Still more infinitivals

Part 1 In class we explained the contrast between (1a-b) as follows: 1) nouns contain unvalued CASE features in their INFL matrices which must be valued, 2) T$_{+\text{FIN}}$ (*past* or *pres*) values (NOMINATIVE) case via Agree, and 3) T$_{-\text{FIN}}$ (*to*) does not.

(1) a. *It seems the world to be a strange place.
     b. It seems that the world is a strange place.

We further assumed that Agree is <u>local</u>: it is a relation that holds between a head and its complement or a head and its specifier.

Consider the examples in (2a-b). Is the acceptability of these sentences expected? If so, say why; if not, develop an explanation of these facts that explains their grammaticality without losing an account of the impossibility of (1a).

(2) a. Nigel believes the world to be a strange place.
     b. David wants Nigel to play the lead.

Your analysis should also account for (at least) the following facts. First, (2a) is roughly synonymous with (3a), and (2b) is synonymous with (3b).

(3) a. Nigel believes that the world is a strange place.
     b. David wants the lead to be played by Nigel.

Second, (4a-b) are grammatical on (and only on) a use of *it* as an expletive.

(4) a. Nigel believes it to be unlikely that he will rejoin the band.
     b. David wants it to appear that he was unaffected by the breakup.

Third, (5a-b) are perfectly grammatical, and maintain the idiomatic interpretations of *the shit hit the fan* and *all hell break loose*.

(5) a. Derek believes the shit to have hit the fan.
     b. David wants all hell to break loose.

Part 2 Now consider (6a-b). Does your analysis of the examples in (2) extend to these cases? If so, say how; if not, say why not, and extend your analysis to cover these examples without losing your explanation of the facts in Part 1. Justify your proposals fully, provide explicit lexical entries and derivations as appropriate, and feel free to introduce additional, relevant data as appropriate.

(6) a. David persuaded Nigel to rejoin the band.
     b. David convinced Nigel to play the lead.