# TOM CLANCY'S

# **HOMELAND SECURITY**

Series Pitch/Pilot Story Javier Grillo-Marxuach REV. 3.15.11

#### CONCEPT

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is at once the largest and most misunderstood law enforcement body in the United States, encompassing dozens of agencies including:

- Coast Guard
- Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Secret Service (both as protectors of the treasury and defenders against counterfeiting as well as bodyguards to the president and other dignitaries)
- Domestic Nuclear Detection Agency
- Transportation Safety Authority (TSA)
- National Cyber Security Center
- Customs and Border Protection

# DHS IS THE PERFECT TELEVISION FRANCHISE

An organization with a broad jurisdiction that includes everything from undercover stings of arms traders selling American-made weapons to our enemies and smuggling weapons of mass destruction through our borders to stopping sex traffickers, counterfeiters and cyber-criminals, aiding in search-and-rescue during major disasters, protecting foreign dignitaries, and stopping narco-traffickers.

# There is no crime story that a show based around the Department of Homeland Security cannot tackle.

Yet, DHS continues to struggle with an image problem: to many, the words "Homeland Security" equate to long waits at the airport, misuse of government money and "you're doing a heck of a job, Brownie."

Enter Tom Clancy: an author synonymous with hard-hitting, ripped-from-before-the-headlines stories, military accuracy

balanced with complex, relatable character work, kick-ass action and - most importantly - American competence.

Of course, we can spend the rest of this pitch talking about Tom Clancy's success as an entertainment franchise...

- 14 books in the New York Times bestseller list.
- Books published in 30 countries in 28 languages.
- Feature films grossing almost 800 million dollars.
- Video game franchises that have sold over 40 million units and brought the Tom Clancy name to a whole new generation of fans meaning we have crossover to all ages, from the first generation who discovered The Hunt For Red October in the 80's to game-console savvy Millenials.

...but the bottom line is that all this success exists because the name Tom Clancy means something: that you are about to watch the best-of-the-best-face down the nightmare scenario...and win.

While the Department of Homeland Security provides a broad, story-rich franchise that can sustain a series for years, Tom Clancy provides a branded point of view about American Heroism and the can-do spirit of our civil servants - a way to make the franchise understood as part of a tradition of victory.

FORGET EVERYTHING YOU THINK YOU KNOW: THIS IS TOM CLANCY'S
HOMELAND SECURITY.

# THE FUSION CENTER - THE CORE OF THE FRANCHISE

The task of the DHS is vast - as is the number of agencies under the umbrella. While this presents a tantalizing dramatic scope, it also presents a real life problem:

- How do so many agencies coordinate their efforts?

It also presents a TV problem:

- How do you do a series about DHS that effectively covers every jurisdiction while creating a steady cast of characters that an audience can love?

The answer lies in a solution implemented by DHS bring together state, local, and private sector intelligence under the cover of extreme secrecy: the Fusion Center.

Independently operated by state and local law enforcement under Federal oversight, DHS Fusion Centers process information from all sources - from local police to the Homeland Security Data Network (the HDSN - which allows the federal government to move secret Intel to the states) and the National Counterterrorism Center, a classified portal of the most current terror information.

A Homeland Security Fusion Center is a never-before-seen base of operations from which a cast of dedicated patriots can not only fight for justice, but also work in concert with a rotating cast of mission specialists who can broaden this already expansive franchise.

Not only do Fusion Centers have access to the most up-to-date intelligence, they also have a broad and highly-inclusive mandate under DHS guidelines.

No two Fusion Centers are staffed in the same way, or operate in the same way — so it is the perfect venue for a franchise law enforcement show: an optimal location from which to launch unlimited crime stories dealing with every aspect of Federal, local and even private-sector law enforcement.

IN SHORT: IF THERE IS SUCH A THING AS A REAL-LIFE COUNTERPART TO 24'S CTU, IT'S THE HOMELAND SECURITY FUSION CENTER.

# OUR EPISODIC PATTERN WEEKLY VICTORIES AND LONG-TERM THREATS

Because a Fusion Center is a complex, multi-disciplinary organization, it stands to reason that they handle a broad spectrum of investigations simultaneously.

As befits a procedural television franchise, Tom Clancy's Homeland Security will feature strong, event-based, case-of-the-week stories...but how we platform and launch those stories will make for a unique structure that will please casual viewers while rewarding long-term fans.

In addition to strong A stories with satisfying weekly resolutions, our B- and C- stories will proactively platform future threats to the nation's safety.

The main story you watch on any one week on *Tom Clancy's Homeland Security* may have begun as a runner several weeks prior and developed over the course of subsequent episodes until it explodes into a crisis.

While we will be careful to make sure <u>no first-time viewers are</u> <u>caught out of the narrative loop</u>, this episodic pattern will allow us to create the kind of narrative complexity and nuance of character and incident for which Tom Clancy's long-form novel, video game and film narratives are renowned.

It will also allow us to blindside our team — we will be able to end A stories with a satisfying victory only to bring forth another developing story into an episode-ending cliff-hanging crisis.

Additionally, by developing multiple stories simultaneously, we will train the audience not to think of *Tom Clancy's Homeland Security* solely as a show about terrorism, but as a show that encompasses the hundreds of jurisdictions covered by DHS.

#### SO HOW DOES IT WORK?

The pilot episode for *Tom Clancy's Homeland Security* will deal primarily with the pursuit and capture of the instigator of a successful terrorist attack on American soil.

But as the Fusion Center team comes together, the audience will learn of other ongoing investigations and adventures in their past...stories which will slowly work themselves into the narrative thread of the series and eventually become fodder for A stories.

These are stories that will be mentioned in the pilot, and one or two of them may receive a scene or two...but mostly they will be laid into the narrative like land mines. Waiting to explode at any moment:

- Our principal character is a CIA Agent whose cover was blown in the Middle East and can now only work domestically... however, this doesn't mean his network of informants and international contacts has gone dormant. As the series begins, he still has a number of associates still undercover through the world and one of them will become a double agent, feeding information to the Chinese which will be used to steal missile technology from American corporations. It will ultimately fall to the DHS team to stop foreign spies from stealing American secrets inside the US.
- Another member of our cast comes to the Fusion center from active duty in Immigrations and Customs Enforcement. In that role, she was running a sting against a group of human traffickers running sex workers from Central America by assuming a number of online personas and corresponding with the traffickers and intermediaries...this case will ultimately collide with a second Homeland Security crisis...
- …as the Federal Emergency Management Agency is part of DHS, and will be involved with search-and-rescue when a hurricane hits the Gulf Coast and the lives of hundreds of smuggled refugees will hang in the balance when, through the analyst's sting, it becomes clear that one of the smuggler's ships is trapped in the storm.
- The head of the show's primary unit of investigators comes to the Fusion Center from the DEA, where she ran a successful psy-ops campaign against a Mexican Drug Cartel eventually driving the head of the cartel to suicide. As the series opens, she finds herself stalked by a mysterious Mexican man someone with spycraft and covert ability. When captured, it becomes clear that he is a Mexican Federal who worked undercover in the Cartel and is now presumed dead by both his corrupt supervisors and the criminal organization...but

who still has vital information that he can only give to a third party outside of Mexico. This operative — and the information he brings to the party — will launch a major story for *Tom Clancy's Homeland Security* and lead our team to war against — and the ultimate capture of — a Pablo Escobar-like kingpin.

- Finally, the Fusion Center's ability to operate both locally and globally will be put to the test when a profoundly unpopular foreign leader visits American soil (imagine Hosni Mubarak) for a delicate peace conference and the Fusion center team member who came from the Secret Service becomes aware of a home-grown bio-terrorist action — planned by a radical group of isolationist Americans — to not only to assassinate the leader but also to permanently disrupt the peace talks. This is the kind of story that we can thread over many, many episodes — with any number of informants and red herrings over multiple episodes leading to a massive international confrontations that taxes each and every one of the Fusion Center's resources.

The world of Homeland Security is vast, multi-disciplinary and multi-jurisdictional: part of our job in presenting a Homeland Security series that is not solely focused on the world of terrorism is to make sure this broad canvas is constantly alluded to and serviced...

...the world is a very dangerous, very complex place in which many threads constantly intertwine and eventually collide, just as the job of the Fusion Center is to identify those threads and track their progress, so will our show go about the business of entertaining the audience while constantly keeping all of the many areas of Homeland Security in constant play.

#### THE PILOT STORY

...unfolds slowly at first, with shots of he sun rising over San Francisco, the city slowly rising as RADIO BROADCASTS fill the soundscape...talking about the weather, local politics, cracking jokes...the banalities of everyday life.

The soundscape turns ominous - dominated by a single voice, an accent-less baritone that tells everyone listening that "we don't need weapons of mass destruction...all we need are the bullets and gunpowder you sell so freely...you are weak...ill-defended...soft and prone to fear...we are that fear."

The voice comes from a message, uploaded in minuscule fragments to various social networking and video sharing sites...a nigh-untraceable jigsaw puzzle collected in bits and bytes on the web to be discovered in the aftermath...but we will take dramatic license and play it over our teaser.

As the voice makes the threat, the INTERCUTS become shots of a BART station in the financial district - along with EXTREMELY TIGHT SHOTS OF MAGAZINES ENTERING COMPACT MACHINE GUNS and black duffels packed and zipped with ammo and grenades.

The INTERCUTS finally come together in a shocking and explosive bloodbath as several gunmen enter the BART station and OPEN FIRE!

But before we can turn off millions of viewers with gruesome scenes of the slaughter of the innocent -

### SMASH CUT OUTSIDE THE BART STATION

- as FIRST RESPONDERS arrive at the scene hearing gunfire and explosions below. The police storm the station with practiced intensity getting MERE GLIMPSES OF THE CARNAGE as they make their way to the gunmen...
- ...just in time to see them take out their grenades and BLOW THEMSELVES UP as the voice makes its final declaration...

"We will strike again soon."

A harrowing montage of news broadcasts fills in the events of the next twenty-four hours. The San Francisco attack was one of seven coordinated assaults on railroad and light rail/metro stations around the country.

The nation is paralyzed - in lockdown.

Every suspect in the case successfully self-immolated, and every news outlet in the world is wondering why the Department of Homeland Security failed to see this attack coming.

One man has claimed responsibility for the attack and those that will follow: a terror operative known only as GHAZAL.

This information is delivered by ROBERT SANTIAGO - Deputy Secretary of the DHS - in a closed-quarters, confidential meeting with ANNA KANE, formerly of the DEA.

Santiago is a former corporate executive - an economics Ph.D. who made his fortune in defense logistics - brought out of the private sector to help with DHS's maturity mission: to make the department more streamlined and efficient.

Santiago's head is now in a guillotine. His streamlining measures have come under fire as the reason the Department failed to thwart the attack.

Imagine Santiago as a Martin Sheen type. He is a great manager — and a profoundly decent man — with an impressive history of success who hoped to turn his last career position into a positive step for the country.

It doesn't matter that Santiago's work allowed DHS to capture a Pakistani businessman channeling F-14 guidance systems to Iran...or that under his watch the department confiscated and secured a hundred grams of Pu-236 from entering the country...or repatriated a half dozen dishonorably discharged former members of the People's Liberation Army who were about to enter the country as mercenaries for Chinese organized crime...

...this attack is a <u>massive operational failure</u>, and Santiago is a good patriot about to detect the scent of burning scapegoat.

Kane listens patiently - she is an FBI-trained profiler who has become legendary in the law enforcement community for running a small-team DEA psy-op targeting the head of a drug cartel. Using cutting edge psychological techniques, assorted dirty tricks,

and ruthless HUMINT and field work, she targeted the cartel leader by playing on his fear of life-threatening illness.

Anna Kane led undercover agents to compromise the cartel leader's doctor and force him to present a false diagnosis that led the cartel leader into a nervous breakdown and suicide. Since then, she has been trying to get other law enforcement agencies to try her targeted, psy-ops-based approach to law enforcement.

Think of Anna as a Cate Blanchett type - a highly intelligent, pensive leader who keeps her opinions close and knows how to get what she needs out of people...and Santiago is someone ready to throw a Hail Mary pass with an unconventional thinker.

While every branch of the department tries to capture Ghazal using conventional methods - walking the crime scenes, trying to trace the weapons - trying to figure out how all the fragments of the message got on the web, etc. - Santiago wants Kane to put together a team from every branch of the department: a highly mobile, highly agile group able to tap resources from each of their disciplines and bring to bear tactics that might not bear the scrutiny of a larger, more bureaucratic organizational structure.

In short: he wants her to use the same psychological manipulation and dirty tricks she used on the drug cartels to identify, undermine and take down Ghazal... and he is willing to put the DHS's budget and resources behind her to do it...

...and in order to give Anna and her team the latitude to pull off their initiative, he is willing to locate her in a Fusion Center outside of Washington D.C. A place with a loose command structure, rules she can define for herself and massive informational and logistical resources.

Safely ensconced in the relative obscurity and secrecy of the Fusion Center, Anna will have access to not only the cutting edge of the DHS's intelligence gathering operation, but also to the national and international political community.

Moving forward, our pilot becomes equal parts recruitment narrative and procedural: a tense, taut mystery with the stakes that promises a series with the dead-serious, no-holds-barred tone of 24, the closed-ended narratives of CSI, and the

character-based, wide-canvas, techno-thriller-event storytelling that is the hallmark of Tom Clancy at his best.

Part of the structure of the pilot will be to show the broad range of DHS through the recruits brought into the task force by Anna. They will represent several key units of the DHS, ranging from the Secret Service to Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Coast Guard.

As with the real life members of the DHS's many branches, they will come from many different educational, economic and disciplinary backgrounds - but they will all have one thing in common: being the best at what they do...

...but Anna's first recruit will come from an agency outside of the DHS's jurisdiction...

# THE TEAM

JOSEPH BURKE (35, CIA, white - a Jason Bourne/Jack Bauer type): Months before the attack on America, Joe Burke was running an undercover operation in Dubai when his cover was blown. Unable to operate in the Middle East, Anna finds him practicing BASE jumping from a deserted Detroit office building while waiting for a desk assignment.

A natural-born improviser who routinely embarrasses his blueblood parents, Joe managed to survive the Ivy League and took a job in intelligence, where he distinguished himself for his ability to assimilate covers, take on identities and blend into most environments.

In Anna's team, Joe Burke will become not only the point-man in all UC operations, but also the liaison with the CIA - an organization notorious for not sharing Intel and resources. Joe's relationship with his former spymasters and his use of the CIA's assets for Anna's means will become a source of increasing tension and conflict of loyalty as the series progresses.

In his relationship with Anna, Joe will be the rebellious son who constantly questions motives and wonders if she is playing him...in Anna's case, most of the time he is right.

ROSANNA "ROSIE" WONG (29, Immigrations and Customs Enforcement - a Maggie Q type): A former NSA Intelligence Analyst, Rosanna turned to the Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Agency (the largest investigative branch of the DHS) as a way to get more field experience...

...but, alas, this woman's gift for putting the pieces together, seeing all the angles, and discerning the signs has kept her far from the action in all of her postings. Anna tempts her into her task force by promising to put her out in harm's way - something that makes Joe Burke and the rest of the team balk.

Rosie's journey will be from someone who yearns for adventure without knowing the hell it sometimes entails, to a seasoned operative whose need for Anna's approval (something she never had from her own parents - classic "Hymn of the Tiger Mother" first generation immigrants with more respect for professional

life than public service) will remain a source of motivation and an Achilles heel in spite of her accomplishments.

WILL SPURGEON (early 40's, COAST GUARD): Spurgeon is a Coast Guard lifer...a blue collar guy who entered the service after high school and rose to efficiently lead a massively successful task force tracking drug smuggling in the gulf.

After that triumph, Spurgeon went - at an age most thought impossible - to NAVY SEAL school as part of a DHS joint program to bring Navy culture and professionalism to the Guard.

In spite of pulling off a near-impossible (for his — or any age) physical feat and returning to the Guard, Spurgeon knows he is close to the end of his operational life and doesn't want to be relegated to a teaching role — or worse, the political backwaters — of the organization.

His role in Anna's task force becomes both as enforcer and moral backbone - this is the guy with the common horse sense who butts heads with Joe for his spook ways and Anna for her manipulative leadership of the team.

On the field, Joe and Will are the buddy cops with wildly divergent operational styles: one a military man who thrives on moral and operational hierarchy, the other a free-wheeling operative whose morality depends on the situation and the stakes. In more crass language, Will and Joe are the buddy cop movie portion of our program.

To Anna, Spurgeon will become something of a surrogate husband, a strong male who takes none of her crap and know her better than his seemingly simple worldview would imply.

MORGAN WALKER (late 30's, Secret Service - imagine Renee Russo in *In The Line of Fire*): Morgan Walker is, quite simply, the single best Countersniper in the Secret Service. She's brought in for one reason and one reason alone - Anna's paranoia about protecting herself and her team. Anna's past work against the drug cartels and its consequences (which will be revealed later in the pilot story) has made her more than a little obsessed with security.

Morgan's dossier reads like a classic recruit: state college education in criminology, law-enforcement background, long tenure in the Secret Service...and Joe speculates to no end that she must have done black bag work for the government because her profile reads "too conventional."

Morgan is the Mister Spock of the team, guarded with her emotions, slow to bond with the others and generally humorless - though never charmless).

Morgan serves the role of the team's armorer and chief of security - and is not above taking anyone out with extreme prejudice who is a threat. She is a focused, detached operative whose quite never betrays the dark waters below.

# THE PILOT STORY - AFTER THE TEAM COMES TOGETHER

Anna's handpicked team aside, the Fusion Center is staffed by a crew of hard-charging brainiacs run by ELI GORRISTER (40's) - a State's Attorney currently laying low in the trenches of Homeland Security. Think of Gorrister as Rahm Emmanuel if he had been a prosecutor.

Gorrister is hiding out after coming under fire for pursuing some of his cases a little <u>too</u> zealously. He's waiting for the moment when he is no longer a political liability to his bosses and can return to active legal cowboy-duty...but for now, he will be our link to local law enforcement muscle and play the role of garrulous fixer and gadfly.

As the team works the case, sizing up all the evidence collected while Anna was busy recruiting her team, Joe shrugs his shoulders in disdain for all the work the Department has done thus far. This is what is known as an "ROI" - a "return on investment attack," he explains: minimum expenditure of funds and personnel, maximum impact to the infrastructure.

Unlike 9-11, which cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to organize and involved such logistical contortions as sending dozens of men through flight school, this entire attack cost very little to organize, but has the entire country paralyzed. This was a lo-tech, lo-fi operation using disparate elements that cannot be easily tracked because they are so common.

The goal here wasn't to commit mass murder, Joe argues (even as Spurgeon balks at the idea that several hundred dead innocents is not mass murder) but to show that the system is large, weak and prone to heart-stopping overreaction provoked with minimal effort.

Anna agrees with Joe's assessment - and that's why all the conventional law enforcement methods are going to fail. The money trail required to buy a few weapons will not be significant enough, the weapons themselves were commonplace and readily available, the people who committed the atrocities were lone wolf recruits without high-rank in a terrorist organization...and all of them cleared their computers and personal effects (and melted their cell phones) before committing the atrocity.

The clue trails will all lead to the weapons purchases, but not much further than that.

Our job here is to find an alternate clue trail into the terror organization responsible. Rosie believes she has found something: the murder of a hawaladar - a Muslim banker practicing a unique form of honor-system-based money lending - in Baltimore, several hundred miles from one of the major attacks.

The hawaladar was shot in his office several weeks ago in what was widely reported as a robbery gone wrong...but Rosie has realized that the murder was conducted with a weapon that matches the make and model of the weapons used in one of the subway attacks.

It is possible - Rosie conjectures - that one of the terrorists was being financed through the *hawala* banking system and had to murder his banker to cover his tracks.

Converging in Baltimore, the crew investigates the crime scene - long since sealed by local law enforcement - and discover something the cops missed. The *hawaladar* had a concealed security camera with an independent video recorder hidden in the walls to his office. The recorder was taken in the robbery.

Using his flawless knowledge of Arabic and understanding of the culture, Joe quickly gets in the hawaladar's social circle and discovers that the recorder was taken by one of the victim's business partners. Distrustful of the racial politics of conventional law enforcement, the business partner has been seeking to find the killer himself.

Joe manages to acquire the recorder through a subtle mixture of cajoling and bribing (which shows us that he is not only a great physical asset, but also a smooth, knowledgeable operator) and brings it back to the Fusion Center - where analysis reveals the voice and face killer...

...and the team makes a shocking realization: the murderer of the *hawaladar* was part of Ghazal's terror plot - on tap to commit an eighth attack - but he suffered cold feet and ran...but not before murdering the *hawaladar*, who was his main link to financing by Ghazal's organization. Now it's a manhunt - with the prize a frontline terror asset presumably also being hunted down by his own organization.

Using state-of-the-art voice recognition and cell phone tracking, Rosie manages to get a possible location on the suspect by comparing the voiceprint from the video recorder with an NSA phone intercept...

...but our coordination with local law enforcement gives away the suspect's location too soon (illustrating a serious problem in sharing data with a less secure organizations - leaks).

In a kickass action sequence, Joe, Morgan and Spurgeon descend on the location of the terrorist - most likely a hideout in New York - only to find themselves in heated combat with armed members from Ghazal's organization sent to hunt down the wayward operative.

In the course of the action sequence Morgan enters a full on sniper-duel with Ghazal's hired guns as Spurgeon proves his SEAL chops rescuing the terrorist from his would-be assassins.

In spite of their desire to catch members of the terror organization alive, Spurgeon and Joe are forced to kill several members of Ghazal's team (one of whom commits suicide rather than be caught)...and one of Ghazal's men gets a good look at Joe before running away.

As Spurgeon, Joe and Morgan transport the terrorist back to the Fusion Center for questioning, Anna receives her first signal that Ghazal is watching us, <u>and responding to our operation in</u> real time.

Five men with suspicious devices enter secure entrances in five different airports, bringing these major hubs to a standstill without breaching TSA lines or even taking a single life.

Ghazal releases another recording - letting the United States know that he can cause panic at any second.

The country enters a state of collective shock at Ghazal's resourceful ability to strike repeatedly. Santiago is in a panic: his office besieged by media, political and operational chatter...

...but Anna is strangely exhilarated by Ghazal's action.

This means we rattled his cage by capturing the one member of his organization that refused to carry out his mission. This is Ghazal reminding us that he is still out there, pulling strings by trying to distract us from our goal.

The airport incursion also brings up a number of discontinuities with the subway station assaults: the perpetrators were not Muslim terror recruits or ideologues, but rather down-and-out people bribed to commit the actions.

This could mean that Ghazal has been having difficulty with financing, recruitment or both - or that he is loath to have more people in his organization exposed to capture/questioning. Or it could simply be that Ghazal wants us to see that he is capable of striking fear completely anonymously. This organization, Anna concludes, is a lot stranger and more free-wheeling than a traditional terror group like Al Qaeda - more willing to practice an open-source approach to terrorism.

Joe has a much different take on this. One of Ghazal's men has seen him: that puts him at risk for detection. The leak could cause him his ability to operate domestically and put his life in danger.

Anna shrugs off Joe's concern - explaining to him (with almost chilling detail and calculation) that after she took on the cartels, a leak resulted in cartel operatives planting a bomb in her unit's San Diego HQ, she lost most of her team - and shortly thereafter, her marriage due to her husband's fear of living in hiding.

This is a major reveal for Anna - a piece that not only shows her personal life, but also how much she has lost for the cause.

In short: she has nothing left to lose. All she cares about is getting her man. This is personal for her: declaring war on terror, she explains, is like declaring war on oxygen — what they are doing here is waging psychological war on a single individual. If Joe wants to avoid blowing his cover, she suggests, then he'd better get mad at the real target — Ghazal — and make sure that when the smoke clears from all of this, he is buried somewhere very, very deep.

As Anna leaves the scene, Joe and Spurgeon are left to wonder, who is this cold-hearted maniac they have signed up to work for?

Morgan just shrugs - this is her kind of leadership. "Just get her a clear shot at Ghazal," she tells Spurgeon and Joe, "and all of this will be moot."

Our captured terrorist proves a harder nut to crack than his hesitancy to do carry out his mission would imply. He is a hardcore jihadist with a college education, a sophisticated mind and no love for the States, DHS or the rule of law. We can't even get him to tell us why he bailed on his assignment: was he dissatisfied with Ghazal's leadership? Was it mere cowardice?

"What's the story" - Anna wants to know - "and more importantly, can we leverage his quilt into a lead on Ghazal's position?"

Joe finally offers to waterboard the shit out of the guy...

...and - setting his dynamic with Joe - Spurgeon offers to kick the shit out of Joe if he tortures someone on his watch.

Anna shakes her head. This guy won't respond to torture or give reliable evidence under duress. He is a true believer. She knows the type...and that's when Rosie comes to us with a full dossier on the terrorist.

Working the dossier with the team, Anna realizes they have a unique opportunity to psychologically intimidate this suspect into talking...

...at an illegal casino somewhere in the underbelly of D.C., Anna and Joe make contact with an Egyptian Intelligence officer contracted by the Government to perform extreme rendition on persons of interest. It turns out that the Egyptians are holding our prisoner's brother in Cairo, and Anna is willing to trade a favor in order to receive the leverage she needs.

In interrogation, Anna shows the prisoner a live webcam feed of his brother's cell in Egypt.

She explains to the terrorist that his brother is a person of interest in another case and the Egyptians have offered to send us a sample of his DNA for analysis...

...the way the Egyptians want to present the sample is by cutting off the brother's arm and sending it to us (by the way, this is

based on a true story recounted in Ron Suskind's The One Percent Doctrine).

The prisoner cracks before the Egyptians cut off his brothers' arm and gives us a major break in the case...

...the reason he chose to not pursue his assignment was that he found out that Ghazal - whom he never met in person but spoke to on the phone while receiving final instructions - is not an Arab.

(how did this terrorist know he wasn't following a true Arab into suicide? Arabic is an extremely complicated language which leans enormously on subtlety and nuance of expression for meaning - this college-educated fundamentalist JUST didn't trust that the voice on the other end came from a natural-born member of the race!)

Leveraging this information into an immunity deal - which Santiago approves, with which Spurgeon and Morgan both disagree, which Joe sees as a natural part of Realpolitik, and which Rosie doesn't care about - Anna finally gets a hold of the terrorist's computer and cell phones: and are able to use the information therein to get a location on Ghazal.

In our final act, the hunt for Ghazal becomes a major action sequence, along with the revelation that Ghazal is in fact a dishonorably-discharged former member of the armed forces...a right-wing-nut...

...a white man who turned his disdain for an American Foreign
Policy he felt had turned soft into the shadow persona of an
Arab terrorist busy recruiting members through intermediaries in
order to further the perception of Jihad against the states!

Needless to say, Ghazal proves a formidable adversary not only tactically, but also physically. It takes all of Joe Burke's tactical ability, Will Spurgeon's physical prowess and a well-placed bullet from Morgan to stop him...

...maybe with an assist from Rosie that shows her viability on the field.

At the end the team comes together in explosive action - and together they get the mastermind, still alive, in irons, and ready to face judgment.

As the pilot draws to a close, Ghazal is revealed to the world as his arrest makes headlines...

...and it's an awesome scene of catharsis, as an agent of terror, caught on American soil is brought in for trial in full view of the world...

...and Anna and company graciously give credit for the collar to local law enforcement. Their place in the world is not to take credit, but to make sure their own secrecy remains intact...

...because Santiago's last pitch to Anna and her team is an offer for them to remain in the Fusion Center full time, moving from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, perpetually fighting the many terrors faced by the Department of Homeland Security - applying their unconventional logic and tactics to a variety of situations...

...and as Anna Kane, Joe Burke, Will Spurgeon, Rosie Wong and Morgan Walker agree to make this the beginning of a beautiful friendship...

# END OF PILOT