...

...

chapter 102 Patience

CHA-CHK

DON'T MOVE!

SHA

I-I CAN'T JUST WATCH! IF THIS PERSON IS REALLY WRITING OUR NAMES DOWN THEN...!

DON'T WORRY, YOU WON'T DIE. PLEASE JUST BE STILL.

...!

ARE— ARE YOU KIDDING ME?

DELETE.

DELETE.

DELETE.

DELETE.

DELETE.

DELETE.

chapter 102 Patience

DON'T WORRY. EVEN IF OUR NAMES ARE WRITTEN DOWN, WE WON'T DIE. AND KIRA'S IDENTITY WILL FINALLY BE REVEALED.

H-HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE THAT WE WON'T DIE, NEAR?

I'VE TAMPERED WITH THE NOTEBOOK.

WE MANAGED TO GET IT INTO OUR POSSESSION, AND REPLACED THE PAGES. THE PERSON BEHIND THE DOOR... THE ONE IN CHARGE OF THE ACTUAL KILLING, HAS BEEN FILLING UP ONE PAGE EVERY DAY, SO I JUST CALCULATED WHICH PAGE WOULD CORRESPOND WITH TODAY'S DATE, AND REPLACED ALL THE SUBSEQUENT PAGES.

YOU GOT HOLD OF IT? YOU ACTUALLY DID THAT?

...

REPLACED ?!

B- BUT...

Y-YOU'RE RIGHT. THE PERSON WHOSE NAME ISN'T WRITTEN DOWN WOULD BE KIRA!

AT WHICH POINT WE'LL SEIZE HIM, AND THE INDIVIDUAL WHOSE NAME IS NOT WRITTEN DOWN IN THE NOTE-BOOK WILL INEVITABLY BE KIRA.

THE PERSON WRITING THE NAMES DOWN OUTSIDE WILL EVENTUALLY LOOK INSIDE TO SEE IF WE HAVE ALL DIED.

...

EXACTLY AS PLANNED!

THE REASON FOR YOUR DEFEAT WAS YOUR OBSESSION WITH BEATING ME BY UNCOVERING SOLID PROOF RATHER THAN JUST TRYING TO BRING AN END TO THE KIRA CASE.

NEAR, YOU'VE BEEN COMPLETELY DEFEATED.

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HE TAMPERED WITH THE NOTEBOOK. I KNEW IT ALL ALONG.

IT'S THAT FOOLISH PRIDE OF YOURS THAT KEPT YOU FROM DOING IT...AND YOU'RE NOW GOING TO LOSE BECAUSE YOU WERE TOO OBSESSED WITH THE METHOD OF VICTORY.

NEAR, IF YOU HAD MADE THE PRIORITY OF THIS LITTLE GET TOGETHER ENDING THE KIRA CASE BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY, THEN YOU COULD HAVE KILLED MIKAMI AND ME HERE.

I COULDN'T DEMAND THAT GUNS BE FORBIDDEN WHEN YOU STATED THE CONDITIONS OF OUR MEETING BECAUSE I'M CLAIMING TO NOT BE KIRA.

AND THE ONLY WAY TO BUILD SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE AND EXPOSE ME IS TO HAVE YOUR NAMES WRITTEN DOWN IN THE NOTEBOOK.

I'LL NEVER CONFESS.

AND YOU WERE RIGHT. THE ONLY WAY TO SUCCEED WAS TO REPLACE THE PAGES.

BUT IN ORDER TO DO THAT, YOU MUST CREATE A SITUATION WHERE YOU WILL NOT DIE EVEN IF THEY ARE IN THE NOTEBOOK.

BUT ...

SO YOU REPLACED THE PAGES...

BUT I KNEW THAT YOU WOULD TAKE THAT CHANCE IN THE END. I KNEW ALL ALONG AND I WAS POSITIVE THAT I COULD LEAD YOU INTO DOING SO.

YOU MUST HAVE THOUGHT THAT IDEA NEVER OCCURRED TO ME, SO YOU DECIDED TO TAKE THE CHANCE.

THE ONE MIKAMI IS WRITING IN AT THIS VERY MOMENT IS THE REAL NOTE-BOOK WHICH HE WAS HIDING UNTIL TODAY!

THE ONE YOU TAMPERED WITH IS A FAKE THAT I HAD MIKAMI PREPARE!

AN ADVAN-TAGE I HAD, WHICH PROVED TO BE ONE OF THE REASONS FOR YOUR DEFEAT.

BUT YOU KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THE OWNER-SHIP OF THE NOTE-BOOK, NOR OF THE FACT THAT YOU CAN KILL PEOPLE EVEN BY WRITING ON SMALL SNIPPETS OF THE PAGES.

...I KNEW YOU WOULD FIND OUT ABOUT MIKAMI SOONER OR LATER. AND I KNEW YOU WOULD FOLLOW HIM UNTIL YOU COULD GET YOUR HANDS ON THE NOTE-BOOK.

FROM THE SECOND YOU SAID, "WE MAY COME FACE TO FACE TO BRING AN END TO THIS CASE"...

IN OTHER WORDS, TAKADA WAS THE ONE WHO ACTUALLY FACILITATED THE KILLINGS. AND WHILE MIKAMI AND TAKADA CONTINUED TO CONTACT EACH OTHER, I HAD MIKAMI WRITE THE SAME NAMES INSIDE THE FAKE NOTE-BOOK, WHICH YOU EVENTUALLY SAW.

I HAD MIKAMI CREATE A FAKE NOTE-BOOK, AND MADE HIM SEND FIVE PAGES FROM THE REAL ONE TO TAKADA. LATER, I CONSIDERED THE VARIOUS SITUATIONS THAT COULD POSSIBLY OCCUR, AND HAD MIKAMI SEND HER MORE PAGES SO SHE'D HAVE ENOUGH TO WRITE ON FOR SOME TIME.

EVERYTHING WAS PLANNED BEFOREHAND. MIKAMI WOULD EMAIL TAKADA ALL THE INFOR-MATION, AND SHE WOULD DO THE KILLINGS.

CLICK

I ORDERED MIKAMI TO USE THE FAKE NOTE-BOOK OUT-SIDE ON PURPOSE, TO HAVE YOUR AGENT WITNESS IN PLAIN SIGHT.

THAT IS HOW I HAD YOU BELIEVE THAT THE NOTEBOOK MIKAMI WAS CARRYING AROUND WAS AUTHENTIC.

MIKAMI PULLS OUT THE NOTE-BOOK AND SOMEONE DIES— THAT'S ALL A PERSON WOULD FOCUS ON.

OBVIOUSLY, THE PERSON MONITORING MIKAMI WOULD NOT BE SO CLOSE AS TO BE IN A POSITION TO READ HIS EMAIL, AND THERE IS NOTHING CONSPICUOUS ABOUT FIDDLING WITH ONE'S CELL PHONE.

...TO MAKE SURE IF MIKAMI HAD A SHINIGAMI WITH HIM OR NOT, AND TO SEE IF THE PERSON TOUCHING THE NOTE-BOOK WOULD DIE AS A RESULT. AND ALSO, TO STUDY HOW AND WHEN THE NAMES ARE WRITTEN IN.

YOU MUST HAVE GOTTEN YOUR AGENT TO EXAMINE THE NOTE-BOOK SEVERAL TIMES...

THE GYM TURNED OUT TO BE THE ONLY PLACE THAT YOU COULD POSSIBLY CONFIS-CATE THE NOTE-BOOK.

21

AND MIKAMI'S LIFESTYLE PROVIDED THE PERFECT SITUATION FOR YOU TO FEEL AS THOUGH YOU COULD GET YOUR HANDS ON THE NOTEBOOK. HE HAS BEEN ATTENDING THE GYM FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS, EVERY THURSDAY AND SUNDAY WITHOUT FAIL. I AM QUITE SATISFIED TO HAVE CHOSEN HIM...

ALL YOU HAD TO DO WAS SET THE DATE OF OUR MEETING WHEN MIKAMI WOULD BE WRITING ON THE SPECIFIED PAGE OF THE NOTE-BOOK, A PAGE ON THE RIGHT SIDE, AND REPLACE THAT AND ALL SUBSE-QUENT PAGES. **THAT WAS YOUR PLAN!**

NEAR, YOU MUST HAVE TAKEN NOTICE OF THE ONE PAGE PER DAY, AND DECIDED TO LOAD THE DICE.

THIS WAS ANOTHER ADVANTAGE I HAD BY CHOOSING MIKAMI.

HE IS AN EXTREMELY METHOD-ICAL MAN IN ALL ASPECTS OF HIS LIFE. HE FILLS IN A PAGE PER DAY, NO MORE AND NO LESS.

N

19

21ST

22ND

23RD

24TH

25TH

26TH

28TH

I KNOW YOU REPLACED THE PAGES ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 21ST, WHEN MIKAMI WENT TO THE GYM. AND YOU CONTACTED ME ON THE 25TH TO SET THE TIME FOR OUR MEETING, WHICH MEANS THAT YOU CHECKED THE NOTE-BOOK AGAIN ON SUNDAY THE 24TH, TO SEE IF MIKAMI HAD CHANGED HIS METHOD OF WRITING THE NAMES DOWN, BEFORE YOU CALLED ME.

ONCE YOU CHECKED THAT, YOU WOULD WANT TO MEET ME AS FAST AS YOU COULD. AFTER THE 25TH, THE DAYS WHEN MIKAMI WOULD WRITE ON A RIGHT SIDE PAGE WOULD BE THE 26TH AND 28TH. THE 26TH WOULD BE THE NEXT DAY, TOO SOON, SO YOU CHOSE THE 28TH. MEANING THAT ON THE 21ST, YOU HAD REPLACED ALL THE PAGES STARTING WITH THE ONE TO BE USED ON THE 28TH.

BEEP BEEP BEEP

THIS BATTLE WAS OVER WHEN I RECEIVED TAKADA'S EMAIL CONFIRM-ING THE SWITCH.

NEW MESSAGE 2010/ 1/23

To

Sub

I want to see you

MENU SELECT SEND

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLACE THE PAGES WITHOUT LEAVING ANY TRACES OF TAMPERING, AND MIKAMI'S VERY OBSERVANT, SO IT WAS EASY FOR HIM TO RECOGNIZE WHEN YOU HAD DONE IT.

THE NOTEBOOK MIKAMI FABRICATED WAS SIMILAR TO A NORMAL NOTE-BOOK YOU CAN BUY ANYWHERE, SO IT MUST HAVE BEEN EASY FOR YOU TO REPLACE THE PAGES. BUT SINCE I KNEW THAT YOU WOULD ATTEMPT THIS, I HAD MIKAMI CHECK THE NOTE-BOOK EVERY DAY.

28th

SINCE YOU BELIEVED THE NOTEBOOK TO BE REAL, YOU COULD NOT AFFORD TO RISK IT. YOU WOULD BE TOO AFRAID THAT WE MIGHT FIND OUT ABOUT THE TAMPERED PAGES IF WE WERE TO WRITE THE NAMES DOWN AND REALIZE THAT OUR TARGETS WERE NOT DEAD.

YOU SPECIFIED OUR MEETING FOR 1 PM ON THE 28TH. AND I KNEW YOU HAD NO INTENTIONS OF CHANGING THE DATE.

THERE WAS NOTHING ADVANTAGEOUS FOR YOU ABOUT ANY OF IT. I'M SURE IT MUST HAVE BEEN A NUISANCE. THAT WAS A COMPLETE FAILURE ON MELLO'S PART.

WHEN MELLO KIDNAPPED TAKADA, I PONDERED THE MEANING BEHIND IT, BUT I SOON REALIZED THAT IT WAS MELLO ACTING ALONE.

LADY TAKADA KIDNAPPED

28th

SO, THE FACT THAT YOU NEVER CHANGED THE TIME AND DATE FOR THIS MEETING PROVES THAT YOU WEREN'T CONNECTED TO MELLO, AND THAT THIS PLAN IS ALL YOU HAVE. YOU ARE CLINGING TO ITS SUCCESS. MELLO'S IDIOTIC KIDNAPPING... THAT ONLY FURTHER STRENGTHENED MY VICTORY.

YOU PROBABLY THOUGHT THAT TAKADA DIED BECAUSE MIKAMI WROTE HER NAME DOWN, BUT YOU MUST NOT HAVE EVEN CONSIDERED POSTPONING OUR MEETING IN ORDER TO VERIFY IT. AND EVEN IF YOU HAD, MIKAMI IS SMART ENOUGH TO HAVE WRITTEN HER NAME INSIDE THE FAKE NOTEBOOK SO THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO PROBLEM.

YOU ARE FAR BELOW L.

YOU ARE SOFT...

BUT NEAR, YOU HAD THE CHANCE TO WIN, OR AT LEAST YOU HAD THE CHANCE TO POST-PONE YOUR DEFEAT TODAY.

I'M SO DISAP-POINTED IN YOU. YOU'RE TOO EASY, NEAR. YOU TRIED TO WIN TOO BEAUTI-FULLY.

ONE PERSON'S LIFE. IT COULD HAVE BEEN AN EVIL PERSON. YOU SHOULD HAVE SACRIFICED A LIFE OR TWO TO TEST IT.

ALL YOU HAD TO DO WAS WRITE SOMEONE'S NAME INSIDE THE NOTE-BOOK BEFORE YOU REPLACED THE PAGES. IF YOU HAD DONE THAT, YOU WOULD HAVE FOUND OUT THAT THE NOTEBOOK WAS REALLY A FAKE, AND YOU COULD HAVE MUSTERED UP ANOTHER PLAN.

IF IT HAD BEEN L, HE WOULD HAVE CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE NOTEBOOK MIGHT BE A FAKE. HE WOULD HAVE TESTED IT. YOU HAD THAT OPPORTUNITY.

...I, KIRA, WILL HAVE MY PERFECT VICTORY.

...EVERY-BODY'S GOING TO DIE. AND...

OH WELL, BECAUSE OF YOU...

?!

TO THE ONE OUTSIDE...

MY LORD.

!

DID YOU WRITE THE NAMES DOWN IN THE NOTEBOOK?

!

YES, I DID.

...

NO...NOT YET. I CAN'T LAUGH YET. I HAVE TO HOLD IT IN. B-BUT...

THAT'S STRANGE.

?!

NEAR SERIOUSLY BELIEVES THAT NOBODY WILL DIE, AND THAT HE'LL WIN. ONCE THE NAMES ARE WRITTEN DOWN, IT TAKES FORTY SECONDS FOR IT TO TAKE EFFECT. I CANNOT TELL HIM THE TRUTH BEFORE THAT. THERE IS STILL THE POSSIBILITY THAT I'LL GET SHOT, ENDING UP WITH ALL OF US DEAD.

THIRTY-FIVE SECONDS... I'LL CLAIM MY VICTORY AT THIRTY-FIVE SECONDS.

HUH? THEN THAT MEANS WE'RE ALL DOOMED.

WHO KNOWS?

MAYBE HE'S HONEST, OR IS CONFIDENT FOR SOME REASON? IT MAY EVEN BE THAT HE KNOWS YOUR PLAN.

WHY WOULD HE REPLY IN EARNEST, "YES, I DID," WHEN YOU ASKED HIM IF HE WROTE THE NAMES DOWN?

THAT'S RIGHT. STOP HIDING AND COME INSIDE.

TERU MIKAMI?

TERU MIKAMI, WHY DON'T YOU COME IN HERE?

!

GOD ...

TERU MIKAMI, I KNOW THAT YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF CARRYING OUT KIRA'S KILLINGS RIGHT NOW.

YOU'VE ALREADY WRITTEN THE NAMES DOWN, SO THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF. PLEASE COME IN. OR DID KIRA ORDER YOU NOT TO COME IN?

TRI

HA HA HA

WELL DONE, MIKAMI...

TICK TICK TICK

35,
36,
37...

YOUR WISH IS MY COMMAND, GOD.

FOOL... DON'T LOOK AT ME. NO, HE'S ONLY DOING THAT BECAUSE HE KNOWS THAT EVERY-BODY WILL SOON FALL DEAD.

HOW MANY SECONDS HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU WROTE THE FIRST NAME DOWN?