



DOGS



A RETURNING 10 x 60 SERIALIZED DRAMA

created by Stephen Kemp & Noel Baker

DOGS

When a series of grisly murders terrorizes the close-knit community of a remote northern Michigan town, the deputy chief of police finds herself on the trail a mysterious killer. But the more she digs, the more alarming the case becomes: it seems the murders might be connected to a new, illicit designer smart drug that has appeared on the local college campus.

What she doesn't realize is that her own husband has recently begun using this drug in the hope of reviving his stalled academic career. But within weeks, its powerful cognitive benefits are giving way to unexpected side effects, triggering odd behavioral changes and increasingly terrifying physical mutations.

Consumed with fear, he desperately tries to conceal what is happening, realizing too late his attempts to become a better man are turning him into something else entirely. And he's not the only one...

At once a chilling mystery and haunting love story, **DOGS** is a taut, atmospheric, darkly comic and occasionally terrifying drama about the monsters lurking in our midst and the unforeseen consequences of seeking to better our selves at any cost.

SUPERIOR BAY, MICHIGAN

POPULATION: 21,353

Clinging to the north shore of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, the fictional town of Superior Bay is a rust-belt poster child for forgotten America. Surrounded by forest wilderness and abandoned ore mines, the once thriving community is kept alive as home to a small university, a state prison, and the various businesses that support them. Here, out of work old-timers gripe about far-off elites and a world that's leaving them behind, while the new generation can only dream of escape.

With a violent killer seemingly on the loose, a police investigation takes us on a wild ride into a vividly drawn community of struggling neighbors, overstretched police, college kids, oddball academics, heavily armed hunters, and drug-dealing bikers. But as the investigation uncovers the seeds of an apocalyptic epidemic, a greater mystery emerges. Someone within the university is behind the designer drug **SUNDROP**, and it has been cleverly designed to trigger a horrifying reckoning. The question is why?

S E R I E S O V E R V I E W

DOGS combines the wry observational drama of a show like Fargo with the audacious paranoid conspiracy of Utopia and the apocalyptic horror of The Walking Dead. Beginning as a small town murder mystery, it slowly mutates into an altogether stranger and darker tale about humans in a fight for survival against monsters of their own making.

At the heart of the story is a loving but troubled marriage. In her late thirties, **FRAN FORCHETTE** is a smart, practical, no-nonsense police officer whose endearing faith in human nature serves her well in a job that all too often shows her the worst in humanity. Meanwhile, her husband **JOHN 'FORK' FORCHETTE** is mired in frustration as he approaches his fortieth birthday still struggling to complete his doctoral thesis. Much as he loves Fran, he's stuck in a dead end job as a part-time lecturer, and while she wants children, he wants to hold off until his career is on surer footing. But the clock is ticking louder than ever...

As Fran is drawn into an increasingly disturbing investigation into a string of bizarre murders, Fork discovers a mysterious new study drug being used on campus, and quickly sees it as a potential lifeline. From the first dose, **SUNDROP** is a revelation: with his senses heightened and cognitive abilities suddenly pin-sharp, it's like waking from a deep sleep.

The sudden change in her husband is not lost on Fran. Surprised by his newfound passion and focus, she even dares hope they will finally start a family. But neither one of them realizes that Fork has struck a Faustian bargain, and that Sundrop holds the key to Fran's investigation. As she closes in on the terrible truth, Fork succumbs to increasingly bizarre side effects as the call of primal instincts draws him into a frightening new world...

Set in a recognizable near future, **DOGS** explores timeless themes of desire, striving, failure, and the limits of love in a world that divides us against ourselves.

With daylight fading, three armed men pick their way through crisp snow after several hours on an unsuccessful wolf cull. Excusing himself for a bathroom break, off-duty cop **ANDY WERTHAM** hangs back while his young rookie colleague **TIM KEEN** and veteran hunter **BILL COADY** carry on to the truck. Moments later, as Tim and Bill unload their gear, they are interrupted by horrific screams from the woods. First on the scene, Bill stumbles upon a gory sight: Andy mutilated beyond recognition. Behind him, Tim huffs through the woods and arrives just in time to see Bill collapse to the ground clutching his chest...

At home, **FRAN** is curled up on a sofa watching TV with **FORK** when she gets a call informing her of the news. Arriving on the scene just as Bill is loaded into an ambulance with a suspected heart attack, her flashlight illuminates the spatters of crimson blood against the snow as paramedics bag up Andy's remains.

Next day at the station the sense of shock is palpable. The controversial wolf-cull had only been given the go-ahead after a string of attacks on livestock sparked fears a rogue wolf was stalking the outskirts of town. Losing an officer like this makes the problem all the more urgent. Andy was well liked, and Fran will have to speak to his widow. But first, she decides to head back to the scene of the attack with Tim to go over the events one more time in the light of day...

Meanwhile, in a classroom at Upper Peninsula University (or Up-U as the locals like to call it), Fork calls time on a written exam. As students file past to hand in their work, he gazes

absently out of the window, contemplating his ongoing failure to complete his doctoral thesis, and how it has consigned him to this purgatory as a part-time instructor at a third rate college. He snaps back to the moment as slouching student **BOBBY BONAKOWSKI** slaps his paper down with a cocky grin. Stuffing the papers into his briefcase, Fork makes a quick call to check in with Fran before heading to his favored bar to alleviate the boredom of marking exams...

Back at the scene of the attack, Tim walks Fran through the events before the attack on Andy, carefully neglecting to mention his cowardice in hanging back on hearing the screams. But what catches Fran's attention is the revelation that Bill had let off a shot before collapsing. Wondering what he saw, they visit Bill at the local hospital, where he insists to everyone who'll listen that he's just fine and ready to go home. But when Fran pushes him on exactly what he shot at, she gets a disquieting feeling when Bill hesitates to confirm what he saw...

By the time Fork returns home he's grouchy and full of beer. Fran has a lot on her mind as she fixes dinner, but Fork is irritated: that moron Bobby Bonakowski has clearly plagiarized his paper and thinks he'll get away with it. Trouble is, Fork's run the paper through the database and can't find a single hit on a single phrase. Even so, the idea that a waster like Bobby could be behind such a high level of work is clearly preposterous.

Over dinner, Fork ruminates on recent changes in Bobby,

leading Fran to suggest perhaps Bobby might be using some kind of study drug? After all, aren't all the Silicon Valley nerds these days using new designer 'upgrade' drugs in their race to outsmart each other? Fork's unconvinced: the cost of these new drugs is way beyond Bobby's means. And old school study drugs like Adderall and Modafinil could hardly explain the bump in Bobby's brilliance.

On the other side of town, we pick up Bobby waiting beneath a bridge for a clandestine meeting. Whoever it is, they're clearly late and Bobby leaves an irritable voicemail. Then, just as he's ready to leave, a leather-clad biker pulls up: **SPIDER** is a member of the local biker club known as The Therians. But he's not the biker Bobby was expecting, and he wants Bobby to come with him to meet his gang boss. With an uneasy feeling, Bobby goes along...

Thirty minutes later they arrive at remote bar with a yellow neon sign: Bucky's Roadhouse. Spider leads Bobby past a pole dancer to a back room filled with scary looking gang members, led by the intimidating boss, **LAZARUS**. Bobby's disturbed to notice that each gang member bears a soft round indent on his forehead. Noting Bobby's gaze, Lazarus graphically describes the club's initiation ritual of trepanning each new member to open the channel to his 'animal spirit'. As to the business at hand: Bobby's usual connect, **RABBIT**, is no longer around, so Bobby can now deal with Lazarus directly. And Lazarus wants to do a big drug deal...

The following day, Fran and Tim are summoned to the

coroner's office where they receive perplexing news: the bite and claw marks on the Andy's corpse are inconsistent with a wolf attack. Fran can't help but notice the deep gouges on his body match the spacing of the fingers on her hand... but if it was not a wolf, what the heck was it? Curiosity piqued, she drives with Tim to the rural farmstead where the livestock attacks were first reported. Something of a wing-nut conspiracy theorist, the owner is quick to suggest an extra-terrestrial explanation: and he's got pictures to back it up. Looking at images of his mutilated cattle, Fran is immediately struck by the similarity to the marks on Andy...

Back on campus, Fork sits sternly across from Bobby and lays it out for him: he knows Bobby's been cheating. Unfazed and enjoying Fork's frustration, Bobby says he simply decided to live up to his potential and try a little harder. No crime in that, is there? As he leaves with a smirk Fork watches from a high window as Bobby swaggers across the campus and wonders: could Fran be right? Could Bobby have got his hands on some kind of upgrade drug? His chain of thought is interrupted by a call from the faculty Dean...

In the Charlotte Robichaud's spacious office, Fork is given difficult news: due to cutbacks, his teaching hours are being reduced next term, so it might be best if Fork look for other work opportunities. Returning home, Fork is in a dark mood. Fran wants to tell him about the wolf attack business, but instead finds herself trying to offer support as he rails about what a mistake it was to come to this damned town and its crappy college. She gently reminds him that some

people are facing far worse than Fork just now: tomorrow is Andy's funeral.

The following day darkens early with storm clouds gathering on the lake. In his remote ranch house Bill pulls on a dark suit when he hears his dog going crazy in the back yard. He yells for it to quiet down – and suddenly it goes silent. Concerned, he heads outside to discover the tethered dog lying in a pool of blood. Scanning for a predator, he hears a sound from inside the house, and gently pushing open the backdoor he calls out. When no one responds, he makes toward the gun cabinet...

Meanwhile, at a small cemetery in town, dozens of cops disperse after Andy's funeral. Tim can see Fran's agitated: not only did Fork fail to show up, but Bill didn't make it either. Concerned about him, she decides to swing by his place on the way home...

As Fran pulls away in her cruiser, Fork sits in a raucous student bar, eyes firmly fixed across the room on Bobby. He watches as Bobby clandestinely exchanges a small packet with another student for cash.

When Bobby leaves the bar, Fork is waiting and manhandles him into his pickup. Fork's seen enough to get Bobby expelled. So what's he selling – coke? Amphetamines? Bobby weighs it up, then cops to the secret of his new academic prowess: Sundrop. Bobby lays it out: the drug is a hacked version of one of the next-generation designer

'upgrade' drugs - same underlying code, same effects, but a fraction of the cost. Bobby pulls out a Sundrop capsule and holds it up. Fork stares at the translucent orange capsule and wonders if it might be the solution to his own problems...

Meanwhile, Fran pulls up at Bill's place outside of town. When no one answers the door, she pulls out a flashlight and heads around back where she finds the remains of Bill's dog and the back door swinging open. Drawing her gun she calls for Bill before stepping inside. Flipping on a light, she takes in evidence of a struggle before stumbling into Bill's bloody body in the hallway. Then she hears a sound from the room next door: a low growl and scraping of feet. She shouts a warning, but when it goes unheeded and the sounds grow louder, she unloads FOUR SHOTS through the door. There's an unholy animalistic howl, before whatever it is bolts outside.

Fran gives chase across the grounds, only to glimpse a shadow disappearing into the tree line at the edge of Bill's property. She stops at the edge of the dark forest, heart pounding and fighting for breath, before looking down at the trail of blood. There in the snow she discovers not animal tracks, but boot prints. Has she just shot a man?



SEASON ONE

As we pick up the story from the pilot episode, Fork is contemplating what to do about Bobby's Sundrop dealing, while Fran's suspicion she may have shot a man has not only left her shaken, but also transformed the nature of her investigation: if the perpetrator of the attacks is human, the town has a killer in its midst. So when a third victim is discovered in the same area of woodland, the hunt becomes all the more urgent...

It turns out Bill survived the attack on him and is in critical condition in the local hospital. Meantime, Fran finds herself arguing different theories with her colleagues Tim and **CHIEF CHIN**. But as she becomes ever more absorbed in the disturbing evolution of the case, Fork has seen a way out of his career dead end. Having witnessed the effects of Sundrop on Bobby, Fork figures the drug might give him the kick-start he needs to finally finish his thesis. So when Bobby reveals he is buying the drug from the Therians biker gang, rather than inform the university about Bobby's drug dealing, Fork leans on Bobby to get him a supply.

As the effects of the drug slowly take hold, Fork begins to experience a newfound clarity: it's as if a fog has lifted from his mind – like he's been living his life half-asleep until now. And as he keeps taking the drug, the effects become ever more intense. With his inhibitions and self-doubts melting away he finally settles down to write his damned thesis...

Fork's new focus also transforms the dynamic of his marriage. Despite the horrors unfolding at work, Fran is thrilled to see her husband's depression finally lifting: for her, it's like getting back the man she married. A renewed passion enters their relationship and sex life, as they enjoy what feels like a second honeymoon. Fork finally completes his thesis, and the promise of getting his doctorate opens up all kinds of new career opportunities. He picks up his game, starts exercising, and his days are filled with fresh ideas, goals, and plans. He's like a new man.

While these positive developments are a great relief to Fran, other family burdens begin to weigh. The health and mental faculties of her father, **CHUCK**, have declined, confining him to a wheelchair, making life hard on Fran's mother, **GRACE**. She in turn makes Fran feel guilty for not being available on account of her obsessive focus on the case. In an effort to help, Fork takes the step of secretly dosing Chuck with Sundrop, in the hope it will improve his condition...

Meanwhile, Fran's investigation faces a new twist with the disappearance of two college students. Piecing together a trail of clues, she realizes they are somehow connected with the ongoing manhunt. But the presence of police asking questions on campus makes Bobby jittery, and he's not been feeling so good for a while. Moreover, Fork is one of several people leaning on him to procure more Sundrop...

When Bobby gets involved in a tense, large-scale Sundrop deal with Lazarus and the Therians, we discover a surprising truth: Bobby's not buying the drug from them: he's selling it to them. It turns out he's been protecting the real source: his girlfriend, the sparky campus science lab technician, MIO. Working after hours, Mio and Bobby have been secretly accessing the university's DNA printer and using code Mio has downloaded from a mysterious Dark Net source to print batches of Sundrop. But as the scale of their operation has grown, it's become increasingly difficult to cover their tracks.

As we move to the mid-point of the season, Fran is relieved to hear that her father's condition is improving. But at the same time, she begins noticing odd changes in Fork. He has taken to long periods of staring fixedly into space, as if seeing something that's not there. He's also developed some curious twitches. These changes are not lost on Fork: While out jogging in the morning he has been hearing a curious, high-pitched whistling sound that seems to emanate from within the woods. He's tried following it, but still can't tell if it's real, or just in his head.

Then one evening while having dinner with Fran at the home of their friends **DAVE** and **RHONDA**, Fork suddenly begins bleeding profusely from his mouth. As we move into the second half of the season, worse quickly follows...



THE CHANGES ACCELERATE...

Worried about Fork's strange behavior and odd physical symptoms, Fran insists he see a doctor. But the doctor can offer no explanation for the fact Fork seems to be losing his teeth, nor for the strange whistling sounds he is experiencing. And the truth is, Fork is keeping quiet about the true extent of his increasingly disturbing experiences...

Most frightening to Fork are long periods during which he blacks out. When he comes around, he has no recollection where he's been, nor what he's done. Waking partially naked in the woods is disturbing enough, but worse follows when he comes around to discover he has mutilated their pet cat. Covering his tracks, he clears all evidence and tries to make light of its disappearance to Fran. But soon he's falling victim to unmistakable physical changes: patches of leathery skin appear on his body, while his nails are slowly but surely thickening and darkening. He knows he won't be able to hide this from Fran for long.

And Fork is not alone. Members of the Therians, students on the campus, people in the community who've been buying from Bobby, even Bobby himself: all are experiencing a similar fate. Even Bill, who remains in hospital, is starting to show strange physical changes.

As we follow the effects across the town, Fran discovers a pattern in the killer's territorial movements, leading her to zero in on him, alone. In a suspenseful, terrifying cat-and-mouse showdown, she shoots him dead and the terrible truth is revealed: the killer is some kind of strangely mutated human. DNA analysis soon reveals his identity: a member of the Therians gang, the guy who failed to show up and meet Bobby back in episode one. But the analysis also reveals the bizarre cause of his mutation: traces of canine DNA code hacked into his genetic material...

When Fork learns about Fran's discovery, there can be no doubting his own fate, nor the cause. But even though he has long since quit taking Sundrop, the mutations continue unabated. In desperation, he tries to track down Bobby, only to discover Bobby has gone missing...

Fearful of what is happening to them, Lazarus and the Therians have kidnapped Bobby, and want answers: what is Sundrop, and where did he get it? Bobby doesn't want to answer, but when Lazarus pulls out a power drill and moves on his skull, he has little choice. However, by the time the bikers come looking for Mio, she's half a step ahead, and already disappeared into hiding.

Meanwhile, as Fran connects the missing campus students to Bobby and finally to Sundrop, she gets an urgent call from her mother. The miracle of her father's recovery has culminated with him getting out of his wheelchair and walking. But now... he's disappeared.

As a feeling of dread about her own husband takes hold, Fran returns home to confront him, only for him to suddenly force himself on her. She eventually manages to pull away and stares in sheer horror – Fork's eyes are no longer human, and there are weird changes to his skin and mouth, and an intent predatory stare. She's terrified, but in an instant, Fork bolts out the door and disappears into the night.

Fran now knows for certain: Sundrop is the cause of the strange mutations. The question is, how many are affected? And where are they? Deep in the woodland, Fork once again hears the strange whistling in his head, a siren song leading him to the others, to his pack. Terrified and uncertain as he is, he senses that somehow he's come home...

Meanwhile, as Fran and her colleagues are left contemplating the magnitude of the challenges ahead for the town, for the world, and for herself – she discovers that after years of marriage, of wanting but not having children... she's pregnant. The question is: with what?



T H E B A C K D R O P T O S U N D R O P

So-called “nootropic” drugs that enhance focus, memory and cognitive performance are already commonplace: College students, coders, Silicon Valley entrepreneurs, and others seeking an edge in our competitive world are driving a lucrative global underground market for drugs such as adderall and modafinil.

Our series imagines the next generation of smart drugs: breakthrough technology allowing software to write strands of DNA in order to produce new human characteristics, boosting intelligence, life expectancy and cognitive faculties ten-fold.

Based on scientific techniques already becoming commonplace, these radical new drugs can also transform human senses, resulting in eyesight that can perceive a vastly wider color spectrum and even see in the dark; hearing that can perceive sound well beyond the human aural spectrum; along with greatly enhanced smell, touch, taste; even a kind of sixth sense that allows communication without words.

In America’s biggest, fastest moving, tech-driven cities, strivers are mortgaging their futures to pay for these enhancements, and America is only just beginning to feel the impacts of a new kind of inequality. Meanwhile, in Superior Bay, as in many other ‘forgotten’ parts of America, life looks a lot like it always has-

It is on the small campus of Upper Peninsula University in Superior Bay that Sundrop first appears. Unlike the next-gen nootropics marketed by mainstream pharmaceutical companies, Sundrop is an underground compound created by hackers. Its effects are similar to a wildly expensive drug called Candela, which we will learn about in Season Two. Heightened senses, sharpened cognitive skills, incredible focus and ability to learn new skills seemingly overnight: Sundrop delivers all these benefits at a fraction of the price of the bona-fide drug.

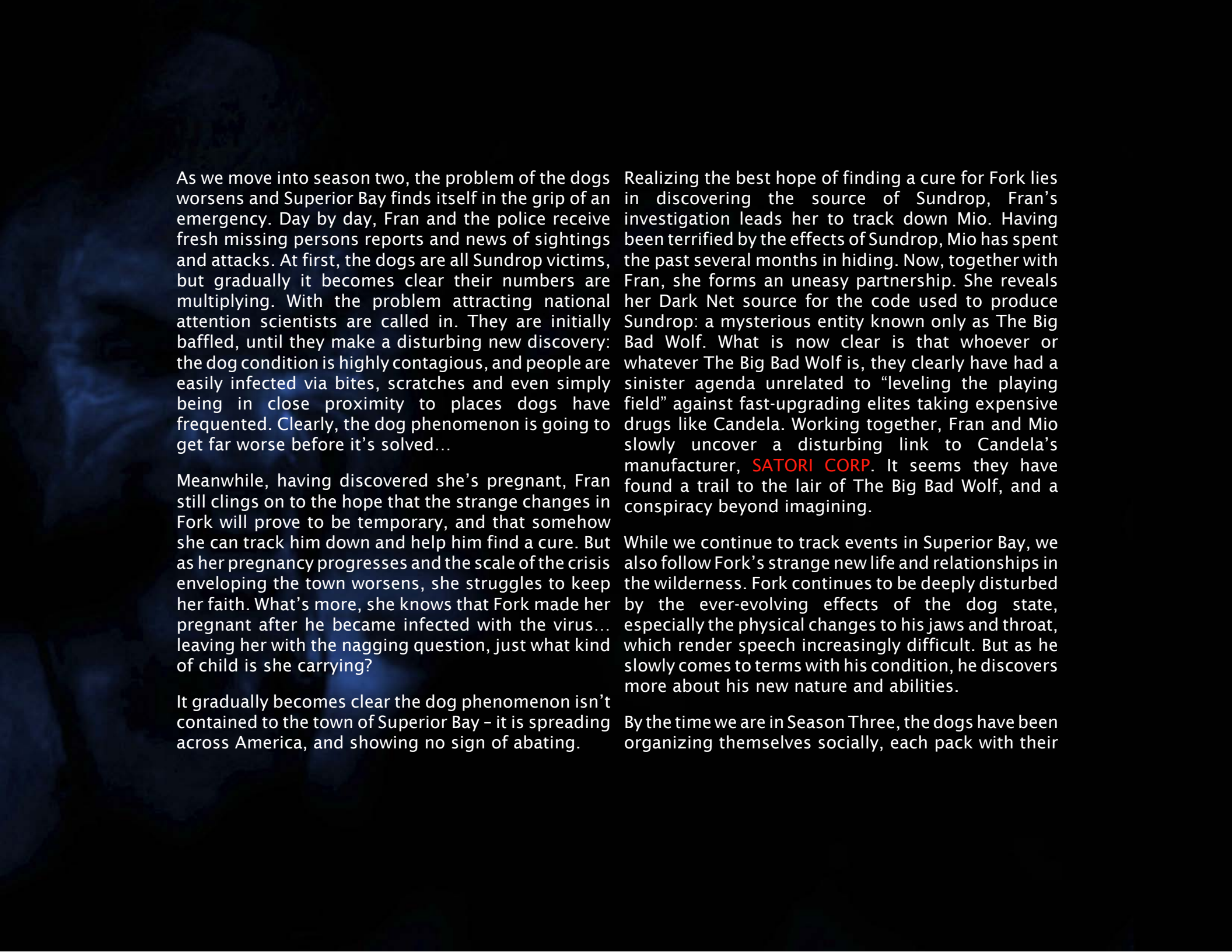
Its source in Superior Bay is Mio, the campus science lab tech who has a personal socio-political agenda: convinced drugs like Candela will result in a wealthy ‘upgraded’ elite, she wants to distribute Sundrop in order to level the playing field before it is too late: everyone should be able to share the benefits of enhanced intelligence and abilities.

What Mio doesn’t realize is that her mysterious Dark Net source for the drug’s code, known only as The Big Bad Wolf, has a far more malevolent agenda: Sundrop is encrypted with a kind of genetic time bomb: strands of canine DNA that slowly begin to activate and replicate, resulting in horrifying mutations...



FUTURE SEASONS





As we move into season two, the problem of the dogs worsens and Superior Bay finds itself in the grip of an emergency. Day by day, Fran and the police receive fresh missing persons reports and news of sightings and attacks. At first, the dogs are all Sundrop victims, but gradually it becomes clear their numbers are multiplying. With the problem attracting national attention scientists are called in. They are initially baffled, until they make a disturbing new discovery: the dog condition is highly contagious, and people are easily infected via bites, scratches and even simply being in close proximity to places dogs have frequented. Clearly, the dog phenomenon is going to get far worse before it's solved...

Meanwhile, having discovered she's pregnant, Fran still clings on to the hope that the strange changes in Fork will prove to be temporary, and that somehow she can track him down and help him find a cure. But as her pregnancy progresses and the scale of the crisis enveloping the town worsens, she struggles to keep her faith. What's more, she knows that Fork made her pregnant after he became infected with the virus... leaving her with the nagging question, just what kind of child is she carrying?

It gradually becomes clear the dog phenomenon isn't contained to the town of Superior Bay – it is spreading across America, and showing no sign of abating.

Realizing the best hope of finding a cure for Fork lies in discovering the source of Sundrop, Fran's investigation leads her to track down Mio. Having been terrified by the effects of Sundrop, Mio has spent the past several months in hiding. Now, together with Fran, she forms an uneasy partnership. She reveals her Dark Net source for the code used to produce Sundrop: a mysterious entity known only as The Big Bad Wolf. What is now clear is that whoever or whatever The Big Bad Wolf is, they clearly have had a sinister agenda unrelated to "leveling the playing field" against fast-upgrading elites taking expensive drugs like Candela. Working together, Fran and Mio slowly uncover a disturbing link to Candela's manufacturer, **SATORI CORP**. It seems they have found a trail to the lair of The Big Bad Wolf, and a conspiracy beyond imagining.

While we continue to track events in Superior Bay, we also follow Fork's strange new life and relationships in the wilderness. Fork continues to be deeply disturbed by the ever-evolving effects of the dog state, especially the physical changes to his jaws and throat, which render speech increasingly difficult. But as he slowly comes to terms with his condition, he discovers more about his new nature and abilities.

By the time we are in Season Three, the dogs have been organizing themselves socially, each pack with their

own distinctive character and ethos as they take over abandoned spaces on the edge of the wilderness. Fork comes to lead one of these packs and tries to persuade humans, with Fran's help, that coexistence is possible. Following his example, Bobby tries to remake contact with Mio, with more darkly unpredictable results. In both cases, the contacts are fraught, tragic, and often weirdly comical. And while these contacts are relatively rare, the touching, sometimes frightening Beauty-and-the-Beast relationship between Fran and Fork remains the true emotional heart of the show, keeping hope alive for a cure, and for their reunion.

As the scale of the dog phenomenon grows it brings increasing levels of chaos in its wake. Groups of self-styled militia take it upon themselves to eradicate the problem, while the military become involved in rounding up the creatures into fortified camps. All the while urgent questions are debated: are the dogs, in fact, still human? If so, what rights do they have?

The greatest threat to any coexistence between dogs and humans comes from the growing power of Lazarus, who is now the leader of the biggest and most violent dog pack. As the first to fully embrace his dog nature, Lazarus lives to hunt and kill humans, and the terror wrought by his pack along with the growing dog plague around the country sparks a violent backlash from police and paramilitary forces. To Fran's horror,

even her own colleagues are soon agitating to wage all-out war against the dogs. And then she gives birth to her baby, in a world far different than the one the little girl was conceived in...

While our focus remains primarily on events in and around Superior Bay, Fran's path eventually takes her far afield to a reckoning with The Big Bad Wolf – and an unexpected and shocking revelation about the source of the dog phenomenon. As the series tilts into its final season, a great reckoning is at hand between humans and dogs – and between Fran and Fork. With all-out war afoot, the window is narrowing on hope for their reunion...

A B O U T T H E D O G S

The first 'dogs' are all victims of the drug Sundrop. Once infected, this causes victims to manifest increasingly extreme symptoms as the cells within their body replicate.

All of the victims are only too aware of what is happening to them, leaving them overwhelmed with fear. Initially, the symptoms are subtle: a strange, fixated stare, erratic twitches, and a high-pitched whistling sound. More disturbing are the subsequent periods of blackout, during which victims are unsure what they have done: each episode is like waking from a dark nightmare. After a few months, physical changes become apparent. Typically these begin with the appearance of patches of leathery skin, followed by bleeding from the gums and the loss of teeth. Gradually, changes to the jawline become more noticeable as new teeth develop.

Perhaps because the eyes are considered windows to the soul, most frightening of all are the changes to victims' eyes, as their pupils change from round to elongated slits. Finally, many victims suffer disfiguring tumors and growth spurs, which slowly spread like a kind of cancer.

Meanwhile, these physical disfigurements are accompanied by profoundly disturbing psychological changes: the victims find themselves in the grip of primitive instincts they are scarce able to control.

Worst of all is the impulse to hunt and attack; a primal blood lust that springs from deep within their newly developing psyches.

Taken together, it's easy to see how victims become known as 'dogs'. Nonetheless, these 'dogs' are still, ultimately, human. They still share many human behaviors and communicate through speech, although the changes to the jaw and throat make forming words increasingly difficult. All of them also carry strong traces of their previous human personalities: they remember who they were, and are completely aware of their terrible fate, even if being human gradually starts to feel like a distant dream...

Some, like Fork, try to fight their new urges. Others, like Lazarus, embrace their animal natures, and revel in their predatory bloodlust. Therein lies the tragedy of their existence: almost all are struggling at some level to come to terms with what they have become: grotesquely mutated humans, pariahs on the outside of society, and all subject to irresistible instincts propelling them to bizarre new behaviors they scarce understand: working in packs, communicating through sense and sound, and hunting for prey...

DOGS

LEAD CHARACTERS



FRAN FORCHETTE

Fran grew up in Superior Bay and loves her hometown, warts and all. Now in her late-thirties, as a fifteen-year veteran with the police, she has seen the very worst in people: domestic violence, fraud, drugs, assault, theft, even murder. And yet she remains cheerful and optimistic about her hometown, her life, and humanity in general. Life can be hard, and sometimes it squeezes good people to make bad choices. Smart, stoical, practical, and wise in a down-home way, Fran chooses to see the underlying good in just about everyone, including a husband who has long since stopped believing in himself.

When Fork starts using Sundrop, and its horrific side effects take hold, Fran not only faces losing the man she loves, but struggles to maintain her faith in humanity. As the series progresses, only her love for Fork keeps that faith alive as she finds herself increasingly torn between her duty as a police officer, and her hope that she can find a cure for his condition and get him back... before she's forced to kill him.

JOHN "FORK" FORCHETTE

When Fran first met Upper Peninsula University's new lecturer with the oddball nickname of "Fork," she thought he was the wittiest, most charming and brilliant man she'd ever met. An outsider from downstate in Ann Arbor, Fork took a sessional teaching job while working to finish his doctorate thesis – and quickly fell madly in love with Fran, the pretty criminology student whose grounded, practical ways were the yin to his overly cerebral yang.

But fifteen years later, Fork has failed to finish writing his thesis or obtain his doctorate. He's stuck, blocked, frustrated: a victim of his own perfectionistic standards he fears he can never attain. While he loves Fran dearly, he's balked at starting a family until he's secured his doctorate and launched his career. Now, on the eve of his fortieth birthday, Fork wakes up to the certainty that life is passing him by. He'll never finish his damned thesis. He's a loser. Fran deserves better than him. And knowing his, he resents her.

But with Sundrop, what had long seemed impossible suddenly feels within his grasp... until unexpected side effects begin to manifest. Fork had wanted only to be a better man. Now he's about to become something else entirely... and only one thing deep within him will anchor him to his past: his love for Fran.



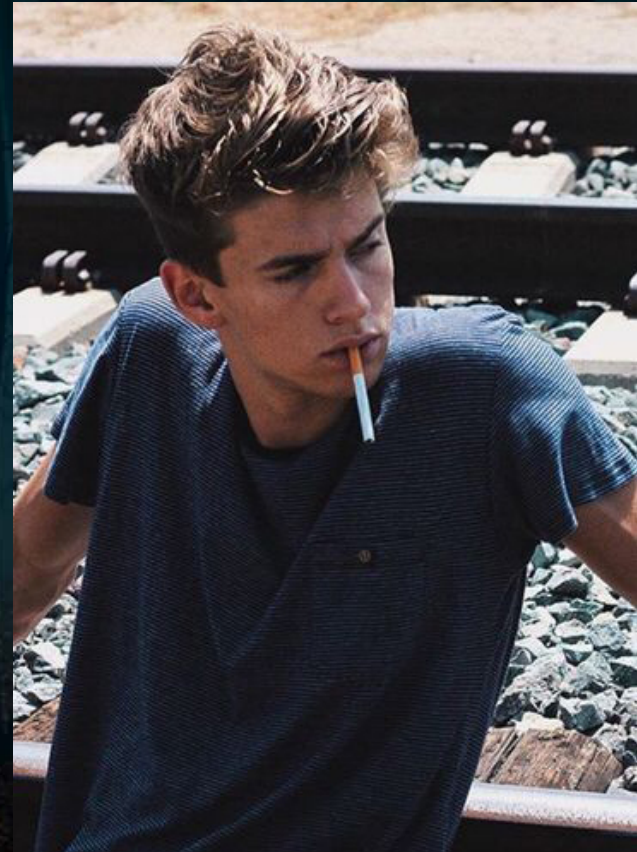
DOGS LEAD CHARACTERS

BOBBY BONAKOWSKI

Millennial indie-slacker Bobby, early 20's, has a well-earned reputation as a C-minus student, having spent three years majoring in partying at Up-U. So when overnight he turns into an A-grade student, Fork assumes he must be cheating. In reality, Bobby has started taking Sundrop, a drug he has been helping his girlfriend Mio produce at the university labs. Following Mio's lead like an obedient puppy, Bobby is in fact one of the first to have used the drug, little realizing that Mio has been using him as something of a research test.

Once Mio becomes convinced the drug is working, she leans on Bobby to help her produce more and Bobby begins dealing around town. But his tenure as a top student is short-lived, as the drug's true colors begin to cause him to mutate. He is terrified by the changes happening to him, especially the end of his good looks, and his nightmare is only made worse when the Therians induct him into their gang by trepanning his head.

Bobby escapes into the wilderness to reckon with a new and terrifying destiny. There, he crosses paths with Fork, and a whole new kind of relationship between the two begins.



D O G S

LEAD CHARACTERS



M I O S U Z U K I

Headstrong, independent and unwilling to suffer fools gladly, Mio is a punkish hacker in her early twenties who works as a technician in a university science lab. She's been casually dating Bobby for several months, but as a free spirit she has no intention of committing herself.

Unlike Bobby, who's happy just to get wasted and hangout, Mio is politically aware, and through her radical underground hacker collective, she has made contact with a mysterious Dark Net figure known only as The Big Bad Wolf. This source has shared with her the code for Sundrop, and she has been secretly creating batches of the drug with the science lab's newly acquired DNA printer.

While Mio believes that she is leveling the playing field against a new kind of genetic inequality, she discovers too late that the Big Bad Wolf has an altogether different agenda. Eventually, with Fran's help, her new mission will be to find the Big Bad Wolf... and somehow find a cure.

DOGS

LEAD CHARACTERS



L A Z A R U S

Sadistic, self-obsessed and charismatic, Lazarus, mid-forties, is the leader of The Therians: an outlaw biker club whose members all identify with specific animal spirits. With almost a dozen members, they operate more like a cult than a gang, and have outlandish beliefs to match: initiation into the group, overseen with cruel efficiency by Lazarus, involves being trepanned: a mystical practice in which a hole is drilled into the skull, the better to unlock the spirit energies.

Like all outlaw biker gangs, Lazarus uses his gang to control the local drug markets, so when the underground drug Sundrop appears, the Therians are quick to move in. Using their connects at the local docks, they soon begin shipping the drug further afield. However, once they discover Sundrop can produce an intense high when taken in larger doses or injected, their willing abuse quickly leads to accelerating side effects.

As his dog symptoms take hold, Lazarus realizes that he is about to become more 'animal' than he ever imagined in his wildest Therian dreams. But unlike others terrified by their symptoms, Lazarus embraces them. Before long he evolves to become the fiercest Dog of them all: the ultimate alpha, the leader of a dog faction bent on destroying humanity itself.

DOGS LEAD CHARACTERS

TIM KEEN

An inexperienced and insecure by-the-book rookie officer with an exaggerated sense of professionalism, Tim is often partnered with Fran out of the squad car as they investigate the violent attacks. As a recent graduate from Police academy, Tim often subjects Fran to his well-intentioned criminological theorizing. And while Fran has a keenly developed sense of intuition, Tim prefers to quote experts and try to impress her with his encyclopedic memory for department procedure. On occasion, Fran finds this useful... more often he simply drives her to distraction. In the field, his inherent timidity can also make him something of a liability.

As Fran's investigation grows in complexity, Tim becomes an increasingly problematic thorn in Fran's side. Tim tries to ensure she pursues the case by the book, while simultaneously being unwittingly mined for information by Chief Chinn, who is concerned that Fran's increasingly bizarre theories about the case are the result of some kind of breakdown.



D O G S

S U P P O R T I N G C H A R A C T E R S



B I L L C O A D Y

A leading outdoorsman and conservationist, Bill, mid-seventies, was appointed to oversee a controversial wolf cull in the wake of apparent wolf attacks on livestock and pets around Superior Bay. Gruff and opinionated, he suffers an attack from the creature and winds up in intensive care in the local hospital. As the series unfolds, he baffles doctors as he gradually mutates before suddenly disappearing into the wilderness - only to reappear as a recurring dog character.

C H A R L O T T E R O B I C H A U D

The Dean of Humanities at the local university, at forty-one Charlotte is just a year older than Fork, but already her career is at another level. A historian of indigenous American History, she is an expert in her field. When she notices Fork's marked change of attitude, she decides against letting him go, only for Fork to turn against her as he succumbs to the dog state...



D A V E & R H O N D A

Dave, mid-thirties, is Fork's closest friend in town: a colleague at the university and a confidante. They often sit together in college bars, fixing the world between them. Meanwhile, his wife Rhonda is talkative and gossipy, and Fran does her best to be friends but silently suffers Rhonda's company. Dave is one of the first to notice changes in Fork when he starts using Sundrop, and watches Fork's transformation in horror, little realizing his wife Rhonda has become infected with the dog virus through Fork. Their relationship and estrangements tracks across the series.

D O G S

S U P P O R T I N G C H A R A C T E R S

C H U C K & G R A C E

Fran's parents, who live on the edge of the town close by the area where the attacks first occur. Chuck is confined to a wheelchair, the legacy of a mining accident years back, leaving his wife Grace to act as his full-time caregiver. Fran worries about them constantly, but when Fork takes it upon himself to surreptitiously dose Chuck with Sundrop in the hope of alleviating his symptoms, Chuck eventually goes to the dogs, and his estrangement from Grace mirrors other such broken relationships...



T E R R Y W H I S H E R

Terry is a hometown sports hero: a man who went to the local college and had a successful career as a pro football player. Returning to the town, he's now a successful entrepreneur in the self-development business and a real estate investor, leading a consortium of investors in a waterfront redevelopment project. We also learn that he has been 'upgraded' with Candela, the expensive drug favored by CEOs. We meet him in season one - but it is in season two that he takes on a more central role, leading the fight against the dog epidemic.

C H I E F C H I N

Jim Chin, late fifties, is the Asian-American chief of police in Superior Bay. Born and raised in the town, Chief Chin walks and talks like a classic "Yooper" (a resident of the Upper Peninsula). His wife runs Superior Bay's oldest Chinese restaurant, which has been in business since Jim's parents started it in the 1950s. Jim Chin is a realist when it comes to overseeing public safety in town full of frat houses and bars frequented by loggers and miners. He thought he'd seen it all... until now. As the series progresses, Jim Chin finds himself at loggerheads with his 'compromised' officer Fran.



DOGS CASTING REFERENCES

FRAN



JENNIFER ANISTON



ANNA PAQUIN



RACHEL WEIZ



JIMMI SIMPSON



JUSTIN THEROUX



ETHAN HAWKE

FORK

BOBBY



KODI SMIT-MCPHEE



ALEX LAWTHER



THOMAS SANGSTER

CASTING REFERENCES D O G S



CHLOE BENNET



NIKKI SOODOO



RILA FUKUSHIMA

M I O

L A Z A R U S



CHRISTIAN BALE



J K SIMMONS



TOM HARDY



BILL SKARSGÅRD



ZACH WOODS



DJ QUALLS

T I M

DOGS KEY CREATIVES

SERIES CREATOR STEPHEN KEMP



Stephen Kemp is a British born writer/producer/director with a background in factually based drama. He began his career as a writer and performer in theatre before working for various UK TV indies. In 2006 he joined Raw TV, where he worked on a range of drama & hybrid drama-documentary programming, including hit shows such as National Geographic's *Locked Up Abroad* and co-creating SyFy's long-running *Paranormal Witness*. He also wrote, produced & directed the TV feature drama *After Armageddon* for the History Channel along with SyFy Channel's feature *The Abduction*, based on the alleged alien abduction of Travis Walton.

In 2013 he moved to Toronto where he headed scripted drama for Cineflix Productions; creating, directing and producing two seasons of the gritty biker drama *Gangland Undercover* for the History Channel, based on the true story of the undercover informant Charles Falco.

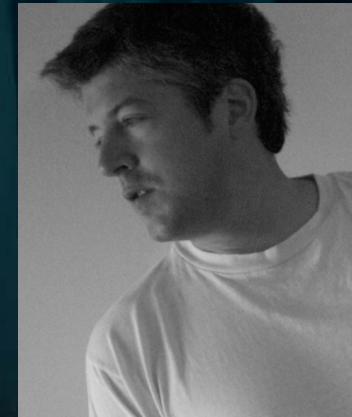
His 2016 movie for Lifetime *Girl In The Box* adapted the dark true story of Colleen Stan who was imprisoned in a box under a bed for seven years. Starring Robin Williams' daughter Zelda Williams, the movie was the channel's highest-rated of the year. Most recently he wrote, produced and directed a second Lifetime movie *Girl In The Bunker*, starring Henry Thomas (*E.T.*) and Moira Kelly (*The West Wing*) which once again was the channel's highest-rated movie in over a year. His latest film for Lifetime *Girl In The Dark* is currently in development.

S E R I E S C R E A T O R

N O E L B A K E R

Noel Baker began his writing career with the screenplay for the cult classic punk rock road movie *Hard Core Logo*, which was released in the US by Quentin Tarantino's Rolling Thunder in 1998. His script for that film won him widespread acclaim, as did his rollicking memoir, *Hard Core Roadshow*, a book recounting the experience of making the film.

This was followed by writing scripts for directors Robert Altman and Terry Gilliam (unproduced, alas, but he got to hang out with legends...), and with television writing that includes co-creating the sex dramedy series *Show Me Yours*, which ran for two seasons on Oprah Winfrey's Oxygen Network from 2003 to 2005; and co-creating the CBC limited drama series *The Hotel* in 2007. Other credits include the screenplay for the hit Indo-Canadian hockey comedy feature, *Breakaway* (2012, starring Russell Peters and Rob Lowe) and writing and/or co-writing fourteen episodes of the gritty true-crime biker infiltration drama *Gangland Undercover*, which ran for two seasons on History Channel in 2016 and 2017.





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