

Mr. Monk and the Garbage Strike

CHARACTERS:

ADRIAN MONK

DR. KROGER

PROPS:

GARBAGE BAGS (FILLED)

SETTING:

DR. KROGER'S OFFICE - THROUGH THE GLASS, IN THE GARDEN: SOME GARBAGE BAGS ARE PILED UP.

MONK

Well I've done it again. Made the situation worse.

(sigh)

The union wants the Mayor indicted for murder. The Mayor's denying everything. And I haven't slept in nine days.

Outside: PLOP!- a TRASH BAG is tossed into the garden.

MONK (cont'd)

It keeps piling up.

(beat)

I always hated garbage. When I was a kid we lived two-point-two miles from the city dump. I used to lie in bed, smelling it. I had nightmares all the time about garbage bags, piling up outside, higher and higher, until we couldn't leave the house. We were buried alive.

Outside: PLOP!- another TRASH BAG is tossed into the garden.

MONK (cont'd)

And now it's coming true.

Dr. Kroger doesn't respond.

(CONTINUED)

MONK (cont'd)

Dr. Kroger?

DR. KROGER

Adrian. Have you been sending me your trash?

A long, uncomfortable beat.

MONK
No.

DR. KROGER
See, I've been getting boxes of trash
sent to me in the mail.

MONK
Really?

DR. KROGER
Yeah, really. Now, Adrian, don't deny it.
It's all sorted by color and by food groups.
And it's your handwriting on the label.
It's upsetting my wife, it's upsetting my
children..and I want it to stop.

*Outside: more TRASH BAGS are tossed into the garden. PLOP!
PLOP! PLOP! PLOP! It's raining trash.*

DR. KROGER (cont'd)
Did you hear me, Adrian? I want it
to stop.

MONK
(watching the trash
fall, sadly)
I want it to stop, too.