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5 CONTINUED:

5

Monk nods. He doesn't say anything. His cheeks are puffed out.

NATALIE (cont'd)
Are you holding your breath?

Monk shakes his head "no". Natalie leans over and "pops" Monk's cheeks with her fingers. Monk reluctantly inhales.

Natalie notices: a FRAMED PAIR OF "BEFORE & AFTER" PHOTOS on the wall. They both feature Randy Disher as a teenager! In the "before" picture, Disher has some acne on his face.

NATALIE (cont'd)
Is that Randy?

She takes a closer look.

NATALIE (cont'd)
Oh my God. That is so funny. Not funny in a "ha ha" way. Funny in a "oh boy, this'll really embarrass him" way.

Then... DR. POLANSKI enters. Sharp. Distinguished. Mid-40's. Very attractive.

START →

DR. POLANSKI
Ms. Teeger. Sorry to keep you waiting. I'm Dr. Polanski.

Natalie turns. She sees the attractive Doctor, and reacts. He smiles, too. Sparks.

NATALIE
Hello.
(introducing)
My boss, Adrian Monk.

Monk is holding his breath again. He nods. And waves.

NATALIE (cont'd)
Thank you for seeing us. This won't take long.

DR. POLANSKI
(flirting)
Oh. I'm sorry to hear that.

Natalie indicates the PAIR OF PHOTOS.

"MONK" - DR. POLANSKI

(CONTINUED)

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POLANSKI!
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NATALIE

Can I ask you something. Is that Randy Disher?

DR. POLANSKI

Randall was one of my first patients. Do you know him?

NATALIE

I know Randy Disher. I don't know that kid.

DR. POLANSKI

Teen years. I don't know how any of us survived it. We can talk over here.

(amused, to Monk)

Mr. Monk, you're not going to catch anything in here, I promise.

Monk sighs, and joins them. Dr. Polanski leads them to a secluded CORNER.

DR. POLANSKI (cont'd)

What can I do for you?

MONK

Could you explain to my friend that leprosy is a serious condition. And it's very contagious.

DR. POLANSKI

Actually, that's a common misconception.

MONK

(quickly, to Natalie)

See?

DR. POLANSKI

For one thing, it's not called leprosy anymore. We call it Hansen's disease. And it's quite rare. Most people are naturally immune. If you do happen to contract it, it's easily treatable with an antibiotic called halazzen.

NATALIE

I talked to a man on the phone. He wants to hire us. But he's allergic to halazzen.

(CONTINUED)

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Polanski
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5 CONTINUED: (3)

5

DR. POLANSKI

Yes. That does happen. So his condition is full-blown?

MONK

Oh yes. Full blown. Full. Blown.

DR. POLANSKI

I don't think you have to worry. As I said, it's not very contagious. I've been practicing for 20 years, and I've only seen one case firsthand.

MONK

I can't do it.

DR. POLANSKI

How about this? If you do contract the disease, I'll treat you for free.

MONK

What the hell are you talking about?
 (then)

How about this: we never call him back. We never see him again. I avoid him like the plague- exactly like the plague.

NATALIE

(to Monk)

Can I talk to you for a minute?

(to Dr. Polanski)

Excuse me.

Natalie takes Monk aside. They confer privately.

NATALIE (cont'd)

Didn't you hear what he said?

MONK

No.

NATALIE

It's almost impossible to catch.

MONK

In that sentence, for me, the word "almost" is the most interesting word.

NATALIE

Mr. Bronson has an affliction.

(MORE)

*// END
 sc 1*

(CONTINUED)

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POLANSKI**"MR. MONK AND THE BAD CLIENT" - Producer's/Network Draft - 8/29/06 32.**

16 CONTINUED: (3)

16

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER (cont'd)

(reading title)

~~"Skin Diseases" . Not exactly bedtime reading.~~

Nearby, Lt. Dishar finds an APPOINTMENT BOOK.

LT. DISHER

His appointment book.

(leafing through)

He kept pretty busy. Every weekend.

(then)

Look at this. Last New Year's Eve.

He played a private party for Maggie Bronson.

~~Capt. Stottlemeyer and Lt. Dishar recognize the name. They exchange baffled looks.~~

17 INT./EXT. DR. POLANSKI'S CAR / PARKING LOT -- NIGHT (NIGHT 17 5)

Later that night. In a parking lot. It's Natalie's big date! She and Dr. Polanski are parked in his car.

They're in the front seat, kissing. Heavy breathing. This date is going very well. Between kisses, they whisper into each other's ears...

START
SC. 2 →

DR. POLANSKI

Mmm... this might be the best first date in the history of first dates...

NATALIE

Maybe we should quit while we're ahead...

More kisses. Natalie glances out the window.

NATALIE (cont'd)

Adam...

DR. POLANSKI

Mmm...?

NATALIE

They're closing the restaurant...

Polanski doesn't even look up. He continues to kiss her.

DR. POLANSKI

Really...?

(CONTINUED)

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Polanski

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17 CONTINUED:

17

NATALIE

You promised me dinner...

DR. POLANSKI

I have some leftovers at my place...

His place? Natalie hesitates.

DR. POLANSKI (cont'd)

You can trust me. I'm a doctor.

More kissing... more nuzzling...

DR. POLANSKI (cont'd)

I'm so glad your boss needed my help...

NATALIE

Mmm... me too...

DR. POLANSKI

What happened with that case...?

NATALIE

It's all over. Bronson went back to his leper colony on Kimino Island... he said he loves it there...

DR. POLANSKI

I believe it. I've seen some colonies in Africa that are magnificent... they're like four star hotels....

More kissing. Hot and heavy.

NATALIE

You really are an expert...

DR. POLANSKI

I should be...

NATALIE

What do you mean...?

DR. POLANSKI

(nuzzling her neck)

Remember I said I knew one person with leprosy...

NATALIE

Mmmmm...

(CONTINUED)

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POLANSKI
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17 CONTINUED: (2)

17

DR. POLANSKI

It was me.

This doesn't register yet. They continue to smooch.

NATALIE

What was you...?

DR. POLANSKI

Leprosy. Hansen's disease. I had it. As a kid.

Natalie breaks away... confused.

DR. POLANSKI (cont'd)

Don't worry. I'm completely cured.
Actually, it's why I became a doctor.
It was the best thing that ever
happened to me.

// END SC.2

Natalie tries to be cool. She tries to be open-minded. She
smiles, weakly. She backs away from him... and discreetly
wipes her mouth.

NATALIE

Really? Imagine that.

18 INT. NATALIE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - SAME TIME -- NIGHT

18

Meanwhile, Monk and Julie are in Natalie's house. Julie has
just cooked a big batch of TATER TOT POTATOES.

MONK

What are you doing?

JULIE

Making dinner.

MONK

Oh no. Oh no. There's a whole
chicken in the refrigerator. I'm
supposed to heat it up.

JULIE

Why?

MONK

Because I'm the babysitter.

JULIE

I don't think so. Mom said I was
babysitting you.

(CONTINUED)

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