

ACT TWO

7 INT. COOPER HOUSE - "COOPER CLAN" EPISODE -- DAY 7

We're watching an episode of THE COOPER CLAN from the late 60's. The scene is BRIGHTLY LIT. The colors are HIGHLY SATURATED. The show reminds us, of course, of "The Brady Bunch".

We're on the main set: the COOPER FAMILY LIVING ROOM. Adorable JANEY COOPER (10) is playing. Her older brother BILLY COOPER (15) enters.

street
sc. 1



BILLY COOPER

Janey. I can't find my new Beatles record.

SCAMP, the family dog- big, shaggy, adorable- enters. Scamp has a 45 RECORD in his mouth!

There is- of course- a typical sitcom LAUGH TRACK.

LAUGH TRACK

oooooooooo!

JANEY COOPER

Scamp took it. He likes the Beatles! Our dog is a hippie!

The LAUGH TRACK TITTERS.

BILLY COOPER

We should've known. Because he hates taking baths.

LAUGH TRACK: LAUGHTER and APPLAUSE!

BILLY & JANEY COOPER

Scamp! Come back here!

Billy and Janey chase Scamp around the house! As they do, CATHY COOPER (Christine Rapp at 13) enters, wearing a Middle School SAFETY PATROL SASH. She blows a whistle. TWEEET!

CATHY COOPER

Billy! Janey! I told you before- no running in the house! That's it. You're both grounded.

BILLY COOPER

You're not the boss of us!

(CONTINUED)

"MONK" - BILLY COOPER

1/5

Billy Cooper

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7 CONTINUED:

CATHY COOPER
(indicating sash)
When I'm wearing this I am.

Their youngest brother, ANDY COOPER (8), enters. He has to pee. Cathy blows her whistle again. TWEET!

CATHY COOPER (CONT'D)
Andy. Where are you going?

ANDY COOPER
To the bathroom.

CATHY COOPER
Where's your hall pass? You have to get one from Mom.

ANDY COOPER
Oh Shucky Darns!

This is his "catch phrase". The LAUGH TRACK APPLAUDS!

ANDY COOPER (CONT'D)
All I can say is: she better write fast!

MORE LAUGHTER! PULL BACK to REVEAL we're in-

8 INT. CHRISTINE RAPP'S HOUSE - DEN - LATER -- DAY 8

Christine Rapp's house. A large, comfortably-furnished suburban home.

It's later the same day. Monk and Christine are watching the episode together...

BILLY COOPER (ON TV)
Ever since you were elected to the safety patrol you've been driving us crazy. You're like a mad dictator!

// END
sc1

Monk knows the show by heart. He recites the dialogue- every line- along with the actors-

<p>MONK You're like a mad dictator.</p> <p>CHRISTINE RAPP Let me guess. You never miss a rerun.</p> <p>MONK Reruns?</p>

(CONTINUED)

2/5

Billy Cooper

ACT FOUR

24 INT. COOPER HOUSE - LIVING ROOM -- DAY 24

We're watching another CLASSIC COOPER CLAN EPISODE. At least, it appears to be...

We're in the sitcom living room. There's a BROKEN VASE on the floor. The whole family- Mr. Cooper, his perky wife, MRS. COOPER, and the kids- Billy, Andy, Cathy & Janey- have gathered.

MR. COOPER
You know, that was your mother's favorite vase.

MRS. COOPER
It was a family heirloom. Do you know what heirloom means?

JANEY COOPER
Easily breakable?

The LAUGH TRACK titters.

ANDY COOPER
Dad, you're a surgeon. Why can't you operate on it?

More LAUGH TRACK titters.

MR. COOPER
I wish I could, Andy. But I'm afraid, in this case, the patient is never going to recover.

START
SC.2 →

MRS. COOPER
You all know the rules about running in the house. We need to know what happened here. Which one of you broke the vase?

ALL FOUR KIDS exchange guilty looks.

MRS. COOPER (CONT'D)
Billy? Do you have something to say?

BILLY COOPER
Maybe it was a ghost! I always felt this living room was haunted!

(CONTINUED)

3/5

Billy Cooper

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24 CONTINUED:

24

CATHY COOPER

The window was open. Maybe a raccoon came in!

More LAUGHTRACK titters.

MR. COOPER

I don't think it was a raccoon. And it wasn't a ghost. I think the culprit is in this room, right now.

CATHY COOPER

You're always accusing us. Why don't you ever get mad at Adrian?

BILLY COOPER

Yeah. You never even suspect him!

CATHY COOPER

(bitterly)

Adrian never gets in trouble! Adrian is perfect. Adrian, Adrian, Adrian!

Monk enters... to HUGE APPLAUSE!- the kind of applause Fonzie used to receive. Monk is his real age, but he's wearing clothes from the early 70s. He's carrying some SCHOOLBOOKS. Oh, and he's got a GIANT AFRO.

This, of course, is a fantasy. Monk is dreaming. He waits for the APPLAUSE to die down.

MONK

(very upbeat, perky)

Hey Mom. Hey Dad. Hey Billy. Hey Cathy. Hey Andy. Hey Janey. Sorry I'm late. I was busy at school because I'm so popular. Oh, guess what? I made the football team.

Miraculously, a FOOTBALL is thrown into the frame. Monk catches it.

MONK (CONT'D)

Oh, and guess what else? I'm the quarterback! The popular star quarterback. And nobody makes fun of me, because I'm so popular.

MRS. COOPER

That's wonderful, Adrian. Just don't throw the ball around the house.

WTH:
// END
S.C.2

(CONTINUED)

4/5

Billy Cooper

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30 CONTINUED:

30

MRS. COOPER

Cathy. We've talked about this.
Killing people is never the answer.

MR. COOPER

I'm afraid you're grounded, young
lady.

CATHY COOPER

It's not fair! He doesn't have any
proof!

(to Monk)

The D.A.'s gonna laugh you out of
his office!

MONK

I don't think so. I found these in
Timlinson's apartment, in a hollowed-
out book.

Miraculously, Monk produces the envelopes he found earlier.
He removes some BALLOT CARDS from them.

MONK (CONT'D)

The original ballots. Timlinson
must have kept a couple, as an
insurance policy.

MR. COOPER

Cathy. I'm very disappointed in
you.

MONK

It's not just Cathy. This whole
family is wacko! It's all in her
book!

(Indicates JANEY COOPER)

You know where she is now? She's in
Miami, dancing in a strip club.

JANEY COOPER

What choice do I have? I have a
baby to feed. Billy doesn't send me
any child support! I HAVEN'T SEEN A
NICKEL!

~~STUDIO AUDIENCE~~

~~.....o!~~

BILLY COOPER

How do I know the kid's even mine?

11END

sc-3

(CONTINUED)

5/5

START
MONTAGE SC. 3
→

Wavy scribble over the text for MONK's second line.