

12 CONTINUED:

12

MONK
 This brings back memories, doesn't it? Sitting in the Principal's office...

NATALIE
 You? Mr. Monk, I can't picture you being sent to the Principal's office.

MONK
 I wasn't sent. I used to go on my own. I was reporting on the troublemakers. I was Mr. Kantman's Eyes and Ears- that's what he called me.

NATALIE
 (disapprovingly)
 You were spying? On other kids?

MONK
 I was keeping the study hall safe for people like you.

A tense, awkward beat.

MONK (cont'd)
 You're welcome

"MONK" - Principal Franklin

The school's Principal, DEBRAH FRANKLIN, enters. Efficient. Overworked. Middle-aged.

START
sc. 1 →

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN
 Natalie. Hello. Sorry to keep you. We're organizing a memorial service.

NATALIE
 Of course. Debrah Franklin, this is my boss, Adrian Monk.

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN
 Yes. We met last year at Career Day. How have you been?"

MONK
 The same.

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN
 Oh. I'm sorry. How's Julie doing?

NATALIE
 She's holding up. She's stronger than me.

(CONTINUED)

1/2

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN

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12 CONTINUED: (2)

12

Principal Franklin hands Natalie a list.

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN

Here's that list you wanted. Everyone who had access to the girl's locker room, including the outside contractors.

NATALIE

Thank you.

Monk RAISES HIS HAND, as if he was in a classroom.

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN

Mr. Monk, you don't have to raise your hand.

MONK

Did Coach Hayden seem worried or depressed?

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN

Now that you mention it, the day before... the incident... I saw her in the teacher's lounge, crying. She wouldn't tell me why. I didn't think much about it. A lot of our teachers cry quite a bit.

(then)

Do you really think somebody might have done this on purpose?

NATALIE

We don't know.

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN

I hope to God you're wrong. It's been hard enough on the kids. Especially on the team.

(sigh)

I hate to see the season end like this.

NATALIE

What do you mean?

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN

Without a coach, we're going to have to forfeit the last game.

NATALIE

No- no- you can't forfeit. What about the assistant coach?

(CONTINUED)

2/4

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN

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12 CONTINUED: (3)

12

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN
Hospital. Ruptured hernia. I've
been on the phone all morning.
Nobody's available on such short
notice.

A beat. Natalie makes a decision.

NATALIE
I can do it. I'll do it.

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN
Natalie, I don't think...

NATALIE
I played basketball in high school.
Varsity. All four years. Plus, I
know all the girls.

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN
(softening)
It is only one game...

NATALIE
So that's a yes?

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN
I guess we have nothing to lose.
You're going to need an assistant...

// END SC.1

Natalie looks at Monk, expectantly. But Monk doesn't catch on.

MONK
(confused)
What? She's right- you're going to
need an assistant. Why are you
looking at me?

Again, Monk raises his hand.

MONK (cont'd)
(to the Principal,
tattle-tailing)
She keeps staring at me.

13 INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM -- DAY

13

That afternoon. In the HIGH SCHOOL GYM. Julie and the OTHER
COUGARS are hanging out. Some are shooting baskets. Others
are on the bleachers, chatting, doing homework.

(CONTINUED)

3/4

Principal Franklin

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ACT FOUR

20 INT. MONK'S APARTMENT, LIVING ROOM -- DAY (DAY 6) 20

The next day. In Monk's apartment.

Monk is at his mantle. He's rearranging some photographs. He's clearing a space for a trophy.

21 INT. HIGH SCHOOL GYM -- NIGHT (NIGHT 6) 21

That night. In the gym. The BLEACHERS are full. This is it. The big game.

On the sideline: Monk and Natalie are standing with the Cougars.

In center court: Principal Franklin has a microphone. She addresses the crowd...

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN

As many of you know, Ashton High School lost a dear friend last week. Lynn Hayden was more than just a coach. She was a member of our family. Her brother, Aaron, is here tonight...

A SHOT OF: Aaron Hayden, the grieving brother, sitting in the bleachers.

PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN (cont'd)

Aaron, thank you for coming. The Cougars want you to know that they're dedicating tonight's game to Lynn's memory. I'd like to ask all of you to rise for a moment of silence.

Everyone rises. They bow their heads, respectfully. A silent beat. Another silent beat.

Monk is standing near some HIGH SCHOOL MUSICIANS. One of them has an ELECTRIC ORGAN. There's an ICE CREAM CONE on the organ. The ice cream is dripping onto the keyboard.

Another beat. Then, we hear: a NOTE- a low, sustained musical note. MmmmmMM. It echoes through the gym. Then another sustained NOTE. MmmmmMMmMMM. Everyone looks around, puzzled.

We reveal: Monk is wiping the ice cream off the organ keyboard. Natalie nudges him. But Monk can't resist.

(CONTINUED)

START
→
sc. 2

11 END
sc. 2

4/4