

LOVE, AMERICAN STYLE

"LOVE AND THE PHONIES"

Written by

Arnold & Lois Peyser

Executive Producers

Jim Parker & Arnold Margolin

Producer

Wm. F. D'Angelo

Script Consultants

Bill Idelson & Harvey Miller

Executive Vice-President in Charge of Production

Douglas S. Cramer

PARAMOUNT TELEVISION
5451 Marathon Street
Hollywood, California 90038

FINAL DRAFT

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LOVE, AMERICAN STYLE

"Love and the Phonies"

FADE IN:

1 INT. DANIELS BEDROOM - FULL SHOT - NIGHT

1

The bedroom is elegant and filled with all kinds of gadgets and gee-gaws. At one end of the room there is a bath. A door leads to a hallway. There are a number of closets with handsome doors on them. Two large matching dressers are at one side of the room. There are bookshelves lined with many books and magazines. The end tables at each side of the bed are filled with books and newspapers. DAPHNE DANIELS enters. She's a bejeweled blonde with a tiny waist and a deliciously ample bosom. She has a luscious look about her. Long eyelashes, thin arched brows, a dainty beauty mark high on her cheek. Her eyes seem slightly Oriental. Her long fingernails are attractive. Her hips are full. She's wearing an obviously expensive, low cut evening gown. Over her shoulders is an exquisite sable stole. BOYD DANIELS, her husband, comes into the bedroom right behind her. He's a very elegant looking man. He's slim with long sideburns, long hair, a Zapata mustache and a handsome beard. His formal dinner jacket has wide shoulders. He's quite tall. A cummerbund gives him added dash. His elegance is as pronounced as her.

BOYD

It was a marvelous party, wasn't it, Daphne?

DAPHNE

(taking her stole off)
I'm exhausted.

BOYD

Great crowd.

DAPHNE

(as Boyd loosens his bowtie)
Marvelous.

BOYD

(through a yawn)
Joyce looked wonderful, didn't she?
I mean she looked great.

(CONTINUED)

1

1

DAPHNE

(going to her closet)
Listen, no matter what, you've got
to hand it to her. She doesn't look
forty-three.

BOYD

(look at himself in a full
length mirror)
Even when you get close to her.

DAPHNE

(carefully hanging up her
sable stole)
She DID have a little face life you
know.

BOYD

(as Daphne goes back
toward her dressing
table)
What's a "little" face lift?

DAPHNE

(as Boyd postures and
admires himself in his
full length mirror)
They take a "little tuck" in front
of the ears.

Boyd, still posturing, as Daphne takes off the tiara crown
that's on her head and puts the crown on her dresser.

BOYD

Oh.

2

ANGLE ON DAPHNE

2

She pinches the skin in front of her ears.

DAPHNE

(looking in the mirror)
It's not a "major" face lift. It's
just a little "tuck", but it IS a
lift.

BOYD

(still posturing)
Who needs that kind of vanity?
(incredulously)
What's so wrong with being what you
are? You know?

(CONTINUED)

1

1

DAPHNE
(still pulling her skin
back)
Of course.

BOYD
I thought Philip looked great.
(looking at his own
complexion)
Great sun tan. They been in
Bermuda?

3

WIDER ANGLE

3

Daphne starts to take off her long white gloves and begins to fold them.

DAPHNE
It's a sun lamp, Boyd.

Boyd goes to an electric shoe buffer on the floor.

BOYD
You're right. How could they have
gone anywhere? He's been out of
work for eight months!

DAPHNE
Sitting under the sun lamp...

BOYD
(turning the buffer on)
To LOOK like he's been away.

DAPHNE
It was a big crowd, wasn't it?

BOYD
(putting his shoes under
the whirring wheels)
Bigger than I thought. I was
surprised that Eddie Strand was
there. I always thought he HATED
charity affairs.

DAPHNE
He's GOT to go because he needs it
as a tax write-off!

Boyd turns off the shoe shine machine and picks up a transistor operated lint remover which he strats to use on his wide shoulders.

(CONTINUED)

BOYD

I almost died when I saw the Smiths
come tooling up in that Rolls!

Daphne shakes her head in disbelief.

DAPHNE

Their station wagon was repossessed
two months ago!

BOYD

(turning off the lint
remover and starting to
remov his cuff links)
A Rolls with a CHAUFFEUR!

DAPHNE

(putting her gloves in a
drawer and emptying her
purse)
He's not really a chauffeur,
darling. He's a foreign exchange
student from Ceylon who BOARDS with
them!

Boy starts to empty his pockets onto his dresser, as Daphne
starts to empty her evening bag on her dresser. He shakes his
head with disbelief now.

BOYD

I guess pretense means a lot to
some people.

DAPHNE

(taking off some jewelry)
Like the Fechtmores!

BOYD

(taking off his
wristwatch)
"Poot" Rees said they're putting in
an outdoor-indoor swimming pool!

Boyd takes off his dinner jacket and walks toward the closet
with it. He has much smaller shoulders than the jacket has!

DAPHNE

Lord knows what they'll use for
money. They owe ALL the
tradespeople!

BOYD
And now they'll owe the pool
people!

4 ANGLE ON BOYD 4

He's standing in front of a painting on the wall. He kicks off his shoes. They are Adler elevator shoes and he's in his stocking feet -- INCHES shorter; which we can tell by where he comes up to on the painting. He puts his shoes in shoe trees and heads for his closet with them.

DAPHNE
I guess.

5 BACK TO SCENE 5

Daphne goes behind screen during scene. She is getting out of evening gown.

DAPHNE (CONT'D)
(continuing; turning her
back to Boyd)
Darling...

BOYD
(going to her)
If I hear "Pank" and "Zeegee"
Turner talk about another place
they've been to for the weekend,
I'm going to throw up!

DAPHNE
(as Boyd unzips her
evening gown)
I bet he's forgotten we know that
he used to work for the airlines
before his second marriage and he's
got a PASS!

She throws gown over screen. Falsies are hanging out.

BOYD
(almost indignantly)
I mean, who wouldn't go to Africa
for a weekend if it cost you \$15 to
get there!

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: (5) 1

6 ANGLE ON DAPHNE 6

Daphne steps out from behind screen in a wrap which shows she is flat-chested.

7 TRAVELING ANGLE - DAPHNE'S POV 7

She's looking somewhat casually at the falsies still in her evening gown. She then removes false hips from beneath wrap.

DAPHNE

Who do they think they're
impressing?

She starts back toward her dressing table, starting to reach for eyelashes.

8 OMITTED 8

9 TRAVELING ANGLE ON DAPHNE 9

She takes off her false eyelashes.

BOYD

I can't stand that kind of thing.

DAPHNE

It's so inauthentic!

10 WIDER ANGLE 10

Boyd is walking back toward his closet, taking off his cummerbund -- exposing a good sized paunch. Daphne has gotten to her dressing table, and starts to take off her long fake fingernails.

BOYD

It's incredible the way some people
behave. You know?

11 ANGLE ON DAPHNE 11

She continues to take off her fake fingernails.

DAPHNE

Do they think they're fooling
anyone?

BOYD

Beats me.

Daphne starts to take out her contact lenses.

12 WIDER ANGLE 12

Boyd takes off his pants and hangs them up in his closet.

BOYD (CONT'D)

Did you get a chance to talk to
Freddie and May Hudson?

DAPHNE

(putting her contact
lenses in little coxes on
her dresser)

No.

BOYD

Freddie says they've gotten a new
Picasso and a Jackson Pollack.

13 ANGLE ON DAPHNE AT HER DRESSING TABLE 13

She starts to put some cold cream on her face and begins to
wipe off her almond-y eyes.

DAPHNE

Darling, they RENT pantings by the
month!

(as he shakes his head
incredulously)

Lots of people do that!

(she looks like she has
pig eyes now)

They do!

BOYD

I saw you talking to Hans Primack
as we were leaving. I never had a
chance to. What's he doing?

DAPHNE

(taking off her beauty
mark)

Is Hans a Phi Beta Kappa?

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: (7) 1

14 WIDER ANGLE 14

BOYD

I doubt it.

DAPHNE

He was WEARING a Phi Beta Kappa key!

BOYD

He must have borrowed it.

DAPHNE

Can you beat that?

BOYD

But I guess he figures who'll know?
Did you ever see him get the handshake or the high sign?

DAPHNE

What a fakir!

Boyd pulls off his mustache and walks toward his dresser with it in his hand. Daphne takes off her wig and the matted short dark hair UNDER the wig -- her own hair -- is ugly. She puts on a pair of small glasses and starts toward the bed. Boyd puts his mustache in a drawer and then takes off his sideburns. He's shaking his head again as Daphne turns down the bed.

BOYD

I don't understand them.

DAPHNE

Who darling?

He puts his sideburns into the drawer and takes his bear off slowly.

BOYD

All of them. They're ALL such phoneys!

15 ANGLE ON DAPHNE - BOYD'S POV 15

Daphne looks up from turning the bed down. She smiles at Boyd.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: (8) 1

16 ANGLE ON BOYD - DAPHNE'S POV 16

He's smiling at her.

17 WIDER ANGLE 17

They both are beaming at each other.

DAPHNE

We're very lucky, Bo.

BOYD

I know it, Daph.

DAPHNE

(going to him)

I mean, wouldn't it be awful if we needed phoneys like all of them...

BOYD

(going to her)

We don't need anybody darling because we're lucky like you said... we've got us!

They kiss.

18 ANGLE ON THEM 18

Boyd starts to take his wig off as they separate from the kiss.

BOYD (CONT'D)

What gets me, Daph. I mean what really gets me is that I can't for the life of me understand why the devil people are so afraid to be themselves!

(his wig is all off and he's stone bald)

Do you know what I mean?

Here they are looking completely different from what they looked like when they arrived in the apartment some pages ago. They kiss.

(CONTINUED)

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1 CONTINUED: (9) 1

19 WIDER ANGLE 19

DAPHNE
(through the kiss)
Mmmmm-huh!

FADE OUT.

THE END