



SENTIENT- PILOT- AUSTRALIA

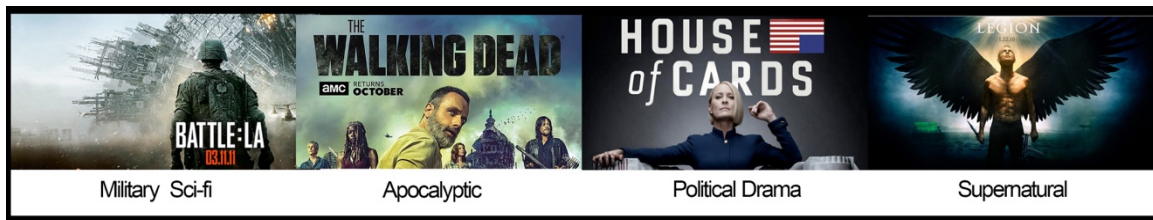
- **LOGLINE**
- **CHARACTERS**
- **ONE PAGE SYNOPSIS**

Updated: August 2019

Sentient – Logline

When an alien lifeform unleashes a holocaust on humanity, a Navy diver takes command of the survivors to fight back against an ever-evolving, ever more frightening version of us, 'The Sentient.'

Genre



Pilot – Characters

Lt. Commander Michael Dowd – A Royal Australian Navy Diver who wakes in a recompression chamber to discover Sydney engulfed in a savage red storm. Dowd believes this is a chemical / biological attack and a 'first strike', before invasion. He resolves to round-up every hard-bodied killer he can find on his base and take the fight to the enemy, an enemy, he does not yet know is alien.

Dr Amon Teicher – Scientist and head of Senninger Defence Industries' Biological Warfare division. Teicher comes to work this morning with a dark intention. His plan is interrupted by the storm. He flees his laboratory before its containment protocol can seal him inside forever.

Teicher joins Dowd on their journey on Day One to discover what has happened. He sees disturbing signs that lead him to believe we are dealing with something extraordinary. Even he cannot imagine what he will see by the end of Day One.

Commodore Laurent Freisler – RAN senior officer. Freisler uses the storm as an opportunity to advance a long-held grudge against Dowd.

Heidi Fisk – Heidi, recently separated from her fiancée, wakes after the storm. All she knows is that she has missed her flight back to the USA and that she will likely be taken to a detention centre as a Visa overstayer.

Heidi emerges on to the streets of Sydney to discover the city deserted and that she is all alone.

Sammy - The mysterious teenage daughter of a Doctor who was staying at Heidi Fisk's hotel. Sammy holds no fear of the Sentient. She seeks them out. There is some connection between them.

Senator Bernard Hass – A deeply religious man, struck blind by the storm, Hass wanders the road to Bankstown fearing this is a judgement by God. Hass will regain his sight by the end of Day One and discover this was his, 'Saul to Apostle Paul' moment.

The Acolyte – Meshach the Acolyte – The very first person that Senator Hass sees when his sight is restored is Meshach, a hooded figure, hiding terrible burns. The acolyte reveals to the Senator, 'This is his road to Damascus.'

Rebecca Kay – The daughter of a mining magnate. Kay finds herself on Balmoral beach just as the first of the Sentient make their way ashore.

Vice Admiral J. Deakin Frank - Father to Lt. Aiden Frank and mentor to Dowd. The great man is brought low by the storm and the death of his son.

Lt. Aiden Frank – Son of Admiral Frank. Frank, a team member in Dowd's command, takes his own life before the arrival of the storm creating a ghost for Dowd to deal with. * Not literal ghost. Ghost as in screenplay ghost.

Petty Officer Lachlan Hunt - A Royal Australian Navy Diver who survives the storm but is in shock. Dowd finds him and rallies him to the cause.

Able Seaman Che Amiri – Survived the storm in the base armoury. Hard-bodied warrior gal who Joins Dowd on an aborted journey to the airport to take on the enemy.

Beata Rosen – We first meet Rosen when she attacks her brother with an axe. Rosen, a property developer, is joined by her bodyguard, Dante. A powerful mover and shaker, she takes control of the situation when the Commodore departs to seek out his son in hospital.

Dante – Rosen's bodyguard. A no nonsense, cold-blooded killer. The same man is very sensitive and considerate in his attendance to the needs of 'Ms Rosen.'

Eid – A zealot security guard who, under the instruction of the Commodore, takes on Dowd early on, loses, then becomes focused on revenge. Eid finds a powerful backer in Beata Rosen.

Babic – A security guard, barely holding it together after the storm.

Skateboarder – Dude who takes advantage of the storm by riding on the Sydney Harbour Bridge for free.

Senior Constable Wasim Sabban – A NSW Police Tactical Operations Unit specialist who, even though himself experiencing anaphylactic shock saves Senator Bernard Hass' life and guides him down the road to the airport in search of survivors. Hass never sees the person who saved him.

The Sentient – The first of the Sentient we meet appears on Balmoral beach just after killing two Doberman dogs. Translucent black, full of stars, the humanoid figure rises to tower over Sammy then locks onto Dowd.

One Page Synopsis

Lt Commander Michael Dowd, a special forces Navy diver, based at HMAS Penguin in Sydney, emerges from a recompression chamber to discover mass casualties and the city engulfed in a savage red storm.

Dowd believes the storm is a chemical or biological attack and prelude to invasion. **He resolves to take the fight to the enemy.** Dowd encounters **Dr Amon Teicher**, a scientist with a dark secret. Dowd and Teicher attempt to reach the Command bunker but collapse in the storm.

The storm subsides. Sydney hums like a Tibetan singing bowl. **Senator Bernard Hass**, blinded by the storm, walks the deserted road to Bankstown. A devoutly religious man, he fears his blindness is proof of his damnation.

Across town, in a city hotel, **Heidi Fisk** wakes to discover she has missed her flight back to the USA. Heidi fears she will be taken to a detention centre. Heidi finds she is alone. Heidi is terrified of being alone.

Jumbo jets circle Sydney. Dowd surmises they carry an invading army.

On their way to the bunker, Dowd and Teicher are attacked by Teicher's sister, property developer **Beata Rosen**. Rosen is psychotic.

Heidi makes her way on foot over the Harbour Bridge, Hass towards the airport, and Dowd and Teicher escort Rosen to the bunker as **a rain of human ash pours from the sky**, blanketing the city for as far as the eye can see.

Dowd makes it to the bunker only to discover they cannot gain entry. **Commodore Laurent Freisler**, pursuing a grudge, has Dowd and Teicher arrested. Base guards escort them to the brig. Dowd overpowers the guards and makes his way with Teicher and new recruit **Able Seaman Che Amiri**, to the dive school. Dowd intends to round up every hard-bodied killer from his team and continue on to the airport to disrupt the landing of enemy troops, but the only survivor at the Dive school is **Petty Officer Lachlan Hunt**, and he's in shock.

With the power out and no communication, they resolve to take a catamaran from Balmoral beach and sail to the airport to execute their attack.

Heidi makes it across the bridge to meet **Sammy**, a mysterious teenager at North Sydney Pool. In her rush to make contact, Heidi falls into the steamy pool only to find it's filled with bodies. All eyes open and fix on Heidi. Freaked out, she escapes with Sammy and heads to her former fiancée's place at Balmoral.

Heidi and Sammy become separated. Heidi searches for Sammy.

Dowd prepares to sail, only to see the jumbos lining up to land. The team think they are too late, but Dowd resolves to stay the course and sail to the airport.

Hass' vision is restored just in time to see jumbo jets flame out and crash. Dowd now sees his presumption was all wrong. He follows the sound of a scream on the beach. What he and Heidi both discover, is that the invasion is not human, but alien and that they are now fighting for the survival of our species.

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