

# Sentient Pilot Draft Five – Key changes and course of action

\* Read the alternative based on Launchpad review on the last page

## Casting of the lead

Can we cast an Indigenous Australian in this role?

It may be simpler to cast the role of Che Amiri as an Indigenous Australian rather than trying to cast the lead role of Lt Commander Michael Dowd.

Given international travel is looking slim for quite some time, the choice of casting may be better off focused on Internationals right here at home.

## Teaser act and structure based on the walking dead.

TWD was our original model.

The Walking Dead features a TEASER with the Little girl zombie at the petrol station and that tells us of the world it's going to come.

Then we go back to the original world where RICK is working as a police officer. They do an intercept and Rick gets shot.

Then Rick wakes up in the hospital.

The wake-up transition is very original.

Rick sees visions of his friend Shane coming to see him and he loses track of time. The flowers die and then he wakes up in the hospital and starts his journey into the new world.

## For Sentient - That looks like...

Teaser – Re introduce The beach scene and the first sighting of the creature on the beach and that probably will include the precursor of watching the dogs go past and the argument with Dowd's friend HUNT to stay. Add shadowy creature in the mist.

See the creature - Run Title SENTIENT.

Act One - The China crisis BEFORE - We go back to the ZODIAC boat arrival and the minehunter which would include us going out on the Zodiac and doing the dive and then having the explosion and then having him wake up.

The minehunter scene MAY include talk about his son and the argument with the Commodore to demonstrate there is a real venom there.

Then after Dowd wakes up, post the discovery of the bodies at the exit sign, he goes through and has a flashback of the trip on the Zodiac boat back in the Commodore berating him.

He finds his son TOBY along with TEICHER in the office. Hunt had called Toby and arranged to get him to see his father when the storm hit.

His decision to get to the bunker is now about saving his son.

Now the argument between Dowd and Commodore is now made richer if her son begs her not to do this or there is exchange re Toby.

There is a battle between the parents.

### **Toby - Adding Toby to the Pilot**

**It would also allow for Toby, Amon and Amiri to interact in a clever way and to reveal that he speaks Hebrew.**

**It also introduces him to Sam in the house in the next episode and the saying I AM YOUR JUDGEMENT I AM YOUR GIFT.**

**If we put Toby in the Pilot he needs a specific objective and to pursue that.**

**We need to put Toby at risk and show Dowd and Hunt and Amiri willing to do anything to protect him and get injured doing it.**

**Toby needs to display his unique intellect and how he is different to both parents.**

**The Alien reaction to Toby and Sam – They want them – The mirror goal**

**Dowd has already seen the Pied Piper take his people.**

**When he sees them trying to take Toby, that creates a common goal, they both want Toby and Dowd is fierce in his willingness to protect him and that he not be taken.**

**Updated - Monday, 8 June 2020**

**Post the review from Launchpad there is an alternative path.**

1. Stay with the Draft four entry but bookend it with a return to the hospital for a further reveal when the door opens then fade to black.
2. This would mean TOBY is not embedded in the story, less Disney, and we get to go to the hospital in Ep 2 to collect Toby. \*That said, having Toby well and get sick again throughout the First season has its advantages.
3. Changing the Act Three exchange between Dowd and his wife. Tick - already done.
4. The reviewer suggested a, 'WHAT ARE YOU?' moment but I feel the arc of the work ending on the beach and leaving on a cliff-hanger works. We can show him in the second episode deciding not to shoot and dragging, picking up Sam and the Becky K and getting them to safety.