

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.

START  
Ge.1

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.

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!

CUT  
TO:

(CONTINUED)

"MONK" - MRS. COOPER

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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 Judy. Hey Nancy.~~ 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.

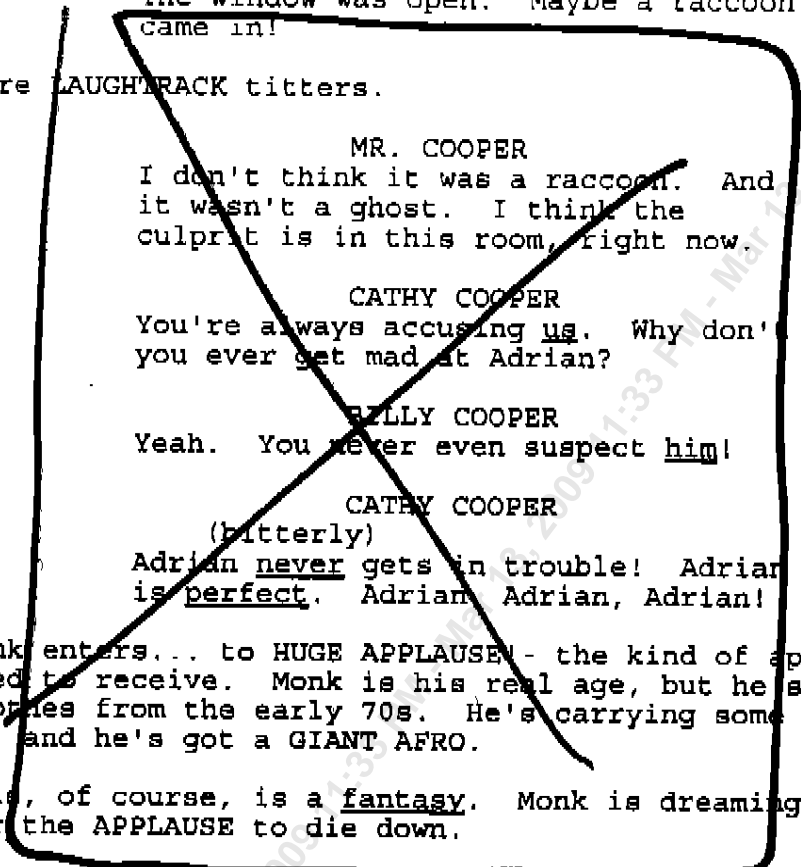
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(CONTINUED)

sc.1

2/4

Pick-up



Mrs. Cooper

28 CONTINUED:

28

MONK  
 (sharply, angrily)  
 He got greedy. He tried to shake you down. He threatened to tell the world the truth about how you won this.

SCAMP  
 RUFF RUFF!

MONK  
 SHUT UP, SCAMP!  
 (resuming, to Cathy)  
 You knew if you paid him, he'd eventually want more. They always do. So you decided to kill him.

CATHY COOPER  
 (nervously)  
 That's crazy talk!

MONK  
 You set him up. You sent those letters to yourself. You even blew up your own car...

EXT. CHEAP MOTEL - PARKING LOT - NIGHT - FLASHBACK (B&W) (FB- 29 4)  
 The FLASHBACKS RESUME. We're back at the CHEAP MOTEL. It's the night of the murder...  
 Christine is walking to her room. Victor steps up. He smiles. He's expecting to be paid off.  
 MONK (V.O.)  
 On Monday night, you arranged to meet him at that motel...  
 Instead, Christine pulls out her GUN and- PLAM!- she shoots him dead!

30 INT. COOPER CLAN - LIVING ROOM - "PRESENT DAY"

30

Our FLASHBACKS END. We're back in the Cooper House.

MONK  
 You shot him. Then you planted the knife in his hand and those letters in his car.

Mom and Dad Cooper sigh. And shake their heads.

(CONTINUED)

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START  
 SC. 2 →

MRS. COOPER

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.

11 END  
SC 2

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

Oooooo!

BILLY COOPER

How do I know the kid's even mine?

(CONTINUED)

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