

ACT FOUR

16 INT. TV STUDIO - LOTTO STAGE -- THE NEXT DAY (DAY 7)

16

The next morning. Back on the LOTTO STAGE. The studio is empty, except for FIVE PEOPLE: Monk, Natalie, Stottlemeyer... and, facing them, accusingly: Mr. Lawrence, and the LOTTERY COMMISSIONER.

They're all standing around the LOTTO BALL MACHINE. Behind them, on a screen, the SIX WINNING NUMBERS are still posted: 25, 22, 12, 15, 33 and 54.

START →

LOTTERY COMMISSIONER

Good morning. Miss Teeger. Captain. You and your friend, Mr. Monk, wanted to see what evidence we had. Here it is.

~~MR. LAWRENCE~~

~~Before we begin, is there anything you want to tell us?~~

CAPT. STOTTEMEYER

~~Yeah~~ I'm not a cheater. Neither is Natalie. That's all I have to say.

LOTTERY COMMISSIONER

I'm afraid we can prove otherwise, Capt. Stottlemeyer. After the drawing, we received a phone call. An anonymous tip. I asked Mr. Lawrence to check it out.

MR. LAWRENCE

I reviewed the tape from Monday night's show. I didn't see anything suspicious. Then we examined the machine itself. We examined the balls. We weighed them. We measured them. We were bouncing them. Everything seemed perfectly normal.

CAPT. STOTTEMEYER

So what's the problem?

MR. LAWRENCE

This is the problem...

(cut to) →

"MONK!" - Lottery Commissioner

Mr. Lawrence switches the Ball Machine ON. Inside the DRUM: the 60 NUMBERED BALLS start blowing around.

(CONTINUED)

1/3

lottery commission

"MR. MONK GETS LOTTO FEVER" - Prod/Network Draft - 5/6/08 46.

16 CONTINUED:

16

The first "winning" ball pops up. It's number 15. Another "winning" ball pops up. Number 22. Another "winning" ball- number 33.

Monk, Natalie and Stottlemeyer exchange stunned looks. It's... impossible. Last week's winning numbers are popping up again!

One by one, the same six numbers- 25, 22, 12, 15, 33 and 54- are randomly "chosen"- although not in the same order.

~~INITIALS~~
~~The same numbers...?!~~

(pick-up) →

MR. LAWRENCE

The same numbers.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER

It's not possible.

LOTTERY COMMISSIONER

That's what we thought. So we tried again.

MR. LAWRENCE

And again. And again. The same six numbers kept popping up. How do you explain that?

~~CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER~~

(weakly)

~~They're very lucky numbers?~~

During this, Monk has been thinking. And pacing. He's been studying the machine. He figures it out.

MONK

Metallic paint.

LOTTERY COMMISSIONER

Very good, Mr. Monk. We took a closer look.

(gesturing)

The numbers on these six balls- and only these six balls- were painted with metal-based paint. All the others were acrylic-based.

Monk indicates the BOOM MIKE- which, as always- is hanging directly above the Lotto Drum.

MONK

There's a magnet in the microphone.

(CONTINUED)

2/3

lottery commission

"MR. MONK GETS LOTTO FEVER" - Prod/Network Draft - 5/6/08 47.

16 CONTINUED: (2)

16

LOTTERY COMMISSIONER

Right again, Mr. Monk.

Mr. Lawrence removes the FOAM COVER from the mike, revealing: a small, crude, battery-operated ELECTRO-MAGNET, wedged in beside the microphone.

MR. LAWRENCE

An electro-magnet. Battery operated. Strong enough to draw these six balls - and only these balls - up the chute.

NATALIE

We didn't put that there!

LOTTERY COMMISSIONER

Miss Teeger. Please. Don't insult us. You started working here two weeks ago. You had access to the equipment. Suddenly, your friend wins - what? - 156 million dollars.

MR. LAWRENCE

I suggest you both find some good lawyers.

During all this, Monk has been pacing... thinking. Natalie and Capt. Stottlemeyer turn toward him, anxiously.

CAPT. STOTTEMEYER

Anything?

Monk notices: Billy Logan's discarded "Bay City Blues" crew cap, still stuck in a chair-pocket. Something clicks.

MONK

There were two winners. What happened to the other man? The truck driver.

LOTTERY COMMISSIONER

Eugene Maddox. We've already talked to his lawyers. He's agreed not to sue us in exchange for a rather generous settlement.

//END

~~Monk grins, knowingly. He's solved the case.~~

MONK

I'm sure he did.

17 EXT. ~~UPSCALE HOTEL - POOLSIDE -- LATER THAT DAY~~

17

Later. Across town. On the grounds of an ~~UPSCALE HOTEL.~~

(CONTINUED)

3/3