

ACT ONE

2 EXT. ROADSIDE REST AREA -- DAY

Later that day. At a quiet REST AREA, off a highway. Rest rooms. Picnic tables.

Monk is pacing... thinking... doing his legendary Zen-Monk thing. Natalie and CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER are nearby.

MONK

She was killed over there?

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

(nodding)

Under that tree, on a picnic table.
I got the case file in the car.
It's filled with not-very-pretty pictures.

MONK

How many days ago?

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

Wednesday night. So five days.

During this, LT. DISHER drives up. He climbs out with a witness: LARRY DONOVAN, mid 30's, shy, a little shlubby.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER (CONT'D)

Here he is. I thought you might want to talk to the guy who found her.

Lt. Disher and Larry Donovan step up.

LT. DISHER

Captain. You remember Larry Donovan.

Everyone shakes hands.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

Mr. Donovan. We appreciate you coming back. This is Natalie Teeger, Adrian Monk.

MR. DONOVAN

Monk? I've seen you on the news. You look different.

MONK

I am different.

(CONTINUED)

2 "MONK" - MR. DONOVAN

START
→
Sc. 1

1/6

MR. DONOVAN

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2 CONTINUED:

2

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

~~Mr. Monk's been hired by the Clark family to look into the case. I know you've already told the story a few times. But if you wouldn't mind telling it again...~~

MR. DONOVAN

I feel like a broken record. It was about one AM. I was driving home from Sacramento...

LT. DISHER

(interjecting)

Larry and his wife own a restaurant supply company in Rockaway. He travels a lot.

MR. DONOVAN

That's right.

(resuming)

I pulled in here to use the facility...

LT. DISHER

(again, interjecting)

Perfectly understandable. ~~It was a long drive. He was drinking a lot of coffee...~~

~~CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER~~

~~Randy, Mr. Donovan came all the way out here. He's doing us a favor. Why don't we let him tell the story?~~

~~LT. DISHER~~

~~I'm just filling in the gaps.
(to Donovan)
Go on.~~

MR. DONOVAN

I got a good look at them, in my headlights. There were five or six of them. One was definitely the leader.

LT. DISHER

They call him "Father".

(to Donovan)

Go on.

(CONTINUED)

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MR. DONOVAN

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2 CONTINUED: (2)

2

MR. DONOVAN

They were holding her down, right over there, on a picnic table. They were stabbing her. She was screaming...

LT. DISHER

They carved a symbol of the sun into her chest. Which is, like, their logo.

NATALIE

Oh my God.

MR. DONOVAN

When they saw me, they ran back to their van and drove away. It was dark blue. No side windows.

LT. DISHER

(low, quickly)

Which is what they always drive- go on-

MR. DONOVAN

She was still breathing. I put her in my car and drove her to the hospital. At least I tried. She died before we got there.

NATALIE

You did everything you could.

MONK

Did she say anything before she died?

LT. DISHER

Unfortunately no.

MR. DONOVAN

Yes.

LT. DISHER

Yes.

MR. DONOVAN

She whispered something. I think she said "He found me... Father found me".

CAPT. STOTTMAYER

Thank you, Mr. Donovan.

// END

Sc. 1

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(CONTINUED)

MR. DONOVAN

26 CONTINUED:

26

START SC. 2

MR. DONOVAN (V.O.)
It's an interesting theory...

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER (V.O.)
It's more than a theory. ~~We found his doctor. He's an osteopathic surgeon named Weisman.~~

(WT to ->)

LT. DISHER (V.O.)
I just spoke to him. Dr. Weisman said he drives up there about once a week, to give Father a cortisone shot.

27 INT. DONOVAN'S OFFICE -- RESUME PRESENT DAY

27

The FLASHBACKS END. We're back in the office.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER
Silly Messiah. He has a perfectly fine alibi, but he can't tell anybody.

JOAN DONOVAN
Okay. Maybe it wasn't this man- this "Father" person. That doesn't mean Larry was involved-

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER
Your husband swore he saw Father at the rest stop. He picked Father out of a line-up twice. If Father wasn't there, your husband is lying. And I want to know why.

JOAN DONOVAN
(flustered)
This is ludicrous. My husband is a hero! He tried to save that woman! He drove her to the hospital-
(remembering)
Look- I can prove it. This just came in the mail.

Mrs. Donovan reaches into an ENVELOPE and takes out: a traffic ticket, which we see in a CLOSE UP.

On the ticket: a grainy BLACK & WHITE SURVEILLANCE PHOTO of Donovan's car, ~~at night, speeding through an intersection.~~
In the front seat: Larry Donovan is driving. Amanda Clark is slumped over in the passenger seat, wearing her seatbelt.

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MR. DONOVAN

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CONTINUED:

30

MONK

It was a company car, which meant they'd be sending the ticket here, to the office. Which meant your wife would see it. And she wouldn't be happy.

JOAN DONOVAN

(sharply, eyeing her husband)

You got that right.

31

EXT. REST AREA - FLASHBACK - MOMENTS LATER -- NIGHT (B&W) (FB-4)

31

The FLASHBACKS RESUME. At the deserted REST STOP. Amanda is drunk. Donovan leads her to a PICNIC TABLE...

MONK (V.O.)

Amanda must have told you about her past, about her life in the cult. You realized: you could kill her and blame it on the whacked-out cult leader.

Donovan pulls out a POCKET KNIFE and starts stabbing Amanda, viciously, repeatedly! As always, we don't see much; we're very discreet.

32

INT. GARAGE -- RESUME PRESENT DAY

32

Resume PRESENT DAY. Back in the garage.

MONK

He was the perfect fall guy. Everybody knew Amanda was afraid of him.

MR. DONOVAN

(smirking)

Is that it? That's just a story. Where's your proof?

Donovan grabs the TICKET PHOTO from Monk.

MR. DONOVAN (CONT'D)

This doesn't prove anything! It's not even a good picture. It's dark. It's all grainy. You can't see anything!

(CONTINUED)

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(pick up) →

MR. DONOVAN

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32 CONTINUED:

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MONK

(calmly)

You can see the seatbelt. She's wearing a seatbelt.

MR. DONOVAN

So what? She was dying. I carried her to the car. I buckled her seatbelt.

MONK

You're saying this photograph was taken on the way to the hospital, after she was attacked?

MR. DONOVAN

That's right.

MONK

This woman had been stabbed ten times. She was bleeding all over the seat.

MR. DONOVAN

That's right.

Monk opens the passenger door. He indicates the PASSENGER SEAT BELT, which is retracted, out of sight.

MONK

Then this seatbelt- the passenger seatbelt- the seatbelt she's wearing in this photograph- should be covered in blood. Am I right?

//END

Donovan tenses. Everyone watches. Monk slowly... dramatically... pulls the seatbelt out. It's perfectly clean. No blood.

Donovan goes limp. He's caught, and he knows it.

LT. DISHER

That's gonna be tough to explain.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

I'd say impossible.

END OF ACT FOUR

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