

13

CONTINUED: (2)

13

CAM

It's not typed. It's hand-written.

ANGELA

How many can be typed with the right hand?

VINCENT NIGEL-MURRAY

Four hundred and fifty. Thanks ever so much for asking.

CAM

Don't encourage him.

ANGELA

The point is "Jenny" was signed with a right hand. "Julie" with the left.

More or less one breath. Everyone stares at Angela.

ANGELA (CONT'D)

It's a fake.

CAM

Or somebody forced them to write the note and this was their message to the world.

CUT TO:

14

INT. CIRCUS / MESS TENT - NIGHT

14

The circus crew and performers sit at a few tables. This is not a big circus. The clowns, led by BONKERS, sit at their own table: a morose and bitter lot.

At another table, acrobats and wire acts. There's also a strongman named MAGNUM and a psychic named MADAME NATASHA who sit with Henry Simon and Dorrie Lavalley.

Booth and Brennan enter with their trays of food -

BOOTH

Oh my God. It's high school. I wanna sit with the cool kids.

BRENNAN

(off clowns)

That group seems to be the most exclusive and insular.

BOOTH

Those are the clowns.

(CONTINUED)

Handwritten scribble on the left side of the page, possibly initials or a signature.

Handwritten number 1/8 in the bottom right corner.

Handwritten arrow pointing to the right, indicating continuation.

14 CONTINUED:

14

He heads toward Henry Simon and Dorrie Lavallo's table -

BRENNAN
How do you know?

BOOTH
I know.

BRENNAN
The psychiatric term for fear of
clowns is coulrophobia.

BOOTH
What's the term for hating clowns?
(off seats)
You mind?

Start

HENRY SIMON
Buck, Wanda, meet Magnum the
Strongman and Madame Natasha.

BRENNAN
Are those your real names?

MADAME NATASHA
Is "Wanda" your real name?

BRENNAN
As far as the world is concerned.

DORRIE LAVALLE
(to Magnum)
Buck and Wanda knew Jenny and
Julie.

MAGNUM
I miss those girls.

He is emotional. Dorrie and Madame Natasha pat his back -

HENRY SIMON
Everybody misses them.

MAGNUM
Not the clowns.

BOOTH
I hate clowns.

DORRIE LAVALLE
Everyone hates clowns.

MADAME NATASHA
~~Except other clowns.~~

2/8

(CONTINUED)

BRENNAN

~~Why don't the clowns miss the
twins?~~

MADAME NATASHA

The girls were trying a new act.
They borrowed some of the clowns'
equipment without asking.

HENRY SIMON

The girls should've stuck to
juggling.

MAGNUM

They wanted more time in front of
the audience.

MADAME NATASHA

Not Julie. She wanted less time so
she could be with her gilly
boyfriend.

Booth and Brennan look at each other -

BOOTH

Julie had a gilly boyfriend?

BRENNAN

A gilly is an outsider.

MAGNUM

She was pretty, Julie. And nice.

BRENNAN

But her sister was literally right
beside her all the time.

HENRY SIMON

Fall in love with a gilly, that's
the end of the circus life.

MAGNUM


People can't help who they fall in
love with.

BOOTH

Who was he?

HENRY SIMON

A gilly.

 CUT TO:

3/8

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CONTINUED:

29

BOOTH
 (to Brennan)
 Don't you ever do that again, you
 hear me? Never!

BRENNAN
 Why? They loved us. You were
 great. Superb hand eye
 coordination, Buckie.

BOOTH
 I could have killed you.

BRENNAN
 Therein lies the excitement for the
 spectators.

Booth turns away.

BOOTH
 I don't believe you.

He is now facing the flap again and sees Magnum working with
 the acrobats. One acrobat is on a teeter board, Magnum
 stands at the other end, flexes his muscles for the crowd,
 then picks up his huge mallets and slams it down on his end
 of the teeter board, sending the acrobat skyward landing him
 on the shoulders of his partner across the ring.

BOOTH (CONT'D)
 Oh my God!

BRENNAN
 What?

BOOTH
 Look at Magnum.

They both look as another acrobat is then launched by Magnum,
 landing on top of the other two acrobats.

BRENNAN
 Yes. He definitely has the upper
 body strength to swing the foam
 barbell hard enough to cause the
 fractures.

CUT TO:

30

EXT. CIRCUS / BACK OF BIG TOP TENT - NIGHT

30

The show is over. The performers are heading back to their
 trailers. Booth and Brennan walk up to Magnum.

(CONTINUED)

4/8

BONES "Double Trouble in the Panhandle" CONFIDENTIAL WHITE 9/30/2008 49

30 CONTINUED:

30

Start

BOOTH

Hey, big guy, you got a minute?

MAGNUM

For what?

BOOTH

Just wanted to ask you about my friends Jenny and Julie.

MAGNUM

This is getting old. They were here and they left. That's all I know. Check with some other circuses maybe.

BRENNAN

They're dead. You knew that, didn't you?

This stops Magnum.

MAGNUM

Dead? What are you talking about?

BOOTH

Their heads were smashed together, weren't they, Magnum?

END
Magnum tries to take off, Booth puts out a hand to stop him. Magnum tosses him aside without effort. Brennan leaps on Magnum's back, putting a hand over his eyes and slugging him in the head. He whirls around, grabbing Brennan off his back and heaving her through the air. As she lands, Booth goes after Magnum again, drawing one of his knives. Magnum takes it away and slugs Booth who goes down again. Magnum grabs one of the large circus trunks and throws it at Booth who gets out of the way just in time. Magnum takes off as Booth and Brennan recover. They look to see where Magnum has gone, but he has disappeared into the night...

BRENNAN

Strong strongman.

Off Booth -

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT FIVE

5/8

33 CONTINUED: (4)

33

BRENNAN
Yeah, yeah, I'm fine.

But she loses her balance, tosses her pole and falls into the net. Booth runs to her as she climbs down from the net.

BRENNAN (CONT'D)
I know what happened.

BOOTH
It's pretty obvious. You lost your balance.

BRENNAN
To the twins. They weren't murdered. The stress fractures to their fibulas and cuboids... they were caused by walking on the wire. And the kissing fractures... their heads knocked together when they fell into the net. That's why there was no other trauma.

BOOTH
A conjoined twin high wire act?

BRENNAN
Henry said Jenny wanted to be famous. Their act would have been completely unique.

CUT TO:

Start

34 EXT. CIRCUS / AMONGST THE TRAILERS - NIGHT

34

Booth and Brennan exit and move toward their trailer -

BOOTH
That's a first; cover up an accident by making it look like a murder.

MAGNUM (O.S.)
I didn't kill them.

They see Magnum standing before them, dejected -

BRENNAN
We know.

MAGNUM
I buried them.

6/8

Contd →
(CONTINUED)

BOOTH

You should've picked softer ground and dug deeper, pal.

Out of the darkness, the other circus people approach, listening -

DORRIE LAVALLE

Don't say anything, Magnum.

BRENNAN

~~You asked them not to go on the high wire but that's what they wanted to do.~~

BOOTH

~~Probably the only thing Julie and Jenny ever agreed on.~~

BRENNAN

~~When they dropped into the net the force of the fall snapped their heads together.~~

BOOTH

~~An accident like that; you knew their mother would sue. You knew the circus wouldn't survive.~~

It's true -

BRENNAN

We have to arrest you.

BOOTH

~~Interference with a dead body.~~

BRENNAN

~~We're... sorry.~~

(to Booth)

~~Aren't we?~~

BOOTH

~~Yeah, Bones. We're sorry.~~

BRENNAN

(to Magnum)

We're gonna get you a good lawyer.

Henry Simon looks at the others, then at Dorrie -

MAGNUM

That'll be the end of it?

7/8

BOOTH

Yeah.

DORRIE LAVALLE

We appreciate all the help you can give Magnum.

BOOTH

What you gotta explain, is how you wrapped them in a sheet.

Because...

(pointedly, to Dorrie and Madame Natasha)

That seems like something women would do. Out of respect.

BRENNAN

And you'll have to explain how you forged their handwriting on the note.

Dorrie and Madame Natasha nod. All the circus people come over to touch Magnum. Even the clowns.

Brennan and Booth stand back and watch. They are not part of this.

BOOTH

In a few minutes, I'll call the Dallas field office, have him taken in.

BRENNAN

What about us?

BOOTH

We go back to our real lives.

They watch the circus people surround Magnum, pat him on the back, shake his hand.

CUT TO:

Early in the morning.

Everything is gone except for "Buck and Wanda's" mobile home. The door opens, and Booth exits, sleep ruffled.

He registers for a moment that the field is empty. A little bit of litter. A handbill blows against his leg. He bends over to pick it up.

(CONTINUED)

fyi

8/8