Savannah Gomes

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Book Title: *Death Note: Another Note – The Los Angeles BB Murder Cases*

Author: NISIOISIN

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 In *Death Note: another Note – The Los Angeles BB Murder Cases* by NISIOISIN, the greatest detective in the world asks for a mere FBI agent’s help in solving a daunting case. Using the alias ‘L,’ the great detective is able to ensure that his identity is kept a secret. Because it was an unusual case for L to ask for help on a case, Naomi Misora, the FBI agent, was skeptical of the L and the case’s odd quality. Naomi Misora agreed, however. The murders were curious ones, where dolls were hung up on the wall directly across from the single entry and exit door’s handle and at the same level around the rest of the room. The first murder started with three of these dolls, then two, then one. Continuing the pattern, you would assume that the next murder had zero dolls. But then, how would one know the fourth murder was connected to the string? Worst of all, these seem to be locked room murders, but no one would believe that these were suicides by the way the bodies were contorted. These are only two of the grueling things that L and Naomi Misora sought to figure out the reason for. Misora’s first mission was to search the first home for any evidence that a murderer had left behind. The odd thing was, however, that not a single finger print was left in the house—there weren’t even any under the light bulbs. While searching the house, Misora decided that no clues could be found in the bedroom, yet knew she had to check one more place before she left: under the bed. Immediately, she finds a person who claims to be called Ryuzaki. L advises her that it is smart to work with him since he seems knowledgeable about the murders. In the end, after being strung along and being given most of the answers in the investigation through Ryuzaki’s hints to Misora and her answers, the reader is led to believe that Ryuzaki and L are one and the same. However, this is not the case. Ryuzaki is L’s number one enemy: Beyond Birthday. Beyond Birthday’s—BB’s—plan was to create a murder case that even L could not solve, and BB himself would be the final victim. He would burn himself alive, leaving no evidence. Misora and L are able to solve the case together, however, Misora never gets to meet L personally. Ultimately, however, NISIOISIN has a person seeming to fit L’s qualities walk up to Misora and greet her. Further, this person calls himself Ryuzaki. One can’t help but get the feeling that L is this new and improved “Ryuzaki.”

 One of my favorite parts began with these words, “Imagine that you were going to kill someone. What do you think would be the most difficult part? Three, two, one…time’s up! The correct answer: killing someone,” (93). This quote is one of my favorites because it got me thinking about the characters in the book and how they were able to enact such a thrilling, apparently impossible scheme. Also, it got me to realize that the answers to anything do not have to be ridiculously long and complicated to be correct. This was neither a brain teaser nor a play on words, just the truth. It fascinates me how things can be so bluntly clear, yet many people will not be able to see past the murky film the question leaves on their brain.

 This book was an amazing read for after *Death Note*, both the manga and anime. It keeps you thinking and on your toes the whole time. I anticipated events and even thought in depth about the choices the characters were making as I was reading, without the help of any teachers or forms. *Death Note: Another Note – The Los Angeles BB Murder Cases* has shown me how to think critically more than any school project has because I wanted to think like the characters, to think like them, and to help them find all the answers. I would most definitely recommend this book to anyone who has watched or read *Death Note*. It adds a whole new layer to the story and helps you to understand key elements, even though *Death Note: Another Note – The Los Angeles BB Murder Cases* and *Death Note* have different authors. Overall, I truly feel like this is one of my favorite books of all time.