

MONK  
Well, I... uh...

"SANTA CLAUS"  
I was just trying to spread a little  
joy... a little Christmas cheer...  
(playing the crowd)  
THE GUY IS NUTS! YOU'RE NUTS!

The Paramedics carry Santa away. Everyone is still glaring,  
angrily, at Monk.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER  
(resuming)  
Yeah. I think you might need a  
lawyer.

Monk nods. He turns to Natalie.

MONK  
Wipe.

Natalie offers Monk a wipe. But Stottlemeyer stops him.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER  
Sorry. You can't wipe your hands.  
Not until we test you for gunshot  
residue. You know the drill.

MONK  
I understand.

But Monk can't help himself. He reaches for the wipe.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER  
What did I just say? You can't wipe  
your hands.

MONK  
Sorry. Okay. Fine. I understand.

A beat. Again, Monk reaches for the wipe. Stottlemeyer  
signs, and takes the wipe from Natalie's hand.

"MONK" - BRANDY BARBER

Nearby: a CHANNEL 6 NEWS VAN screeches up! The door slides open. Local reporter BRANDY BARBER climbs out with a CAMERAMAN. Brandy is 30ish, attractive. Ice cold. Ambitious. A shark.

START →  
sc. 1

BRANDY BARBER  
(to her CAMERAMAN)  
Where's Santa Claus? There he is!  
(MORE)

1/6

BRANDY

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7 CONTINUED: (3)

7

BRANDY BARBER (CONT'D)  
Jerry, get a shot of the fat man!  
Make sure you get the blood. The  
more blood the better.

Nearby: Stottlemeyer recognizes her.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER  
Aw hell. It's Brandy Barber.

MONK  
Who's that?

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER  
She's a vampire with a press pass.  
Stay away from her, understand?  
Don't even nod.

Nearby: Brandy Barber is- once again- directing her CREW-

BRANDY BARBER  
Now get the kids. Make sure they're  
crying.

She indicates a GROUP of YOUNG KIDS. The Kids are sad.  
They're wiping their faces. But they're not crying.

CAMERAMAN  
They're not crying.

BRANDY BARBER  
(to the KIDS,  
intentionally  
upsetting them)  
Sorry about Santa Claus. Sorry he  
got shot. I hope he's okay. I hope  
he doesn't die.

It works. The CHILDREN start crying again.

CAMERAMAN  
You're gonna make a wonderful mom.

BRANDY BARBER  
Just get the shot.

The Cameraman moves in, to shoot the crying kids. Brandy  
steps up to Stottlemeyer.

BRANDY BARBER (CONT'D)  
Captain. Nice to see you again.

(CONTINUED)

2/6

BRANDY

7 CONTINUED: (4)

7

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER  
I wish I could say the same.

BRANDY BARBER  
Is that the shooter? Oh my God.  
It's Adrian Monk!

Brandy starts toward Monk. Stottlemeyer blocks her.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER  
It's not gonna happen. He's off  
limits.

BRANDY BARBER  
We just want to hear his side of it.  
Adrian Monk just shot Santa Claus.  
People are gonna want to know why.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER  
And they will. But not today.  
(leaning in)  
Miss Barber. Brandy. Can you give  
the guy a break? He wore a badge  
for fourteen years. I think he  
deserves the benefit of the doubt.

BRANDY BARBER  
That's not fair. I'm a journalist.  
I'm a professional. I'm not here to  
rip anybody apart. I think you owe  
me an apology.

CAPT. STOTTLEMEYER  
Okay. I'm sorry. If I insulted  
you, I'm sorry.

// END  
SC. 1

SMASH CUT TO:

8

~~TV MONITOR - CLOSE UP~~

8

~~A TV SCREEN. We see Brandy Barber's NEWS REPORT. It starts  
with a graphic: SANTA CLAUS in a SNIPER'S CROSSHAIRS.~~

~~ANNOUNCER (V.O.)  
TONIGHT: CRAZY COP CAPS KRIS KRINGLE!-  
BRANDY BARBER, REPORTING.~~

~~They CUT TO: Brandy Barber on the street, talking to CAMERA.~~

~~BRANDY BARBER (ON MONITOR)  
This city has seen its share of  
shocking crimes.  
(MORE)~~

(CONTINUED)

3/6

Brandy

17 CONTINUED:

17

MONK  
quickly, unbuttoning  
shirt  
Okay. Look. It's unbuttoned.

Across the room: the Make-Up Girl is fixing Brandy's hair.

Natalie and Julie are hovering nearby.

START  
4.2 →

NATALIE  
I've known him for almost four years.  
He really loves Christmas. It's his  
favorite holiday.

BRANDY BARBER  
(barely listening)  
Uh huh.

~~JULIE  
He comes to my school Christmas  
pageant every year. And he decorates  
our tree.  
NATALIE  
Here's the thing. He's a little  
particular about certain things.~~

JULIE  
He's special.

NATALIE  
In a good way. Good special. So if  
you might want to be a little...  
sensitive...

BRANDY BARBER  
Don't worry, Miss Teeger. I know  
all about Attention Deficit Disorder.  
I did a primetime special on it. It  
won a local Emmy.

NATALIE & JULIE  
(overlapping,  
protesting)  
No! It's not Attention Deficit-  
~~he has certain rituals...~~  
~~compulsions...~~

BRANDY BARBER  
(dismissing them)  
He's a big boy. I'm sure he'll be  
fine.

(MORE)

4/6

BRANDY

BRANDY BARBER (CONT'D)  
(to CAMERAMAN)  
Jerry, let's do this.

CAMERAMAN  
We're rolling. In five, four,  
three....

Jerry The Cameraman signals: they're rolling. And the  
interview begins...

BRANDY BARBER  
Adrian Monk. Hello.

MONK  
Hello. And Merry Christmas.

BRANDY BARBER  
Thank you for inviting us into your  
beautiful home.

MONK  
You're welcome. And Merry Christmas.

BRANDY BARBER  
You've already said that.

MONK  
You can't say it enough. It's my  
favorite holiday. This is my tree.

~~Monk indicates a CHRISTMAS TREE. It's oversized. And over-  
decorated. It was clearly purchased just for this occasion.~~

~~MONK (CONT'D)  
It's very festive. Because that's  
how I feel. About Christmas.~~

~~Monk notices something- an ornament- that's askew on the  
tree. He pauses, and carefully straightens it out. Then-~~

MONK (CONT'D)  
(resuming)  
Some gifts. For Christmas.

He indicates a pile of WRAPPED CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

BRANDY BARBER  
Yes. We were looking at those  
earlier. They're all from your  
assistant, Natalie Teeger.

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BRANDY

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17 CONTINUED: (3)

17

MONK

Not this one. This is from my wife.

Monk picks up his STILL-WRAPPED PRESENT from Trudy, which we see every year.

BRANDY BARBER

That would be Trudy. She died ten years ago, didn't she? And you still haven't opened it?

Monk shakes his head.

BRANDY BARBER (CONT'D)

That's very unusual behavior, wouldn't you say?

Before Monk can respond, Natalie steps into frame, holding a TRAY of Santa Claus-shaped HOLIDAY COOKIES.

NATALIE

How about some cookies?

MONK

Yes. We made some cookies this morning. Christmas cookies.

Monk holds a Santa Cookie up.

BRANDY BARBER

No thank you. You received a psychological discharge from the police department. Didn't you?

MONK

Yes.

BRANDY BARBER

Mr. Monk, how does it feel to be the most reviled man in California?

MONK

Bad.

BRANDY BARBER

Have you seen these?

Brandy holds up a TEE SHIRT. It's designed like a WANTED POSTER. It has a picture of Monk. It says: WANTED FOR SANTACIDE.

MONK

I don't think Santacide is a word.

// END  
SC. 2

6/6

(CONTINUED)