

**Boston Legal  
Green Christmas  
Season 4, Episode 10**

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**Denny Crane's office. Denny is wearing reindeer antlers with blinking Christmas lights, and talking to a client.**

**Denny Crane:** Ah! **He lifts a glass of Scotch.** Scotch and eggnog?

**Walt Bonner:** No thank you. **He looks down Denny's desk strewn with all kinds of guns.**

What's with all the guns here Denny, if you don't mind my asking?

**Denny Crane:** Coast Guard Auxiliary. I'm serving my country. It's fantastic. Getting reacquainted with weaponry. Wanna join?

**Walt Bonner:** Actually Denny, I do serve my country. Which is one of the reasons I'm here. In fact I joined the board of Green People

to save this country as well as the planet. Denny, this is a little awkward. Green People hired Crane, Poole and Schmidt on my recommendation, and the only reason I made that recommendation was because you told me your firm was extremely green.

**Denny Crane:** Yeah. So?

**Walt Bonner:** Well, it's not. Not really.

**Denny Crane:** **Gesturing at office Christmas decorations.** What are you talking about? We have all this, uh, curly-cue light bulbs.

**Walt Bonner:** Yeah. Well, there are major areas where this firm is not green. You have no solar panels, no carpool policies. I discovered you recently threw away your old computers which contain hazardous waste.

**Denny Crane:** Oh Walt.

**Walt Bonner:** And which will probably wind up in a landfill. Meanwhile Green People is paying your firm legal fees in the six figures every year. Bottom line Denny. Get green or I'll recommend we hire another law firm.

**Denny Crane:** Walt. May I say something?

**Walt Bonner:** Okay.

**Denny Crane:** I love the environment. I really do. And every day I kiss the ground I walk on. As do many others because I am after all... Denny Crane.

**Walt Bonner:** **He shakes his head in disbelief.** Oh God.

**Denny Crane:** What's this? You got a tick?

**Walt Bonner:** Denny. I take this cause seriously. I'm committing the rest of my life to it. I told you it was important for our law firm to be environmentally conscience. You're wearing blinking antlers for God's sakes!

**Denny Crane:** Walt, it's Christmas! It's the time of year to embrace giving and getting and waste and gluttony and all the things that make God and this country great! Don't be such a girl.

**Walt Bonner:** Now I'm getting angry.

**Denny Crane:** So am I! Frankly, I hope this planet survives. I really do. But I am getting sick of you smug, hybrid driving socialists telling the rest of us how to live our lives! I'm rich, okay? Like to guzzle a little gas now and then. I keep my thermostat at 72 during the winter. I prefer night games in football. And I am fed up with you global-warming wusses raining on my electric parade!!

**Walt Bonner:** **He shakes his head.** You can be such an arrogant, ignorant, ass!



**Denny Crane:** So can you! *He lifts the gun in his hands and starts shooting. Walt looks down startled. The gun flashes as the sound of a machine rattles on for several seconds. Denny keeps aiming directly at Walt's chest which is now splattered with red blobs of... paint.* Good news! It's paint. Bad news. It's not biodegradable. Nobody comes into my office and ruins my Christmas with a load of 'Save the Planet' atheist, communist crap! Off you go now.  
**Walt takes his jacket and leaves.**



**Denny and Carl Sack are sitting in lounge chairs in Denny's office.**

**Denny Crane:** Aah! These things happen. An argument between two old friends. You'd understand if you had any.

**Carl Sack:** These things happen? You open fire on him with a paintball gun?

**Denny Crane:** Uh hm. Am I the only one who's getting a little sick of these greenies? If they had their way we'd be living in caves like terrorists. **He looks around.** Where's Shirley, by the way? I prefer her reprimanding me.

**Carl Sack:** Shirley's in Atlanta at a conference—ironically—on environmental law. Denny, this greenie is suing us for fraud. He claims you misrepresented us as being an environmentally conscience firm.

**Denny Crane:** Oh, send them some Joan Baez tapes tied together with hemp rope.

**Carl Sack:** No, they're asking for all the money they've ever paid us in legal fees. That's in the millions. Plus three times that in punitive damages.

**Denny Crane:** **He waves his hand dismissively.** Bah.

**Carl Sack:** Denny! **He gets up and walks over to sit closer to Denny. Softly.** Denny, the bigger problem now is that all corporations are going green. We could be shunned if we're perceived as not to be. That means no more business from *anybody*.

**Denny Crane:** Whatever.

**Alan Shore is in his office with Clarence Bell.**

**Alan Shore:** Clarence. You've been staring at my pencil cup for about thirty seconds. Is there something wrong?

**Clarence Bell:** I'm too embarrassed to even say.

**Alan Shore:** Just tell me.

**Clarence Bell:** I lost my house.

**Alan Shore:** What?

**Clarence Bell:** The bank foreclosed.

**Alan Shore:** Were you not making payments?

**Clarence Bell:** I was. But...

**Alan Shore:** But what? What happened?

**Clarence Bell:** The interest rates just kept exploding. I bought about three years ago. I didn't have to put anything down.

**Alan Shore:** You got an adjustable rate.

Clarence Bell: Yes. And at first I could make the increases. And then they went up thirty percent. And then they went up again. I'm still paying off student loans from law school. These increases have wiped out my savings and... I missed the last two months. I feel like such an idiot.

Alan Shore: And they're foreclosing?

Clarence Bell: I can't get the bank to even talk to me.

Alan Shore: They're not taking your house.

Clarence Bell: They're within their rights.

Alan Shore: I don't care. They're not taking your house. It's Christmas.

**Later, Alan is walking into his office, followed closely by Denny.**

Alan Shore: I can't Denny, I have a meeting with Clarence.

Denny Crane: I don't want Sack defending me.

Alan Shore: He won the last time.

Denny Crane: Exactly. He'll expect me to be grateful.

Alan Shore: The bank is trying to take Clarence's house away. I told him I'd help. And as for you, I thought you'd agreed to stop shooting people.

Denny Crane: He's an environmentalist.

Alan Shore: Even so. You were hoping to get called on Shirley's carpet again, weren't you? That's what this was about.

Denny Crane: No, no I really wanted to shoot him.

Clarence Bell: **He comes in.** Alan?

Alan Shore: **He sighs.** Your best defense here, Denny, is remorse. Contrition. You need to look past the fact that he's an environmentalist and see him as the terrible golfer you've always loved to beat and apologize. Come on, Clarence. **He leaves with Clarence.**

**Jerry Espenson and Katie Lloyd are in their office with Whitney Rome.**

Whitney Rome: He shot him with a gun?

Jerry Espenson: Paintball. He does that.

Whitney Rome: And now he's being sued?

Carl Sack: **He comes in, addresses Whitney.** Ah. You know I've learned, when looking for you, it's best not to check your office or your desk where you might actually be doing some work.

Whitney Rome: Yeah, yeah. What do you need?

Carl Sack: Clients. They seem like nice clients, need you. They're in the reception waiting.

Whitney Rome: Can't you get somebody else? **Carl points out the door. She lifts her hands in resignation.** Fine. **She starts to walk out.** Nice suit.

Carl Sack: Katie. You'll be joining me in defense of the firm and Denny Crane whose legacy continues to grow yet more colorful. My office please. **He leaves.**

Katie Lloyd: Well, it seems the paintball assassin is now... **Notices Jerry looks troubled.** Jerry what's wrong?

Jerry Espenson: **Reading a letter.** I got dumped.

Katie Lloyd: I'm sorry?

Jerry Espenson: It's a 'Dear John' letter from Leigh. She's leaving me for an iPhone.

**Carl, Katie and Denny are in a conference room with Walt and Attorney Shelley Ford.**

Carl Sack: Well, first of all, and it goes without saying, Denny is very sorry for shooting the paintball gun.

Walt Bonner: Well, that's interesting, because until now it has gone without saying.

Denny Crane: Girl.

Carl Sack: Denny. What do you have to say?

Denny Crane: **With his hand over his heart.** I'm sorry.

Walt Bonner: No you're not Denny. And the truth is I don't really care. Not about the paintball. But I do care about the environment. **Denny snores.** And it's embarrassing to me as a board member of Green People to look around this office and see it lit up like a nuclear power plant. Wasteful Christmas decorations. You make no effort





whatsoever to conserve energy. And this at a time when carbon dioxide is poisoning the planet. Glaciers are melting. **Denny lifts the cover of the folder in front of him, lifts an air gun and shoots at Walt. Katie sees him quickly close the folder again and looks away, trying to hide her smirk. Walt is looking at Carl and doesn't see this, but he feels something hit his cheek. He holds his cheek. Shelley and Carl look puzzled.**

Is it overzealous on my part? Maybe.

**Denny shoots Walt again.** Ow!

Dammit! Something keeps hitting me in the face and it hurts.

**Carl Sack:** Why don't we take a break and let cooler heads prevail?

**Denny shoots Walt again.**

**Walt Bonner:** You're shooting me!

**Denny Crane:** Ah, it's an air gun.

Don't be such a girl.

**Walt Bonner:** Obnoxious... **Denny shoots him again.**

**Attorney Shelley Ford:** Okay!

**Walt Bonner:** Sick!

**Denny Crane:** Second amendment.

He was attacking me. I have a right to defend myself. Don't I?



**At Clarence's bank, Alan and Clarence are sitting in front of Doyle Chernack's desk near the teller's counter where almost a dozen patrons are milling about.**

**Doyle Chernack:** Nobody is more devastated about this than I am.

**Alan Shore:** Yes.

**Doyle Chernack:** I personally executed Mr. Bell's mortgage agreement. I take enormous pride in being able to help people buy homes. I was extremely gratified to be able to help Mr. Bell buy his. And I am deeply saddened for him to be losing it.

**Alan Shore:** Yes. Is it any consolation that you're the one taking it?

**Doyle Chernack:** I wanted this to work. We gave Mr. Bell a no-money-down interest-only two-year-arm at two percent! It was a fantastic opportunity.

**Alan Shore:** Mr. Chernack, I'm in a bit of a rush so if you don't mind I'd like to cut the crap. As much as you desperately want the best for Clarence it seems you've done him the very worst. You facilitated his buying a house he ultimately couldn't afford. You then continued to raise his rates. What was once two percent is now twelve with a balloon payment coming due, and in the end it seems the bank gets all the money and the house. And instead of the best, Clarence gets nothing.

**Doyle Chernack:** I take offense to that. **Alan chuckles.** This man wanted the property and I made it happen for him.

**Alan Shore:** Oh my goodness. **He starts clapping his hands as he stands up, and turns to the patrons.** Let's hear it for Mr. Chernack, this year's MVP in the predator lending department!

**Two managers come up and try to quiet Alan.**

**Noris Milk:** I'm sorry. Is there a problem?

**Alan Shore:** Oh no, don't be silly. Just celebrating Mr. Chernack's success with this sub-prime mortgage scam you're currently offering.

**Noris Milk:** And, you are?

**Alan Shore:** Alan Shore representing a scamee.

**Noris Milk:** May we go to my office?

**Alan Shore:** Unless you're serving drinks with your apology and refinancing offer I think we can settle this in court.

**Noris Milk:** Oh, I think before you get there you'll want to do your discovery which attorneys typically do. And you'll find Mr. Shore that this sub-prime debacle isn't just victimizing individuals, but lending institutions as well. In fact, over a hundred and sixty major lenders have been put out of business. Many



others, including us are simply trying to survive. Our stock prices have gone down 95%. Twenty percent of the mortgages we hold are past due. The bulk of the others haven't had their rates reset yet. And in the next two years, it figures to get worse. But hey, go ahead and sue us. That's what we need. For a lawyer like you to come in and slap us around a little. **He walks away.**

**In Denny's office, Denny brings a glass of Scotch to Alan.**

Denny Crane: Now what?

Alan Shore: I don't know. We could sue but like he said, they've lost money too. It's not something they wanted to have happen.

Denny Crane: Huh. It's always the government. Come on, Alan. This is a Liberal's wet dream. You get to jump up and scream for more regulations.

Alan Shore: Yeah. **He sits down.** Well, I've scheduled a settlement conference with the bank's lawyer. We'll see what happens. What about your case? What's happening there?

Denny Crane: Trial. We'll win. Deep down people hate the environment.

Alan Shore: I'm not sure that's true Denny.

Denny Crane: Actions speak louder than words. Never mind what we say. Consider what we do.

Alan Shore: It might occasion a discussion of your actions. **Denny snorts.** Is it time for your annual CAT scan?

Denny Crane: Very funny.

Alan Shore: Seriously, Denny. Is it time? There are these new PET scans which are more definitive. I'm gonna make an appointment.

**Attorney Melvin Palmer and Noris Milk meet Alan and Clarence in the CP&S lobby.**

Attorney Melvin Palmer: Well, well! Alan Shore! How the heck are you my good buddy?

Alan Shore: I'm fine thank you. A bit surprised, perhaps, to discover we're buddies, but other than that...

Attorney Melvin Palmer: Atta boy! You're still a hoot that's what you are. **He reaches for Clarence's hand.** Melvin Palmer, how are you my friend?

Clarence Bell: Homeless.

Attorney Melvin Palmer: Well we're gonna see what we can do about that, that's what we're gonna do. Do you know what I like? I like to eliminate "adversary" from the adversarial process, that's what I like.

Alan Shore: Oh dear.

Attorney Melvin Palmer: There is no reason this can't be a win-win. I mean, we're not the Japanese, now are we?

Alan Shore: No. But I can see you're a racist in addition to being my good buddy.

Attorney Melvin Palmer: You're a hoot, that's what you are. Come on, let's all go work this out. Find a way for my friend Clarence to be home for the holidays.

Alan Shore: **To Clarence.** He gets worse. **He turns and leads the way. The others follow.**

**Katie is at her desk typing on her laptop. She looks across to Jerry's desk. Nobody is there.**

Katie Lloyd: Jerry, it's very difficult for me to work at my desk knowing you're curled up under yours.

Jerry Espenson: I'm fine. **Katie sighs and continues typing.** Have you seen those iPhones? They're very sexy.

Katie Lloyd: Jerry, get up from under your desk, please.

Jerry Espenson: I'm fine.

Katie Lloyd: Jerry, please!! Get up!! **Jerry gets up.**

Not to mitigate the tragedy which was once your great



love, but Leigh is... well, I believe the American term, a total nut job. I'm quite sympathetic to the condition of objectophilia, but if your girlfriend cheats on you with a clock radio and runs off with an iPhone she is bonkers and you'd best be done with her. So stop your whinging and get on with it, would you please? Either that or go outfit yourself with a nappy. **Jerry walks out. She sighs.** Bloody hell.

**Carl and Katie walk through a CP&S corridor, headed for the courthouse. Denny is behind them.**

**Carl Sack:** Make sure he goes through the weapons detector as you go into the courthouse.

**Denny Crane:** I heard that.

**The elevator door opens. Lorraine Weller comes out.**

**Lorraine Weller:** Carl. I was in your office at six o'clock. You were a no show.

**Carl Sack:** I got a little tied up with Denny.

**Denny Crane:** Would you like that?

**Carl Sack:** Let's try eleven o'clock today.

**Lorraine Weller:** Uh hm.

**Carl, Denny and Katie leave. Alan comes up and they walk on.**

**Alan Shore:** What's happening?

**Lorraine Weller:** I haven't the slightest idea. It's a summons, but with no indication as to my fate.

**Alan Shore:** I don't like that it's happening without Shirley. **They pass**

**Jerry.** Jerry.

**Jerry Espenson:** Oh shut up. **He walks on.**

**Alan Shore:** **He looks back in surprise.** Okay.

**Lorraine Weller:** Leigh dumped him.

**Alan Shore:** For the clock radio?

**Lorraine Weller:** iPhone. They *are* sexy.



**Alan, Clarence, Melvin and Noris are in the conference room.**

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** Here's what I'm trying to do Clarence. I'm trying to get inside your head. It's what I like to do. You see, I find the best way to help people with their problem is to experience where they're coming from. That suit you okay my friend?

**Clarence Bell:** Fine.

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** Now, when Mr. Chernack explained this loan...

**Clarence Bell:** He didn't really explain it.

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** Well, you went to law school. Are you telling me that you signed a legal document without understanding it?

**Alan Shore:** Was it your client's intent to take advantage of him when it turned out he didn't Mr. Palmer? I'm sorry. Melvin. I keep forgetting we're buddies.

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** You know what you are?

**Alan Shore:** A hoot.

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** With a capital H, that's what you are. Now Clarence, you did understand terms like 'float', and 'balloon', and 'piggyback', and... Hell, sounds like a birthday party. That's what that does. But you did understand that your adjustable rate floated with the prime, didn't you?

**Clarence Bell:** I certainly had no idea the prime would go through the roof.

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** Nor did the bank. And nobody expected the housing market to take a dive. I mean we all got caught with our pants down on that one, didn't we Al?

**Alan Shore:** I do my best work with my pants down. But then again, I'm the hoot.

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** With a capital H, that's what you are. Yeah. **He chuckles.**

**Carl is in his office when Lorraine walks in.**

**Carl Sack:** **He motions to a chair in front of his desk.** Please sit. **Lorraine sits. Carls walks behind his desk and sits.** Well. Lorraine. I did a little survey with the firm. Between the hundred and seventy-two attorneys currently practicing law at Crane, Poole and Schmidt, we've managed to rack up convictions in domestic violence, possession of marijuana. cocaine, heroin, ecstasy, malicious destruction of property, DUI's, reckless driving and



failure to file income tax returns. That doesn't even include Denny. You, on the other hand, haven't been convicted of anything. You also seem to have led a rather model life over the past eight years, setting aside your extra curricular activities in elevators. **He sits back.** Bottom line, you survive for now. Mainly because Shirley likes you. And Denny has a particular fondness in his...heart. If this prior career should take on a public relations life, we may have to revisit the situation. But for now...

**Lorraine Weller:** Thank you.

**Carl Sack:** That's all. **Lorraine leaves. Carl leans forward on his desk and sighs deeply.** Okay Jerry. Why are you under my desk?

**Jerry Espenson:** I just came in to be alone. Would you like me to leave?

**In a courtroom Shelley Ford has Walt Bonner on direct.**

**Walt Bonner:** He flies around in a private jet. He drives a tank. This is Crane of Crane, Poole and Schmidt. The firm does very little to be truly green. And he told me they did a lot. Well, this is fraud.

**Attorney Shelley Ford:** So you've known Denny Crane a long time. You knew he flew in private jets and so forth.

**Walt Bonner:** True. But he told me that he was starting to make sacrifices. More importantly he told me the firm was green. It's not. Fraud.

**Katie is now up on cross.**

**Katie Lloyd:** First of all I'm an enormous admirer of your organization, Green People. I think you're all to be congratulated.



**Walt Bonner:** Well, thank you.

**Katie Lloyd:** I do notice, however, the beverage your counsel's drinking. Do you know sir, that the bottled water industry uses more than one point five million barrels of crude oil to manufacture their plastic?

**Walt Bonner:** I know that we use oil to make products. I do live in this century.

**Katie Lloyd:** They happen to use a lot of oil. Enough to fuel a hundred thousand cars for a year. They also use vast amounts of fossil fuels to distribute their product. What's worst is less than twenty-five percent of these bottles are actually recycled. The rest end up in landfills or the ocean. It's not really green at all to be drinking bottled water.

**Walt Bonner:** I'm not about to ask people to go green at the expense of their own health.

**Katie Lloyd:** Oh, actually, it doesn't serve their health.

Scientists say that bottled water is no better for you than tap. In fact it could be worse. The EPA standards are looser, and in some cases the bacterial count is almost double.

**Attorney Shelley Ford:** This is not a referendum on water.

**Katie Lloyd:** I bet your pardon. Do you eat meat? I only ask because studies show eating meat contributes more to greenhouse gases than driving a car. Denny says you two often have rib-eyes together. Is that true?

**Walt Bonner:** First, I don't believe that eating meat is worse for the environment than driving a car.

**Katie Lloyd:** It is. Contaminated runoff from slaughter houses is a major source of water pollution. Livestock itself contributes eighteen percent of greenhouse gases just from, pardon me, farting. That's more than all the trains, planes and automobiles put together. Do you eat meat, sir?

**Walt Bonner:** I'm not sitting here saying people need to go vegan. But Denny Crane's firm is assaulting the environment. I mean the man drives ah, an outrageous gas guzzling mon...

**Katie Lloyd:** What do you drive, may I ask?

**Walt Bonner:** I drive a hybrid.

**Katie Lloyd:** Oh dear.

**Walt Bonner:** Oh what. You're telling me that's bad too?



**Katie Lloyd:** Well, I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but hybrid batteries contain nickel that is mined and smelted in a plant in Sudbury, Ontario. A plant that has caused so much environmental damage and acid rain that NASA uses the so-called dead-zone around the plant to test its moon rovers. I think a board member of Green People might know that. That nickel then has to be shipped off via massive containers to a refinery in Europe, then off to China to be made into nickel foam then to Japan to be manufactured, then finally all the way back to America! All that, just to put a single hybrid battery into a car. When you combine all the energy it takes to build and drive a hybrid it adds up to almost fifty percent more than it does to build and drive a Hummer.

**Walt Bonner:** They also save on fuel.

**Katie Lloyd:** In terms of money perhaps, but because they do studies show people are driving more. Hybrids might result in more fuel consumption than gas cars. I imagine you do know that? **Walt doesn't answer.** No?

**Denny Crane:** I love it. **Judge Nora Lang and Katie look at Denny.** Sorry.



**Alan, Clarence, Melvin and Noris are still in the CP&S conference room.**

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** My point is you can blame us all you want my friend. But nobody saw this coming. Even Alan Greenspan was saying there were no bubbles in the housing market.

**Alan Shore:** Is Alan Greenspan your good buddy too? I hear he can be quite the hoot.

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** Al, I really don't need you to make fun of me.

**Alan Shore:** No! You don't.

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** The simple fact is this was a negotiable contract. He's a lawyer.

**Alan Shore:** Those are two facts actually.

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** What happened to the sub-prime was unforeseeable. What happened to the housing market was unforeseeable.

**Alan Shore:** When do we get to the win-win part of this meeting?

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** This man was never lied to. He made a deal. Now he doesn't like it because it turned out to be a bad deal. So what? He just stops making his payments? It seems to me he deserves to lose the house. You think you can sue and win, Al, even though he flat out breached a contract? I'm asking myself, "What kind of a lawyer would think that?" That's what I ask. But then I remember, you're not so much a lawyer as you are a gigantic hoot. Am I right?

**Alan Shore:** I may not be much of a lawyer Mr. Palmer but I can see the obvious. Foreclose on Mr. Bell's house and your client will be left holding an asset he can't sell and a loan that will never be paid off. Over the next eighteen months two million of these teaser mortgages are going to expire. And a trillion dollars' worth of loans are going to be called in as interest rates keep taking up and property values keep slipping down. That trillion dollars' worth of debt is going to be secured by houses worth a fraction of that. Keep throwing people out on the street, taking their homes instead of their money and you'll be left with a stock price of zero and a public that's out for blood. Not mine, or his (Clarence) but yours (Noris) and yours (Melvin). You can smell it in the air. Anger and chaos. If Shakespeare were alive today he might say, "First thing. Let's kill all the bankers." Tell me, Melvin, what exactly do you plan to trade on in that courtroom? Your witless grin and home-style cookin'? Or perhaps the bank industry's stellar reputation. The FBI has already claimed mortgage fraud as the fastest growing white-collar crime in America. In some cites even drug dealers have turned to mortgage lending. Profits are high. Death rate is low. Until, of course, people start shooting the suits. I may not know much about law but even a gigantic hoot like me knows cases always come down to emotion. Who do you think the jury's heart will go out to on this one? I've got a man who's lost his home and his entire life's savings. You've got a bank.

**Denny and Alan sit holding hands in Dr. Frank Wessmer's office as he shows them a PET scan image.**

**Dr. Frank Wessmer:** These images here are basically microscopic plaques of debris, tangles of nerve endings containing a protein called tau. Up to now we've only be able to view these kind of tissue tangles in autopsies.



**Denny Crane:** So, what are you saying? I'm dead?

**Dr. Frank Wessmer:** No. I'm just saying with the latest PET scan developments we are now seeing things we never thought possible. It's beyond innovation. This is really the cutting edge.

**Denny Crane:** Look. Just tell me what all this crap means.

**Dr. Frank Wessmer:** Well, you have MCI. But that doesn't mean...

**Denny Crane:** I've got AT&T. I know my phone service. I'm not that far gone.

**Dr. Frank Wessmer:** No. MCI stands for Mild Cognitive Impairment. And this debris here represents signs of MCI.



**Denny Crane:** **To Alan.** Did I not just tell him I have AT&T?

**Alan Shore:** So, is this Alzheimers?

**Dr. Frank Wessmer:** Could be the early stages. Nothing definitive. Sometimes MCI is a transition stage between normal aging and Alzheimer's. Other times it's just normal aging. We see this in about twenty-nine percent of people under eight-five. Of those people roughly twelve percent progress to Alzheimer's each year.

**Denny Crane:** Do I look like Rainman? Just crunch the numbers for me!

**Dr. Frank Wessmer:** In about six years eighty percent have Alzheimer's.



**A long beat.**

**Denny Crane:** So, let me understand what we have here. I have an eighty percent chance of getting Alzheimer's in six years?

**Dr. Frank Wessmer:** Yes. **Alan and Denny let this sink in.** If it's any consolation at all, you're seventy-five. You drink. You smoke. You probably won't live that long.

**In the courtroom, Shelley Ford is giving her closing.**

**Attorney Shelley Ford:** Denny Crane wasn't honest. He told Walt Bonner that Crane, Poole and Schmidt was a green firm. It wasn't. I don't know about you, but I'm a little sick of the wide-spread practice of the tell-the-customer-what-he-wants-to hear, whatever-it-takes-to-get-the-account mentality. It's fraud! They're not green. It's bait and switch. It's wrong. These people need to be held accountable for their lies and deception. You have to help hold them accountable. Even if my client eats meat and I drink bottled water.

**She sits.**

**Carl Sack:** **From his chair.**

It's hard to know what the hell is good for the environment these days. **He gets up.** One minute we're being told, "Eat farmed salmon to spare the wild stocks." While another study says, "That may be the worst thing we can do for the wild salmon." There's a new study out that says people contribute more to greenhouse gas emissions by walking than by driving. Because the increased energy it takes to walk makes people eat more which



causes the proliferation of slaughter houses. Ridiculous? It could be. Everyone talks about ethanol. Well, it turns out; to fill one SUV with pure ethanol would require four hundred and fifty pounds of corn. Or roughly the amount of calories to feed a person for a year. That's just one tank full. We've heard how hybrid cars may not be all they're cracked up to be. I mean, the information can sometimes become so contradictory it's confusing. And as a consequence, easy to feel overwhelmed and an utter sense of futility. Especially when people are running around screaming, "The end is near!" One thing that really would be helpful is if all the Chicken Little's would just stop yelling, "Doom!" and calm down. And instead promote a little common sense. We're not gonna stop driving cars. People are not going to give up meat. Or Christmas. Now we can stop eating farmed salmon. We can recycle. We can drive less. We can use florescent light bulbs. Little things. Maybe if we get the message out that the little things really make a difference, we'll all start doing them. But suing people for not doing enough. This is silly, isn't it? **He sits down.**

**Denny Crane:** I wasn't listening. Any good?

**Katie comes into her office and sees Jerry there.**

**Katie Lloyd:** Hello Jerry.

**Jerry Espenson:** **He quickly places a book over his notepad and starts rifling through the pages.** Busy.

**Katie Lloyd:** Jerry? **Jerry doesn't look up. Katie walks closer and purrs. Jerry looks up startled.** What? Improper to make fun of the disabled? You're not disabled, Jerry. You're a very abled man who happens to have Asperser's and a few eccentric ticks, but you're intelligent. And you're mainstream. And when it comes to finding a romantic partner? It's simply wrong for you to reduce your playing field to people who suffer mental disorders which Leigh Swift very much does. With all due respect to objectophilia, she needs medical attention. For God's sake you cannot be expected to compete with a gadget. You need to start setting your sights a little higher.

**Jerry Espenson:** That would make a lovely Valentine's movie. But in the real world...

**Katie Lloyd:** Real world? Women fall in love with men who beat them. Men fall in love with their mothers. Love is the most inexplicable, unscientific, irrational of all phenomena. The only thing we know for sure is it can happen to anyone. It usually does. For you to be moping around with the idea it never will for you is simply unacceptable.

**A long beat.**

**Jerry Espenson:** Okay.

**Katie Lloyd:** Okay. Fine.

**Jerry Espenson:** **He lifts the book off the notepad.**

Actually I'm writing a letter to Leigh now. To get closure.

**Katie Lloyd:** Excellent.

**Jerry Espenson:** I thought it best to keep it short. But I'm wondering if it's a little too short. May I read it to you?

**Katie Lloyd:** Of course.

**Jerry Espenson:** **Reading.** "Dear Leigh, Go to Hell. Sincerely, Jerry." **A beat.**

**Katie Lloyd:** It is a bit short.



**Back in the CP&S conference room, the men appear to be wrapping up business.**

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** This offer in no way represents any admission of liability on our part. **He places a paper in front of Alan.** But rather the charity that runs through my client's heart. To the Christmas season itself.

**Alan Shore:** Oh Santa.

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** If your client brings his payments schedule current we will hold off on foreclosure.

**Alan Shore:** **He throws the paper back.** Rejected.

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** What? This, this is a gift!

**Alan Shore:** Because you're my buddy, yes. And since no gift should go unpunished, these are the terms. He gets sixty days to bring his scheduled payments current and from there on he gets a fixed rate at eight.

**Noris Milk:** Eight! Why on earth would we...?

**Alan Shore:** Because you gave him two with the implied promise that it would fluctuate, but certainly not detonate.

**Noris Milk:** I'm sorry but...

**Alan Shore:** Not nearly as sorry as you'll be if you take your chances with me in court.

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** My friend...

**Alan Shore:** I am not your friend. I find the possibility of such a friendship vile. Your best hope Mr. Milk is that the first sub-prime lawsuit is brought against you by a buffoon like Mr. Palmer. You do not want the precedent set by me because I will get you. Search my eyes, Mr. Milk. This is what the truth looks like.

**A long beat.**

**Noris Milk:** Nine percent.

**Alan Shore:** Let's split the difference. Call it eight.

**A long beat.**

**Noris Milk:** Make the deal. **He starts to leave.**

**Attorney Melvin Palmer:** Ah, Noris! I assure you...

**Noris Milk:** **He's at the door.** Make the deal! **He's out the door.**

**Melvin turns back and smiles embarrassedly.**

**Alan Shore:** You have some dog doo on your shoe.

**Melvin looks down half-heartedly, then back up. Startled, he looks down again.**

**In the Crane, Poole and Schmidt lobby the Christmas party is in full swing. Three scantily clad go-go girls are singing as they're shaking it all out.**

*Yeah! Come on!*

*Out of all the reindeers you know you're the mastermind, oh*

*Said run, run Rudolph, Randolph isn't far behind, you know it*

*Said run, run Rudolph, Santa's got to make it to town*

**Clarence and Doris Thumper come up to Alan.**

**Clarence Bell:** Merry Christmas.

**Alan Shore:** **He chuckles delightedly.** Hey, hey, hey!

**Clarence Bell:** You remember Doris?

**Alan Shore:** Yes, of course. How are you?

**Doris Thumper:** Fine.

**Clarence Bell:** Doris is gonna sing a song later.

**Alan Shore:** Fantastic! Doris, this is Denny. **As Denny starts to lean Alan puts his hand out.** Stop it.

**Clarence Bell:** Alan. I don't know how to thank you.

**Alan Shore:** Then why don't we skip it?



**Back to the singers.**

*Said Santa to a girl child "What would please you most to get?" come on, yeah*

*"A little baby doll that can cry, sleep drink and wet"*

*Then away went Rudolph a whizzing like a Saber jet*

**Lorraine walks up to Jerry.**

**Lorraine Weller:** Hello Jerry.

**Jerry Espenson:** Lorraine! Hello! Well! Hello! **A beat.** I heard you'll be staying. I'm very pleased.

**Lorraine Weller:** That's very nice of you to say. Thank you Jerry. **She takes Jerry's face in her hands and kisses him.**

**Jerry Espenson:** **He is not smiling.** Is that a mercy kiss?

**Lorraine Weller:** A mercy kiss? Don't be ridiculous. **She looks up.** That was mistletoe.

**Jerry is all smiles now.** Merry Christmas, Jerry.





**Jerry Espenson:** You, too! Happy holidays.

**Lorraine leaves. Jerry shakes his head and body in delight.**

**Carl walks up to Denny and Alan.**

**Carl Sack:** Where the hell were you?

**Denny Crane:** I lost interest. Did we win?

**Carl Sack:** We did, actually, the jury found for us.

**Denny Crane:** See? I told you. Deep down people hate the environment.

**Carl Sack:** That wasn't it Denny. But you're welcome.

**Denny Crane:** Thank you.

**Carl turns to leave. Denny aims his air gun and shoots. He quickly puts the gun down. Carl turns back. Denny and Alan are all innocence.**

**Denny Crane:** Merry Christmas.

**Carl Sack:** **He smiles helplessly.** Merry Christmas.

**Doris is singing.**

*Maybe it's much too early in the game*

*Ooh, but I thought I'd ask you just the same*

*What are you doing New Year's*

*New Year's eve?*

**Whitney and Katie clink their beer bottles.**

**Jerry Espenson:** **He comes up.** Hello! Happy Holidays!

**To Katie.** Hello.

**Katie Lloyd:** Hello, Jerry.

**Jerry Espenson:** I was wondering if you'd like to dance?

**Katie Lloyd:** I'd love to.

**Whitney Rome:** What am I? Chopped liver?

**Katie Lloyd:** Maybe Whitney could have the next dance?

**Jerry Espenson:** Of course! Hello. Welcome.

**Whitney Rome:** I'll be waiting right here for you, Jerryboy.

**Jerry takes Katie's hand and they go off.**

**Clarence Bell:** **He comes up.** Would you like to dance Whitney?

**Whitney Rome:** Okay Clarence. Don't you try anything.

**Clarence chuckles and they go off to dance.**

**Doris singing.**

*New Year's Eve?*

*Maybe I'm crazy to suppose*

*I'd ever be the one you chose*

*Out of the thousand invitations*

*You received*

**Alan and Lorraine are dancing nose-to-nose. Denny is dancing with one of the singers. Carl is watching from the sidelines. Alan and Lorraine are snuggled up to each other, with Alan whispering in Lorraine's ear.**

**Alan and Denny are having scotch and cigars on the balcony.**

**Denny Crane:** Can you imagine the nerve of that doctor telling me I wouldn't live long enough to get Alzheimer's? I'll make it. You watch.

**Alan Shore:** What are the odds of somebody getting Mad Cow and Alzheimer's?

**Denny Crane:** Right. **He chuckles.** See? I feel good. I think it's good to live life as though it were a finite thing.

Cause, it is. I appreciate today. And tomorrow I'll wake up, and there'll be another day to savor. And after it I'll go to bed and I'll wake and there'll be another. And another. And another. And a... **A beat.** Besides, I can reverse this MCI thing. Any time I want.

**Alan Shore:** You can?



**Denny Crane:** I've ready a study. Blood goes to your brain. Blood goes to your penis. But not at the same time. So I wanna hone my mental skills? I just cut down on the sex. Question is, "Is it really worth it?"

**Alan Shore:** I think Plato once asked that.

**Denny chuckles. They both take a puff.**

**Denny Crane:** Don't you love Christmas? Anything goes wrong with the world, Christmas makes it go away. Decorations. Carols. The tree. I don't tell this to too many people, but I once had sex with a Christmas tree. **Alan gives him a look.** Not a real tree. When I was in college my parents had one of those Christmas masquerade party things. And ah, Diana Corlock, I think I mentioned her to you, she brought her slutty cousin along and she was dressed so beautifully in a, a, she had the popcorn strings around her, and icicles, and candy cane from both... She was magic. So! Up to the room. And my mother walked in and caught me humping a tree. **They both chuckle.** That was trouble. And she was already mad at me for suckin' face with the Virgin Mary under a mistletoe. **They both laugh.** That was a tough party. **A beat.** Have you brought my present yet?

**Alan Shore:** Well, it's still a little early.

**Denny Crane:** I know what I want.

**Alan Shore:** Tell me.

**Denny Crane:** Well, I saw you dancing close with Lorraine. A lot closer than I'll ever get, but I've resigned myself to that. And her perfume rubbed off on you. I can smell it from here.

**Alan Shore:** And?

**Denny Crane:** Alan. Can I smell you?

**Alan Shore:** That's all you want for Christmas?

**Denny Crane:** Please.

**Alan Shore:** Better not try anything.

**Denny Crane:** I won't! Just wanna drink you in a little. **They both get up.** And pretend. **Alan chuckles. They lean toward each other.**

**Denny Crane:** **He sniffs.** Hmm. Oh, my. **He holds onto Alan's upper arms.**

**Alan Shore:** **He sniffs Denny.** What's this perfume on you?

**Denny Crane:** It's from one of the go-go dancers.

**Alan Shore:** Hmm. It's very good. Wow.

**Denny Crane:** Alan. Don't talk. It makes it harder to pretend you're Lorraine.

**Alan Shore:** **He's still sniffing.** Did she say what it was, this go-go girl?

**Denny Crane:** Smell all you want Alan, just don't talk.

**A beat.**

**Alan Shore:** May I say just one thing since this is my gift?

**Denny Crane:** What?

**Alan Shore:** **He whispers in Denny's ear.** Merry Christmas, Denny.

**Denny Crane:** **He looks into Alan's eyes and gives him a soft shake.** Merry Christmas, my friend. **He leans in to smell Alan again.**



Season's Greetings  
from  
Boston Legal