chapter 68 Discovery

VERY GOOD, MR. PRESIDENT.

WH-WHAT DO YOU WANT ...?

THAT'S RIGHT. WHAT YOU WANT...

SATISFY BOTH OUR NEEDS...?

lick

WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF MAKING AN ENEMY OF THE UNITED STATES, SO WHY DON'T WE CUT A DEAL THAT'LL SATISFY BOTH OUR NEEDS?

AND YOU WANT IT BEFORE ITS EXISTENCE GOES PUBLIC.

DEATH NOTE

lick lick

...IS TO GET YOUR HANDS ON THE NOTE-BOOK TOO, RIGHT?

THE ENFORCER OF JUSTICE- THE ONE WHO CONTROLS THIS WORLD- SHOULDN'T BE KIRA, RIGHT MR. PRESIDENT?

THAT'S WHY YOU CREATED THE SPK IN THE FIRST PLACE, RIGHT? BUT WE ALREADY HAVE ONE OF THE NOTE-BOOKS, AND THE OTHER ONE IS IN KIRA'S HANDS.

WH- WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

BUT IN RETURN...

...!

...WE'LL GIVE THAT NOTE-BOOK TO YOU.

ONCE WE KILL KIRA AND GET THE OTHER NOTEBOOK...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "COOPER-ATE"...?

IF I REJECT THIS OFFER, THEY'LL CONTROL ME AND KILL ME...

LICK LICK LICK LICK

...I WANT YOU TO COOPERATE WITH US TO GET THE NOTEBOOK FROM KIRA, AND GIVE US AMNESTY. WE'LL COEXIST WITH AMERICAN SOCIETY LIKE WE'VE ALWAYS DONE... NO, EVEN MORE THAN WE'VE ALWAYS DONE.

I ALSO WANT FUNDING, WEAPONS, AND USE OF THE SATELLITE CAMERAS.

FIRST, I WANT YOU TO GIVE ME EVERYTHING YOU KNOW ABOUT THE SPK AND THEIR MOVEMENTS FROM NOW ON.

YOU DIDN'T GET TO BE PRESIDENT BY LUCK. I'M SURE YOU'VE GOT THE SKILLS TO UNCOVER THE INFORMATION.

I'M WELL AWARE OF THAT. I'M ASKING YOU TO USE YOUR POWERS AS THE PRESIDENT TO GET AS MUCH INFORMATION AS YOU CAN WITHOUT THEM SUSPECTING YOU.

...BUT ONLY THE MEMBERS HAVE ACCESS TO THEIR INFORMATION, AND EVEN I DON'T KNOW WHO THEY ARE.

A-AS YOU SAY, I DID GIVE MY APPROVAL TO CREATE THE SPK ANTI-KIRA ORGANIZATION...

...

THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

YOU CAN CLAIM A TERRORIST GROUP KILLED THE JAPANESE POLICE DIRECTOR, AND PRETEND TO CREATE A COVERT GROUP AS A COUNTER-TERRORIST TACTIC.

AND I MAY BE ABLE TO FUND YOU, BUT I CAN'T MAKE A DECISION ON THE WEAPONS AND SATELLITE ALONE.

WHAT CAN I DO...?

I CAN'T JEOPARDIZE THE WORLD... BUT...

YOU'VE GOT NO CHOICE...

IF YOU REJECT THIS OFFER, YOU'RE GOING TO GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS THE WORST PRESIDENT THE WORLD HAS EVER SEEN.

KLAK

OH, HERE'S ANOTHER PERSON WITHOUT A NAME OR A LIFE-SPAN...

IF YOU CAN'T SEE EITHER, THE PERSON'S ALREADY DEAD.

I GUESS IF YOU'RE IN THE MAFIA, YOU DON'T GET TO LIVE VERY LONG. *HA HA!*

SHEESH, HOW MANY PHOTOGRAPHS DO I HAVE TO LOOK AT? I'M AN ACTRESS, SO I CAN'T LET MY EXHAUS-TION SHOW, YOU KNOW...

BUT I WANT TO HELP LIGHT...

BUT IF THEY CATCH THE KIDNAPPERS FIRST, THEN THE UNITED STATES WILL HAVE POSSESSION OF THE NOTEBOOK.

AS LONG AS THEY'RE CAUGHT, DOES IT MATTER WHO GETS THEM—THE SPK OR US?

NEAR SAID THAT THEY'VE NARROWED DOWN THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE KIDNAPPERS...

I MUST PROTECT THE PEACE OF THE NEW WORLD THAT IS BEGINNING TO BLOOM.

BUT I HAVE TO GET RID OF NEAR AND MELLO, WHATEVER IT TAKES.

AND IF THE UNITED STATES POLICE GIVE N'S ORDERS PRIORITY OVER L'S...

DAMN IT... WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO FIND OUT ANYTHING OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT MELLO EXISTS. IF NEAR REALLY IS GETTING CLOSE TO CATCHING THE KIDNAPPERS...

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES? FOR REAL...?

DAVID HOOPE...!

BEEP

David Hoope

KLIK

IT'S L. WHAT'S THE MATTER, MR. PRESIDENT?

...

KLAK

WATARI HERE. PLEASE STATE YOUR PERSONAL IDENTIFI-CATION NUMBER.

MIDKO188940W I WANT TO TALK TO L...

...

THIS L IS A FAKE... I CAN'T EXPECT MUCH FROM HIM... BUT HE HAS ACHIEVED SOME RESULTS... AND THERE'S NO ONE ELSE I CAN ASK FOR HELP...

I'VE GIVEN ALL MY INFORMA-TION TO THE SPK.

?!

L...I WOULD LIKE YOU TO TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU KNOW ABOUT THE NOTEBOOK.

THEN I CAN'T TELL YOU ANYTHING FOR THE SAME REASON.

I LIKE THEIR ATTITUDE.

WELL, THE SPK HAS INFORMED ME THAT THEY CAN'T TELL ME ANYTHING UNTIL THEY CATCH KIRA.

TH-THEN AT LEAST TELL ME THIS...

...

I SEE...

ESCAPE THE NOTE-BOOK...?

?

IS THERE ANY WAY TO ESCAPE THE NOTE-BOOK?

I MAY BE ABLE TO USE THIS TO OUTFOX MELLO AND NEAR...

THERE'S NO DOUBT. MELLO IS THREATENING THE PRESIDENT... HE IS THE LEADER OF THE UNITED STATES, AND EVERYONE KNOWS HIS NAME AND FACE...

UNLESS THE LEAK COMES FROM YOUR OWN SECURITY, THIS CONVER-SATION WILL NOT BE OVERHEARD.

THE LINE IS IN THE OVAL OFFICE. I ASSURE YOU IT'S SAFE.

MR. PRESIDENT, JUST TO MAKE SURE, IS THIS PHONE SECURE?

D

WHO'S THREATENING YOU?

THIS L'S INSIGHT IS BETTER THAN I THOUGHT ...

HE'S ALREADY FIGURED OUT MY SITUA-TION...!

?

MR. PRESIDENT, IS IT KIRA, OR THE KIDNAP-PERS?

I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU FEEL SORRY FOR MESSING WITH ME...

BUT YOU'RE ONLY TIGHTEN-ING YOUR OWN NOOSE WITH THESE ACTIONS, MELLO...

SO THE PRESIDENT IS BEING THREATENED... AS NEAR SAID, MELLO USES ANY MEANS NECESSARY ...

THE KIDNAP-PERS....

VERY WELL. THANK YOU FOR RELYING ON ME IN THIS SITUATION. PLEASE TELL ME EVERYTHING.

EVEN IF HE HAD, HE COULDN'T MAKE YOU LAUNCH A NUCLEAR STRIKE. YOU CAN'T CONTROL SOMEONE TO KILL OTHERS. THE PERSON WILL JUST DIE OF A HEART ATTACK.

DON'T WORRY, MR. PRESIDENT. THEY HAVEN'T WRITTEN YOUR NAME IN THE NOTEBOOK YET.

I SEE... I UNDERSTAND.

HUH? I THOUGHT HE DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING YET! AMAZING...

...

I'VE ALREADY DISCOVERED THE IDENTITIES OF MOST OF THE KIDNAPPERS, AND THEIR WHEREABOUTS.

I WILL CATCH THE KIDNAPPERS BEFORE THE SITUATION GETS ANY WORSE.

I'LL BLUFF FOR THE TIME BEING. I MUST PRETEND TO BE CONFIDENT AND TO KNOW EVERYTHING SO THAT I CAN USE THE PRESIDENT AGAINST THEM.

...

I WOULD LIKE A NUMBER OF MEN WHO ARE LOYAL TO YOU, YET NOT KNOWN TO EITHER THE KIDNAPPERS OR THE SPK.

MR. PRESIDENT, I NEED TO ASK YOU FOR A FAVOR IN ORDER TO CAPTURE THE CULPRITS. THIS INVESTIGATION CONCERNS THE NOTEBOOK, SO I CAN'T JUST RANDOMLY PUT AGENTS ON THE CASE. AND A TASK FORCE OF PRIMARILY JAPANESE AGENTS WILL ONLY MAKE IT STAND OUT EVEN MORE.

HOW LARGE IS THE TASK FORCE?

THERE IS A SPECIAL TASK FORCE WHOSE ACTIVITIES ARE CENTERED IN THE MIDDLE EAST.... THEIR FACES AREN'T KNOWN, AND I CAN ASSURE YOU OF THEIR SKILLS...

THIRTY MEN... THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH.

THREE TEAMS OF 10.

MAKE SURE THAT YOU KEEP THIS A SECRET.

VERY WELL, I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO...

MR. PRESIDENT, HALF OF THAT TASK FORCE SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO BREAK INTO THE KIDNAPPERS' HIDEOUT. WILL YOU PERMIT ME TO USE THEM?

...

OKAY...

MR. PRESIDENT, I PROMISE THAT I WILL PROTECT YOU. MAKE SURE YOU DON'T TRUST ANYONE ELSE. IS THAT CLEAR, MR. PRESIDENT?

UNLIKE THE SPK, I WILL NOT KEEP THINGS A SECRET FROM YOU, AND WILL KEEP REGULAR CONTACT WITH YOU. PLEASE CONTINUE TO INFORM ME OF THE SPK'S MOVEMENTS AS MUCH AS YOU CAN.

NOW ALL I HAVE TO DO IS TO FIND OUT WHERE MELLO IS BEFORE NEAR...

GOOD, NOW I HAVE THE UPPER HAND ON NEAR.

MISA

MISA...

BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

PRETTY GOOD, HUH?

THERE'S A GUY HERE WITH ONLY HIS NAME VISIBLE!

I'VE FOUND THE GUY, LIGHT!

SORRY MISA, I'LL BE DONE SHORTLY, SO CAN YOU—

GOOD! I WASN'T EXPECTING MUCH, BUT WITH THIS INFORMATION...

A PERSON WHOSE NAME IS VISIBLE; BUT WHOSE LIFE SPAN IS NOT! HE'S THE PRESENT OWNER OF THE DEATH NOTE.

WHAT'S UP? HAS SOMETHING HAPPENED, LIGHT?

I'M SORRY, I'VE KEPT POSTPONING THIS DATE WITH MISA...

OKAY, OKAY, IF YOU SAY SO. I'LL BE DOWN THERE IN A MOMENT.

OH? YEAH! I'LL BE WAITING UP FOR YOU IN SOMETHING SEXY! ♡

HUH?!

CHAK

WE SHOULD ALL GET SOME REST. GETTING A BREATH OF FRESH AIR WILL DO US ALL SOME GOOD.

SEE YOU LATER.

DON'T WORRY, THINGS SEEM TO BE A LITTLE BRIGHTER NOW, AND WE'VE BEEN WORKING FOR TWO DAYS WITHOUT SLEEP.

LIGHT... I DON'T MEAN TO INTERFERE, BUT GOING OUT ON A DATE AT A TIME LIKE THIS IS...

MATSUDA!

HUH?! OH, SORRY...

HMM... I WANT TO GO OUT ON A DATE TOO... A BLOND BEAUTY WOULD BE NICE.

WELL, HE DID DO A PRETTY GOOD JOB GETTING THE PRESIDENT ON OUR SIDE...

KA CHAK

WE SHOULD ALL GET SOME REST, HUH...?

MISA.

LIGHT! ♡

105 Jack Neylon

106 Danny

108 Andrew Millar

109 Beck

I CAN'T SEE HIS LIFESPAN, SO I'M SURE THIS GUY'S GOT THE NOTE-BOOK RIGHT NOW.

IT SAYS HIS NAME IS JACK NEYLON, BUT HIS REAL NAME IS KAL SNYDAR.

WHO IS IT?

UH, NUMBER 105...

A PERSON CAN'T CHANGE THIS DRASTICALLY IN FOUR YEARS.

105 Jack Neylon

106 Danny

BUT HE DEFINITELY ISN'T MELLO.

108 Andrew Millar

109 Beck Wallese

DEATH NOTE

BUT THAT GUY WAS KILLED WHEN THE HELICOPTER EXPLODED, SO WHOEVER PICKED UP THE NOTE-BOOK NEXT IS THE NEW OWNER. BUT IF THAT PER-SON DIES, THEN THE OWNERSHIP WILL BE PASSED ON AGAIN.

I CLEARLY ANNOUNCED THAT I WAS GIVING UP OWNERSHIP OF THAT NOTEBOOK, AND MY FATHER HANDED IT TO ONE OF THE KIDNAPPERS WITH THE STRONG DESIRE TO LET IT GO, WHICH MEANS THAT THE OWNERSHIP OF THE NOTEBOOK WOULD HAVE PASSED FROM MY FATHER TO THE PERSON HE HANDED IT TO.

THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE THAT THIS GUY IS NEAR MELLO.

UMM, WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WHO'S MELLO, ANYWAY...?

THIS IS ALL THE INFORMATION ON THE MAFIA THAT I WAS ABLE TO COLLECT FROM THE FBI. IF I CAN FIND THIS GUY, THEN I CAN FIND THE NOTEBOOK.

AND SINCE HE'S STILL ALIVE, THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE HE'S ONE OF MELLO'S TOP MEN, SINCE SO FAR ALL THE MULES HAVE BEEN KILLED.

IF THIS GUY OWNS THE NOTE-BOOK, THAT MEANS HE'S EITHER WRITING THE NAMES DOWN OR IS NEAR THE PERSON USING THE NOTEBOOK.

SHU

ONLY HER "EYES," HUH?

THANK YOU, YOUR EYES ARE MY TREASURES... NO, THEY'RE TREASURES OF THE NEW WORLD!

OH, LIGHT...

MISA.

READ THIS WAY

I HAVE SOLDIERS FROM THE PRESIDENT. NOW I'M GOING TO HUNT THIS GUY DOWN, SEND THE MEN AFTER HIM, AND GET THE NOTEBOOK BACK!

HUH ...?

SO, NOW I INVESTIGATE ALL THE MAFIA MEMBERS WHO ARE CONNECTED TO THIS GUY. I'M GOING BACK TO THE OFFICE TO CHECK.

AND MELLO, LET ME SHOW YOU WHO IS GOING TO CHANGE THE WORLD WITH THE DEATH NOTE— 'KIRA!

NEAR, I'VE PRETENDED TO BE BRAINLESS, BUT L IS STILL THE GREATEST DETECTIVE IN THE WORLD!