

HARVEY BIRDMAN ATTORNEY AT LAW
Episode 18: Gone Efficien...t
Act One

Unofficial Transcription By

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Network

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FADE IN:

INT. HARVEY BIRDMAN'S OFFICE - DAY

HARVEY BIRDMAN, a masked superhero with giant bird wings and a business suit, hunches over his desk. He clips his toenails on one bare foot. AVENGER, Harvey's purple eagle secretary, perches near him, cleaning his own feathers.

Harvey's toenail clippers break.

HARVEY BIRDMAN
(turning to Avenger)
Avenger! Could you uh... eh...

Avenger turns to Harvey.

HARVEY BIRDMAN (cont'd)
(smiling and gesturing)
...with your beak?

A beat.

Harvey wiggles his toes and blinks.

A buzzer goes off.

ON INTERCOM

PHIL KEN SEBBEN
(barking)
Harvey! Get in here!

BOSS'S OFFICE

PHIL KEN SEBBEN ON RIGHT, CONSULTANT ON LEFT

Harvey's eyepatch-wearing boss, PHIL KEN SEBBEN, hangs out casually on the front of his desk, as if he owns the place. He dresses in an exotic, formal business suit and sports a pencil thin mustache.

A squat, overweight CONSULTANT, with a white, short-sleeved shirt, fancy goggle glasses, and a pocket protector stands in the middle of the room, his arms crossed behind his back.

Harvey strolls in, still wearing only one shoe.

CONSULTANT
(flashing stopwatch)
Four point seven.

(CONTINUED)

PHIL KEN SEBBEN
(swiveling his head several
times, awkwardly)
Dreadful.

The Consultant conjures a clipboard from behind his back and
notates something on it.

ON HARVEY BIRDMAN

HARVEY BIRDMAN
Uh...

BACK TO ALL

PHIL KEN SEBBEN
(gesturing)
Birdman, this is...

ON CONSULTANT

PHIL KEN SEBBEN (cont'd)
...Dvd.

BACK TO ALL

PHIL KEN SEBBEN (cont'd)
Our new efficiency expert.

ON HARVEY BIRDMAN

HARVEY BIRDMAN
(holding up pointer finger and
smiling)
Interesting name. Norweg--

ON CONSULTANT AND PHIL KEN SEBBEN

CONSULTANT
(rapid-fire)
Was David.

He pulls out a pointer.

PAN LEFT

A display board with a flow chart magically appears to his
left.

CONSULTANT (cont'd)
I eliminated the vowels to save
time.

(CONTINUED)

Phil Ken Sebben leans in, left of the display board, incongruously. He raises his finger.

PHIL KEN SEBBEN
Brllnt!

ON HARVEY

Harvey looks down and counts on his fingers.

HARVEY BIRDMAN
Hrvy, hmm. Wait, is Y a vowel?

ON ALL

PHIL KEN SEBBEN
(pointing at Harvey)
You're still here?

HARVEY BIRDMAN
Uh...

Phil Ken Sebben raises his fist high in the air.

PHIL KEN SEBBEN
Go be efficient!

ON CONSULTANT AND HARVEY

The Consultant produces a cattle prod glove from behind his back and ZAPS Harvey's chest.

Electricity severs Harvey's tie below the knot. The piece falls down into his suit jacket.

A beat.

HARVEY BIRDMAN
Ow.

CLOSE ON SEBBEN

PHIL KEN SEBBEN
Run!

HALLWAY

Harvey sprints down a repeating hallway of office doors, huffing air.

HARVEY BIRDMAN'S OFFICE

THROUGH GLASS WINDOW FROM OUTSIDE

Phil Ken Sebben stands with his hands on his hips.

The Consultant stands next to him.

Harvey jogs in and stops, mid-jog, and freezes on one foot. He still wears only one shoe.

The Consultant produces his stop watch.

CONSULTANT

Two point nine.

CLOSE ON HARVEY'S FACE

Harvey's silent mouth freezes in an O from huffing.

Phil Ken Sebben leans into Harvey's ear. Harvey clenches his teeth.

PHIL KEN SEBBEN

Birdman, there's gonna be some changes around here.

ON CONSULTANT

The Consultant produces his cattle-prod glove. Electricity zaps on the tip.

CLOSE ON SEBBEN AND HARVEY

Harvey jogs in place. Phil Ken Sebben nods his head up and down to keep his mouth aligned with Harvey's ear.

PHIL KEN SEBBEN

(rapid-fire)

Profit generators. Cost cutting.

CLOSE ON SEBBEN'S MOUTH

PHIL KEN SEBBEN

Rolling blackouts!

ON SEBBEN AND HARVEY

PHIL KEN SEBBEN (cont'd)

Oh, and we've only got room for the top three earners.

FROM OUTSIDE GLASS WINDOW

(CONTINUED)

Phil Ken Sebben strolls towards Harvey's office window. He stops, standing erect with one hand in his jacket pocket. He pulls out a yellow hard hat and puts it on.

Harvey continues to jog in place, watching Phil.

PHIL KEN SEBBEN (cont'd)
The rest? well, I'll have to fire
the rest.

He points and places his other hand in his jacket pocket.

CLOSE ON HARVEY'S FACE

HARVEY BIRDMAN
(wide-eyed)
Fire?!

ON CONSULTANT

The consultant ZAPS his cattle-prod glove.

CLOSE ON SEBBEN

Phil Ken Sebben blows a whistle.

ANGLE TOWARDS WINDOW

Harvey still jogs in place.

Phil Ken Sebben rifles through Harvey's filing cabinet, tossing items behind him. They land on the floor. A banana. A bra. A coffee mug. A fraternity hazing paddle.

A construction worker wheels Harvey's executive chair out the door on a dolly.

HARVEY BIRDMAN (cont'd)
What are they doing with my
furniture?

Another construction worker enters, carrying a measuring tape. He crouches and measures the filing cabinet.

Phil Ken Sebben leans far into Harvey's top filing cabinet drawer.

ON SEBBEN

Sebben raises a finger, his head still deep in the drawer.

(CONTINUED)

PHIL KEN SEBBEN
Correction.

Phil pops his head out of the drawer.

PHIL KEN SEBBEN
My furniture.

He plunges his head back into the drawer. He stands back up, pulling out a blow-up doll. It deflates, making a farting sound.

PHIL KEN SEBBEN (cont'd)
Chairs are for earners.

PETER POTAMUS OFFICE

PETER POTAMUS, a hippo in office attire, leans back, feet on his desk, sleeping. Abandoned chairs clutter his room. He snores. A bird flies in and out of his mouth. On his wall, a motivational poster: Reaching For That Thing.

POTAMUS
(like a typewriter)
Ding!

He snores more.

POTAMUS (cont'd)
(unintelligible)

...

HARVEY BIRDMAN'S OFFICE

A construction worker stands near a door. He waves his hand towards himself.

A huge wrecking ball CRASHES through Harvey's office wall.

The construction worker gestures, thumb up.

WIDE, DIAGONAL OF ROOM

A crane with wrecking ball appears in a corner. Two construction workers struggle to push Harvey's heavy wooden desk across the carpet and toward the door.

Harvey steps into foreground, his hands extended, palms up. Pleading.

(CONTINUED)

HARVEY BIRDMAN
HOW will I work without PENS?

Ceiling rubble crashes on Harvey's head.

HARVEY BIRDMAN
...and CEILINGS?

CONSULTANT AND PHIL KEN SEBBEN

The Consultant and Phil Ken Sebben pose next to each other stiff and formal, both wearing hard hats. Sebben has a large golden clock hung around his neck on a golden chain.

PHIL KEN SEBBEN
That's a yesterday question.

The Consultant and Phil Ken Sebben begin several synchronized motivational gestures: pointing, making fists, swooping around and placing their hands back to resting position.

PHIL KEN SEBBEN (cont'd)
It's a new day!

PEANUT, Harvey's masked sidekick and legal clerk surfs by on a forklift behind them.

PHIL KEN SEBBEN
A new, profitable, new, efficient
new day!

WIDE OF ROOM

Harvey jogs in place.

CONSTRUCTION WORKER (O.C.)
Heads up!

A wrecking ball swipes Harvey out of frame. Feathers float around.

HARVEY BIRDMAN
Oof!

FADE TO: TITLE SEQUENCE