

A target graphic consisting of several concentric circles. The innermost circle is labeled '10'. The next ring out is labeled '9' on both the left and right sides. The third ring is labeled '8' on both the left and right sides. The outermost ring is labeled '7' on the right side. The target is positioned on the right side of the page, partially overlapping a white rectangular frame.

NEMESIS

A proposal for a TV/VOD series

Genre:

Dark comedy/thriller

Length:

6x40 minutes

Premise:

A 'crisis avoidance service' protects the hyper-privileged against their own dysfunctionality.

Pitch:

How far do you go to keep the rich and famous safe from their worst enemies: themselves?

Logline:

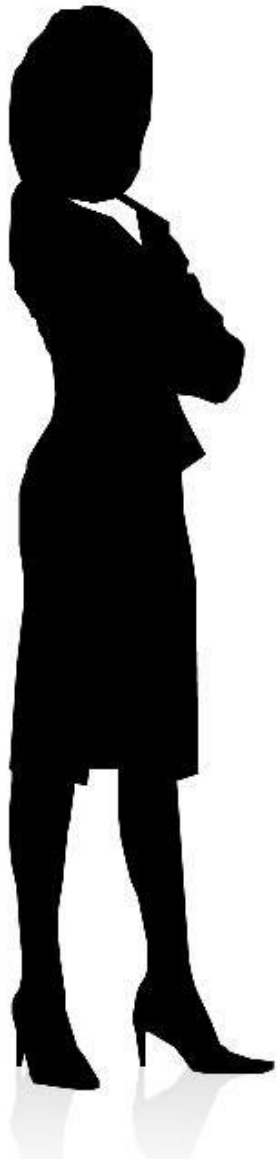
Discreet and very private crisis avoidance service Nemesis works to protect the hyper-privileged from activists, terrorists, blackmailers, rapists, reality, and, mostly, themselves.

Tone:

Dark situational comedy meets R rated reality. Cool. Bonkers. Dangerous. LOL. Impossible. Real.



Principle characters



Kathy Kitchen - 40

Born in a northern Ontario to a First Nations mother who soon absconded. Her hard drinking father Alphonse brought her and her two siblings up on a shoestring. A series of temporary mothers came and went over the years - some kind, some very much not.

Kathy left 'home' at 16 and fled to Toronto, where success as a model was followed a junior position with a major fashion design company. There, she was raped by her boss. Kathy then signed up for Canada's security enterprise in Afghanistan. After this deployment, Kathy returned to Canada and founded a security company - the precursor of Nemesis.

Kathy is a pragmatist. She has a temper. She's inwardly kind, but can be blind to others' concerns. Some would call her Machiavellian - though few would dare. She won't tolerate lying, laziness or stupidity. She has a deep-rooted fear of failure that causes her to overcompensate in her daily life, and to obsess about all aspects of Nemesis.

Kathy is as happy in designer outfits as she is in her beloved motorbike leathers. She can dazzle at formal or business events, and wield some serious and sexy street cred. Her two main vices are chess and malt whiskey - preferably at the same time. She still supports her siblings but refuses to see her father Alphonse no matter how hard he pleads.

Kathy was, and still is, on the margins of society. She is reluctant to trust. She lives alone.



Jody Jensen - 35

Eldest of six children, Jody was born in Liverpool, UK. Her father worked in the Liverpool docks until technology and economics drove the family across the pond to Nova Scotia, Canada. Her father worked in the Halifax docks but ended up in jail for drug trafficking; so Jody's mother went back to Liverpool with Jody's siblings. Jody decided to remain in Canada on her own. She regretted her brave decision until she put her courage to use in the Canadian armed force at 18 years of age. Her toughness and focus soon saw her selected for the infantry, where she could compete with the men at their own game: war.

During her time in service Jody took up MMA. She was soon accepted into Canada's elite special warfare group: JTF2. This group was part of Canada's peacekeeping role in Afghanistan, where Jody was deployed. Jody undertook covert ops and high-level minding operations there. These included escorting government ministers or high-ranking military and intelligence officers on dangerous and/or covert assignments.

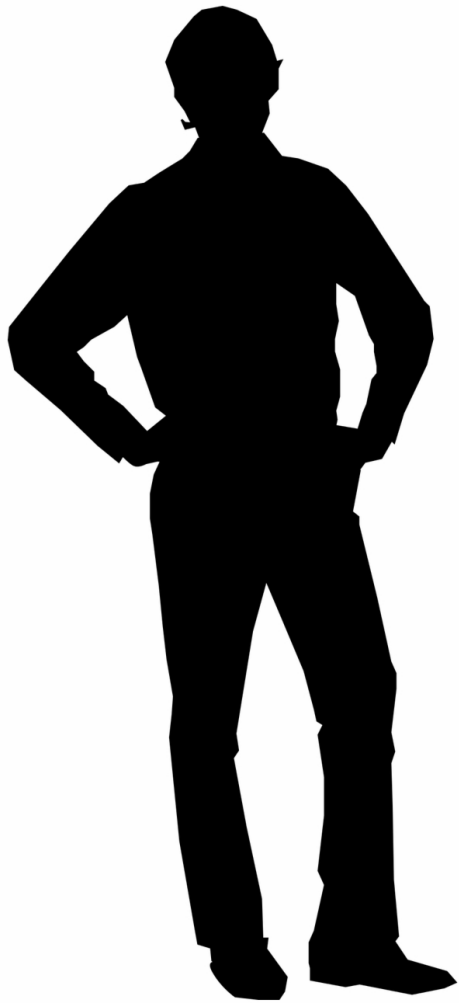
Her lifestyle, military training, and duties and MMA gradually took its toll on her by now 30 year old body. She realized she needed another kind of income – and lifestyle. She saw a newspaper ad for part time female trainers in self-defense and 'street-proofing' in Canada. Jody got the job. In Toronto, her clients were mostly wealthy and/or bored housewives and female police officers, but among them was Kathy. Jody and Kathy were intrigued by each other. It was the beginning of a long-term friendship and association.



'Felix Kling' (nee Fernando Morales) - 45

The Morales family was part of the monied elite in Bogota, Colombia. They had a monopoly on the jewelry scene there before the drug cartels took over the city and the country. Security and money were always central to young Fernando's life. He had bodyguards at school. The house was always full of money and guns. Young Fernando was very ambitious. The cartels beckoned, and he soon drifted into cartel life. He enjoyed parties, holidays, girls, and joint ventures with his young, macho cartel cohorts. He became heroin addicted, but in time and with great difficulty, kicked it. He witnessed shocking violence that tipped him over into heavier and more hands-on criminality.

In time, Fernando fell into the arms of the DEA. He became a DEA informant to avoid a lengthy jail sentence. He was used and abused as an informer for 18 months. He became a marked man. He undertook a DEA-backed relocation to Canada. His name was changed to Felix Kling. 'Felix' set up as a coffee shop in Toronto, but he hated it from day one. He therefore responded to a security company's ad in the paper. An initial phone conversation led to a meeting with Jody and Kathy. All three connected instantly. Felix joined Nemesis as office manager. He kept his history to himself – though Kathy knows it all anyway.



James Christchurch - 50

James F Christchurch is, or was, Royal Canadian Mounted Police royalty. He grew up traveling the world with his RCMP father until they settled in Ottawa. James attended private schools in the Ottawa area, where he rubbed shoulders with the children of the elite. James just about graduated from Carlton University before embarking on a career in the RCMP as expected. He soon found his way into the exclusive RCMP Security Service (a Special Branch equivalent).

James was a clever and capable high-flier - albeit born into privilege (a heritage he cannot hide and has no wish to). He ignored his father's advice and accepted the offer from the Prime Minister's office to join the newly formed Canadian Security and Intelligence Service (known as CSIS). James was delighted with the move and the anticipated freedom of action and finance that suited his dubious lifestyle and habits. James thought being a 'spy' would make him attractive to some in his lofty social circles; but an enforced move from Ottawa to Toronto removed him from the proximity of his privileged peers and dubious friends. He was forced to find a new social niche.

Life in Toronto in CSIS did not go to plan for James. Here, there was little or no expense account, and he had to partner with novices with zero real-world police experience. These young people were way too honest and straightforward for James, too. He looked down on them, which made him unpopular. Life was mundane and joyless until he was sent for by the CSIS Washington DC liaison officer. On arrival, James was introduced to Fernando Morales. James was shocked to learn that Fernando was a high level drug cartel fixer. They hit it off immediately, however, as both had grown up in similar circumstances. James was tasked with relocating 'Felix Kling' - to Toronto under a US/Canada witness protection arrangement. James was convinced that his future was now on the up. He started to work very hard, and outwardly clean up his act to make sure that it was.

James' primary commitment is to himself. He wants to be #1 at Nemesis.



Alan Beatre - 61

A WASP through and through, Alan started his own law firm in the 1980s. The firm's success was due to his heritage and personal connections. And Alan drove his partners hard. He developed a stable of 18 lawyers and built a successful and trusted legal enterprise.

Alan received the Order of Canada in the 1990s. By now he was on numerous corporate boards, and was the Chairman of the Conservative Party of Canada. He was also, for a short time, an advisor to the Canadian Prime Minister on family inheritance taxation. Alan became a seriously well connected, and highly trusted, man in Canada, and globally. He was in the twilight of his career when he was sought out by the widowed matriarch of the Bassnet family to oversee the family's business affairs, and to mentor the family's children. The matriarch later died, leaving Alan de facto head of - or consigliere to - the family.

An attack on the youngest son's home left Alan in shock and threw the family into disarray. Alan hired Nemesis to protect the family. Kathy and the Nemesis team's professionalism induced Alan and the Bassnet family to hire Nemesis permanently. Indeed, Alan advised the family to invest in Nemesis to ensure the family was always a Nemesis priority.

Alan is a trusted father figure to Kathy.

Chu Ming Son - 55

Chu was born in a small village outside Pyongyang in North Korea in the shadow of the Korean peninsula war. His memory of his childhood is limited due to subsequent trauma. When he was in his early teens he and his family were uprooted and transported to a forced labor camp for what was called 're-education'. He and his family weren't fast learners, so they remained in the camp for eight terrible years. Death shrank his six-person family down to just Chu and his sister See Cu. With the help of South Korean activists, Chu and See Cu escaped to South Korea. Their escape from North Korea to South Korea was kept secret.

Chu then met with an RCMP officer attached to the Canadian Embassy in Seoul. (Chu had told his immigration screening officer about his escape and this led to RCMP involvement.) For the RCMP, Chu was an information goldmine. Thereafter, Chu was invited to Canada. See Cu decided to stay in South Korea. Their parting was a bitter moment for them both.

In Canada, Chu took accountancy training. Post-graduation, he did several jobs, but he always felt worse than lost. He was diagnosed with functioning Asperger's Syndrome. Nevertheless, Chu took on a challenging role managing the finances of a major law firm. He survived and thrived there due to the trust placed in him by the firm's senior partner: Alan Beatre. This worked well; but in time, Beatre retired, leaving Chu to fight his battles alone. Frustrated, alone and stressed, Chu didn't think twice when Beatre pulled him out of the firm and hired him as an investment consultant for one of Beatre's pet project: Nemesis.

Chu's first meeting with Kathy, hosted by Beatre, was initially awkward due to Chu's demeanour. Kathy was unsure of Chu's involvement, but Beatre made it a precondition of his investment in Nemesis - an investment that Beatre trusted Chu to protect.

First impressions of Chu can be poor because of his Asperger's. His youthful privations, family trauma and ongoing isolation have left him seeming short on empathy, too.





Vladimir Rostock Ivanovic - 35

Vladimir was born in Stalin's birthplace: Gori, Georgia. In Vladimir's early years it wasn't his birthplace that got him noticed, it was his sporting prowess and his ability to mimic his teachers and instructors. At the age of eight, he was moved from the local school to a 'school for patriotic children'. For the next decade Vladimir was coached initially in sports and later in language training, political indoctrination and international affairs.

At the age of 16, he was sent to an exclusive educational facility on the outskirts of Leningrad. Vlad quickly understood that he was now a member of the political elite. He disconnected emotionally with his family. For him, now, his parents were the state.

Vlad's political reliability, education and physical prowess led him into the recently formed FSB (The Russian Federal Security Service), aka the former KGB. Vladimir prospered. He was regarded as ruthless and detached; but he slid slowly into the corrupt underbelly of the service. Choosing the right relationships was a deadly game - one that Vladimir fell afoul of.

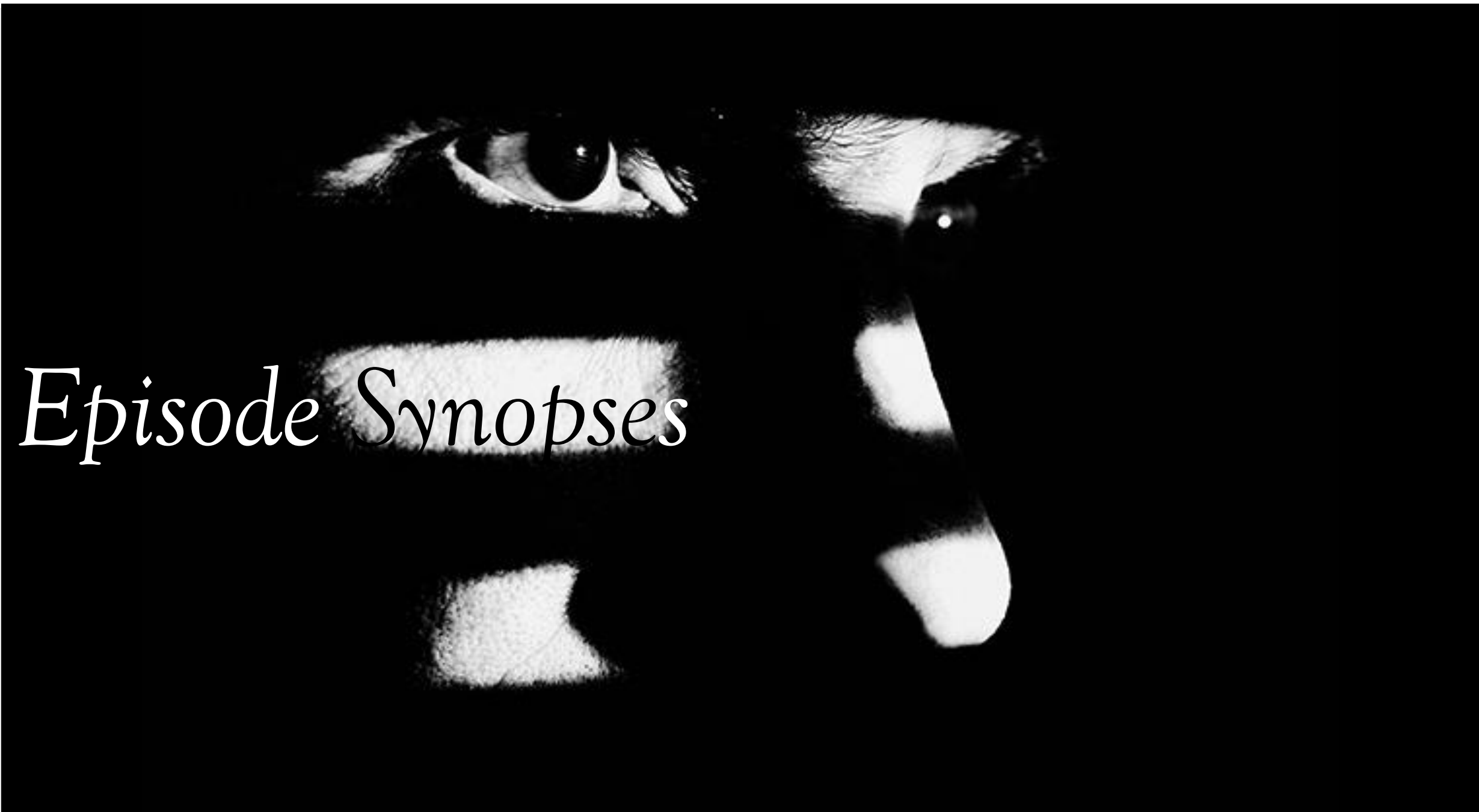
Information became a curse and blessing. 'Black' activities Vlad had been involved in were of interest to all factions within the government; and Vlad had been involved in some of the blackest. Blowing up apartment blocks to justify invading Chechnya was among them.

Vlad had the goods, and everyone knew it.

His ability to be 'liberal with the truth' gave him choices - or a choice: go to the country of your choosing, come and go as you please - but talking to the media about Mother Russia will have ramifications. Vlad took the hint. A very basic pension was offered. He took up residency in Canada. On arrival, the RCMP were curious about his employment prior to immigrating; but the fiction that the 'FSB' created easily deceived the Canadian authorities.

After six months driving taxis in Toronto, Vlad saw an ad: "Do you have special security skills. Do you speak any languages other than English? Can you be trusted with confidential information?" Vlad was interviewed by Kathy and Jody. He was hired within 48 hours.

His gratitude was almost as limitless as his ambition.



Episode Synopses

Episode One: 'Kosha is as kosha does'

Hard drinking easy-going rogue IANTO Evans is butler to long term Nemesis clients: the crazy Greenberg family: MOSHI Greenberg (60) is the millionaire patriarch. His wife is ELSBETH (51). Their spoilt brat children are YORAM (31) and dippy TZIPI (22). Elsbeth loses £250k worth of jewellery at the tan shop when she hides her jewels in chicken soup tins because she suspects Tzipi of stealing from her. The house is vandalised outside and in - odd since expensive alarms are fitted. Moshi's priceless collection of medieval German art is also vandalised. Nemesis is called in. Jodi and co find out it was all Tzipi, who is angry at Elsbeth for her long term infidelity with Ianto, which Tzipi now tells Moshi about. Moshi is devastated: Ianto has been his friend and confidante for many years. Rumbled, Ianto makes a run for it. Elsbeth runs away with him. Moshi doesn't press charges against Tzipi. Another day, another family calamity for Nemesis. Job done.

Episode Two: 'Collusion'

Famous married millionaire playboy and Nemesis client TONY Wisemantel (48) tries but fails to kill himself with booze and drugs. He is found, still breathing, by Vladimir. Tony's (sex starved) shrink advises Tony to have 'as much sex as possible'. Eschewing his Seventh Day Adventist wife SANDY, Tony thus hires high class call-girl ANNA for a night in a hotel. Vladimir and Jody stay in the hotel to keep things smooth and discreet. Tony's games of erotic strangulation and suffocation with Anna end with Anna's death. Tony panics. Enter Vladimir and Jody. They hide Anna's body in an ornamental traveling trunk, which Jody puts in an unused room while Vlad hustles Tony out of the hotel disguised as a bell hop. Tony gets away with it. Ethically conflicted as she often is, Kathy berates Jody and Vladimir for their complicity in helping Tony escape justice; but ultimately Kathy and Nemesis' primary responsibility is to their clients, not the law. Kathy oversees quelling the media storm following the controversy and Tony's alleged involvement. Tony converts to the same church as Sandy, is reconciled with her, and becomes a devout Adventist. For now...

Episode Three: 'Cardinal Sins'

A Toronto Cathedral (Roman Catholic). Cardinal MICHAEL BEIGER (50s) makes an anti-gay comments in a sermon in the cathedral. The inevitable backlash follows. Pressed, he maintains his stance. His adoring mousy housekeeper PHYLLIS (50s) is physically intimidated. Beiger outsources Nemesis to protect them. As planned on social media, a Sunday mass is attended by an entirely (and overtly) gay congregation, who wait to hear his sermon. Beiger backs down in the face of wall-to-wall campiness. Aware this 'protest' was planned, he wears (special-effect 'undetactable) gloves during the service. Gays thus kiss his fake hands during communion ... Jody and co find out that Beiger is actually gay, and that he likes young choir-boys rather more than he should. Beiger is outed by an ex-choir boy and now gay activist: JOSH Stamper. It gets ugly. Nemesis minds and rushes Beiger away to a special 'clergy retreat' out of town, where Beiger takes refuge among other disgraced and/or 'fallen priests'. Stamper finds him and confronts, however. Beiger decides to come out.

Episode Four: 'Black Swan'

Screwed up aspiring ballerina NINA Beaugendre (19) is the daughter and the spoilt only child of dysfunctional billionaire BARNY 'Rubble' Beaugendre (55) and his ex-wife ANGELIQUE (50). Nina deliberately dates internet flakes (it's a kind of self-harm) - one of whom tries to rape her. Hell bent on revenge, bombastic Barny trusts Nemesis (without whom none of them, it sometimes seems to Kathy, can wipe their arses) to find the rapist. James Christchurch counsels and minds her, but appears to fall in love with her. He can show nothing and tell no one, however (he's good at that). Nina finds James a welcome contrast to the hyper-neurotic world of ballet she lives in and lives for. She confides in him. Nina is abducted. Nemesis finds and frees her from her abductor and would-be blackmailer: the rapist, whom Nemesis turns over to the police. Vladimir talks James out of his 'love' for Nina. Life goes on.

Episode Five: 'Apocalypse Then'

Nemesis defends wealthy Canadian exec and long term client JACOB Combellack (42) against a kidnap attempt made against his manicured wife SHANIA (37) by terrorists that leaves three terrorists dead. Nemesis just made powerful new enemies. Ethically and politically motivated (but craving a rush) Jacob determines to travel into the 'heart of darkness': Jody, James and Vladimir mind him (very discreetly, as Jacob insists) as he travels south to Salvador to meet with the head of the terrorist organization: LAZARR GELPH (49). It goes pear shaped, fast. Jody, James and Vladimir only just pull Jacob out during a fire-fight during which James is very badly wounded. Jacob takes zero responsibility for James' demise. James survives – just.

Episode Six: 'Tycoon Typhoon'

A shareholder meeting in a Toronto high-rise is plagued by both climate rebellion protesters and mosquitoes, making a stressful life even harder for hapless corporation CEO SEBASTIEN Piepenbring (36) and his preppy colleagues. Jody and James try to keep things smooth. Meanwhile in the exclusive Piepenbring household, nanny CONCHITA (39) has taken Sebastien and his wife TILLY's young children hostage and is holed up the basement. Conchita is demanding a substantial payoff so she can go back to the Philippines, where he family is desperate for money following a catastrophic typhoon (caused, according to the climate rebellion protesters, by climate change). Felix and Vladimir negotiate with her (Sebastien doesn't want the cops or media anywhere near this, perhaps because ...) Conchita accuses Sebastien of repeated sexual misconduct against her, which shocks Tilly to her core. Shareholder meeting over, Sebastien rushes home with Jody and James. Tilly confronts him about Conchita's accusations. He admits it. Contrite, he pays Conchita and lets her go home. Tilly wants a divorce. Once again, Nemesis must keep it all out of the media and public gaze.

Pilot episode 'Kosha is as Kosha Does' available upon request.

Contact Derek Humble

xmg223@gmail.com

+1 905-392-6712

~

Concept and words © Derek Humble All Rights Reserved