[2.22] Agents In America, Part Three

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Written by Joe Keenan Directed by David Lee

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I Summon Thee...

Frasier's agent Bebe Glaser has appeared in the following episodes:

- [1.09] Selling Out
- [1.18] And The Whimper Is...

Transcript {mike lee}

ACT ONE

Scene One - Café Nervosa Frasier is seated at a table. Niles comes in.

Niles: Hello, Frasier.
Frasier: Oh, Niles!

Niles: [to counter waiter] Double latte, full fat, chocolate

shavings.

Frasier: Ah, the self-pity special.

Niles turns to Frasier's table and starts wiping down the other chair.

Niles: I've had a hellish week. To top it all off, old Reggie Belknap, the president of our wine club, kicked the bucket. The man's body was not even properly chilled before the club jackals began angling to succeed him. You've never seen

such vicious, cutthroat conniving!

Frasier: Who's winning?

Niles: Well, Maris, of course, but just barely. Matthew Pym tried to stage a coup! Fortunately, Maris has photos she took at his wedding — photos that clearly show the label on the

champagne he served.

Frasier: Domestic?

Niles: Oh-ho-ho-ho, not just domestic. From... Connecticut.

Niles sees Bebe Glaser enter the Café and hang up her coat.

Niles: Oh dear, don't turn around. It's that dreadful woman who

works for you.

Frasier: Who?

Niles: Um, uh... Lady MacBeth without the sincerity?

Frasier: Oh! Oh, Bebe's here! Oh, yes. [stands and pulls up another chair] Now, listen Niles, I care for her just as little as you do, but she is a terrific agent, which is why I overlook the fact that she's pushy and obnoxious and the most appalling phony I've ever known. [turns around] Bebe, darling, how are you!

Frasier and Bebe throw their arms open and kiss each other's cheeks. They sit at the table.

Bebe: My poor wounded baby! I just heard what those misers you work for are trying to do to you! Well, don't you worry, they're not going to get away with it!

Frasier: Well, you must have heard wrong, Bebe. They extended my contract for another year with an eight-percent raise.

Bebe: Eight percent? That would insult even a waiter! [to a passing waiter] Double cappuccino — move it!

Frasier: Well, Bebe, that is what my contract calls for.

Bebe: A slave contract you negotiated two years ago before you even had an agent! They took advantage of your inexperience.

Frasier: I thought it was a very generous offer.

Bebe: Oh please, do you have any idea how hot you are? I get offers every day from other stations, offering the moon for you!

Frasier: Good lord, am I really that hot?

Bebe: Are you kidding? If I were a pot roast... I'd be done.

Niles: Hello, I'm Niles, a person at the table.

Bebe shakes his hand and heaves a sigh of relief.

Bebe: Niles, thank God you're here! Back me up, give him some sound brotherly advice.

Niles: She's the Devil, Frasier. Run fast, run far.

Niles gets up to get some sugar.

Frasier: Listen Bebe, I realize that the station is making a handsome profit on my show, but what can I do? I do have a contract.

Bebe: No, darling, what you have is a... fever.

Frasier: What?

She puts her hand on his forehead. The waiter brings her cappuccino.

Bebe: Ooh, you're like a furnace!

Frasier: Well, you know, I-I think I see where you're going with this, Bebe, and I'm not sure how I feel about it.

Bebe: Well, how do you feel about being one of the lowest paid personalities at the station?

Frasier: Who makes more?

Bebe: Who doesn't? Nanette from "Pet Chat," The Happy Chef — oh, for heaven's sakes, Father Mike could buy and sell you!

Frasier: Father Mike? He took a vow of poverty!

Bebe: Well, now he's taking a cruise.

Niles sits back down. Bebe puts her hand on Frasier's chest.

Bebe: Oh, that big strapping chest of yours is all congested.

You just say the word, and I'll tell the station you have some coughing up to do... and so do they.

Frasier: Bebe, this fever of mine... how much higher do you think it might go?

Bebe: I'm quessing... thirty to forty percent above where it is now.

Niles: Forty percent?

Frasier: Well, what can I say but, uh... Ah-choo!

Bebe grins. Niles offers Frasier his handkerchief.

Frasier: No, thank you.

FADE OUT

FRASIER CRANE, MAMBO KING

Scene Two - Frasier's Apartment
Frasier, dressed in a casual striped shirt - no tie - is sitting
on the couch next to Daphne, who is watching a daytime soap opera.
Martin is reading the paper in his Armchair.

On the TV:

Man: Child, you wanted me to make you pregnant! Woman: I was in a coma, you might have waited.

Frasier: My God, let's see, they've got Sky, Zena, and Slate.

Daphne: I don't think someone called Frasier should be pointing any

fingers.

Frasier: Is this how you spend your days when I'm not at home?

Daphne: Not quite. When you're not home I can bloody well hear what

they're saying.

Frasier: Oh, you wouldn't want to miss a line of this dialogue.

"Oh, Zirconia, can't you see Stone doesn't love you?

He loves Placenta!"

Daphne turns off the TV and goes to the kitchen.

Martin: My favorite are the villains. They have one guy on here who kicked his grandmother down the stairs, embezzled money from a children's hospital, and poisoned a puppy.

Frasier laughs.

Martin: Give him credit, though, he did show up for work every day.

Frasier: Oh dear, Dad, if you're going to be so devilishly subtle,

how will I ever get your point?

Martin: All right, well, call me old-fashioned. I think that when you sign a contract, you stick to it. A man's only as good

as his word.

Frasier: Yes, well, my words have doubled the station's ad revenues All they've shown me for thanks is a measly eight-percent

raise!

Martin: Oh, so what? In thirty years on the police force, you think I ever went to the sergeant and said, "Hey, I'm shooting way more bad guys than I thought I would, how about a bonus?"

The doorbell rings. Frasier gets up from the couch.

Frasier: Dad, you don't understand, this is show business-

Daphne: I'll get it.

Frasier: Thank you, Daphne. [to Martin] You see, we do things differently. Negotiations are like a, are like a dance. They expect me to fight my contract. They know I'm not sick. I know they know I'm not sick. They know I know they know I'm not sick. It's all part of the negotiations mambo.

Daphne opens the door to Roz.

Daphne: Hello, Roz.

Roz: Hi, Daphne.

Martin: Hi, Roz.

Roz: Hey, Martin.

Frasier: Roz, how goes things at the front?

Roz: Well, for starters, they've painted over your name on your

parking space.

Frasier: Perfect!
Daphne: What?

Frasier: No, Bebe told me they might do that. It's part of a negotiation tactic, it shows that they're getting nervous.

Roz: Well, they must be really jittery then, because they took

your picture out of the lobby.

Frasier: Roz, Roz, they're just trying to scare me.

Martin: [getting up] And he knows they're trying to scare him, and they know that he knows they're trying to scare him,

he knows that they know that he knows-

Frasier: Thank you, Dad! [to Roz] They're just bluffing, it's like a

card game.

Martin: Like a card game, it's like a dance — the whole thing sounds

like a weekend in Vegas.

Martin goes to his room.

Roz: You know, I would have thought they'd play games too, Frasier. But they started auditioning people to replace you.

Frasier: They're interviewing people?

Roz: All day. And they're really hot on this woman who has some gardening show. She calls herself "Ma Nature." I can't work for her, Frasier, you should see her nails.

The doorbell rings again.

Frasier: Well, there's no need to panic, Roz. I'm sure it's all part of the dance.

Daphne opens the door to Mike, an intern from the station, who is carrying a cardboard box.

Mike: Hi, Dr. Crane. The station sent me over with your stuff. Sorry.

Mike: I hope not. My audition went really well.

He hands the box to Daphne and leaves. As he goes, Bebe steps off the elevator with a bouquet of flowers.

Bebe: Nurse Bebe reporting for duty! Blossoms for my little shutin! [drops them on top of the box in Daphne's arm] Put these in something.

Frasier and Bebe kiss each other's cheeks.

Frasier: Oh, Bebe, Bebe, have you heard what's going on? They've cleaned out my cubicle, they're auditioning other people—

Bebe: Marvelous! They're resorting to cheap scare tactics! Looks like I was right to bring this along. [takes a bottle of champagne from her purse and holds it out to Daphne] Chill

that.

Daphne, who's still laden with the box and the flowers, grits her teeth and takes the bottle.

Bebe: Darling, you're looking a little pale. Don't tell me these amateur theatrics are actually worrying you?

By now, Frasier can no longer conceal his agitation.

Frasier: Well, no, no, but the stress of not worrying is starting to get to me. I don't know if I can take much more of this!

Bebe: Oh darling, if that's the way you feel, then fine! Let's get this over with!

She picks up the phone. Frasier sighs with relief.

Roz: Oh Frasier, it's for the best. Really, trust me on this one. Bebe: [into phone] Tom Duran, please. Bebe Glaser calling. [winks at Frasier] Tom? Bebe's bored! [Frasier's eyes bulge] You've huffed, and you've puffed, but our house is still standing! We're giving you a midnight deadline! Either call us here at Frasier's and tell us you'll renegotiate, or we'll walk! Love ya.

She hangs up. Frasier is apoplectic.

Bebe: There. That should make them sweat, don't you think?

Frasier: [wiping his own brow] It might!

Bebe: Well, it's all over but the waiting. Canasta, anyone? [takes a pack of cards from her purse and hands them to Daphne] Shuffle these.

Daphne, who has just finished putting the flowers in water, has had just about enough.

FADE TO:

Scene Three - Frasier's Apartment
It's almost midnight. Roz has left. Martin is reading the paper
in his Armchair. Bebe sits at the dinner table playing solitaire.
Eddie sits in a chair, watching her. Frasier paces the apartment
with a glass of scotch.

Frasier: Eleven forty-five. Oh, God. It's over. They've made the decision, it's over. Well, it was a fun run while it lasted, eh, Seattle? [opens the balcony door] This is Dr. Frasier Crane! And I was listening!

Daphne, smiling sweetly, comes out of the kitchen with a tea tray.

Daphne: Here we are! One cup of tea — half Darjeeling, half Chamomile, skim milk, a packet of sweetener — oh, and I thought you might enjoy a nice fat-free tea biscuit. Will there be anything else?

Bebe: No. You run along, I'm fine.

Daphne: You're sure now? Because I could wait until you finish the biscuit and floss your teeth for you.

Bebe: You are a cheeky little monkey, aren't you? [bites the tea biscuit] This cookie tastes like meat!

Daphne: Yes, and it'll remove tartar, and give you a nice, shiny coat.

She tosses another biscuit to Eddie and exits, triumphant. Bebe disgustedly tosses the rest of hers to Eddie.

Martin: Well, I think I'm gonna hit the hay too.

Bebe: That's awfully risky of you, isn't it? Leaving us kids out

here un-chaperoned?

Martin: Better him than me.

Martin exits, followed by Eddie. Frasier sinks onto the couch. Bebe leans over behind him and massages his shoulders.

Bebe: Why are you so tense? This is the best part! What could be

more fun than this?

Frasier: Oh, watching a loved one be autopsied?

Bebe: Think of them sweating in their offices - chain-smoking,

biting their nails, their ulcers churning out enough acid to burn a hole in a ship's hull! [orgasmic] Ooh, God!

And to think I nearly went into nursing.

Frasier: Oh, you're right, Bebe, you're right! My God, if they're

foolish enough to let me go, well then, fine! There are any number of other stations that would love to have

any number of other stations that would love to number Crane on board!

Paker Franklink

Bebe: Exactly!

Frasier: Yes. But you know, in fact, I think it's time maybe we

discussed those other offers, consider what our fallback

position should be.

Bebe: Ooh, someone's out of Scotch!

She picks up his glass and takes it to the bar.

Frasier: Bebe... tell me there are other offers.

Bebe: Scads!

Frasier: Now you look me in the eye and tell me the truth!

Bebe: [looks him in the eye] There are no other offers. Straight

up, or on the rocks?

Frasier: [breaking down] Oh my God!

She hands him his drink and sits back down to her solitaire game.

Bebe: Darling, you can't make a deal without bluffing a little!

Frasier: You're supposed to bluff them, not me! My God, woman, are

you trying to ruin me?!

Bebe: You are such a worrywart!

Frasier grabs her by the arms, pulls her out of her chair and pushes her toward the phone.

Frasier: Now don't you patronize me, you sweet-talking succubus! You

get on the phone and call them!

Bebe: Ooh my God, Hands of Hercules! What must your legs be like?

Frasier is speechless - then the phone rings.

Frasier: Answer it.

Bebe: Not yet. [rings a second time] Where are we? Have we gone

out? [rings a third time] Is it too late?

Frasier: ANSWER IT!

Bebe: [picks up] Crane residence, Bebe Glaser speaking. [whispers]

It's them. [into phone] I see. I see. Fine.

She hangs up. Frasier can barely speak.

Frasier: Well?

Bebe: Renegotiations tomorrow, starting from scratch!

Frasier collapses with relief. Bebe takes the champagne bottle from an ice bucket on the coffee table.

Frasier: Oh! Oh, dear God! Oh, we did it! Oh my God, I'm so pleased. Thank you, Bebe.

Bebe: Maybe next time you'll trust little Bebe.

Frasier: Yes, oh, I'm so sorry, you're right, I underestimated you. I'm sorry. I'm sorry for that horrible outburst and for

grabbing you the way I did.

Bebe: Don't be. I was impressed. It was manly in a... hysterical sort of way.

She pours two glasses and hands him one.

Bebe: Cheers.

Frasier: Champagne, on top of scotch? Oh, what the hell.

Bebe: To a beautiful partnership.

Frasier: No, no - to a remarkable agent. [they clink glasses and sip] What Bebe wants, Bebe gets. When will I ever learn that?

Bebe: Soon enough, dear.

She entwines her arm around his, and they sip again.

Bebe: Soon enough.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

Scene Four - Frasier's Apartment

Frasier lies asleep on the couch in his dressing gown. Eddie is perched on the couch above him, staring at him. The room is strewn with discarded shoes, Kleenex, Alka-Seltzer, and several bottles of champagne.

Martin comes out, sees Frasier, and peels open one of his eyelids. Frasier starts awake.

Martin: Sorry, Eddie, he's still alive. You're not gonna get your own room after all.

Frasier: Oh God...

Martin: How're you feeling?

Frasier: How do I look?

Martin: Last time I saw a guy who looked like you, he'd been in the trunk of a car at the airport for a month.

Martin goes to the door to get the paper. Daphne comes out.

Frasier: The station agreed to renegotiate.

Martin: Oh, all right!
Daphne: Oh, marvelous!

Frasier: Yes, they called around five to midnight... and Bebe and I had some champagne to celebrate, and then... and then... Oh, God.

Bebe: Morning, Doctor.

Bebe appears from the hall. She's wearing Frasier's shirt from the night before, and nothing else except her underwear, heels, and a dreamy smile. The sight and sound is enough to make Martin yelp and stumble backwards, nearly dropping the paper.

Frasier: [in a small, frightened voice] Somebody hold me.

Bebe: I hope you don't mind, but I didn't see a robe, and your shirt looked so nice and big and warm — just like you.

Martin: Well, I think I'll go in the other room and eat my breakfast -

while I still can!

Daphne: I'd better go cook for him. I know how the Crane men like

their legs. [off Bebe's sharp look] - eggs!

Daphne and Martin exit to the kitchen.

Bebe: I think they're a little shocked!

Frasier: Well, I'm, I'm a little surprised myself.

Bebe: Oh, let's not kid ourselves. We both knew this would happen

someday.

Frasier: We did?

Bebe: The signs were all there - the glances, the furtive smiles...

The more amorous Bebe gets, the more agitated Frasier gets.

Frasier: Uh, you know what would really hit the spot right now?

Bebe: My God, you're a machine!

Frasier: [gesturing "No, not that!"] Coffee! I meant coffee.

He moves toward the kitchen. The doorbell rings.

Bebe: I'll get it.

Frasier: Oh no no no, that's not necessary-

Too late. Bebe opens the door to Niles.

Bebe: Good morning, Niles! What a lovely surprise! We were just

about to sit down to a big family breakfast. Won't you join

us?

Niles stares for a second, then tries to bypass her by emphatically pressing the doorbell again.

Frasier: Come on in, Niles, it's all right.

He ushers Niles in. Bebe closes the door and snuggles against his back.

 $\textbf{Frasier:} \ \ \textbf{We were celebrating.} \quad \ \textbf{You see, the station called to}$

renegotiate my contract.

Niles: Ah. Paid your commission up-front, I see.

Bebe: It's getting late, I'd better go freshen up. Save me a

muffin, Muffin!

She kisses his cheek and goes back to the hall. Niles is silent.

Frasier: Oh, all right, just go ahead, get your shots in!

Niles: No, no. I'm just glad your all right. I would have assumed

she killed after mating.

Martin and Daphne come out of the kitchen with breakfast.

Martin: Is she gone?

Frasier: No, Dad, she's—she's changing. Oh my God, how did this

happen?

Niles: You're asking us?

Frasier: Oh, I've got to talk with her, I've got to tell her this was

all just a mistake.

Daphne: Well, you'd better be careful how you let her down. She's

liable to go nuts — like in that movie — then sneak in here and try to boil Eddie!

[N.B. - "Fatal Attraction."]

Martin: Well, look, we'll clear out of here and give you a little privacy.

Martin: Oh, that's a good idea - wait till she makes you a bunch of
 money, then on top of breaking her heart you can make her
 feel really used.

Daphne: Sounds like a plan to me.

Bebe: [o.s.] Darling!

Niles: We'll leave you to your happy task.

Daphne, Niles, and Martin exit to the kitchen. As they go, Martin signals to Frasier, urging him to get it over with. Bebe comes out dressed in her suit.

Bebe: Cancel that muffin. Bebe just started a diet — Wink!

Besides, tonight we're dining at Bernardi's. It's sinfully expensive, but I think after contract talks we can afford it!

Frasier: Uh, BebeBebe: Yeeeeessss?

Frasier: Bebe, um, I don't think there are any words to describe what we shared last night...

Bebe: [laughing] Ooh!

Frasier: Well, you see, I value you too much as a colleague to do anything that might jeopardize that relationship.

Beat.

Bebe: [smile disappears] I see.

Frasier: Oh, you're upset.

Bebe: No, I'm sure we both would have realized it was a mistake sooner or later. Personally, I was hoping for later but I suppose sooner's is best.

Frasier: It is, it really is.

Bebe: I'd better dash, I'll call you after the meeting.

Bebe leaves. Frasier notices Eddie staring at him.

Frasier: Oh, like you never crawled under the wrong fence once in your life!

FADE TO:

IT'S LIKE SWAN LAKE, ONLY DEEPER

Scene Five - Café Nervosa Frasier and Niles are seated at a table.

Niles: Disaster again. Maris's little wine club had an outing at a local vineyard. As the new president, she had the honor of being first into the stomping vat. You can imagine her humiliation when she danced herself into a barefoot fury

and was unable to break even a single grape.

Frasier, distracted, doesn't reply.

Niles: Frasier, have you heard a word I've said?

Frasier: Of course not, Niles. I'm still worried about Bebe.

Niles: I thought you said she took it well.

Frasier: Well, she did, but you know how it is with strong women.

Sometimes their strength masks their vulnerability. Well,
let's face it. Once a woman has dipped her toe into Crane
Lake, dry land is never the same again.

Niles: Yes, she's probably home in her room writing "Mrs. Bebe Crane" over and over in the margin of her algebra book.

Roz comes in.

Frasier: You can make light of this if you want to, but it is entirely possible that I broke that woman's heart!

Roz: Who? Whose heart did you break?

Frasier: No one! [Niles opens his mouth] Niles, be quiet!

Roz: Oh, come on, Frasier! I'm gonna figure it out sooner or later. Come on, give me a clue, just one, that's all I need.

Bulldog tears into the Café.

Bulldog: Doc! Doc! Come quick! Bebe's out on the ledge of our

building, she's threatening to jump!

Frasier: Oh my God! This is all my fault!

Frasier gets up and follows Bulldog out.

Roz: Wait! Just give me a hint!

Roz runs after them. Niles gets up to follow, but a waiter sticks him with the check.

FADE TO:

Scene Six - Tom's Office

The KACL station manager's office. Bebe is standing on the window ledge. Tom Duran (last seen in [2.03], "The Matchmaker") is leaning out the window, trying to talk her in.

Tom: Bebe, please...

Bebe: [hysterical] Get away from me!

Frasier pushes his way into the office, followed by Roz and Bulldog.

Frasier: What happened?

Tom: I don't know. We were working on your deal, and she just burst into tears. I went out to get some water for her. When I came back, she's standing out there, sobbing that she doesn't want to live!

Frasier goes to the window and gently sticks his head out.

Frasier: Bebe, it's Frasier. Please come in.

Bebe: [hysterical] It's no good! My life is over!

Bulldog pulls Frasier back in.

Bulldog: You got to save her, Doc. My contract's up in six weeks,

she's my agent too.

Frasier starts to remove his jacket and tie.

Frasier: All right, I'm going out there.

Roz: Are you nuts? That's nine stories down! You know what a drop like that would do to you?

Tom: Why don't we just wait for the police?

Frasier: No, no! No, that woman out there needs me. Bebe, I'm coming out.

He slowly climbs out onto the ledge. Bebe edges away.

Bebe: Don't come any closer! I'll jump!

Frasier: Bebe, please-

Bebe: No, you can't help me! No one can help me!

Frasier: I'm not worth doing this over. Look, there'll be other men. It may take time, but you'll get over me.

Bebe: [normal voice] Well, somebody certainly thinks well of himself.

Frasier: What?

Bebe: Darling, this isn't about us! It's just a little bargaining tactic.

Frasier's jaw drops with horror.

Bebe: I threaten to jump, you talk me down, major coverage — bang, your price goes up twenty percent! [hysterical] My life is meaningless! [normal] Talk to me, darling, talk to me!

Frasier: Are you out of your mind? Now listen, you're coming in, you're coming in right now!

Bebe: [hysterical] Get away from me! You can't talk me out of this! [normal] At least not until Channel Five gets here.

Now come on, dear, make like a therapist!

Frasier: God, you <u>are</u> out of your mind! You-you need help, you should be in therapy!

Bebe: That's good, but louder. [hysterical] Give me one reason to live! Just one!

She pauses, and gives him a look that says "Well, come on!" Frasier tries playing along.

Frasier: [shouting] There are... hundreds of reasons! Work! Art!

The people who care about you! [lowers voice] Now come in,
you crazy bitch!

Bebe just gives him a look. Frasier cringes — he's just seen the face of the Devil. A helicopter approaches the building.

Bebe: Channel Five, come to Mama! Okay, dear. Full coverage — now here's the plan: I swoon forward, you reach out and catch me.

Frasier: What?

Bebe: On three. One, two...

Frasier: No!
Bebe: THREE!

Bebe throws herself forward. Frasier lunges to catch her. Everyone in the office screams. Frasier teeters dangerously on the ledge for a second, then pulls Bebe back to the window with his arms around her waist. She flashes a grin at the helicopter.

Bebe: Film at eleven.

Frasier: Oh, God... Oh God... just get in.

Bebe climbs inside, followed by Frasier.

Roz: Oh, Bebe, are you all right? Bebe: [shaken] Yes... I'm fine now.

Roz: Bulldog, get her some water. You want to sit down?

Bulldog exits. Roz and Tom sit Bebe down in a chair. She looks over at Frasier.

Bebe: Thank you, Frasier. You saved my life.

Tom: That was incredible, Frasier. Look, uh, I know we've got some unfinished business. But, rest assured, after this, there's no way we're gonna let you get away.

Frasier: Well... thank you, Tom. If I could just have a moment alone

with Bebe?

Roz: Sure.

Roz and Tom leave the office and close the door. Bebe still has her head lowered.

Frasier: What kind of a woman are you? You seduced me, you lied to me, you nearly got me killed! You've shamelessly manipulated not only me, but this station, the news media, and the entire city of Seattle! What do you have to say for yourself?!

Bebe looks up with her familiar confident grin.

Bebe: Aren't you glad I'm on your side?

Frasier backs away in horror - then considers the question.

Frasier: Yes, I... suppose I am.

Bebe puts her feet up on the desk.

Credits:

Niles is alone at a table. Bebe comes into the café looking for Frasier. Niles says she just missed him, then remembers what time it is and points Bebe to where she can catch him. Bebe runs out of the Café.

Niles says, "She's gone," and Frasier sticks his head up from behind the counter.

Guest Appearances

Special Guest Star

HARRIET SANSOM HARRIS as Bebe Glaser

Guest Starring

ERIC LUTES as Tom Duran

Co-starring

TONY CRANE as Mike

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