

THE
LAUNCH PAD
PILOT COMPETITION
PRESENTS

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

PRIORITY READS

- 3 Years -
- **160 Writers Signed** –
- 54 Projects Set Up –
- **21 Writers Staffed** –
- 3 Bidding Wars –

The Future of Television is Now!

WHAT IS THE LAUNCH PAD COMPETITION?

With over 160 writers signed, 54 projects set up, 21 writers staffed, 70 appearances on annual 'best of' lists, and 3 bidding wars in just the past three years, The Launch Pad Competition has fast become the premiere hub for discovering new writers. With a pilot competition, feature competition and the recently launched manuscript competition, we have established ourselves as the launching point for new writers across platforms.

WHO IS THIS LIST FOR?

Whether, agent, manager, producer, executive, or assistant, this list is for you. With a continual call for great voices, great dramas (especially this year), great comedies, and great writers, we've built this document to give you a quick glance at this year's top new writers and projects before they become next year's hot new show creators. So, whether you're looking for new clients, new projects, new writers, or simply a great read, check out the list to see which writers and which stories inspire us.

WHO DECIDES WHO MAKES THIS LIST?

This list makes up the top 5% of this year's pilot competition entries, as voted on by our professional readers, our 25 judges (CAA, UTA, WME, Circle of Confusion, Kaplan/Perrone Entertainment, Madhouse Entertainment, Management 360, Anonymous Content, amongst others), as well as our development partners at Scott Free, Vertigo, Twin Padres and Energy Entertainment. If it's on this list, your industry peers deemed it worthy of being here.

HOW CAN I REQUEST AND READ THE SCRIPTS?

Instead of bouncing emails back and forth, we're making it incredibly easy to request the pilots you want to read via our request form. So, if you see anything you like, simply click the below link, or copy and paste the web address below into your browser to start requesting.

Request pilots here: <http://www.tracking-board.com/read/LPPC2016/>

HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT AND/OR CONTACT THE WRITERS?

Instead of putting all of the writers' personal info in this book for the world to see, we've kept that offline to protect their privacy. So, if you've found a script you love and have questions, or you want to request an introduction, simply shoot us an email at Requests@Tracking-Board.com and we'll put you in touch right away.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: #1 FAN by Annabel Seymour

PITCH: 30 ROCK meets POPSTAR: NEVER STOP NEVER STOPPING

LOGLINE: Twenty years after embarrassing herself by proposing to her pop star crush on live TV, a businesswoman's life is thrown for a loop when the bankrupt singer shows up on her doorstep.

GENRE: Comedy

WHY TO READ: The type of comedy a network builds a night around. With a mix of wit, nostalgia, and goofiness this is an easily accessible big audience show with an incredibly relatable premise turned up to 11 and easy to see playing week to week. Two exceptionally well-drawn characters anchor the series that, between the laughs, consistently delivers a great deal of depth and humanity where other shows could have easily fallen into tired tropes and clichés. The writing is strong, the characters breakouts, and the jokes hilarious.

TITLE: 40 ELEPHANTS by E.S. Dahl & Kay Tuxford

PITCH: PEAKY BLINDERS meets THE CATCH

LOGLINE: After leaving her fiancé, a naïve woman joins an all-female gang of thieves led by the daughter of a ruthless ringleader in 1920s London, aspiring to reinvent herself and help earn the seductive independence women briefly glimpsed during World War I.

GENRE: Drama | Crime

WHY TO READ: A smart, fun, and female driven gangster drama that mixes all the energy of heist films like OCEAN'S 11 with the period drama, violence, and intrigue of PEAKY BLINDERS. An easy fit for cable, premium, or pay, but could also be a strong contender for a broadcast outlet looking to make a mark. Exceptional characters play over a fresh backdrop, with themes blending between tried and true gangster stories, sexism, confidence, and the belief that everyone deserves a shot at their dreams... even if their dreams are a life of crime.

TITLE: ADDICTED by Melissa Cassera

PITCH: GREY'S ANATOMY meets LOVE AND OTHER DRUGS

LOGLINE: A recovering sex addict who lands a job as a pharmaceutical rep not only discovers how scandalous her the industry is, but discovers her new partner is the man who made her an addict in the first place.

GENRE: Drama | Comedy | Medical

WHY TO READ: Built around a fascinating central character who is equal parts fun and tragic while being 100% captivating, this pilot deftly juxtaposes addiction with the corruption of the pharmaceutical industry, opening up possibilities for both great character drama and complex social commentary with its mixture of fun, intrigue, and soapy drama.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **ADRIFT** by Titus Heckel

PITCH: BATTLESTAR GALACTICA meets THE EXPANSE

LOGLINE: On a planet where the only source of sunlight and heat is produced by artificial “orbs” controlled by corporations, debates of religion, politics, and fear erupt into violence after orb is destroyed, leaving all life fighting to see another day.

GENRE: Drama | Action | Sci-Fi

WHY TO READ: From its thrilling opening sequence to its complex political intrigue, this is creative sci-fi at its best. Balancing big topic philosophies like religion, politics, and the value of life against an original and exciting space setting, this pilot beautifully marries smart storyline and blockbuster action without skipping a beat. Ambitious both in tone and scope, this series could easily take a page from SyFy hits such as Battlestar Galactica and The Expanse in terms of visualization, and though the world and visuals are big, the settings and foundations are grounded. This is the type of series a network could build into event television, appealing not only to those who love sci-fi, but also to those who love smart television.

TITLE: **THE ALCHEMISTS** by Amanda Keener

PITCH: THE MAGICIANS meets HARRY POTTER

LOGLINE: The disappearance of a young girl's parents causes her to attend a boarding school, where she meets two mysterious Alchemists and discovers she has powers of her own.

GENRE: Drama | Fantasy | YA

WHY TO READ: A relatable female protagonist anchors this fun and exciting pilot that is filled with great ideas and unexpected twists. Stunning and original visuals combined with the proven premise of a supernatural school give this pilot all the ingredients of a successful YA hit. Its dark comedic tone makes it a perfect fit for either a children's network like Disney or Nickelodeon or a more teen-focused audience like Freeform or MTV.

TITLE: **ALIBI MAN** by Richard Hays & Robert Ingraham

PITCH: WHITE COLLAR meets THE AMERICANS

LOGLINE: A man who makes a living by disguising himself and providing false alibis for criminals finds himself at the center of a murder investigation of one of his clients, with both an FBI agent, and the victim's family, looking to track him down.

GENRE: Drama | Crime | Thriller

WHY TO READ: With an instantly compelling and strikingly original premise, this pilot delivers fast and exciting action hand in hand with exceptional dialogue, smart twists, and the type of lead character actors fight for a chance to play. Toying with the idea of what it means to be successful in today's world, as well as how far one will go to succeed, this pilot not only delivers powerhouse television, but it lines up seasons of stories to tell. A strong lead mixed with the option to spin this into a procedural or serialized series opens this pilot up to most buyers looking to secure a big star who doesn't want to get pigeonholed playing the same character week to week.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **ALMA MATER** by Jenny Deiker

PITCH: BROADCHURCH meets PRETTY LITTLE LIARS

LOGLINE: A psychiatrist and former alum of a prestigious boarding school in Wales comes back to help the students deal with their grief over an apparent suicide— and begins to suspect that the school she loves may be hiding an even more disturbing mystery.

GENRE: Drama | Mystery | Thriller

WHY TO READ: From the very first page to the very last, this captivating thriller delivers the perfect mix of mystery, intrigue, thrills, and drama to build a must see series around. The International School provides a diverse cast of exceptionally well-developed characters as well as an overarching sense of secrecy and privilege that powers the twists and turns of the central mystery. With a complex heroine whose psychological training is a perfect entry into the intricacies of the teenage psyche, this pilot leaps off the page with insight, intelligence, and a hint of terror.

TITLE: **AND WE'RE BACK** by Nick Fanego

PITCH: CASUAL meets THE COMEBACK

LOGLINE: When she is fired from her own show after turning 50, America's former #1 daytime talk show host enlists her children to help her reclaim her stardom and husband— both of which were stolen by younger women.

GENRE: Comedy

WHY TO READ: Masterfully juggling cynical, edgy humor with the warmth of a family sitcom, this pilot firmly sets up a premise packed with comedic potential and an ensemble of characters who are bound to clash, but love each other in the end. With multigenerational characters and storylines to get behind, this comedy immediately has the potential to grab audiences from shows such as Mom, Modern Family and Veep alike, and become the next breakout hit on most any network.

TITLE: **ARE YOU FUCKING KIDDING ME?** By Joe Toto

PITCH: THE REAL O'NEALS meets MODERN FAMILY

LOGLINE: A family on the verge of divorce attempts to maintain normalcy when encountering their wild relatives for Christmas dinner.

GENRE: Comedy | Drama | Coming-of-Age

WHY TO READ: An impressive balance of cynicism, humor and heart, this pilot is the sort of emotional family sitcom that can straddle the line between comedy and drama to great effect, capturing a fiercely loyal audience along the way. With a great cast of characters who range from relatable to wild and a ton of hilarious moments, this is the kind of pilot that will leave you smiling long after it ends.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **ARKHAM, MASS** by Andrew Aguirre

PITCH: PENNY DREADFUL meets TRUE DETECTIVE

LOGLINE: A string of mysterious disappearances plague a small New England town in the 1930s, prompting an investigation by a journalist with something to prove, a professor with something to hide, and a young man who just might be the key to the strange goings-on of Arkham, Mass.

GENRE: Drama | Period | Supernatural

WHY TO READ: Built on a strong Lovecraftian foundation, this pilot combines an impeccably detailed small town setting with an intriguing cast of well-developed characters and an overarching atmosphere of horror and suspense. With subtle character mysteries dancing between the main storyline, and a delightfully thrilling cliffhanger to wrap out the pilot, this is easily seen as the first foray into a series that audiences will schedule their lives around.

TITLE: **ARMA** by Giovanni Porta

PITCH: BLOODLINE meets THE SOPRANOS

LOGLINE: A Miami hotel owner whose business is struggling finds out that his wife is secretly a major arms dealer.

GENRE: Drama | Crime

WHY TO READ: A soapy, twisty family drama with a strong cast of minority leads in the vein of Empire, this pilot could be the next big network hit. Bursting with topical and exciting subject matter like drug smuggling and arms dealing, there's no limit to the action-packed places this plot could go. The beautiful and sexy Miami setting helps turn the heat up to 100 on this steamy ensemble hit.

TITLE: **ASSISTANTS ANONYMOUS** by Morgan Thompson

PITCH: GIRLS meets THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA

LOGLINE: Three young adults try to pursue their dreams in Hollywood while working as assistants for their horrible bosses.

GENRE: Comedy

WHY TO READ: Never forgetting that a pilot needs to be hilarious even while establishing its world, this laugh-out-loud sitcom capitalizes on the high octane satire fuel of Hollywood to find new and funny angles on the industry we all know, hate and sometimes love. Expertly structured to balance the stories of its three compelling leads, this pilot employs fun and inventive transitions suggestive of an original and intelligent writer.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **BAPTISTE** by Jenny Deiker

PITCH: TRUE BLOOD meets BLOODLINE

LOGLINE: After the death of her estranged family, a lawyer inherits a bed & breakfast in the Louisiana bayou, as well as the responsibility of performing the dark magic that protects the community.

GENRE: Drama | Horror | Supernatural

WHY TO READ: As a morally complex character piece drenched in the trappings of Southern Gothic horror, this pilot uses its setting impeccably, crafting a unique atmosphere that serves as a backdrop for family drama as well as a terrifying supernatural threat. With a great protagonist who must take on her family's horrifying burden, this pilot grips you with a mix of beautifully cinematic writing, a shockingly dramatic cliffhanger, and a feeling that having to wait a week to get more is going to be the most difficult thing in your life.

TITLE: **BARBARIANS** by L.A. Townsley

PITCH: VIKINGS meets CLASH OF THE TITANS

LOGLINE: In the course of completing his labors, Hercules, now a disgraced hero, arrives at the hidden city of the Amazons, where a struggle for political power initiated by the Gods has made the call for war imminent.

GENRE: Drama | Period | Supernatural

WHY TO READ: Providing all the necessities of an ancient Greek drama, with both nuanced political intrigue and expansive cinematic battles, this pilot delivers grounded historical tales and wondrous fantasy alike to audiences. The hidden city in the heart of the forest provides endless visual splendor as well as a great sense of mystery, magic, and myth. The presence of Hercules and Theseus helps ground the pilot with firmly established characters, while the matriarchal society of the Amazons provides all the violence, sex, and drama a breakout cable hit could ever ask for.

TITLE: **BLOODSTONE** by Erik Bernard & Lyndon Tait

PITCH: HELL ON WHEELS meets DEADWOOD

LOGLINE: In the 1850s, three sets of travelers converge on the San Francisco gold rush in search of their fortune.

GENRE: Drama | Period

WHY TO READ: From the scorching violence of the Wild West to the thrilling dangers of the high seas, this pilot takes on an epic scope to tell the story of one of the most fascinating chapters in American history - the Gold Rush. With a sprawling ensemble of layered, complex characters and no limit to its dramatic possibilities, this is a fast-paced examination of greed and ambition reminiscent of such television masterpieces as Deadwood and Carnivale.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **BLUEGRASS** by Richard Barbour II

PITCH: JUSTIFIED meets UNDERGROUND

LOGLINE: After the murder of a conductor on the Underground Railroad, an abolitionist runs for City Marshal of Louisville in order to assist in getting escaped slaves to the North.

GENRE: Drama | Period

WHY TO READ: This is an impeccably researched historical drama that takes a new look at the fight to end slavery through the lens of local politics. With cameos by such historical figures as Henry Clay and Andrew Jackson adding to the already fantastic cast of characters, this pilot is packed with intrigue, drama and topical themes of race and politics. You can practically see the think-pieces piling up online.

TITLE: **BLUNKHILLS, THE** by Hollis Ludlow-Carroll

PITCH: WE'RE THE MILLERS meets BROOKLYN NINE-NINE

LOGLINE: A group of mismatched FBI agents go undercover as a perfect family in order to gain access to criminal masterminds living in a luxury gated community.

GENRE: Comedy | Crime

WHY TO READ: The perfect sitcom premise, building off the undercover fun of 21 JUMP STREET but placing its hilariously inept and incompatible characters in a Wisteria Lane suburban nightmare. This pilot delivers from page one, and never stops building on its jokes, raising the comedic stakes at every turn, or using its absurdist sense of humor to flesh out a formidable supporting cast. While the premise and characters alone deliver enough to come back week to week, it's the endless possibility of where this series can go that makes this an attractive pick for broadcast and cable alike.

TITLE: **BORN CLASSIFIED** by J.R. Smith & Nicholas Fox Robbins

PITCH: THE X-FILES meets MANHATTAN

LOGLINE: In the 1950s, a woman who worked on the Manhattan Project is recruited to join a team investigating extraterrestrial phenomena.

GENRE: Drama | Sci-Fi | Period

WHY TO READ: Mixing the trappings of a conspiracy thriller with the intelligence of a period drama and the storytelling potential of a supernatural procedural, this pilot has a little something for everyone, all while maintaining its distinct and exciting point of view. With a strong female protagonist, great dialogue and genuinely creepy images, this is the kind of pilot that's easy to market and even easier to get hooked on.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **BROOMSTICK COWBOYS** by Mike Revenaugh

PITCH: THE LEAGUE meets EDDIE THE EAGLE

LOGLINE: After a devastating marriage proposal rejection, a down on his luck man decides that the best way to get his life back on track and prove his worth is to return to the sport he excelled at in his youth—curling.

GENRE: Comedy | Sports

WHY TO READ: As a laugh-out-loud comedy filled with quirky characters, witty dialogue, and energetically sharp delivery, this incredibly unique, and uniquely refreshing, story manages to not only invite you along for the ride, but to fall in love with the characters, and dare I say curling, along the way. With a starring role that could launch a career, and a story that manages to be smart, referential, and just a little random, this pilot is the beginning of series that wins the night for any broadcast or cable home.

TITLE: **BUS LEAGUE KNOCKS** by Mary Cardenas

PITCH: FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS meets EVERYBODY WANTS SOME

LOGLINE: A diverse group of baseball players fighting for a shot at the majors find themselves in the wild and cutthroat world of the minor leagues, navigating crazed fans, corrupt coaches, and backstabbing teammates as they travel from city to city fueled by little pay, little sleep, and big dreams.

GENRE: Drama | Sports

WHY TO READ: An exceptionally well-written pilot that seamlessly balances rich and relevant dramatic topics such as race and class with the humor and realism of its characters, elevating this show well beyond its setting. In the same way that Friday Night Lights is remembered as a powerful drama rather than a sports show, this series provides a smart and relatable set of characters with a grounded and emotional look at what it means to fight for your dreams, deal with your losses, and remember to have a little fun in between. This is a broadcast or cable show that has seasons of story to pluck from and a built-in audience just waiting for it.

TITLE: **CALIFORNIA'S GONE** by Jack Bentele

PITCH: CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND meets HOUSE OF CARDS

LOGLINE: When the entire state of California mysteriously disappears into the Pacific Ocean, the government attempts to keep the details secret, an effort complicated by the sudden disappearance of the President and the revelation that we may no longer be alone on this planet.

GENRE: Drama | Sci-Fi

WHY TO READ: This is event TV at its finest. With an overwhelmingly cinematic story, and a high-concept sci-fi premise that perfectly meshes smart character-driven stories with the excitement of a summer blockbuster, this pilot delivers on every page. A constant flow of twists and turns, inventive new approaches to sci-fi, and a richly diverse cast line up an exciting hook that not only makes this the show everyone's talking about, but the kind of show that kicks off with a Super Bowl ad and dominates whatever night it's on.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **CHILDREN, THE** by Michael Aloyan

PITCH: RESURRECTION meets THE LEFTOVERS

LOGLINE: 13 children from the Greater Seattle area go missing on the same day, only to return two weeks later having aged over 10 years.

GENRE: Drama | Sci-Fi

WHY TO READ: A thrilling sci-fi premise with the exciting twists of an event series, this pilot will grab an audience with its ideas and keep them hooked with impeccable and fascinating character work. Milking its premise for all of its thematic and visual potential, this pilot mixes a creepy atmosphere with real emotional depth to create the sort of grounded sci-fi that wins both awards and ratings.

TITLE: **COSMO** by Roger Porter

PITCH: MAD MEN meets SEX IN THE CITY

LOGLINE: Four years after leaving her husband, one woman's attempt to secure L'Oreal products for her burgeoning beauty salon ends up launching a cosmetic industry revolution in 1960s New York.

GENRE: Drama | Period

WHY TO READ: Mixing the socially conscious period drama of MAD MEN with the fun and intrigue of a primetime soap, this dives into the dynamic 60s through the unique lens of the flourishing cosmetic industry. Engaging revolutionary themes of female oppression and empowerment that are still relevant today, this pilot combines a headstrong and determined protagonist with a deep ensemble cast and an intelligent, dark humor to craft an exciting and provocative world bursting with potential.

TITLE: **CREATOR CODE** by Michael Raymond

PITCH: CHILDREN OF MEN meets MR. ROBOT

LOGLINE: A scientist researching the cure for a devastating plague discovers that his unborn child might hold the secret to a cure, but he must hide from the evil corporation profiting from the disease.

GENRE: Drama | Sci-Fi

WHY TO READ: Grounded sci-fi that mixes the dystopian action of Children of Men with the tech-driven anti-capitalist themes of Mr. Robot, this pilot is packed with topical and thrilling ideas that could make it the next big series of the moment. Brimming with high concept potential and a deftly balanced character driven narrative featuring a compelling marital relationship at its core this series offers no shortage of vibrantly engaging visuals, inventive new ideas, and a cliffhanger that will leave you waiting for more. This is a pilot that will cater to diehard sci-fi fans and those looking for intelligent drama all in the same beat.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **DARK FOREST** by Xander Bernstein

PITCH: THE STRAIN meets WORLD WAR Z

LOGLINE: Two American doctors, who've traveled to the Congo to investigate an unidentified and rapidly spreading outbreak, find themselves trapped in a war torn region where two teens may have discovered immortality... but at what cost.

GENRE: Drama | Horror | Supernatural

WHY TO READ: Brilliantly combining the peak entertainment of OUTBREAK and HEART OF DARKNESS with the timely topics and universal fears of today, this pilot delivers an incredibly cinematic world filled with memorable characters, and rapid fire thrills throughout. With an edgy drama-filled premise, strong international appeal, and mystery the promises seasons of must watch TV, this is a show that will not only deliver for fans seeking a smart supernatural thriller, but that will become a breakout hit for any network.

TITLE: **DAYBREAKER** by Phil Singleton

PITCH: BATTLESTAR GALACTICA meets SUNSHINE

LOGLINE: After the disappearance of the Sun, what's left of humanity survives due to a spaceship that provides light and heat to the Earth, which a small group of astronauts must protect at all costs.

GENRE: Drama | Sci-Fi | Thriller

WHY TO READ: With the perfect blend of high-concept sci-fi and smart character-driven drama, this pilot promises a series that will not only become every sci-fi fan's dream, but one that will drive an audience to the genre. Balancing epic, global stakes within a contained setting and allowing the brilliantly crafted characters to steer the story, this series is one that offers an endless opportunity to play with the beautiful visuals of the world, but one that never relies on that to keep us engaged. Instead, it's a look at how well the grounded human experience can live inside an incredibly crafted fast-paced thriller that not only keeps you intrigued page to page and eagerly wanting more, but one that keeps you thinking well after the end credits roll.

TITLE: **DEAD BEAT, THE** by Tye Lombardi

PITCH: SLEEPY HOLLOW meets X-FILES

LOGLINE: After inheriting an estate from a relative she never met, a Boston detective travels to New Orleans to discover why this house was left for her, who this relative was, and why the locals believe there is something supernatural at play.

GENRE: Crime | Drama | Supernatural

WHY TO READ: A brilliantly crafted and easily accessible supernatural procedural that delivers on every page. With a strong female lead steering the way, this series perfectly combines the worlds of police procedural and X-FILES-like monster of the week into a compelling, addictive story that blossoms in the deeply historical and mysterious setting of New Orleans. By utilizing the outsider lead and her new home as an introduction to the series, as well as the mythology of the world, in the pilot alone you can already see the endless opportunity for story-telling, for building a memorable supporting cast, and for delivering a series that audiences on broadcast or cable will fall in love with.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: DENMARK by Robbie Robertson

PITCH: HOUSE OF CARDS meets HAMLET

LOGLINE: A young soldier returning home from World War II to attend his murdered father's funeral discovers that not only has his uncle usurped his father's seat on the Senate, but that he may have played a part in the murder itself.

GENRE: Drama | Mystery | Period

WHY TO READ: As a beautifully crafted spin on Shakespeare's HAMLET set in the deep south during World War II, this pilot delivers impeccably rich characters, a stunningly visual setting, and a unique opportunity to explore stories big and small as the family dramas and the drama of the world clash together. With impeccable characterization, fascinating historical detail, and a hint of Southern Gothic, this pilot easily transposes the political and psychological dread of the original to a new, but no less memorable, setting. With vivid imagery and subjects of government morals still applicable today, this pilot offers a new and endlessly entertaining insight into a classic.

TITLE: DEVIL'S BROKER, THE by Matthew Kennedy

PITCH: LUCIFER meets RAY DONOVAN

LOGLINE: A man who sold his soul to the devil 150 years ago and became the broker for the devil is starting to have a crisis of faith, and now must talk those looking to make the same deal he did out of it in an attempt to win his own soul back.

GENRE: Drama | Supernatural

WHY TO READ: As a modern day spin on Faust's Mephistopheles, moral complexity abounds in this fun, character-driven pilot about angels and demons, both literal and metaphorical. With a sharp and charismatic lead steering the series, and an incredibly well crafted world to play in, there is boundless opportunity for both this lead and this series to become a breakout hit. With a wonderful blend of tongue-in-cheek humor, a premise filled with dramatic potential, and the merging of wonderfully sharp dialogue with exciting visuals, this pilot could launch a series and a star for any network.

TITLE: DIARY OF A SOCIOPATH by Valerie Brotski

PITCH: DEXTER meets THE LAST MAN ON EARTH

LOGLINE: A woman who realizes her sociopathic ways are starting to get out of control moves to a one-person tourist trap town in an attempt to escape her deadly impulses. But, when the only other inhabitant of the town suddenly dies, and tour buses start rolling in she realizes she may have accidentally set herself up in the perfectly murderous setting she was trying to escape in the first place.

GENRE: Comedy | Dark Comedy | Drama

WHY TO READ: An incredibly unique blend of quirky comedy and devilishly fun drama, this pilot balances right on the razor's edge between laugh out loud and "oh my God, did I laugh at that?" Interweaving an iconic and irreverent lead character with a wonderfully delightful supporting cast, this small town comedy thriller leaves you on the edge of your seat with anticipation as the pages fly by, teasing the big series potential in every scene, and delivering a refreshingly unique tone and voice that makes this a must read for anyone who loves great television, great characters, and the chance to laugh even when things get dark.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **DO AGAIN** by Nathan G. Sellers

PITCH: 17 AGAIN meets HOW I MET YOUR MOTHER

LOGLINE: When a man is given the chance to restart from the beginning with all of the knowledge of the life he left behind, he decides to chronicle his high school adventures as he attempts to right the wrongs of his past, often with hilarious results.

GENRE: Comedy | Drama | Fantasy

WHY TO READ: Every single person on the planet has thought of at least one moment in their past that they wish they could do over. This pilot takes that incredibly relatable concept and spins it into a wonderfully original series that flirts with all of the triumphs and tragedies of high school life. Driven by a strong lead, and a supporting cast that consistently delivers, this series brings a distinctively original voice and a mockumentary style approach to a show that will stand out from the crowd on any network.

TITLE: **DOMESTIC** by Alan Wartes

PITCH: HOMELAND meets SPOTLIGHT

LOGLINE: After being coerced into working for the CIA, a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist finds himself at the center of a dangerous conspiracy to destroy America from within.

GENRE: Drama | Mystery | Thriller

WHY TO READ: At a time when the legitimacy of mainstream media is called into question daily, and threat levels rise and fall like the Dow, this pilot expertly weaves together all of the best elements of a conspiracy theory political thriller with that of a very real and very raw family dynamic. Meshing the worlds of journalism and domestic security, this series provides endless opportunities to become must watch television. Anchored by a strong father/son dynamic and an exceptionally drawn setting, every scene delivers a perfect blend of twists and turns that will have you on the edge of your seat, and talking about the show long after it's aired. For a compelling drama erupting with timely and relevant themes, this show has the potential to become the type of series that sits confidently between shows like HOUSE OF CARDS and HOMELAND.

TITLE: **DUSKLANDS** by Devin Conroy

PITCH: THE KILLING meets LONGMIRE

LOGLINE: After a high-ranking member of the tribal council is found dead of an apparent suicide, a reservation detective investigates what she believes could be murder at the hands of the new oil company that is consuming the lands around them.

GENRE: Drama | Mystery

WHY TO READ: With a deeply rooted murder mystery at its core, a diverse and fascinating world around it, and an incredibly well crafted cast to navigate it, this story jumps off the page in almost every way. Providing a gritty and very real setting, this pilot allows the location, and its rich history, to become its own character in the story as it works to boost the already exceptionally well-drawn female lead to something of an icon right out of the gate. With an opportunity to bring to life a diverse cast of fantastically written supporting characters, and to build upon any number of plotlines brewing behind the main investigation, this series not only has the potential to be a hit on broadcast or cable, but it's one an audience will be begging to binge.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **EVERLEIGH** by Michael Kujak

PITCH: BOARDWALK EMPIRE meets CHICAGO

LOGLINE: In the debauchorous vice district of turn-of-the-century Chicago, two sisters who operate one of the most famous and exclusive brothels in the world fight to empower their girls and keep their business alive in a city where corruption and power run rampant.

GENRE: Drama | Period

WHY TO READ: Based on two of the most intriguing real life figures to ever come out of Chicago, this series presents an impeccable look at the women who were equal parts pioneers for women's rights as they were brilliant businesswomen. Playing over the beautifully cinematic world of 1900s Chicago, and bursting at the seams with a deftly drawn supporting cast, this series offers endless potential for story long before the historical prospects come in to play. With the political, civil, and legal turmoil of the city all woven into the tapestry of what this brothel stands for, and what is permanently threatening to erupt from under the surface, this series presents an incredibly fresh, intelligent, and intriguing look at the sex, lies, and dramas of early 20th Century Chicago.

TITLE: **FACTS** by Alexis Perkins

PITCH: SPY meets THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA

LOGLINE: When the CIA calls, you listen... even if it's to leave your acclaimed job as a Broadway costume designer to help dress secret agents in the less-than-glamorous CIA costume department.

GENRE: Comedy | Spy

WHY TO READ: Starting with a fantastically original premise, then dressing it with a wonderfully idiosyncratic set of characters, smartly drawn humor, and non-stop witty dialogue is only the beginning of what this pilot delivers. Add a strong leading role talent will fight over, the opportunity for a delightful revolving door of guest stars, and the potential for this series to dive into any type of outlandish situation with ease, and you have a comedy stars, networks, and audiences will fight for.

TITLE: **FAIRY TALE CRIMES** by Megan Bacharach

PITCH: ONCE UPON A TIME meets THE HEAT

LOGLINE: A sullen, no-nonsense cop is forced to team up with bubbly rookie Elle (Cinderella), to solve crimes in a town made up of all the heroes, villains, and supporting characters of traditional fantasy tales. Their first case: the death and potential murder of hard drinking Sleeping Beauty.

GENRE: Comedy (1hr) | Drama | Parody

WHY TO READ: The most original, inventive, intelligent, and humorous fairy tale pilot we've ever read. Combining the well tread characters we know and love with that of a week-to-week buddy cop procedural that parodies both of these worlds with ease, this is a series that delivers right out of the gate. With snappy banter, a classic good cop / bad cop dynamic, and a mix of incredibly smart story-telling, surprisingly deep observations, and impeccable delivery, this is a series that will break through the fairy tale fatigue and immediately grab an audience. Twists, turns, and the eagerness to see which new spin on characters we thought we knew and loved will make this must watch television for any network.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **FIREHOUSE DOGS** by Phil Singleton

PITCH: AIR BUD meets CHICAGO FIRE

LOGLINE: Rescued from a horrible fire as a puppy, a Golden Retriever who aspires to join the world-famous canine unit of his city's fire department finally gets a chance to show his courage with the team when a building in his neighborhood catches fire.

GENRE: Animated | Children

WHY TO READ: A heartfelt premise infused with adorable characters and an inspiring message that will have you saying, "that was the cutest thing ever" without a single ounce of sarcasm. The energy of this story and these characters are infectious, making this the type of show kids get excited about and parents want their kids excited about. From the determined puppy Buzz to the former YouTube cat sensation Percy, the characters here are lovable, timely, and hilarious. This is the kind of show a network can air with confidence, and an audience will follow with glee as it expands into merchandising, and blossoms with its fun and heartfelt premise.

TITLE: **FIRST MAN, THE** by Matt Jordan

PITCH: THE WEST WING meets CHUCK

LOGLINE: Since 1902, a hyper clandestine intelligence agency known as the First Lady Initiative has worked in total secrecy protecting the nation. For over a century, the responsibility has been passed down from First Lady to First Lady... and now to Henry Jeffries, former President and now America's "First Man."

GENRE: Action | Comedy | Spy

WHY TO READ: A brilliantly fresh spin on the comedy/spy genre that ties a hilarious premise around the clear parallels of our real-life political landscape and populates it with inventive and distinct characters. With plenty of exciting action, laugh-out-loud dialogue, and political intrigue, this pilot delivers a show that will keep you on the edge of your seat one moment, and laughing along with the cast the next. With an endless list of historical moments to pluck from, and the exciting writing found within, this is a show that could deliver for years for a network, and win a few awards along the way.

TITLE: **FLIGHT RISK** by Valerie Brotski

PITCH: MANHATTAN meets APOLLO 13

LOGLINE: In the 1960s, two elite female pilots become embroiled in a secret NASA program which seeks to determine whether women are capable of becoming astronauts.

GENRE: Drama | Period

WHY TO READ: Based on the kind of untold true story of powerful historical women that the internet will eat up, this pilot is the perfect mix of social relevance, period atmosphere and action-packed visuals. With heavy shades of the underdog space drama of Apollo 13 or The Martian, everyone is going to want to fight the power alongside the spunky leads, even as they fight each other.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **FOCUS by Heidi Nyburg**

PITCH: MAD MEN meets MASTERS OF SEX

LOGLINE: A single mother fights to balance a complicated family life and a male-driven industry when she decides to team up with an engineer to secretly create a revolutionary new microchip processor in the 1970s.

GENRE: Drama

WHY TO READ: A fascinating peek into a time before the tech industry had boomed and every child over the age of six had a smartphone and a Twitter account. With exceptional dialogue, and an incredibly strong female lead, this series brings to life an intimate and fascinating look into the tech world of the '70s and offers up plenty of personal dramas and discussions on big issue gender topics in the process. Add a well-developed supporting cast, an easily accessible story, and a revolutionary new plan into the mix, and this show is a perfect fit for those seeking smart television, great drama, and a cast they can root for.

TITLE: **FORBIDDEN CITY by Victoria Rau**

PITCH: MEMOIRS OF A GEISHA meets HOUSE OF CARDS

LOGLINE: On her quest to become the Empress of China in the 19th century, we follow a young woman as she rises from the life of a poor village girl struggling to survive, to a concubine fighting to protect her family, to a wife struggling for respect, to a leader her country was not ready for.

GENRE: Drama

WHY TO READ: Based on the life of Empress Dowager Cixi, this pilot beautifully balances the royal and political intrigue of Imperial China with that of her personal fight for survival, amidst a country embroiled in war, famine, and fear. Utilizing exceptionally well-crafted dialogue, characters, and visuals, this story delivers a compelling human drama that the writer transports you to with such ease, you'll feel as though you've jumped back in time yourself. Taking place during the Taiping Rebellion, known as one of the bloodiest wars of all time, the series never shies away from the world it rests in, allowing the violence, sex, murder, and betrayals to lure you even deeper into a story that will enchant and scare you all in one breath. This is undoubtedly the type of show that not only balances worlds like Memoirs of a Geisha, House of Cards, Tudors and Marco Polo, but may very well be better than all of them.

TITLE: **FRANKIE SAVES THE WORLD by Christine McVie**

PITCH: THE MIDDLE meets BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER

LOGLINE: After going out of her way to save an innocent bystander, a recently widowed and rebelliously immature mother of two finds herself struggling to balance her quest for a lazy lifestyle with that of this whole supernatural good versus evil secret society thing she got dragged into. Oh, did we also mention she may also be the only person who can save us from the apocalypse?

GENRE: Drama | Comedy | Supernatural

WHY TO READ: Imagine if Jessica Jones woke up on Gilmore girls and became BFFs and training partners with Buffy. That, in a nutshell, is the perfectly crafted lead of this show. As if the story of a single mother going back to school to provide for her family wasn't enough, this brilliantly self-aware, cynical, and amusing pilot provides one of the most fun, action-packed, humor-filled rides we've ever taken. Add a little magic, consistently witty dialogue, and the looming threat of the apocalypse, and this somehow never over-the-top series not only delivers must watch, life scheduling TV, but it does so with a cast of characters actors will fight to play.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **FREE SKATE by Caitlin McCarthy**

PITCH: MAKE IT OR BREAK IT meets BLACK SWAN

LOGLINE: After an injury forces a young figure skater from fulfilling her dreams of Olympic gold, and forces her to join the world of professional ice shows to pay her bills, she not only discovers how cutthroat the professional circuit can be, but that it may be the only place that can offer her another shot at going for gold.

GENRE: Drama | Comedy | Sports

WHY TO READ: What Black Swan did for ballet, and Empire did for music, this pilot does beautifully for figure skating. Smart, relatable, complex, and oozing with drama, this is the kind of soapy new series that captures an audience and never lets go. With a uniquely fascinating setting, and some of the most richly drawn characters we've ever seen, this peek behind the curtain of one of the most prestigious sports in the world offers viewers a glimpse at a world that's far more provocative than they could ever imagine. Cleverly balancing witty dialogue with intense drama and romantic triangles with a story of redemption, this is a show any network looking to capture a younger audience would fight for.

TITLE: **GAME, THE by Justin Jacobs**

PITCH: MR. ROBOT meets THE 100

LOGLINE: With the promise of a technical revolution like none we've ever seen more than 200 video game fans are invited to take part in the largest virtual reality experience ever created. But, when the realities of the world are revealed, and the real world consequences start to take hold, the battle between what's real and what's not begin to blur.

GENRE: Drama | Sci-Fi | Thriller

WHY TO READ: With a timely and instantly compelling premise, this pilot beautifully introduces you to a world you'll feel safe and comfortable in just before it sweeps it out from under your feet. Driven by wonderfully vibrant visuals, and a diverse cast of characters, this is a series that not only toys with the worlds we will escape to in virtual reality, but it forces you to ask yourself who would you become inside of one. With a bevy of action, complex drama, and endless opportunities for entertainment, this pilot will play to a younger audience seeking the next zeitgeist-seizing sci-fi and characters to fall in love with just as much as it will to an older audience searching for a high-stakes drama, and a look into a world we've been promised since Tron.

TITLE: **GILFs by Kristen Bartlett**

PITCH: BROAD CITY meets THE GOLDEN GIRLS

LOGLINE: After her husband's death a newly widowed grandmother escapes her retirement community and moves with her best friend to New York to reclaim the wild years of her life she missed out on during her 50-year marriage.

GENRE: Comedy

WHY TO READ: Wonderfully marrying the wild rides of our twenties with the idea that it's never too late to start living has never looked so good. Imagine a world where Betty White is out-drinking you at the bar then cutting up the dance floor, and you're only beginning to see where this delightfully funny and shockingly emotional tale will go. With two smartly crafted female leads navigating us through this emotionally charged, but distinctly quirky comedy, there is plenty in here for everyone, and not a single laugh left unearned. Surrounding our two leads are a group of well-crafted supporting characters who enhance the fish-out-of-water tale, and help us fall in love with the humor and the heart this show will deliver for audiences of any age.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **GLOBAL by Jim Goode & Scott Hawthorne**

PITCH: EAGLE EYE meets THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW

LOGLINE: After ten of the wealthiest people on the planet reveal they've created a drug that will grant immortality, the Government's investigation into it not only reveals that the creation of this drug will destroy the earth, but that the newly anointed "ten" may no longer care.

GENRE: Drama | Sci-Fi | Thriller

WHY TO READ: Political and economical intrigue come to life in this deftly crafted high-concept tale of morality. Playing with an original and exciting premise that taps into all of our anxieties about ultra-powerful corporations, class differences and climate change this pilot has all the makings of a smart, elevated and audience-pleasing sci-fi. Infused with a strong ensemble cast, epic visuals, and fun action-packed writing this is a series that delivers action, espionage, conspiracies and a plethora of drama to tap for seasons to come.

TITLE: **GM by Thomas Leupp**

PITCH: MONEYBALL meets ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT

LOGLINE: A young, idealistic general manager takes over a failing major league baseball club being run by an incompetent and ridiculous family.

GENRE: Comedy | Sports

WHY TO READ: Mixing the fun of a dysfunctional family comedy with the wacky antics of a workplace sitcom and the exciting world of baseball, this hilarious pilot has a million places to mine its humor from. With a great straight man lead and a wild supporting cast, this has all the ingredients of a show that would fit on any network's comedy lineup.

TITLE: **GOD KILLER by Jordan Dale**

PITCH: ROME meets THE LAST KINGDOM

LOGLINE: As the druids of ancient Britain prepare to crown a new ruler, they have a vision of the man who will one day be their king: a soldier in the approaching army, who happens to be the Centurion who killed Jesus Christ. Two wars are coming: the battle for power and the battle for Britain itself.

GENRE: Drama | Fantasy | Period | War

WHY TO READ: Masterfully written and focused around an instantly compelling protagonist, this pilot has enough action, drama, and politics to sustain many seasons of high stakes intrigue. The visuals are endlessly stunning – a boy chained in a crumbling necropolis, the armada of Roman ships on the English Channel, the circle of Druids raising the fog, and only build upon the already addictively compelling show. With characters you will fight for, story you will beg for and worlds you will fear for, this pilot exudes enough atmosphere, myth and mysticism to win anyone over.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **GOING RENO** by Elizabeth Quinn

PITCH: BOARDWALK EMPIRE meets BETTER CALL SAUL

LOGLINE: In 1930s Reno, divorce was a booming industry for people looking to run away from their mistakes. But, when one woman discovers her husband has already found a way to cheat her out of everything she owns, instead of running back to an old life she never truly loved, she decides to reinvent herself in a city that still honors its frontier roots and vices.

GENRE: Drama | Period

WHY TO READ: By utilizing a unique setting, time period, and story to tackle themes of gender, marriage, and the endlessly relatable idea self-discovery, this pilot not only entertains, but does so in such an intoxicating manner that viewers will be clamoring for more the second the end credits role. A fantastic female lead guides us on a journey that balances the seedy underbelly of Reno's crime and prostitution with that of the personal dramas and romances of the new life she's trying to make for herself. With great dialogue, a strong supporting cast, and endless opportunities for drama, this show could have all of us falling for Reno.

TITLE: **HIGHGATE** by J. Elizabeth Martin

PITCH: PENNY DREADFUL meets THE PRESTIGE

LOGLINE: In Victorian London, a young woman is targeted by a satanic cult for powers she doesn't understand, while her magician brother tries to save her with the help of a vampire and his crew.

GENRE: Drama | Supernatural | Period

WHY TO READ: Set in the fog-soaked streets of Victorian London, this is gothic horror at its best. Packed with compelling characters and spooky period atmosphere, this pilot comes at its supernatural themes with emotion and intelligence, deftly juxtaposing the protagonist's job as a stage magician and the real supernatural forces chasing him to a humorous and intriguing effect.

TITLE: **HOW JANE AUSTEN RUINED MY LIFE** by Teresa Warner

PITCH: AWKWARD meets UNDECLARED

LOGLINE: A Jane Austen-obsessed freshman navigates her new college world while trying to figure out how not to be in love with her best friend.

GENRE: Comedy | Drama

WHY TO READ: Mining an underexplored college setting for a mixture of drama and humor, this pilot takes its literary inspiration lightly enough to provide an IP background without alienating any non-readers. The expert mixture of college drama, absurdist fantasies and romantic comedy tropes makes this a contender to be the next big meta comedy hit in the vein of Crazy Ex-Girlfriend or Jane The Virgin.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: INQUISITION by Stephen Haynes

PITCH: THE TUDORS meets GAME OF THRONES

LOGLINE: During the Spanish Inquisition, a group of devil worshippers threatens to overthrow the fragile regime of Queen Isabella, who having denounced witchcraft as imaginary, must now deal with the Catholic Church's call for a witch-hunt, her people's call for safety, and the new enemies who have infiltrated all aspects of her new government.

GENRE: Drama | Period | Supernatural

WHY TO READ: Beautifully crafted from its visuals and its characters, to its drama and its intrigue, this pilot offers a fascinating glimpse at a period of time rarely seen. With its Medieval Red Scare, a religion hell bent on cleansing, and a country consumed by fear, this series has no shortage of historical tales and myths to pull from. Complex, and distinctively drawn characters navigate the pages of this atmospheric and suspense filled read, while stunning and often epic scenes give us a glimpse at the supernatural, paranoia, and violence of this era. With a recipe filled with action, drama, sex, and fear this is a show that will not only be a competitor to the Game of Thrones, but one that could very well become the new Queen.

TITLE: ITHACA by Mike De Caro

PITCH: ROME meets HOUSE OF CARDS

LOGLINE: After twenty years of war and exile Odysseus returns home to find his kingdom stolen from him, his people turned against him, and his name now a crime to utter. Now, in order to survive and reclaim the world he built he must navigate the corruption, politics and violence of a kingdom that replaced him.

GENRE: Adventure | Drama | Period

WHY TO READ: An inventively captivating, visually stunning and delightfully complex spin on Homer's The Odyssey. Weaving a combustible combination of political intrigue, vibrant action, and intelligent dialogue, this pilot does an exceptional job of bringing a modern spin to a well-worn tale, all the while honoring its sword and sandal roots. With no shortage of drama, espionage and treachery promised from the first pages of this pilot, we can already tell this origin-story promises seasons of story to play through long before reach the conclusion we all know is coming. Offering an insightful look at a classic character, and providing an elevated spin on the politics, relationships and violence he must navigate to reclaim his kingdom, this show will quench even the most dramatic thirst of fans, while also providing room for reimagined characters we thought we'd knew and plotlines we'd long forgot.

TITLE: LADY MERCY by Eli Samuel

PITCH: GREY'S ANATOMY meets SIX FEET UNDER

LOGLINE: Haunted by the death of her daughter, a recently divorced doctor explores the depths between life and death as she sets out to open the first ever euthanasia clinic - opening the doors for terminally ill patients to die with dignity, and hoping to rediscover her own passion for life.

GENRE: Drama | Medical

WHY TO READ: Engaging, thought-provoking, and endlessly captivating, this is the type of pilot that has the potential to become a long-running and groundbreaking hit with any network. With a dynamic and multi-layered lead, vibrant visuals and diligently crafted dialogue, this series propels us into a story brimming with intelligence, heart, passion and drama. Poignantly compelling, and masterfully crafted, the story never shies away from its ambitious themes, and consistently provides a look into the hearts and minds of each of its diverse characters. Equally uplifting and gut-wrenching, this series displays a blooming array of emotionally charged, endearingly intimate, and eternally optimistic moments, even in times of life and death. This is a story that will win awards, spark debate, and even in a world with no easy answers, it will consistently return to give viewers hope.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **LONG SHOT, THE** by Tom Carter

PITCH: VEEP meets PARKS AND REC

LOGLINE: When the corrupt Lieutenant Governor and inept Governor of South Carolina get into a heated political race, the woman who manages the Governor's mansion decides she's going to run against both of them.

GENRE: Comedy | Political

WHY TO READ: Taking a heartfelt and optimistically hilarious look at elections, this pilot delivers a fresh spin on political comedy, and delivers a uniquely inviting workplace comedy in the process. With an ambitious and exciting female lead at the front, and a group of quirky characters surrounding her, this series deftly balances tangible and topical themes with that of the joyfully unique premise of three people running against each other, all under the same roof. Blending family life with work, and politics with friendships, and watching as they all fight for the spotlight, this show offers a relatable concept at its core, but a delightfully crafted series of nonstop laughs, guest appearances, and heartfelt moments on its sleeve.

TITLE: **LOW LIVES** by Alyssa DiMari

PITCH: DON'T TRUST THE B**** IN APARTMENT 23 meets ENTOURAGE

LOGLINE: When two desperate, yet entitled siblings are threatened with losing their luxury apartment and the lazy lifestyle they've come to love, they set out to join a celebrity entourage, but find the only person willing to help them is their nerdy former classmate who became an overnight tech millionaire.

GENRE: Comedy

WHY TO READ: Sometimes there's nothing better than watching terrible people do terrible things in the name of comedy. Wonderfully diving into a pool filled with cynicism, selfishness, and manipulation, this cleverly drawn comedy not only offers some of the most creative use of insults we've ever read, but it does so via a set of surprisingly complex, yet hilariously biting leads. Deliciously navigating that fine line between apathetic and asshole, this series takes a page from shows like Veep or Its Always Sunny in Philadelphia and offers up a world where wit, intelligence, and sharp dialogue are on full display regardless of how likeable the characters. At its core, this hilariously addicting premise and skillfully crafted series will not only delve into the worlds of celebrity culture and millennial stagnation, but it will do so in such a way that fans will scream out for more.

TITLE: **LOYALTY** by James L. Head

PITCH: THE SOPRANOS meets THE DEPARTED

LOGLINE: The son of one of New York's biggest crime bosses does double time as a CIA agent, but his delicate balance comes under threat when the NYPD decides to send a young officer undercover to take the family down.

GENRE: Drama | Crime | Thriller

WHY TO READ: An incredibly commercial premise that combines the best aspects of a mob drama with the fun of an undercover CIA thriller, this pilot could easily fit on any network or cable lineup. With great dialogue, a strong ensemble, and a complex protagonist whose double life makes him the kind of role any actor would kill to play, this pilot should have no trouble getting set up and staying on TV for years.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **MADISONS, THE** by Nora Nolan

PITCH: ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT meets CASUAL

LOGLINE: After the death of their father, four dysfunctional siblings whose individual lives are in shambles discover that in order to inherit the family's wealth they're going to have to all have to live in the family beach house together for an entire year.

GENRE: Comedy

WHY TO READ: A new twist on the familiar, and yet wholly relatable dysfunctional family premise. This pilot focuses on four siblings who get along with each other fairly well, but who no matter the approach, just can't seem to manage their personal lives. Rather than relying on bickering and bullying as most family sitcoms do, the humor here comes from failed attempts at self-improvement, and the optimism that tomorrow will always be a new day. Built around a group of fully formed and distinctly unique characters that leap off the page and a contained setting that offers endless opportunity to make this producible for any network, this is a series that wonderfully balances the absurd with the hilarious inside of a delightfully light, yet immensely entertaining series.

TITLE: **MOTHER, THE** by Laura Bensick

PITCH: RECTIFY meets THE KILLING

LOGLINE: Thirteen years after being accused, and accepting the guilt for murdering her daughter during an episode of postpartum psychosis, a woman who is released back into the world sets out to regain the trust of her family and live a normal life. But, when she discovers evidence that may prove she never committed the crime, she begins to question her own sanity, and the trust of those around her.

GENRE: Drama | Mystery | Thriller

WHY TO READ: A captivating slow burn tale that simmers with drama, secrets of the past, and the horrors of never knowing if you're in control. Never veering away from the darkness, this pilot delivers an incredibly compelling lead, and lets her wonder through the waters of depression, murder, guilt, and a quest for innocence that may never come. An undeniably complex breakout lead steers us through a story that is delivered via impeccable character work, deftly drawn dialogue, and a terrifyingly real setting. With no shortage of twist and turns, tense familial dramas, and a cliffhanger that feels genuinely shocking, but entirely earned, this is a show that will keep viewers talking, and ratings sizzling.

TITLE: **MOVE ON** by Jordan Toronto & Matt Toronto

PITCH: NEW GIRL meets GHOST

LOGLINE: A year after her husband's death, a socially awkward woman who is finally ready to put herself out there again, comes to discover that not only can she see her dead husband now, but that he will do anything in his power to keep her from finding true love.

GENRE: Comedy | Supernatural

WHY TO READ: Funny, funny, funny! An inventive, quick read that brings a charmingly high concept idea into a cleverly told, and astoundingly entertaining comedy. With a dynamically crafted lead, and a supporting cast that elevates every scene, this series has no shortage of humor, drama, or story to play with. Effortlessly meshing the concepts of love lost and love found into a very simple story of a woman looking for love, this show captures an excitingly fresh take on a familiar idea and delivers a laugh out loud new comedy that is at times uproarious and exceedingly human. Factor in the idea that her quest for love is now littered with the approval of her best friend and her dead husband, and this character-driven comedy will immediately earn the love of anyone who has navigated the absurdities and tragedies of dating today.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **NEW YORK NATION** by Judith Lutz

PITCH: SCANDAL meets SUITS

LOGLINE: A New York neighborhood attempts to fight gentrification by invoking centuries-old maps that suggest they may never have been incorporated into the United States at all.

GENRE: Drama | Political

WHY TO READ: The kind of premise so smart and original that you can't help but wish you'd thought of it, this pilot takes a wildly inventive look at political drama by literally building a whole new country to run. That country just happens to be in the middle of Manhattan. With lovable leads, hilarious twists and dramatic turns, there's no end to the storytelling potential for this pilot.

TITLE: **NEWSPERSON** by Michael Drake

PITCH: THE NEWSROOM meets THE OFFICE

LOGLINE: An aging reporter must search for new employment after the prestigious paper he's worked at for years closes down. When he ends up at a clickbait website, he's hell bent on reporting stories that matter, whatever the cost.

GENRE: Comedy

WHY TO READ: Capitalizing on the generational gap between traditional journalism and the social media era for its intelligent humor, this pilot manages to find jokes for both young and old alike in its fun two-hander structure. With a great lead character that transcends the grumpy old man stereotype, this is the kind of protagonist role that could draw A-list talent to a network sitcom, and allow them to play in a fun and inviting millennial sitcom.

TITLE: **NOIZE, THE** by Marcus Reeves & Ronke Idowu Reeves

PITCH: EMPIRE meets STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON

LOGLINE: In the mid-90s, a successful young writer trying to launch a new music magazine focused on the rise of hip-hop, finds both his personal life, and that of the magazine threatened by the turbulent world and times they set out to cover.

GENRE: Drama | Music

WHY TO READ: Meshing the worlds and characters of Almost Famous, Empire and Vinyl into a magnificently spun new drama, this pilot not only offers an intriguingly original series, but one that allows the characters and the era a chance to shine like never before. With a journalistic spin into a period of hip-hop that dominated the market, this show provides endless opportunity to not only pull from the history we know, but to follow its characters through the personal and financial struggles of trying to launch a magazine the world may not be ready for. At times immensely dramatic, fantastically entertaining, and brimming with soundtrack potential, this is the type of show that can highlight a movement and win viewers looking for that lost sense of nostalgia as well as those looking for a brilliant drama that has been remixed for them ever since.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **ONE AMERICAN'S ODYSSEY** by Erik V Wolter

PITCH: THE MAN IN THE HIGH CASTLE meets GOOD NIGHT AND GOOD LUCK

LOGLINE: When his father is accused of having Nazi sympathies during World War II, a young German American must endure the scrutiny of his entire community.

GENRE: Drama | Period

WHY TO READ: Showing an intriguing new side of World War II with strong resonance to relevant topics like immigration and the treatment of minorities, this pilot plays very well into the current political climate, making it a strong contender for capturing the zeitgeist. The period details are impeccable, the family dynamics emotional and believable, and the lead character is a relatable Trojan Horse into complex subject matter.

TITLE: **ONE WAY OR ANOTHER** by Ben Feuer

PITCH: ALMOST FAMOUS meets VINYL

LOGLINE: A young journalist in the 70s follows an up-and-coming punk band with enough drama to make both themselves and her famous.

GENRE: Drama | Music | Period

WHY TO READ: Overflowing with rebellious energy with the rush of 70s counterculture, this pilot feels young and alive in ways that will set it apart from most shows. With two compelling and relatable leads, the palpable New York setting and the punk rock aesthetic, this pilot is both nostalgic and cool, making it a potential hit with both young and old audiences.

TITLE: **OTTER SPACE** by Nicholas K. Lopez & Russ Nickel

PITCH: ADVENTURE TIME meets FIREFLY

LOGLINE: A ragtag group of animal space travelers set off in their ship to restore order to the universe.

GENRE: Comedy | Animated

WHY TO READ: Incredibly cute, delightfully absurd and undeniably fun, this pilot is the perfect animated kids show. With its adorable animal characters, heartwarming morals, and inventive sci-fi premise, this is the kind of show that will get a new generation interested in space and science fiction. There's no end to the storytelling possibilities here, and the smart writing could make this a hit with kids and adults alike, a la Adventure Time.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: PAROLE by Thomas Leupp

PITCH: COMMUNITY meets ODD COUPLE

LOGLINE: After getting out on parole, a former hotshot hedge fund manager finds himself forced to work a minimum-wage job alongside a group of whacky screw-ups at this brother's failing deli.

GENRE: Comedy

WHY TO READ: It's rare to find a pilot that has such a fully fleshed out premise and group of characters that you can immediately see seasons of potential. This pilot manages to not only succeed in pulling that off, but does so in such a vibrant, fun-filled manner, that you're almost angry it doesn't exist on air yet. With a distinct voice, a rapid-fire delivery, and an introduction to characters that will offer no shortage of comedic moments, this pilot takes the very best elements of shows like 2 Broke Girls or It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia and integrates them into a series that is at once fresh, and familiar. Utilizing the two polar opposite brothers as a catalyst into the world offers us an opportunity to see how deep their sibling rivalry will go, and how well that drama will play along the silliness and cynicism the equally impressive supporting cast will deliver week to week.

TITLE: PHANTASMAGORIA by Julia Cooperman

PITCH: PENNY DREADFUL meets GHOSTBUSTERS

LOGLINE: In Victorian London, a team of charlatans pass themselves off as paranormal investigators, only to find real supernatural forces suddenly working against them. Now, using everything they've have been pretending to know, and a little magic of their own, they must fight back against the encroaching spiritual revolt.

GENRE: Drama | Period | Supernatural

WHY TO READ: Delightfully entertaining and irresistibly fun, this pilot delivers a story that is brimming with its suspense, thrilling with its action, dazzling with its mysteries and addictive with its laughs. With scares that will keep you up at night, spooks that will make you want to believe, and a group of characters that are both inventive and familiar, this series delivers enough drama and levity to capture an audience that will devour each episode. Deftly written, each character is capable of commanding the screen when alone, but flawlessly come together when shared, and each brings their individually unique personalities, humor, charm, and flaws to a world brimming with potential. As a perfect introduction to a series that will drive a rabid fan base, this is a show that broadcast will want, but cable will win with.

TITLE: PHYSICAL EDUCATION by Nandita Seshadri

PITCH: FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS meets AWKWARD

LOGLINE: After being passed over for the position of head football coach, a female PE teacher teams up with a disaffected, yet highly skilled Muslim girl to help her infiltrate the football team and prove once and for all that girls can not only coach, but can play in a male-driven sport.

GENRE: Comedy | Sports

WHY TO READ: Clever, edgy, comedic and timely, this pilot offers a glimpse at one of the most developed and original new voices you'll ever read. Effortlessly diverse, effectively poignant and hysterically navigated, this series not only introduces us to a series of vibrant and refreshing characters, but it provides an inviting and familiar landscape to do so. Balancing hilarious spun comedy and perceptively smart drama, this is a series that will appeal to a wide audience and invoke thought provoking conversations between the laughs. With a fantastic supporting cast filling out the roles, and an idealistically natural dialogue, this is a show with seasons of story to play with, and the potential to deal with intelligent themes of sexism, racism, and bigotry in a way that never comes off as preachy, and consistently wins over fans.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **PICO-UNION by Michael Flores**

PITCH: SIN NOMBRE meets THE WIRE

LOGLINE: Three siblings escape from civil war in El Salvador and try to make it in Los Angeles. Two decide to start an organized crime syndicate, while the other searches for news of the husband she left behind.

GENRE: Drama | Crime

WHY TO READ: Tackling the controversial topic of immigration by employing a sprawling minority cast and a Dickensian scope in the vein of The Wire, this pilot is clearly written by a genius puppet master who knows exactly which strings to pull. The Latino perspective, fully-realized and diverse portrait of Los Angeles and plot packed with action and intrigue all combine to create a premium cable drama the likes of which we haven't seen before.

TITLE: **PUBLIC RELATIONS by Melinda Maerker**

PITCH: RAY DONOVAN meets THE GOOD WIFE

LOGLINE: After handling their Oscar-winning mother's out of control public scandal, two sisters, one a lawyer, one a stay at home mom, launch a PR firm to tackle the manipulative world of publicity and politics today's social media, TMZ-fueled world has become.

GENRE: Comedy | Drama

WHY TO READ: If Sex, Lies and Videotape were each real life characters, this is the world they would play in. Intricately woven, and deftly written, this pilot brings to life two incredibly different characters and thrusts them into a world they know nothing about, but swiftly come to realize, that no one truly does. With endless potential for ripped from the headline stories, and a refreshingly original take on the world, and the characters that play within it, this is a show that has mastered a balance between the provocative and the endearing. By delivering two relatable leads to the story, we're given just enough of a look into their personal lives to remind us that even in this enchanting world of viral media and mass manipulation, this is a refreshingly human tale, albeit one filled with enough sex, comedy, drama and scandal to quench even the most addictive appetites of today's audiences.

TITLE: **RABBIT WARREN, THE by Vivian Tse**

PITCH: CHILDREN OF MEN meets ORPHAN BLACK

LOGLINE: In a world obsessed with synthetic body enhancements there exists a singular pure human, rumored to be the key to humanity's salvation. The quest to capture or save this young girl ignites a struggle between governments, warlords, and the few who wish to protect her.

GENRE: Drama | Sci-Fi

WHY TO READ: High concept sci-fi lives and dies by its ability to craft a fully realized and inviting world, and a series of characters that are deeply relatable and engaging in any setting. On both counts, this pilot achieves these masterfully. Packed with dazzling imagery, ambitious twists and a crackling narrative, this story delivers a world filled with irresistibly complex characters, themes and ideas, and allows them to play in a setting filled with dramatic potential. With a concept so grand, thoroughly suspenseful and yet shockingly relatable this series will not only cater to those seeking inventively original sci-fi and deeply human character-driven moments equally, but it will leave them eagerly awaiting new episodes each week.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **RACHEL III by Danielle Evenson & Heather Huntington**

PITCH: EASY A meets ELECTION

LOGLINE: When eccentric, back-brace wearing loner Rachel realizes she'll never win over the cool kids on her own, she schemes to take over the student council and force them to love her, even if a few accidents needs to happen to those running against her.

GENRE: Comedy | Teen

WHY TO READ: A brilliantly inventive and comically charming reimagining of Shakespeare's Richard III. With an eccentrically original, and cleverly comedic anti-heroine lead at the forefront, this series delivers a delightful spin on a classic, while consistently standing on its own. Seamlessly authentic, yet exquisitely over-the-top, this show captures the best aspects of projects like *Scream Queens* or *Juno* and brings to life the sex-crazed, pop culture addicted social media world of today's high school with such command, that you'd think this writer was currently in high school themselves. Providing a fast, fun, and engaging read, this show will immediately connect with its target audience, and has the breakout potential of becoming the show of a generation that offers plenty of and scandalously intriguing drama to last for seasons to come.

TITLE: **READER'S GROUP GUIDE by Amelia Sims**

PITCH: MY SO-CALLED LIFE meets THE O.C.

LOGLINE: A group of hyper-intelligent and overly ambitious freshman struggle to adapt to the shark-infested waters of a high school magnet program where their daily lives are filled bloated expectations, a vicious rumor mill, and the never-ending competition to be the best.

GENRE: Drama | Teen

WHY TO READ: One of the most realistic high school dramas you will ever read. Bitingly original, and honest, this is a series that will not only offer a minimum of four years of powerful and relatable drama, but has the potential to kick start the careers of all those involved in the same way *Freaks and Geeks* did all those years ago. Masterfully drawn characters offer individually unique and relatable perspectives as they each attempt to navigate this new world, and integrate into the bigger story being told. With beautifully crafted drama, sparkling dialogue, and unwavering emotions, this series will immediately be a favorite among youth-driven audiences, but will grow far beyond that as the show expands, and viewers see more and more of themselves within. Briskly told, relevant and poignant, this pilot magnificently tows the line between soapy coming-of-age tale, insightful character study and endlessly entertaining drama.

TITLE: **RECONSTRUCTION by Sarah Kraus**

PITCH: MERCY STREET meets NORTH AND SOUTH

LOGLINE: A revisionist history that sees a post Civil War Confederacy on the brink of dissolving and forced to elect a female president, who not only sets out to broaden their horizons, but to lead a coalition of women and former slaves to rebuild the nation.

GENRE: Drama | Period | Political | War

WHY TO READ: With the breakout success of *The Man in the High Castle* already leading the way for revisionist history, this pilot not only sets itself up to follow in those footsteps, but it just may offer a more impactful and dazzlingly inventive drama in the process. By focusing on the Confederate side of the Civil War, this pilot takes a unique and morally complex angle on history, and almost immediately spins it on its head. With an unwaveringly bold female lead paving the way for this story, and a series of explosive decisions forever changing the foundations of what this place in time once stood for, this pilot becomes a tipping point for what is sure to be irresistible drama.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **RED RIVERS** by Helen Truong & Naomi Baum

PITCH: X-FILES meets TRUE DETECTIVE

LOGLINE: When a skeptical NYPD detective is transferred to New Orleans, he finds himself forced to team up with a local woman with a history in voodoo to investigate a series of ritualistic murders. But, as the case starts to unravel they find their clues leading them deeper into something even the strongest occult believer can't imagine.

GENRE: Drama | Crime | Supernatural

WHY TO READ: The atmosphere of this pilot so wonderfully captures a setting so strongly rooted in the occult that one could almost forget how beautifully the writer brings to life an unnerving drama filled with suspense and fear. Navigated by two brilliantly crafted leads, this series introduces a world familiar and brazenly unique at the same time, and provides a series worth of supernatural intrigue and complex drama in just the pilot alone. Playing at odds with one another, this two-handed thriller invites an audience in to see the world through their eyes, as the normal becomes the abnormal, and the discoveries become things of nightmares. Masterfully drawn, the setting merges with the dialogue to offer a riveting and fast paced procedural that delivers enough drama to win you over, but teases more around each corner. Built for broadcast, or cable, this is a series that reminds you that things go bump in the night, and sometimes its best to look for them.

TITLE: **RENTAL** by Adam Beal

PITCH: THAT 70s SHOW meets BREAKING BAD

LOGLINE: With his movie rental shop failing and eviction imminent, a father must fall back on the life of crime he thought he'd left behind.

GENRE: Comedy, Drama

WHY TO READ: Like so many of the best sitcoms before it, this pilot finds its humor in a fantastic setting packed with wild characters and the potential for even wilder stories. The video rental store in the 1980s not only allows us to indulge our 80s nostalgia, but brings in an absurd ensemble of strange characters to play with. On top of that, this pilot adds in a mysterious criminal backstory for its protagonist, which helps both enhance and elevate this series into the kind of layered comedy any network would love to have.

TITLE: **RIKER** by Christopher Lee

PITCH: HOUSE meets HOW TO GET AWAY WITH MURDER

LOGLINE: A renowned criminology professor enlists a team of graduate students to help crack the cases police have failed to solve. But, one criminal he can't – or won't catch, just may be the person closest to him.

GENRE: Drama | Crime | Thriller

WHY TO READ: An expertly crafted crime thriller that gorgeously blends a familiarly dramatic crime formula structure with that of an intriguing and captivantly entertaining serial killer thriller that will tee up seasons of proceduralized serial drama. Centered on a lead that delicately balances his inviting appearance with that of his dark fascinations and complex history, this series does a brilliant job of bouncing between the dynamic cast that fills out the ensemble, and the riveting tales being uncovered each week. Suspenseful, haunting, and deeply thrilling, the audience will live on the edge of their seats with each word, and whichever actor steps into the lead role will own a night of television for years to come.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **ROOTED** by Adam Schneider

PITCH: BLOODLINE meets SIDEWAYS

LOGLINE: When her estranged family's winery is threatened by financial ruin, one woman returns to her home to attempt to help her family stay afloat, but upon her return she unearths a decades old mystery that will not only threaten the family business, but the foundations of the family itself.

GENRE: Drama

WHY TO READ: The pinnacle of successful family dramas, this pilot takes a simple premise and elevates it with a stunning setting and beautiful writing. The diverse ensemble is impeccable, with each and every character distinctly unique and masterfully blended into the storyline. With moral complexities, deftly crafted dialogue, and an unnerving sense that the seemingly idyllic nature of every conversation and every plot point is only moments from veering into the abyss, this story is layered in intrigue, brimming in drama, and consistently teasing to reveal the inextricable ties that bind this family together. With mysteries that unravel like a Russian nest doll, and character driven examinations of truth, relationships and morality, this show offers an invitingly entertaining thriller intricately dressed up in a relatable family drama.

TITLE: **RULES OF BUSINESS, THE** by Gary Comerford

PITCH: SILICON VALLEY meets GREY'S ANATOMY

LOGLINE: When the three partners of a fast-expanding tech company disagree on the direction of the company, can their company, let alone friendships and relationships survive the internal bickering, corporate espionage and personal blackmails that threaten to break it apart?

GENRE: Drama

WHY TO READ: With distinctive, snappy dialogue that perfectly sets up each and every character, as well as creative visual representations of coding and computer language that makes the world invitingly accessible and fresh, this pilot not only entertains on every page, but it somehow makes you feel smarter just by reading it. Mixing the thrills of business competition and the internal debates of what success truly means this story balances the uniquely crafted kaleidoscope of characters with the fun soapy relationships and the intimate betrayals they share to keep every moment entertaining, yet drama-filled. With a clever introduction to a series filled with storylines to mine, this is a show that audiences will flock to, and broadcast or cable could build a night around.

TITLE: **SAM O** by Samuel Oh

PITCH: FRESH OFF THE BOAT meets DEAD LIKE ME

LOGLINE: After a successful brain tumor removal takes him out of school for an entire year, a teen now takes on the "toughest" task of his life - integrating into a new school. Coping with social anxieties, trying to make new friends, and trying not to become the class loser are hard enough tasks, but factor in the fact that he may or may not be seeing the Grim Reaper everyday, and well... it's going to be a tough year.

GENRE: Comedy | Drama | Teen

WHY TO READ: Endlessly intriguing and vibrantly original, the premise of this series can only be outdone by the writers irresistibly fresh new voice. Built around a character that is charmingly original and yet tragically familiar (for him), this pilot offers a hilarious new spin on your high school years as seen through the deadpan personality, and perhaps exceedingly vivid imagination of our lead. With a masterful mix of comedy and very real emotional beats, this hyper-original tale succeeds in balancing the creepy concepts of death, with witty dialogue, clever jokes, and a creative coming-of-age tale that will capture a youth-driven audience from all walks of life.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **SECRET & CONFIDENTIAL** by Ben Maraniss

PITCH: THE AMERICANS meets TRUE DETECTIVE

LOGLINE: In 1976, federal agents investigate the murder of a key witness to the Watergate scandal, but as they interview three other key witnesses, the interweaving tales unearth a series of classified government missions, partnerships between the CIA and the mob, and a secret assassination plot coordinated by the President of the United States.

GENRE: Drama | Period | Thriller

WHY TO READ: Tensely drawn drama at its finest. With a wonderfully woven series of tales spun together to decipher mysteries of espionage, political power, conspiracy theories, murder, assassination and foreign policy, this is a series exploding with drama, and lined with some of the most intriguing characters television will ever see. From the fast-paced thrills to the slow burn reveals, and all of the complexities in between, this writer provides a vividly detailed, and incredibly well researched story that will immediately become addictive television. Balancing the true story elements we know, with a world full of potential outcomes, and players in the conspiracies provided gives us a delightful glimpse into the what ifs these characters present, and a level of intrigue that will force you to come back for more.

TITLE: **SERPENT UNDER'T, THE** by Stephen Simpson

PITCH: GAME OF THRONES meets HOUSE OF CARDS

LOGLINE: Playing out as a prequel to Macbeth, story follows a young Scottish nobleman named MacBeth who is told that through the dark arts of murder, treachery and deceit he will rise up to become King.

GENRE: Drama | Period | Supernatural

WHY TO READ: The description of Game of Thrones meets House of Cards is so spot on for this one, that it's uncanny. Gorgeously written and spellbinding, this pilot introduces the greatest aspects of Shakespeare's original and interweaves an easily accessible, and exceedingly entertaining story full of dazzlingly drawn characters old and new into a captivating drama that's brimming with plot. As much a drama, as it is a political thriller, and filled with elements of the both the supernatural and philosophical, this story not only succeeds in creating a story that seamlessly bridges towards the original works, but in creating new and exciting angles, and perspectives on the long established play. Visually stunning, filled with vibrant dialogue, and blooming with mesmerizing characters, this thought-provoking tale not only reintroduces the audience to a tale they'll know, but it gives them a chance to make it their own.

TITLE: **SHRINK PROOF** by Stephen Potts

PITCH: GREY'S ANATOMY meets IN TREATMENT

LOGLINE: Newly appointed chief psychiatric resident of St. Christina's Hospital struggles to make her mark as she battles to earn the respect of her privileged and self-obsessed colleagues, keep her marriage together, and try to keep her life from falling back to the impoverished world she left behind.

GENRE: Drama | Medical

WHY TO READ: With a powerhouse female lead, an intriguing supporting cast, and no shortage of addictively soapy twists to play with, this is the type of medical drama that not only stands out, but becomes a force to be reckoned with on whichever night it airs. Never shying away from politicized issues of mental health, gender, or race, this story is not only timely, but is delivered in such an authentic, honest and clever way that audiences will come for the drama, but stay for the brilliantly crafted moments that remind us that a bigger theme is at play. With more potential drama than a showrunner will know what to do with, this pilot sets up all of the relationships needed to sustain a series for decades. The social commentary will keep you engaged, but it's the cast of characters that will keep you coming back.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **SIENA** by Ariadna Martinez

PITCH: ASSASSIN'S CREED meets THE BORGAS

LOGLINE: In 13th century Siena, a secret society of well-trained vigilantes keeps the city safe, but the arrival of the Holy Roman Emperor signals the beginning of an internal plot to bring down the city the love.

GENRE: Drama | Action | Period | Thriller

WHY TO READ: Majestically visual and masterfully constructed, this pilot delivers a captivating, emotionally intimate, and breathtakingly epic tale filled with intelligently complex characters and alarming tense drama that will provide seasons of period drama like none you've ever seen. Beautifully choreographed moments of fantastical action, provocative romance and political intrigue play out in this breathtakingly original world. Visited through the eyes of our intricate and multilayered female lead, this series aims to showcase the thrills, mysteries, and wonders of a world threatening to be torn apart by new ideas, and one in which these characters must love from afar as part of a secret society. This is the type of series that will slake even the most unquenchable thirst for drama, action, mystery and depth.

TITLE: **SNARK** by Jay Reidl

PITCH: UNREAL meets NEWSROOM

LOGLINE: To keep their careers, the staff of a gossip news site must suppress what little conscience they have to run the most ruthless stories they can find, because the more despicable the content, the higher the view count.

GENRE: Comedy | Drama

WHY TO READ: If TMZ, BuzzFeed, Gawker and Unreal had a baby with HBO's Newsroom, this is exactly the kind of comedy you'd expect. Cleverly written and packed with the kind of characters you love to hate, this pilot provides a deeply intoxicating look at the social media madness and celebrity culture our world has bred, and those who find themselves responsible for delivering it on a daily basis. With its fun, yet dark and referential humor, its razor sharp dialogue, and its no-holds-bar social commentary, this is the kind of comedy audiences will tune in to hate watch, and find themselves falling in love with. What UnReal did for reality weddings, this pilot does for every post, list, or link you've been click-baited into, but instead of leaving you with guilt and remorse it leaves you with laughs, and desires for more.

TITLE: **SOCIO-PAM** by Rowan Wheeler

PITCH: DON'T TRUST THE B* IN APARTMENT 23 meets NIGHTCRAWLER

LOGLINE: With the help of her sociopath support group, a proud sociopath attempts to use her position as a local news reporter to advance the cause of sociopaths everywhere, but runs into problems when she starts to experience these stupid little things called... emotions.

GENRE: Comedy

WHY TO READ: From the very first moment you meet the oddly unique and thoroughly compelling lead of this delightfully dark comedic series, you'll feel as though you're catching up with an old friend – albeit one who is without a doubt a sociopath. With its wickedly biting dialogue, rapid fire pacing, and a premise that promises seasons of laughs, this pilot not only offers multiple roles talent will fight for, but does so in such an originally brilliant way, that the cast, just as the audience will find themselves mesmerized by the complexity this show consistently offers up. Toying with dark impulses and desires even the most innocent of us has had at least once, and watching as the self-imposed queen of sociopaths is forced to deal with them not only provides plenty of laughs, but the potential for seasons of breakout television.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **SON OF THE DRAGON** by Steven Jon Whritner

PITCH: DRACULA meets GAME OF THRONES

LOGLINE: With a journey that begins in the 1400s, as he is sent away to live with the enemy as part of a tribute to the Ottoman Empire, this is a look at the politics, wars, love, betrayals, and bloodlust that would one day forge the man we'd come to know throughout history as Vlad The Impaler, or more commonly - Dracula.

GENRE: Drama | Period

WHY TO READ: Beautifully crafted, visually stunning, and immensely entertaining, this is a pilot that not only delivers on the page, but that works its way into your mind the moment you begin reading. By weaving a tale known and unknown at the same time this story provides a big, beautiful cabinet of wonders that is by turns a politically charged thriller, a decisively crafted drama, and an enchanting historical adventure. The display of innocence, and the promise of the darkness to come as our lead goes on to become the man we know him as now is teased with exceptional finesse in the pilot, and will have even the most unexpected audience eagerly addicted for more. By focusing on one man's journey, and the complex worlds and characters he will come to interact with, this story allows audiences to immerse themselves in the tale, coming to empathize, understand, and even rationalize decisions one must make to survive, to save his family, to save his people, or simply to save himself.

TITLE: **SUGARTOWN** by Amanda Toye

PITCH: FARGO meets BREAKING BAD

LOGLINE: A small town is thrown into chaos when a corrupt pain management clinic causes an epidemic drug problem.

GENRE: Drama | Thriller

WHY TO READ: With heroin epidemics plaguing many areas of the US, a pilot like this has the advantage of speaking directly to the zeitgeist, and this writer clearly has something to say. Essentially Breaking Bad if Walter was an entire small town, this pilot brilliantly mixes in aspects of Fargo and True Detective to create a compelling and unique drama that could be the next big thing.

TITLE: **TARR** by Gregory Bernard Hirshland

PITCH: TRUE DETECTIVE meets THE X-FILES

LOGLINE: A cop looks back on an unsolved case of missing twin girls in Juneau, Alaska when one of the girls mysteriously shows up over a decade later... still alive.

GENRE: Drama | Supernatural | Crime

WHY TO READ: Combining the moody slow-burn mystery of The Killing with the otherworldly sci-fi of The X-Files, this pilot is a new kind of supernatural TV drama, which treats genre fans with the same level of intelligence and respect as their more socially acceptable crime drama peers. With an inventive structure, attention to detail and unique Alaska setting, this is the kind of pilot that stands out from the crowd on whatever network it lands on.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **THIRD WORLD ROYALTY** by Melanie Maras

PITCH: FRESH OFF THE BOAT meets ENTOURAGE

LOGLINE: A Hollywood publicist who is ready to take her relationship with her boyfriend to the next level has her life overturned when her ridiculous family arrives from Indonesia, broke and needing a place to stay.

GENRE: Comedy

WHY TO READ: With the recent success of such minority family sitcoms as Fresh Off The Boat and Black-ish, this pilot is a network hit waiting to happen, tapping into the untold experiences of immigrants from the world's fourth-largest country and therefore an enormous underserved market. A new take on the Beverly Hillbillies story, this fish-out-of-water Hollywood romp has no limit to its comedic potential.

TITLE: **THREADS** by Dorothy Pecoraro Bertram

PITCH: HOMELAND meets QUANTICO

LOGLINE: After a deadly terrorist attack takes place on American soil and brings his department under fire, the Director of Homeland Security looks into his daughter's new Muslim boyfriend, unaware that the real threat is his own son, who ISIS may be recruiting.

GENRE: Drama | Thriller

WHY TO READ: Upending expectations at every turn, this pilot is a smart, provocative thriller that not only plays into fears of homegrown terrorism, but explores the motivations and circumstances that may lead a seemingly innocent person down a path of destruction. With a powerhouse lead who is every bit as complex, compelling, and clever as any that have come before, and a storyline that offers no shortage of suspense as it delivers enough mysteries, twists, and emotions to keep you on the edge of your seat, and consistently certain of outcomes that disappear in betrayals. Brimming with secrets, evocative writing, fast-paced and fiercely lucid dialogue, this has the potential to become must watch TV the moment the teaser begins.

TITLE: **UNDERTOW** by Linda Ge & Travis Reilly

PITCH: THE SOPRANOS meets REVENGE

LOGLINE: Four Chinese-American siblings are thrust into the world of organized crime after the death of their kingpin father. As they struggle to maintain control of the family business, they find themselves facing threats from the FBI, other members of the family that want them out, and possibly from one another.

GENRE: Drama | Thriller

WHY TO READ: An equally fresh, and delightfully compelling new spin on the world of organized crime. Imagine a world where AJ and Meadow from The Sopranos were suddenly thrust into control, but at the same time being attacked from other families, members from within, and a deeply interwoven government agency. With four relatable, yet individually uniquely complex characters steering us through the beautifully vivid and gritty underworld, this is a pilot that deftly maneuvers between the contained intimate dramas and the strategically large-scale outcomes each decision may lead them to. The sizzling dialogue, fast-paced delivery, and consistently smart twists deliver a show packed with potential for any network to tap into, and a storyline with seasons of fun to play in.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **UNITY** by Lindsay McRae

PITCH: BRAVEHEART meets THE SCARLET LETTER

LOGLINE: In the bloody wake of the Battle of Dunbar of 1650, a group of Scottish prisoners and two noble English women who've narrowly avoided execution are sent to Boston to work as indentured servants. Upon arrival they are met with harsh conditions, tragic decisions, and an introduction to a new world that is no longer their own.

GENRE: Drama

WHY TO READ: It would have been easy to get lost in such an epic tale, but instead this writer masterfully presents a primal, elegant, and breathtakingly honest look at an era long forgotten. Unfurling with a broad ensemble of beautifully written, achingly human characters that display no shortage of depth and complexity, this pilot presents a world where nothing is black or white and every decision will invite audiences to obsessively and agonize over. With its visually stunning setting providing an atmosphere sweeping with historical catastrophes, it's the characters stories, both personal and political alike that will keep viewers transfixed for seasons to come, and give new meaning to founding of the freedoms we have today.

TITLE: **UNPLANNED** by Joanne Lee

PITCH: VEEP meets KNOCKED UP

LOGLINE: A conservative pundit has to remain a staunch voice representing her party as she struggles with her mother's Presidential campaign, an affair with a liberal Senator, and an unexpected pregnancy. All of which test her political, moral, and ethical ideals in an ever-changing world.

GENRE: Comedy | Political

WHY TO READ: With enough drama to fill a season of Scandal, and the biting political humor of Veep, this pilot takes a thinly-veiled and wonderfully fictionalized version of Fox News anchor Megyn Kelly and puts her into three wildly different, yet completely impossible situations all at once, with hilarious results. The dialogue is sharp and witty, the characters are dynamic and hilarious and the pilot not only does a great job setting up plenty of storylines for the future, but in crafting a series audiences will fall for. This pilot lives in a world where the truth is stranger than fiction, so there will never be a lack of topics to discuss or shortage of seasons as we watch these character evolve against the absurd, circus-like atmosphere of American politics.

TITLE: **VALEDICTORIAN** by Jimmy Mosqueda

PITCH: ELECTION meets PRETTY LITTLE LIARS

LOGLINE: At an elite high school where academics are everything, a 17-year-old girl schemes to become Valedictorian after the suspicious death of her boyfriend, the former number one student.

GENRE: Comedy | Drama

WHY TO READ: Set in a competitive high school where a high class ranking provides VIP status, this pilot is an absurdist drama, masterfully constructed and darkly comedic; not only clever, but emotionally astute. This is a roller coaster ride of a script with a lead character so complex that she absolutely could have killed her boyfriend just to move up in the class rankings, whether she's aware of it or not. With mysteries, suspense, and a classic teen angst bent around every corner, this pilot has the potential to be a cross-generational hit. Endlessly relatable without falling too far into the teen soap space, as these are the cutthroat, straight-A kids we rarely see represented on screen, but whom everyone remembers from high school... if you weren't one yourself.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **WELCOME TO LAST CHANCE** by Keith Storrier

PITCH: FARGO meets IN PLAIN SIGHT

LOGLINE: In a small town where most of the inhabitants are criminals in Witness Protection, a soon to be in-over-his-head Sheriff decides to take justice into his own hands, setting off a series of murders, an FBI investigation, and a residential backlash threatening to remind him of who his neighbors really are.

GENRE: Drama | Comedy | Crime

WHY TO READ: An exquisitely crafted premise filled with offbeat humor, memorably quirky characters and an addictively delightful story are only the beginning of things to love about this pilot. With a wild crime story that elicits similarities to Justified, were it a gloriously eccentric dark comedy, this is a series that captures a world overflowing with opportunities for our characters mysterious backstories, criminal pasts, and violent futures to play out. A thoroughly original tale that is wonderfully engaging and wonderfully observed, with idiosyncratic details that bring the characters to life, and provide the perfect set up for a serialized story to unfold within a procedural structure.

TITLE: **WHALE OF A TIME** by Brandon Beck

PITCH: RICK AND MORTY meets PINKY AND THE BRAIN

LOGLINE: After accidentally swallowing a Nazi scientist and his time machine, a good-natured whale obviously agrees to travel through time to further the plans of the Third Reich, with humorous and unexpected results.

GENRE: Comedy | Animated

WHY TO READ: Clever, edgy, and teetering so close to the edge of absurdity, that written by almost anyone else this pilot would fall under its own ambitious weight. Instead, the writer does such a brilliant job of beautifully weaving an extraordinarily lush and verdant imagination with a series of over-the-top themes and shockingly insightful moments that it would be impossible for viewers not to find these characters oddly endearing. With no shortage of topics this series can brazenly dissect, this is a show that will provide seasons of misadventures that will remind audiences how thought provoking, philosophical, poignant and even completely bonkers great comedy can be.

TITLE: **WIDOWS** by Laura Bensick

PITCH: DESPERATE HOUSEWIVES meets REVENGE

LOGLINE: When four women all lose their husbands in one night to mysterious accidents, the seemingly unconnected widows come together to investigate the deaths and prove their innocence. But, in the process of becoming new BFFs over martini hour, come to discover that one of them may be responsible for their husband's deaths after all.

GENRE: Drama

WHY TO READ: Blood is a bitch to get out of silk. Splashy, sexy, soapy and scandalous – primetime drama hasn't looked this good in a while. With a beautifully complex group of characters – workaholics, trophy wives, perfect moms and party girls, this series not only caters to an incredibly diverse audience, but it showcases one as well. Deliciously addictive, and brimming with sex, murder, politics, and intrigue, this series not only springs to mind delightfully fond memories of Desperate Housewives, Revenge, or Pretty Little Liars, but it brings to life a premise, mystery, and series of characters that could go miles beyond those. With its masterfully crafted dialogue and brilliantly dangled suspense elevating every scene, and the tease of the larger mystery at play, this pilot is not only the kind of show a network will build a night around, but it's the kind that will win awards, ratings, and have talent fighting to be part of it.

THE TOP 100 PILOTS OF 2016

TITLE: **WORK RELEASE** by Patrick Connelly

PITCH: THE MILLERS meets ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT

LOGLINE: A man's carefully organized life is disrupted when his irresponsible father is released from prison and assigned to a work release program at his son's job. Now, after spending his entire life rebelling against him, he must accept his father for who he is, or send him back to prison for the rest of his life.

GENRE: Comedy

WHY TO READ: The perfect sitcom premise – simple, clear, and packed with potential. The dynamic, complex and unabashedly comedic relationship between the two leads of this pilot could win fans and hearts in almost any setting, but it's the unconventional, yet immensely relatable setting the writer chooses that truly allows the story to shine. With delightfully expressive dialogue, a vibrant supporting cast, and a story filled with no shortage of dysfunctional comedy, this is a series that provides endless opportunity for cleverly drawn laughs, and effortlessly crafted moments of drama alike. Brimming with guest star opportunities, and a narrative that audiences of all ages will love, this is the kind of show that pleasantly surprises just as much in its first episode as it will in its tenth season.
