Ishigami Tetsuya novel feats list

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Ishigami Tetsuya is the main character of “The suspect X devotion”, by Keigo Higashino, originally a novel, later adapted into multiple movies including Japanese, Korean and Chinese. I personally recommend the Japanese version in 2008, so that it would be easier to understand this document.

Ishigami is highly unrecognized in the scd community, that doesn’t have many people recognized him, so far I remember it has appeared once in Dominoo’s smart characters tournament but soon eliminated so quickly by Ron, and now it mostly been used by DetectiveTomTaylor and Spade.

This document will cover the feats that have been mentioned in the novel, but also those that have been shown in the movie. It will be divided into part 1 and part 2: part 1 mainly focuses on thinking or observation etc, that doesn’t involve much planning; part 2 will focus on his strategy and planning throughout the whole story, as I think it would be easier to understand his feats.

(Part 1: feats that doesn’t really involve his plan)

<Chapter 1>

Observation / Abductive rsn / Inductive rsn / Analysis / Emotional Understanding / Emotional Perception / Realisation / Psychoanalysis / Intuition / Social awareness

Ishigami usually would walk past a street that is covered with whole homeless people every morning. He inferred a random man’s personality and their major identity. The man was over sixty years old, with gray hair tied back, and the timing when Ishigami saw him, he inferred this person may have low motivation on employment, as there is no way to waste time if he planned to do some rough work. Ishigami then analyzed the personality of that man, who would not be able to have any motivation to attend any job interview and concluded he would not get any job.

‘The can-man’: Ishigami always sees this man, so he gave him the nickname ‘can-man’, because that man always crushes a lot of empty cans next to his tent. Ishigami observed and found out that can-man got a variety of articles for daily use, even a bike. Ishigami inferred this guy may have a high flexibility on collecting cans, and based on the location of his living place, Ishigami guessed this guy may have a long experience in this street.

‘The Technician’: Ishigami made this nickname for a man because he was wearing a suit under a jacket, and he remembered that man read an industrial magazine a few days ago. Ishigami observed and discovered ‘technician’ had short hair and a shaved

beard, and concluded he might not give up on making business yet (associate with the magazine). Ishigami guessed he would not find a job, as he had great pride. He remembered he saw the technician 10 days before, and found out he may not adapt into the homeless street yet. He aims to cut the link with the other side, but still decides to stay because he has no idea on surviving with a homeless identity.

Abductive rsn / Associative thk / Hypothesis / Logical thk / Memory / Hot Reading:

Ishigami inferred that a random old woman might be living alone based on the breakfast she held and the past behavior. With the 3 dogs the woman was hanging with, infer that she might lose her husband and live with those dogs, and the house might be pretty big to hold those dogs and herself. Based on the sandwich she bought, Ishigami eventually inferred that she might also finish the house debt but the management fee is expensive for her, based on comparing her hair style in winter and the current one.

Deductive rsn / Associative thk / Sensory / Observation / Perception / Logical rsn:

Ishigami heard her neighbor Hanaoka's flat was having a large sound, he felt a bit surprised as he knew this flat is good at soundproofing. After that, he decided to go and ask Hanaoka what happened. Although Hanaoka, a woman who just murder his ex-husband accidentally, tried to conceal what she did, Ishigami still discovered it. When Hanaoka opened a small gap in the door, Ishigami smelled a bit of cigarettes, so he guessed there might be a guest inside as well, but he didn't see the guest's shoes. And he observed that someone was under the warming table and the electric wire wasn't plugged, therefore he concluded the guest wasn't hiding in its purpose, but got hidden by somebody. By associating with the huge sound he heard and Hanaoka's hair, Ishigami deduced that a murder had happened. And after that, he called Hanaoka and told her he had discovered that she killed someone, and suggested she let him in to help her.

Observation /Knowledge Application / Logical thk / Analysis / PSI

After observing the corpse, Ishigami concluded that it was killed by Hanaoka and her daughter, based on the hand and finger's motion and features to find out that the man was trying to escape when he got reined behind, and it's impossible to complete by one person. Therefore he knew Hanaoka was lying, saying she was one who did this murder, thus suggesting to help them. (at this point he had already formulated a plan)

Probabilistic rsn / Strategy Building / Foresight / Stress Tolerance / Cognitive Discipline / Impulse Control

When Ishigami was asked if he could solve this issue, Ishigami replied: "Either conceal this murder, or sever the connection between the murder and both of you. You have to choose one of the two. But the body must be disposed of anyway." It means that Ishigami has started to think what's the best way to hide this body as it's inevitable to do it in any condition. To build a probable plan, Ishigami asked all the details of the corpse to effectively use it. He also able to control the emotion very well that normal people would be frustrated when they discovered or killed someone like Joe Goldberg, but Ishigami able to control his impulse very well and giving suggestion to Hanaoka properly such as her daughter to clean the flat cuz it definitely contains much evidence of fighting, while himself was moving the corpse.

(has disclosed some features on Ishigami's plan but I will mention in the Ishigami's planning part)

<Chapter 4>

Judgement / Anticipation / Field skills (Safeguarding) / Logical thk / Sophistry / Multitasking

After the dead body was discovered, Hanaoka was found and asked by the police, and this was expected by Ishigami (not a strong feat, just mention it). When Ishigami tried to contact Hanaoka on arranging what she should do next, he was concerned about the security issues, so he picked the public phone to communicate. He believed that he didn't leave any evidence for the police to suspect, but logically he knew that, if the police tried to investigate Hanaoka's family, then they would think Hanaoka may need a male to handle the corpse, and so may investigate Ishigami as well, but just low chance. However, Ishigami still has this concern to avoid any failure of his plan. Ishigami also concerning the problem of should he still go to get the bento in Hanaoka's shop, as he knew the police would inevitably go to that Bento shop to investigate, thus may hear that 'Ishigami kept getting Bento in this shop' and suspected him. And yes, Ishigami called Hanaoka's mobile phone to communicate but not the house number, as he suspected the police would Install a bug into Hanaoka's house phone.

During the conversation, Ishigami understood the current process of the police investigation on Hanaoka and knew that it's not surprising if the police focus on investigating over Hanaoka when they have discovered the victim has found Hanaoka before he died, thus suspect her testimony, so Ishigami has already taught her and her daughter how to defend with this. With this hypothesis, Ishigami knew if the police decided to investigate Hanaoka's house, the alibi they created needed to be revealed 'accidentally' but on purpose, so he arranged them to put the movie ticket inside the movie booklet but not any drawer. During the whole process, Ishigami showed great multitasking skills on observing the police while on the side of Hanaoka as well, to arrange her testimony to the police.

Alibi: Ishigami created an alibi for Hanaoka and her daughter on the 10th. He arranged for them to watch a movie and have Karaoke on that day, and keep the movie ticket and put it in the book, and instructed her daughter to tell the movie stuff to her friend on the 12th.

<Chapter 5>

Statement on Ishigami by Yukawa: *"Although I don't want to use the word genius casually, this word may be the most suitable for him. I heard that some professors also said that he is a rare talent in the past fifty or even a hundred years. Although he chose a different department, even our physics department had heard about his excellence. He has never been interested in using computers to solve problems, and he always stays in the laboratory late at night, challenging difficult problems with just pen and paper. The back view left such a deep impression that he even earned the nickname "Dharma" without realizing it, but of course this was a nickname to express respect."*

During chapter 5, everything is according to his plan, including the corpse, the fake alibi, and the police would re-investigate Hanaoka's alibi, all as Ishigami expected, but all was changed after Yukawa visited him.

<Chapter 6>

Cold reading / Emotional realization / Interpersonal intelligence / Focused thk / WMI / Logical-mathematical intelligence /PSI

When Yukawa brought the essay of the calculation to disprove the Riemann hypothesis (the novel mentioned it as the most famous problem in mathematics today. No one has succeeded so far even if it would be enough to prove that the mathematician Riemann's hypothesis is correct. And according to wikipedia, the Riemann hypothesis is "the most important unsolved problem in pure mathematics. It is of great interest in number theory because it implies results about the distribution of prime numbers"

The essay is about the challenge of invalid of the Riemann hypothesis, and Yukawa requested to see if the direction of the essay is right or not. If the hypothesis is right, then the essay might be wrong. Ishigami realized that Yukawa was to challenge his current ability on solving questions.

Ishigami accepted this challenge, by putting all his effort into this essay and kept verifying the solution, and as mentioned, his eyes could not leave the formulas for a moment, and all his brain cells were devoted to how to perform them. By just using 6 hours, Ishigami successfully proved that the disprove is incorrect, and able to

conclude them. In the novel it did not mention what's the level of the review Ishigami did, but if we assume this was an initial review, mostly it requires 1-4 weeks, and a full peer review requires 2-6 months, but Ishigami completed them in just 6 hours.

<Chapter 19>

VSI / PSI / FRI / WMI / Connecting the dots / Observation / Perception

When Ishigami was in detention, he found out the dots on the wall in front of him and decided to connect them in his mind. He imagined all those dots connected and became several triangles, rectangles and hexagons, and added different colors to separate them. He completed this in just one minute in his mind, which showed a high level of problem solving and iq feats. In his own awareness, he could even finish mathematical questions in his mind.

Part 2: Ishigami's planning: To make Hanaoka becomes innocence, and himself becomes the murderer

Fabrication / Concealment / Acting skills / Verbal deception / Prediction / Sohpistry

(the confession and deception to the police to hide Hanaoka guilty and put himself as the murderer. But just assume almost 90% of the stuff Ishigami told to the police was fake or fabricate by him include evidence, and he revealed some real facts that match with the police investigation)

In chapter 16. Ishigami decided to surrender himself to the murder of Togashi (the victim). He has prepared a full fake confession to make those police believe that he was the murderer, and an obsessive stalker of Hanaoka. He claimed that he knew everything about Hanaoka, including her past and her ex-husband Togashi. During the confession, Ishigami recalled that when he first met Togashi tried to know where Hanaoka (fake, Ishigami has never seen Togashi), so he 'reported' a wrong location of where Hanaoka lived to Togashi — Shinozaki. This place was found when the police were investigating the bike behind the crime scene (the Edogawa river), where the bike contained the fingerprint and DNA of Togashi, that's why the police would remember this and link this to Ishigami's confession. Ishigami claimed that the reason for faking this location to Togashi was to kill him easily without anyone witnessing. During the confession, Ishigami kept revealing that 'he has a responsibility to protect Hanaoka', thus creating an 'obsessive stalker' impression for the police to believe his confession. In addition, Ishigami predicted every question that the police would ask, that he had prepared for every answer on those questions, like the reason to fake Hanaoka's working location and telling Togashi Hanaoka leaving time was to limit Togashi's action. Furthermore, Ishigami explained the whole murder process to the police with some real facts to match with the police

current investigation, such as the destroying of Togashi's face or the burning of clothes, those were matched with the police's investigation. But to make the police believed more on his confession and mislead them from focusing on Hanaoka to him, Ishigami mentioned that he and Hanaoka could communicate in a way that no one would find out, but it was Ishigami installed a radio in her house to tap Hanaoka's family, and explained this was a 'talk' between him and Hanaoka. Ishigami also mentioned he usually calls Hanaoka for her to 'communicate' with him via the public telephone.

Ishigami predicted that the police who asked his aim of confession, Ishigami answered that he regretted doing this for Hanaoka as he found she 'betrayed' him, dating with another man called Kudo.

After his confession, the police investigated Hanaoka and she was surprised on Ishgami's confession, that was calculated by Ishigami as well as he never revealed any stuff about his plan to Hanaoka, this aims to get Hanaoka the true reaction of anything happens, as Ishigami needed to avoid any possible extraneous variables that would affect his plan include if Hanaoka knew the plan the risk of she could not control her emotions when got investigated by the police.

The police then found out the radio that was installed by Ishigami in Hanaoka's house to 'communicate' with her, and discovered the letters that were sent by Ishigami to Hanaoka. Those letters are mainly about how Ishigami thought Hanaoka betrayed him because she dated Kudo, including the photos that he 'stalked' them. And with Hanaoka's testimony, Kudo also received those threatening letters saying not to stay close with Hanaoka. In addition, Hanaoka has confirmed that someone was kept calling her in a certain time, and police has fact checked this through the eyewitness testimony, but the fact is, Ishigami used the public telephone to communicate with Hanaoka on the arrangement on what she should do next, which perfectly fit for him to use this as one more evidence to prove his obsessive behavior.

Also, Ishigami has already exchanged his electric wire to Hanaoka's wire that used to kill Togashi, and the police has discovered this, and it would discover some Togashi's skin on the wire, which was the murder weapon.Those evidences that was collected by the police, plus the confession are able to prosecute Ishigami and had already made the police believe Hanaoka was innocent, Ishigami was a crazy stalker.

Practical action of what Ishigami done so far

Planning: LT / Formulation speed / Coverage / Control / Versatility / Risk Calculation
Strategy: Effectiveness / Efficiency / Resilience / Foresight / Adaptability / Building
Manipulation: Indirect / Mass / Emotional / Psychological / Triangulation / Insanity Inducement
Deception: Strategic / Mass / Misdirection / Fabrication / Concealment
Field skills: Contingencies / Tactics / Setting traps
Countering: Overcoming limitations / Judgement / Improvisation

Let's go back to the time when Ishigami discovered the murder (the 9th Match). He formulated a plan quickly to devote himself to this murder (it has been mentioned that when Ishigami discovered Togashi's body, he had already formulated the whole plan) — to make a fake timeline of the whole murder. Ishigami understood himself properly, that if he just claimed 'he murdered Togashi' to get this case out of Hanaoka, maybe he can't stand the police's torture and tells the truth of Hanaoka killed Togashi. Therefore, he needed to really murder another person, for himself to claim his guilt.

Ishigami murdered a homeless man, who has unknown identity, no family, no relationship, that realistically won't be discovered even they died, even the audience of the movie or the novel never realized the mention of homeless people in the beginning would be that important, and never realized one homeless man was lost or not to mention in a purpose by the author. In fact, even the homeless themself won't even care or find out any people that are similar with them disappear, as they have already got used to that.

Back to the case. Ishigami did not come to the school in the morning of the 10th March, this was to hide the fact that Hanaoka murdered Togashi. (For Togashi's body, Ishigami cut it into 6 parts and threw them into Sumidagawa in three nights)

On the next day of Togashi's death, Ishigami went to the motel that Togashi was living in (known this information when he discovered the belongings of Togashi). He cleaned the room as clean as possible and found the homeless man who has similar characteristics with Togashi and used an employment reason to ask him to go to that motel to wait to meet Ishigami, so basically the room would just contain the DNA of the homeless man.

To overcome the limitation of the murder time, Ishigami needed to avoid the police to infer the time more longer to the 9th March because of any chance that the body was getting discovered lately. To prevent this, he must make the police realize or think that, "the murder happened after or on the 10th March". Therefore, he stole a

new bike in Shinozaki, that the bike should put in there no longer than one day, so the owner of the bike could realize her bike was getting stolen in no longer than one day to prove the murder time was on 10th March.

After that, he brought two bikes (one new, one old) to Mizue Eki (a place that is next to Shinozaki), where he arranged for the homeless man to meet him. He then told the homeless man to ride the new bike and rode to the Edogawa river with him. After that, Ishigami reined the homeless man and killed him to match how Togashi was killed, to benefit the evidence that the police would find and his confession. He broke the homeless man's face to avoid the police finding out he isn't Togashi, and broke the fingerprint as Ishigami assumed Togashi had a record of traffic violation, but he wasn't sure his fingerprint got saved so he destroyed his fingerprint as well. He broke the homeless man's teeth because he found out Togashi had teeth therapy five years before so the record might not be deleted yet.

Therefore, for the police to find out the identity of the dead body when the body parts were getting destroyed, he left the fingerprint and DNA of the homeless man on the bike. (Ishigami also broke the tire of the bike to avoid anyone steal the bike to make the only stuff to prove the fake time left)

After all that, Ishigami created the alibi for Hanaoka and her daughter, which was the weak alibi for them to watch movies and have Karaoke on the 10th March. This is an alibi that is weak and strong at the same time. It is weak because there wasn't any practical evidence that prove they were in the cinema and karaoke; it is strong because in fact the police also could not prove they weren't in the cinema and karaoke, as they have the evidence of the movie tickets and the testimony of Hanaoka's daughter's friend. Ishigami used this kind of alibi to manipulate the police's thinking direction, to have "Togashi was getting killed, and the alibi could not wash the suspicions of Hanaoka". If the alibi was over perfect, the police may start suspect the body isn't Togashi. Also, Ishigami's planning has misdirected most of the police force to Shinozaki for the investigation, and this could effectively slow down the speed of them solving the case, or making them struggle in this case.

He also had backed up everything to confess himself when the case almost got solved, and the involvement of Yukawa indirectly forced him to put his plan into the last step. His plan was finished after his confession and detention, since even Yukawa told his deduction to the police, the police could not take any action to prove the dead body isn't Togashi anymore, thus no one would ever suspect Hanaoka murdered Togashi, to exchange a peaceful life for Haanoka's family.

Soon, Ishigami 'stalked' Kudo and Hanaoka to create a 'obsessive stalker' profile for the police, taking photos of their date and acting to threaten them, but in fact he was creating evidence for them to make police believe more of his fake impression. Then, as we all know, Ishigami confessed and made a fake confession to the police.

Hanaoka and Kudo both did not know of this, and that's what Ishigami wants. Ishigami had shown strange behavior twice when Kudo and Hanaoka finished their meeting, and they both saw that as well. Hanaoka in the novel had shown she suspected Ishigami was jealous because her colleague also talked about Ishigami's feelings for her before as well. Those things and the letters may associate together to make Hanaoka play her real reaction when she heard Ishigami confess his guilt, and Kudo may also not be surprised when he received the threat letter, thus telling it to Hanaoka to have a chance to leak it to the police.

Conclusion

To map up the real crime Hanaoka did to Togashi, Ishigami fabricated another death to make the police believe that body is Togashi, and the timeline got Hanaoka out of this case. The fake alibi Ishigami arranged for Hanaoka to create has made the police keep focus on Hanaoka and never suspect the identity of the dead body they discovered. During this process, Ishigami predicted every action the police would do, and induced them into the trap he set for them to mislead them into a wrong thinking process. However, the involvement of Yukawa made him confess himself finally, as Yukawa had already deduced the truth of the case. And if Hanaoka doesn't confess herself at the end of the story, Ishigami could be able to deceive everyone, but he failed to calculate the guilt of Hanaoka would also be one of the variables to destroy his plan. He calculated everything, including the police thinking process, any bug that would make them suspect, but failed to calculate humanity.