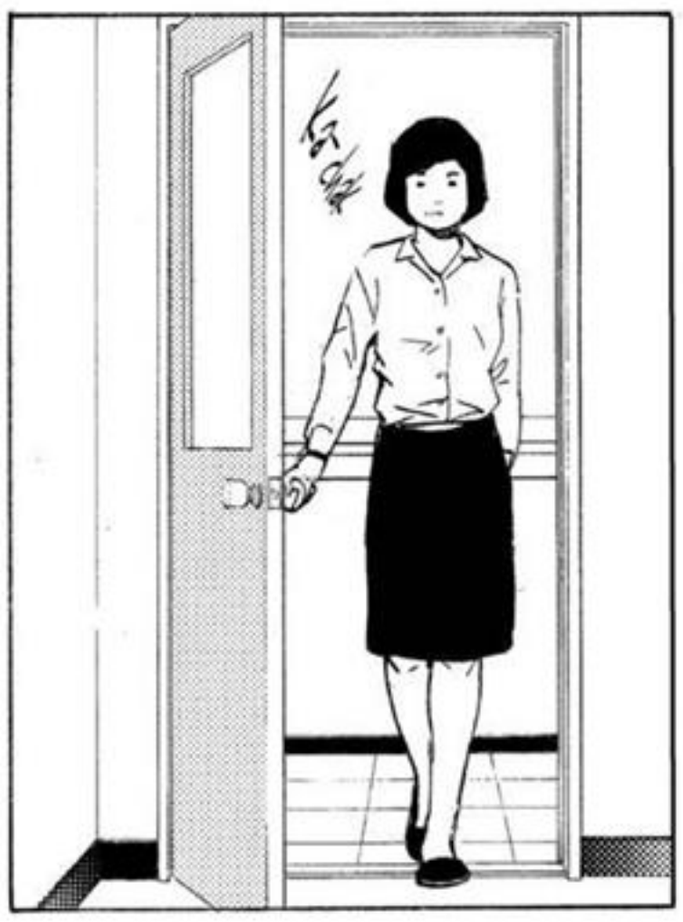
NO, I DON'T UNDER-STAND...

...

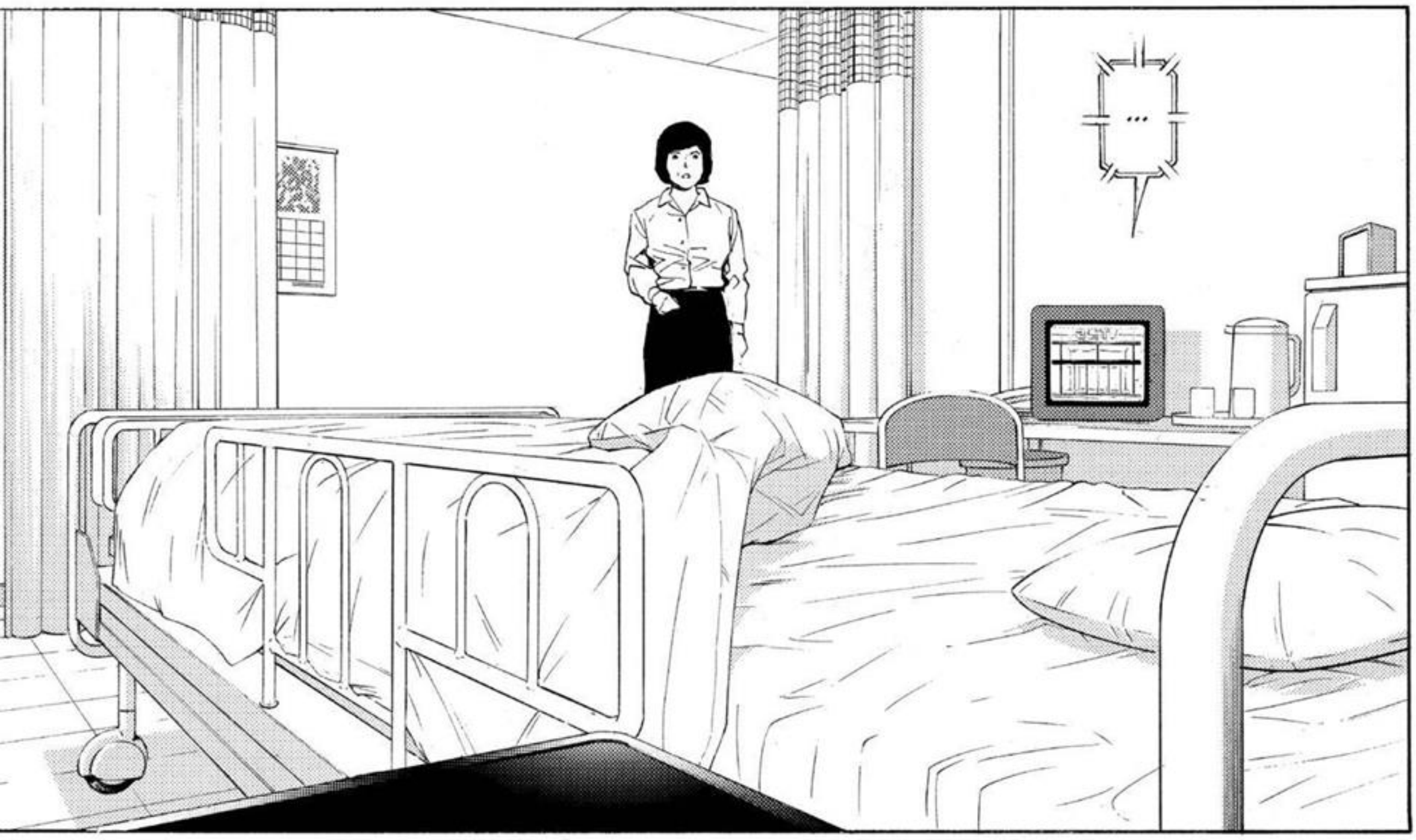
UKITA-SAN IS DEAD... IF YOU GO OVER THERE AND LOSE YOUR LIFE TOO, AIZAWA-SAN...

I UNDER-STAND YOUR FEEL-INGS, BUT PLEASE TRY TO CONTROL YOURSELF RIGHT NOW.

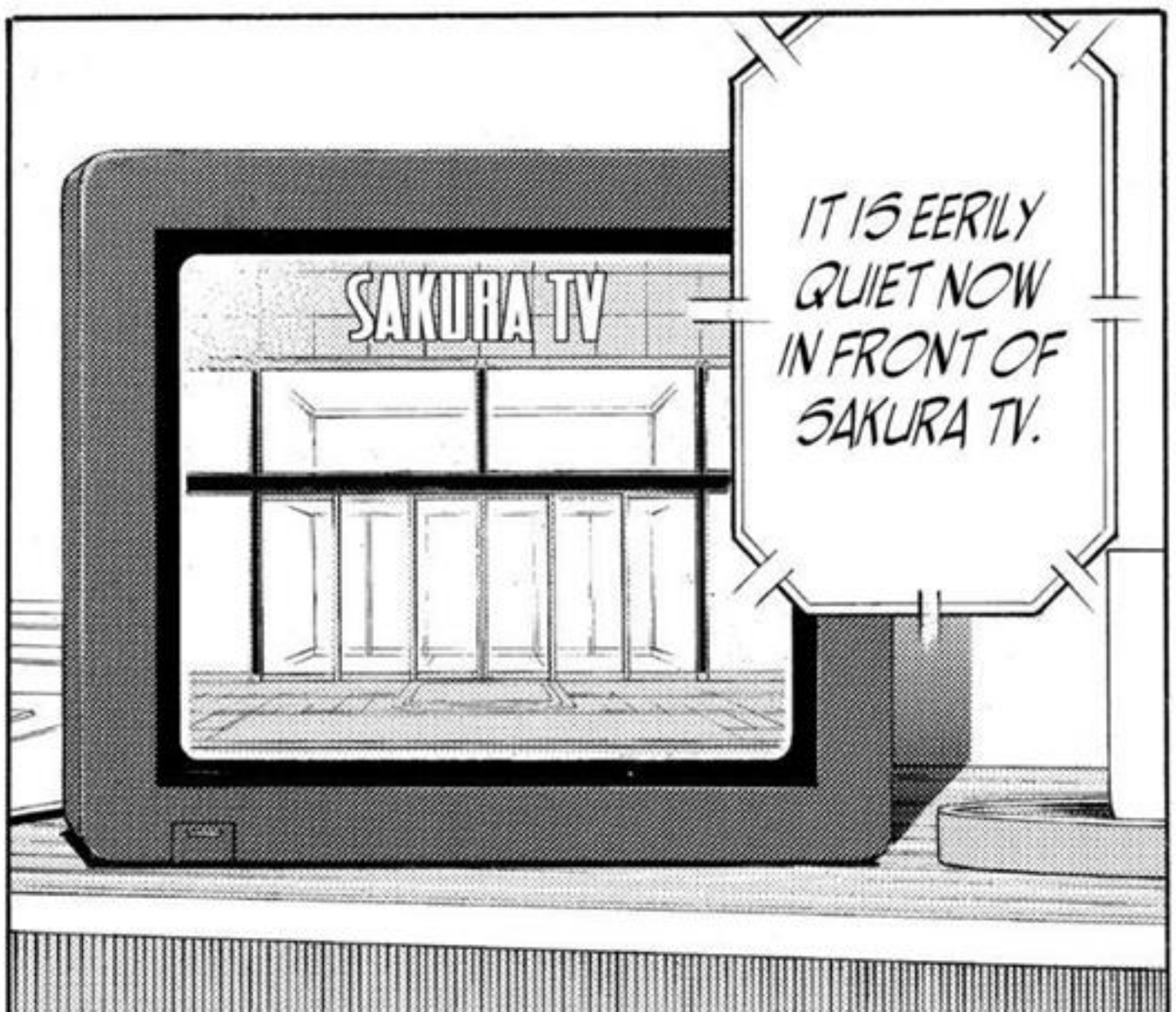





PISS


...




SAKURA TV
IT IS EERILY QUIET NOW IN FRONT OF SAKURA TV.

ドカン

ガシャーン



DEATH NOTE

How to use it

XIV

- When the owner of the DEATH NOTE dies while the Note is being lent, its ownership will be transferred to the person who is holding it at that time.

デスノートを貸(か)している時(とき)に所有者(しょゆうしゃ)が死(し)んだ場合(ばあい)、
所有権(しょゆうけん)は、その時(とき)、手(て)にしている者(もの)に移(うつ)る。

- If the DEATH NOTE is stolen and the owner is killed by the thief, its ownership will automatically be transferred to the thief.

デスノートを盗(ぬす)まれ、その盗(ぬす)んだ者(もの)に所有者(しょゆうしゃ)が殺(ころ)された場合(ばあい)、
所有権(しょゆうけん)は自動的(じどうてき)にその者(もの)に移(うつ)る。