Tristan Turnbull

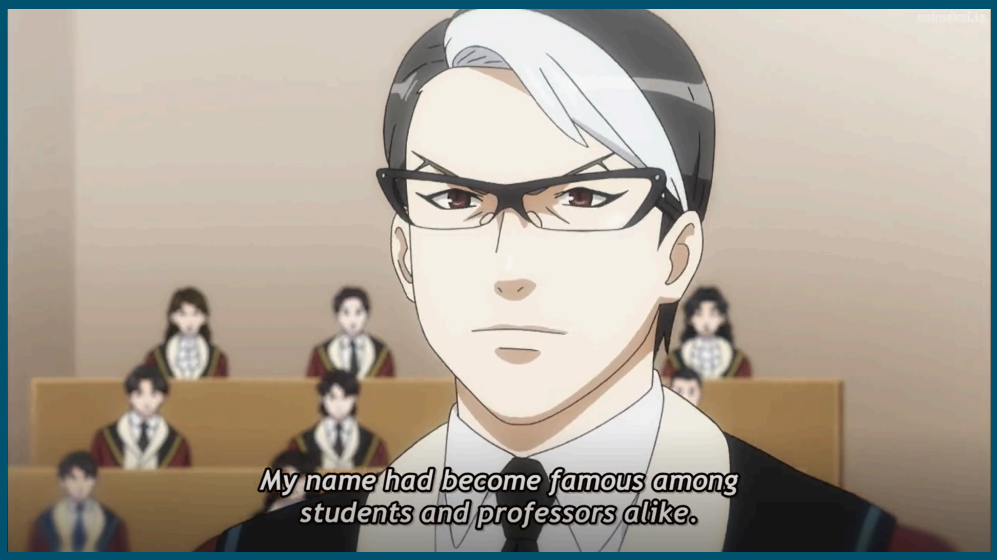
“International Prosecutor”



“America’s justice system is perfect! No matter what happens, that will never change.”

Lore:

Tristan Turnbull is an anime original Ace Attorney villain, originating from the anime's second season. He is the antagonist of the "Northward, Turnabout Express" case.





Despite his status and skill, he is humbled by a younger Edgeworth who notes during a mock trial flashback, the witness could've been lying and that Turnbull had overlooked this due

his naïvety that a true court debate would follow rules to prevent this.

Turnbull's resentment for him grew from this moment, and it may possibly explain why he would go on to manipulate evidence and testimonies.

(emotional engagement, social skills, knowledge, experience, academics)

Avery Richman Conspiracy:

This is necessary information, however I'm not sure if the plan itself can be credited to Turnbull, so I won't. Avery Richman is a famous multi-millionaire who was considered a threat to the American economy. To this end, the prosecutor's office conspired against him, hiring Gale (an assassin) to frame Richman for the death of Benjamin Cashanova.

They also offered a large sum of money to Rick Steam, someone very close to Richman, getting him to procure a gun with Richman's fingerprints on it. Gale used this gun to fire upon Cashanova, and a policeman who frisked Richman planted the gun on his person.

Turnbull would be assigned to the case, and he made sure to distance himself as much as possible, never stepping foot in the court for the case, and only manipulating things behind the scenes. He ensured Gale never testified despite him seemingly being a crucial witness.

Due to Turnbull's manipulation of the trial, Richman would be convicted and sentenced.

(tactics, indirect manipulation, fabrication, setting traps)

Northward, Turnabout Express - Plan:

Turnbull returns to Japan for a vacation where he is invited onto the Silver Star train; he accepts though finds it odd. While there, he meets Gale, the assassin who'd taken part in the Richman conspiracy. Gale threatens him, saying that perhaps he was not given enough hush money for the business and Turnbull quickly formulates a plan to silence Gale altogether.

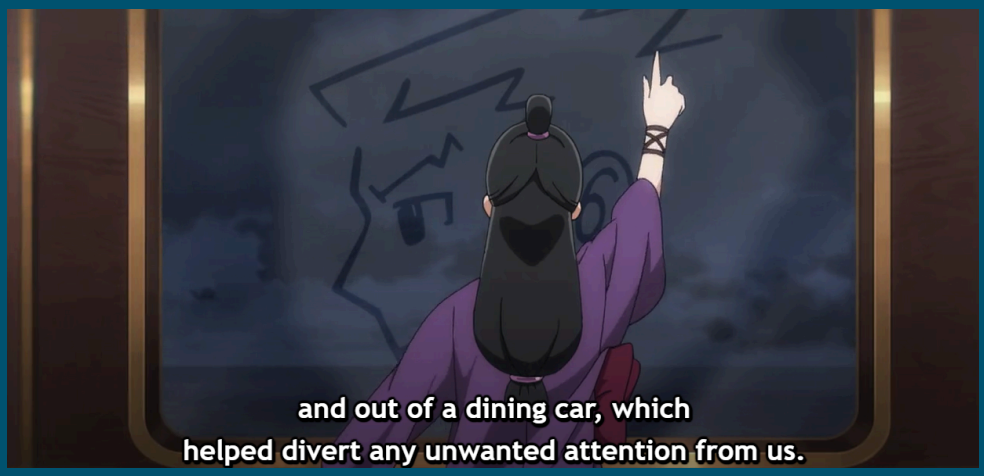


To this end, Turnbull agreed to discuss further payment with Gale, he claimed they should go to Car 3 of the train to do so, as it would've been empty, thus reducing the likeliness of them being overheard.


Car 3 should be empty right now.

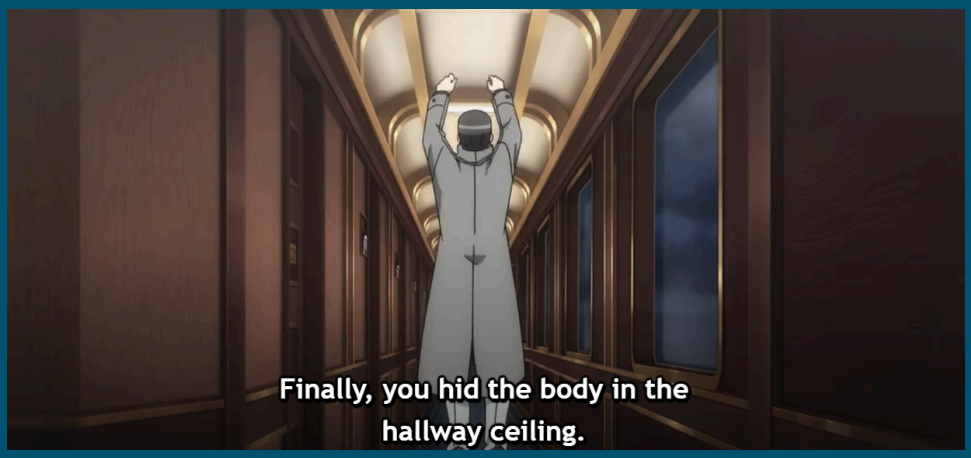

It was around 6 pm.





As shown in the screenshots, Turnbull and Gale chose to go at dinner time (6pm) so as to not attract any attention while passing through. This works flawlessly as when Phoenix asks if anyone saw Gale pass through the cart, no-one can remember due to how many people were coming and going through the dining car.





Turnbull killed the man in a compartment in car 3, stabbing him in the chest and hid his corpse in the ceiling.

Turnbull's murder plot was disrupted as suddenly Richman (who was an escapee at this point) arrived on the train, having been picked up by his employees (who were especially selected as loyal and trustworthy) and demanded to host a retrial which he would broadcast from the dining car itself.

Forced to go along with this as the employees were armed, Turnbull realises Gale would be a key witness and due to his disappearance the train would be searched extensively, so he concocted a body disappearing trick.

He demanded 20 minutes to prepare for the trial, which was granted as Richman had no reason to suspect Turnbull of committing foul play at this stage. Turnbull approached a staff member called Rick who'd taken part in the conspiracy to convict Richman a year ago (he'd betrayed Richman in secret for a large sum of money) and forced him to assist in this ploy.

He had Rick dress up as the victim and play dead inside CAR 1, ordering him to set fire to the cart just in front of him.





That way when they got there and rushed off to acquire an extinguisher, Turnbull could grab it and use it himself, “check” out the corpse (cover Rick so the others can’t tell) and close the door, claiming that they must preserve the murder scene.

This bought Rick time to hide the clothes in a compartment under the chair and hide behind the door. Once Richman opened it and was shocked by the body’s disappearance, he would sneak behind them and act as though he’d just arrived to try to help out.

(planning intricacies + process + formulation + versatility, creative + fast + focused + linear thinking, concealment, misdirection + fabrication, psychological manipulation, improvising, adaptability, PSI + FRI, emotional engagement + management, strategic deception, logical manipulation, VCI, acting skills, setting traps, prediction)

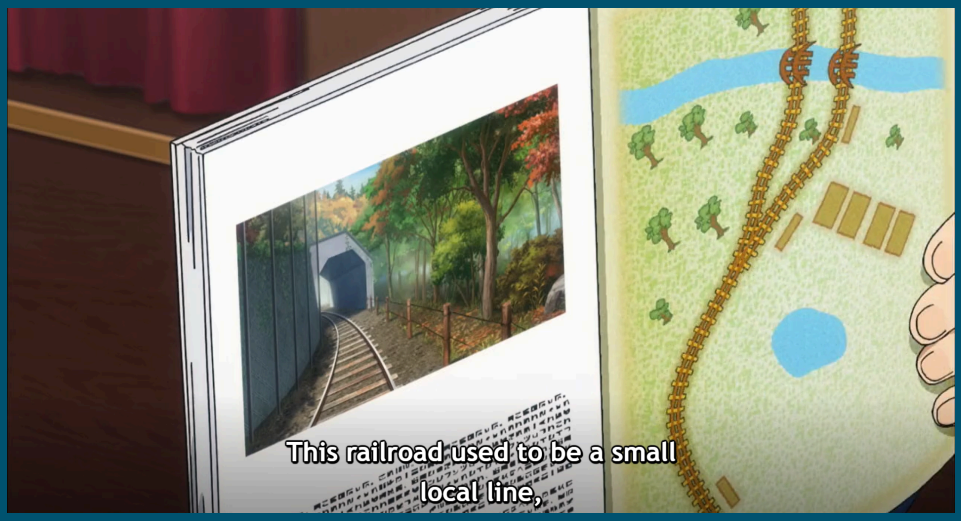
Downfall:

Turnbull's plan is slowly unravelled by Wright with the help of Edgeworth and Gumshoe. Due to a ridiculous stroke of luck, lightning strikes the carriage Gumshoe is in (car 3) and this causes Gale's corpse to fall from the ceiling.

Gumshoe relays this to Wright who's in the dining car, currently defending Richman in the retrial. Gumshoe also notes that he saw a "human soul" (orange flame) out the window earlier that day as well and that the dining car had seemingly "disappeared" and somehow car 3 was now next to the engine car.

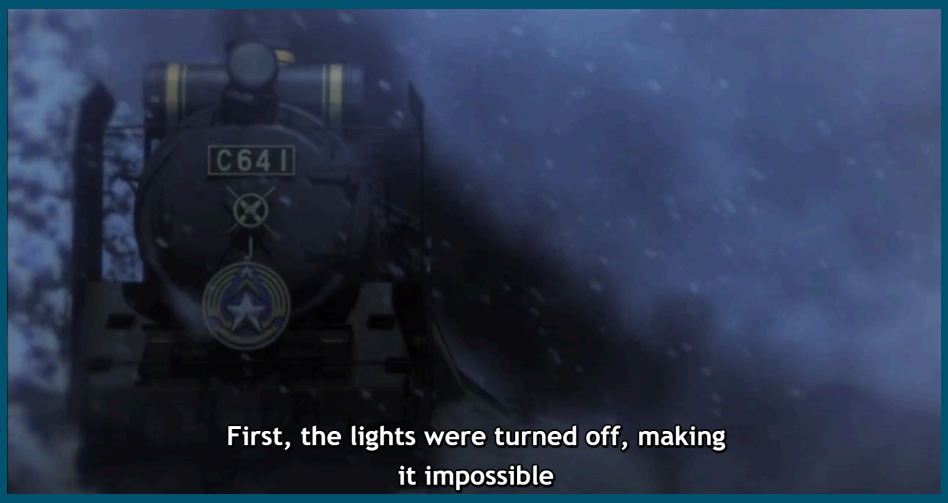
Wright uses this to reason that what Gumshoe had seen was a fire that had happened in the dining car, and the reason he could see it from car 3 was that the cars had been rearranged. He explains it quite well:


It's not that the cars vanished.


This railroad used to be a small local line,

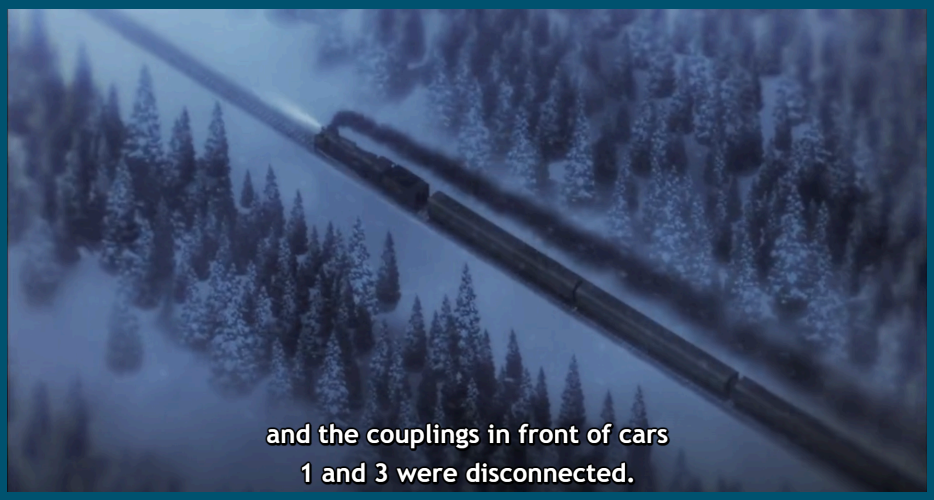

and the old freight stations that were used


for transporting lumber still dot the tracks.

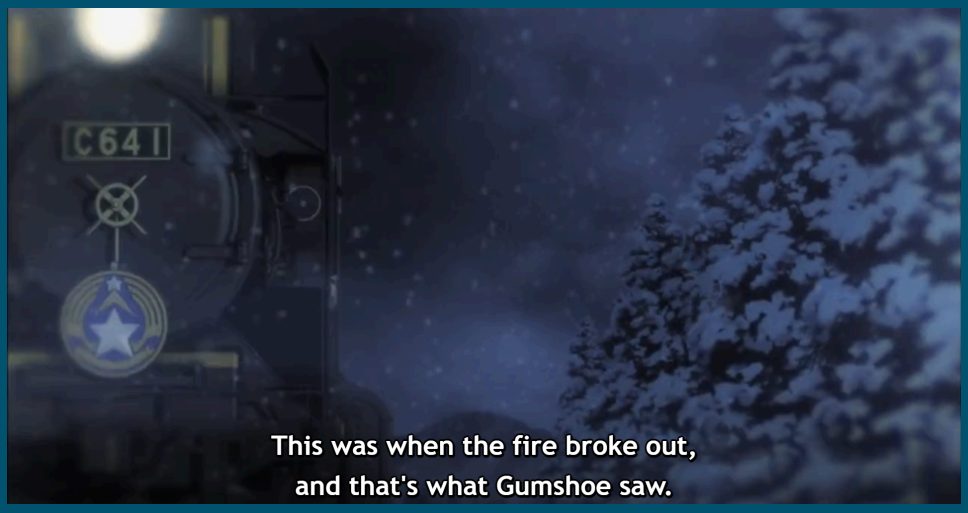

C64 I
First, the lights were turned off, making
it impossible


for us to see what was about
to happen to us.


Second, the train was slowed down before
it reached a predetermined junction.


and the couplings in front of cars
1 and 3 were disconnected.


The train split up!





This is revealed to have been done by Avery Richman and explained why the train had briefly stopped: to let the escaped Richman board for one so he could host the retrial they were having now, and to attach the cars together again.

It's later revealed the reasoning behind Richman moving the dining car to the back of the train, was that he had planted a bomb in it and was prepared to kill himself, but wanted to ensure he wouldn't kill anyone else, thus by moving it to the

rear he could detach the car at the end of the mock trial so he and the bomb car would be left behind.

This is what allows Wright to figure out who killed Gale as if his real corpse was found in car 3, and not car 1, then it must've been done during dinner time as that was when car 3 would've been empty. Turnbull counters, saying that if this was true Wright needed a witness who saw someone go into car 3. Wright accuses Turnbull of being the killer.

He claims that since the real corpse was found in car 3, the corpse found in car 1 must have been fake, and that they were Turnbull's accomplice. He lays out that Turnbull had prevented them getting close and had forced them out of the room quickly, it was then that the accomplice had the opportunity to hide his clothes and when the door opened, reappear behind them as though he'd just arrived.

Wright indicts Rick Steam as Turnbull's accomplice as he was the only one who suddenly appeared after the door had opened. Rick breaks down and confesses, leaving Turnbull irritated.

Turnbull counters, saying that there's no concrete proof that he conspired with Rick, and notes his lack of motivation to kill Gale as he had no connection to the man.

Here Edgeworth jumps in via broadcast (having been called on by Gumshoe as he was in America and could check the Richman case file), revealing that Turnbull, despite never setting foot in court, had been the one to lay out the prosecutor's arguments and had manipulated the Avery Richman trial himself.

Turnbull tries to counter, saying that the reason he'd manipulated the trial to not include Gale was simply that he saw no need to, however this is hopeless and Turnbull visibly starts to break down as Miles lays out the facts of the case. The chief prosecutor appears on broadcast with Miles, shaming Turnbull for his actions and claiming he has no place in the American system,

Turnbull's last ditch involves throwing his superior under the bus who had ordered him to ensure Richman was convicted in the first place, however Miles and the chief reveal that they've already spoken to him and he had already confessed. Turnbull breaks down and confesses.

(sophistry, abductive reasoning, minor counter difficulty, composure, mental fortitude, emotional management)



Tristan Turnbull's category feats explained:

Key: FSIQ, FSEQ, FSSQ, FSAQ, Psychology, Manip/Decep, Thinking/Reasoning, Strat/Planning, Misc.

1- planning intricacies + process + formulation + versatility, tactics, adaptability, improvising, creative + fast + focused + linear thinking, concealment, misdirection + fabrication, PSI + FRI (Turnbull deliberately selecting car 3 and dinner as the time of murder so as to avoid attention by going there, his plan was formulated quickly and in response to Gale's threat, his quickly formulated false body plan which would've been formed under immense pressure due to Richman's sudden appearance, his staff being armed and the retrial demand)

2- psychological manipulation, emotional engagement + management, strategic deception, logical manipulation, acting skills, extortion + threats, composure, mental fortitude (manipulation of Rick Steam, engagement via plan,

management/acting skills via remaining composed and calm despite such extreme conditions and the fact that he's just killed someone, faux corpse tactic)
3- VCI, experience, academics, knowledge (skills with a knife, knowledge of the law/prosecutorial skills, considered a prodigy in law school, was supposedly the best student - though Miles humbles him, so presumably Miles > Turnbull > the rest of the class)

"Damn you Miles, I've always hated that look in your eyes."



Made by TheNoo (u/Due_Ad8334).