

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- ~~shills~~ 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...

START
→

"MONK" -

MR.

~~WAXMAN~~
WAXMAN

(CONTINUED)

1/3

waxler

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MR. MONK" - Prod/Network Draft - 7/23/09 9.

14 CONTINUED: (3)

14

~~CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER
Tell him, Randy.
LT. DISHER
It's not an accident until we say it is.~~

(then)

How long did he work here?

MR. WAXMAN

Five years, give or take. He was a good man. Probably the best worker I had.

MONK

Excuse me: You said you came in, and turned on the light?

MR. WAXMAN

That's right.

MONK

Are you sure about that? About the light?

MR. WAXMAN

Yes sir. I'll never forget it. I turned the light on, and saw the blood.

~~NATALIE~~

~~(to Monk)~~

~~What's wrong with that?~~

~~MONK~~

~~Who turned it off?~~

~~NATALIE~~

~~Oh yeah.~~

~~A beat. Everyone considers this.~~

~~CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER~~

~~Well. That makes it a lot more interesting.~~

~~(to First Detective)~~

~~Seal the building. We're going to talk to everybody.~~

LT. DISHER

Was anybody else was in the building last night?

(CONTINUED)

2/3

WAXLER

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14 CONTINUED: (4)

14

MR. WAXMAN

There's a camera in the lobby. I was just checking the tape. It looks like there was only one other guy here. Meckler. Richard Meckler. He has an office on the fourth floor.

LT. DISHER

(jotting down name)

Meckler...

MR. WAXMAN

He left around midnight. But that doesn't mean anything. He works late a lot.

MONK

What does he do?

MR. WAXMAN

Mr. Meckler? He's a patent attorney. If you have an idea-like, for an invention- and you want to get rich quick, he's the guy.

// END

15 INT. BANQUET HALL - PR EVENT -- LATER THAT DAY

15

Later. Across town. In a LARGE BANQUET ROOM. A DOZEN REPORTERS- from technological magazines and websites- are gathered.

A CORPORATE PR EVENT is in progress. There's a BANNER: INTRODUCING THE VANTAGE VACUUM- the world's first SELF CLEANING VACUUM!

RICHARD MECKLER, the patent attorney, is addressing the crowd. 40-ish. A bit of a hustler.

RICHARD MECKLER

My name is Richard Meckler. I'm a patent attorney. I must hear a thousand bad ideas every year. Believe me, I've met every nutjob in California. But when Kurt Pressman came into my office five months ago with this vacuum- the world's first self-cleaning vacuum- I knew I wanted to be a part of it.

Also onstage: KURT PRESSMAN, an amateur inventor. He's a large guy, heavy-set. 30-ish, bookish. He's holding a new, slick high-tech VACUUM CLEANER.

(CONTINUED)

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