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They didn't just take the man she loved. They took the woman who could prove it happened. All she has left is a code her hands still remember.

FORMAT

1-Hour Serialized Thriller

GENRE

Psychological Espionage

TARGET

Netflix • Global Prestige

COMPS

Homecoming × Bourne

LOGLINE

A visionary NATO treaty architect survives the ambush that kills the man she secretly loves — only to discover that the mentor guiding her through her grief is quietly editing her memories, remaking her into the flawless, hollow instrument of the very conspiracy that pulled the trigger.

THE SERIES

Kat Sullivan is the most gifted policy mind of her generation: the architect of Article 7, a treaty designed to stop wars before they start. She is brilliant, incandescent, and in love with Markus Voss, an intelligence operative she can only meet on hotel balconies and in a private code built from a dead poet's verses. When her mentor Carl Reeves sends the pair to Bucharest to hunt a mole, the operation is revealed as a trap, and Kat watches Markus fall into the black water of the Danube.

Back in Washington, Kat does what she does best: she investigates. She traces burner phones to Carl's own discretionary budget and gets within one email of blowing the conspiracy open. So Carl changes weapons. He brings in Dr. Lillian Shaw, a "trauma specialist" whose warmth is a scalpel, and together they reframe Kat's hard evidence as delusion and begin chemically overwriting her memories of Markus, of Vienna, of the truth. Episode by episode, the woman who fought for a living is sanded into a compliant mouthpiece for state interests. But muscle memory runs deeper than any drug, and in the season's final frame, a ghost in a windowpane taps out a code her hands still remember.

WHY NOW

In an age of deepfakes, memory-altering pharmacology, and collapsing trust in institutions, *Page 41* weaponizes the last private territory a person has left: her own mind. The most terrifying surveillance state isn't watching you. It's rewriting you, and calling it care.

THE ENGINE

Every episode, Kat claws back one stolen memory while Carl escalates to keep the erasure ahead of her. A rival treaty faction closes in from outside; the question of whether Markus survived the river burns underneath. The season is a woman reconstructing the truth they deleted, one breadcrumb at a time.

THEMES

TRUST AS A WEAPON

THE ERASURE OF SELF

GRIEF VS. TRUTH

WHO OWNS YOUR MEMORY

LOVE AS RESISTANCE

Cast Wish List

A realistic, attainable prestige slate for a global streamer package. Names are illustrative targets chosen for range, playability, and market value — not offers. Roles are written to support inclusive, international casting.

KAT SULLIVAN Lead • F, early 30s

Jodie Comer / Jurnee Smollett / Thuso Mbedu

The whole show lives on one face traveling from incandescent to hollow to fighting back. Comer proved the register on *Killing Eve*; Smollett brings fire and prestige heat; Mbedu offers a fresh, awards-caliber discovery angle for a global launch.

MARKUS VOSS Male lead • M, mid 30s

Sope Dirisu / Matthias Schoenaerts / Daniel Brühl

Lethal, tender, and fluent in restraint. Dirisu (*Gangs of London*) marries physicality with real romance; Schoenaerts is the European operative archetype; Brühl brings authentic German and quiet danger for the role as written.

CARL REEVES Antagonist • M, late 50s

Giancarlo Esposito / Jeffrey Wright

Paternal warmth that curdles into control is the villain the show needs. Esposito is the platonic ideal of gentle menace; Wright delivers institutional gravity and moral fog in equal measure.

DR. LILLIAN SHAW Antagonist • F, mid 50s

Lorraine Toussaint / Harriet Walter

Serene, maternal, terrifying. The warmth has to read as real or the horror doesn't land. Toussaint commands a room without raising her voice; Walter brings clinical, aristocratic calm.

LINDA SULLIVAN Supporting • F, early 60s

Phylicia Rashad / Alfre Woodard

The mother is the emotional truth-teller who can see her daughter vanishing. Both actors turn a single held look into the gut-punch of the pilot's back half.

SIR ROLAND ASHE Recurring • M, 60s

Jonathan Pryce / Ciarán Hinds

The silk-voiced parliamentary adversary who sharpens Kat in Act I. Both bring wit, weight, and the sense of a worthy sparring partner rather than a strawman.

MARGUERITE DUVAL Recurring • F, 50s

Marion Cotillard / Juliette Binoche

The French delegate who first questions whether Article 7 is diplomacy or an intelligence op in disguise. A marquee European name adds international voltage to the pitch.

ROBERT STEVENSON “MERIDIAN” Supporting • M, late 40s

Shea Whigham / O-T Fagbenle

The forgettable handler whose blandness is the point. Whigham is the definitive character-actor spook; Fagbenle brings a colder, corporate edge.

DESSA Recurring • F, 40s

Michaela Coel / Sonoya Mizuno

The off-grid signals contact who gives Kat her proof. A magnetic, unpredictable scene-stealer built to recur as Kat's only ally in the season to come.

THE SERBIAN ATTACHÉ Guest • M, mid 20s

Cast from authentic Balkan / Serbian talent

A terrified pawn, not a caricature. Grounding the role in regionally authentic casting protects the show's realism and the tragedy of his final scene.