

14 CONTINUED:

14

NATALIE (CONT'D)

And whether you like it or not, you have friends who love you and want to celebrate your life. They are happy you were born.

MONK

You are so cruel.

They approach the TRASH COMPACTOR AREA. Stottlemeyer, Disher and TWO OTHER DETECTIVES are standing over the body- or rather, what's left of the body. We never see the body. It's covered with a small sheet.

Monk and Natalie react. They're repulsed.

NATALIE

Oh my God! Where's the rest of him?

CAPT. STOTTEMEYER

That's all there is. His name was Bradley Foster. He was the maintenance man. He got stuck in the compactor.

LT. DISHER

I'll check the parking lot for his car.

CAPT. STOTTEMEYER

Yeah. Do that.

(dryly)

He was probably driving a compact.

Cop humor. Lt. Disher and the OTHER COPS chuckle.

NATALIE

That's not funny.

FIRST DETECTIVE

I don't think we need a body bag. We need a body box.

SECOND DETECTIVE

Did you see what he's wearing? Those aren't briefs. They look more like boxers.

The Cops HIGH-FIVE each other. But Monk isn't laughing. He's been studying the crime scene, Zen-Monk style.

(CONTINUED)

"Monk" - First Detective

START →

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38 CONTINUED:

38

Monk reaches for the glass. He starts to sip it, then gets distracted.

NATALIE

Make a wish.

MONK

I don't think I really-

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

Make a wish, Monk.

MONK

Okay.

Monk closes his eyes, the way Birthday Boys do. A beat. He opens his eyes. He's just realized something.

MONK (CONT'D)

(to First Detective)

You loosened your belt...?

FIRST DETECTIVE

Making room for the cake.

// END

Monk turns to Kurt Pressman, accusingly.

MONK

You loosened your belt.

KURT PRESSMAN

Excuse me?

39 INT. PRESSMAN'S GARAGE - EARLIER - FLASHBACK (B&W) (FB-4)

39

A QUICK BLACK & WHITE FLASHBACK SEQUENCE. It's a few hours earlier. Monk and Natalie are in Pressman's garage. We REPLAY THE MOMENT where Pressman adjusts his toolbelt.

MONK (V.O.)

Your tool belt. It didn't fit. I saw you loosen it.

40 INT. PRESSMAN'S GARAGE - MOMENTS LATER - FLASHBACK (B&W) (FB- 40 5)

Another QUICK FLASHBACK. We REPLAY THE MOMENT where Pressman tries the wrong screwdriver.

KURT PRESSMAN

Hang on. I need a phillips-head...

(CONTINUED)

First Det.

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MR. MONK" - Prod/Network Draft - 7/23/09 8.

14 CONTINUED: (2)

14

MONK

(grimly)

He was probably still alive when he was dragged into the gears. The rotating blades probably ripped his spinal column. And shredded his lungs. Screaming and begging for his life the whole way down.

This- of course- chills the room. A somber beat.

LT. DISHER

This guy wasn't hip at all. In fact, he was square.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

It's not funny, Randy.

LT. DISHER

It would've been funny. I think, from now on, Monk should go last.

First Detective steps up with MR. WAXMAN, the Building Manager. Waxman is- understandably- shaken up.

FIRST DETECTIVE

Captain. This is Paul Waxman. He's the building manager. He found the body.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

What time was that, Mr. Waxman?

MR. WAXMAN

Eight-thirty. I noticed the door was open. That was strange. So I came in. I turned on the light.

(weakly, shaken)

I saw blood... sort of trickling down. At first, I thought it was an animal.

(tearing up)

I looked inside. It was Bradley.

LT. DISHER

What do you think happened?

MR. WAXMAN

The compactor must've jammed. I guess he forgot to turn off the circuit breaker. I've been here fifteen years. We never had an accident like this...

(CONTINUED)

3/3

SMET
SC.2

1(EN)
SC.2