17 CONTINUED:

17

Monk turns. He surveys the BUSY STREET. There's a ROAD SIGN: TUNNEL- CLEARANCE 15 FEET.

MONK (CONT'D) He drove west. He was getting away. He turned around. Why would he alound? Remorse? AMUEL He never came back to help my wife. Or call for a doctor. There <u>was no remores.</u>

Nearby: TWO TEENAGE SLACKERS are sitting on a curb. Drinking beers. Smoking. They're a little wasted.

Monk steps up. Natalie and Samuel follow.

MONK

Excuse me. How are you guys doing?

FIRST SLACKER We're living the dream.

SECOND SLACKER Are you a cop?

MONK

Not technically. It's a long story,

FIRST SLACKER

We got time.

MONK

(sighs) I suffered what the doctors call a "psychotic break".

(interru

Mr. Monk ion't care. the kids)

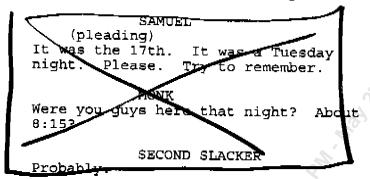
These was a hit and ron on James Street two weeks ago. id you h

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17 CONTINUED; (2)

17

The Kids shake their heads. Samuel steps forward.



bidr-nt

MONK

Do you remember seeing a van with a broken headlight? He was going that way. He was doing about 80.

FIRST SLACKER

(remembering)

Wait. Yeah. Yeah! There's no bathroom here. I was crossing the street to use the one in that diner. The jerk almost ran me over.

(to Second Slacker)

Remember?

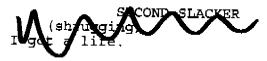
SECOND SLACKER

They got a bathroom in the diner?

FIRST SLACKER

I'll never forget it, if I live to be, like, <u>your</u> age. Thirty seconds later, the same guy, the same van, makes a U-ey and almost runs me down again! I had to dive into some bushes.

(to Second Slacker)
How can you not remember this?



SAMUEL

Did you see the driver? Did you see his face?

FIRST SLACKER
No. He was hunched over. I think
he was on a cell phone.

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17 (!ONTINUED: (3)

17

MONK

A cell phone?

Monk thinks. He indicates the TUNNEL road sign.

MONK (CONT'D)

He was heading for a turnel <u>Thou's</u>

Why he turned around! He didn'r

want the call to be interrupted.

SAMUEL

(to Slackers, anxiously)
Who was he talking to?

FIRST SLACKER
How the hell would I know? What planet are you from?

The same planet is you the planet earth What kind of question in that?

MONK

(resuming)
What about the van? What color was
it?

FIRST SLACKER

No idea.

MONK

Do you remember anything else?

The Slacker thinks. Hard.

FIRST SLACKER

(remembering)

Wait a minute. Yeah. It was an exterminator's van.

MONK

Exterminator?

FIRST SLACKER

Yeah. It had, like, a big logo. It said "Poison".

NATALIE

Poison?

1st stacker

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17 CONTINUED: (4)

17

FIRST SLACKER

Yeah. That's right. Because I remember saying "Poison?"

18 INT. LAUNDROMAT - LATER -- DAY

18

Nonk is helping Samuel do his laundry. They have the place to themselves. Every single washer in the place is running.

(n a table: Monk is separating Samue) s clothes into SEVERAL

MONK

Okay. This is how we do our laundry in America. These are your whites ..

SAMUEL

(nodding)

My whites. Excellent

MOTIK

Your olf-whites. Your off-off whites. These are the primary colors: red, orange, pellow, green, blue. This is violety This is indigo. Left socks. Right socks. I labeled them for you.

SAMUEL

In Nigeria we wash all our socks together.

MONK

Well, I don't like to judge people, but that's wrong.

SAMUEL

So you separate everything? How much is this going to cont?

MONK

200 dollars.

SAMUEL

I'm so lucky to have met you-

MONK

Yes you are.

They continue to separate the clothes, as...