

7 CONTINUED: 7

Kevin crosses to the VIDEO PLAYER, and starts loading up the movie. During this, the doorbell RINGS.

8 INT. MONK'S APARTMENT - FRONT DOOR -- CONTINUOUS 8

Monk opens the door. It's a woman, LINDA MARX, 20's. Linda is very upset. Desperate.

START →  
SC.1

LINDA  
Mr. Monk?

MONK  
Yes.

LINDA  
I'm sorry to bother you at home, but I've been reading about you on the internet. And I looked up your address.

(breaking down)  
I'm sorry. I don't know where else to go.

MONK  
I'm on the internet?

"MONK" - LINDA

9 INT. MONK'S APARTMENT -- MOMENTS LATER 9

Moments later. Linda is on Monk's couch. She's sobbing, gently. Monk is very uncomfortable. He offers her a TISSUE.

MONK  
If you could wait until my assistant gets here. She's in charge of saying the right things...

Across the room: Kevin is ignoring them. He's at the TV, FAST FORWARDING through BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE (which, of course, we never have to actually see).

KEVIN  
Hold on... fast forward... I'll find it... Oh I love this part...

Meanwhile, Linda collects herself, and...

LINDA  
My sister, Janine, died four weeks ago. There was a gas fireplace in her bedroom. It was turned on. She was asphyxiated.

1/6

9 CONTINUED:

Linda

9

MONK  
(anxiously)  
Uh huh. Natalie will be here any  
minute...

Linda takes out a CASE FILE.

LINDA  
This is the report from the coroner's  
inquest. They said it was an  
accident. Mr. Monk, she never used  
that fireplace. She hated that  
fireplace. I know he killed her.

MONK  
Who?

LINDA  
Her husband. Max. Could I have  
another?

Linda indicates a BOX OF TISSUES. Monk hesitates.

~~MONK  
Here's the thing. I buy ten boxes  
at a time. They have to last me the  
whole month. And I do a lot of crying  
myself.~~

Linda continues to weep.

~~MONK (cont'd)  
How about one ply?~~

Monk- the cheapest man on earth- peels off a SINGLE PLY from  
a DOUBLE-PLY TISSUE, and hands it to her.

Across the room: Kevin has finally found the right scene.

~~KEVIN  
There it is! Look! He's putting on  
the wig. And the dress. Now he's  
Big Momma. I rest my case.~~

MONK  
Kevin. I'm a little busy. I'm  
talking to- I'm sorry...?

LINDA  
Linda Marks. My sister was Janine  
Hudson.

Kevin reacts, suddenly interested.

(CONTINUED)

2/6

9 CONTINUED: (2)

Linda

9

KEVIN

Janine Hudson? Max Hudson's wife?

LINDA

Everyone loves him. They think he's so funny. But Janine was terrified of him. She said if anything ever happened to her, even if it looked like an accident, Max did it.

KEVIN

So you've actually met him?

LINDA

Yes I've met him. I think he killed my sister.

KEVIN

What's he like?

LINDA

He's a monster.

//END sc.1

KEVIN

(undeterred, gushing)

He did this thing last week- it was hysterical- he had on this woman he called the "world's hottest crackhead", and he made her put on this tiara-

Linda bursts into tears. Monk gestures to Kevin: "Please go away".

KEVIN (cont'd)

Well, I'll be upstairs.

(to Linda)

It was nice meeting you. I don't suppose you could get me an autograph..?

Linda starts crying harder.

KEVIN (cont'd)

Forget it. Withdrawn. I never said it.

(to Monk)

The scene is all cued up. Martin Lawrence, Big Momma- same person.

Linda

10

EXT. MAX HUDSON'S HOUSE - FRONT PORCH -- DAY (DAY 3)

10

The next day. At Max Hudson's house. Monk and NATALIE walk toward the front porch. Natalie is holding the CASE FILE.

NATALIE

I don't like the guy either. He's so offensive. And mean. But he couldn't have done it. Have you read this? It's just not possible.

MONK

We'll see.

NATALIE

When Janine died, Max was on the radio, doing a live show. And the night before, he was in Los Angeles at a party. He landed that morning and went straight to the studio. He hadn't been home for two days.

MONK

I promised her I'd look into it. She was using up all my kleenex.

They reach the FRONT PORCH. Linda Marx is already there, waiting for them. She's been RINGING the DOORBELL.

START  
Sc. 2

→

LINDA

I don't think he's home.

(WT TO →)

Monk glances down.

MONK

(puzzled)

Did you tell him we were coming?

Monk indicates the DOORMAT, on the porch. It says: "GO AWAY".

NATALIE

No, Mr. Monk. That's not for us. That's a joke.

MONK

It's a joke? How is that funny?

NATALIE

Well, I guess it's funny because it's the opposite of what a welcome mat would normally say.

10 CONTINUED:

*Linda*

10

MONK  
So it's an opposite joke.

NATALIE  
That's right.

Then, a neighbor- a friendly OLDER MAN- appears. He's walking his DOG- a small Jack Russell Terrier- past the house.

NEIGHBOR  
(calling to our group)  
He's not home. I live right there.  
I saw him leave about two hours ago.

LINDA  
Thank you.

NATALIE  
That's a nice dog.

NEIGHBOR  
Thank you.

MONK  
(giggling)  
That's a nice cat.

The Neighbor shakes his head, confused... and walks away.  
Monk gestures: "Whoosh- that joke went above his head."

Linda- frustrated- fishes into her purse and takes out a KEY.

*pick-up* →

LINDA  
That's it. It's still my sister's house. I'm going in.

11 INT. MAX HUDSON'S BEDROOM -- MOMENTS LATER

11

Moments later. In Max's bedroom. Monk, Natalie and Linda Marx enter. Linda chokes back tears.

NATALIE  
Are you okay?

LINDA  
I'm sorry. I haven't been here, since...  
(collecting herself)  
That's where they found her. On the bed.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

*5/16*

11 CONTINUED:

*Linda*

11

LINDA (CONT'D)

This morning, I heard him joking about it on his show. I'm sorry, some things just aren't funny.

MONK

Everything isn't funny.

LINDA

According to the police, she turned on the gas, then forgot it was on, and went to sleep. I just don't believe it.

*// END SC.2*

During this, Monk has opened a CLOSET. On the closet floor: a pile of ASSORTED SHOES.

MONK

(puzzled)  
That's strange.

NATALIE

What?

MONK

There are 39 shoes here. There's one missing.

NATALIE

Is that important?

MONK

No. Probably not.  
(analyzing the pile)  
I think it was... a brown Gucci loafer.

Natalie gently leads Monk back toward the room.

NATALIE

Mr. Monk, the body was found over here. On the bed.

Monk studies the room. He paces around. He waves his hands. He notices: the FIREPLACE. He stoops. He turns the FIREPLACE GAS HANDLE, which is low, near the floor.

MONK

So she turned it... like this.

We HEAR- HISSSSSssssss- the gas turns on. Monk, unknowingly, breathes in the gas.

*6/6*

(CONTINUED)