

CORDON

"Pilot"

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Goldenrod Revised Pages Include (3 Total):

Set List, 3-4

Sc. 4 is now EXT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL – LOADING DOCK

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CORDON

“Pilot”

Production Draft

CAST LIST

Lex

Jana

Jake

Katie

Teresa

Dr. Lommers

Dr. Cannerts

Quentin

News Anchor 1

Bus Driver

Bert

Thomas

Britney

Dr. Rita Sanders

Sayid

Chief Besser

State Official

Cop #1

Leanne

Xander

Dr. Bobby Carver

Walden

Suzy

Dennis

Jim Banks

Radwan

Mary

Orderly

Speaker Cop

Micheline

Motorcycle Rider

Dead Man's Wife

Sick Person

Executive Assistant

Director of Communications

Leena

Grandmother

Sanders' Boyfriend

Governor

Mayor

National Guardsmen

Screaming People

Cops

Hazmat Medical Workers / Doctors

Construction Workers

Fifth Graders

Hospital Patients
Security Guards
Cafeteria Workers
Nurses
EIS Officers
High-End Officials
Health Officials
Fire Department
Orderlies
Aggressive Crowd Members

CORDON

“Pilot”

Production Draft

SET LIST

Interiors

A Tight Space / Shipping Container

Bus

Atlanta Midtown Hospital

Isolation Ward

Isolation Room

Lobby

Abandoned Wing

Lower Levels

Old Research Labs

Jana’s Apartment

Georgia Department of Public Health

Briefing Room

Grocery Mart

Parking Garage

BitScan Data Recovery

Lobby Vestibule

Radwan’s Apartment

Living Room

Bedroom

CDC

Briefing Room

City Hall

Bert and Micheline’s Home

Exteriors

Edgewood Ave.

Atlanta

Aerials

Streets

Atlanta Midtown Hospital

Loading Dock

Jana’s Apartment

Georgia Department of Public Health

Grocery Mart

Garden Patio

Street

Police Station

Basketball Court

City Hall

Radwan’s Apartment

CDC

MARTA Station

Hardy Ivy Park

"Cordon"

TEASER/ACT ONE

1 EXT. EDGEWOOD AVE. / INT. A TIGHT SPACE 1 *

Pitch black and deadly quiet. A CHYRON tells us it's **DAY 15**.
Slowly, the sound of HEAVY BREATHING creeps in. Nervous.
A LIGHT appears. The illuminated screen of a CELL PHONE held by GLOVED HANDS. 11:59am. The light lets us see details:
A NATIONAL GUARD logo. A GUN BELT. Heavy BOOTS. A BILLY CLUB.
And then, the face of the MAN holding the phone. Heavily veiled in RIOT GEAR. Helmet, plexi face-guard. Behind the mask, the EYES of the GUARD behind it. Darting. Anxious.
He gives a quiet SIGNAL. His light swings around to reveal:
TWENTY other GUARDSMEN in full RIOT gear. They're inside a sealed FREIGHT CONTAINER. Awaiting the signal. Hands on guns. This isn't an operation that any of them want to be doing.
Finally, the lead officer drops the signal and they BURST into action, throwing open the door at the long end of the container. DAYLIGHT floods in, illuminating --
TOTAL CHAOS outside the door. A city street. DOZENS of people running, SCREAMING. Something awful is happening out there.
The officers stream out. As they work their way into the fray with their riot shields, trying to subdue the crowd, we catch glimpses that are both mysterious and terrifying.
-- A YOUNG PREGNANT GIRL (TERESA) begging to be let through as she struggles against the crowd, getting knocked down.
-- A MOTORCYCLE tears around terrorizing pedestrians, nearly mowing down an elderly man, (BERT). The rider wears a creepy HALLOWEEN MASK over his face.
-- Other COPS, in handmade protective gear. Goggles. Hospital gloves. Scarves cover mouths as they attempt crowd control.
-- MEDICAL WORKERS in HAZMAT GEAR move through the street.
-- A dead man BURNS in the street as his wife WAILS.

1 CONTINUED:

1

-- A PERSON, face covered in sweat, blood dripping from their nose, makes a sickly run through the crowd, getting closer and closer to the container until a SHOT is fired by the skittish Guardsman. The person DROPS. More SCREAMING.

-- A young woman (KATIE, 28) emerges from the crowd carrying a semi-conscious 11 year-old GIRL. Her face ravaged by fear and despair. Blood drips from an open wound on her temple.

KATIE

Help me! Please, I need help --

The last of the Guards exits the container. He SLAMS the door closed and we lose sight of Katie before she gets the help she so desperately needs as we finally, blissfully --

SMASH TO BLACK.

TITLE CARD: CORDON

A CHEERY VOICE interrupts the silence.

NEWS ANCHOR 1 (PRELAP)

Good morning, Atlanta.

2 EXT. ATLANTA - AERIALS - DAY

2

The VOICE greets us over aerial shots of ATLANTA, GA. The Aquarium. Coca-Cola. The Georgia Dome. It's just another day in the city.

CHYRON: **DAY ONE.**

NEWS ANCHOR 1 (V.O.)

It's another beautiful day, with temperatures expected to remain in the low 60's all week. Great news for this weekend's annual Great Atlanta Beer Fest in Turner Park, which got rained out last year...

3 EXT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL/INT. BUS - DAY

3

A SCHOOL BUS is double-parked outside on the busy city street. The BUS DRIVER honks at CONSTRUCTION WORKERS.

The young woman from the opening, KATIE FRANK, a fresh-faced SCHOOLTEACHER, tries to wrangle fifteen noisy FIFTH GRADERS as she moves up the aisle. She's vibrant. Healthy, if not a little scattered amidst the chaos of the kids.

KATIE

C'mon guys. Settle. Britney --

3 CONTINUED:

3

She wags her finger at BRITNEY (11), who is chowing down on a candy bar. Katie is sweet but stern. *

BRITNEY *

Yes, Miss Katie. *

KATIE

Everyone remember, this isn't a field trip. We're here to help sick people feel better. So behave yourselves. Quentin, are you allowed to do that at home?

She knocks his legs off a seat. QUENTIN grins at her, but complies. She approaches the driver.

KATIE (CONT'D)

We can walk the rest of the way.

He opens the door. As she shuttles the kids off, she counts.

KATIE (CONT'D)

Five, six... let's go, wait for me.

4 EXT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - LOADING DOCK - DAY

4

*

ECU: Rats walk all over each other in a cage.

Katie and half her students catch up to Quentin, Thomas and a few of the other kids who curiously gawk at cages and cages of RATS as BERT (65) unloads them from the van. Astute eyes will recognize Bert as the old man in the teaser. *

KATIE

Guys, what did I say about waiting - *

THOMAS (11) and Quentin are fascinated by the rodents. *

THOMAS

Why are you bringing rats here?

BERT

They help doctors fight diseases. *

BRITNEY

Duh, Thomas, lab rats? Hello?

4 CONTINUED:

4

KATIE

Enough with the rats.

She shoots Bert an apologetic look, pushing the kids into a line, two-by-two. Finally pulling Quentin away.

*
*

KATIE (CONT'D)

Quentin. Don't make me yell. Stay close together everyone.

As they move off, a sign on the door behind Bert is revealed: RESEARCH LAB. INFECTIOUS DISEASE UNIT.

*

5 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - ISOLATION WARD - DAY 5

A RED-HEADED DOCTOR, DR. RITA SANDERS (38) sits alone in a sealed off contagion room. Coughing. Chills. Runny eyes.

*

Another doctor, DR. CANNERTS (austere, calm but focused), interviews her through a speaker system.

*

DR. CANNERTS

You understand the precautions we need to take, Dr. Sanders?

*

DR. SANDERS

Yeah. I got it.

*

DR. CANNERTS

Tell me one more time.

DR. SANDERS

I had just started rounds. The first patient was moved to radiology before I saw her. The second was asleep, we had no contact. The third was the Syrian kid. He presented with flu-like symptoms.

*

*

FLASH BACK TO:

6 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - FLASHBACK - DAY 6

Dr. Sanders tends to a 19 year-old Syrian patient, SAYID. Stethoscope to the lungs. Thermometer. Sayid looks miserably sick. A family member, RADWAN (50's) keeps a watchful eye.

*

*

Dr. Sanders touches Sayid's shoulder lightly with her hand. Comforting. RESUME:

*

7 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - ISOLATION WARD - DAY 7

DR. SANDERS *
There was no exposure to fluids, *
Dr. Cannerts. No high-risk contact. *

DR. CANNERTS
Are you certain?

DR. SANDERS *
I think so. Yes.

She SNEEZES. Falls into a coughing fit. Cannerts stares at her through the glass. Concerned. She continues, head foggy.

DR. SANDERS (CONT'D) *
When I went back to look in on him,
he was gone. I tracked him down,
tried to convince him to stay for
observation. He didn't speak much
English, but his friend said he
wanted to go home. He signed out
AMA. The address is on the chart.

A beat as something occurs to her.

DR. SANDERS (CONT'D) *
The chart.

FLASH BACK TO:

8 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - SURVEILLANCE FOOTAGE - DAY 8

From the POV of a security surveillance cam, we see the lobby of Atlanta Midtown Hospital. Sayid and Radwan move through the lobby. Sayid COUGHS suddenly, spasming, causing him to drop a RED BAG he's carrying as he coughs into his hands. *

Radwan picks up the bag as Dr. Sanders catches up to them. They exchange a few words (see appendix), and then Sayid signs a chart she holds out for him. He hands back her pen, which she slides into the pocket of her lab coat. RESUME: *

9 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - ISOLATION WARD - DAY 9

Dr. Sanders holds up her PEN and shows Dr. Cannerts, worry spreading across her face. *

10 EXT. ATLANTA - AERIALS - DAY 10

More city views. High-rises. Parks. Train tracks. Townhouses.

11 INT. JANA'S APARTMENT - DAY

11

A striking young woman, JANA (30), works amidst a sea of boxes and suitcases.

*
*

Jana is an exceptionally bright person whose personal baggage means she's her own worst enemy. Not to be messed with, right now she's struggling with *actual* baggage, and packing tape is her enemy as she seals a box. She swears to herself, chucking the tape aside. Sitting, rubbing her temples. Sweat BEADS on her forehead.

*

LEX (O.S.)

Jana?

LEX (35) enters her apartment in an ATLANTA POLICE DEPARTMENT T-SHIRT. Handsome, rugged everyman. Big-hearted but tough. Every day on the job is a struggle to balance his sense of compassion with the law. Sometimes he loses.

LEX (CONT'D)

Hey, sorry, got held up at the coffee -

(noticing her)

What's wrong?

*
*

She looks up at him. A half smile as she takes his coffee, helping herself to a sip.

*
*

JANA

I'm fine. Moving sucks.

He leans, kissing her. ECU as his lips meet her forehead. It's clammy.

LEX

Are you coming down with something?

He puts his hand on her brow, worried. She looks up at him. He reacts. He knows this look all too well.

LEX (CONT'D)

Uh-uh, no. Not again.

JANA

(knows where he's going)

I'm fine, Lex.

LEX

You're not fine, you're having one of your...things. Your moments.

JANA

It's nothing to get worked up
about.

*

Lex reacts, *nothing to get worked up about?*

LEX

The day you're supposed to move in
with me...

JANA

I know --

LEX

After three years --

JANA

I know, Lex.

LEX

Two failed attempts --

JANA

It's just a lot to --

LEX

You're not even done packing. I
have Jake outside waiting to help
me move you. Jake.

(exasperated)

I thought you were sure. I asked
you a hundred times: are you sure??

She pauses a beat too long before she finally smiles, shaking
it off.

*

JANA

Hey, I'm sorry. I was just having a
moment. You know I love you.

(she kisses him)

It was just a dumb moment of doubt.
You know what those are like.

LEX

No. I don't. Because I don't have
them. You're either sure or you're
not, Jana.

(digging in)

Jana?

*

She stares at him. Her silence giving him the answer.

*

12

EXT. JANA'S APARTMENT - DAY

12

Lex storms out of the building. Passes his buddy JAKE (32, Atlanta PD SWEATSHIRT, a rule-breaker with dimples that get him in and out of trouble) at the truck. Drinking a coffee.

LEX
Let's go. She's not coming.

JAKE
She's not coming?

LEX
She's not moving, Jake.

Trying to contain his anger, Lex starts closing up the truck. Jake chucks his coffee, approaches his friend.

JAKE
Want me to go up and talk to her?

LEX
That's pretty much the last thing I want.

His phone RINGS. He answers it brusquely.

*

LEX (CONT'D)
Carnahan. Yeah. A what? Okay, yeah.
I'll be there.
(hanging up)
We gotta go. I have a briefing.

*

JAKE
For what?

LEX
Some Health Department thing, I don't know.

Lex jumps inside the van, starting it up. Jake looks up towards Jana's window. Mumbles to himself.

*

JAKE
Jana, you gotta be kidding me.

*

*

As Jake hops into the passenger side of the van...

*

13

EXT. GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH - DAY

13

POPS of the city. A **CHYRON** tells us we're at --

14

INT. GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH - DAY

14

A BRIEFING is in progress as Lex squeezes in the back next to POLICE CHIEF BESSER (50) and OFFICER PETE WALDEN (40). *

CHIEF BESSER
You're late.

LEX
Sorry, Chief. I just got the call.
I was --

CHIEF BESSER
Getting ditched by your girl? *

Lex shakes Walden a look. Walden grins, innocent. *Who, me?* *

LEX
Real nice, gentlemen. Thanks. *

Chief Besser enjoys the joke. Lex is one of his favorites. *

LEX (CONT'D)
So what's going on?

CHIEF BESSER
Possible flu outbreak.

Up front, HEALTH OFFICIALS. Other COPS. FIRE DEPARTMENT.

STATE OFFICIAL
We have state and local officials
present. Still waiting on Federal.
Dr. Cannerts is here from the CDC.

Lex mutters to the Chief, suspicious --

LEX
Lotta important people in here just
to talk about flu shots...

Dr. Cannerts speaks to the room via SKYPE.

DR. CANNERTS
I've emailed you the security
footage showing the young Middle
Eastern man in question.

As he continues, SURVEILLANCE FOOTAGE of Sayid in the lobby of Atlanta Midtown Hospital appears on a screen. Lex eyes it.

DR. CANNERTS (CONT'D)

We checked his registration forms,
his address and insurance info are
fraudulent, which may mean he's
illegal. We know for a fact that
he's contagious.

*
*
*

STATE OFFICIAL

Chief Besser, we need local police
to pick him up.

*

CHIEF BESSER

We're on it.
(re: Lex)
This is Major Alex Carnahan from
Zone 6. He'll be running point.

COP #1

Then maybe he oughta get on it
before some kid from the Middle
East gives us all the plague.

LEX

Zone Six'll get it done, Billy. We
always do. Just like last week's
game against you fine fellas from
Zone 2.

*

Scattered laughter. It's clear Lex is well liked.

LOMMERS (V.O.)

I'm glad we're all having such a
good time.

Lex turns to see SABINE LOMMERS (50) has entered. Brilliant
and poised. Borderline severe. Flanked by her EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANT and DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS.

CHIEF BESSER

(sotto, to Lex)
The Feds are here.

Lommers introduces herself to Lex as she passes.

*

LOMMERS

Sabine Lommers, Health and Human
Services. I'm not going to shake
your hand, nothing personal.

(taking charge)

Do we have GEMA present? CDC? EIS?

(continuing)

Most of you don't know me, but the
fact that I'm here should have you
worried, because I don't get called
until things get bad. Let's get
started.

*

*

(continuing, see appendix)

*

Lex watches her take command. Suddenly at full alert.

*

15

EXT./INT. GROCERY MART - DAY

15

Jana expertly rides a bike through the city. Lost in thought. Following her usual route. Music blasts through her earbuds.

She rides past a small GROCERY MART. A heavily pregnant teenager, TERESA, 17, mans a fruit stand. We've seen her before, being knocked around in the chaos of the teaser. *

STAY with Teresa as she enters the store, passing the COUNTER, where LEANNE (40, harried and hardened) works.

TERESA

Mom, I have to --

She gestures to her belly. She has to pee.

LEANNE

Take your fifteen.

TERESA

You're making me take a break because I have to pee?

LEANNE

I'm making you take a break because it'll take you that long to mosey your way back up here after you've sent 20 texts to your boyfriend.

Leanne is terse. There's tension there. As Teresa heads off --

LEANNE (CONT'D)

Teresa. Your dad needs you for inventory at one. And you have your appointment at the adoption agency at 4pm.

TERESA

No, ma, I have your appointment.

Teresa heads into the back of the store, irritated. CUT TO:

16

EXT. GROCERY MART - GARDEN PATIO - DAY

16

Teresa quietly sneaks out side door of the market. She smiles. Her boyfriend, XANDER (18) is there. A little rough around the edges, but likeable and sincere. *

TERESA

You shouldn't be here. My mom's already in a mood.

XANDER

Had to check on my girls.

He gives her a long kiss. One hand on her belly.

XANDER (CONT'D)

We're set for the 1:30 to North Springs. And tomorrow my ma has a doc she wants you to see.

*
*

TERESA

That's nice, because mine's got adoption agencies on speed dial.

(then, remembering, *shit*)

Can you push it to the 3? I have to help my dad. He'll know if I bail.

XANDER

You're running away with me. They're gonna notice eventually.

TERESA

Yeah, but a head start wouldn't suck.

XANDER

Ok. 3 o'clock.

*

A beat as she considers the weight of what she's about to do.

*

TERESA

Xander...are you sure this is what you want?

*
*
*

XANDER

Of course it is. I love you.

*
*

TERESA

But...I need to know you're all in. That you're doing this because you want to be doing it.

*
*
*
*

XANDER

Teresa. I love you. And I already love our kid. What else is there?

*
*
*

Teresa smiles. That's exactly what she needed to hear.

*

TERESA

Ok. Good.

*
*

XANDER

Good. And listen, my mom said she might have an opening in the complex she manages, said we could live there with the baby in exchange for some handyman stuff.

*
*
*
*

TERESA

Why is your mom being so nice about all this?

XANDER

Probably 'cause yours isn't.
(then)
We are gonna make this work. And we are gonna be happy. See you at 3.

*
*
*

TERESA

See you at 3. I love you.

*
*

Another sweet kiss goodbye and he's off...

17 INT. GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - BRIEFING ROOM - DAY 17

A BLOWN-UP image of Sayid from the lobby of the hospital. Lex eyes it. Listening as Dr. Cannerts speaks via SKYPE.

DR. CANNERTS

The patient was highly febrile and presented with pharyngitis, headaches, and swollen lymph nodes. Dr. Rita Sanders was the attending on rounds. Within sixteen hours, Dr. Sanders became symptomatic suggesting that the virus can replicate at an accelerated rate.

*
*
*
*
*
*
*

This gets Lex's attention. An ID picture of DR. Sanders is uploaded. She smiles brightly at the camera. FLASH TO:

*

18 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - ISOLATION ROOM - DAY 18

Dr. Sanders paces in her cell. She looks like hell.

*

RESUME:

LOMMERS

Dr. Cannerts, is it your belief that he is patient zero?

LEX

(quietly, to Besser)
Patient zero? For a flu?

DR. CANNERTS

We had no indications of the virus prior to their contact. Since then, there are three more symptomatic patients. Two NURSES and Dr. Sanders' boyfriend. Each can trace contact exposure to Dr. Sanders.

*
*

CHIEF BESSER

Why are we just hearing about this?

LOMMERS

Local police are brought into the loop at such time as protocol dictates. Dr. Cannerts, what do you advise?

*

DR. CANNERTS

We should lock down the hospital while we confirm that the Syrian man is in fact the initial carrier. The faster we can initiate contact tracing, the faster we can contain this outbreak.

*
*
*
*

LEX

What is it?

LOMMERS

I'm sorry?

*

LEX

I didn't catch what the virus is we're talking about.

A tense beat.

LOMMERS

That's part of the problem, Major. It's not currently presenting as anything we can identify.

*

FLASH TO: DR. Sanders starts to COUGH UP BLOOD. Delirious. Two DOCTORS in protective gear run in to calm her. She falls, convulsing, as blood STREAMS from her mouth and nose...

*

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

19 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - LOBBY - DAY 19

The sound of KIDS SINGING floats through the lobby as we find Katie near a small crowd of elderly PATIENTS who have come to watch the children sing. She smiles, finally relaxing.

A handsome DOCTOR IN SCRUBS (30's) approaches her. This is DR. BOBBY CARVER. The kind of guy who sleeps with the nurses.

DR. BOBBY CARVER
Cute kids.

KATIE
They're monsters. But they're mine.
From 8-4, anyway.

DR. BOBBY CARVER
Lucky them.

He's flirting. She's flustered by it.

KATIE
I was supposed to meet Dr. Sanders?
She was going to give them a tour. *

DR. BOBBY CARVER
She's MIA. You get me instead.
I'm Bobby. Dr. Carver.

She nods, not making eye contact. This is a girl who either doesn't know how to flirt or wants nothing of it.

KATIE
How does a doctor go MIA in a
hospital?

DR. BOBBY CARVER
Beats me.

20 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - ISOLATION ROOM - DAY 20

CLOSE ON DR. SANDERS, lying on her cot. Covered in blood. Breath coming in short, tragic gasps. Cannerts watches her from outside, as she suffers in lonely silence... *

21 EXT. POLICE STATION - BASKETBALL COURT - DAY 21

A group of t-shirt clad COPS play a pick-up game behind Jake as he dials his phone. *

22 INT. PARKING GARAGE - DAY 22 *

Jana finishes chaining up her bike. She checks her caller ID. Sighs. Answers. *

JANA
What.

INTERCUT:

JAKE
Don't 'what' me. You know what.

JANA
Is he mad?

JAKE
Yeah, he's mad, Jana. You can't string him along like you do.

JANA
I had a moment of indecision. He's the one who walked out.

JAKE
The guys had an over-under on how long it would take before you freaked and pulled the plug.

JANA
The guys need to mind their own business. And I don't string. I had a panic attack. It happens.

JAKE
I know relationship stuff isn't easy for you, but --

JANA
Just because you dated me for five minutes doesn't make you an expert.

A small plaque next to the elevator reads "BitScan Data Recovery." She punches a code. *

JAKE
The fact that you dumped me after five minutes kinda makes my case for me, don't ya think? *

JANA
Look, I'm at work -- *

JAKE

You guys are it, Jana. You two have that thing that we all want. And everyone seems to know it but you.

JANA

I know it, of course I know it.

JAKE

Then do a better job of showing it.

JANA

In the elevator. Gotta go.

CLICK. She hangs up on him. Off her frustration, we go...

BACK WITH JAKE as he hangs up, annoyed. He turns to find LEX standing there with Officer Walden. *

JAKE

Lex. Hey.

LEX

Who was that?

Beat. Jake opts for a version of the truth.

JAKE

Jana. I was giving her grief. *

Lex holds Jake's gaze a beat. Assessing. Then --

LEX

Listen, there's a Syrian kid who needs to be picked up for questioning. I'll call you with details. Jake, you'll run point.

WALDEN

I thought I was running point.

LEX

I changed my mind.

WALDEN

Is this because I took the 'under' on Jana?

JAKE

Shut it, Walden.

WALDEN

Who's sending us in, CIA? Homeland?

LEX

(walking off)

That's none of your business, white
boy. Like my relationship. Jake -

*
*

Jake falls into step with Lex, who hands over a PHOTO. It's
the freeze frame of Sayid holding his distinctive RED BAG.

*
*

LEX (CONT'D)

It's the Health Department. You
know the drill. An EIS official
will meet you there.

*
*
*
*

JAKE

Please tell me this isn't some kind
of Ebola thing.

*
*
*

LEX

It's not Ebola. They don't know
what it is.

*
*
*

JAKE

That's comforting.

*
*

LEX

So what did Jana say earlier when
she answered your call instead of
all ten of mine?

*
*
*
*

JAKE

She's just being Jana, man. She'll
come around.

*
*
*

LEX

Yeah, well maybe this time I won't.

*
*

JAKE

You want me to call bull on that or
you wanna call it on yourself?

*
*
*

LEX

Whatever. I gotta head downtown.
The Feds wanna talk to me.

*
*
*

JAKE

Guess no matter how many stripes
you get on that sleeve you still
gotta kiss the ring, huh, Major.

*
*
*
*

LEX

Guess I do, Officer. Guess I do.

*
*

He hits Jake with a friendly fist bump as they part ways.

*

23 INT. BITSCAN DATA RECOVERY - LOBBY VESTIBULE - DAY 23 *

Jana walks up to the front window of a data recovery company. Cold, sterile, and sanitized. She knocks on the window.

The entrance is separated from reception by an Access Control Vestibule (aka "mantrap"). The Receptionist, SUZY (30), opens a window. Suzy is funny and feisty, Jana's best friend.

SUZY
Thought you had the day off?

JANA
The fried server from Davidson
International had other ideas. *

SUZY
Did the move go okay? *

Jana puts her belongings through the window. Doesn't respond.

SUZY (CONT'D)
Ahh, Jana, again?

JANA
I had a moment of doubt.

SUZY
Your life is a moment of doubts.

JANA
Thanks. Great pep talk.

She steps through the metal detector. As she does, her phone (which Suzy now has) starts ringing.

SUZY
Your cell phone --

JANA
Leave it.

SUZY
It's Lex.

JANA
Don't. I'm not kidding.

SUZY
(pretending she'll answer)
Poor Lex. Just a guy who loves a
girl who loves to leave.

JANA
Suzy, I swear to god --

The phone stops RINGING. Suzy opens the door to the mantrap,
finally allowing Jana passage.

SUZY
You know they have therapy for this
kind of stuff, right?

JANA
Who needs that when I've got you?

She leans over and SMOOCHES Suzy's head. Suzy waves her off.

SUZY
Eh, germs --

Jana kisses her all over her face. This is their thing.

SUZY (CONT'D)
Stop it --!

Jana moves on, passing a co-worker, DENNIS (35).

DENNIS
Hey, Jana. McKinley Research is
sending over their CPU today. High
priority.

JANA
Can't wait, Dennis.

She keeps moving. Outside the windows of the high-rise
office, we see ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL.

25 OMITTED

25 *

26

EXT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - DAY

26 *

Katie has successfully wrangled the kids back on the bus.

KATIE
Thirteen, fourteen, fifteen. Okay,
we're all here.

Britney SNEEZES. ECU on her hands as she wipes her nose.

BUS DRIVER
It's her hay fever. Here.

He pulls out a kleenex pack from his pocket. Katie passes it back. The driver starts up the bus, when --

DR. BOBBY CARVER (O.S.)
Hey, stop! STOP!

Two SECURITY GUARDS bang on the door. Dr. Carver BOARDS the bus as the doors HISS OPEN.

DR. BOBBY CARVER (CONT'D)
Excuse me, I'm sorry, but I have to
ask you all to come back in.

KATIE
We're already late --

DR. BOBBY CARVER
I know. But I can't let you go.
Please. We'll explain once
everyone's back inside.

KATIE
(disturbed, hiding it)
You heard the doctor. Looks like
our field trip has been extended.
Everyone off.

The kids, sensing trouble, exit much more orderly this time. The bus driver holds his hand out, stopping Britney.

DR. BOBBY CARVER
You too, sir.
(to the group)
While we move inside, you'll all
need to keep 4 to 6 feet apart --

*
*
*

The Driver reacts in surprise, then concern, as he unbuckles.

QUENTIN

Mom...

KATIE

Quentin, stay with me.

She's not just his teacher, she's his mother. She reaches for his hand, when Bobby STOPS HER.

DR. BOBBY CARVER

It's better if you don't touch.

Katie looks at him. His face is anxious. All traces of his earlier charisma gone. As she lets the kids get led off -- *

A SURVEILLANCE CAMERA catches the kids as they exit. *

27 EXT. CITY HALL - DAY

27

Lex sits on a bench, waiting. He absentmindedly toys with his phone. Pulls up JANA. Decides against dialing. Sabine Lommers sits down next to him. *

LOMMERS

Major Carnahan. Thank you for meeting me.

LEX

You can call me Lex. You seem important enough.

LOMMERS

I certainly act like it, don't I?
(a disarming smile)

Lex. I asked for you because you strike me as someone who could be a benefit in this situation. People seem to like you, and I need that.

LEX

Why?

LOMMERS

Because situations like this are made or broken by the civilians' response to authority. I need someone on the street who can keep people calm. *

Lex eyes her. Gauging her level of bullshit.

LEX

No offense, Ms. Lommers --

LOMMERS

Sabine. Please.

LEX

Sabine. Keeping people calm is my job. So I'm not so sure what you're asking here.

LOMMERS

There are going to be a lot of opinions flying around. The CDC's credibility took a few hits during the Ebola crisis. Social media will break this story before we do, and once the press gets a hold of it, well, we'll need a face, a man of the people. Someone they inherently want to trust. This is in your Zone. These people know you.

*

Lex eyes her. Suspicion nagging at him.

LEX

Lemme ask you a question. This kid, if he wasn't Middle Eastern, would we be taking all these precautions? Because if you want me out there as the 'man of the people', that's the kinda thing they're gonna wanna know.

*

LOMMERS

It's because he's Syrian that there's an elevated concern about bio-terrorism, yes.

(then)

I recognize that there's a lot happening behind closed doors here, Lex. But if I can count on you, your access will grow in direct proportion to your cooperation.

She talks a good game, but something isn't sitting right.

LEX

I've been on the job for twelve years. The reason people like me is 'cause I'm fair, I'm honest, and I got a great jump shot. I don't need access, I just need the truth.

*

*

LOMMERS

And you'll get it. If you stand by me. Be on my side. Help me represent my message.

LEX

I gotta be honest, Ms. Lommers. That sounds like a bribe.

*
*

LOMMERS

It's an incentive. No one likes to be left in the dark.

*
*
*

LEX

Yeah, well, as much as I know this is the part where I'm supposed to suck it up and cooperate, I think I'll just get back to work instead.

*
*
*
*
*

He stands, ready to walk away, but she stops him. An edge.

*

LOMMERS

Major, I've been doing my job as long as you've been doing yours. I've seen smallpox scares, SARS panic, West Nile. Most are news for a day, a week, maybe, until people find a Kardashian to distract them. But I've never seen anything like this virus before. How we handle it, how we handle ourselves, will determine whether or not we survive it. So think about this while you're sitting up there on your moral high horse: if we blow this, it's not just a hospital in your little corner of Atlanta that's in jeopardy. It's global.

*

Warning delivered, she walks off, leaving him troubled.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

28 INT. BITSCAN DATA RECOVERY - DAY

28 *

Jana rips open the plastic on packaged DISPOSABLE COVERALLS outside a 'clean room'. Suzy still has her phone.

SUZY

I don't get why you'd let him go.

JANA

I'm not letting him go.

SUZY

Yeah, ten missed calls? You're on the run, Jana. Like Julia Roberts in that wedding movie.

JANA

It was perfect the way it was. Why mess it up by living together?

SUZY

It's called commitment.

JANA

You should talk. I saw you flirting with Dennis in the lunchroom. Think his wife believes in commitment?

See Dennis deep in the bg as Jana dons the protective gear, heads for a hermetically sealed work space.

SUZY

I didn't say you should be like me.

JANA

Then why give me a hard time?

She hits a button. The outer door slides open. She steps inside another mantrap and the door closes behind her. Small nozzles spray her down with air from head to toe.

SUZY

Because I know your game. Just like in the group homes. Don't get too close because they're either gonna give you the boot, or you're gonna get taken away. Our crap-ass childhoods play out in every relationship you've ever had. Jake, I got. He had his own stuff. But Lex, he's a good one.

28 CONTINUED:

28

Jana steps into the bare cleanroom. A LAPTOP lies on the table, its motherboard separated. Tools next to it. As Jana heads for it, A TAP on the window.

JANA
Suzy, honestly --

She looks up to see Suzy holding up her cell to the glass window. LEX is calling again.

SUZY
Wanna make it eleven?

Jana stares down at her newly sanitized uniform. Sighs.

29 EXT. CITY HALL - DAY

29

Lex steals a private moment on the phone. It RINGS and RINGS. He paces. Ready to give up, when --

JANA (FILTERED)
Hi.

A dozen emotions cross his face. Relief. Frustration. Worry.

LEX
Hey...

He exhales. Now that he has her, he doesn't know what to say.

INTERCUT:

30 INT. BITSCAN DATA RECOVERY - DAY

30 *

Jana's outside the clean room. Stripping off her gloves.

JANA
So. I'm a jerk, huh.

LEX
I didn't mean to get so angry --

JANA
It's okay. I would've too, in your shoes.

LEX
I just...I love you. Too much, I guess.

On her end, she smiles. She loves him too.

JANA

No such thing. I just need to learn
how to let you, you know?

There's so much to say, but also --

LEX

Listen, there's some stuff going on
by your place. A possible outbreak.
And this thing moves fast. I think
you should stay with me in Edgewood
until they get it sorted out.

*
*
*

JANA

I haven't heard anything about it --

LEX

You will. It's a little too close
to home, ya know? I kinda want you
outta there.

*

JANA

(smiling)

You unleashed a virus to get me to
move in with you?

*
*

LEX

Hah. Yeah. Clever bastard, huh?

JANA

Yeah, okay. I'll go to your place.

*

LEX

Just until this blows over --

*
*

JANA

Lex. I mean I'm in. For good. Like
I should have been this morning.

*
*
*

LEX

You are?

*

JANA

I am. I love you. I'll go.

*

A smile breaks across his face.

LEX

Good. Good.

*

31 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - ABANDONED WING - DAY 31

An empty wing of the hospital. Storage, etc. Katie's STUDENTS
run around. She's on the phone. *

KATIE

A potential exposure, that's all
they said.

(MORE)

31 CONTINUED:

31

KATIE (CONT'D)

Britney had the sniffles, so they took her for observation, but her mom's boyfriend -- the bus driver, yeah -- said she's got hay fever.

(as a kid runs by her)

Mary, no running -- you guys, settle down, I'm talking to Principal Watkins. Mary, no touching either.

(checks her call-waiting)

I'll call you back.

(answering)

I can't talk right now, Grace. I know. I'm as concerned as you are.

Whoever Grace is, this is not someone she likes dealing with. Her face shows strain. Smile gone. She passes BERT (the rat man), who is also on the phone.

BERT

It should just be a few more hours. But I won't be able to make Micheline lunch. Could you help?

32 EXT. ATLANTA - STREETS - DAY

32

Teresa heads for the train station with a small rolling suitcase as she talks.

TERESA

Did you call my mom?

INTERCUT:

BERT

She's busy at the store, she said.

TERESA

Too busy to feed her mother-in-law? Classy.

BERT

Teresa. We both know your mama's missin' a chip where those things are concerned. But help an old man out, okay, my sweet girl?

Teresa sighs. Eyes her watch.

TERESA

Sure, Grandpa. I'll handle it.

She hangs up, immediately making another call. We hear Xander's phone go to voicemail.

*
*

TERESA (CONT'D)

Hey. I got held up. I'll take the 5:30, but you go ahead, okay? Love you.

*
*
*
*

As she walks, she passes:

JAKE. Coming around the edge of a police VAN. Walden exits the passenger side.

JAKE

The doctors told Lex it only seems to be spread through fluids. Blood, sweat, semen, urine.

WALDEN

There's one hundred percent a joke there.

*
*
*

JAKE

Yeah, well, keep it to yourself. Put gloves on and lower your visor. Don't touch anything or anyone.

*
*
*

Jake and Walden put on gloves and helmets as Jake walks towards a HOUSE. A local EPIDEMIC INTELLIGENCE SERVICE OFFICER (male, 50) approaches, tying on a medical face mask.

*

JIM BANKS

Officer Riley? Jim Banks, EIS. You take the lead. Not sure who these people trust less, doctors or cops.

Jake ignores the cultural slur, rings the bell. Radwan Nassir answers the door. Shocked, then nervous.

*

JAKE

Atlanta PD. Do you speak English?

RADWAN

(slightly broken accent)
Hello. Yes I do.

JAKE

Great. Do you know this person?

Jake holds up a photo print out of the Sayid camera footage.

RADWAN

I don't recognize him.

JAKE

(sighs)
I'm sure that seems like the smart answer, except that a city traffic camera captured the tags on your car when it was used to pick him up from Atlanta Midtown hospital on Tuesday.

*
*
*
*

JAKE (CONT'D)

(uncomfortable silence)

Look, sir, I'm not Immigration. As you can see, I'm accompanied by the Health Department. We've been asked to bring him in as it pertains to a potential viral outbreak. I'm sure our presence here seems suspicious, but we do not mean you any harm. Your friend's health is at risk. And maybe yours too, and your family's.

*

*

Radwan considers this. Finally --

*

RADWAN

He's my nephew.

JAKE

Okay. Good. Thank you.

(then)

You need to step back and stay 4-6 feet away from us at all times. Thank you. I appreciate it.

He enters, lowering his visor. Jim Banks follows.

33 INT. RADWAN'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

33

*

The men file into the living room, passing the kitchen. A small FAMILY is gathering for lunch.

RADWAN

Could you take your shoes off?

JAKE

It's an emergency, unfortunately.

(to the family)

Hello, I'm with the Atlanta Police, I need to speak to Sayid -

One woman (LEENA, 40) starts yelling in Arabic.

*

LEENA

Don't you police have crimes to solve? He's just a boy.

*

*

JAKE

(ignoring her, to Radwan)

When did he arrive in the country?

*

RADWAN

Monday.

JAKE

How?

(off his hesitation)

C'mon, man, we gotta trust each other if we're gonna do this right.

JIM BANKS

We need to know who he came into contact with. Immigration officials, fellow passengers, ticket handlers. You watch the news, you see what's happening in Africa. We need to trace your nephew's steps.

*

RADWAN

(reluctant)

He flew in the hold of a cargo plane. His father got him on the plane, I got him off.

Leena starts yelling again. Radwan SHUSHES her.

*

RADWAN (CONT'D)

Hush, Leena. I said HUSH.

(to Jake)

Those militant groups, they were trying to recruit him. He wanted to come to America, to his family.

*

*

*

*

JAKE

Yeah, that's great, but we need to know who he's been in contact with.

RADWAN

He hasn't left the house except to go to the hospital. The flight, it took a lot out of him. He was dehydrated, malnourished. Had a cold, but nothing more.

Nearby, Jake sees the RED BAG from the surveillance video.

RADWAN (CONT'D)

I took him to the hospital. No one else has gone anywhere.

*

JAKE

(re: the bag)

What's in this?

*

*

RADWAN

His belongings.

*

33 CONTINUED: (2) 33

Radwan indicates for Jake to follow him down the hallway. *

34 INT. RADWAN'S HOUSE - BEDROOM - DAY 34 *

Jake enters the bedroom with Radwan to find Sayid on the bed with his GRANDMOTHER (70's) looking after him. His eyes rimmed in red. Snot-nosed. He looks terrible. *

ECU ON: A bead of sweat dripping down Sayid's forehead. The woman tries to wipe his forehead dry.

JAKE

Hey, hey. Tell her she can't touch him. He's infectious.

JIM BANKS

We'll need to take him with us.

The Grandmother starts wailing. Sayid panics, starts to scramble back. *

JAKE

Just stay calm --

ECU on the Grandmother as she SNEEZES. Sayid BOLTS. Jake panics, takes a step back to avoid touching him.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Dammit, I'm trying to help you.

At the door, WALDEN sees Sayid racing for him. His VISOR hasn't been put in place as he lingers on the porch.

WALDEN

Son of a bitch --

He fumbles with his visor, but the gloves make it difficult. Just as Sayid is getting within literal spitting distance --

WHAM! Jake tackles him from behind by his feet. As he FALLS, we watch BEADS OF SWEAT fly towards Walden's face.

Walden finally gets his visor down JUST AS THE SWEAT HITS HIS FACE SHIELD. RACK FOCUS from the sweat to his terrified eyes.

Jake stares at him, breathing heavily. Bullet dodged. Barely.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

35 OMITTED 35 *

36 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - ABANDONED WING - DAY 36 *

Katie is still on the phone. A couple CAFETERIA WORKERS distribute lunches and juice to the kids. *

KATIE *

No, don't come. They won't let you in, they've sealed the whole place for a few hours, just to be safe. (listening) We're in the old wing, it's all storage. We're fine. *

Mary comes up to her. Waving for her attention. *

KATIE (CONT'D) (her irritation showing) *

What do you want me to do, Grace? *

They won't let us go anywhere. I'm hanging up. I'll keep you posted. (hanging up) *

Mary, four-to-six feet. What's up? *

MARY *

I wanna see the rats too.

KATIE *

No one's seeing the rats, Mary. The rats are probably the last thing they want us to see right now.

MARY *

Then why did Quentin and Thomas get to go on a tour?

KATIE *

Is that what they said? (off Mary's nod, anxious) Stay here. I mean it. *

She hurries off down the hallway.

37 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - ISOLATION WARD - DAY 37 *

Sayid is in isolation. Feverish, sweaty, terrified. A NURSE in PROTECTIVE GEAR takes blood from his arm. Outside, Jake talks to Dr. Cannerts. He holds a plastic-wrapped item. *

JAKE

EIS is with the family initiating home quarantine procedure. At least three of 'em have had direct contact. I think one is sick.

*
*

DR. CANNERTS

They'll assess the situation and make decisions accordingly.

JAKE

What happens to the healthy ones stuck in there with them?

DR. CANNERTS

(beat)

If proper protocol is followed, the situation should stay in control.

*
*

Jake takes in the implications of that statement. Then, handing the bag over --

JAKE

This is the stuff the guy carried with him. I'm gonna head to the precinct --

*
*

DR. CANNERTS

Actually, I think it would be wise, considering the contact you had, if you stayed here a while.

JAKE

I had my visor on. Gloves. No fluids got near me --

DR. CANNERTS

Just as a precaution. I'm sure there's nothing to worry about.

Rattled, Jake nods. Cannerts looks past Jake, and sees Katie has entered the secured ward.

DR. CANNERTS (CONT'D)

Excuse me, miss. This is a private ward. You can't be here.

KATIE

Sorry. I'm looking for my son and his friend. They went looking for the rats in the research labs...

37 CONTINUED: (2)

37

Her voice trails as she sees Sayid behind the glass.

JAKE
I'll help her.

He turns to go, but Dr. Cannerts stops him.

DR. CANNERTS
Officer...4 to 6 feet. Both of you,
gloves and masks, please.

Jake nods. Steals a final glance at Sayid as he moves towards Katie. Passing her, he nods towards a rack of examination gear as he pulls on his police issued gloves. Curt.

JAKE
Not a good time to let your kid go
wandering off.

She stares after him, offended. A beat, then follows in spite of herself. Grabbing gloves and a mask as she goes.

38 INT. PARKING GARAGE - DAY

38 *

Jana walks to her bike. Leaving a voicemail message. *

JANA
Suzy, it's me. I couldn't find you.
I'm headed to Lex's. Believe it or
not, I'm taking your advice for the
first time since we were twelve.

As she unlocks the chain -- *

JANA (CONT'D)
And hey -- when you go home
tonight, actually go home, okay?
Lex said there's some bad stuff
happening around town. Don't stay
out with Dennis. Not tonight.

She hangs up, grabbing her bike. *

39 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - LOWER LEVELS - DAY

39

Katie and Jake hurry down the hall. Katie takes in their surroundings. Dim lighting, decaying exam rooms, etc.

KATIE
Where the hell are we?
(off his silence)
That guy back there, is it bad?
(MORE)

KATIE (CONT'D)

I've got fifteen kids here. I feel like I should know if it's bad.

JAKE

4-6 feet, Miss.

KATIE

And my son, Quentin, I didn't let him run off. He was obsessed with the rats. I was talking to parents.

Jake just walks ahead, his mind racing with his own problems. They approach the end of a hallway. RESTRICTED DOORS separate them from the next area.

Katie sees a sign that reads "Research Laboratories." As she quickly walks toward the doors, an ORDERLY exits.

KATIE (CONT'D)

Excuse me. We need to get in there -

ORDERLY

It's restricted.

JAKE

We're looking for a couple of young kids. Boys.

(looks to Katie)

Around how old? Six? Eight?

KATIE

Eleven.

JAKE

(slight surprise)

Eleven. They'd have been heading for the research labs.

*

KATIE

Can we just take a quick look?

ORDERLY

I can't let you in there --

KATIE

(moving closer to him)

Please, I just need to look.

ORDERLY

Hey, four to six feet --

KATIE

(moving even closer)

The officer and I were just in the same hall as the infected man.

Better not get too close.

JAKE

Miss. Hey. Miss.

Katie doesn't stop. The Orderly looks at Jake, wtf?

ORDERLY

You're a cop, man.

JAKE

Whaddya want me to do, shoot her?

Finally the orderly whips his pass off and chucks it at her.

ORDERLY

I ain't dying for this job.

Katie grabs his pass and lets herself through the doors. Moving with purpose. Jake hurries to catch up.

JAKE

You're a piece of work.

KATIE

Four to six feet, please.

Katie and Jake search the hallway. They pass by a windowed room. Inside a DOCTOR IN PROTECTIVE GEAR is examining bodies.

Katie GASPS, stepping back, accidentally stumbling into Jake's arms. She quickly separates, getting her distance, as she sneaks another peek in through the small window.

There are two bodies lying side by side. Dr. Rita Sanders and another BODY. The doctor looks up towards the window, sensing something. But Jake and Katie are long gone. *

A **CHYRON** informs us we're at the Centers for Disease Control. *

LOMMERS (PRELAP)

Dr. Cannerts, do you have an update?

41 INT. CDC - BRIEFING ROOM - DAY 41

Lex enters a briefing room, this one is higher tech. Multiple SCREENS. Packed with Lommers and many high-end officials. Dr. Cannerts is on SKYPE.

DR. CANNERTS

At 1500 hours, our Patient Zero took a turn for the worse.

INTERCUT:

42 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - ISOLATION WARD - DAY 42

Sayid SCREAMS and SHAKES in his isolation room. The doctor in protective gear tries to get control of him.

DR. CANNERTS

The virus appeared to be causing acute encephalopathy in addition to severe hepatic injury. His symptoms escalated to what I can best describe in laymen's terms as rabid.

*
*
*

Sayid fights off the Doctor, knocking him down. He starts RUNNING INTO THE WINDOW. Blood SPRAYING everywhere.

DR. CANNERTS (CONT'D)

At 1627 hours, there was extreme hemoptysis and hemorrhaging. This was followed by a series of seizures.

*
*

Suddenly Sayid STOPS. His eyes widening as BLOOD STARTS STREAMING FROM THEM LIKE TEARS. He drops to the ground, his whole body shaking in seizure.

DR. CANNERTS (CONT'D)

At 1629 hours, Patient Zero was pronounced dead.

Finally, the seizures STOP. Sayid lies still. Dead.

DR. CANNERTS (CONT'D)

Soon after, Dr. Sanders succumbed.

*

FLASH BACK TO:

43 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - ISOLATION WARD - DAY 43

A protective-suited Dr. Cannerts watches as Dr. Rita Sanders stares up at him, bloody and broken. A final death RATTLE and she's gone.

*
*

43 CONTINUED:

43

DR. CANNERTS (V.O.)
Her boyfriend died shortly after.

44 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - SURVEILLANCE FOOTAGE - DAY 44

Footage of a MAN coming up behind Dr. Sanders as she does her charts. He kisses her from behind, surprising her. She turns and kisses him back. *

It's the same body Katie and Jake saw in the autopsy room.

DR. CANNERTS (V.O.)
According to EIS, several inside
the home of the man we now know as
Sayid Nassir have begun to exhibit
early symptoms. Pharyngitis,
headaches, myalgia. This confirms
our assessment that Sayid is indeed
Patient Zero.

*
*
*

45 EXT. RADWAN'S APARTMENT - DAY

45

Officer WALDEN is outside on guard. EIS officers in
protective gear escort Radwan and others who all exhibit flu
symptoms out of the building and into a SPECIALLY OUTFITTED
AMBULANCE. Radwan is furious. Yelling. *

*
*

RADWAN
This is crap. He was fine. Just a
bad cold. You did this.
(wracked with coughs)
He was just a kid who wanted a
better life...

*

RESUME:

Lex watches Sabine Lommers, looking grave as Dr. Cannerts
concludes his report.

DR. CANNERTS
Given this information, I'm afraid
I must declare the virus as
extremely pathogenic, highly
contagious, and fatal in one
hundred percent of its victims.

*
*
*
*

As the room erupts in murmurs of anxiety...

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

46 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - OLD RESEARCH LABS - DAY 46

CLOSE ON THE RATS. Bert has two rapt audience members in Quentin and Thomas as he explains --

BERT

My wife Micheline gives them names.
This is Liesl. Rolf. Justin Bieber.

Katie enters the room. Relief and anger.

KATIE

Quentin -- what did I say about
sticking close?
(to Bert)
I'm sorry for the bother, sir.

BERT

No bother. Nice to have company.
They were good. Followed the rules.
4-6 feet. No touching.

KATIE

Thanks. It's Bert, right?

BERT

(nods, then)
C'mon, young ones. Let's get you
back.

He ushers them out. Quentin eyeballs Katie.

QUENTIN

Freaky mask, mom.

She had forgotten it was there. She pulls it down, following them into the hallway where Jake stands. As the boys follow Bert, she turns to Jake.

KATIE

I appreciate your help.

JAKE

No problem.

KATIE

Don't ever have children. Unless
you do. In which case, sorry.

He grins. Shakes his head. Then --

*

JAKE

You seem kinda young to have an eleven year-old.

*

KATIE

Life is full of surprises, right?

(then)

I'm Katie.

She smiles. Warmth behind her weary eyes.

JAKE

Jake.

He holds out his hand, then pulls it back, realizing. They have to laugh at the awkwardness of not being able to touch.

*

Katie's phone rings. She checks the caller ID. GRACE. She sighs in frustration. Hits ignore.

*

*

JAKE (CONT'D)

Angry mother?

*

*

KATIE

Something like that.

(deciding to elaborate)

I share custody with his dad's parents. Long story. Tonight's their night.

*

*

*

*

*

*

JAKE

You're under lockdown --

*

*

KATIE

You'd think that would make a difference, huh.

*

*

*

Jake shakes his head at how ridiculous that is.

*

KATIE (CONT'D)

Anyway. They live in fear that something will go wrong on my watch. I live in fear of them being right. We spend our lives being afraid so that Quentin won't have to. And now here I am. And my son doesn't know enough about fear to not run off down abandoned hallways to see lab rats.

*
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*

She gives him an awkward smile. He studies her. Intrigued.

*

DR. BOBBY CARVER (O.S.)

What are you doing down here?

They turn to find Bobby Carver heading their way.

KATIE

My son Quentin --

DR. BOBBY CARVER

(cutting her off)

Listen, they're officially putting the hospital on lockdown.

JAKE

We already were on lockdown.

DR. BOBBY CARVER

Yeah, this is, well...they don't want anyone leaving for 48 hours.

KATIE

Forty-eight hours?

DR. BOBBY CARVER

We have cots and stuff they're setting up in your wing for the kids. Plus gloves and masks.

(off her anxiety)

Look, I'm not gonna lie to you. This is a...unique situation. But we're in good hands. We just have to trust the system, follow the rules, and everything will be fine, right??

But his last word is cut off when he SNEEZES. Katie and Jake instinctively take a step back. Staring at him in horror. Jake puts himself in between them.

JAKE

Katie, go get that other doctor.
Cannerts. Now.
(to Bobby)
You. Don't take one step.

As Katie hurries away, Jake slowly puts on his helmet. *

LOMMERS (PRELAP)

Dr. Cannerts, are you any closer to
defining the virus?

47 INT. CDC - BRIEFING ROOM - DAY

47

Lex looks around. The room seems suddenly nervous. Various
monitors show MICROSCOPIC IMAGING of the flu virus. Cells
are moving, changing, breaking down. On other MONITORS,
Doctors from various global locations are skyped in.

DR. CANNERTS

According to the latest diagnostic
information, the agent has been
identified as influenza A with
hemagglutinin 7 and neuraminidase 2
or H7N2, an avian influenza that
until now, has not been known to be
transmitted between humans. It
appears the genome of this virus
has been manipulated to give it
higher pathogenicity, and to make
it capable of human to human
transmission. We discovered a vial
in Patient Zero's belongings that
had traces of a biological agent.
We must assume he brought it into
the country, and into the hospital,
where he infected Dr. Sanders. *

LOMMERS

(stepping forward)

Given the threat of bio-terrorism,
this is now a matter of National
Security. As such, I recommend we
institute top-level containment
measures in order to protect the
citizens of this city from further
exposure. *

LEX

What exactly are top-level
containment measures? *

LOMMERS

(ignoring him)

At this point, protocol demands we release any non-essentials from the room while Federal, State and Local Health confer with the Governor's office and the Chief of Police. That would be you, Major.

People start getting escorted out of the room by SECURITY, Lex among them. He looks at Lommers in frustration. Her look back says it all: *if you're not on my side, you're shut out.*

48 OMITTED 48 *

49 EXT. MARTA STATION - DAY 49 *

Pregnant Teresa stands on the train platform with her suitcase. She's also on the phone.

TERESA

It's all good, Grandpa. Yeah, she wanted a cheeseburger. I know. I gotta go. I'm catching the train to North Springs to see Xander. Our little secret?

(beat)

I will. I love you too.

She hangs up. Her TRAIN pulls in, but just as it stops, inexplicably it starts up again. Leaving the station before the doors unload any passengers.

Teresa looks around at the commuters, confused. Suddenly a dozen POLICE enter the station. Directing people to evacuate.

50 EXT. CITY HALL - DAY 50 *

Lex is on the phone leaving a message. *

LEX *

Jana. Things have gotten a little crazier since we talked -- I don't know what time I'll be home. But you have the key. Don't stop at your place to get your stuff. Don't waste any time. Just go straight to mine. You'll be safe there. Call me as soon as you get in, okay? *

His call-waiting BEEPS. He switches over. *

50 CONTINUED:

50

LEX (CONT'D)
Hey, man, this is getting insane.
Where are you?

INTERCUT:

50A INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - OLD RESEARCH LABS - DAY 50A
(PREVIOUSLY SCENE 53)

Jake is PISSED as he keeps his distance from Bobby Carver.

JAKE
At the hospital. I can't leave. I'm
stuck.

LEX
You're part of the lockdown?

JAKE
I'm in the middle of the damn hot
zone, Lex. Some guy just sneezed
four feet from my face.

Lex sees Lommers and her team exit a CDC VEHICLE.

LEX
Listen, I have an in with the
government. Maybe --

JAKE
They're not gonna let me out. I had
contact with patient zero. It's the
freakin' zombie apocalypse up there
in the isolation ward. I'm not
getting out.

Jake is starting to panic.

LEX
Jake. Just stay calm. Follow the
protocol --

JAKE
Screw you, man. You're the one who
sent me in here.

He hangs up. Pissed. Sees Katie down the hall, having
returned with Dr. Cannerts. Unable to control his anger, he
PUNCHES a door open, disappearing into the darkness. She
watches him go. Concerned for him.

BACK WITH LEX as Sabine Lommers moves quickly towards the
street, with her team close behind her. He cuts her off.

LEX

Ms. Lommers. I asked what your intentions are for our city.

*

LOMMERS

It's Dr. Lommers, actually, since you're insisting on remaining formal. And you don't fall within protocol, Major Carnahan --

LEX

Screw protocol. You want me out there in Zone 6 representing your message? You want me on your side? Fine, I'm on your side. Tell me what you're doing.

Lommers looks at him, smiles, knowing she's won this round.

LOMMERS

Glad to hear we're finally on the same team, Major. Follow me.

LEX

Where are we going?

LOMMERS

We're instituting a *cordon sanitaire* to contain the spread of this virus.

*
*
*

LEX

What the hell is that?

LOMMERS

We're putting your zone of the city under complete quarantine.

*

Off Lex as he stares at her in horror.

END OF ACT FIVE

ACT SIX

51 OMITTED 51 *

52 EXT. HARDY IVY PARK - NIGHT 52 *

Jana is on her bike, navigating through gridlocked traffic. People out of their cars honking, angry. She takes off her headphones and looks around. Confused. *

CAMERA leaves her and crests up the hill, revealing -- *

LEX and two dozen COPS managing the chaos on the street. Re-directing traffic. Rolling out barbed wire. Setting barriers. *

LOMMERS (PRELAP) *

It is an admittedly controversial action... *

53 OMITTED (MOVED TO 50A) 53 *

54 INT. CITY HALL - NIGHT 54 *

Lommers stands at a podium with the Governor, the Mayor, Chief Besser, among others, giving a press conference.

LOMMERS *

...but a *Cordon Sanitaire* has shown to be highly effective in Sierra Leone keeping Ebola under control. With the Governor at the helm, local and state officials as well as law enforcement will outline the proper measures to ensure safety for all involved. *

55 EXT. GROCERY MART STREET - NIGHT 55

Teresa is on her phone as she walks.

TERESA

Where are you?

INTERCUT:

56 EXT. ATLANTA STREETS - NIGHT 56 *

Xander hurries down a city street. *

XANDER

I was gonna meet you for the 5:30 but I couldn't get past 10th. *

TERESA

They shut down the trains. I don't understand what's going on --

A COP CAR drives by TERESA, broadcasting on a megaphone.

COP (VIA SPEAKER)

Keep 4 to 6 feet away from each other. It is imperative that you stay inside. Remain in home quarantine. Call the Georgia Department of Public Health or visit their website for further instructions --

*
*
*

TERESA

Xander?

She's genuinely scared. Xander steels himself.

XANDER

Go back to the store. I'm coming to get you.

57 INT. BITSCAN DATA RECOVERY - NIGHT

57

*

A TV plays a news report to an empty room in Jana's darkened workplace.

LOMMERS (ON TV)

The Governor and the President are in full support. It's only forty-eight hours. A minor inconvenience compared to what could happen if we do not take an aggressive stance on containing this virus.

*

*

The CAMERA finds a dim light burning at the end of the office hall, where Suzy and a man (DENNIS) are having sex in the office kitchen, oblivious to the goings-on outside.

58 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - ISOLATION WARD - NIGHT

58

Jake, visor down and gloves on, stands outside the isolation room staring at Bobby. As if glimpsing his own future.

He finally walks away, passing TWO MORE ROOMS. One is getting scrubbed and cleaned by protective-suited orderlies. The next contains the DOCTOR who assisted Sayid. His face clammy. Early signs of illness.

*
*
*

Outside, the BUS DRIVER, sits on the phone.

*

58 CONTINUED:

58

BUS DRIVER

I'm telling you, honey, she's fine.
Her allergies cleared right up when
she got into isolation.

Reveal Britney in the final room. She looks bored and
restless, but perfectly healthy.

*
*

59 OMITTED

59

*

60 INT. GROCERY MART - NIGHT

60

*

LOMMERS (V.O.)

Each access point to the exposure
area will be cordoned off.

*
*
*

Teresa's mother Leanne watches the goings-on on the
television as she finishes closing down the store. Lommers
references a large CITY MAP.

LOMMERS

The borders being North Avenue, the
NorthEast beltline, Freedom Parkway
and the 500 block of Peachtree NW.
All mass transit will be shut down.
Roads will be closed. Public
gatherings cancelled.

*
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The door OPENS. Teresa enters. Behind her, in the streets,
the sounds of another COP ANNOUNCEMENT as a car passes.

POLICE (VIA SPEAKER)

...Avoid contact. Stay inside....

Leanne looks at her daughter, shocked to see her. Her eyes
fall to Teresa's SUITCASE.

*
*

LEANNE

Grandpa told me you were leaving.
You were supposed to get out. Why
didn't you get out?

Leanne moves towards her, reaching out, but Teresa takes a
quick step back. Leanne halts. Hurt. Teresa explains --

TERESA

The police. They said avoid
contact. 4-6 feet...

As mother and daughter stand, separated...

LOMMERS (V.O.)

Given the data we've gathered, the
incubation period is anywhere from
16 - 48 hours after exposure.

*

61 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - ABANDONED WING - NIGHT 61 *

LOMMERS (V.O.)

It can only be passed through
fluids. Blood, mucus, urine...

Katie sits on a cot, watching her son play with his friends. They've managed to make a game out of keeping 4-6 feet apart. Worry etches her face. She looks up. Jake is in the doorway. They exchange looks. He takes the cot across from her. 4-6 feet away. He gives her a wan smile. She smiles back.

Across the room, Bert paces back and forth on a cell phone.

BERT

I know, my love, I know. But it's
only 48 hours. Do you have
everything you need?

INTERCUT:

62 INT. BERT AND MICHELINE'S HOME - NIGHT 62

CLOSE ON A WOMAN'S FACE as she sits speaking on her cell phone. This is Bert's wife, the beautiful MICHELINE (65).

MICHELINE

Teresa took good care of me. I'll
be fine. You just worry about
yourself. Stay safe, Berty.
(listening)
I love you too.

A beat as she hangs up the phone, concerned. She moves her arms, and we PULL BACK to reveal her seat is actually a WHEELCHAIR. She wheels herself into the next room.

LOMMERS (V.O.)

Once we're 48 hours disease free,
our lives can go back to normal.
Until then, have faith in the
authorities and know that everyone
is working to keep us all safe.

*

63 EXT. HARDY IVY PARK - NIGHT 63 *

Electric fences are being rigged. Lex addresses an angry crowd. *

LEX

It's just temporary, if you all
could please step back --

The people trying to get past him get aggressive. *"My dog's home."* *"I have nowhere to stay."* Etc.

LEX (CONT'D)

People, trust me, you do not want back in to this part of the city. Stay back, please. Find somewhere to stay for the next forty-eight hours. The city crisis center can help you make arrangements. I know it's an inconvenience but it will be worth it. It's only 48 hours...

As Lex manages the escalating CHAOS, he spots JANA, on her bike. On the wrong side of the perimeter.

LEX (CONT'D)

Jana. JANA!

But she can't hear him over the din. He fights his way to the front line. His eyes scan the crowd. *

LEX (CONT'D)

Dammit.

He moves quickly, trying to keep her in eyesight. He sees her turn her bike around, pedaling the other way. *

LEX (CONT'D)

No -- JANA.

He reaches for his phone, dialing. Watching as she rides off, firmly implanting headphones in her ears. He eyes the fence, ready to hop it to chase her down, when suddenly the electric fence goes LIVE with a BUZZ. Trying not to panic, he notices a teenager STRUGGLING nearby in the arms of Officer Walden. *

LEX (CONT'D)

HEY --

He pulls Walden off the kid. It's XANDER.

XANDER

He won't let me through --

LEX

(to Walden)

He's a kid, Pete. Take a walk.

Walden shrugs, moves back to crowd control. Lex, to Xander --

LEX (CONT'D)

I can't let you in there, I'm
sorry. It's for your own good.

XANDER

My girl's in there --

Lex stares at him. Realizing their shared predicament.

LEX

So is mine. But if I let you
through that barrier, I'm risking
your life. And if we let anyone
out, we're risking the lives of
everyone in this city. I can't be
that person. I can't let you be
that person. Do you understand?

*
*

Xander nods, on the verge of crying from anger and fear.
Nearby, a scruffy REPORTER, LEO (40) has noticed their
exchange, indicating to a CAMERAMAN to film.

*
*
*

LEX (CONT'D)

We have to trust the doctors.
They'll find a way to stop this.
Everything will be fine.

He leads Xander away, unaware that his heroic actions have
caught Leo's eye...

*

Lommers completes the press conference.

LOMMERS

With communication, trust and
cooperation, this will be over
before it begins. Thank you.

Suddenly images from the chaotic teaser RACE PAST OUR SCREEN
in a series of super-speed shots, telling us that the chaos
is far from over, as we --

SMASH TO BLACK.

END OF PILOT

CORDON PILOT APPENDIX

33 INT. RADWAN'S APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY 33 *

One woman starts yelling in Arabic. Radwan is there, angry -- *

Note: 3 = 'ayn and ' = hamza. *

LEENA LEENA (CONT'D) *

Don't you police have crimes Ma 3indkum shi taani ta3mlu? *

to solve? He's just a boy. Ba3du walad sgheer. **

LEENA LEENA (CONT'D) *

What are you doing? Don't Shu 3am ta3mal? Mat illun *

tell them anything. They're shee. Hol za3ran. Sayid ibn *

trouble. Sayid's a good boy. halaal. Ma kharju hal **

He doesn't deserve this. bahdaleh. *

LEENA LEENA (CONT'D) *

This isn't fair. We haven't Hadha zulum. Ma azayna hadda. *

hurt anyone. We just wanted a Bas kaan badna hayaat ahsan *

better life for Sayid. He li Sayid. Bi hi'illu hayaa *

deserves that. He deserves to kareemeh. Bi hi'illu hayaa **

be with his family. ma3a ahlu. *

GRANDMOTHER GRANDMOTHER (CONT'D) *

No. Sayid. No. He's just a La'. Sayid. La'. Ba3du *

boy. sgheer. **

8 INT. ATLANTA MIDTOWN HOSPITAL - SURVEILLANCE FOOTAGE - DAY 8 *

His companion Radwan, picks up the red bag as Dr. Rita Sanders catches up to them. They exchange a few words. *

DR. SANDERS *

Excuse me, Mr. Nassir? I really *

think you should stay for *

observation. At least a few hours. *

RADWAN *

He just wants to go home. We can *

take care of him there. *

DR. SANDERS *

Well he'll need to sign this form *

before he leaves. *

14 INT. GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH - DAY 14 *

Lex watches her take command. Suddenly at full alert. *

LOMMERS

Dr. Cannerts has identified a possible public health threat. As such, we'll need to respond quickly and efficiently.

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