

16 CONTINUED: (2)

16

Behind her: Monk's wheelchair continues to roll away!

MONK
Natalie! The brake!

NATALIE (CONT'D)
(wearily, getting up)
You're right. I just stopped for a
minute. I don't need breaks.

MONK
I DO!

Natalie turns. Monk is rolling away- away from her- down
the big hill! He's already a block away! He's flailing his
arms!

NATALIE
MR. MONK!?

Natalie goes running after him!

7 EXT. ALLEY - DUMPSTER -- DAY

Meanwhile. Back in the alley. Near the DUMPSTER. The
GARBAGE TRUCK is still there. Its LOADING BIN is open, full
of debris.

Disher is holding the STOLEN BICYCLE. He's talking to Ronnie
the Garbage Man. Stottlemeyer arrives.

CAPT. STOTTEMEYER
I knew we'd find it. Didn't I tell
you? Is that it?

Disher indicates the ENGRAVING on the bike's frame.

LT. DISHER
"For Professor Dean Bory, in deepest
appreciation".

Start →

CAPT. STOTTEMEYER
That's the bike. And it was in the
dumpster?

Ronnie The Garbage Man- we now realize- loves to talk. He's
bright and verbose. He's the Garbage Man who won't shut up.

RONNIE THE GARBAGE MAN
Yes sir. We were downloading this
unit, as scheduled, approximately
14:30 this afternoon.
(MORE)

"MONK" - RONNIE THE GARBAGE MAN

(CONTINUED)

1/3

RONNIE

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17 CONTINUED:

17

RONNIE THE GARBAGE MAN (CONT'D)

I had read about the stolen bicycle
in the paper. I make it a habit to
read the police blotter.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER (CONT'D)

Is that a fact?

RONNIE THE GARBAGE MAN

I feel it's my civic duty. I like
to think the Sanitation Department
are the eyes and ears of the city.

LT. DISHER

~~Captain, this is Ronnie O'bell,
he's been very... helpful.~~

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

~~It sounds like it.~~ And the bike was
just sitting there, on top...?

RONNIE THE GARBAGE MAN

No sir. It was buried. It was on
or near the bottom- what we call the
"nadir". Which is good news for us.
Because we know when this unit was
last emptied, so we can pinpoint the
date and even the approximate time
the bike was discarded.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

Which was...?

LT. DISHER

3:30. Monday afternoon. About twenty
minutes after it was stolen.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

The bike rack is what, half a mile
away? So he stole the bike, rode a
few blocks, then dumped it?

LT. DISHER & RONNIE

(overlapping)

Yes sir. Apparently.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

(puzzled)

He didn't want the bike? After all
this? What the hell is going on?

(CONTINUED)

2/3

Ronnie

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17 CONTINUED: (2)

17

RONNIE THE GARBAGE MAN

We don't know. The lieutenant and I
are stymied.

Disher holds up the BIKE'S BASKET.

LT. DISHER

We found the basket.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

Randy, if it's made of gold, just
tell me now. Get it over with.

LT. DISHER

No sir. It's your basic basket.
We've gone through the whole truck.
All we're missing now is the bell
and the cable and the lock.

RONNIE THE GARBAGE MAN

Wait a second. Hello hello hello.

// END

Ronnie has noticed something. He approaches the TRUCK'S
OPEN BIN... slowly, carefully... sort of the way Monk might.

~~CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER~~

~~(amused)~~

~~If this guy wasn't a garbage man,
I'd introduce him to Monk.~~

~~Ronnie reaches into the garbage, and pulls out: the missing
BICYCLE BELL! He rings it. ding ding.~~

~~CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER (CONT'D)~~

~~You found the bell. Thank you very
much.~~

~~Ronnie continues to triumphantly RING the BELL. Ding ding.~~

~~CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER (CONT'D)~~

~~You can stop ringing it. Thank you.~~

18 INT. BETAVEGATECH LAB - LATER -- DAY

18

~~Later that day. Back in Dean Berry's RESEARCH LAB. A
demonstration is in progress. The mood is tense.~~

~~Berry, Sarah Longson and a LAB ASSISTANT are gathered around
a work station. They're all staring at a petri dish, waiting
for the "miracle corn seeds" to sprout.~~

~~FOUR WEALTHY EUROPEAN INVESTORS are there, watching. They
look concerned.~~

(CONTINUED)

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