

NATALIE

There's a park just up the street.  
Maybe we should start there...

While Natalie is distracted, Monk scans the neighborhood.  
He notices a BUILDING. There's a sign on the door: ROOMS  
FOR RENT. One of the window sills has some FLOWER POTS: an  
array of bright Gardenias.

MONK

Gardenias!

The FRONT DOOR opens. An older woman emerges. It's LEYLA'S  
MOTHER. Mid-60's. Weary, but still beautiful.

Monk and Natalie step up.

MONK (CONT'D)

Mrs. Zlatavich?

Mrs. Zlatavich tenses. She's scared to death.

MRS. ZLATAVICH

Policija?

MONK & NATALIE

(gesturing, reassuring)

No, no. No police. We just want to  
talk.

MONK

I'm a former policeman. I was given  
a psychological discharge. A  
discharge. Do you understand?  
(consulting his  
DICTIONARY)

Discharge...

"MONK" - MRS. ZLATAVICH

Natalie has brought Leyla's purse. She reaches in, and takes  
out a PHOTO of Leyla.

START →

NATALIE

Mrs. Zlatavich. We are friends of  
Leyla's.

This gets Mrs. Zlatavich's attention.

MRS. ZLATAVICH

(concerned)

Leyla?

(CONTINUED)

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MRS. ZLATAVICH

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23 CONTINUED: (2)

23

NATALIE  
Ma'am, your daughter is in trouble.  
She's in jail.

Monk shows her the INTERPOL WANTED POSTER, featuring a PHOTO of The Butcher.

MONK  
We know you killed this man. Your daughter is in jail. She is protecting you.

Mrs. Zlatavich is shaken. She clutches Natalie for support.

MONK (CONT'D)  
You came here for her birthday.  
You were going to surprise her.

Mrs. Zlatavich can barely understand them, but she understands enough.

MRS. ZLATAVICH  
(pleading)  
Alekski chasto bu taynu!

NATALIE  
You were bringing her a gift. A bracelet. A charm bracelet, yes?

Monk shows her the MISADDRESSED ENVELOPE.

~~MONK  
You landed at the airport, and got into a taxi. But you had the wrong address.  
(indicates ENVELOPE)  
Algonquin Avenue. That's her old address. You didn't know she moved.~~

~~NATALIE  
That's how you ended up on that street.~~

Mrs. Zlatavich nods. She begins to explain... in fluent Russian. We don't have to subtitle this- the visuals will tell the whole story...

(NOTE- We'll have to find a bilingual actress, or a quick learner. The following is just phony Russian- gibberish.)

24 INT/EXT. TAXI CAB - MOVING - NIGHT - FLASHBACK (B&W) (FB-2) 24

We begin a special, foreign-language FLASHBACK SEQUENCE...

(CONTINUED)

MRS. ZLATAVICH

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24 CONTINUED:

24

It's the night of the murder. Mrs. Zlatavich is in a MOVING TAXI.

She's smiling, looking forward to surprising her daughter. She is holding her gift: the charm bracelet.

MRS. ZLATAVICH (V.O.)  
Barak-ta sha... dorma gerund  
frashecka...

25 INT/EXT. TAXI - DOWNTOWN - CRIME SCENE - MOMENTS LATER -  
FLASHBACK (B&W) (FB-3)

25

Moments later. The TAXI reaches its destination, and stops. This, of course, is where it was parked in our teaser.

MRS. ZLATAVICH (V.O.)  
A steen k'varskin. Nasherer botker,  
a harts ken benkin...

The driver turns around. Mrs. Zlatavich recognizes him! My God! It's him!! It's the Butcher Of Zemenia!

MRS. ZLATAVICH (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Venim vu harshkin trem! Steen  
k'varskin! De Budja Zemenia!

Mrs. Zlatavich explodes! She takes out her HAIRPIN and brutally STABS THE DRIVER through the neck!

26 EXT. TAXI - STREET - CRIME SCENE - SECONDS LATER - NIGHT -  
FLASHBACK (B&W) (FB-4)

26

Seconds later. Mrs. Zlatavich staggers from the taxi. She's in shock. She runs away... down the street... into the night.

MRS. ZLATAVICH (V.O.)  
Bu alekski dormfa taynu.

// END

27 EXT. ~~MEMEMIAN NEIGHBORHOOD - RESUME PRESENT DAY~~

27

~~Our FLASHBACKS END. Mrs. Zlatavich is weeping. She's clearly confused and frightened.~~

~~Natalie glances off. She tenses.~~

~~NATALIE~~

~~Mr. Monk.~~

~~Monk turns. Karl Budjik- the Butcher's Hand- is there! He's walking toward them, menacingly, clutching his serrated knife!~~

~~(CONTINUED)~~

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