

1 INT. EXAMINATION ROOM -- LATER THAT NIGHT

1

An hour later. In the same room. Everyone else has left.

The door opens. DR. MATTHEW SHULER enters. He's a good doctor. Solid. Open. Experienced.

DR. SHULER

Mr. Monk?

START
se. 1 →

Shuler shakes Monk's hand. Then he shakes Natalie's.

DR. SHULER (CONT'D)

Matthew Shuler. Sorry to keep you waiting.

Monk- as always- wipes his hand. Dr. Shuler notices.

DR. SHULER (CONT'D)

I wish more people wiped their hands like that. We'd have a lot fewer patients.

MONK

Thank you.

DR. SHULER

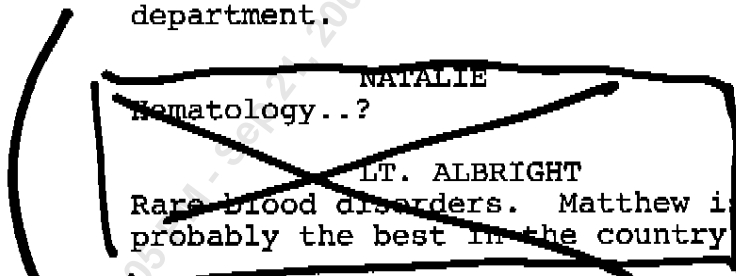
I work in the hematology department here. In fact, I am the hematology department.

NATALIE

Hematology..?

LT. ALBRIGHT

Rare blood disorders. Matthew is probably the best in the country



Dr. Shuler opens a FILE.

DR. SHULER

Mr. Monk. We've never met. How well do you take bad news?

MONK & NATALIE

(overlapping)
ed. Not well at all...
he's probably the worst...

MONK

I'd rather hear the good news first.

"MONK" - DR. SHULER

(CONTINUED)

1/5

SHULER

1 CONTINUED:

1

DR. SHULER
I'm afraid there is no good news.

MONK
There's always good news. People say "I have some good news and some bad news"...

DR. SHULER
Not this time.

MONK
There's only bad news?
(beat)
That's bad news.

DR. SHULER
Has your brother eaten anything unusual lately?

Monk looks- accusingly- at Natalie.

NATALIE
Why do you ask?

DR. SHULER
This is all very preliminary. We're going to have to do a lot more tests. But it looks like Ambrose has been poisoned.

~~NATALIE
Poisoned?~~

~~MONK
(bitterly, to Natalie)
I said well done.~~

~~NATALIE
It was well done!~~

~~MONK
It was still pink. It was bleeding!~~

NATALIE
(babbling)
Oh my God. I'm the worst cook in the world! Mr. Monk, if I gave Ambrose food poisoning, I am so sorry. Can you forgive me?

~~MONK
If you gave him food poisoning, no.~~

(CONTINUED)

2/5

1 CONTINUED: (2)

DR. SHULER

We're not talking about food poisoning. This is a lot more serious. This is some kind of synthetic toxin.

LT. ALBRIGHT

Synthetic...?

DR. SHULER

We don't know how it was introduced. We do know: the dosage is quite substantial.

MONK

I don't understand.

DR. SHULER

Adrian, your brother's been poisoned. Someone is trying to kill him.

(beat)

They might have succeeded.

END
// sc. 1

2 INT. POLICE HQ - HALLWAY -- SAME TIME

Nearby. In a HALL. Monk, Natalie, Stottlemeyer and Disher are waiting, anxiously.

Down a HALL: Dr. Shuler walks toward them. It's a long long walk. His footsteps echo ominously- in the hall.

MONK

I hate how they walk.

Dr. Shuler steps up.

DR. SHULER

How's he feeling?

MONK

Scared.

DR. SHULER

Well. Here's what we know. Everybody ate the same food at Natalie's, and nobody else got sick. So we're assuming it wasn't introduced there.

Natalie exhales, relieved.

DR. SHULER (CONT'D)

We sent a Haz-Mat Team to his house.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

3/5

SHULER

2 CONTINUED:

START
s.2 →

DR. SHULER (CONT'D)

They've removed all the food they could find.

MONK

Are they going to put it back?

DR. SHULER

After they've tested it.

MONK

Because he has a system...

DR. SHULER

They'll put it back exactly the way it was. I promise.

(then)

I'm afraid we still don't know how your brother were poisoned.

LT. DISHER

Is that important?

DR. SHULER

It's absolutely vital. We know the toxin is ricin-based. But that's all we know. It could be one of four thousand different compounds.

(to Monk)

We can't treat him until the source of the poison has been identified.

NATALIE

Can't you just pump his stomach? Or give him antibiotics..?

DR. SHULER

It's not that easy. We have to identify the specific toxin. Of course, we'll try to manage the pain as best we can.

MONK

How long..?

DR. SHULER

He's going to feel normal for a while. Two or three days. Then there'll be some vomiting, followed by death.

MONK

(stunned)

Vomiting?

(CONTINUED)

4/5

SHULER

2 CONTINUED: (2)

2

DR. SHULER
That's right. Followed by death.

MONK
Vomiting.

DR. SHULER
Yes. Followed by death.

MONK
Vomiting.

DR. SHULER
Adrian, I want you to focus on the
last part of the sentence. There'll
be vomiting, and then death.

MONK
Is there any way death could precede
the vomiting?

//END
Sc 2

A heavy, stunned beat, as the news sinks in.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER
Two days.

MONK
I wish it were five.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER
Why?

MONK
It's a bigger number.

5/5