

17 INT. UNIVERSITY LIBRARY - MOMENTS LATER -- DAY 17

Moments later. Monk has brought Natalie to the UNIVERSITY LIBRARY.

MONK  
I used to work here, part-time.

He crosses to a SHELF OF BOOKS.

MONK (cont'd)  
It was right here. I was standing right here. It was a Tuesday. Four thirty. She was wearing a blue blouse. A button was missing. I remember it all...

NATALIE  
Like it was yesterday.

MONK  
It was yesterday.

18 INT. THE SAME LIBRARY - 1981 - FLASHBACK (FB-1) 18

DISSOLVE TO: The same library. 25 years earlier.

The library is being reorganized. Books- THOUSANDS OF BOOKS- are STACKED UP everywhere, randomly. Monk- looking 25 years younger- is working there, restocking the shelves.

Trudy steps up. Heartbreakingly lovely. And sweet. And smart.

STREET  
X.1

→

YOUNGER TRUDY  
Excuse me. Hello.

Monk turns. He sees Trudy- his Trudy- for the first time.

YOUNGER TRUDY (cont'd)  
I can't find a book. This is not the Dewey-Decimal System that I know and love.

Monk is lovestruck. He can't speak.

YOUNGER TRUDY (cont'd)  
Do you work here?

"MONK" - younger Trudy

18 CONTINUED:

*Younger Trudy*

18

YOUNGER MONK

(collecting himself)

Yes. I do. ~~Here's the thing. We're reorganizing. We're moving all the stacks upstairs.~~ What are you looking for?

YOUNGER TRUDY

This is a long shot. Trevor Rosenthal's biography of Alexander Pope. Volume Two.

Monk closes his eyes. He thinks. He walks down an aisle. He reaches into a stack, and- miraculously- finds her book.

YOUNGER TRUDY (cont'd)

How did you do that?

YOUNGER MONK

I saw it last week.

YOUNGER TRUDY

And you remembered...?

YOUNGER MONK

Photographic memory. If I see something once, I never forget it.

YOUNGER TRUDY

That sounds... pretty awful. My bad memory is my salvation.

Monk hands her the book.

YOUNGER MONK

"Thus let me live, unseen, unknown,  
Thus unlamented let me die..."

YOUNGER TRUDY

"Steal from the world and not a stone  
Tell where I lie."

(impressed)

You know Alexander Pope.

Monk taps his head, and shrugs. Photographic memory.

YOUNGER TRUDY (cont'd)

So you never forget anything? So, for example, you're never going to forget this- me- us- talking- right here?

Monk shakes his head. No. He'll never forget.

(CONTINUED)

*2/5*

18 CONTINUED: (2)

*Younger TRUDY*

18

Then- the moment is shattered. Another student- DREW COONEY- steps up. Drew is tall, confident... everything Monk is not.

DREW COONEY  
Hey. Captain Cool. You work here, right? Where's the Xerox machine?

YOUNGER MONK  
Downstairs.

Drew notices Trudy.

DREW COONEY  
Whoa. It's Trudy right? I met you at Poor Herbies two weeks ago. I've been thinking about you. You owe me a few hours sleep, young lady.

Trudy smiles, charmed. Monk watches, helplessly, as Drew The Stud moves in...

YOUNGER TRUDY  
(remembering)  
Drew.

DREW COONEY  
She remembers! ~~Be still my heart!~~  
I wanted to call you, but I lost your number.

YOUNGER TRUDY  
Oh please.

DREW COONEY  
It's true! It's been driving me crazy. Have a little mercy here. Give me another chance.

Nearby: Monk's heart is breaking.

YOUNGER TRUDY  
It's a new number. I don't even know it myself...

Trudy opens a DATEBOOK, and indicates a phone number. Drew glances at it. He has a pen and paper. But nothing to write on.

DREW COONEY  
Hey. Captain. Do me a favor.

(CONTINUED)

*3/4*

18 CONTINUED: (3)

*younger TRUDY*<sup>18</sup>

Drew gestures "turn around". Monk- humiliated- turns and bends over. Drew uses Monk's back as a writing surface.

DREW COONEY (cont'd)  
(to Trudy, as he writes)  
What are you doing?

YOUNGER TRUDY  
You mean now? I'm heading back to the Student Center.

DREW COONEY  
Me too. I'll walk you.  
(~~taking her books~~)  
Are these yours? See? Chivalry isn't dead.

*// END  
SC.1*

Trudy and Drew walk away. As they do, Drew turns and winks at Monk. Monk watches them go, helplessly.

19 INT. LIBRARY -- RESUME PRESENT DAY

19

The FLASHBACK ends. Monk and Natalie are in the library.

MONK  
That's how I got her number.

NATALIE  
You mean, when he wrote on your back? You felt it? You can do that?

MONK  
I have sensitive skin.

NATALIE  
It's like a superpower- a really weird, not-very-useful superpower.

MONK  
It took me three weeks to call her. It was the bravest thing I ever did. She was already seeing that other guy, Drew. For a while, she was dating both of us...

NATALIE  
Then she chose you. She chose you. Never forget that.

MONK  
I don't know why  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

*4/5*

Younger TRUDY

TAG

43 EXT. CAMPUS - STONE BENCH -- NIGHT 43

Later that night. Monk and Natalie are leaving.

They walk past the STONE BENCH that Monk was weeding and cleaning earlier. He stops. He stares at the bench. He remembers a day, 25 years ago...

44 EXT. CAMPUS - SAME STONE BENCH - 25 YEARS AGO -- FLASHBACK 44 (FB-4)

The same spot. 25 years ago. Trudy and Monk- both younger- are on the bench. It is, we sense, their bench.

They're both studying, reading. Trudy is leaning against him. Monk has been waiting to tell her something.

STRET  
SC.2



YOUNGER MONK

Trudy.

She looks up.

YOUNGER MONK (cont'd)

I just... there's something...

(then)

I love you.

Trudy considers this.

YOUNGER TRUDY

Well then. We're in big trouble.

(smiles)

I love you, too.

// END SC.2

Monk takes her hand. He clasps her hand. He will never let go.

45 EXT. CAMPUS - STONE BENCH - RESUME PRESENT -- NIGHT 45

Back to the present. Monk stares at the bench, longingly. A beat, then... Natalie gently leads him away.

END OF SHOW

5/5