

COWBOY BEBOP
SESSION #1 - ASTEROID BLUES

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Address
Phone Number

A rainy street. A thin, puffy-haired man named Spike Spiegel smokes a cigarette.

A rose falls into a puddle. A shoot out in a dark building. A wicked smile.

OPENING CREDITS: Session #1 - ASTEROID BLUES

Hyperspace rings over Mars.

An old fishing ship called the Bebop flies through hyperspace.

Spike practices martial arts in the dark.

A brawny, bald man named Jet Black tosses bell peppers in a wok.

JET

Hey, Spike! It's ready!

SPIKE

I'm just about done myself. What's cooking?

JET

Special, "Qing-jiao-rou-si." (Beef with bell peppers)

The living room.

JET (CONT'D)

Asimov Solensan. This is our next target.

SPIKE

Hey, Jet...

JET

He's a high-end of the syndicate that deals all around the asteroids.

SPIKE

About this "Qing-jiao-rou-si..."

JET

This guy's name is Asimov Solensan. Weren't you listening to me?

SPIKE

You DON'T call a meatless "beef with bell peppers" "beef with bell peppers"... do you?

JET
Yes, you do.

SPIKE
No, you don't.

JET
You do when you're broke!

SPIKE
What happened to the 1 million
Woolongs we got as bounty from that
last guy?

JET
The repair bill the plane you
wrecked and the repair bill for the
shop you trashed and the medical
bill for the cop you injured KILLED
ALL THE DOUGH!

Silence.

JET (CONT'D)
Three days ago, there was a
shootout between his group and an
enemy syndicate. He killed his own
men, and took off. They say he's
hiding with his woman in Tijuana.

SPIKE
That's a place for nobodies to go.

JET
Despite being a nobody, he's worth
2.5 million.

SPIKE
Don't feel like it.

JET
Tijuana... The beef there is REALLY
tasty...

They exit of the hyperspace rings.

Recorded voices in different languages begin to speak.

RECORDED VOICES
Attention, please. We will soon
arrive at the gate. We look forward
to serving you again. Please line
up single file at the tollbooth
after clearing the gate.
(MORE)

RECORDED VOICES (CONT'D)
Please pass by after switching the
credit sensors to debit mode.

A digital receipt for 7500 Woolongs.

On the Bebop.

JET
I'll head over after hitting the
cops for clues.

SPIKE
Then I'll try seeing old man Bull.

JET
Can you trust that old guy?

Spike starts up his red fighter craft, Swordfish II,
whistling a sad little tune.

Swordfish rolls out, its wings fold down.

JET (CONT'D)
Such an easygoing song.

Jet turns off the magnet on the deck.

Swordfish floats off the deck and blasts off.

Tijuana. Ships and cars zoom by the crowded streets.

A man chases two boys carrying large paper bags.

MAN
THIEF!

A bar called "El Rey."

Three senile old men, Antonio, Carlos and Jobin, play poker.
The bartender cleans a glass.

ANTONIO
This again? Goddamn sonofabitch!
Man, you're totally ripping me off,
but do ya realize the reason you
can live here is because I dug that
gate with all my might, ya hear?

CARLOS
This again. You always say that
when you lose. We all dug the gate
together, remember?

JOBIN
That we did... We dug like there
was no tomorrow...

ANTONIO
Goddamn idiot sonofabitch...

Asimov and his girlfriend, Katerina, enter.

Katerina appears to be pregnant.

ASIMOV
Gimme a beer.

KATERINA
And I'll have a Bloody Mary.

BARTENDER
I got vodka, but unfortunately I'm
out of tomato juice.

ASIMOV
I'm sure there's ONE CAN in the
back room...

Asimov flashes a vile of eye spray from his coat.

BARTENDER
I'll take a look.

The bartender and Asimov walk into the back room.

A blue car pulls up.

Several men walk out toting guns.

The back room.

ASIMOV
Top notch "RED-EYE." You'd know, as
a buyer, right?

BARTENDER
Can it be... "BLOODY-EYE?"

Outside. The men surround the building.

The back room.

The bartender tosses Asimov a spray mechanism.

BARTENDER (CONT'D)
Prove to me that it's the real
thing.

Asimov sprays his eyes.

ASIMOV

Keep those eyes open!

The bartender is shot in the head.

The old men hide under a table.

The room is littered with glass and debris.

Katerina returns fire behind the corner of the counter.

Asimov dodges bullets and kills the men.

A tent somewhere on Mars.

A tribesman, Laughing Bull sifts sand through the palm of his hand.

Spike watches impatiently.

SPIKE

This is dandy, but you got anything
to eat?

Silence.

SPIKE (CONT'D)

I see.

BULL

The red-eyed coyote will appear at
the north end of town. That is what
I see.

SPIKE

A red-eyed coyote, huh...

BULL

You, "Swimming Bird." You shall
meet a woman. You shall be targeted
by that woman... and... death.

SPIKE

Again, I see.

BULL

"Again"?

SPIKE
I've already died once. Got killed
by a woman.

BULL
You take women too lightly.

SPIKE
Catch ya later.

Spike exits.

BULL
May he be blessed by Wakantanka.

The mess at "El Rey."

The cat licks a puddle on the floor.

Jet enters and picks up a bottle from behind the counter.

JET
Presidente? I'll have a glass on
the house.

A car pulls in.

Two thugs enter.

Jet hides.

THUG A
Damn. Asimov sure lost his head.

THUG B
No shit. We gotta do something
before the cops start moving.

THUG A
Ya wanna leave it to the cops? He
IS using those eyedrops. There's no
way we can win.

THUG B
I'm tellin' ya, we got nothin' if
we don't get that "BLOODY-EYE"
back.

THUG A
But, man...!

Jet taps a Thug B on the shoulder.

JET

Hey.

Jet smashes the bottle over Thug B's head.

Jet puts Thug A in a headlock and puts the broken bottle near his face.

JET (CONT'D)

Can you give me specifics?

The Swordfish flies over farmland.

SPIKE

Man, I'm hungry...

The control panel flashes "EMPTY."

SPIKE (CONT'D)

You too...?

A public men's room.

Spike enters a stall.

Asimov enters.

Outside.

Katerina buys food from vending machines.

Asimov retches in a sink.

Spike exits the stall and washes his hands at the sink next to Asimov.

Asimov reaches into his coat for a gun.

SPIKE (CONT'D)

It's better to leave the water running. Or it'll clog.

Spike exits, whistling.

EYECATCH

Outside the public men's room.
Spike bumps into Katerina, spilling her bag. Spike picks the food off the ground.

KATERINA

Oh, I'm sorry!

Spike puts a few items into her bag.

KATERINA (CONT'D)

Thank you...

Spike starts walking away.

KATERINA (CONT'D)

Um...

Spike turns around, mouth full and pulls a hotdog out of his mouth.

SPIKE

I'm sorry.

KATERINA

Ew! I don't want that anymore! You can have it!

SPIKE

Lucky!

Spike pulls out more items from his jacket.

Katerina smiles.

Asimov enters from a corner and spots them.

SPIKE (CONT'D)

I'm really sorry, honest. Felt like my stomach was going to be glued to my back.

They laugh.

Fuel station.

Spike refuels the Swordfish.

KATERINA

Nice fighter.

SPIKE

It's an old model. She's been with me for over ten years.

KATERINA

Looks like you've gotten a lot of use out of it.

SPIKE

I travel around a lot.

Spike twirls a cigarette between his fingers.

SPIKE (CONT'D)
I'm actually a wandering performer.

KATERINA
I can't tell if you're for real or
just joking.

SPIKE
A lot of people say that about me.

KATERINA
Been to Mars yet?

SPIKE
I was born on Mars.

KATERINA
They have everything there. Unlike
here, Mars has lots of people, lots
of things.

They must live happily there.

SPIKE
Only the rich.

KATERINA
Then I'm sure we'll be happy there.

SPIKE
Your planning on escaping to Mars?
Running away... but how far can you
go?

KATERINA
Who are you?

SPIKE
An old-fashioned cowboy.

KATERINA
A bounty hunter?

SPIKE
Good call.

KATERINA
You're not going to catch us?

SPIKE
Your buddy seems pretty ill. I
don't deal with weakened nobodies.

KATERINA
Wise decision.

Asimov chokes Spike from behind him.

ASIMOV
YOU are the nobody!

KATERINA
Asimov! That's enough!

Asimov lets go, Spike reaches into Asimov's coat as he falls to the ground.

Asimov and Katerina drive away.

KATERINA (CONT'D)
Adios, cowboy.

On the road.

ASIMOV
Why did you stop me? I coulda
killed him in one second.

KATERINA
You're tired. If you don't do this
anymore...

ASIMOV
He was young and attractive.

KATERINA
I was waiting so long for you to
come pick me up... I can finally
escape the low life I've had
here... I can finally live happily
on Mars.

Jet's shadow looms over Spike.

JET
A nap. How peaceful.

Spike opens his eyes.

SPIKE
I had a good dream.

JET
That's great. Then you can see the
rest of that dream on the Bebop.
I'm giving up on this one. It's
impossible to catch him.

(MORE)

JET (CONT'D)

There's no way we can win. When Asimov left his syndicate he snuck something out with him. The top-end stuff of all the illegal eye drops that the syndicate makes. He took off with all of the drops, so the group is in a mess. They wanna catch him, but all they get back are corpses. Because Asimov is using it... The eye drops known as "BLOODY-EYE."

Spike twirls Asimov's eye-drop vile between his fingers.

SPIKE

They're planning to go to Mars.

JET

Mars?

SPIKE

But before that, they'll sell THIS off.

JET

Hmm? That's...

SPIKE

I grabbed it from his breast pocket.

JET

You... met him?

SPIKE

A nightmare.

JET

He got you?

SPIKE

The red-eyed coyote will supposedly appear at the north end of town.

In space, police ships surround Tijuana.

A police car zooms by Asimov and Katerina's parked car. They exit.

Denis Bar.

The three old men play cards at a table. Antonio throws down his cards.

ANTONIO

This again? Goddamn sonofabitch!
Man, you're totally rippin' me off,
but do ya realize the reason you
can eat well around here is because
I cultivated the land with my
buddies, ya here?

CARLOS

Yeah, and that's us.

JOBIN

That we did... We planted those
seeds like there was no tomorrow...

CARLOS

You were always planting "seeds" of
a different kind, though!

Asimov and Katerina walk by.

Asimov sits down next to a Spike disguised in poncho and
sombrero.

ASIMOV

You have any Bloody Marys?

SPIKE

I only got beer.

ASIMOV

I've got tomato juice.

SPIKE

How much?

ASIMOV

300,000 Woolongs. I got 50 packs.

SPIKE

15 million Woolongs...

ASIMOV

I'm in a hurry. I'll find others if
you don't want it.

SPIKE

Show me.

Asimov reaches into the coat and finds that the vile is
missing.

Spike holds up the vile.

SPIKE (CONT'D)
Lookin' for this? Hey, do you know
what YOU are worth?

ASIMOV
What?

SPIKE
Only 2.5 million Woolongs. You're
such a cheap guy.

Spike takes off the sombrero.

SPIKE (CONT'D)
Long time no see.

ASIMOV
Since when are you a buyer? Did you
give up on bounty hunting?

SPIKE
No thrill in cheap bounties.

ASIMOV
Looks like you do better as a
thief. Give it back.

SPIKE
Sure I will. I owe you one.

Spike tosses the vile into the air and shoots it with his
gun. He rushes into, dodges his blows and beats him up.

SPIKE (CONT'D)
You trust your eyes too much.
You're not a chameleon.

Spike takes off the poncho.

SPIKE (CONT'D)
You can't see everywhere all at
once.

Spike continues to beat him up. Katerina points a gun at
them, hands shaking.

A black fighter shoots from the air.

They run for cover.

ASIMOV
Let's go!

Gangsters in a car chase Asimov and Katerina.

GANGSTER

That way!

Spike chases after the car.

GANGSTER (CONT'D)

That way! That way!

Spike climbs to the roof of the car and proceeds to beat up the gangsters who reach for him through the windows.

Katerina points her gun at a man refueling his ship.

KATERINA

Don't move! All right. Stay still!

Asimov boards the man's ship.

Gunfire from above rips a hole in Katerina's dress near her belly.

Vials of eye spray fall from the hole. She struggles to retrieve the vials.

Katerina boards the ship.

ASIMOV

IDIOT! We're doomed if this breaks!
Be more careful!

Gangsters in cars pull up and open fire on Spike.

Spike leaps behind the car.

The two cars are lifted by the Jet's fighter, the Hammerhead.

JET

Sorry to keep you waiting.

SPIKE

You're late, Jet!

Spike sees Asimov and Katerina take off in the stolen ship.

SPIKE (CONT'D)

Shit!

Two black fighters chase and shoot at them.

Inside the stolen ship, Asimov is trembling.

KATERINA

Asimov.

The Swordfish takes off and guns down the black fighters. The Swordfish chases after the stolen ship.

In the stolen ship.

Asimov holds a vile of eye spray to his eyes.

KATERINA (CONT'D)
Stop! Doing any more is insane!
Don't do it!

The chase continues in space. Katerina sees the police ships.

KATERINA (CONT'D)
We can't run anymore... There is no
way we can get away...

A loud gunshot.

Spike flies next to the stolen ship.

Katerina has shot Asimov in the head. (compare to Julia/Faye)

KATERINA (CONT'D)
Adios...

The police ships completely shred the stolen ship with gunfire.

Katerina floats in space, the vials of eye drops flow out of the hole in her dress.

The Bebop.

Jet tosses bell peppers in his wok.

Spike is looking out at the stars, pensive.

JET
Hey, Spike, it ready!

The control room.

JET (CONT'D)
It's ready.

SPIKE
What's cooking?

JET
SPECIAL, "Qing-jiao-rou-si."

SEE YOU SPACE COWBOY...

CLOSING CREDITS

COMING EPISODE

SPIKE

Well, and so this program is finally under way.

JET

What's the meaning of all this?

SPIKE

Next week, we're completely changing gears to show an anime for all ages.

JET

Was it that kind of a story?

SPIKE

Cheerful animals wreak havoc all over.

JET

WHAT?!

SPIKE

But Dr. Doolittle WON'T be making an appearance. From little kids to the elderly, if you love animals...

JET

Hey, hold on now, Spike.

SPIKE

Everyone gather around and watch the show.

JET

Is it alright to say stuff like that? I'm not responsible for anything!

SPIKE

But there is one favor to ask right now. Good little kids should sit far from the TV when watching this show.

JET

Come on...

SPIKE
Stand back about a kilometer.

JET
That's TOO far.

SPIKE
800 meters then?

Next Session - STRAY DOG STRUT