ACT ONE

POLICE HQ - HEARING ROOM -- HOURS LATER 5

Still waiting. Monk is still sitting. Six hours later.

THREE PANEL MEMBERS enter. They're all in full dress uniform. They're serious, veteran officers. Monk rises.

> FIRST PANEL MEMBER Sorry we're late. Have you been vaiting long?

MON Elaven years.

DISSOLVE TO:

5

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MEMBI

HEARING ROM -- LATER INT.

The hearing is in progress. Moments late.

The PANEL MEMBERS are looking through reports, documents, etc. The FIRST TWO MEMBERS appear warm and sympathetic.

Monk sits opposite them. He's very anxious. "smile naturally", the way he rehearsed. He tries to

> FIRST PANEL MEMBER Are you all right?

> > MONK

m just smiling

I want to say, we all appreciate the work you've been doing, unofficially, as a consultant, ove the last eight yeass. We've been reading your case<u>file</u> and talking It's a very vour relicance. impressive record.

Monk nods. So far so good.

SECOND PANEL MEMBER I worked on the Raincoat Strangler Case. We worked that case for nine months without a lead. I still don't know how you did it.

FIRST PANEL MEMBER

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MONK

I got lucky.

SECOND PANEL MEMBER I think there was more than luck involved.

(indicates a file)
I see you're still working with Neven
Bell. I've known Neven for years.
He's a good man.

MONK

And a good doctor. We've made some real progress.

SECOND PANEL MEMBER So I see. Tell him I said hello.

Monk rises.

MONK

Can I use your phone?

SECOND PANEL MEMBER
You... don't have to say hello now.
The next time you see him.

MONK

Ah. Gotcha.

1 END

The FIRST TWO MEMBERS think Monk was joking. They chuckle. Monk isn't sure why they're laughing, but he chuckles too, just to be safe.

MONK (CONT'D)

<u>It's fun to laugh-</u>

But the third panel member, CAPTAIN REISIS, is not amused.

CAPT. REISIS

Mr. Monk. I also appreciate the work you've been doing for the city, as well as the progress you've made. I have to say, I'm very encouraged.

Monk smiles, howefully.

CAPT. REISIG (CONT'D)

However...

Menk's smile disappears.

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