

= 522666 =

" ' 522666 " is the fifth episode of the first season of the American crime @-@ thriller television series Millennium . It premiered on the Fox network on November 22 , 1996 . The episode was written by Glen Morgan and James Wong , and directed by David Nutter . " 522666 " featured guest appearances by Sam Anderson , Hiro Kanagawa and Joe Chrest .

Millennium Group consultant Frank Black (Lance Henriksen) is approached by the FBI when a series of bombs are detonated in Washington , DC . Black 's investigation soon reveals that the culprit seeks to be seen as a hero , setting off explosions in order to rescue people from the scenes ; leaving Black to track down the fame @-@ hungry bomber before more people are killed .

" 522666 " was one of many collaborations between Nutter , Morgan and Wong , with the three having worked together on several television series previously . The episode opens with a reference to existentialist philosopher Jean @-@ Paul Sartre , and featured Henriksen performing all of his own stunts .

= = Plot = =

Outside a bar in Washington DC , Raymond Dees (Joe Chrest) calls 911 on a payphone . He says nothing , simply typing the numbers 522666 on the phone 's keypad . Later , he watches the bar from a parking garage nearby , masturbating as the bomb he has left inside detonates .

Millennium Group consultant Frank Black (Lance Henriksen) watches the aftermath of the explosion on the news , knowing that the group will ask for his assistance with the case . Dees is among the rescuers seen on the broadcast . Black travels to DC and meets up with fellow group member Peter Watts (Terry O 'Quinn) . The two join the FBI task force investigating the bombing , led by special agents Pierson (Sam Anderson) and Takahashi (Hiro Kanagawa) . Watts and Black quickly dismiss several false claims of responsibility by terrorist groups . Black listens to the 911 call left by Dees , deducing that the numbers dialled spell the word kaboom on a telephone keypad .

Black and the FBI investigate the crime scene ; Black not only realises the bomber 's proficiency with explosives , but is able to work out that he viewed the bombing from the parking garage . In a bin in the garage , they find a tissue covered in Dees ' semen . Black informs the FBI that the bomber is smart enough to be able to tap into their phonecalls , and volunteers to bait him into eavesdropping on his mobile phone . Black 's deduction is correct , and as he attempts to stall Dees on the phone while the FBI trace the call , he realises from Dees ' language that the bomber is seeking to become famous through his actions . Dees informs the FBI that he has planned another bombing for the next morning .

The FBI task force rush to locate the bomb , tracing the phonecall to a small section of the city that might house it . Scanning the area , Black notices another parking garage opposite an office block , and attempts to have the building evacuated . However , Dees has planted a second bomb which detonates fifteen minutes early , while Black is inside the building . However , he is pulled to safety by a stranger , who is interviewed on the news following the explosion ? Raymond Dees .

Black comes to in a hospital bed , tended to by his wife Catherine Black (Megan Gallagher) . She explains to him what has happened , and turns on the evening news to show him the interview with his rescuer . However , watching Dees speak , Black quickly realises he is the bomber . The FBI locate Dees ' home , but his electronic surveillance had alerted him long before , and he has escaped before they even arrive . However , as Black sits in his car , he receives a call from Dees , who has booby @-@ trapped the car . The FBI are able to monitor this call with Dees ' equipment . Dees tells Black that they will both soon be famous , letting Black know that he has a remote detonator for the car 's explosives . Before he can use it , he is killed by a police marksman .

When Black 's car is searched , it is clear it was never rigged with anything ? Dees had planned the whole thing , knowing that he would be killed . As news reports spread concerning the bomber 's identity and his death at the hands of the police , Black sees that Dees has achieved the fame he longed for .

= = Production = =

" 522666 " was directed by David Nutter , who had directed both " Pilot " and " Gehenna " previously , and would also direct " Loin Like a Hunting Flame " later in the season . Writers James Wong and Glen Morgan had previously written " Dead Letters " , and would go on to write an additional thirteen episodes during the first and second seasons of the series . Nutter , Morgan and Wong had all previously collaborated on both Millennium 's sister show The X @-@ Files , and the Morgan and Wong @-@ created series Space : Above and Beyond .

Guest star Hiro Kanagawa , who portrays FBI special agent Takahashi , has appeared several times in Millennium 's sister show The X @-@ Files , in the second and fourth seasons ; as well as in The X @-@ Files ' spin @-@ off series The Lone Gunmen . Kanagawa would also make several more appearances on Millennium , acting in unrelated roles in the episodes " The Time Is Now " , " Human Essence " , and " Bardo Thodol " . The episode also featured a guest appearance by William MacDonald as FBI Agent Nolan ; MacDonald would later reappear in the third season episode " Through a Glass Darkly " .

Lance Henriksen performed all his own stunts in this episode , having been introduced to acting by a stuntman friend of his . The episode opens with a quote from French existentialist philosopher and writer Jean @-@ Paul Sartre ? " I am responsible for everything ... except my very responsibility " , which was taken from the 1943 treatise Being and Nothingness . Sarte 's writing echoes the motivations of the character of Raymond Dees , with author N. E. Genge noting that both believed that " just because the individual was incapable of changing destiny alone was no reason for him to stop trying " .

= = Broadcast and reception = =

" 522666 " was first broadcast on the Fox Network on November 22 , 1996 , and earned a Nielsen rating of 7 @. @ 6 , meaning that roughly 7 @. @ 6 percent of all television @-@ equipped households were tuned in to the episode .

The episode received mixed to positive reviews from critics . The A.V. Club 's Zack Handlen rated the episode a B- , finding that the episode 's ' cat and mouse ' chase between Black and Dees was " well constructed " and " exciting " , and drawing comparisons between the episode and the film Seven . However , he felt that the ending was poor , and that Megan Gallagher 's portrayal of Catherine Black let the episode down . Bill Gibron , writing for DVD Talk , rated the episode 3 out of 5 , finding that the focus on technological investigative techniques was " decidedly dull " , and that although the episode 's premise was initially " interesting " , it grew " derivative after a while " . Robert Shearman and Lars Pearson , in their book Wanting to Believe : A Critical Guide to The X @-@ Files , Millennium & The Lone Gunmen , note that the episode 's premise is the first in the series " to play it entirely straight " , avoiding Black 's paranormal abilities . Shearman and Pearson rated the episode four @-@ and @-@ a @-@ half stars out of five , describing it as not only " a chilling study of one man 's madness , but an indictment upon the modern obsession with celebrity " . This interpretation has also been echoed by Mark Pizzato , in his work Inner Theatres of Good and Evil . Pizzato claims that the episode " reflects the media 's melodramatic fetishizing of villains and heroes , showing the bomber not only as a vulgar onanist , but also as Frank 's savior and a martyr to the mass audience " .