

EP14/SC1. INT. ST MARY'S PRESBYTERY. KITCHEN.
DAY 5. 18.30

MRS MCCARTHY

[INTERCUT SCENES 1, 2 & 3.

BG: WIRELESS. BBC NEWS.

MRS MCCARTHY WASHES HER CUP AT THE SINK –
LEDGERS ON THE TABLE]

NEWSCASTER (OOV):

(1950'S RP) Australia crumpled to the spin of Lock and Laker to give England their first Ashes series on home soil for 27 years. (BEAT)
A major man- hunt has been launched in Gloucestershire. Kembleford Police (MRS MCCARTHY REACTS) are on the hunt for an escaped Prisoner, absconded from custody while being transported from Court to Her Majesty's Prison Gloucester. Described as a male in his thirties. Six feet tall, slim build, black hair, clean shaven. He is wanted for murder and believed to be dangerous. Members of the public are urged to keep their doors and windows locked and anyone seeing him is advised not to approach but to call the police.

CUT TO:

EP14/SC2. EXT. KEMBLEFORD. STREET NEAR CHURCH.
DAY 5. 18.31

SULLIVAN

NSE VILLAGERS, NSE POLICEMEN, NSE NUNS

[INTERCUT SCENES 1, 2 & 3.

A GAGGLE OF NUNS ENTER THE CHURCH AS THE FUGITIVE WEAVES HIS WAY THROUGH THE TOWNSFOLK.

CLOSE IN ON THE FUGITIVE. ANONYMOUS. HAT DOWN. A GLINT OF METAL UNDER HIS COAT CUFFS.

BEHIND - POLICE SEEN QUESTIONING VILLAGERS...HE BREAKS INTO A RUN...REACHES THE CHURCH... HIVES OFF INTO THE GRAVEYARD. FLATTENS HIMSELF BEHIND AN ANCESTRAL TOMB]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC3. INT. ST MARY'S CHURCH. CONFESSIONAL.
DAY 5. 18.32

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN

N/S NUNS

[INTERCUT SCENES 1, 2 & 3.]

ST MARY'S A HAVEN OF SERENITY. **FATHER BROWN** PUTS ON HIS STOLE. ENTERS THE CONFESSIONAL. PRAYS WHILE HE WAITS FOR HIS FIRST PENITENT OF THE EVENING...

NUNS FILE INTO THE PEWS TO PRAY BEFORE CONFESSION.

FATHER BROWN IN THE CONFESSIONAL: THE DOOR OPENS. A FIGURE ENTERS]

SULLIVAN (OOV):

Father. I need your help.

[FATHER BROWN'S HEAD WHIPS UP IN RECOGNITION.

AND NOW WE SEE - BATTERED, DISHEVELLED, WILD EYED. **INSPECTOR SULLIVAN!**]

CUT TO TITLES:

EP14/SC4. EXT. GALLOW’S CROSS. DAY 1. 12.00.

SULLIVAN, ALBERT, TRUEMAN

NS POLICE, NS NORMAN FINLAY

[FLASHBACK.

SUBTITLE: ONE WEEK AGO.

A CLEARING IN A WOOD. EERILY SILENT.
CANOPIES OF BRANCHES BLOCK THE LIGHT.
A BODY LIES UNDER A POLICE SHEET. ROPED OFF
AND GUARDED BY AN **NS PC**.
A ROPE DANGLES FROM A SPOOKY “SIGNATURE”
TREE]

SULLIVAN V/O:

I was called out to Gallows Cross in Wenlock woods. It’s the site of the old gibbet and known suicide spot.

[SULLIVAN KNEELS BY THE CORPSE DICTATING
NOTES TO HIS ROOKIE DC. **FRANK ALBERT** (20’S)
A PAINFULLY KEEN KNOW- IT ALL WHOM
SULLIVAN FINDS PROFOUNDLY IRRITATING]

SULLIVAN:

...chaffing to the wrists suggest restraint? (TURNS THE ARM. FROWNS)
And these looks like hypodermic needle marks.

ALBERT:

(EAGER) Foul play Sir?

SULLIVAN:

Let’s not jump to conclusions until after the post mortem.

[HE PLUCKS A VIVID BLUE FEATHER OFF THE
DEAD MAN’S CLOTHES]

SULLIVAN:

Rather exotic plumage for Wenlock woods.

ALBERT:

Budgerigar. A sky blue opaline is my guess.

SULLIVAN:

Don’t tell me I can now add Ornithologist to your list of expertise.

ALBERT:

My Grandmother kept parakeets Sir.

[SULLIVAN LOOKS UP AT THE TREES WITH THEIR
DISTINCT LACK OF EXOTIC BIRDS]

ALBERT:

Are you familiar with Doctor Locard's principle of exchange? Violent action constituting a crime cannot occur...

[SULLIVAN SWALLOWS HIS IRRITATION]

SULLIVAN:

... Without leaving a trace. I'm well acquainted with the latest forensic theories thank you Constable. Bag it up and we'll...

[INSPECTOR CLIVE TRUEMAN MARCHES INTO
THE CLEARING. 40's. COLONIAL BEARING.
NOSE OUT OF JOINT]

SULLIVAN:

Inspector Trueman.

TRUEMAN:

Inspector Sullivan. There's been an error in communication. This case was assigned to me.

SULLIVAN:

We were in the area so the call was diverted. (PLEASANT) Like you say a communications error.

TRUEMAN

(HIGH HANDED) I'm here now and can take over.

SULLIVAN:

(BRISTLES) No need we're all finished. Aren't we DC Albert?

ALBERT:

Yes Sir.

[TRUEMAN'S CHAGRIN]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC5. INT. ST MARY’S CHURCH. CONFESSIONAL.
DAY 5. 18.45

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN

[FATHER BROWN AND SULLIVAN THROUGH THE GRILLE]

SULLIVAN:

Inspector Clive Trueman. Six months secondment from the British South Africa Police on the personal recommendation of the Chief Constable.

FATHER BROWN:

(SURMISES) No love lost between the two of you.

SULLIVAN:

The dead man was Norman Finlay. A Reporter for the Gloucester News. According to colleagues, he’d been boasting of a big expose he was working on. We searched his office and lodgings but found nothing.

FATHER BROWN:

A journalist always keeps copies.

SULLIVAN:

My sentiments exactly. He planned on selling it to a national newspaper. Fame and fortune beckoned...

FATHER BROWN:

An unlikely candidate for a suicide.

[A SIGH OF EXASPERATION WAFTS THROUGH THE GRILLE. WHO’S TELLING THIS STORY?]

FATHER BROWN:

(CHASTENED) Carry on.

CUT TO:

EP14/SC6. INT. POLICE STATION. SULLIVAN’S OFFICE.
DAY 1. 14.00

SULLIVAN, GOODFELLOW, ALBERT

[FLASHBACK.

SULLIVAN HOLDS A PHOTO OF NORMAN FINLAY.
MUSES TO ALBERT]

SULLIVAN:

An unlikely candidate for a suicide. What do you think Albert?

ALBERT:

(POMPOUS) I think I’m up to the challenge of my first murder investigation.

[SULLIVAN PICKS UP A DIARY]

SULLIVAN:

Norman Finlay’s diary has one entry the day he died. An appointment at 8pm. With whom? We need to check all houses in the vicinity.

[ALBERT PINS A SHEET OF PAPER TO THE WALL]

ALBERT:

I’ve already taken the liberty Sir.

[A MAP OF WENLOCK WOODS. GALLOWS CROSS
MARKED WITH A CROSS. A RADIUS DRAWN ROUND
IT]

ALBERT:

There are 7 properties in a two mile radius. Two abandoned. One vacant and for sale, which leaves 4.

SULLIVAN:

(GRUDGING) Good work. I’ll need a...

[ALBERT HANDS HIM A LIST]

SULLIVAN:

(GRITTED SMILE) Thank you Constable.

ALBERT:

Any thing else I can do Sir? I’m here to observe and learn but if there’s any doing to be done then say the word.

SULLIVAN:

(EVIL) Some tea wouldn’t go amiss.

ALBERT:

White, no sugar, one rich tea biscuit Sir.

[ALBERT CROSSES WITH GOODFELLOW ON HIS
WAY OUT. GOODFELLOW CARRIES A FILE. CLOCKS
SULLIVAN’S EXPRESSION]

GOODFELLOW:

(DEADPAN) How’s the new boy shaping up?

[SULLIVAN GLOWERS]

GOODFELLOW:

Still, you can’t fault him for enthusiasm.

SULLIVAN:

Did you want something Sergeant?

GOODFELLOW:

(HANDS HIM) Norman Finlay’s post mortem report.

[SULLIVAN OPENS IT. FROWNS]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC7. INT. HOSPITAL. MORTUARY. DAY 2. 15.00

SULLIVAN, JOCK

NS NORMAN FINLAY

[FLASHBACK.

FINLAY’S CORPSE. COLD AND WHITE ON THE SLAB.

PATHOLOGIST, **JOCK HAMILTON**. 50’S. GRIZZLED.
PAST HIS PRIME. MILD UMBRAGE]

JOCK:

I’m not used to having my findings questioned.

SULLIVAN:

Just clearing up a few anomalies. (THE ARM) These look like hypodermic
needle marks but there were no traces of drugs.

JOCK:

(SHRUGS) Perhaps he went to his Doctor for blood tests.

SULLIVAN:

And you didn’t notice this chafing to the wrists?

[JOCK RAISES AN EYEBROW]

JOCK:

I “noticed” contact dermatitis. Most likely caused by over starched shirt
cuffs and cheap carbolic. I hope you’re not implying I’m past it Laddie?

CUT TO:

EP14/SC8. INT. ST MARY’S CHURCH. CONFESSIONAL.
DAY 5. 18.50

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN

[FATHER BROWN AND SULLIVAN THROUGH THE
GRILLE]

FATHER BROWN:

Jock Hamilton’s a decent man.

SULLIVAN:

He’s a drunk. Past his prime. Should have been retired years ago. I began house to house enquiries, starting with Wenlock Dip. Home of Sir Jeffrey Greensleeves.

FATHER BROWN:

Our Justice of the Peace.

SULLIVAN:

You know him?

FATHER BROWN:

Not as well as Sid.

CUT TO:

EP14/SC9. EXT. GREENSLEEVES HOUSE. DAY 3. 12.10

SULLIVAN, ALBERT, HARRIET, GREENSLEEVES

[FLASHBACK.

SULLIVAN AND ALBERT ARRIVE AT WENLOCK DIP.
A GLOOMY PILE.

**HARRIET GREENSLEEVES IS IN THE GARDEN. 40'S.
QUIETLY PRACTICAL. DUNGAREES AND
WHEELBARROW. SULLIVAN ASSUMES, A
GARDENER]**

SULLIVAN:

Inspector Sullivan, Kembelford Police. Is Sir Jeffrey at home?

HARRIET:

He's changing for lunch. Can I help you? (REMOVES HER GLOVE TO
SHAKE HANDS) I'm Harriet Greensleaves.

[THE CUT GLASS ACCENT IS A SHOCK.
AS IS THE LIVID BLACK EYE SHE SPORTS]

SULLIVAN:

We're trying to trace the last movements of Mr Norman Finlay whose body
was found on Monday at Gallows Cross.

HARRIET:

How horrible. That's the third suicide there in four years.

ALBERT:

(BLURTS) We're treating it as a murder investigation.

[SULLIVAN GLARES AT HIS OVER EAGER DEPUTY]

SULLIVAN:

What DC Albert means is we are following up more than one line of
enquiry. (CONSULTS HIS NOTES) So you didn't see Mr Finlay on the day
in question?

HARRIET:

(NO) Gallows Cross is a mile from here. (SHUDDERS) Grisly place. It's
where they used to hang the Highwaymen. Even the dogs won't go near it.

[ALBERT SPIES A VIVID BLUE FEATHER STUCK ON
HARRIET'S SLEEVE. EXCHANGES A LOOK WITH
SULLIVAN]

ALBERT:

(PLUCKS IT OFF) Opaline Blue. My Grandmother had one.

HARRIET:

He's called Houdini, after his skill for escaping the cage and taunting us from the top of curtain poles.

[UNOBTRUSIVELY, ALBERT PALMS THE FEATHER]

SULLIVAN:

Was your husband here on Monday night?

HARRIET:

Yes. We dined at 8 and then played bridge so I can say for certain he didn't see this Mr...er?

[SULLIVAN MAKES NOTE. SNAPS CLOSED HIS BOOK]

SULLIVAN:

Finlay. Thank you for your time Lady Greensleeves.

ALBERT:

(BLURTS) Do you mind me asking how you got that black eye?

[SULLIVAN SHOOTS HIM A WARNING LOOK]

HARRIET:

(PAUSE) Not at all. Wretched Juniper. I was pruning when a branch snapped back and hit me in the face.

ALBERT:

Nasty. And so thorny: you're lucky it didn't scratch you to ribbons.

GREENSLEEVES:

May I ask what the blazes you think you're doing?

[SIR JEFFREY GREENSLEEVES IS THERE. 50'S CANTANKEROUS. QUIVERING WITH RAGE]

ALBERT:

Sir. I was merely enquiring how...

GREENSLEEVES:

I know what you were "enquiring" and will thank you not to interrogate my Wife like a common criminal. Do you know who I am?

SULLIVAN:

Sir Jeffrey - Inspector Sullivan. Kembelford Police. I apologise for DC Albert. He's new to the job and...

GREENSLEEVES:

Apologise? You're responsible for him. Be informed I'm acquainted with the Chief Constable and will be making my feelings known to him in person!

[SULLIVAN GLARES DAGGERS AT ALBERT]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC10. INT. POLICE STATION. SULLIVAN'S OFFICE.
DAY 3. 14.30

SULLIVAN, BUSBY, TRUEMAN, ALBERT

[FLASHBACK.

CHIEF CONSTABLE BUSBY. HAIL FELLOW WELL MET. ENSCONCED BEHIND SULLIVAN'S DESK. DEEP IN CONVERSATION WITH TRUEMAN]

BUSBY:

I've heard you're a man to watch.

TRUEMAN:

I think you'll find I can be trusted Sir.

[SULLIVAN'S AT THE DOOR. THEY BREAK OFF - COMPLICIT. BUSBY WAGS A FINGER]

BUSBY:

Someone's been a naughty boy. Sir Jeffrey Greensleeves has lodged a complaint.

SULLIVAN:

A misunderstanding Sir.

BUSBY:

You bet your boots. What goes on between a man and his wife is no business of the Police. Especially when the man is a very big cheese in this County.

SULLIVAN:

DC Albert was a touch over zealous.

[BUSBY'S ALL SYMPATHY]

BUSBY:

Rookies eh? Still, highly embarrassing. Harriet Greensleeves is Chairlady of the Police Benevolent Society and what with tonight's Fundraiser... I think it better all round if you're temporarily suspended from duty.

SULLIVAN:

(REELS) Suspended... Sir I...

BUSBY:

Few days. Slap on the wrist to save face. I'm sure Trueman here can step up in your absence.

[ALBERT HURTLES IN]

ALBERT:

(SULLIVAN) Sir I... (PULLS UP ON SIGHT OF BUSBY. SNAPS HIS HEELS) Sir. Pardon the interruption Sir.

BUSBY:

At ease Constable, I'm finished here. (TRUEMAN) I hope we can expect you tonight. (WINKS) There's some people I'd like you to meet.

[WHEN HE'S GONE, ALBERT WITTERS AT SULLIVAN]

ALBERT:

The feathers are a match. Which means we can place Norman Finlay at Greensleeves house the day he died...

SULLIVAN:

(ICY) I'm off the case. Tell it to Inspector Trueman.

[SULLIVAN GATHERS HIS THINGS.]

ALBERT:

(TRUEMAN. THE FEATHER) We're working on Locard's principle. The violent action of a crime will leave traces of evidence...

TRUEMAN:

(ABRUPT) That isn't evidence. It's a feather. And there was no crime. The post mortem found suicide.

ALBERT:

But Sir...

TRUEMAN:

The case is closed Constable. (A TOWER OF FILES) So if you could redirect your zeal to the statement filing.

[SULLIVAN SLAMS THE DOOR BEHIND HIM]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC11. INT. SULLIVAN'S HOUSE. SITTING ROOM.
DAY 3. 19.05

SULLIVAN, ALBERT (OOV)

[FLASHBACK. INTERCUT SC12.]

SULLIVAN SLUMPED ON THE SOFA. CRICKET ON THE WIRELESS. NECKING WHISKY. THE TELEPHONE RINGS. LAST PERSON HE WANTS TO HEAR FROM]

SULLIVAN:
Kembleford 731...

ALBERT (OOV):
Sir. It's about the Finlay case. Inspector Trueman was hasty in closing it. I think Greensleeves had you removed because we were onto something so I re-examined Finlay's clothes for further trace evidence and found something far more interesting...

SULLIVAN (OOV):
Then I suggest you put it back where you found it, before Inspector Trueman catches you flouting his orders.

ALBERT (OOV):
It's important. Remember Finlay's missing expose...(BREAKS OFF) Good night Sir. Enjoy your party. (LOWERED TONES) Can you meet me in the evidence room? Please Sir I think you'll want to see this.

[SULLIVAN TAKES THIS IN]

SULLIVAN:
Go to hell Albert.

[HE SLAMS DOWN THE TELEPHONE.
KNOCKS BACK A SLUG OF WHISKY]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC12. INT. POLICE STATION. SULLIVAN'S OFFICE.
DAY 3. 19.05

ALBERT, BUSBY, SULLIVAN (OOV)

[FLASHBACK. INTERCUT SC 11.

A PAIR OF MEN'S SHOES ON THE DESK IN FRONT OF
ALBERT]

ALBERT:

Sir. It's about the Finlay case. Inspector Trueman was hasty in closing it. I think Greensleeves had you removed because we were onto something. I re-examined Finlay's clothes for further trace evidence and found something far more interesting...

SULLIVAN (OOV):

Then I suggest you put it back where you found it, before Inspector Trueman catches you flouting his orders.

ALBERT:

It's important. Remember Finlay's missing expose...

[HE BREAKS OFF. SOMEONE IS AT THE DOOR WE
DON'T SEE WHO]

ALBERT:

Good night Sir. Enjoy your party. (TELEPHONE. LOWERED TONES)
Can you meet me in the evidence room? Please Sir. I think you'll want to see this.

[HIS BACK IS TO THE DOOR. A SILHOUETTE
OUTSIDE. ANONYMOUS. MALE. LISTENING.

OUT ON SCENE 11]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC13. INT. ST MARY’S CHURCH. CONFESSIONAL.
DAY 5. 19.00

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN

[FATHER BROWN AND SULLIVAN THROUGH THE GRILLE]

SULLIVAN:

Albert was right. Greensleeves had Busby remove me from the case because I was on to something. Trueman wilfully ignored evidence under his nose. Jock Hamilton’s post mortem was at best incompetent and at worst, fabrication.

FATHER BROWN:

Conspiracy. (PAUSE) You changed your mind, of course.

SULLIVAN:

Damn right I changed my mind. (BEAT) I wish to God I hadn’t.

[THE FOLLOWING DIALOGUE RUNS OVER THE NEXT SCENE]

FATHER BROWN:

This was the night of the Police Benevolent Fundraiser.

SULLIVAN:

Warm wine and limp canapés. The great and the good.

FATHER BROWN:

I was there myself.

SULLIVAN:

That figures.

CUT TO:

EP14/SC14. EXT. BACK OF POLICE STATION. DAY 3. 19.20

**FATHER BROWN, FELICIA, GREENSLEEVES, HARRIET, JOCK,
BUSBY**

NSE DIGNITARIES, NSE POLICEMEN, NSE WAITER

[FLASHBACK. AN AWNING OVER THE POLICE
FUND RAISER. GUESTS MINGLE. FELICIA COLLARS
FATHER BROWN TALKING TO JOCK]

FELICIA:

The Greensleeves are here. (JOCK) Please excuse us. I need Father Brown
for moral support.

[JOCK GRABS ANOTHER DRINK FROM A PASSING
WAITER AS FELICIA DRAGS FATHER BROWN OVER
TO GREENSLEEVES AND HARRIET. AIR KISSES]

FELICIA:

Harriet. Goodness what have you done to your eye? And Jeffrey. Just the
man. A word about my Chauffeur's court appearance next week.

GREENSLEEVES:

Time has barely flown by since the last one.

[BUSBY APPEARS AT HARRIET'S SHOULDER]

BUSBY:

If I could borrow my Chairlady to meet our new Inspector. (DRAWING
HER AWAY) Clive Trueman. On secondment from Rhodesia.

[FELICIA CONTINUES HARANGUING
GREENSLEEVES]

FELICIA:

Inspector Sullivan was being quite over zealous in pressing for a custodial
sentence. I have Sid's word he was only looking after the items for a friend.
Isn't that right Father?

FATHER BROWN:

(FLAILS...THEN) Sid has assured Lady Felicia that was the case.

FELICIA:

There you have it. The word of a Priest. And you know how difficult it is to
get the staff these days. I may even be forced to drive myself.

[FATHER BROWN MAKES THE SIGN OF THE CROSS.
GREENSLEEVES EXASPERATION]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC15. INT. POLICE STATION. CORRIDOR. DAY 3. 19.59

SULLIVAN

[FLASHBACK.

SULLIVAN ENTERS VIA SIDE DOOR. IT SWINGS
SHUT WITH A LOUD BANG!
OOV: A DOOR OPENS. FOOTSTEPS HURRY AWAY.

SULLIVAN'S STEPS ECHO IN THE EMPTY
CORRIDOR. HE MAKES A RIGHT TURN AT THE END
TO THE EVIDENCE ROOM. THE DOOR IS AJAR]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC16. INT. POLICE STATION. EVIDENCE ROOM.
DAY 3. 20.00

SULLIVAN, ALBERT, BUSBY

N/S PC

[FLASHBACK.
CONTINUOUS. ALBERT LIES DYING ON THE FLOOR
WITH A KNIFE IN HIS CHEST. A MEDALLION ON A
TORN CHAIN ENTWINED IN HIS FINGERS]

SULLIVAN:
Help! I need help in here!

[SULLIVAN DROPS BESIDE ALBERT]

ALBERT:
(GASPS. SIC) Helmet... two. B 3 4 7 0 9.

[HE PLUCKS AT THE KNIFE. SULLIVAN GRASPS IT
TO STOP HIM]

SULLIVAN:
Don't pull it out or you'll bleed to death.

[SULLIVAN TAKES IN THE MEDALLION]

ALBERT:
B 3...4...7...0...9...I hid...I hid...

[OOV: WHISTLES. POUNDING FOOTSTEPS]

ALBERT:
Trust no one.

[ALBERT DIES AS BUSBY BURSTS IN. AN N/S PC AT
HIS HEELS.

OUT ON SULLIVAN. RED HANDED!]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC17. INT. ST MARY'S CHURCH. DAY 5. 19.06

FATHER BROWN, MRS MCCARTHY

NSE NUNS

[MRS MCCARTHY HURRIES IN, PAST THE NUNS IN THE PEWS. RAPS ON THE CONFESSIONAL]

MRS MCCARTHY:

Father! The police telephoned. A Fugitive was seen skulking near the church not a while back...and the place is filled with Nuns....

[OOV: WINKWORTH BELLS.
FATHER BROWN'S VOICE WAFTS OUT]

FATHER BROWN (OOV):

Right you are Mrs M.

MRS MCCARTHY

(LONG SUFFERING) He's in there with you isn't he Father.

[FATHER BROWN'S HEAD POPS OUT]

FATHER BROWN:

I'll explain later. For now I need you to hold them off for as long as you can. (HER SCARF) And may I borrow this?

MRS MCCARTHY:

(HANDS IT OVER) I hope you know what you're doing.

CUT TO:

EP14/SC18. EXT. ST MARY’S CHURCH. DAY 5. 19.10

MRS MCCARTHY, TRUEMAN, GOODFELLOW

NSE POLICEMEN

[TRUEMAN BOWLS UP WITH A POSSE OF POLICE TO
FIND MRS MCCARTHY STARFISHED TO THE DOOR]

MRS MCCARTHY:

Father Brown is hearing confession. You can’t go stampeding into church in the middle of holy sacrament.

TRUEMAN:

(GRITTED TEETH) I trust my men and I can behave ourselves with suitable decorum.

[HE STEPS RIGHT. SHE MIRRORS]

TRUEMAN:

Please step aside madam or I’ll be forced to conclude you’re hiding something.

CUT TO:

EP14/SC19. INT. ST MARY'S CHURCH. DAY 5. 19.11

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN, TRUEMAN, GOODFELLOW

N/S POLICE, NSE NUNS, NSE SR PETER

[CONTINUOUS.]

THE DOORS CRASH OPEN. TRUEMAN'S MEN
SWARM EVERY CORNER OF THE CHURCH.

FATHER BROWN STEPS OUT OF THE
CONFESSIONAL]

FATHER BROWN:

Inspector Trueman I presume.

TRUEMAN:

(CONFESSIONAL) I'd like to see in here.

FATHER BROWN:

I give you my word there is only a Penitent under the seal of confession who
is...

[TRUEMAN WRENCHES OPEN THE DOOR.
REVEAL – NSE SR PETER (NUN'S CLOAK AND MRS
MCCARTHY'S HEAD SCARF) COWERING IN ALARM]

TRUEMAN:

I beg your pardon Madam.

FATHER BROWN:

...entitled to confessional privileges.

[WRONG FOOTED, TRUEMAN CLOSES THE DOOR.
A SWEEP OF THE CHURCH WHERE HIS MEN ARE
STUMPED... OVER THE NUNS IN THE PEWS... AND
NOW WE SEE SULLIVAN, WEARING SR PETER'S
HABIT. HEAD BOWED "IN PRAYER." BRICKING IT]

FATHER BROWN:

As you haven't found what you're looking for, may I get on with my work?

[TRUEMAN WEIGHS HIM UP]

TRUEMAN:

Your reputation precedes you Father.

FATHER BROWN:

All of it good I hope.

TRUEMAN:

None of it. According to Inspector Sullivan you're a loose canon with delusions of grandeur.

[OVER SULLIVAN SQUIRMING]

TRUEMAN:

Meddlesome. Recklessly foolhardy, morally dubious.

FATHER BROWN:

I'm flattered.

TRUEMAN:

Yet possessed with a certain " tiresome intelligence." (NARROWED EYES) Which I won't insult. So if you were contemplating interference - be warned. (POINTED) I will be watching you.

[TRUEMAN MARCHES OUT.

SULLIVAN EXHALES]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC20. INT. ST MARY'S PRESBYTERY. KITCHEN.
NIGHT 5. 22.00

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN, MRS MCCARTHY, FELICIA, SID

[SULLIVAN (MUFTI. HANDCUFFS) SITS SHELL
SHOCKED AT THE KITCHEN TABLE.
MRS MCCARTHY STANDS OVER HIM BRANDISHING
A PAN OF SOUP]

MRS MCCARTHY:

Looks like he hasn't had a square meal in days. (A BRANDY BOTTLE)
And a drop of this I think's in order. (FATHER BROWN'S EYES LIGHT
UP) Not for you. Remember what the Doctor...

[SID AND FELICIA BURST IN]

FELICIA:

We came as soon as we could.

FATHER BROWN:

(INDICATES SULLIVAN'S HANDCUFFS) I was forced to admit defeat.

[SID MAKES A PROFESSIONAL APPRAISAL AND
PRODUCES A RING OF KEYS]

FELICIA:

There are Policemen watching the front and back of the Presbytery.

[SULLIVAN'S CUFFS ARE OFF IN SECONDS]

SULLIVAN:

(SID) Thank you.

[HE RUBS HIS WRISTS. CHAFED AND RAW. MRS
MCCARTHY TUTS AND FETCHES A FIRST AID KIT]

SID:

(NEEDLES SULLIVAN) Here's a moment I thought I'd never see.

SULLIVAN:

I'm innocent.

SID:

That's what they all say.

FATHER BROWN:

Enough Sid. The Inspector was about to finish his story.

CUT TO:

EP14/SC21. INT. POLICE STATION. INTERVIEW ROOM.
NIGHT 4. 23.00

SULLIVAN, BUSBY, TRUEMAN

N/S POLICEMAN

[FLASHBACK.
TRUEMAN AND BUSBY INTERVIEW SULLIVAN]

TRUEMAN:
Why did you come back to the Station?

SULLIVAN:
Albert telephoned me about new evidence on the Finlay case.

TRUEMAN:
What evidence?

SULLIVAN:
He didn't specify.

TRUEMAN:
You'd been drinking?

SULLIVAN:
I was off duty.

TRUEMAN:
You blamed Albert for your suspension. Did you come back to have it out with him?

SULLIVAN:
No. (FRUSTRATED) What about the medallion?

[BUSBY SHOOTS TRUEMAN A COVERT LOOK]

TRUEMAN:
Medallion?

SULLIVAN:
In Albert's hand. He must have torn it from the neck of the killer.

TRUEMAN:
The scene was searched with a fine-tooth comb. We found no medallion.

[SULLIVAN'S FACE DRAINS AS HE ABSORBS THE
IMPLICATION...]

BUSBY:

You allege DC Albert was alive when you found him. Did he give any clues as to his... killer before he died?

[*FLASHCUT. SCENE 16*]

ALBERT:
Trust no one...]

SULLIVAN:
No.

CUT TO:

EP14/SC22. INT. ST MARY'S PRESBYTERY. KITCHEN.
NIGHT 5. 22.05

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN, MRS MCCARTHY, FELICIA, SID

[IN ON FATHER BROWN]

FATHER BROWN:

Can you describe the medallion?

SULLIVAN:

A bird of some sort. And letters P.M. something V.

FATHER BROWN:

Per Me Caeci Vident. “Through me the blind become sighted.” The Owl of Minerva.

FELICIA:

(OFF HIS LOOK) Something tells me that isn't good news.

FATHER BROWN:

It's a seal of the Illuminati.

SID:

Illumiwhat?

FATHER BROWN:

The enlightened. Off shoots of the Freemasons. Webs of secret societies comprising a social elite.

MRS MCCARTHY:

In Kembelford?

FATHER BROWN:

Some say they're everywhere. Lurking in the shadows. Pulling the strings and levers of power.

FELICIA:

Rumour has it Monty's Great Uncle Roly was something of the sort. Not that he ever admitted to it.

FATHER BROWN:

They guard their identities closely. Which is what makes them so dangerous.

SULLIVAN:

And you actually believe this mumbo jumbo?

FATHER BROWN:

I've spent a lifetime listening to men's sins.

SULLIVAN:

Norman Finlay's expose. If he planned to unmask such a group...

FATHER BROWN:

I think they would be prepared to kill to protect their secrets.

SULLIVAN:

And are powerful enough to cover their tracks.

CUT TO:

EP14/SC23. INT. COURT ROOM. DAY 5. 12.00

**SULLIVAN, JOCK, GREENSLEEVES, BUSBY, TRUEMAN,
GOODFELLOW**

NSE LAWYERS, NSECLERK OF COURT, NSE STENOGRAPHER

[FLASHBACK.

GREENSLEEVES PRESIDES. SULLIVAN IN THE
DOCK. THE DAWNING HORROR HE'S BEING
STITCHED UP AS ONE BY ONE HIS ADVERSARIES
TAKE THE STAND]

MONTAGE:

JOCK:

...strangely agitated by the results of a routine post mortem... In my
professional opinion he was showing signs of mental stress....

CUT TO:

TRUEMAN:

Inspector Sullivan blamed DC Albert for his suspension....

CUT TO:

BUSBY:

...Sullivan was kneeling over him - reeking of whisky - with his hands
round the knife...

CUT TO:

[GREENSLEEVES BARKS AT GOODFELLOW]

GREENSLEEVES:

Speak up Sergeant. You're mumbling!

GOODFELLOW:

(RELUCTANT) It's true there was no love lost between Inspector Sullivan
and DC Albert.

CUT TO:

GREENSLEEVES:

...because of the particularly odious nature of this crime, the prisoner is
remanded in custody for committal to the Court of Assize to stand trial for
murder.

CUT TO:

EP14/SC24. EXT. COURT. PRISONERS YARD. DAY 5. 16.00

SULLIVAN

NSE JONES, NSE PRISONERS, NSE DRIVER

[FLASHBACK.

SULLIVAN’S LAST IN A CROCODILE OF
HANDCUFFED PRISONERS LINED UP TO CLIMB IN A
PRISON VAN.

PRISON WARDER JONES TICKS 6 ON HIS ROSTER.
THE **DRIVER** LEANS OUT OF THE WINDOW. “HEY
JONES.” JONES TURNS AWAY.

SULLIVAN SEIZES THE OPPORTUNITY TO THROW
HIMSELF ON THE GROUND AND ROLL OUT OF
SIGHT BENEATH THE WHEELS.

JONES TURNS BACK. ASSUMES LAST PRISONER IN.
SHUTS AND BOLTS THE DOORS.

THE GATES OPEN. THE VAN RUMBLES OUT OF THE
YARD]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC25. EXT. ROAD. DAY 5. 16.30

SULLIVAN

N/S DRIVER

[FLASHBACK.

RURAL ROAD. THE PRISON VAN PULLS UP AT A
JUNCTION.

SIGN POST – KEMBLEFORD 9 GLOUCESTER 15 ½

A MUFFLED WHUMP. THE VAN DRIVES OFF.
SULLIVAN LIES IN THE ROAD. BATTERED AND
BRUISED. HE RAISES HIS HEAD. FREE....]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC26. INT. ST MARY'S PRESBYTERY. KITCHEN.
NIGHT 5. 22.15

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN, MRS MCCARTHY, FELICIA, SID

[SID IMPRESSED DESPITE HIMSELF]

SID:

Nice one.

SULLIVAN:

(GLOWERS) Don't go getting any ideas.

FATHER BROWN:

Was it wise to return to Kembleford?

SULLIVAN:

How else will I prove my innocence?

[BEAT. FELICIA SAYS WHAT THEY'RE ALL
THINKING]

FELICIA:

How will you?

SULLIVAN:

Albert's last words. Helmet two. B34709.

MRS MCCARTHY:

(LIGHTBULB) The murderer was German. *Helmut*.

SULLIVAN:

I don't know. But the numbers meant something. An evidence bag. I think Albert hid something in one of them before he was killed.

SID:

So your master plan was to break out of jail so you could break back in again. (FATHER BROWN) Will you tell him or shall I?

FATHER BROWN:

I suggest a good night's sleep. We'll think of something in the morning.

[SULLIVAN STIFFENS]

SULLIVAN:

"We'll" do nothing of the sort. I'll be on my way tomorrow, as soon as it's safe to leave.

SID:

You won't last five minutes.

SULLIVAN:

(FATHER BROWN) While I'm grateful for your sanctuary if you think I intend to throw in my lot with you and your (SID) dubious...associates.

SID:

Him and his dubious associates is all you got from where I'm standing.

SULLIVAN:

Which is why I'll take my chances alone.

[OUT ON SULLIVAN, RESOLVED]

FADE TO BLACK:

EP14/SC26A. EXT. ST MARY'S PRESBYTERY. DAY 6. 08.00

[ESTABLISH NEW DAY]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC27. INT. ST MARY'S PRESBYTERY. KITCHEN.
DAY 6. 08.01

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN, SID, MRS MCCARTHY, FELICIA

[BLEARY EYED AND UNSHAVEN,
SULLIVAN STUMBLES INTO THE KITCHEN.
A COSY HIVE OF PURPOSEFUL ACTIVITY.
FATHER BROWN AT THE STOVE FRYING
SAUSAGES. MRS MCCARTHY SEWS. FELICIA HOLDS
THE FLOOR]

FELICIA:

...and it drew another blank.

[MRS MCCARTHY BECKONS SULLIVAN TO SIT]

MRS MCCARTHY:

Her Ladyship has news.

FELICIA:

The Governor of South Rhodesia is an old chum so I called for the lowdown on Inspector Trueman... and he'd never heard of him. Nor is there any record of him in the South Africa Police.

FATHER BROWN:

A cuckoo in the nest.

[MRS MCCARTHY HOLDS THE JACKET SHE IS
SEWING AGAINST SULLIVAN FOR SIZE]

MRS MCCARTHY:

That will do at a pinch.

[SID BOWLS IN. PLEASED WITH HIMSELF]

SID:

Our Police escort just left. The Fugitive's been spotted in Hambleston so they've chased over there to collar him.

FELICIA:

Bravo Sid.

[SULLIVAN CHOKES ON HIS TEA]

SULLIVAN:

You!?

SID:

I left your hat and coat on a riverbank. It won't fool Trueman but he'll be forced to dredge it.

FATHER BROWN:

Which gives us a breathing space to find what Albert hid in the evidence room.

SID:

I did a recce. One outside window. Deadbolt lock but no bars. (SULLIVAN) You might want to do a review of your security.

SULLIVAN:

It's designed to stop criminals breaking out – not in.

SID:

Ten minute job. Unless you still think you're "better off alone?"

[ALL EYES ON SULLIVAN. DECISION TIME]

SULLIVAN:

(FATHER BROWN. SID) I'm going with him.

FATHER BROWN:

It's too risky.

SULLIVAN:

You think I'd let a known felon with a court case pending loose in my evidence room.

SID:

Under the circumstances...

SULLIVAN:

Besides the fact you don't know what you're looking for.

[NO ONE HAS AN ANSWER TO THAT]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC28. EXT. BACK OF POLICE STATION. DAY 6. 10.05

SULLIVAN, SID

[SID AND SULLIVAN DISGUISED AS WINDOW CLEANERS. SULLIVAN STANDS GUARD WHILE SID GIVES THE LOCK A ONCE OVER AND PRODUCES A LOCK BREAKING KIT]

SID:

(SARKY) You mind? Trade secrets.

[SULLIVAN TURNS HIS BACK. FACE LIKE HE'S SWALLOWED A WASP]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC29. INT. HOSPITAL. MORTUARY. JOCK'S OFFICE.
DAY 6. 10.08

FATHER BROWN, JOCK

[JOCK PORES OVER A FILE AT HIS DESK. WRESTLING DEMONS. SCRIBBLING CALCULATIONS IN THE MARGINS. THE SAME FORMULAE, OVER AND OVER. HE TAKES A WHISKY BOTTLE FROM HIS DESK DRAWER. IS ADDING A SHOT TO HIS MUG WHEN THERE'S A KNOCK AT THE DOOR. HE COVERS...BUT IT'S ONLY FATHER BROWN]

JOCK:
Join me?

[FATHER BROWN TAKES A SEAT. EYES A WALL CLOCK. 10.08]

FATHER BROWN:
A bit early even for you.

[JOCK POURS A STIFF SHOT. BRAZEN]

JOCK:
The advantage of being a Pathologist is I can't kill any of my patients....

[EYES DROPPING TO THE FILE. HIS FACE DARKENS]

FATHER BROWN:
Are you all right?

[JOCK SLAMS THE FILE SHUT]

JOCK:
Said to a man who spends more time with the dead than the living. So - to what do I owe the honour?

FATHER BROWN:
Inspector Sullivan. You testified he was of unsound mind.

JOCK:
Borderline paranoid delusional in my professional but inexpert opinion. What's it to you?

FATHER BROWN:
We often crossed paths. I should have noticed. Then maybe this tragedy could have been prevented.

[JOCK WON'T MEET HIS EYE]

JOCK:

Don't beat yourself up. He wouldn't be the first Copper to tip over on the job.

[THE TELEPHONE RINGS]

JOCK:

(ANSWERS) I'll be right there. (HANGS UP) I have to sign in a body. Five minutes. (WHISKY) Help yourself if you change your mind.

[ALONE - FATHER BROWN TURNS THE FILE JOCK WAS READING TOWARD HIM.

SODIUM PENTOTHAL. DOSAGE TABLES. AND SCRIBBLED CALCULATIONS IN THE MARGIN.

FATHER BROWN STUDIES THEM]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC30. INT. POLICE STATION. EVIDENCE ROOM.
DAY 6. 10.15

SULLIVAN, SID, GOODFELLOW, TRUEMAN

[ALPHABETICAL SHELVES OF EVIDENCE BAGS IN NUMERICAL ORDER. SULLIVAN SCANS TAGS B31808....B32564...B33152...B34709... BINGO! THE TAG READS: **BAILEY. F**]

SULLIVAN:

Frankie the Fence. I made the arrest.

[BEHIND HIM SID ENGROSSED IN A SHELF LABELLED C-E.

SULLIVAN TIPS OUT THE CONTENTS. WATCHES, JEWELLERY. A PAIR OF MEN’S SHOES]

SULLIVAN:

Well well. What do we make of these?

SID:

Frankie the Fence has size ten feet?

SULLIVAN:

Frankie the Fence is a woman.

[SULLIVAN EXAMINES THEM]

SID:

There’s no time for that. Lets get out of here.

[SID GESTURES “AFTER YOU” AND WHEN SULLIVAN TURNS HIS BACK – GRABS AN EVIDENCE BAG OFF THE SHELF. **C74665. CARTER. S.**

SULLIVAN WHIPS ROUND. EYES IN THE BACK OF HIS HEAD]

SULLIVAN:

Put that back.

SID:

The evidence that will get me 6 months in the poke. The way I see it - you owe me.

SULLIVAN:

That debt doesn’t extend to the theft of evidence.

SID:

Says the man with a stolen evidence bag in his hands.

[THEIR VOICES CARRY]

SULLIVAN:

The distinction being I'm innocent and you were caught fair and square. So put it back or...

SID:

Or what - you'll raise the alarm?

[A KEY RATTLES IN THE LOCK.
SID AND SULLIVAN DROP TO THE FLOOR.]

GOODFELLOW AND TRUEMAN ENTER]

TRUEMAN:

I thought I heard voices...

GOODFELLOW:

No one signed the key out. I'll take a look.

[GOODFELLOW WALKS TO THE BACK OF THE ROOM, CHECKING BETWEEN SHELVES. HIS EYES FALL ON THE INTERLOPERS. IMPOSSIBLE TO MISS. A HEART STOPPING MOMENT...HE AND SULLIVAN LOCK EYES...]

...GOODFELLOW RETREATS...]

GOODFELLOW:

(TRUEMAN) All clear Sir.

[THE DOOR CLOSES AND IS RELOCKED.]

SID AND SULLIVAN EXHALE]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC31. INT. ST MARY'S PRESBYTERY. STUDY.
DAY 6. 11.40

FATHER BROWN, MRS MCCARTHY, FELICIA, SID, SULLIVAN

[THE TICK...TICK...TICK...OF THE MANTLE CLOCK.
FATHER BROWN GOES THROUGH HIS IN TRAY
WHILE MRS MCCARTHY AND FELICIA WAIT IN
ANXIOUS SILENCE. FELICIA LOOKS AT HER WATCH
FOR THE UMPTEENTH TIME]

FELICIA:

They really should have been back by now.

[FATHER BROWN OPENS A BOX OF MEMORIAL
CARDS. HIS BROW CREASES]

MRS MCCARTHY:

So you've said a dozen times and saying it isn't going to....

FATHER BROWN:

(INTERRUPTS. URGENT) Are these DC Albert's memorial cards?

MRS MCCARTHY:

His Mother sent them for the Requiem Mass.

[FATHER BROWN COGITATES]

FATHER BROWN:

Francois Albert. (COGITATES) Frank Albert (FRENCH PRON) Francois
"Al bear." (BEAT) He was French?

MRS MCCARTHY:

His Father is. They moved to England at the start of the war (WINCES)
because they thought it would be safer for the child.

[FATHER BROWN. A LIGHTBULB MOMENT]

FATHER BROWN:

Of course.

[RELIEF ALL ROUND AS SID AND SULLIVAN BURST
IN]

FATHER BROWN:

Success?

SID:

(SOUR) That depends on your view-point.

[SULLIVAN DUMPS THE SHOES ON THE TABLE]

SULLIVAN:

These are what Albert hid before he was killed.

FELICIA:

(UNIMPRESSED) A pair of shoes?

SULLIVAN:

Norman Finlay's shoes. With something wedged in the sole.

[CU: THE SHOE. WORN AND CRACKED WHERE THE LEATHER MEETS THE SOLE. SULLIVAN EXTRACTS A CRUMPLED LEFT LUGGAGE TICKET FROM THE GAP. (1 X BRIEFCASE No: 945) SHOWS IT TO FATHER BROWN]

SULLIVAN:

A left luggage ticket for a briefcase. (FATHER BROWN) You said it yourself. A journalist always keeps copies.

FELICIA:

The missing expose?

SULLIVAN:

We'll soon find out.

FATHER BROWN:

(SHARP) We'll do nothing of the sort. Whatever's in that case has already caused two deaths.

SULLIVAN:

(POCKETS THE TICKET) Whatever's in that case may prove my innocence.

FATHER BROWN:

Anyone who lays eyes on the contents would be a marked man. (PAUSE)
Or woman.

FELICIA:

(FAINT) Golly.

FATHER BROWN:

I just need to think...

SULLIVAN:

Have you forgotten which of us is the Police Officer?

SID:

(MUTTERS) Fat chance of that.

SULLIVAN:

I'd rather go fighting than on the end of a rope. I'll find Albert's killer.
With or without your help.

[SID MAKES TO RISE. FATHER BROWN SNAPS.
OUT OF CHARACTER]

FATHER BROWN:

Sit down Sid!

[SID SITS. MULISH]

BANG! THE DOOR SLAMS BEHIND SULLIVAN]

MRS MCCARTHY:

Now what?

[FATHER BROWN PICKS UP THE PHONE. DIALS]

FATHER BROWN:

Inspector Trueman please.

[THE GANG REACT WITH SHOCK]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC32. INT. TRAIN STATION. LEFT LUGGAGE OFFICE.
DAY 6. 12.30

SULLIVAN

N/S TOWNSFOLK, CLERK

[SULLIVAN QUEUES AT THE LEFT LUGGAGE
OFFICE. HEAD BURIED IN A SPORTS SHEET.

OOV: COMMOTION OUTSIDE. WINKWORTH BELLS.
POUNING FOOTSTEPS. POLICE WHISTLES.
SULLIVAN LEGS IT...]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC33. EXT. TRAIN STATION. DAY 6. 12.35

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN, TRUEMAN

N/S POLICE, TOWNSFOLK

[SULLIVAN WATCHES FROM A SAFE DISTANCE.

TRUEMAN MARCHES OUT WITH A BRIEFCASE AND
GETS IN HIS CAR JUST AS FATHER BROWN
PEDDLES UP ON HIS BICYCLE.
POLICEMAN AND PRIEST LOCK EYES.

TRUEMAN DRIVES OFF.

FATHER BROWN FOLLOWS.

OFF SULLIVAN. BETRAYED]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC34. EXT. POLICE STATION. DAY 6. 13.05

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN

NSE POLICEMEN, NSE VILLAGERS

[AN N/S PC PARKS HIS BICYCLE OUTSIDE THE POLICE STATION NEXT TO FATHER BROWN'S BICYCLE. HE DOESN'T SEE SULLIVAN WATCHING THE ENTRANCE FROM A CONCEALED SPOT.

FATHER BROWN EXITS THE POLICE STATION WITH THE BRIEFCASE FROM SCENE 33. PUTS IT ON THE BACK OF HIS BICYCLE AND CYCLES OFF.

SULLIVAN WAITS THEN TAKES THE POLICE BICYCLE AND FOLLOWS]

CUT TO:

SC35 HAS BEEN CUT

EP14/SC36. EXT. WENLOCK WOODS. GALLOWS CROSS.
DAY 6. 13.45

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN, JOCK

[SULLIVAN MAKES HIS STEALTHY WAY THROUGH THE WOOD - UNTIL HE SEES FATHER BROWN. WAITING. HIS BIKE PARKED AGAINST THE GIBBET TREE. BRIEFCASE ON THE BACK.

SULLIVAN MELTS INTO THE TREES AS FOOTSTEPS CRASH THROUGH FOLIAGE...INTO THE CLEARING WALKS JOCK]

FATHER BROWN:

Thank you for coming alone.

JOCK:

All a bit cloak and dagger. What's wrong with the pub?

FATHER BROWN:

You have dangerous associates. And I hoped for old times' sake we could be honest with each other.

JOCK:

(GUARDED) Go on.

FATHER BROWN:

(BRIEFCASE) Norman Finlay deposited it at a left luggage office. I want to trade.

[SULLIVAN ABSORBING THIS ULTIMATE BETRAYAL WHEN A BRANCH CRACKS BENEATH HIS FEET. BIRDS FLY FROM THE TREES. JOCK AND FATHER BROWN WHIP ROUND. SULLIVAN BACKS OUT OF HIS HIDING PLACE. FLEES]

JOCK:

(NARROWS HIS EYES) Did you come alone?

FATHER BROWN:

I was about to ask you the same question.

[JOCK HEADS INTO THE WOODS TO INVESTIGATE]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC37. EXT. WENLOCK WOODS. DAY 6. 13.50

SULLIVAN, HARRIET

[HARRIET STROLLS THROUGH THE WOODS WITH A BASKET. HER TERROR AS SULLIVAN COMES CRASHING OUT OF THE TREES, WILD EYED AND DISHEVELLED.
HARRIET OPENS HER MOUTH TO...]

SULLIVAN:

Please don't scream. I won't harm you.

HARRIET:

(TERRIFIED) Inspector Sullivan.

SULLIVAN:

I'm not...I'm innocent.

[BEAT]

HARRIET:

I know. (AN ALARMED LOOK BEHIND) You can't stay here. Follow me. I'll take you somewhere safe.

[HARRIET DISAPPEARS INTO THE WOODS.

A MOMENT OF HESITATION AND SULLIVAN FOLLOWS]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC38. EXT. GALLOWS CROSS. DAY 6. 14.00

FATHER BROWN, JOCK

[JOCK RETURNS TO THE CLEARING]

JOCK:

Nothing. Probably a deer the speed it ran off.

FATHER BROWN:

Good. We wouldn't wish this conversation to be overheard.

JOCK:

What do you want from me?

FATHER BROWN:

A trade. This (BRIEFCASE) in return for my safety and that of my friends.

[JOCK INSPECTS THE BRIEFCASE]

FATHER BROWN:

It's locked. Your secrets are safe. Take it and let it be an end to all this.
(PAUSE) Or do you want another life on your conscience as well as Norman Finlay's.

[OFF JOCK – TENSING]

FATHER BROWN:

What do you know about sodium pentothal?

JOCK:

It's an anaesthetic.

FATHER BROWN:

A peculiar area of interest for a pathologist.

JOCK:

You read my files.

FATHER BROWN:

You left them on your desk and I'm only human. Of course it has other uses.
The Russian Secret Police call it "the remedy which loosens the tongue"

JOCK:

Now you're spouting nonsense.

FATHER BROWN:

Truth serum. Norman Finlay had something you wanted. Did he refuse to give it up?

[FACEOFF. JOCK IS FIRST TO CRACK]

JOCK:

I calculated the doses exactly. Enough to make him talk. Not enough to kill. I don't know how... (TORTURED. HE DOES) That's what happens when you let a drunk loose on the living.

[HE HANGS HIS HEAD]

FATHER BROWN:

God sees the heart. It's never too late to repent.

JOCK:

I'm a man of science. I don't believe in your God.

FATHER BROWN:

Yet in his infinite grace - he believes in you.

[JOCK TAKES THIS IN]

FATHER BROWN:

Look at you Jock. So full of regret.

JOCK:

I didn't hurt the boy.

FATHER BROWN:

I know. His last words were in his mother tongue.

[FLASHCUT SC14]

ALBERT:

(GASPS. SIC) Helmet... two. B 3 4 7 0 9]

FATHER BROWN:

Elle m'a tue. She killed me. Frank Albert's murderer was a woman.

CUT TO:

EP14/SC39. EXT. WENLOCK WOODS. DAY 6. 14.10

SULLIVAN, HARRIET

[SULLIVAN AND HARRIET WEND THEIR WAY
THROUGH THE WOODS]

SULLIVAN:

Where are we going?

HARRIET:

An old poachers cottage. You'll be safe there.

SULLIVAN:

Safe from whom? (OFF HER SILENCE) You know who killed Albert and Norman Finlay?

HARRIET:

It's better you don't ask.

SULLIVAN:

I've been framed for a murder I didn't commit.

HARRIET:

You got embroiled with the wrong people. For your own sake – the less you know the better.

SULLIVAN:

(LOOKS ROUND. PERTURBED) We're heading back to Gallows Cross.

HARRIET:

The paths through these woods are like warrens. They're deceptive.

[SULLIVAN STOPS. SQUINTS AT THE SUN]

SULLIVAN:

We're travelling directly north - west. We've circled back on ourselves.

HARRIET:

You were warned off but were quite exasperating in your persistence.

SULLIVAN:

Where is this?

HARRIET:

(TURNS. A REVOLVER IN HER HAND) The end of the road Inspector.

CUT TO:

EP14/SC40. EXT. GALLOWS CROSS. DAY 6. 14.15

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN, JOCK, HARRIET

[FATHER BROWN AND JOCK]

FATHER BROWN:

DC Albert had the makings of a fine detective. Keen powers of observation and a zeal for the truth.

CUT TO:

[*INSERT SCENE 41. BUSBY IS REVEALED*]

CUT TO:

[*FLASHCUT SC14 – FUNDRAISER.
BUSBY DRAWS HARRIET TO ONE SIDE*]

FATHER BROWN:

Zealousness which cost him his life.

CUT TO:

[*FLASHBACK.
SC 42. HARRIET KILLS ALBERT*]

CUT TO:

[PRESENT.

HARRIET STEPS INTO THE CLEARING WITH
SULLIVAN AT GUN POINT]

HARRIET:

You're cleverer than you look Father. (JOCK. SULLIVAN) Look what I found. (OFF FATHER BROWN'S DISMAY. AMUSED) I take it he wasn't part of the plan?

FATHER BROWN:

(JOCK. IN REPROACH) You gave me your word.

[JOCK CAN'T MEET HIS EYE]

HARRIET:

He doesn't answer to you. If it's any consolation I admired the boy. He had tenacity and he went down fighting.

[SULLIVAN TENSES. SHE JABS THE REVOLVER
PAINFULLY IN HIS BACK]

HARRIET:

(HER BLACK EYE) As did Norman Finlay. Now he, I have no admiration for. The man was a fool.

FATHER BROWN:

You lured him to your house.

HARRIET:

He had something that didn't belong to him.

FATHER BROWN:

(THE BRIEFCASE) And now I have it.

[HARRIET SWINGS TO JOCK. HE NODS.
HARRIET SHOVS SULLIVAN TOWARD FATHER
BROWN. POINTS THE REVOLVER]

HARRIET:

Sit.

[THEY SIT. SHE GIVES THE REVOLVER TO JOCK
SO SHE TAKE THE CASE FROM THE BICYCLE]

FATHER BROWN:

(SOTTO) How did you get here?

SULLIVAN:

You double crossing...

FATHER BROWN:

I was protecting you. If you'd seen inside that case – you'd have been as good as dead.

HARRIET:

(JOCK. THE CASE) Locked.

SULLIVAN:

I've been framed for murder. I'm as good as dead anyway.

FATHER BROWN:

(HARRIET. THE CASE) Take it and let us go. There needn't be more lives on your conscience.

HARRIET:

Your lives are insignificant. There are matters of more import at stake.

FATHER BROWN:

(SCATHING) Your so-called new world order.

HARRIET:

If you wish to take a simpleton's viewpoint.

FATHER BROWN:

Or just vice masquerading as philosophy? The abuse of position in the pursuit of power.

HARRIET:

Call it what you will, it is more omnipotent than your church will ever be.

[SHE HANDS JOCK THE GUN]

HARRIET:

I'm going to get rope.

JOCK:

What are you going to do?

HARRIET:

I'm not going to do anything. (TO SULLIVAN) You are going to shoot the Priest and then tortured with remorse, (THE GALLOWS TREE) you will take your own life.

[HARRIET LEAVES THE CLEARING WITH THE BRIEFCASE]

HARRIET:

If they move, kill them.

[FATHER BROWN WHISPERS TO SULLIVAN]

FATHER BROWN:

On my count, we make a run for the bike.

SULLIVAN:

Are you insane! He'll shoot us.

FATHER BROWN:

No. I'd stake my life on it.

SULLIVAN:

You're staking both our lives.

FATHER BROWN:

You have a better plan? (NO?) 3...2...1...

[FATHER BROWN MAKES A DASH FOR THE BIKE.
A BEAT... THEN SULLIVAN FOLLOWS]

JOCK:

Stop! STOP or I'll shoot!

[FATHER BROWN SCRAMBLES ON THE BIKE.
SULLIVAN GETS ON BEHIND]

SULLIVAN:

I'm counting the ways this can go wrong!

[JOCK POINTS THE REVOLVER]

JOCK:

I said I'll shoot!

[HIS FINGER CLOSSES ROUND THE
TRIGGER...FREEZES...HE CAN'T DO IT....

HARRIET RUNS INTO THE CLEARING WITH THE
BRIEFCASE]

HARRIET:

Shoot them! *IDIOT! I SAID SHOOT THEM!*

[SHE GRABS THE REVOLVER. FIRES AT THE BIKE
RETREATING DOWNHILL THROUGH THE WOODS.
THE BULLETS MISS. EMBEDDING IN THE TREES.

HARRIET VICIOUSLY PISTOL WHIPS JOCK]

HARRIET:

You never fail to disappoint Jock. They're headed for the road. We'll cut them off in the car (HE STAYS PUT) What are you waiting for?

[JOCK WIPES BLOOD FROM HIS MOUTH WITH THE
BACK OF HIS HAND. SHAKES HIS HEAD]

JOCK:

It's gone too far. Enough.

HARRIET:

(BEAT) Very well. If you say so.

CUT TO:

EP14/SC41. INT. POLICE STATION. SULLIVAN'S OFFICE.
DAY 3. 19.05

ALBERT, BUSBY

[FLASHBACK:

ALBERT:

It's important Sir. Remember Finlay's missing expose...

[BUSBY'S AT THE DOOR]

BUSBY:

Goodnight Constable. Don't burn the candle at both ends.

ALBERT:

Good night Sir. Enjoy your party.

CUT TO:

EP14/SC42. INT. POLICE STATION. EVIDENCE ROOM.
NIGHT 4. 20.00

ALBERT, HARRIET

[FLASHBACK.

ALBERT AMONG THE SHELVES ABOUT TO RETURN
THE SHOES TO F33059. FINLAY N.

OOV: STEALTHY FOOTSTEPS IN THE CORRIDOR.
THE DOOR OF THE EVIDENCE ROOM QUIETLY
OPENS AND CLOSES]

ALBERT:

Hello?... Sir?...

[THE SILENCE MAKES THE HAIRS ON THE BACK OF
HIS NECK STAND UP. HE SECRETES THE SHOES IN
B34709. GOES TO INVESTIGATE. STEPS OUT FROM
BETWEEN THE SHELVES TO SEE HARRIET HOLDING
A KNIFE...]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC43. EXT. WENLOCK WOODS/ROAD. DAY 6. 14.25

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN

[OOV: A SINGLE GUNSHOT. BIRDS FLY CAWING
FROM THE TREES AS FATHER BROWN AND
SULLIVAN FLEE ON BIKE THROUGH THE WOODS]

FATHER BROWN:

Then he and Sir Jeffery Greensleeves took the body to Gallows Cross and made it look like a suicide

SULLIVAN:

How did you know he wouldn't shoot?

[FATHER BROWN STRUGGLES UP AN INCLINE]

FATHER BROWN:

(BREATHLESS) I know human nature. Jock Hamilton isn't a killer.

SULLIVAN:

You just said he killed Norman Finlay.

[REACHING THE TOP, HE FREEWHEELS]

FATHER BROWN:

Correction he isn't a murderer. Harriet Greensleeves on the...other...hand...**DUCK!**

[SULLIVAN DUCKS - AVOIDING TREE BRANCH
DECAPITATION BY A WHISKER]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC44. EXT. ROAD/BRIDGE. DAY 6. 14.30

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN, TRUEMAN, HARRIET

[A POLICE CAR PARKED WHERE THE ROAD
NARROWS OVER A BRIDGE. TRUEMAN INSIDE.
EYES PEELED. WAITING.]

[OBLIVIOUS, FATHER BROWN AND SULLIVAN
SPEED HIS WAY]

SULLIVAN:

You worked all this out and kept it to yourself?

[OOV: THE ROAR OF AN ENGINE. A CAR HOVES
INTO VIEW BEHIND THEM. HARRIET AT THE
WHEEL. BRIEFCASE ON THE PASSENGER SEAT]

FATHER BROWN:

It wasn't just your safety I had to consider.

[HARRIET INEXORABLY GAINING]

SULLIVAN:

We need to get off the road.

FATHER BROWN:

Not much further...

SULLIVAN:

Further to what? Or is there something else you've neglected to share?

[THEY ROUND A BEND AND SEE TRUEMAN'S CAR
BLOCKING THE ROAD.]

FATHER BROWN APPLIES THE BRAKES. THE BIKE
SCREECHES TO A HALT. TRUEMAN GETS OUT OF
HIS CAR. HARRIET PARKS BEHIND.
FATHER BROWN AND SULLIVAN BETWEEN A ROCK
AND A HARD PLACE.

[HARRIET GETS OUT. APPROACHES TRUEMAN]

HARRIET:

Did the Chief Constable send you?

TRUEMAN:

Ma'am.

[HARRIET PRODUCES THE REVOLVER]

HARRIET:

There were some complications.

FATHER BROWN:

(SULLIVAN. SOTTO) Keep calm and let me do the talking....

[SULLIVAN LUNGES AT HARRIET. WRESTS THE REVOLVER FROM HER. HOLDS IT TO HER HEAD]

FATHER BROWN:

Don't be a fool.

SULLIVAN:

I'm going to hang anyway. It might as well be for a sheep as a lamb. At least one of us will pay for our crimes.

FATHER BROWN:

That is not justice.

SULLIVAN:

It's the best I'm going to get.

[TRUEMAN STEPS FORWARD. PLACATORY]

TRUEMAN:

Don't do something you'll regret.

HARRIET:

He doesn't have the.....

[SULLIVAN JABS THE REVOLVER IN HER SKULL]

SULLIVAN:

The next word you say will be your last. (FATHER BROWN) If you're such an expert in human nature then you know I will do this.

[HIS FINGERS TIGHTEN ON THE TRIGGER]

FATHER BROWN:

You won't.

SULLIVAN:

One...Just one reason why not? (HE SQUEEZES THE TRIGGER)

FATHER BROWN:

Because you are innocent. Pull that trigger and you're as guilty as she. Everything you despise. A common murderer. Cold blooded. Without remorse. Although the truth is, we both know you would never forgive yourself.

[SULLIVAN DEFLATES, FIGHT ALL GONE. RELEASES HARRIET. DROPS THE REVOLVER. TRUEMAN STEPS FORWARD AND TAKES IT]

HARRIET:

The Chief Constable says you're trustworthy.

TRUEMAN:

I am Ma'am.

HARRIET:

Then you know what needs to be done.

[TRUEMAN LOOKS TO FATHER BROWN. HE NODS. IMPERCEPTIBLY TOWARD THE CAR]

TRUEMAN

Yes Ma'am.

[PULLING OUT A SET OF HANDCUFFS, HE HANDS THE REVOLVER TO SULLIVAN]

TRUEMAN:

Cover me if she tries anything. (HANDCUFFS HARRIET) Harriet Greensleeves. I'm arresting you for the murder of DC Frank Albert. You are not obliged to say anything unless you wish to do so but what you say may be given in evidence.

HARRIET:

(SPITS) You have no evidence.

[FATHER BROWN TAKES THE BRIEFCASE FROM THE CAR. HANDS IT OVER TO TRUEMAN]

FATHER BROWN:

It's all here.

TRUEMAN:

(TO FATHER BROWN. OF SULLIVAN AND HARRIET) You're certainly full of surprises.

[TRUEMAN FIDDLES WITH THE COMBINATION. OPENS THE CASE TO REVEAL THE SPOOLS OF A RECORDING DEVICE]

SULLIVAN:

Is someone going to tell me what's going on?

CUT TO:

EP14/SC45. INT. POLICE STATION. SULLIVAN'S OFFICE.
DAY 6. 16.00

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN, TRUEMAN, GOODFELLOW

[FATHER BROWN AND TRUEMAN FACE SULLIVAN
BACK AT HIS RIGHTFUL PLACE BEHIND HIS DESK -
ALBEIT LOOKING LIKE THE WILD MAN OF THE
WOODS]

TRUEMAN:

We've had our eye on Chief Constable Busby and his cronies for some time but we didn't have a shred of proof.

SULLIVAN:

We being?

TRUEMAN:

(GUARDED) A division of Special Branch, specialising in the activities of groups such as these.

SULLIVAN:

You let them frame me for murder.

TRUEMAN:

My orders were to infiltrate. It was a test to suss out my suitability. Norman Finlay's murder threatened to throw the whole mission and I couldn't risk blowing my cover. (TO FATHER BROWN) On the subject of which, you still haven't explained how you managed it?

CUT TO:

[FLASHBACK SC46 – TRUEMAN RECOGNISES
SULLIVAN DISGUISED AS A NUN]

FATHER BROWN:

I was intrigued as to why you found your quarry only to let him go. And by your alias. True man. Why label yourself so unless it were the truth.

TRUEMAN:

I see I'll have to choose more carefully in future.

SULLIVAN:

(FATHER BROWN) And you didn't see fit to share this with me?

FATHER BROWN:

You'd have done something reckless...you did do something reckless. And I couldn't risk you seeing the contents of that case.

SULLIVAN:

Which was?

TRUEMAN:

Diaries, passed to Norman Finlay by a defector from the group who became disenchanted with their methods. Naming names. Records of conspiracy, bribery and corruption.

SULLIVAN:

You switched briefcases.

TRUEMAN:

My only hope was to get a confession. Father Brown thought Hamilton might oblige.

FATHER BROWN:

Poor Jock. Requiescat in pace.

TRUEMAN:

The plan was to intercept him with the evidence on his way back to Kembleford.

SULLIVAN:

And the real case?

TRUEMAN:

Is in the proper hands. You saw nothing so need fear no repercussion.

SULLIVAN:

The same can't be said for you.

TRUEMAN:

Don't worry about me. I don't even exist.

[GOODFELLOW ENTERS. PULLS UP SHORT]

SULLIVAN:

We're in a meeting Sergeant but if you could see your way to three teas.

GOODFELLOW:

(BEAMS) Yes Sir. Good to have you back Sir.

SULLIVAN:

It's good to be back Sergeant.

CUT TO:

EP14/SC46. INT. ST MARY’S CHURCH. DAY 5. 19.11

FATHER BROWN, SULLIVAN, TRUEMAN , GOODFELLOW

NSE POLICEMEN, NSE NUNS, NSE SR PETER

[FLASHBACK. SCENE 19. BUT FROM FATHER
BROWN’S POV.]

TRUEMAN MAKES A SWEEP OF THE CHURCH
WHERE HIS MEN ARE STUMPED... OVER THE NUNS
IN THE PEWS... HIS EYES REST ON SULLIVAN. A
MOMENTARY FLASH OF RECOGNITION. FATHER
BROWN TAKES THIS IN]

CUT TO:

EP14/SC47. INT. ST MARY'S CHURCH. DAY 7. 11.00

**FATHER BROWN, MRS MCCARTHY, FELICIA, SID, SULLIVAN,
GOODFELLOW**

NSE POLICE, NSE MOURNERS

[DC ALBERT'S REQUIEM MASS. FULL CEREMONIAL
HONOURS. FATHER BROWN PRESIDES. SULLIVAN
GIVES A EULOGY FROM THE PULPIT]

SULLIVAN:

DC Frank Albert was intelligent, tenacious, dogged in the pursuit of truth and justice. That he was cut down before his prime will forever be a loss to the forces of law and order. He was an officer, man and son to be proud of....

CUT TO:

EP14/SC48. EXT. ST MARY'S CHURCH. DAY 7. 11.30

**FATHER BROWN, SID, SULLIVAN, MRS MCCARTHY, FELICIA,
GOODFELLOW**

NSE POLICE, NSE MOURNERS

[MOURNERS STREAM OUT OF CHURCH.
SULLIVAN WITH GOODFELLOW IN TOW SEEKS OUT
FATHER BROWN IN A HUDDLE WITH THE GANG]

SULLIVAN:

I thought you'd like to know. Jeffrey Greensleeves has been charged with accessory to murder and Chief Constable Busby with perverting the cause of justice.

FATHER BROWN:

And Inspector Trueman?

SULLIVAN:

Gone.

MRS MCCARTHY:

And that's an end to this horrible business I hope.

SULLIVAN:

There's something I want to say Father.

[FATHER BROWN LOOKS MODEST]

SULLIVAN:

Grateful as I am for your assistance, nothing that's happened has changed my opinion of you as a dangerous and subversive influence. By rights I could have you all arrested.

MRS MCCARTHY:

Holy Mother of God.

SULLIVAN:

And if you imagine this will in any way colour our future dealings or that your meddling in Police matters is any more welcome, then you are sorely mistaken.

FATHER BROWN:

I see.

[SULLIVAN HEADS OFF]

FELICIA:

There's gratitude for you.

SID:

Thanks for nothing. I'll see you in court.

[SULLIVAN HALTS. TURNS]

SULLIVAN:

I've been informed that due to an... er administrative error the evidence in question has been... mislaid. Isn't that right Sergeant?

[GOODFELLOW LOOKS PERPLEXED. SULLIVAN SIGHS HEAVILY. THE PENNY DROPS]

GOODFELLOW:

Right. Yes Sir.

SULLIVAN:

Which means we will be forced to drop all charges on this occasion. But rest assured - we will not be nearly so careless in future.

[GOODFELLOW TROTS BEHIND SULLIVAN AS HE STEAMS OFF]

SULLIVAN:

I want a full investigation into how this was allowed to happen. Heads will roll Sergeant you mark my words.

GOODFELLOW:

(CHEERFUL) Yes Sir.

[FATHER BROWN SMILES. JUSTICE IS SERVED]

END OF EPISODE