15 INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - EXAMINATION ROOM -- LATER THAT DAY

Moments later. In a LOCAL DOCTOR'S OFFICE. The EXAMINATION ROOM has been turned into a make-shift morque. There are children's health charts on the walls.

The DEAD HIKER'S BODY is on a table, under a sheet.

Monk, Natalie and Sheriff Fletcher are there, with DR. EDWARD GARCIA, a small-town MD.

## SHERIFF FLETCHER

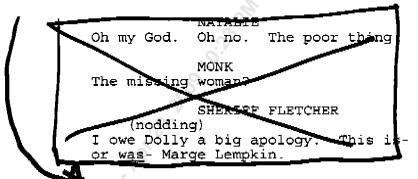
Edward Garcia, Adrian Monk, Natalie Teeger.

(explaining)

Doctor Garcia and I are sort of in uncharted waters here. We want to get this right.

Sheriff Fletcher removes a sheet, revealing the dead hiker. Of course, we never see the body. But-apparently-it's disgusting. Half-decomposed. And it stinks.

Natalie recoils. She averts her eyes.



NATALIE

Where's her face?

DR. GARCIA

Coyotes, probably. She's been five days- maybe six- in the sun.

MONK

She was a hiker?

SHERIFF FLETCHER

Marge? Marge was a little bit of everything. She came into some money five years ago, after her parents died. So she dabbled- in pretty much everything. Yoga, spelunking, trout farming...

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## 15 CONTINUED:

DR. GARCIA And- apparently- hiking.

## NATALIE

here's her fasc?

MONK

We've already talked about the face.
(resuming)

Where did they find her?

SKERIFF FLETCHER

A couple of tho UFO aficionados found her in the frothills, about five miles west. Just a lucky break. They were all out there, looking for E.T. She would've been out there forever.

DR. GARCIA

I figure she was hiking along the ridge. She fell, somehow. Hit her head and died instantly. The coyotes dragged the body a mile, maybe two, into the desert.

Sheriff Fletcher holds up an OFFICIAL DOCUMENT.

SHERIFF FLETCHER

Dr. Garcia has written "accidental death" on this certificate. At my request, he's written it in pencil. I wanted a second opinion.

Why?

SHERIFF FLETCHER

This is a small town. Marga Lemptin was the closest thing we had to all important person. Like I said, I want to get it right.

Monk goes into his "Zen Monk" mode. He examines the body. Everyone watches. Everyone waits.

MONK

Head trauma?

DR. GARCIA

(nodding)

She fell face first.

(CONTINUED)

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## 15 CONTINUED: (2)

15

Monk examines the dead woman's hands.

(puzzled)

No defensive wounds. No scratches. She didn't put her hands out.

Everyone exchanges concerned looks. Youk continues...

MONK (CONT'D)

These clother are new.

SHERIFF FLETCHER

Yes sir.

'The dead woman is wearing a EST. Monk tries to button it. But he can't. It's too small

MON

It's too small

Next, Monk focuses on the dead woman's boots. They're new, too. Shiny. Unmarked.

MONK (CONT'D)

The books are new, too. Not a scratch on them.

Monk carefully removes one boot. There's something rattling in it. Monk reaches in, and takes out a marble-sized <u>pebble</u>.

NATALIE

What is it?

MONK

A pebble.

PION P

SHERIFF FLETCHER
She couldn't have been hiking. Not with that in her shoe.

DR. GARCIA

What does it mean?

MONK

It means somebody dressed her. After she was dead. After he killed her.

END OF ACT TWO

//END