

26 CONTINUED: (3)

26

~~CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER
 Monk, it's a crime scene. You can't
 bring a frog-
 (catching himself)
 Fine. Yes. Let's bring Hoppy.
 Monk heads for the door. As they leave..
 MONK
 And we have to stop at the store.
 We're out of syrup!
 CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER
 (wearily)
 Yeah. Fine. We'll stop for syrup.
 Natalie is the last one to leave.
 DR. BELL
 I really wish-
 NATALIE
 I know, I know. We should've called
 you.~~

27 EYE ISOLATED CABIN - THE WOODS - DAY -- LATER

27

An hour later. North of the city. In the woods. We're in front of an ISOLATED CABIN. Maybe a hunting cabin. The area is a full-on CRIME SCENE: UNIFORM COPS, SQUAD CARS, etc.

A TV NEWS CREW is there. A NEWSWOMAN is doing her report TO CAMERA.

START →

NEWSWOMAN
 We don't have all the details, Ken. Here's what we do know: Aaron Larkin- the multimillionaire developer- is dead. He was killed in this hunting cabin last night by his estranged wife...

During this, behind her: COPS are strolling past. Monk, Natalie, Stottlemeyer and Disher walk past. Monk is carrying Hoppy's box.

Monk stops. He grins at the camera. He makes funny faces and giggles, like a rowdy kid...

"MONK" - NEWSWOMAN

(CONTINUED)

1/2

27 CONTINUED:

27

NEWSWOMAN (CONT'D)
(oblivious to Monk)
According to police, Sarah Larkin was chained up in this cabin, like a prisoner of war, for three horrifying days. Last night, in a daring escape, she overpowered her husband, stabbed him to death, then ran up that hill and stopped a passing motorist.

11END

Natalie notices Monk, and drags him out of the frame.

28 INT. HUNTING CABIN - MOMENTS LATER

28

Later. Inside. A FEW COPS, including our foursome. As always, Dishner is chewing his gum. Monk is carrying Poppy.

The cabin is a mess. FURNITURE is upended. TRASH and FOOD WRAPPERS strewn everywhere. Somebody was held prisoner here for three days, then escaped.

AARON LARKIN'S BODY is on the floor. He's been bludgeoned to death. There's a piece of wood- a BOARD that's been ripped from the floor- near his head. His pants are pulled halfway-down; we can see his boxers.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

She's still at the hospital, so we don't have a statement yet. But it's pretty obvious what happened. He kept her chained up over there...

He indicates a dirty MATTRESS on the floor. Some RUSTY CHAINS and SHACKLES, anchored to a wall. A makeshift prison.

NATALIE

(appalled)
Oh my God. Like an animal.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

I guess he drove up here every night, gave her some food and a little water.

During this, Monk- the man-child- playfully reaches for Stottlemeyer's GUN. Stottlemeyer slaps his hand away.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER (CONT'D)

No. Not a toy.

NATALIE

Why didn't he just kill her?

(CONTINUED)

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