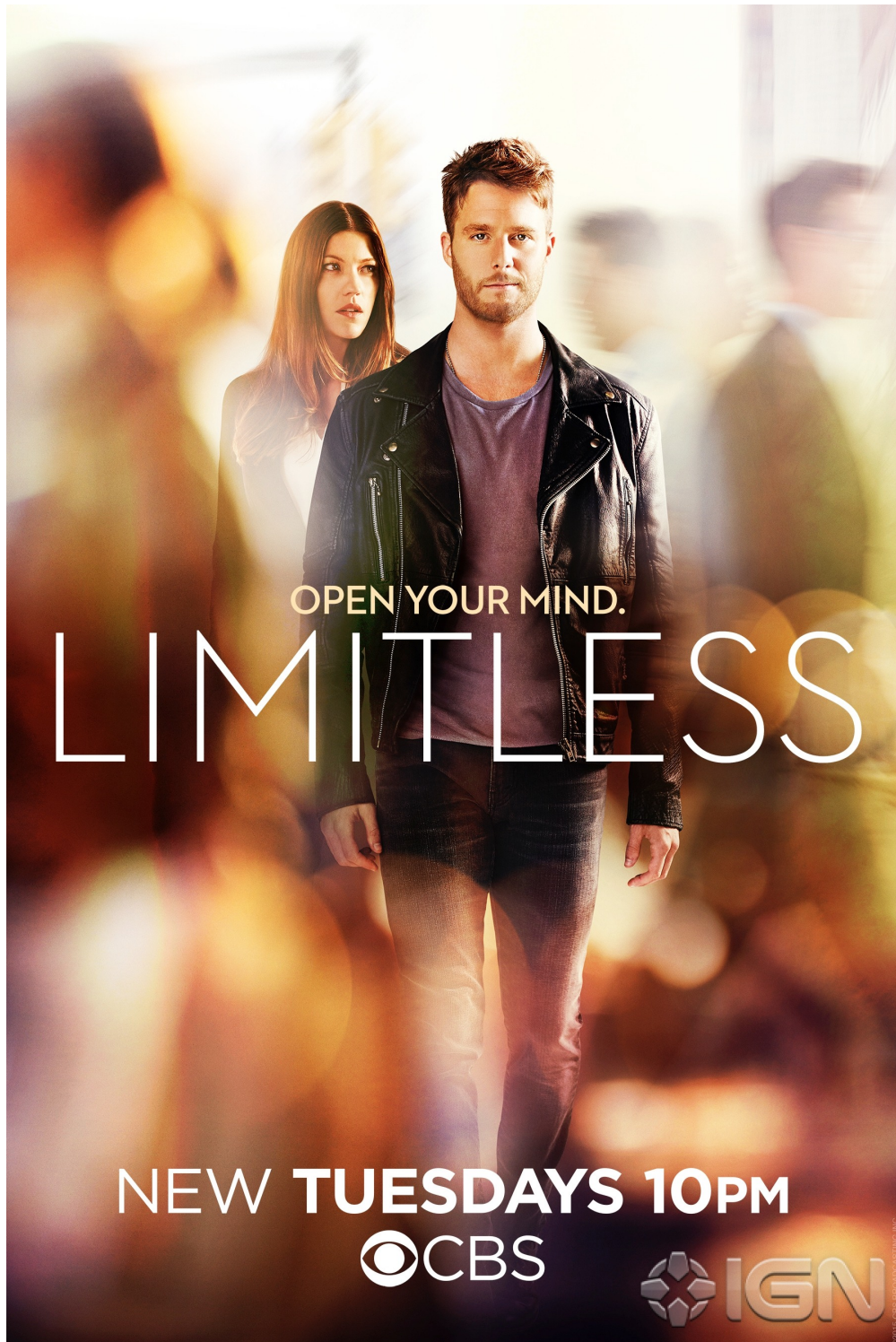


Limitless Episode Guide

Episodes 001-022

Last episode aired Tuesday April 26, 2016





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Season One

Pilot

Season 1

Episode Number: 1

Season Episode: 1

Originally aired: Tuesday September 22, 2015
Writer: Craig Sweeny
Director: Marc Webb
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Bradley Cooper (Senator Edward "Eddie" Morra)
Guest Stars: Ron Rifkin (Dennis Finch), Blair Brown (Marie Finch), Sipiwé Moyo (Nurse), Megan Guinan (Sarah Finch), Arjun Gupta (Eli Whitford), Sarah Wilson (IV) (Jessamyn Eubanks), Mark Noonan (II) (Luke Finch), Zach Miko (Cameron), Claire Glassford (Lisa), Kathleen Hays (Sabrina), Henry Gagliardi (10-year-old Brian), Nicholas Verina (Sarah's Husband), Tom Malméd (16-year-old Brian), Daniel Eric Gold (Adam Honeycutt), Zuleyma Guevara (Teller), Charles Anthony Burks (Motorman), Warren Bub (Bank Security Guard), Craig Sweeny (Cecil), Cole Hagen (Young Luke)
Summary: A man named Brian Finch develops superhuman abilities after taking a mysterious drug called NZT, which finds him landing on the FBI's radar as he works to clear his name of an NZT-related murder.



We open in Union Square, where Brian Finch is running from some guys. Who are the guys? We honestly don't know. He runs past a sign featuring a very serious Bradley Cooper, who is now a senator.

The men in trench coats chasing Finch get very confused by the layout of Union Square. Anyhow, one of the agents, Rebecca Harris, catches up to Brian. It turns out she is from the FBI and wants to arrest him. So Brian jumps onto the tracks and gets hit by an L train. Haha, just kidding, he doesn't die, the scene freezes and we hear some narration like

"This looks bad" or something and then it flashes back. That's a good formal device, very original.

It's time to learn about Brian! He is aimless, he's had a few run-ins with the law, he's in a band, and everyone else in his family is successful in some way. Not, you know, super-successful, but they have families and careers and stuff. Meanwhile, Brian's just here changing his shirt a bunch.

At a family dinner, Brian stammers through explaining his newest musical project, but it's under embargo, so nobody's allowed to hear it. His dad collapses from a mysterious illness. Maybe he's sick because of all the bullshit Brian's dishing out.

Brian's not a full-time musician, though. He also works as a temp. A large bank gives him a bunch of clerical gruntwork. It seems tedious! If only there were some sort of pill, like a super-Adderall that could make the work go a lot faster.

At lunch with an old friend, Eli, now an investment banker, Brian lays out everything wrong with his life: his music career has stalled, his dad's sick, nothing's working out.

"I might be able to help," Eli tells him. He breaks out a small case. It contains a Limitless pill.

Back at the bank, with the giant stack of papers, Brian is just waiting and waiting for the pill to kick in, but it doesn't.

Here's how the drug works: "Your brain is a miracle, but it's not efficient. There's a maze inside everyone's head, a labyrinth of missed connections and untapped potential. But now, suddenly, I had access to every single brain cell." Brian can now remember pretty much everything he's ever seen, heard, smelled, or felt. And he uses this amazing power to do some really good filing.

He also takes some time out to give a kiiiinda paternalistic, rapid-fire speech to the woman who hired him. According to Brian, she should break up with her boyfriend, go to business school, get an MBA, and get a seat on the company's board. Easy-peasey lemon-squeezey. The Limitless pill gives you the power to know what women want before they know what they want.

It's time for a montage. Brian suddenly knows how to shred on the guitar, play speed chess, execute a top-down rebranding of a hot-dog stand, and diagnose his dad's mysterious illness by going back through generations of his family tree.

But the effects of Limitless pill don't last forever ... the pill wears off. He goes to Eli to get another dose. But uh-oh, whoops, Eli is dead. He got shot in the chest and somebody ransacked his apartment. R.I.P., Eli! It looks like your mortality was not ... it did not last forever. Brian manages to find another dose just as the police show up.

In the meantime, we, the audience learn about this show's visual language. When scenes are orange and vibrant, Brian is limitless but when scenes are washed-out and blue, Brian is limited.

It turns out the Limitless pill makes you very good at parkour. It also makes you very good at Frogger (or, if you are a millennial, Crossy Road).

So we're back where we were at the start of the episode, with Brian about to get hit by an L train. But now we know one thing that we didn't the first time around, which is that Brian is on the magic brain pill. The possibilities for him are ... how should I put it? Sans restriction.

So Brian uses his newly unlocked knowledge of physics to play chicken with the train and then escape.

Cut to: the FBI office. It's time for some more exposition. The name of the Limitless pill is actually NZT—48, the station chief explains to agents Rebecca Harris and Boyle, and the FBI has been doing some research on it. Not all of the quirks have been worked out, however. Things start to go pretty poorly for users about a year into taking NZT, probably right around the time of May sweeps, wink-wink.

Brian uses Eli's phone to track down two other NZT users while Agent Harris heads to Brian's parents' house. At the hotel, Brian finds one of the NZT users, already dead. Something is definitely up. We think he's going to find the third user, but instead he heads to ... Agent Harris's place? Whaaaaaat? That seems like a dumb idea but I only have, like, 3 percent of my brain unlocked, so let's see how this shakes out.

Brian offers to partner with Rebecca to solve the murders. He does the hyperobservant thing from *Psych*/*The Mentalist* where he looks around the room and figures out what her life story is. He deduces that her father was a drug addict because Rebecca doesn't have a recent picture of him and she owns a copy of David Carr's *Night of the Gun*. Rebecca has no time for this. She orders Brian to leave, telling him, "You're not smart, you're high." Sick burn.

Brian goes to meet the third NZT user, Adam Honeycutt. Once there, he finds Eli's pill case, which in turn indicates that Adam is the murderer. Adam pulls a gun on Brian and shoots him in the leg before they both run outside. Realizing that a public plaza in Manhattan in the daytime is maybe not the best place to do murder, Adam just threatens Brian and walks away.

So Brian's got this bullet wound, and he calls Rebecca to coach him through patching it up. They're each learning to trust each other! Surgery doesn't go very well, and Brian faints. A hazy figure approaches Brian right before he passes out, and he wakes up handcuffed to a hospital bed. The mysterious man introduces himself. It's Senator Eddie Mora, played by actual honest-to-goodness A-list film star Bradley Cooper.

"We should talk in an awkwardly spartan setup just two feet from each other on folding chairs," he says. Okay, well, he doesn't say that but he does say, "We should talk."

Eddie explains that he's still taking NZT constantly, having spent millions of dollars on private research and turning NZT into an injection without side effects. It sounds pretty good. Eddie

leans in, like, too close to the camera because, really, how often are you gonna get Bradley Cooper to show up for your CBS procedural?

Then this scene goes just slightly off the dang rails. "Can you remember what it was like inside your mother's womb?" Eddie asks Brian, explaining how good NZT feels. "I can." Cut to: A fetus that speaks with Bradley Cooper's voice.

Eddie tells Brian a few things: (1) This conversation never happened, (2) Eddie will install Brian to a position that suits Eddie's needs, and (3) Eddie will give Brian a lot of NZT. An infinite amount. An ... unending amount of NZT. No cap on how much NZT there is.

"You ready to become somebody who matters?" Brian accepts the offer and heads out, pumped full of NZT, to clear his name. He heads to the bank where murderer Adam stashes his NZT and, rather than just calling Rebecca, he stages a holdup and calls the FBI. Apparently, NZT can make you the smartest person in the dang universe but it leaves you with absolutely zero chill.

The pair finds evidence solving Eli's murder in the safety deposit box. Mystery solved!

The FBI, intrigued, decides to keep Brian on a leash. He'll help them solve crimes and research NZT, in return for the bureau finding his sick father a new liver. Unbeknownst to the feds, Brian is also on Eddie Mora's leash. He's on two leashes.

Badge! Gun!

Season 1
Episode Number: 2
Season Episode: 2

Originally aired: Tuesday September 29, 2015
Writer: Craig Sweeny, Marc Webb
Director: Marc Webb
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Guest Stars: Ron Rifkin (Dennis Finch), Blair Brown (Marie Finch), Sipiwe Moyo (Nurse), Patch Darragh (Cameron Finch), Megan Guinan (Sarah Finch), Michael James Shaw (Agent Mike), Tom Degan (Agent Ike), Mark Noonan (II) (Luke Finch), Dashiell Eaves (Darren Cullen), Sam Robards (Miles Amos), Mihran Shlougian (General Ram Ananda), Dina Drew (Aide), Joel Van Liew (Teacher), Todd A. Horman (AC Dealer), Lipica Shah (Receptionist), Katelyn Pearce (Olivia), Danny Lee (II) (Doctor Lee)
Summary: Brian puts his new job with the FBI in jeopardy when he disobeys orders to stay out of an investigation into the murder of a renowned journalist.



This episode continues where we left off last week, with Brian and Rebecca on a rooftop. "It's time," Rebecca says, and then we get another shot of Brian's mouth. This show loves mouths.

Here's another thing this show loves: time-saving montages. We could sit through another three episodes of Brian getting used to his FBI handlers, but instead we get this nice little sequence where he gets studied by scientists (they count how many Cheetos he eats), solves Rubik's Cubes, does complex math, and draws simultaneously ... and makes papier-mâché dolls of his bodyguards.

Sure.

At the hospital, Brian's dad is still recovering from his liver transplant, and Brian's successful siblings are very skeptical of why he — a deadbeat civilian with no discernible talents — now works for the Feds. Brian neglects to mention the Flowers for Algernon routine he's working on. His sister cuts right to the serious stuff, though: Does he have a badge and a gun? Nope! But he does have these: a adhesive tape (badge) and a stapler (gun)!

While Rebecca and Boyle head to Fort Greene to check out a suspicious fatal car crash involving a muckraking journalist, Brian gets locked in the file room to take NZT and become fluent in Farsi. It's not very glamorous work, but it's his first day, so he plays along.

Also, it's been like five minutes, so it's time for another uncomfortable mouth close-up.

Brian learns Farsi, no big deal, and in his spare time looks into the assassinated-journalist case. He figures out via archival photos and some light Googling that the car was probably rigged to explode. Unfortunately, Rebecca says he can't leave his makeshift holding cell. He makes the "bummer" face.

Let's pause for a minute. It seems like the Federal Bureau of Investigation might not have thought this whole setup through. NZT makes people crazy-smart and lets them believe that they can do crazy things. So the FBI decided, "Um, let's give this schmuck with no regard for authority a pill that makes him a billion times smarter than any of us and hope that he follows the rules." That's not a very good plan! In fact, I would go so far as to say it is a bad plan.

Brian does some complex mental math and determines that he can escape by throwing his body through some drywall.

He rubs that dirt off his shoulder and heads out into the world, very smart and very high, to make a model bomb to show the agents.

It turns out that — surprise, surprise — it is not very easy to find bomb-making supplies in Manhattan, and they are expensive. To fix that, Brian manages to literally bend time and space, taking a bus all the way down to Atlantic City to gamble, earn some money, and build his bomb. That's, like, an eight-hour round trip, and Brian does it in approximately three seconds? There are casinos in Yonkers, too, dude. Could've saved some time.

Brian makes his way to Fort Greene, presumably via public transportation, with three bombs?? And he doesn't get arrested. They find a lead on their case, and Brian, crashing from the NZT comedown, takes a powernap. Back at home, Brian tries to figure why Eddie Morra wants him to work for the FBI. So he does what any part-time genius would do: He Googles "Senator Edward Morra NZT." The search fries his computer.

Brian helps out on the murder case more by helping them locate Taurus, the bomb-maker. He knew Rebecca and Boyle were looking for Taurus because when Brian's on NZT, he can read lips. (This show is very focused on looking at mouths and the benefits therein.) Brian believes that a man named Darren Cullen is Taurus, and directs the agents to check out a garage that Cullen owns in Queens. The garage seems legit, until Rebecca goes full Mona Lisa Vito and realizes that there are no car parts for the Porsche supposedly being repaired. Inside the car's hood she finds bomb parts. Seems like a pretty stupid place to hide bomb parts, but I'm not a bomb expert.

Cullen, who looks like a real wiener, pulls a totally wiener move and rolls over on the company that hired him to plant the bomb. He also adds a slight twist, letting the agents know that the bomb never detonated. Back to square one. The agents discover that the journalist died of a stroke, but that seems wrong because he was so young.

The conundrum proves so intriguing that Brian, once again, cannot stay cooped up in the file room. He breaks out again, this time leaving a note for his bodyguards that, I assume, he wrote in 2009 and was saving for just the right moment.

Brian heads around Manhattan again, solving crime, and this is where the episode goes off the dang rails. Brian finds out that two other young people had very rare strokes, and then determines that they were all descendants of Genghis Khan. All three stroke victims are tied to the same coffee shop. Brian believes that there is a virus specifically targeting the genetic marker of Genghis Khan descendants and killing those who possess it. Which, of course, is nutso bonkers to the nth degree.

It's a bad theory. So bad, in fact, that Brian is getting fired by the chief. He is 100 percent fired. The most fired he has ever been. Except Rebecca checked out his theory, and there is actually a dude going to the coffee shop and spraying virus onto people's coffee??

To be fair, this is still not the weirdest thing I've ever seen at a Brooklyn coffee shop. The team concludes that the virus java was meant for a mystery woman, who was intended to pass along the virus to a high-level military official at a hotel.

Back at family dinner, NZT Brian cranks it up to 11, absolutely destroying his family in Trivial Pursuit. (NZT uses, ranked: (2) Solving murders; (1) Winning Trivial Pursuit.) He also takes another stab at the Eddie Mora Googling, but it fries the computer again.

Rebecca and Brian head to a biotech lab that they suspect was spreading the virus. It turns out that the head of the company was the man spraying the cups, and Brian figures out that everybody who works at the lab hates him. Hated biotech/pharmaceutical executives are very "in" right now. Brian easily convinces the employees to roll over on their boss by emailing him the incriminating evidence. Case closed.

Brian caps off the episode by going to visit his dad. Right before he confesses everything, including the part about the secret pills that make him a MacArthur Genius grant nominee, his dad's nurse shows up ... and it's the same nurse employed by Eddie Morra. Twist! Brian plays it exceedingly cool, though.

"As long as he keeps taking his pills, does everything we tell him to do, just the way we tell him to do it, I think he'll make a full recovery," she says, looking straight at Brian. It's very subtle.

"There's no reason at all to expect his health to be compromised." Okay, pump the brakes. We get it. You are talking about Brian and not his dad now. To be clear: This nurse will not hesitate to kill.

The dad is like, "Yeah, this is a normal nurse cadence. This is how nurses talk. Definitely not the speech of a shadow agent employed by Bradley Cooper." And that's where we leave Brian this week, having defeated a virus and being threatened by a nurse.

The Legend of Marcos Ramos

Season 1
Episode Number: 3
Season Episode: 3

Originally aired: Tuesday October 6, 2015
Writer: Matthew Federman, Stephen Scaia
Director: Guillermo Navarro
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Bradley Cooper (Senator Edward "Eddie" Morra)
Guest Stars: Sipiwe Moyo (Sipiwe), Michael James Shaw (Agent Mike), Tom Degnan (Agent Ike), Analeigh Tipton (Shauna), Joe Holt (Sgt. Randy Moore), Colin Salmon (Sands), Gabriel Sloyer (Marco Ramos), Matt Walton (Jeffrey Vachs), William Ryall (Johan Makinin), Victor Costa (Officer Rodriguez), Henry Gagliardi (8 Year Old Brian), Paton Ashbrook (Sarah Braden), Norma Chu (Chinese Woman), Walker Hare (Bartender), Adele Mori (Cellist)
Summary: When Harris and Boyle, helped by Brian, investigate the murder of a retired FBI agent, they find a link to the elusive head of a notorious drug cartel. When Brian reconnects with an old flame, he worries she's only interested in the NZT version of him.



says.

Brian's happiness, however, is short-lived, as his next case is a murder, and it's one that hits close to home for the FBI. Ray Dixon, a retired special agent in charge of forensic accounting, was found shot in the head by a sniper, with only a mysterious Post-it note found in his hand. Dixon's post-FBI career involved vetting potential CEO candidates, and the night before he was shot, a virus wiped his computer, which suggest he uncovered something bad about one of them.

The good news? Dixon was an old-school investigator, who also kept extensive paper records. But the bad news? He was also a devout believer in shredding every piece of paper he ever used, which means Brian has a lot of paper strings to sort through. With a little help from Mike and Ike, he manages to narrow it down to one potential CEO candidate, who's been mysteriously moving some money around and may be having affair, suggesting blackmail.

But though, the potential CEO had an affair with a summer intern — and fathered a kid with her — he didn't order a hit on Dixon. Those payments weren't blackmail money but secret child support, and although Dixon figured it out, he promised to keep quiet. So strike him off the list of potential murderers.

The other CEOs are a dead end, but Rebecca does manage to track Dixon to a storage unit in Long Island, which reveals Dixon's serious obsession with catching one of his old foes from his time in the FBI: Marcos Ramos, the head of a bloodthirsty drug cartel. Even if he never actually fed anyone to piranhas, he ordered a lot of assassinations, courtesy of a sniper nicknamed La Cebra, and it looks like Dixon's obsession with catching him got him killed. Even Brian's scale Post-it note recreations of the shooting doesn't reveal more than the fact that La Cebra is at least 6-foot-5. Which is not super helpful.

But before they go pick the brains of the NYPD, Brian tries to have a little heart-to-heart over beers with Rebecca. Although Brian really wants to rekindle things with Shauna, their first post-NZT dinner didn't go so well, and he's worried that he can only make things work if he's on NZT. While Rebecca is clearly uncomfortable with feelings/talking about feelings, she does give some pretty great advice, telling him that regardless of his NZT status, he's a decent guy and that people should like him for who he is, instead of for what he can do.

After all the mushy heart-to-heart stuff is over, the two of them get back to solving murders, and after Brian impresses the NYPD with his perfect recall and Sherlock Holmes skills, the task force assigned to taking down the Ramos cartel shares their files, and he immediately singles out a former Olympic biathlete from Finland — who just happens to be 6-foot-6. Brian isn't allowed to go bring the guy in, so he dreams up "Rebecca's Awesome TAKE-DOWN!" (exclamation point!), complete with dramatic chase scenes and badass lines like, "You ran like a rabbit, and now you're going to die like a snake."

La Cebra fesses up, but there's a wrinkle: He lost his hand in a gunpowder accident, so there's no way he could be the sniper who killed Dixon. He did commit the earlier murders for the cartel, but although he's retired, Ramos is still using his name. Apparently La Cebra is like the Dread Pirate Roberts in that regard. Here's the weird thing, though: Last time they talked, Ramos said he wanted to get out of the murderous cartel game and start cooperating with the U.S. government. Apparently he changed his mind.

While the FBI is busy chasing down cartel records for further leads, Brian takes advantage of his remaining NZT high to solve Shauna's apartment troubles. Although her new landlord wants to raze her building and kick her out, Brian does a little snooping and figures out that the lobby of her building is actually home to a historic mural — one that can make the building a city landmark. Shauna is rightfully impressed, and the two end up reconnecting after all — even after the NZT wears off.

The good news keeps coming, as Rebecca and Brian manage to track Ramos' last known location to an area not far from where Dixon was killed. There, they finally find the legendary Marcos Ramos, although he's looking a bit frostbitten. It turns out that the shell company owned by the cartel has not only been paying off La Cebra, but they've also been paying off the NYPD task force. The reason the NYPD has been so inefficient at catching Ramos is because they're the ones who killed him in the first place, taking him out when they learned that he wanted to go to the FBI and come clean. The task force is already long gone, but Brian takes a page from the Miami Vice playbook and figures out that they're hiding in a charter plane, flying directly under a commercial flight on its way to Caracas.

With a murder solved, a cartel disbanded, and a group of dirty NYPD cops apprehended, Brian is free to pursue his newly rekindled romance with Shauna — until, once again, Bradley Cooper meddles in his personal relationships. While Senator Edward Morra is off running his re-election campaign, he's sent the menacing Mr. Sands to check in on Brian and tell him, in his Bond villain British accent, that if he doesn't do exactly as Morra says, he will kill his father and Shauna and every person Brian holds dear. "You belong to Mr. Morra now, which means you belong to me," Sands helpfully reminds him.

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Season 1
Episode Number: 4
Season Episode: 4

Originally aired: Tuesday October 13, 2015
Writer: Mark Goffman
Director: Douglas Aarniokoski
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Guest Stars: Ron Rifkin (Dennis Finch), Colin Salmon (Sands), Max Baker (Arthur Maciel), Charlie Semine (Guest Star), Michael James Shaw (Agent Mike), Tom Deignan (Agent Ike), Phil Nee (Mao Zhang), Megan Guinan (Rachel Finch), Lucy Taylor (Beth Gunther), Gabrielle Senn (Amanda), Pallavi Sastry (Annie), Martin Barabas (Claxion Executive), Bruce Sabbath (Attorney Raymond Dell), Colin O'Brien (YouTube Guy), Teresa Avia Lim (Jogger), Jessica Perez (Tall Model)
Summary: Loyalties are tested when Sands demands that Brian steal the FBI's secret files on NZT. When her estranged father dies, Agent Harris is conflicted after learning what he left her.



Apparently, when you're on NZT, one-night stands aren't much fun. You know what's fun? Emailing physicists and biologists about experimental new theories and drugs.

Which is exactly what Brian finds himself doing after breaking up with Shauna. Sands, his new handler, made it explicitly clear that if Brian doesn't do his bidding (and by proxy, Sen. Morra's bidding), Sands will hurt anyone and everyone he cares about. Talking to a guy named Arthur about a revolutionary gene therapy breakthrough in mice may not heal his broken heart, but it's all he's got

— and it kicks off one of three separate problems Brian has to solve this episode.

Problem one is a fairly straightforward FBI case. The CIA just intercepted a Chinese drone with top secret technology, technology that should be highly classified, and their primary suspect is a defense contractor named Mao Zhang. The case does have its perks: Brian gets top-secret security clearance, but it also means he has to dig through the guy's garbage. Once he gets past the smell, he finds a fair amount of information: Namely, Zhang dyes his hair and bleaches his teeth. And, for a guy who's lactose intolerant, he sure drinks a lot of milk. Turns out that he's been using those milk cartons to smuggle drone specifications, and since the FBI's been hijacking his garbage, he's had to find a new way of passing along information.

Meanwhile, Sands pays him a visit at home, sitting and waiting for him in the dark, as menacing British bad guys do. (How much does being an FBI consultant pay, anyway? Brian's got a pretty nice apartment for a dude who didn't used to have a steady source of income.) Sands presents him with his first job for Morra and the second problem he has to solve: stealing all the information the FBI has on NZT. Now, finally, it starts to make a little more sense as to why

Morra needs Brian. Sands gives him three days to get the files, which are locked in Naz's office. And he insults his liquor cabinet, for good measure.

And the next day, Arthur shows up at the FBI and presents Brian with Problem No. 3: Tithonus, the possibly immortal mouse that Arthur has engineered with Brian's help, has gone missing. (Fun fact: Tithonus was a man in Greek mythology who was granted immortal life.) Arthur suspects his former partner, a man named Paul Wilkerman who co-founded a biotech firm with Arthur called Claxion. Wilkerman screwed him over and made millions, leaving Arthur with nothing but a couple of mice. So, after his new breakthrough, Arthur got a little too excited and bragged about it online. Now, the mouse is gone.

While Brian is trying to track down the mouse, Rebecca gets a visit from her father's dealer — her father's art dealer, that is. Her father, a drug addict who died recently, was also a painter, and he left three finished works, which are now legally Rebecca's. She wants nothing to do with them, as she and her father weren't exactly close, but she is a little curious, especially because she suspects that her father was taking NZT before he died.

As for the case of the missing mouse, Brian can pretty quickly rule out Paul Wilkerman because he was just found stabbed in Central Park. Arthur is taken into custody, as his fingerprints were all over the body — but so was someone else's DNA. In the quest to clear Arthur's name, Brian finds Wilkerman's secret email account, which he was using to email Claxion's head of research, a man named Alan Carverton, about Arthur's breakthrough.

With a little prodding from Rebecca, Brian breaks into Claxion to try to find Tithonus — and enough evidence to link Carverton to Wilkerman's murder — but all he finds are white, non-immortal mice, and while he's there, he trips the alarm. Rebecca comes to his rescue and bails him out, but not before he sets all the mice free as a diversion. Brian can rule out Carverton, but now he has no mouse and no suspects, either.

The clock is still ticking on Sands' request, too, so he tries to buy some time by drawing up a fake FBI dossier on NZT. Almost immediately, however, his father is hospitalized with "complications from his surgery," and Sands steps forward to take credit, making it pretty clear that he will gladly make good on his promise to hurt the people Brian cares about if Brian doesn't follow through.

On the bright side, at least one case is going well: Rebecca and Boyle trail Zhang and catch him in the act of making a drop, gathering enough evidence to put him away for espionage. While Zhang is confessing, Brian does a little espionage of his own by breaking into Naz's office and snagging the NZT files. (Naz, you're a senior agent in the FBI. Surely you have a stronger password than "mercy." If people steal your top-secret files, that's totally your fault.)

And with the two other problems solved, Brian can finally turn his attention to Arthur and Tithonus. It turns out that Wilkerman recently revised his will, diverting millions from his no-good offspring toward a series of charities instead, but that change was never made. Instead, his lawyer reached out to Wilkerman's children, offering to sit on the will for a good price. Once Wilkerman was out of the picture, with Arthur conveniently framed for his murder, the lawyer got a cool half a billion dollars. There's enough evidence in the lawyer's trash to put him away for good, and Tithonus is found, unharmed and still adorable.

But with all three cases wrapped up neatly, Brian can't help himself, and he takes a look at those NZT documents he worked so hard to get. Most of the information isn't all that new, and there are a lot of before-and-after pictures of known NZT users. But among all faces and names, Brian finds a familiar one: Conrad Harris, known user of NZT and father of one Agent Rebecca Harris. In his files, he's listed as a "known painter" whose "artistic abilities are enhanced on NZT," something that's made pretty clear when Rebecca checks out the last three paintings he made before he died — and one is an enormous, hyper-realistic portrait of her.

Personality Crisis

Season 1
Episode Number: 5
Season Episode: 5

Originally aired: Tuesday October 20, 2015
Writer: Sallie Patrick
Director: Joshua Butler
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pourn), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Tom Degnan (Agent Ike)
Guest Stars: Desmond Harrington (FBI Agent Casey Rooks), Colin Salmon (Sands), Derek Goh (Christopher Garper), Michael James Shaw (Agent Mike), Andre Jackson (Riot Cop), Mellini Kantayya (Chief of Staff), Michael Devine (James), Henry Gagliardi (Young Brian), Ari Fliakos (Norris Allen), Brady Dowad (Sam Garper), Eli Tokash (Young Sam), Dominick Coniglio (Young Chris), Brett G. Smith (JTTF Agent)
Summary: Brian discovers a shocking secret about Rebecca's late father, but worries that telling her will land him in legal trouble; at the same time, he ends up meddling in her personal life while learning self-defense from her secret FBI boyfriend.



The episode opens with a video message from NZT Brian to non-NZT Brian, patiently explaining (with help from detailed clay figures and a "Mr. Sandman" soundtrack) that although non-NZT Brian may want to follow his heart and tell Rebecca that yes, her father was definitely an NZT user, that would almost certainly result in a) incarceration or b) death.

Back when Brian was still trying to make things work with Shauna, he confided to Rebecca that he felt like two different people and he's worried that people only care about him when he's on NZT. Rebecca, for her part, was an A-plus

friend, telling him that he was the same person whether or not he was on NZT, but Brian clearly still sees himself as two separate people, as evidenced by the fact that he makes videos addressed to one self from another. It's an interesting dynamic, and I'm glad the show is starting to explore it further.

"You can't be Mr. Happy Nice Guy anymore," Brian tells himself. "You gotta be Badass Brian. Badass Brian keeps the secrets private. Badass Brian looks out for himself. And most importantly, when all this is over, Badass Brian gets to walk away — free and alive."

With that in mind, Badass Brian heads into the FBI, where Rebecca and Boyle hand him his next case: The FBI has been investigating meth labs, and they've tracked one to a Lower East Side housing project. It takes Brian all of about two seconds to pinpoint the exact apartment, and while Brian's ordered to stay with FBI surveillance and to not drink too much cranberry juice, the SWAT team heads in. But even with Brian's "impeccable control" over his bodily functions, he can't control his bladder, so he ends up sneaking into the building to pee — where he runs smack

into a kid running from the FBI. Brian calls on his perfect recollection of Bruce Lee movies, but he still gets punched. "I don't get it!" he says from the floor. "I've seen Enter the Dragon like 15 times."

The kid who clocked Brian is named Chris Garper, and he swears he was only following his brother, Sam, who was with a guy named Norris Allen — the owner of the Lower East Side apartment. Allen's a scary dude, who got mixed up in an anarchist group called Sons of Nathan in jail, and it's starting to look like this is less of a drug ring and more of a terrorist group.

Chris says he hasn't seen his brother recently, but he also says there's no way Sam is mixed up in terrorism. The Garper parents weren't around, so Sam essentially raised Chris. While they're trying to track down Sam, Brian heads to his first self-defense class with a SWAT team leader named Casey Rooks.

Man, there sure are a lot of recycled romances on this show. Two weeks ago, Jake McDorman's Manhattan Love Story co-star Analeigh Tipton showed up as Brian's pre-NZT GF, Shauna, and now, Jennifer Carpenter has been reunited with Desmond Harrington from Dexter, who plays Rooks. Here's hoping that Jennifer Lawrence shows up next for a guest arc opposite Bradley Cooper, as the glamorous but troubled wife of Senator Edward Morra.

In addition to being in a relationship with Rebecca, Rooks is a certified badass at martial arts and teaches Brian everything he needs to know about self-defense: "Don't get into a fight. If you do get into a fight, take it to the ground, get on top of the guy, isolate one of his limbs, and make it bend the wrong way until he doesn't want to fight anymore. Either that, or you can choke him out until he falls asleep."

While Brian is learning the basics of being a badass, they get a hit on Sam Garper's email address, where they find three pictures saved in his drafts folder. Turns out that they're encrypted with data, specifically the address of a hospital in Queens where five units of radioactive iridium have gone AWOL — iridium that can be used to make a bomb that could do some massive damage to Manhattan. And security footage puts Sam Garper in the hospital 36 hours before it was reported missing.

Brian has to be the one to break it to Chris that his beloved brother is an aspiring terrorist, but Rebecca offers some sage words of advice: "Chris knows the truth now. It may be harder to take, but it's better to know, right?" That, of course, gets Brian thinking that maybe he should do the same with Rebecca and tell her the truth about her dad.

So, he calls good ol' Mr. Sands for advice, who promptly breaks into his apartment for a meeting, like any true friend would. After he's done insulting Brian's liquor cabinet (again) and inquiring, "Why is there a clay effigy of me on your coffee table?" Sands tells Brian that if he starts digging around about Rebecca's father, he may have to arrange for Brian to get a new partner at the FBI, as Rebecca appears to be a "distraction." And even though he's menacing and threatening as always, it's kind of adorable how Sands says "N-Zed-T" like a proper Englishman.

So, Brian decides to officially don a leather jacket and become Badass Brian when Chris shows up with a bag belonging to Sam. Sam wants to meet Chris so he can get the bag, which is filled with materials he needs to finish the bomb, and Brian convinces Chris to go through with the exchange and turn in his brother. The FBI sets up the meeting, and all is going as planned, but when Chris hands over the bag to his brother and Norris Allen, Allen figures out that something's not right, and he shoots Chris.

Side Effects May Include...

Season 1
Episode Number: 6
Season Episode: 6

Originally aired: Tuesday October 27, 2015
Writer: Jenna Richman
Director: Douglas Aarniokoski
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Bradley Cooper (Senator Edward "Eddie" Morra), Tom Deignan (Agent Ike)
Guest Stars: Colin Salmon (Sands), James McDaniel (Red Team Leader), Jessica Hecht (Ubient Executive), Jeremy Shamos (Andrew Epperly), Sepideh Moafi (Dr. Pauline Wilson), Timothy Britten Parker (Ubient Head of Operations), Steven Ted Beckler (Ubient Head of Security), Sinclair Mitchell (Ubient Security Guard), Adrian Alvarado (Red Team 1), Jared Burke (Cabbie), Ngozi Jane Anyanwu (Admission Liaison), Ariel Eliaz (Subject 13), Whitney Kimball Long (Red Team 2), Sarah Babb (Counselor)
Summary: Brian's physical and mental health begin to deteriorate again, but Edward Morra is demanding a high price in exchange for another inoculation. Brian secretly looks for an alternate cure for himself while he works with Rebecca outside FBI parameters to find the creators of NZT.



major dilemma and makes last week's dilemma seem as innocuous as deciding where to go to dinner.

That inoculation against NZT's nastier side effects, which Senator Edward Morra gave Brian all those weeks ago, is starting to wear off, and Brian is starting to experience dizziness, memory loss, and terrifying, paranoid hallucinations of bugs crawling under his skin. You know, the usual. Brian reaches out to Sands for his booster shot — of course Sands spends his time drinking whiskey in a darkened bar and playing pool by himself, like any proper villain — and Sands promises to get him the shot, as soon as he gets rid of Rebecca. It seems that Sands and Morra would prefer to have as few government agents as possible paying attention to NZT, and Rebecca's personal connection to the drug makes it more likely that she'll start snooping around.

Last week's episode presented Brian with a pretty difficult choice to make: Does he tell Rebecca the truth about the FBI files on her father's NZT use and face almost certain jail time, or does he keep quiet and save himself? Being the decent human being that he is, he finally decides to give Rebecca the files, which are, understandably, a major bombshell for her. "I want to know why my boss has a file on my murdered father and didn't tell me," she says in a remarkably calm voice. Brian, of course, pledges to help her investigate, which kickstarts this episode's

Brian's job is to get rid of her in any way necessary, presumably by framing her for pilfering the top-secret FBI documents he just stole and gave to her. If he doesn't, he won't just die, but he'll die screaming in pain, having lost all semblance of his former self. Like I said, it's a dilemma.

Rebecca, for her part, is a bit preoccupied with the new assignment Naz just gave her: participating in an inter-agency training exercise that pits two teams of government agents against each other, as one tries to defend the country from a major attack planned by the other team. Rebecca is assigned to the Red Team, which means she gets to think of ways to sow general mischief and crown herself "the barbarian queen of New York City," all while working in close proximity with Naz, the same woman she just learned has been withholding vital information about her dad's death.

While Rebecca is tied up thinking of ways to burn New York City to the ground — and while Brian is trying to figure out how to a) not frame Rebecca and b) not die — he starts looking into Rebecca's dad, as promised. According to the FBI files, Conrad Harris checked into a ritzy treatment clinic on the Upper East Side shortly before his death. Brian pretends to be a troubled addict named Mike Ikerson to gain access to the clinic's files, which reveal that Conrad left the treatment program completely cured. The only irregularity in his file was a weekly meeting with a mysterious "A.E." Only four other patients met with A.E., and each of them, after leaving rehab, ended up wildly successful — and they all went missing within the same month. Before they died, they'd make a weekly trip to a neuro-pharmaceutical company called Ubient, presumably to get their regularly scheduled dose of NZT.

The only A.E. at Ubient who might fit is a doctor named Andrew Epperly, who used to run human trials on dementia. Brian wonders if he was running human NZT trials on Rebecca's father and the other patients, but they can't exactly ask him: He died in a boating accident recently. Instead, Brian reaches out to the top brass at Ubient to ask what they know about NZT, but they deny any knowledge of the drug. To make matters worse, he's started to get even more disturbing hallucinations, and soon, he's blacked out, waking up with only a note in his pocket saying Epperly's alive.

Meanwhile, Rebecca has proven to be pretty good at this whole theoretically sparking anarchy thing. Good enough that the director of the FBI — who was playing for the Blue Team — wants to meet with her in person. But when Brian (whose hallucinations are getting increasingly worse) calls her and tells her that Epperly faked his own death, she ditches Naz and the meeting with the director to track down Epperly. She does, and although he first tries to shoot her when she rings the doorbell, he soon recognizes her as Conrad's daughter.

That's when Brian blacks out and wakes up on a rooftop with Senator Morra.

That's right! Bradley Cooper's back! And not only that, but he wasn't really such a bad guy after all — he only wanted to see if Brian would bend his morals to save himself. "I just needed to know what your limits are," Morra says, as if it's perfectly normal to threaten your friends and employees with hallucinations and a devastatingly painful death. It turns out that he doesn't just want a man at the FBI to feed him information about NZT. He's also looking for a partner to help him change the world — mainly with things like super rice.

Brian, understandably, is a little freaked out, considering that this is the same man who's threatened his family and friends on several occasions, but Morra turns on that Bradley Cooper charm and tells him that together they could become the kind of leaders who shape the world. For good measure, Morra gives him a gift of five NZT pills — "a discretionary fund" — because he's such a good guy.

Back at Epperly's secret hiding place, he tells Rebecca that yes, he did run clinical NZT trials, but he didn't invent it — and he certainly doesn't know how to stop the side effects. Instead, a mysterious someone reached out to him with a compound that could help his father's Alzheimer's, a compound that makes up NZT. Epperly started trials by giving NZT to his patients, including Conrad Harris, to try to help them, not knowing about the side effects. But even as the side effects ramped up, that wasn't what killed Epperly's patients. Instead, they just disappeared. Rebecca's dad was one of the success stories, but Epperly suspects that he started sharing his NZT with other random people around the city and that he probably got killed for it.

When Rebecca makes it back to the FBI, having missed her meeting with the bureau's director, Naz figures out that she knows about her father's file. It turns out that Rebecca was hired at the FBI a month after her father died, and Naz confesses that yes, she did look into Rebecca because of who her father was, but she actually hired her because she was a smart, capable agent. Not

only that, but she planned on showing Rebecca her dad's file as soon as she advanced enough to gain the top-secret clearance to see it.

Brian Finch's Black Op

Season 1
Episode Number: 7
Season Episode: 7

Originally aired: Tuesday November 3, 2015
Writer: Taylor Elmore
Director: Aaron Lipstadt
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Michael James Shaw (Agent Mike), Tom Deignan (Agent Ike)
Guest Stars: Malik Yoba (Rooney (John Kellerman)), Andrei Arlovski (Aleksey Basayev), Zabryna Guevara (Carla Paz), Lee Aaron Rosen (Cameron (Kyle Hollinger)), Jack Gwaltney (Dean Merrick), Adam Mucci (Mike Timms), Sergey Nagorny (Abe Froman (Miklos Petrov)), Kerry Flanagan (School Bus Driver), Eva Grace Kellner (Girl on Bus), Adam Keane (Young Brian (14 years old)), Jordan Geiger (Counselor Dan)
Summary: Brian fakes being sick in order to take a day off from working with the FBI. Unfortunately, the plan backfires when the CIA abducts him from home to "borrow" his NZT-enhanced skills for what turns out to be a dangerous black ops mission that ends up spiraling out of control.



Brian's Day Off begins with him taking a page straight out of Bueller's book, telling Mike and Ike that he can't go out — cough, cough — he's sick, and that he'll have to stay home from the FBI today. (Have Mike and Ike taken to actually calling each other Mike and Ike in real life, or is that just Brian's wishful thinking? Hoping it's the former.) The resulting sequence is a shot-for-shot remake of Matthew Broderick's epic speech about life moving pretty fast, complete with a shower fauxhawk and John Lennon quotes. Also, thank you, Brian, for answering the question that has plagued me

for seven episodes: How do you afford such a nice apartment in New York City? (Answer: The FBI owns it, of course.)

Thanks to Senator Morra, who Brian apparently keeps a framed photograph of, he's got five NZT pills, and he's planning to use one on an epic day off that would make even Ferris Bueller jealous. But before he can head to the Art Institute or spontaneously join a parade through downtown Chicago, he's kidnapped by the CIA and dropped in the middle of backwoods Pennsylvania.

It turns out that the CIA not only knows about Brian and his NZT use, but they want to borrow him. Instead of asking nicely, they grab him and only ask for permission afterward, when a smarmy, Rooney-esque agent named Dean Merrick stops by to inform Harris, Boyle, and Naz. Rude.

Once Brian wakes up, he's told that a terrorist named Aleksey Basayev has snuck into the states and is hiding in the woods. A CIA task force is made up of leader John Kellerman (who

Brian nicknames Rooney), communications guy Kyle Hollinger (Cameron), and silent translator Mikols Petrov (a.k.a. Abe Froman, the Sausage King of Chicago). Brian, understandably, isn't thrilled to be there, but once Rooney gives him an NZT pill, he uses satellite imaging to pinpoint a few possible hiding spots for Basayev. After they find the right place, they capture Basayev and everyone congratulates Brian on a job well done — until it becomes pretty clear that they're not going to be bringing Basayev into custody any time soon. All that Russian that the FBI made Brian learn comes in handy as he figures out that the plan isn't to throw Basayev in jail, but to kill him.

Back in New York, Boyle and Harris reach out to (read: threaten) one of Boyle's contacts at the CIA, and they manage to find out the identities of the three contractors who took Brian. They learn that after fighting for the Russians during the Chechen war, Basayev married into a Chechen family, and although his new father-in-law promised to help the U.S. government, he was secretly sending money to the Taliban. Basayev had nothing to do with it, but he agreed to work with the U.S. government as long as they took out his father-in-law without hurting his own family. When it came time to extract the father, the CIA learned that there was a Taliban warlord in town, so they bombed the entire compound, killing everyone instantly — including Basayev's wife and child. Not only that, but once the Taliban learned that Basayev was working with the U.S., they put a bounty on his head of \$5 million cash — or \$10 million if he's left alive.

Which is exactly what Cameron and Abe Froman are counting on. Cameron shoots Rooney and says they'll keep Brian alive, but only as their insurance policy, as he and Abe plan to sell Basayev for the \$10 million bounty. Things are looking pretty bad for Brian, which is when he conjures a daydream version of Rebecca (dressed as Sloane Peterson, complete with a stylish white fringe jacket and looking distinctly Mia Sara-ish), who helpfully reminds him that there's no way Cameron and Abe are going to let him walk away. Instead, she suggests that he take advantage of his last NZT pill by poisoning it and manipulating Cameron into taking it.

Meanwhile, the FBI manages to convince Merrick to let them talk to Brian, and he sends them a coded message about his whereabouts. But as soon as the FBI hangs up, Cameron shoots Abe, and Basayev gets loose and kills Cameron. But instead of killing Brian, Basayev steals Brian's NZT pill and takes it, even after Brian told him it was poisoned. (Surprise! Basayev speaks English. I know all of the Ferris Bueller references are in Brian's head, but I was still expecting Basayev to respond, "What country do you think this is?")

So, Brian is left wandering the Allegheny wilderness by himself, with no NZT and Cameron's dried blood on his face. Imagine Matthew Broderick doing THAT. It turns out that Brian's less of a Ferris and more of a Cameron (aren't we all?), and he winds up collapsing in the woods, singing, "Let my Brian go" and once again hallucinating Sloane/Rebecca.

Fortunately, actual Rebecca shows up to... save Ferris. All seems well, but there is one lingering question: Did Naz actually know about this? She's lied before — mainly about Rebecca's father — and Brian's black op was approved by someone high up on the food chain. While Rebecca and Brian are trying to figure out how much Naz knows (and Brian is berating her for having never seen Ferris *Bueller's Day Off*), Basayev is still wandering the woods, hallucinating a school bus in the middle-of-nowhere, Pennsylvania.

When Pirates Pirate Pirates

Season 1
Episode Number: 8
Season Episode: 8

Originally aired: Tuesday November 10, 2015
Writer: Kari Stringham Drake
Director: Peter Werner
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Colin Salmon (Sands), Tom Degnan (Agent Ike)
Guest Stars: Greg Germann (ADIC Grady Johnson), James McDaniel (EAD Kenneth Paulson), Michelle Veintimilla (Ava), Catherine Mary Stewart (Deputy Director Catherine Rovick), Barbara Rosenblat (Loretta), Charle Webb (FBI Agent), Timothy TV Cao (Pradeep), Paul Castro Jr. (College Roommate), Rob Leo Roy (Timothy Urbaniak), Lohrasp Kansara (Felix Durmaz), Kenny Wong (Tattoo Face), Ajna Jai (Mitra), Perry Yung (Ahmad Wan)
Summary: Brian tangles with real pirates who are holding a girl against her will. Brian and Rebecca work to clear Naz of treason charges, only to discover that there's a family secret she is keeping from the FBI.



The episode is dedicated to Naz, who's headed down to D.C. to raise a little hell and try to figure out who sanctioned Brian's CIA kidnapping, and she tells Brian that if her meetings go south, he may need to hole up in her apartment and hide from her bosses. It has biometric security, a fully-stocked fridge, and everything you need for a good ol' fashioned siege.

It turns out that one of the only reasons the top brass at the FBI let Brian stay in New York was because they thought his NZT immunity might come

from something in the atmosphere. Medical tests have now ruled that out, and Naz has been sitting on that information. If the rest of the FBI figures that out, they won't be afraid to grab Brian, ship him off to D.C., and turn him into a lab rat there.

So, Naz leaves Rebecca and Brian (who's a little sad that their secret code word is a lame fruit like pomegranate) for her D.C. meetings, and she immediately lays it all out on the table. Not only does she want to know the identity of the guy who sanctioned the black op, but she wants his head on a plate. If she doesn't get it, she's going to resign and expose the fact that the CIA conducted an unauthorized black op on U.S. soil. Morale of the story: Don't mess with Naz.

Meanwhile, Brian is back home bonding with Ike over Mike and Ikes (obviously). It turns out that Ike got his job as Brian's babysitter because when he first started at the FBI, he was assigned to Alaska — where he fell asleep on a stakeout. Between his pitch-perfect impression of Ferris Bueller's dad last episode and his Mike and Ike-throwing skills, Ike is quickly becoming my favorite character. If we're going to do a deep-dive into another character's backstory any time soon, can it be either Mike or Ike?

Naz comes back to New York having totally kicked ass and taken names in D.C., but her success doesn't last long, as she's soon arrested and taken away in handcuffs. In the interim, she's replaced with ADIC Grady Johnson, and he's just terrible. He's the kind of guy whose phone wallpaper is a photo of himself with a gun. So, Brian steals his phone and learns that Naz is being accused of aiding a known terrorist named Felix Durmaz. After a quick pit stop to pick up Brian's extra NZT (thanks, Senator Morra!) and an embarrassing text to Johnson's entire contact list, he and Rebecca head to the safe house — but there's already someone there.

Naz's daughter Ava is also hiding out there, and she tells them that Naz actually DID give Felix Durmaz \$3 million — but for good reason. Ava's cousin Mitra was kidnapped by pirates in the South China Sea while she was working with the Peace Corps, and Naz paid Felix as a broker to negotiate her safe return.

While Brian and Rebecca are trying to figure out how to contact Felix and clear Naz's name, ADIC Johnson is busy trying to sidle up to Boyle. While most of the episode is Naz-centric, we also learn a little bit more about Boyle's backstory. Spelman Boyle was named after his great-grandmother's alma mater, and in addition to having his master's degree and a previous career as a decorated Army Ranger, he's a stickler for protocol. A few weeks ago, he filed a formal complaint objecting to NZT being freely given to an untrained consultant, and although he's since realized how much good Brian has done, Johnson still tries to butter him up and get Boyle to tell him everything he knows about Brian.

Rebecca, on the other hand, tries to use Boyle as a double agent of her own, giving him Brian's doctored medical records and telling Boyle to offer them to Johnson as bait. Whoever at the FBI is interested in the records is probably the same person who authorized Brian's CIA kidnapping.

Back at Naz's super-secret fortress of security, Felix finally gets in touch with some bad news: The pirates who took Mitra just got THEIR ship pirated. So, Brian channels his inner Liam Neeson and turns to his "particular set of skills" to learn all the languages in the South China Sea and scan AM radios for news about the new pirates. He gets connected with a kid who runs a pirate Tumblr and knows about Mitra's location. (Are pirate-tracking Tumblrs a real thing? If so, I need to follow some.) He promises to tell them everything they need to know, provided that they promo his page on the official FBI Twitter account. The kid's a smart businessman.

Thanks to Pradeep and his Tumblr, Rebecca, Brian, and Ava learn that Mitra was captured by a bigger, badder pirate ship called the Wong Sa — and one of the pirate's ringleaders is currently leading an opium ring here in New York. So Brian stands on a street corner with a sandwich board saying he knows about a snitch in the opium ring and, after playing a game of screw-marry-kill with Rebecca to kill time, waits for a scary guy with face tattoos to come find him. The Malaysian ringleader is about to kill off Brian, but Brian says that if he can get Mitra released, he'll find him the rarest pinball machine ever made: the Schoolgirl Reaper. Brian, being Brian, manages to track down the guy who currently owns it and convince him to give it up.

Meanwhile, Boyle heads to D.C. to hand over Finch's medical records, where he meets with executive assistant director of the FBI (and Naz's supposed friend), Kenneth Paulson. Fortunately, the records were a fake, and Boyle's old friend Loretta from FBI HQ smuggles him the document sanctioning Brian's kidnapping. Brian calls in a favor to Senator Morra, who blows open the entire thing and gets Paulson to resign.

Headquarters!

Season 1
Episode Number: 9
Season Episode: 9

Originally aired: Tuesday November 17, 2015
Writer: Frances Brennand Roper, Craig Sweeny
Director: Douglas Aarniokoski
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Tom Deignan (Agent Ike), Michael James Shaw (Agent Mike)
Guest Stars: Desmond Harrington (FBI Agent Casey Rooks), Isiah Whitlock Jr. (Lawrence Drake), Patch Darragh (Cameron Finch), Blair Brown (Marie Finch), Ron Rifkin (Dennis Finch), Megan Guinan (Rachel Finch), Michael Devine (James), Musto Pelinkovicci (Stavros), Allene Quincy (Ginnie), Aurora Leonard (Young Hottie), Jack Luceno (Phillip Brubaker), Jason Mello (Jay Allen Clements)
Summary: Brian makes a deal with Naz to get his own personal work "headquarters," but to score the space he has to capture the FBI's 10 Most Wanted criminals in just two weeks. Meanwhile, Brian's relationship with his father becomes strained under the secretive nature of his new life working for the Bureau.



"Every day I come in here, and this place tries to make me a little bit more like it," Brian explains to Rebecca. "I've done a lot now. It can be more like me: fun, cool, colorful."

So, in Brian's quest to get his own fun, cool, and colorful FBI headquarters (exclamation point!), he badgers Naz — "Remember that time like three weeks ago when you were languishing in prison and how I got you out and stuff?" he reminds her — until he comes up with one of his most ridiculous schemes yet. If he can catch all 10 criminals on the FBI's Most

Wanted list, she'll acquiesce. After all, he's already caught No. 4, who's been on the run for years after bombing doctors' clinics.

Naz begrudgingly accepts Brian's wager, and he assembles the Brian Finch and Rebecca Harris Amazing Major Crime Squad, a.k.a the Bruntouchables. While Boyle, Mike, Ike, Casey, James, and Stavros the janitor aren't initially thrilled, they can't help themselves when faced with such a crazy task, and finally, characters other than Brian get to have a little fun. There's no NZT intrigue or veiled threats from Sands; just a race to catch as many bad guys as possible. The result is the show's snappiest and most delightful episode yet.

James heads to rural Idaho to try to locate cult leader Susanna Travis, who convinced her followers to commit suicide and then skipped town. He successfully infiltrates the new cult but manages to get mildly indoctrinated himself. Casey and Boyle team up to take down Ray Allen Clements, a notorious cop killer. Mike tries to find a cartel leader who murdered several DEA agents and now spends all his time poolside in Costa Rica. Poor Ike, on the other hand, is

trailing a kidnapper in the wilderness of Greenland, and he spends so much time shivering and being miserable, he fails to notice that the guy who's running the research station where he's staying is the guy he's looking for.

It takes Brian and Rebecca all of like two seconds to convince No. 12 and his mistress to rat out his mob boss, No. 9, so he can get bumped up into the top 10. Apparently, being on the FBI's Most Wanted list is the best publicity you can get if you're in the mob. With another name checked off the list, that frees up Brian for a fancy dinner party with his entire family, where he dazzles them with fancy quail at his fancy apartment. The only thing he can't do is get Hamilton tickets. Come on, even NZT can't get you Hamilton tickets. Brian's father, however, is uncharacteristically silent through the entire evening, and it's clear that something's up with him.

While Brian's trying to figure out why his dad is acting so weird, he befriends Katy Perry, Bill Gates, Justin Bieber, and Ellen DeGeneres and convinces them to tweet out the FBI Top 10. The Katy Perry fans come through, and one of them points Brian to an apartment where Lawrence Drake may be staying. Drake is a former engineer who killed his wife nine years ago and later escaped from Rikers with another inmate.

The only problem with using social media to track down an escaped convict is that it's not exactly private. By the time Rebecca and Brian show up, Drake is long gone, and Brian has officially declared him his nemesis. He's so desperate to track down Drake that he takes to sniffing his old clothing and using synesthesia (or smells visualized as colors) to hunt him down, but when Brian sneaks into Drake's new digs by himself, he learns that the man has spent the past few years obsessed with solving his wife's murder. Not exactly the behavior of a guilty man. By the time Drake returns, Brian's convinced that he's innocent and decides to help Drake prove it.

He and Drake are holed up in Brian's apartment, trying to solve a nine-year-old murder, when Brian's sister Rachel stops by to take advantage of his surround sound and watch *Game of Thrones*. (Totally reasonable. *Game of Thrones* deserves a fully immersive viewing experience.) It's a nice bit of brother-sister bonding, especially when the only fleshed-out familial relationship we've seen so far is Brian and his father. Brian's relationship with his dad is one of the things he and Rachel discuss, and it's clear that while the rest of his family is psyched about his new job and ambition, his father is still suspicious.

The next day, Brian fills in Rebecca about Drake's situation (and she isn't thrilled). All Drake remembers about the night his wife was killed was wrestling with a man in a black ski mask, who he believes was hired by his former business partner. It seems like a dead end, until Brian gives Drake an NZT pill to help him recall details about that night. Even though the assailant was wearing a ski mask, Drake remembers what the man's face felt like under the mask, and he creates a model of the suspect. Facial recognition points them to a felon who's been convicted for several similar murders-for-hire. He won't admit to being hired to kill Drake and his wife, but he fesses up once Brian offers a bribe. As an incredulous Naz asks: "He admitted to murder in exchange for a dozen bagels?" Uh, YEAH, Naz. Have you ever HAD a bagel? I'd admit to murder, arson, and various other felonies I didn't commit in exchange for a weekly supply of decent bagels. Come on.

The only thing Brian has left to do is to hash things out with his dad, and while he knows he shouldn't tell his father the truth about NZT, it's over as soon as his dad brings out Brian's old childhood artwork. (Man, does he know how to be emotionally manipulative.) All we know is that Brian told him about the existence of NZT, but it's unclear whether he told his dad the official FBI version (that he's somehow immune to the drug) or the Senator Morra version. Either way, it's a big deal, and as Sands has made explicitly clear, there's no way that this doesn't end up with Brian's father being hospitalized — or worse.

Arm-ageddon

Season 1

Episode Number: 10

Season Episode: 10

Originally aired: Tuesday November 24, 2015
Writer: Dennis Saldua
Director: Leslie Libman
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Tom Deignan (Agent Ike), Ron Rifkin (Dennis Finch)
Guest Stars: McCaleb Burnett (Aaron Shaw), Gbenga Akinnagbe (Quentin Walker), Cooper Andrews (Kenny Sumida), Sean Donnelly (Line Chef), Evan Zelnick (Prep Cook), Starla Benford (Female Career Tour Guide), Melody Cheng (Ellen Kang), Jennifer Perry (Woman (on monitor)), Zachary James Rukavina (Guy in Suit)
Summary: Boyle comes to the aid of a former military buddy who's being charged with murder, and he asks Brian for help proving that his friend's prosthetic arm was hacked to commit the crime. Elsewhere, Brian's dad is adamant that his son stop working for the FBI.



At the end of the last episode Brian finally sat down with his dad to fill him in on all things NZT. (Well, maybe not all things NZT. It was definitely a good idea to keep Edward Morra's involvement out of it.) Finally telling Dennis about what he's been doing for the past few weeks is a huge weight off of Brian's chest, but it's a weight that's immediately transferred to his father, as Dennis promptly starts trying to figure out how to get Brian out of the FBI and away from NZT.

Dennis raises some pretty logical questions, and it's true: Brian's situation is kind of shady, both ethically and legally. Sure, it's nice to have a guy who can use his brain superpowers to catch criminals, but it's hard to imagine a bunch of bureaucrats from the FBI — an agency that literally has the word "bureau" in its name — signing off on a program that provides an illegal, untested drug to a guy who, just a few weeks ago, was in a band solo project called Reabsorbed Twin. Brian's dad seems to be the only person who realizes how absurd this whole thing is.

But Brian can't focus on the fact that his dad is gearing up for a highly publicized legal battle against his bosses: He's got a murderer to catch! After last episode teased out a little more of Boyle's backstory, we now get a series of full-blown flashbacks, introducing one of Boyle's old army ranger buddies: Aaron Shaw. Aaron lost his arm to an IED several years ago, and after years down on his luck, Boyle pulled some strings to get him a state-of-the-art bionic arm, which functions almost exactly as if he were born with it. All is well, and Aaron's life seems to be on the up and up again, until he calls 911 to report that his wife has been strangled — by his own arm, which he says was being controlled as if it had a life of its own.

This is, of course, insane, so Boyle recruits Brian to see if they can back up Aaron's story. They head to CRAFT, the high-level tech research facility that built the arm, to meet with Quentin

Walker, who's essentially the real-life version of James Bond's Q. Quentin and his team get to do all sorts of cool things, including but not limited to designing Terminator arms and designing jetpacks that allow people to run really, really fast. So yeah, he's definitely Q. He says the arm is entirely unhackable, which Brian, of course, takes as a challenge. Never mind the fact that Brian's knowledge of hacking is based entirely in pop culture and involves a lot of fast, dramatic typing, sprinkled with phrases like, "I'm in." He reaches out to a hacktivist group called Everywhere to instruct him in the basics, and after a few days of practice, he's done it. No sweat.

But it doesn't really matter that he's shown that Aaron's arm can be hacked, as dozens of arms around the country start to prove his point and go haywire, sparking — you guessed it — arm-ageddon. But the attacks seem random, and while Aaron's arm committed murder, others only trigger light mayhem, like pressing all the buttons in an elevator. It doesn't seem like there's any clear goal to all this madness, and the only thing these events have in common is the arms, which suggests that somebody's trying to sabotage the project.

After interviewing all of the employees and contractors who worked on the arms, Brian singles out one of the engineers, Ellen Kang, who he believes might be one of the radical Everywhere activists who helped teach him how to code. A search of Ellen's computer reveals the code that took down the arms right there on her desktop, which is way, way too easy. So, Brian starts to wonder if she's a patsy, and to satisfy his curiosity, he hacks the New York Stock Exchange (NBD) and figures out that a shell corporation named Eve's Mother, based in the Cayman islands, served to profit from all that arm-related mayhem. Brian tracks the mastermind behind Eve's Mother, a guy named Kenny Sumida, to Dubai, and with the help of Photoshop and his new friends in Everywhere (AndrewJacksonsGoiter is a great username, and one I might steal for my Twitter account), he gets Kenny extradited to the U.S., where he's promptly arrested.

Kenny fesses up to all the arm-related shenanigans, but he swears that he wasn't behind the murder of Aaron's wife. In fact, he recruited Aaron as a test subject, paying him \$200,000 to let him practice hacking on his arm. Aaron, as it turns out, was in the market for an alibi to kill his wife, and when Kenny came knocking, he took advantage of it.

While this is happening, Brian's dad is leaning on him more and more to begin his lawsuit against the FBI, even bringing in one of his lawyer friends from the ACLU. Brian's strategy is to completely avoid confrontation, until Dennis shows up at the FBI and calls him out on it. Finally, Brian fesses up: He doesn't want out. He likes what he does, and he's good at it. A clearly dejected Dennis promises to back off, but instead, he makes a date with Naz and lays out some pretty clear threats: If anything happens to Brian, Dennis will personally deliver her head on a platter to the U.S. justice system. Dang. Naz is super annoyed, of course, as she already has enough Finch nonsense in her life, but she also looks kind of impressed.

This Is Your Brian on Drugs

Season 1

Episode Number: 11

Season Episode: 11

Originally aired: Tuesday December 15, 2015
Writer: Sallie Patrick
Director: Steven A. Adelson
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Michael James Shaw (Agent Mike), Tom Degnan (Agent Ike)
Guest Stars: Desmond Harrington (FBI Agent Casey Rooks), Marc Blucas (Nick Tanner), Wole Parks (Kevin Mitchell), Venida Evans (Cora Boyle), Justin Colon (Manbun), Kecia Lewis-Evans (Chrystal), Musto Pelinkovicki (Stavros), Karim Sioud (Russ Marinovich), Pascal Yen-Pfister (Henri Bouchard), Rosalie Tenseth (Evelyn), David Lavine (Dermatologist)
Summary: An internal investigation is launched after Casey Rooks and his SWAT team are caught stealing NZT pills from a stolen batch they helped recover.



This episode switches between multiple viewpoints, and although we've slowly learned more and more about the pair's backstory over the past few episodes, this is the first time we've really done a deep dive into who Mike and Ike are when they're not fetching Brian obscure vinyl albums and gas masks. We knew that Ike got assigned to babysit Brian because he wasn't the brightest student at Quantico, and when he was posted in Alaska, he fell asleep on duty. Now, he's breaking out in some seriously scaly rashes, all thanks to

the stress caused by having Brian in his life every day. But this is the most we've learned about Mike, who's counting down the days until his year with Brian is up. After that, he gets a permanent spot at the CJC. Ike has no such guarantee, and he's terrified that he's going to spend the next decade of his career retrieving cat food for Brian.

Their main responsibility is picking up Brian's dose of NZT from the dispensary each day, until one morning they stumble upon a robbery in progress. Mike holds the intruder at gunpoint, and when the guy reaches for his gun, Mike fumbles, forgetting the safety is on. The guy fires and bolts, as Ike dives in front of his partner and takes a bullet to the chest.

Ike survives, but we leave him in a coma, with 6,000 NZT pills now missing, before cutting to Rebecca's POV. She's giving herself a pep talk in the mirror, trying to convince herself that she should break up with Casey. That doesn't go so well. Instead, he invites her to go stay at his buddy's cabin, and they end up on assignment together, tracking down the thieves. Casey's not stupid, and since the very beginning, he's known there was something off about Brian. Remember, the guy learned everything Casey knows about martial arts in just a few days. The CJC doesn't send elite SWAT teams to track down your run-of-the-mill oxycodone burglar, so it's pretty clear that whatever's been stolen is the key to Brian's superpowers.

By the time they get back to New York, Rebecca's complete desperation and fear of confrontation forces her to do the worst thing a human being can do to another, which is break up with

them via text message. In a classified MEETING. With their BOSS RIGHT THERE. Stone cold, Rebecca. You may be great at giving Brian relationship advice, but you need to get your own house in order. Casey is thrown for a loop, and they're all barely listening when Naz reveals that, though they were able to recover the pills, 80 of them are missing. She believes somebody in the CJC skimmed some off the top. Naz fills Casey in on exactly what NZT is, and while he emphatically declares that none of his men would ever do something so corrupt and heinous, it turns out that, oh wait, yes they did. He's initially reluctant to pop one himself, but by the time Rebecca breaks up with him — again, by text message — he's on board.

Thanks to NZT, he and his buddies have the best guys' night ever, scaling buildings and killing it at standup. Everything looks like a happy-go-lucky Budweiser commercial until the NZT helps one of them, Nick, realize that his wife is cheating on him with Russ, one of the other team members. The next morning, Nick calls Casey to reveal that he strangled Russ, and Casey pops yet another pill before deciding the best plan of action is to pin it all on Russ, now that he's conveniently dead. Casey rehearses his story and prepares to fill Naz in on the whole thing, right as Brian finally realizes that he's not the only one at the CJC who's on NZT.

It's about time that Brian faced off against someone on his level. Most of the criminals he's locked up so far haven't had the benefit of NZT, and it's been almost too easy to take them down. While it wouldn't be all that interesting to see Brian face off against a new NZT-enhanced baddie every week, it definitely raises the stakes, and tensions are running high by the time Casey takes Rebecca and Brian hostage. The CJC is put on lockdown, and Casey and his team don gas masks and deploy tear gas to try to make their way out of there. They're almost home free when suddenly another figure in a gas mask appears to block their way out.

Cut to Boyle's perspective! The poor guy was just trying to get out of work early so he could be home in time to take care of his mother when Brian texted him to grab a gas mask. By the time he makes his way through the smoke and confusion, Casey has Brian at gunpoint, and although Brian's convinced they can work out a solution, Boyle's not taking any chances. Bye, Casey.

It's a sobering end to what might be the bleakest episode yet. Rebecca's obviously shell-shocked, and Brian and Boyle face off over whether or not Boyle made the right call in dispatching Casey. Brian believed that he could've talked Casey down if he just had more time, but Boyle did exactly as his training dictated. Still, he's bitter that Brian, an untrained, unqualified consultant, seemingly knows better than him, so when he finds an NZT pill that Casey dropped on the floor, for the first time ever, he doesn't go by the rulebook. Instead, he pockets it.

The Assassination of Eddie Morra

Season 1

Episode Number: 12

Season Episode: 12

Originally aired: Tuesday January 5, 2016
Writer: Matthew Federman, Stephen Scaia
Director: Christine Moore
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Tom Degan (Agent Ike)
Guest Stars: Bradley Cooper (Senator Eddie Morra), Georgina Haig (Piper), Jeffrey Omura (Guest Star), Blair Brown (Marie Finch), Ron Rifkin (Dennis Finch), Simone Bailly (Brandy Jo Hawkins), Dan Grimaldi (Johnny Opera Velardi), Michael Devine (James), Bernard Bygott (Security Guard), Colin Salmon (Mr. Sands)
Summary: Senator Edward Morra is targeted by a would-be assassin, and Brian is ordered to sabotage the FBI's investigation into the murder attempt in order to prevent exposing the Senator's connection with NZT.



The episode starts with Sen. Edward Morra who calmly narrates his own assassination. It turns out that when you do things like blow up people's houses and try to save the world with super rice, you make a lot of enemies, including disgruntled former employees who then try to murder you. Thanks to NZT, Morra notices the glint of a sniper rifle, and he's able to position himself so that bullet only grazes him and transforms him into a hero who survives an assassination attempt — instead of a corpse.

The FBI conveniently gets assigned to look into the investigation, which sends Brian into a brief panic attack when Sands shows up and starts chatting with

Naz. He quickly imagines every possible scenario in which this could go wrong, which starts with Rebecca figuring the whole thing out and ends with Sands saying, "Can we talk about Sen. Morra's eyes for second? Amazing." Naz, meanwhile, just sighs wistfully, whispering, "Blue." This is only the first of several great Naz moments in the episode, including but not limited to: "I've been single ever since I joined the bureau. You think I haven't slept with anyone here?" Get it, Naz.

But anyway, of course Sands doesn't let it slip that he knows Brian, and after he thanks the FBI for their thorough investigation into the matter, he catches Brian in the elevator and fills him in on the real story. He tells Brian that they actually do have an idea who tried to shoot Morra: a woman named Piper Baird, who originally helped Morra create the enzyme that negates NZT's side effects. According to Sands, she took NZT and "went a bit mad," murdering her boyfriend and going on the run. Brian's job, in the meantime, is to keep the FBI away from Piper and away from the idea that Morra is in any way connected to NZT.

Brian heads to the hotel suite with Boyle, and after he notices the word "NZT" drawn onto a hotel painting in eyeliner, Piper gets his attention and formally introduces herself, using the laser sight on her sniper. She tells him, via Morse code, to seek out Sammy DiPietro, which is easier said than done: DiPietro was a mafia leader who disappeared in the '70s, and his body was never found. Fortunately, Brian has access to the past few decades of FBI files, and it's enough to lead him to the truck driver who helped dump DiPietro's body. Even more fortunately, the guy's a massive opera fan, and Brian has an FBI wiretap recording of his wife singing Puccini to their son. What opera-loving former mafia guy could resist that? He points Brian to DiPietro's body, where he finds Piper's secret hideaway, which is currently covered in pictures of Brian's family. Good.

Brian rushes home to confront the psychotic sniper who's presumably terrifying his family, but instead, she's having coffee with his parents on their couch and has since introduced herself to them as Brian's new girlfriend. That's a lot better than introducing yourself as a trained assassin, but it's still kind of creepy to show up at your boyfriend's parents' house uninvited, especially when they didn't know you existed. Piper then tells Brian her side of the story, saying that he has no idea how dangerous Sen. Morra really is. After she herself realized the lengths he would go to to maintain his grip on power, she stole the enzyme and a bunch of NZT pills. In retribution, Morra had her boyfriend killed, and he framed her for the murder.

So, Brian sets up a meeting with Morra so he can ask him in person if he had Piper's boyfriend bumped off. Morra is hurt that Brian would even SUGGEST such a thing. Doesn't Brian know that he's trying to save the world and end hunger with super rice? Morra still maintains that Piper went crazy, stole a bunch of NZT, and murdered her own boyfriend. It's like the world's worst edition of he-said, she-said, and to top it all off, Sands gives Brian a gun and tells him that Piper is now his responsibility.

Meanwhile, Rebeca's putting the pieces together, by taking a page from Brian's book and making a handy-dandy yarn diagram. She realizes that the sniper fired at Morra from an incredible distance, a distance that would make it the longest sniper shot of all time — by about six football fields. That, of course, sounds impossible... unless you're on NZT. But just as she's about to follow that hunch, it turns out she doesn't have to: An anonymous tip leads them to a woman who promptly confesses to the whole thing. The only thing is, she's not Piper Baird. On paper, she's a great suspect: She was a sniper in Iraq who got kicked out of the military and then went radical. She says a meth dealer gave her an NZT pill, and the rest is history. Rebecca and Boyle aren't stupid, and while blood tests confirm that she had NZT in her system, they also confirm that she's dying of a disease that impairs her coordination — something that makes it pretty difficult to take an impossible shot. Plus, her parents' house was just conveniently paid off by a mysterious third party. All signs point to a patsy.

Brian, on the other hand, is meeting with the real Piper while Sands listens in. She briefly thinks that he's there because he believes her, but after she notices the gun, it's pretty clear that he's not there to talk. He chases her into a subway station and then promptly PUSHES HER IN FRONT OF A TRAIN. Our Brian, who wears chunky sweaters and prefers to solve problems by giving people bagels and opera recordings, just murdered a woman in cold blood. Sands is totally impressed — after he checks the DNA to make sure that the body on the tracks is, in fact, Piper. He even tries to do a bit of bonding with Brian by drinking whiskey together and swapping stories about their first murders. It'd be heartwarming if it wasn't so horrifying.

Even Morra stops by the FBI to check and make sure that Brian's okay. There, he vocalizes the major issue Brian's been grappling with ever since he took his first NZT pill: the question of identity. Up to this point, we've seen a lot of parallels between Brian and Morra, and NZT took them both from slackers to superheroes. This time, however, we're starting to see where they diverge. Morra is almost disgusted by who he used to be and has fully embraced the man NZT has helped him to become. Brian, on the other hand, is still clinging to who he is when he's not on the pill, determined not to lose sight of who he used to be.

But it turns out that Brian hasn't changed all that much — because Piper isn't actually dead. "Luckily I know a lot about jumping in front of subway trains," he explains, "and she, disturbingly, knows a thing or two about stealing cadavers and rigging them under subway platforms." Piper's now free to leave the country and continue trying to synthesize the enzyme in secret, Morra's free to officially announce his presidential bid, and Rebecca's free to begin investigating why someone on NZT would want to kill Morra — and how exactly a scruffy-looking

writer turned his life around to become a presidential candidate. All of which spells bad news for Brian.

Stop Me Before I Hug Again

Season 1

Episode Number: 13

Season Episode: 13

Originally aired: Tuesday January 19, 2016
Writer: Jenna Richman
Director: Edward Ornelas
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Colin Salmon (Jarrod Sands), Michael James Shaw (Agent Mike), Tom Degan (Agent Ike)
Guest Stars: Terry Serpico (David Englander), Eddie Pepitone (Josh-O-Saurus Josh), Todd Litzinger (Nolan Bale), Sydney Cole Alexander (Receptionist), Jeremy Burnett (Evidence Control Agent), Michelle Liu Coughlin (Examiner), Christopher Halladay (Andre Hannan), James Riordan (Dr. Howard Gilroy)
Summary: Brian embarks on his first FBI field assignment when he travels to Quantico to lend his skills to the bureau unit that catches serial killers. Meanwhile, Rebecca comes closer to discovering Senator Morra's connection to NZT.



Brian is understandably jarred by the grisly scene laid out in front of him, so he immediately retreats into his subconscious, which takes the form of his childhood bedroom. (I love the poster of Rebecca above his bed.) There, the host of one of his favorite childhood TV shows, Josh-o-saurus Josh, is on hand to help him process these traumatic visuals by replacing horrific terms with more G-rated words. The responsible serial killer, who's been nicknamed The Marrying Man, is now Mr. Pralines and Cream, and so on and so forth.

I'm not entirely sure how I feel about replacing words like "strangle and murder" with "tickle and cuddle." It's an attempt to make these horrific crimes a little easier to swallow, but it really just ends up making the whole thing creepier. (It's particularly unsettling when violent rape gets rebranded as "playing cowboys and Indians.") It's an attempt to dig into some more serious stuff while still maintaining the (mostly) playful *Limitless* tone, but I'm really not sure it works in this instance.

Once we leave the dead woman's apartment, though, the rest of the episode is a little more in line with the show's established tone. For years, a top profiler at Quantico named David Englander has been chasing Mr. Pralines and Cream, so he immediately flies up to New York to jump on the case. Englander is... rather pompous, to say it politely. He's the kind of guy who chases the most vicious and sensational cases possible in the hopes of translating that into a book deal/speaking engagements/general fame. As Englander is (rather dramatically) filling in the FBI on the Mr. Pralines and Cream case, Brian rules out his suspect almost immediately, narrowing it down instead to two other guys. One of them has a secret box filled with finger bones, so it's pretty clear that he's the killer. Case closed.

Englander is, of course, impressed, so he invites Brian down to Quantico to take a crack at a few other unsolved serial murders. Murders committed by serial killers like Mr. Fudge Brownie, Mr. Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough, and Miss Mango Sorbet. Brian isn't too keen to spend much more time with Englander, but he can't resist the opportunity to tackle some unsolved puzzles. Also, ROAD TRIP. He needs someone to give him his daily dose of NZT, so Rebecca's tagging along. Just no bongs in her car.

Rebecca is a mostly perfect road-trip partner, and she does a pretty good job at channeling Hall & Oates. The only snag is when she brings up Edward Morra, which sets off every alarm bell possible in Brian's head. Rebecca isn't stupid, and she can see how unbelievable it is that Morra can go from being a failing writer to a presidential candidate, and his assassination attempt still seems suspicious. Add that to the fact that the shooter was on NZT, and it's pretty clear that Sen. Morra isn't who he seems to be.

Brian does a decent job of deflecting, but while he's busy solving cases at Quantico, Rebecca spends her free time investigating Morra. But even with Rebecca poking around, Brian does manage to accomplish quite a bit, and he puts away some of the nation's most notorious serial killers. Englander continues to be impressed because, after all, it's like he tells Brian: "Game can recognize game." He's so enamored with Brian's capabilities that he bestows him with the highest possible honor: a signed copy of his own book. How kind.

The only thing is that Englander's book recounts his most famous case: the capture of Mr. Butter Pecan. Mr. Butter Pecan, a.k.a. Andre Hannan, strangled a bunch of high school kids, supposedly because he was a nerd/loner in high school and wanted to take it out on the kinds of teenagers who bullied him — the prom king, the quarterback, etc. Hannan actually confessed to the murders, but something doesn't sit right with Brian. Mainly because he's a scrawny dude who couldn't possibly have strangled a bunch of healthy teenage boys. A quick side trip to Pennsylvania, where Hannan is on death row, confirms this, as he can't even squeeze a hand gripper.

There is the small matter of Hannan's full confession and the fact that he passes a polygraph test, but Brian knows that Englander got it wrong. A little digging, and he comes up with the most plausible theory. He even makes multiple elaborate poster boards to make his presentation as effective as possible because he knows how insane this whole theory sounds. (Naz: "We have PowerPoint, you know.) It turns out that there have been recent developments in neurology that have allowed scientists to insert fiber optic wires into the brain to implant false memories into mice. And conveniently, Hannan's former therapist, Dr. Gilroy, is an expert in this sort of thing. A quick trip to Bethlehem to shave Hannan's head, and the scars on his skull suggest that, yes, he totally got Inception-ed into thinking he committed a bunch of murders.

But before Brian can figure out how to prove it, Rebecca's still poking into Morra's past, which means that he needs to call up Sands for a little favor. Specifically, Brian needs a Brooks Brothers coat soaked in Morra's (NZT-free) blood so if Rebecca decides to test the coat that's been sitting in the evidence locker after Morra's assassination attempt, she won't find any evidence of NZT.

Sands provides the coat, but it's up to Brian to break into the FBI evidence locker. Add that to the list of very serious laws Brian's already broken. (Here are a few of my favorites: yelling "fire" in a crowded theater, maliciously distributing sex toys, running 65 mph in a 35 zone, performing the Macarena in Central Park, using a jetpack on the sidewalk, stealing 120 packs of Post-it notes from work, recording an NFL game without consent, and facilitating the escape of a war criminal.) He has the whole thing planned out, and he's just about to switch out the coat when he realizes that Sands got sloppy: The buttons on Morra's original coat are chipped, and the new coat still looks, well, new.

Have we established whether Sands is on NZT? I don't think he is, but would Morra really want his right-hand man to be an ordinary human being? Or does Morra realize how dangerous it would be to have his henchmen on NZT? Either way, it's up to Brian to fix Sands' mistake, and while he's frantically chipping away at the buttons, Rebecca and Boyle decide to swing by to pick up that coat. Fortunately, Brian manages to make the swap, and he gets out of there before Rebecca and Boyle are any wiser.

Once he meets back up with Rebecca and Boyle, they inform him that they just spoke to Dr. Gilroy, and he has some rock-solid alibis for the nights of every murder. So even if he did implant false memories into Andre Hannan's brain, it doesn't explain why. Brian, however, does a little more digging, and it turns out that Gilroy got a very nice donation to his institute from a wealthy

billionaire tech guy — a tech guy whose son, Nolan Bale, happens to be a patient of Dr. Gilroy. A quick DNA test of Nolan Bale, cross-checked with DNA obtained from one of the Mr. Butter Pecan murders, is enough to implicate Nolan Bale, his father, and Dr. Gilroy, who accepted the bribe from Nolan's father to pin the whole thing on Andre Hannan. Check another serial killer off of Brian's list.

Fundamentals of Naked Portraiture

Season 1

Episode Number: 14

Season Episode: 14

Originally aired: Tuesday February 9, 2016
Writer: Dennis Saavedra Saldua, Craig Sweeny
Teleplay by: Sallie Patrick & Craig Sweeny
Director: Guy Ferland
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Colin Salmon (Jarrod Sands), Michael James Shaw (Agent Mike), Tom Deignan (Agent Ike), Michael Devine (FBI Tech James)
Guest Stars: Tate Donovan (John), Gbenga Akinnagbe (Quentin Walker), Susan Kelechi Watson (Elo), Stephen O'Reilly (II) (Spike Four), Julee Cerda (Gerd Rep), Gian-Murray Gianino (TheScrubJay), Edward Chin-Lyn (Spike One), Patrick Cooley (Spike Two), James Lloyd Reynolds (Gerard Turmann), Jeremy Burnett (Evidence Control Agent)
Summary: A developer at a tech think tank frequented by Brian is murdered. To find clues to the killer's identity, Brian and Rebecca interview a robotic version of the victim, which she created before her death. Meanwhile, agents apply to join Mike and Ike as Brian's third bodyguard.



Mike and Ike are looking for an extra person to give them a hand. Most of the interviews are duds — although we do get a great tidbit about Ike having a crush on Brian's sister — and the only applicant who seems even remotely up to the task is the overly eager Spike, whose appreciation for Goatwhore and Rosemary's Baby piques Brian's interest.

While Spike is settling into his new role as Brian's assistant, Rebecca is doing exactly what Brian doesn't want her to do, which is still digging into Sen. Morra

and his blood-soaked Brooks Brothers coat. Brian successfully switched out the coat that Morra was shot in for one with NZT-free bloodstains, but Sands got sloppy, and the new coat isn't a perfect replica. (Sands pops up again in this episode, too, to get the original coat from Brian, give him his NZT booster shot, and attend a lecture on Iroquois farming techniques at the Museum of Natural History. "I'd invite you, but it's sold out," he tells Brian. Cold as ice.)

Specifically, the buttons on the new coat aren't chipped in the same way, something that Rebecca immediately picks up on. So, instead of dropping the case, she's decided to dig even deeper, even as Brian tries to dissuade her.

Rebecca's smart. Like, really smart. Not only does Rebecca's intelligence make her a good crime-solving partner for Brian — it would get really boring if every episode was Brian patiently explaining things to his stupid co-workers — but it makes me wonder if we'll ever get to see what she looks like on NZT.

But Rebecca doesn't have much time to dwell on the mysteries of Morra and his stylish coat because we've got a murderer to catch. Remember Quentin Walker at CRAFT? The tech

researcher studying robotic arms and the guy whom Brian dubbed the real-life Q? The dude who lent him a jetpack? Turns out that the woman who invented that jetpack just got murdered.

Eloise Carlisle has been spending all her time working on mind files, the idea that some day people will be able to upload a copy of their brain to a computer system, where it will continue to think and act as they would. Eloise herself was Test Subject No. 1, which means that even though she's dead, almost everything she knows lives on in one (EXTREMELY CREEPY) robotic head. But the tech isn't advanced enough to let Eloise's head do anything but be really, really creepy, so instead Brian turns to more traditional methods: poking around in CRAFT's computer system.

And apparently, Eloise wasn't as clean as she seemed. Mysterious emails sent the night she died reveal that she was selling mind files to a big buyer. In all, six mind files have gone missing, including Quentin's. A little snooping on the deep web reveals that she used a middleman dubbed the Scrub Jay to fence the stolen mind files. (Some of the Scrub Jay's past transactions include European baby formula, celebrity sex tapes, swords, human hair, Four Loko, sea cucumbers, endangered reptiles, STD-free sperm, cheese, brides, the pope's slippers, and Iranian beluga caviar.)

One of the stolen mind files belonged to an artist with a penchant for painting "psychologically disturbing naked people," as Spike puts it, so Brian decides to add another felony to his list and do a little art forgery. Using an extremely eager Spike as his nude model, Brian fakes a painting in the hopes of luring the Scrub Jay out. It works, but before Brian can get any info out of him, the Scrub Jay gets poisoned. Bummer. They do, however, get his real name, which leads them to a few rare items he fenced (a genetically modified cat, Einstein's eyeballs) and the think tank that bought Eloise's mind files: the Global Enterprise for Research and Development.

GERD happily admits that, yes, they totally bought the mind files. In fact, the U.S. government told them to. What they didn't do is murder Eloise, and the mind files they purchased are actually pretty useless. Everything they need is locked in those files, but the software that actually allows the heads to use that data isn't advanced enough yet. The head of GERD says the tech is years away.

But this means that Brian can at least help speed that process up a little bit. He doesn't go as far as achieving true artificial intelligence, but he does make significant upgrades to Eloise's mind file, which allows them to finally ask her if she has any idea who murdered her. Robot Eloise is like, "Uh, yeah. Probably the mentally unstable co-worker I've been having an on-again, off-again relationship with." This guy, Gerard, killed her when she tried to break up with him and, realizing what he'd done, stole an old copy of her mind file as the next best thing. To cover his tracks, he stole a few extra mind files to give to the Scrub Jay, making it look like Eloise was the corrupt one all along.

Which is sort of romantic, in a creepy, twisted way. It's so romantic that it inspires Quentin and Rebecca to ask each other on a date. If this relationship continues, it's going to make the best meet-cute story ever. "How did you two ask each other out?" "Well, we were watching a confessed murderer have a romantic conversation with the robotic head of his victim/former lover, and it just seemed like the right time."

Meanwhile, Mike and Ike have gotten a little fed up with Spike constantly sucking up, so they do a little snooping to find out that he's been informing on Brian to ADIC Johnson. (Remember when Naz's niece got kidnapped by pirates and she almost went to jail for it, so that awful guy filled in for her and he was just generally terrible? Also, Brian told everyone that he had a micropenis? Yeah, that guy.) Bye, Spike. He doesn't even get to take his extremely graphic nude portrait as a souvenir.

As for Rebecca, she's been trying to get ahold of the clerk working at the evidence locker the day Brian switched out Morra's coat, and just when Brian thinks the game is up and she'll totally figure out that he's working for Morra, Rebecca shows up at his apartment — not to arrest him but to share some news: The clerk is dead. Peanut allergy, apparently. But again, Rebecca isn't stupid, and Sands is being really bad at his job. If you're going to replace a bloodstained coat with a similarly bloodstained coat, make sure it's identical. And if you're going to prevent someone from talking to a witness, don't murder that witness right before the FBI tries to talk to him. That's a pretty bad way to avoid attracting attention. Come on, Sands.

Undercover!

Season 1

Episode Number: 15

Season Episode: 15

Originally aired: Tuesday February 16, 2016
Writer: Taylor Elmore
Director: Peter Werner
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Michael James Shaw (Agent Mike), Tom Degnan (Agent Ike), Colin Salmon (Jarrod Sands), Michael Devine (FBI Tech James)
Guest Stars: Christina Vidal (Lucy Church), James Colby (Adrian Vescovi), Julian Gamble (Keener), Musto Pelinkovicci (Stavros), Lauren Blumenfeld (Janice), Jack Dimich (Sergei), Lukas Hassel (Gudmund Friedrich), Evgeniya Radilova (Irina), Deven Anderson (Data Dweeb Guy), Margaret Reed (Female Voice)
Summary: Sparks fly between Brian and an undercover FBI agent as they race to finish a case before her real identity is exposed. Meanwhile, Sands makes a surprising move to end Rebecca's investigation into Senator Morra.



When Brian first joined the FBI, he had a very elaborate idea of what bureau work would look like. Specifically, it included plenty of martinis, fancy suits, and bacarat with billionaires. But he quickly learned that his day-to-day role at the FBI mainly involved paper pushing and grunt work, with the occasional chance to catch serial killers/kidnappers/pirates.

"Undercover!" allows Brian to finally channel his inner James Bond and go, well, undercover. And, as the episode's title suggests (don't forget the exclamation point), he's totally psyched. But before Brian can start donning a suit and

crafting his undercover identity, he has to meet with Sands. In case it wasn't clear that this is a very serious meeting about very serious things, the pair sit down in a dimly lit bar, complete with whiskey, dark wood paneling, and a roaring fire. Brian can't get over the fact that Sands murdered the evidence clerk who could've exposed his connection to Sen. Morra, and Sands' response is not to apologize but to start guilt-tripping Brian by saying that if Brian would have taken care of things, he would never have had to murder the poor clerk in the first place. And to further showcase just how toxic this relationship is, Sands starts insinuating that Rebecca may meet a similar end. Quick, someone check and make sure Rebecca doesn't have a peanut allergy.

Brian, however, can't worry about Rebecca right now because the FBI's entire list of undercover field agents was just stolen. The FBI has already managed to round up most of the NYC-based operatives, but there are still five who are unaccounted for. Brian tracks four of them down in no time at all, but he still can't find Lucy Church. The mysterious Lucy Church was at Quantico with Rebecca years ago, but she got tapped for an undercover mission before graduating and has gone in and out of undercover operations ever since.

Her latest assignment is taking down a corrupt hedge fund accused of money laundering. As for where she might be now, all they know is that Lucy's got insomnia and a penchant for driving fast late at night, so Brian holds up a sign with her name on it on every long, straight road in New York until he finds her. She's grateful for the heads up about the leak, but she's not coming in. Still, she's intrigued by Brian and the fact that he doesn't exactly look like your average FBI agent, so when her boss gives her two days to complete her mission, she recruits Brian to help out.

At this point, Lucy has gathered all the evidence the FBI needs to nail the hedge fund scumbags, but they've also been laundering money for a high-end escort service called the Blue Limit, which is basically a human-trafficking organization. The Blue Limit recruits poor women from around the world before taking their passports and practically selling them into slavery. Several of the women have already disappeared, and if the hedge fund gets busted, they may see the women as liabilities and start killing them all off.

So, cue undercover assignment No. 1: Brian and Lucy don their fanciest duds to head to a fancy party, thrown by the Blue Limit, in the hopes of tracking down those hidden passports. There, Brian acquaints himself with all the Russian oligarchs and investment bankers, and he's so charming that they give him a hotel room and an accompanying Blue Limit employee named Irina, but Irina's more than happy to sit around by herself instead and watch *Say Yes to the Dress* and *MythBusters*. Irina and I have similar taste.

After Brian and Lucy narrow down the employees who may have the passports, they kickstart undercover assignment No. 2, which has Brian going back to his temp roots and working in the Blue Limit's basement. It doesn't take him long to notice the mysterious locked door in the corner, and after a quick bit of breaking-and-entering (with a YouTube tutorial on how to crack safes), he's stolen back all the passports.

But it's not enough for Brian to just give the women back their passports. After meeting Irina (and her obsession with reality TV), Brian decides to spend all of his afternoon at the race track, and after learning the ins and outs of horse racing, he casually wins enough cash to make sure all the women have enough to get them back on their feet. Not only that, but he discovers a mysterious organization called Edelweiss in Blue Limit's ledgers, which is, presumably, the front for whoever's been killing off the women. Lucy is, of course, completely charmed by Brian's competence and kindness, which results in them hooking up and Brian slipping into a colorful Bollywood daydream, complete with elaborate choreography and special appearances by Mike, Ike, James, and Stavros the janitor. You know, the normal reaction to hooking up with your undercover partner.

By the time they wake up the next morning, Brian is ready for assignment No. 3, but he's been undercover for 48 hours, which is all the time that Naz would approve. As a result, he has to face his third day undercover without NZT. It's a lot harder to pose as an IT worker and infiltrate the Edelweiss organization when you're not on NZT, but he does manage to get the name of the organization's mysterious German hitman: Gudmund Friedrich, which is a name that sounds exactly like it belongs to a mysterious German hitman.

But before they can go bust the guy, the list of undercover operatives has already gone public, which means Lucy's cover is totally blown. The FBI has enough now to break up the evil hedge fund, and they're not interested in Gudmund Friedrich, but Lucy's determined to get vengeance. So, she drags Brian to go talk to him, and when Friedrich refuses to spill, she puts a gun to his head. Brian manages to talk her down, so she settles for shooting Friedrich in the kneecap instead. Good compromise.

Friedrich isn't going anywhere, so that buys enough time for Brian to get back to the office, grab some NZT, and put the pieces together to bring down Friedrich and the entire organization. And so Brian's undercover adventure draws to a close.

While Brian's busy chasing down hitmen and hedge fund sleazebags, Rebecca gets invited to Sands' dark wood-paneled bar to drink whiskey and discuss her employment status. He says that he and Sen. Morra were so impressed by her investigation into Morra's assassination attempt that they want to offer her a job, and he even does that thing where he writes a really big number on a cocktail napkin to show her just how serious he is.

Rebecca, however, wants none of it. She informs Sands that she knows all about his past — he used to work for MI6 until he was bought by Morra — and she knows that they only want to recruit her so they can stop her from asking questions about Morra's connection to NZT. It's

one of the first times we've seen Sands get flustered, and it's a nice badass moment for Rebecca, but it's one with consequences. Sands has her apartment bugged, and while he doesn't explicitly order a hit on her, he strongly hints that he wouldn't mind if someone were to take her out.

We also learn that Rebecca's father — who we haven't heard anything about in the last few episodes — is not just a confirmed NZT user but someone who was definitely wrapped up in Morra and Sands' shady organization. Which means that Sands isn't going to let Rebecca walk away any time soon.

Sands, Agent of Morra

Season 1

Episode Number: 16

Season Episode: 16

Originally aired: Tuesday February 23, 2016
Writer: Geoff Tock, Gregory T. Weidman
Director: Rich Lee
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Colin Salmon (Jarrod Sands), Tom Deignan (Agent Ike), Megan Guinan (Rachel Finch), Michael Devine (FBI Tech James)
Guest Stars: Robert Ray Manning Jr. (Daryl), Raquel Almazan (Alisha), Marc Raco (Richard), Rob Breckenridge (SA Bradley), Joy Lynn Jacobs (Night Nurse)
Summary: Brian is covertly enlisted by Senator Morra's henchman Sands, who finds that his dangerous past has caught up with him and he needs Brian's help dealing with a life-or-death threat. Meanwhile, it's up to Rachel to cover for her brother when the FBI comes calling about another case.



The episode kicks off with the return of Brian's sister, Rachel, who once again comes over for Thai food and a fantasy show that may or may not be *Game of Thrones*. Brian and Rachel's super chill night, however, is interrupted by the arrival of a bleeding and very grumpy Sands, who has an enormous shard of glass lodged in his thigh and needs Brian to take an NZT pill and remove it — without calling 911 or Sen. Morra.

Brian has to rely on his extensive medical knowledge — a.k.a. reading his brother's med school textbooks once — to complete this impromptu game of Operation and remove the glass, but as soon as he does, Sands immediately collapses with a blocked lung, and Brian has to stab him in the chest with a knitting needle. And they say *Game of Thrones* is gory.

For a guy who's just been STABBED IN THE CHEST, Sands recovers remarkably quickly, and after crossing a name off a mysterious piece of paper, he informs Brian that he still needs his help — and a change of clothes. After Brian begrudgingly agrees to help, Sands tasks him with finding a man named Frederick Tanner and gradually begins to fill in his own backstory.

The show illustrates Sands' story in the way Brian envisions it: as a comic book. It's a nifty storytelling choice — too many voice-overs or flashbacks would bog down the narrative — and it helps

unspool Sands' tale. Sands grew up in Kent as wild child member of a punk band, joining in

with mining protests. When a protester threw a brick and killed a cop, Sands was arrested, and a man named Tanner approached him and asked him to inform on the protesters. If he said no, they were going to pin the cop's murder on his father (who was also a miner). So began Sands' espionage career, which led him to MI-6. There, he joined a five-man team reporting to Tanner, with all five members named after Hollywood golden age directors: Wilder, DeMille, Lean, Huston, and Peckinpah. Part of the group's assignment involved guarding an airstrip in India for several years, and the lack of supervision allowed them to set up a nice little smuggling ring. When they got caught, they blamed it on Tanner, who's spent the last seven years in jail. Now that he's out, he's blackmailing Sands into killing off his former team members — ending with Sands himself.

Sands has already taken out Wilder (that's the guy who left him with half a mirror wedged in his leg), and while Brian was searching for Tanner, he paid DeMille a visit, too. But Brian still isn't sure why Sands is going along with all of this — until Sands finally reveals the last piece of the puzzle.

When Sands was in India, he violated the five-man team's one and only rule: no attachments. He fell in love with an aid worker named Anastasia, and when Tanner found out, he had her killed in a hit and run. That's why Sands teamed up with the others to turn on Tanner and send him to prison. But Sands has one last secret: He and Anastasia had a secret son, who was since adopted by an American diplomat. Tanner is holding his son, Henry Watkins, hostage — the exact same kidnapping case that Rebecca and the rest of the CJC have spent all night investigating.

While Brian is processing this, Sands sneaks away to poison DeMille, and after Brian leaves a note for the paramedics with the antidote, he makes Sands swear not to kill anyone else. That won't be hard: The last name on the list is Huston, Sands' closest friend from his former team, who's currently lying unconscious in a hospital bed. After the team broke up, Sands picked up some mercenary work and landed himself in jail, and it was Huston who bailed him out and introduced him to Morra. Sands is understandably reluctant to kill his close friend, especially when he's lying there, helpless, so Brian racks his brain for a way out of this. It turns out that Huston, fortunately, kept a secret safe deposit box, and after a little blackmail of a local bank manager, Sands and Brian gain access to Huston's secret weapon: a burn book on everyone he's worked with. That includes Tanner, which leads them to a warehouse in Queens. There, Sands presumably breaks his no-killing promise and dispatches Tanner, rescuing Henry.

Sands and Brian's plot wraps up neatly and only a few steps ahead of this episode's B-plot, which has Rebecca and the CJC investigating the same kidnapping case. (There's also a great C-plot with Ike and Rachel hooking up in Brian's apartment).

Even with Brian MIA, Rebecca once again proves her skills as a top-notch investigator, tracking down the missing Henry and reminding us all that while she's happy to have Brian's NZT-enhanced help, she doesn't always need it, and she's more than capable of solving cases on her own. She even manages to crack this case with her birthday hanging over her. As she explains to Boyle, she's hated celebrating ever since her absentee father promised her he would finally attend one of her birthday parties. When he didn't show, she blew out her candles and wished he was dead — only to find out that the reason he missed the party was because he actually was dead.

And finally, we know how and why. Brian "borrows" Huston's burn book, which conveniently has plenty of dirt on Sen. Morra and his involvement with NZT. When Sen. Morra first began his rise to the top, NZT was widely available in New York, and people like Rebecca's father had free access to it. In order to maintain his grip on power, Morra ordered Sands to take out the NZT dealers and regular users around the city — including Rebecca's dad, Conrad.

Close Encounters

Season 1

Episode Number: 17

Season Episode: 17

Originally aired: Tuesday March 8, 2016
Writer: Kari Drake
Director: Maja Vrvilo
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Michael James Shaw (Agent Mike), Tom Degnan (Agent Ike), Blair Brown (Marie Finch), Ron Rifkin (Dennis Finch), Megan Guinan (Rachel Finch), Michael Devine (FBI Tech James)
Guest Stars: Tim Reid (Sturgeon Reid), Patch Darragh (Cameron Finch), Frank Pando (Detective Hernandez), Robert Sella (Ian Marshall), Christopher Brian Roach (Maurice), Kat Nejat (Corey Martinson), Vinny Anand (Hazmat Guy), Maria Elena Ramirez (CDC Official), Kohler McKenzie (NYPD Uniform), Al Nazemian (Bodega Witness), Brandon Morris (Man in Black)
Summary: Brian and Rebecca are placed under quarantine together after they are exposed to an unknown substance during an investigation into a citywide blackout. Already feeling too close for comfort, trust issues arise when Brian is caught using his stash of NZT.



For a guy who takes a pill to make himself the smartest person in the world, Brian Finch sure has created a lot of problems for himself. For one, he's in a clandestine relationship with a possibly nefarious senator and his definitely nefarious henchman, who keep asking him to do illegal things. In return, they won't murder his family or withhold the antidote keeping him from slowly descending into madness/death.

He's also since discovered that the aforementioned senator ordered the aforementioned henchman to murder his FBI partner's father, but he can't tell her

about it, even though she's dedicated all her free time to investigating her dad's demise because — again — murder/madness/death.

Oh, and he's still trying to keep the whole thing a secret from his family, even though his sister has a) helped him stitch up a bleeding "undercover FBI agent" and b) slept with his FBI bodyguard.

So when this episode kicks off, Brian is dealing with his problems in the healthiest way possible: avoiding them! Instead, he spends his night using his secret stash of NZT pills, listening to police scanners and hijacking NYPD crime scenes around the city. Making police sketches and solving crimes is a lot more fun than confronting your emotional issues, which is how Brian ends up on the bank of the East River, examining the glowing corpse of a city security guard. But he can't avoid Rebecca forever, and when she finally tracks him down, she's not too happy to find

out that he's on NZT when he's off duty. She, however, doesn't have much time to scold him, as together they watch the most of Manhattan plunge into darkness.

The blackout triggers an all-hands-on-deck situation at the FBI, and while Naz directs the blame toward China or Russia, Brian says the power failures follow the city's wind patterns, hitting the Financial District and Midtown first and skipping over the lower buildings in Manhattan. He and Rebecca head to the local power plants to check things out, where they find the same mysterious luminous substance Brian saw earlier on the murdered city employee. Somehow, that mysterious substance is interfering with the power plants, and the only lead they have is the security guard, who works in the city's Department of Buildings. There, the only thing out of the ordinary is the missing blueprint for a government building on 53rd Street, but before they can go investigate, the CDC nabs both Brian and Rebecca and places them in quarantine.

The CDC brings in Sturgeon Reed, a renowned astrophysicist/pseudo Neil deGrasse Tyson, to inform Rebecca and Brian that that mysterious glowing substance now covering their bodies is a bacteria of indeterminate origin — a.k.a. ALIENS. The CDC found traces of the bacteria (which feeds off of electricity) under the path of a meteor shower, which basically means that this is a glowing substance from OUTER SPACE. Hey, *Limitless* is already a sort-of sci-fi show, what with the whole pill giving you access to the full capacity of your brain thing. I'm totally down with Brian and Rebecca abandoning the whole Sen. Morra plot and devoting the rest of their days to chasing aliens.

But Brian and Rebecca aren't ready to turn into the new Mulder and Scully yet. The stolen blueprints were for a building on 53rd Street that's also the home of the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing, where the government sends defaced money to either be cleaned or destroyed. Pretty good place for a robbery, especially during a blackout. The security guard was murdered and the blueprints were stolen well before the blackout, which suggests that someone knew the blackout was going to happen and planned ahead. Disappointingly, that means the bacteria was not actually alien in origin, so Brian borrows Rebecca's phone to call Boyle and tell him to get over to 53rd Street and check things out. When he hangs up, however, he sees that another FBI agent has been texting Rebecca, and they just found the last hidden NZT pills in Brian's apartment. Busted.

So finally, Brian and Rebecca have it out. She's pissed that he's been hoarding NZT pills and lying to her about it. He's pissed that she went behind his back to snoop around his apartment, and he's still trying to deal with the fact that he knows Sands murdered her father and he can't do a thing about it. Things get ugly when she accuses him of being an addict, and he shoots back that maybe she's addicted to him and the high she gets from using NZT to solve impossible crimes. That's the thing about fighting with someone on NZT: They know exactly what to say to cut to the quick.

While Brian and Rebecca are both still processing what they just said to each other, the CDC comes in with some news. Good news: The bacteria doesn't have a negative effect on humans! Bad news: They've been stuck in quarantine for no reason whatsoever — and the CDC incinerated Brian's Joy Division T-shirt. Bummer. Even worse news: Boyle went to the mutilated money vault and found that the thieves cleared out an estimated \$8 million in cash. So while Rebecca storms out, Brian teams up with Boyle to narrow down the scientists who had the ability and means to create and plant this bacteria in the hopes of causing a blackout. Boyle nixes Brian's initial idea of walking around wearing a sandwich board with "HAVE YOU SEEN THESE SCIENTISTS" written on it, so they call in the NSA for a little phone-hacking help.

Turns out the NSA definitely HAS been recording all of your phone calls, which is bad news for privacy but good news for narrowing down blackout-causing suspects, and Brian picks out two: Ian Marshall and Sturgeon Reed, who are basically *Limitless*' versions of Bill Nye and Neil deGrasse Tyson, if Bill Nye and Neil deGrasse Tyson made a bet about whether or not mankind would discover proof of extraterrestrial life in their lifetime. Desperate to win the bet, Bill Nye Ian Marshall discovered a new kind of electron-eating bacteria, and he released it into the air after a meteor shower, causing the blackout and suggesting that alien life really does exist. What he didn't do is use that blackout to steal \$8 million, so Boyle and Brian hunt down the professor's research assistant, who teamed up with her convict cousin and used her boss' hoax to engineer the heist. Case closed.

But while Brian has been running around Manhattan, Mike and Ike went on a special assignment, picking up Brian's family and taking them to his parents' house in Westchester, where

they've still got power. After Ike and Rachel hit it off in Brian's apartment last week, she's been ignoring his many, many texts, and while they're all sitting around Brian's parents' house, Rachel finally tells her mom why she's been so distracted for the last few days. When Sands showed up at Brian's place, Rachel noticed Brian fiddle with his record collection, and once he left to go hunt down bad guys with Sands, she found two NZT pills. She shows the pills to her mom, who absolutely flips, and when Brian finally shows up, she calls him out on it.

It's nice that Brian's mom actually gets something to do in this episode, especially because most of season 1 has focused on Brian's relationship with his dad, but it's a shame that she's so frustratingly obtuse about the whole thing. If you're going to throw wild accusations at your son about drugs and government conspiracies, you should at least give him the chance to respond. Instead, she yells at him in front of Mike and Ike, who are immediately curious about the "undercover agent bleeding out in your apartment" that she mentions, and she kicks him out.

So Brian ends the episode feeling more alone than ever. Rebecca, his family, even Mike and Ike aren't speaking to him, so he finally decides to confront his problems head on — and disappear. He leaves a cryptic note to Rebecca about having to "do a few things" and apologizing for his harsh words. "It's not just the pill that changed my life," he writes. "It's you." And on that dramatic note, he disappears into the night.

Bezgranichnyy

Season 1

Episode Number: 18

Season Episode: 18

Originally aired:	Tuesday March 15, 2016
Writer:	Matthew Federman, Stephen Scaia
Director:	John Behring
Show Stars:	Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role:	Ron Rifkin (Dennis Finch), Blair Brown (Marie Finch), Colin Salmon (Jarrod Sands), Michael James Shaw (Agent Mike), Tom Degan (Agent Ike), Megan Guinan (Rachel Finch)
Guest Stars:	Georgina Haig (Piper Baird), Misha Kuznetsov (Nicholai Zukov), Lorianna Izrailova (Andrea), Peter Reznikoff (Maxim Lavrov), Sergey Anikeev (Vladi), Jasson Finney (Andrei), Moti Margolin (Intelligence Apparatchik), Gene Ravvin (Russian Policeman), Ka-Ling Cheung (Publicist), Kenya Brome (Hip Publisher)
Summary:	With his closest relationships imploding, Brian goes rogue from the FBI and heads to Russia to find the only person who can help him cut ties once and for all with Senator Eddie Morra. As he tracks down a former Morra associate-turned-adversary who possesses an alternative NZT vaccine, Rebecca comes closer to discovering Brian's secret.



When we last left *Limitless*, Brian had reached his, uh ... his limit. He'd decided that he no longer wanted anything to do with Sands and Morra and a vast shadow conspiracy that, if I recall correctly, had something to do with magic rice. So he'd set off to find Piper, another former Morra lackey.

Which brings us to a nightclub in Russia, where Brian is tracking down Piper by getting super drunk and spilling the beans on his secret magic-genius pills to a bunch of Russian gangsters. Seems like a bad call from where I stand, but nothing

bad happens.

The idea, as Brian lays it out, is this: Brian finds Piper, they take down Morra, Brian is free from Morra and the FBI, and his estranged family takes him back. Everyone's happy and gives a thumbs up.

That's not entirely how it works. The FBI is not happy that their Very Important Asset has dropped off the grid. Naz is worried: "I don't want him to get shot. I want him to come home. In one piece. So I can shoot him." Okay, maybe not that worried. In the meantime, Mike and Ike inform Rebecca about the yet-unidentified Sands's visit a few weeks back.

Anyway, turns out Piper's in prison. One of those notorious, trope-y Russian prisons, not the fun kind of prison. To get her out, Brian concocts a typical, overly complex *Limitless* scheme. He hacks the accounts of a high-ranking official and discovers that he posts a lot in *Game of Thrones* discussion forums. So Brian calls George R.R. Martin and gets him to reveal how the

series ends in order to get Piper released. Martin does not actually appear in the episode, which means that this whole sequence comes across as lazy reference-dropping.

Moving on! Piper's out of jail now, but they can't leave just yet. To concoct the booster shots that make them immune to NZT side effects, Piper needs a rare flower that's kept in a seed vault by a paranoid Russian oligarch. To grab it, Piper and Brian need to dress up and infiltrate a fancy party. Another *Limitless* episode, another fancy reception to infiltrate.

Back Stateside, Rebecca visits Brian's parents as they try to track him down. She does not get a lot of love from Brian's dad, who blames her for getting Brian mixed up in all this. He's pissed.

Rebecca then requests a vacation to go hunt Finch on her own, Naz is like, "lol Rebecca ... come on ... Rebecca, no."

So anyway, Brian and Piper have a week to kill before the gala and they mostly spend it eating borscht and boning. Very romantic, a great combination of activities. Classic Russia.

Brian expresses some reservations about continuing to take NZT, but Piper is fully onboard the Magic Pill Train, claiming that without the doses, they are lesser versions of themselves. So they take the pills.

At the party, Brian dazzles the audience with a balalaika, while Piper goes to steal seeds.

Piper gets the seeds, but sets off the alarm in the process of stealing them. This ends with her escaping and Brian getting kidnapped, which honestly he deserves because he was just standing around like a doofus.

Anyway, Piper pulls another George R.R. Martin move and gets Brian out of prison. They later make plans to meet up in the States and get rid of Morra once and for all.

Then, we find out that Sands had Brian tailed on his little adventure, so the cat's out of the bag. Sands makes that face he always makes.

At FBI headquarters, Brian's sister pays Rebecca a visit and says, "Yeah, Sands is the guy who visited Brian a few weeks ago." Rebecca makes the face she always makes.

A Dog's Breakfast

Season 1

Episode Number: 19

Season Episode: 19

Originally aired: Tuesday March 22, 2016
Writer: Jenna Richman
Director: Lexi Alexander
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Colin Salmon (Jarrod Sands), Michael James Shaw (Agent Mike), Tom Degnan (Agent Ike), Bradley Cooper (Senator Eddie Morra),
Guest Stars: Joel de la Fuente (Guest Star), Julie Lauren (Guest Star), Jeffrey Omura (Danny), Michael Devine (James 'Tech' Padgett), Theogan Iyer (Rohan Kumar), Musto Pelinkovicki (Stavros), Ed Trucco (Mister X), Jeremy Holm (Mister Y)
Summary: Brian's double life unravels when Senator Morra makes contact just as Brian's placed under 24-hour surveillance by the FBI following his rogue trip to Russia. Also, Mike and Ike tell an already suspicious Rebecca about Brian's off-book interaction with Morra's henchman, Sands.



It turns out that if you blow off the FBI, hop on a plane to Russia, and disappear for a few weeks, there are going to be some consequences.

For one, your boss is going to be super mad at you. I don't know what kind of vacation time Brian gets as an consultant, but I'm guessing the FBI generally frowns on using unapproved vacation days to secretly run away to Russia. As a result, there are some new rules in the CJC office: No more headquarters (exclamation point!), no more Skeletonwitch T-shirts, and no more unsanctioned trips across the Atlantic. Instead, Naz assigns Brian a

24/7 bodyguard detail comprised of two hulking, silent Mike-and-Ike wannabes, whom Brian deems Mr. X and Mr. Y. There isn't much for Brian to do except wait for things to blow over — and for Piper to finish synthesizing the NZT enzyme — so he decides to toe the line for a little while and help the FBI solve some cases.

The main case on the agenda is the murder investigation of one Mr. Gordon Roper, a billionaire who turned up dead in his apartment, missing one kidney. After a long battle with kidney disease (and a less-than-fruitful stint on the organ waiting list), Roper had invested in a new research company called Biosoma, which specializes in bioprinting. It's like 3-D printing, except instead of printing things with plastic, you're printing things with human cells. After electricity-eating bacteria and homicidal robotic arms, bioprinting is the rare Limitless tech reference that's actually a real thing.

Part of the reason Roper was so eager to throw all his money into bioprinting is because he could really use a kidney. So, when Biosoma actually succeeded in making one, Roper was the

first guy on the list. The transplant was recent, but things seemed to be going pretty well. That, however, doesn't answer the question of why somebody murdered Roper and carefully cut out his kidney.

But before Brian can start digging into Biosoma, he discovers that the FBI needs to check its employee list a little more carefully. His newly hired bodyguard, Mr. Y, chauffeurs him to a creepy, dimly lit warehouse to meet Sands, who is there to give Brian his booster shot and say vague things about how Sen. Morra is going to make things better and safer. "I'll be working in a different capacity," Sands adds. Which isn't ominous at all.

Things get even more ominous when Brian gets a mysterious coded text, which he quickly deciphers as a message from Piper. But before he can call her and reminisce about their time together in Russia, he first has to go figure out why some random guy's DNA showed up at the Roper murder scene.

That random guy is some dude named Rohan Kumar, and it turns out that Roper was NOT the first person to get a bioprinted organ transplant. At the rate Biosoma's research was going, the brand new bioprinted kidney wasn't going to be ready in time to save Roper's life. The head of Biosoma was getting a little nervous about the fact that if Roper died, his checks would presumably start bouncing, so he bought a kidney from Kumar on the black market, told Roper the bioprinting was successful, and stuck it in Roper. That explains why Kumar's DNA showed up in Roper's blood at the crime scene. What it DOESN'T explain is why somebody murdered Roper.

You know what that means. It's times for the second gathering of everyone's favorite crime-fighting squad: The Bruntouchables. James even brings his Bruntouchables shirt. Ten bucks says he keeps a spare in his desk just in case the occasion arises.

Hi, My Name Is Rebecca Harris...

Season 1

Episode Number: 20

Season Episode: 20

Originally aired: Tuesday April 5, 2016
Writer: Mark Goffman
Director: Holly Dale
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Colin Salmon (Jarrod Sands), Michael Devine (James "Tech" Padgett), Musto Pelinkovicci (Stavros)
Guest Stars: Murray Bartlett (Conrad Harris), Shirley Roeca (Amelia Glosser), Elisabeth Gray (Margaret Curran), Katie Reid (II) (Maggie Harris), Aimee Mullins (Dr. Peri), Teja Shtrom (5 Year Old Natasha), Lolita Foster (Angry Woman), Sophia Gennusa (12 Year Old Rebecca), Brian Mannain (Huston)
Summary: Rebecca takes NZT for the first time to see justice for her father's murder. To ensure success of his new plan, Sands makes a risky move against Brian.



The episode takes us back to the pilot with an *in medias res* opening and a "Hi, my name is Rebecca Harris" voiceover. It's a direct parallel to the pilot and how Brian introduced himself to us while facing an oncoming subway train before explaining a little bit about his background and childhood. Rebecca does the same, recapping how she was close to her artist father for many years but he disappeared after years of struggles with substance abuse, only to later turn up dead. It was watching him struggle with addiction that led her to her career in law enforcement, and she's about to bring Brian into the

FBI for interrogation when he drops a bombshell: Sands is the one who killed her father. This is enough for Rebecca to decide that she's sick of being in the dark and she's more than ready to be the "smartest person in the room" for once. So, she swipes Brian's NZT pill, and together, they try to figure out a way to take down Sands and prove that Rebecca's father was murdered.

They have an advantage. As Brian says when she takes her pill: "It's not fair. You, on NZT. It's not fair."

Sands, meanwhile, has Piper, and after threatening her brother, he gets her to agree to craft the immunity shot for him and his coalition of evil collaborators. One of those collaborators is his girlfriend/mistress/business partner/something — whatever you call a person you hold hands with while planning a murder. She sees Brian as a liability and wants to bump him off, but Sands is reluctant. (After all, Sands and Brian did share a magical evening of rescuing a kidnapped child. Although Brian has seen Sands in a "Female Body Inspector" T-shirt, which means, yeah, he probably has to die.)

After Rebecca gets used to the effects of NZT and Brian fills her in on the entire season of *Limitless*, they decide that their best way to pin Sands is to use Huston's burn book. Huston,

Sands' former associate who is now in a coma, kept a book with all sorts of deals and details that could expose Sands as a murderer. The book has two authors, and since Huston is, as mentioned before, in a coma, their only option is to track down the first author and see if they can get him to testify against Sands.

Their search for clues leads them to a woman mentioned in the book: Amelia Glasser, a former DOJ up-and-comer that Morra hired to track down NZT dealers. When she outlived her usefulness, Morra stopped giving her shots, and the withdrawal pain was so bad that she turned to other drugs. All she remembers is that she was contacted by two men, Hawkes and Huston. We already know Huston, and the only detail she has about Hawkes is a cigarette butt she picked up and has saved for so many years. An address or a physical description would be great, but sure, a cigarette butt works, too.

As Rebecca and Brian are leaving Amelia's trailer in the woods, one of Sands' cronies tries to eliminate them both. But Sands is still grateful for Brian helping him save his son, so he sends a helpful text message telling him to duck. He won't actually, you know, call off the assassin or anything, but he will send a text message. Sands' message doesn't get there fast enough, though, and Rebecca gets shot in the shoulder. Even as she's bleeding out, she manages to shoot the guy in the head through the sight of his own rifle — which is the most badass thing that has ever happened on this show. If this was a show about Rebecca Harris on NZT, all episodes would be 10 minutes long and all criminals would either be dead or in jail.

Thanks to NZT, Rebecca is able to ignore the gaping wound in her shoulder, and a little DNA analysis (and a lot of poring over genetic documents) lead her and Brian to Hawkes. However, they get there too late, and they find him lying dead on the floor of his own home gym. Thanks, Sands. Their only option is now Huston, and even though he's comatose, Brian figures out that his brain still seems to be working. So, they fashion a homemade EKG machine, and Huston happily spills everything he knows about Sands.

The only thing left to do is bring Sands into custody. It seems like things are wrapped up in a neat little bow, and if we weren't still two episodes away from the season finale, it'd feel like a fitting ending to the season: Rebecca got some closure with her dad, and Sands is behind bars. But there's one wrinkle: Now that Rebecca knows about Morra, he won't give Brian his NZT immunity shots, which means that Brian's time at the FBI is done. (He's right, though: He could always team up with Stavros and sign on as a janitor.) Fortunately for us, there are still two more episodes left in the season — and Piper is still out there somewhere with an NZT shot. So whatever Brian may think, I highly doubt his time at the FBI is over.

Finale: Part One!

Season 1

Episode Number: 21

Season Episode: 21

Originally aired:	Tuesday April 19, 2016
Writer:	Sallie Patrick, Taylor Elmore
Director:	Paul A. Edwards
Show Stars:	Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pوران), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role:	Colin Salmon (Jarrod Sands), Ron Rifkin (Dennis Finch), Megan Guinan (Rachel Finch)
Guest Stars:	Jacob Pitts (DEA Agent Adam Brewster), Jay Klaitz (Grover), Robbie Tann (Clay Meeks), Jeffrey Omura (Senator Morra's Aide (Danny)), Rebecca Naomi Jones (Alice), Patch Darragh (Cameron Finch), Alok Tewari (Antoine Jacoby), Talia Thiesfield (Alex), Matthew James Ballinger (Iggy), Dante Nero (Hades), Chris Carfizzi (Gary), Lee Garrett (Dealer), Curtis Shumaker (NYPD Cop), Eric T. Miller (Daytrader), Anthony P. Thomas (Trader Buddy), Chantal Maurice (Busker), Caleb Wells (Beardo), Jodi Applegate (Reporter 1), Christine Lin (Reporter 2), Todd Alan Crain (Reporter 3), Zachary Clark (Anonymous 1), Matthew K. Addison (Bro 1), Trev Stevens (Bro 2)
Summary:	The FBI's worst nightmare comes true when NZT floods the streets of New York City and threatens to become a national epidemic. As efforts are made to stop it from spreading, a joint manhunt is launched to find the lab producing the drug; at the same time, Brian struggles to adjust to his new reality when he lacks the resources to continue searching for Piper.



It's never fun to lose your job. It's especially not fun to lose your super cool job solving crimes at the FBI where you have access to a magic pill that enhances your brain, only to have to move back into your parents' house. It especially sucks when a scary British guy whose life you once helped to save has kidnapped your girlfriend and unleashed a deadly drug upon the city of New York, and there's not a thing you can do to stop it.

This is the situation Brian finds himself in four weeks after the FBI arrests Sands, and it totally sucks. Even though Sands is in jail, he's got a group of cronies

(whom Brian has dubbed "The Legion of Whom") who still have Piper stashed away somewhere, and now that Brian doesn't have access to the immunity shots, the FBI won't let him take NZT. He's reduced to trying to piece together clues in his dad's garage in between shifts at a local electronics store. Every now and then, he gets NZT aftershocks, brief moments of clarity that help make him better at selling TVs, but they never last long enough to really help him find Piper. Before his last pill wore off, he wrote down everything he knows about Morra, Sands, and the Legion of Whom, but when he's not on NZT, it's mostly just a lot of nonsense.

The FBI isn't faring much better. Sands is keeping quiet, but even though he's in jail, the streets have been flooded with a brand new epidemic of NZT. This is a problem because NZT-enhanced people keep doing things like jumping into the lion exhibit in the Bronx Zoo — or dying because of the pill's side effects. Either way, not good. One of Naz's old colleagues from the DEA, a guy named Adam Brewster, comes in to help, but they don't have anything on Sands, Morra, or the source of all this new NZT. The only pattern that Rebecca picks up on is the word "Apocryphon," which keeps popping up with every new NZT user they talk to. And when Rebecca finds the word scribbled on a piece of paper in Brian's old notes, she knows it can't be coincidence.

So, Rebecca finally reaches out to Brian, and he's thrilled that she's asking him to get back in the game. But once she realizes that he doesn't remember what Apocryphon is, she's unwilling to risk giving him another pill just to help him remember. There's nothing Brian wants more than to help, but he quickly realizes that the FBI only wants him when he's on NZT — and that hurts.

So, Brian does what he always does and takes matters into his own hands. His new co-worker Grover has been bragging about how he can score some NZT — "it's like Viagra for your brain... It's a brain boner" — so Brian takes him up on his offer, and they head to the coolest NZT-enhanced party ever to try and track some down. The bar is a giant Rube Goldberg machine, and there is a girl named Alice who uses NZT to come up with an entire theory about how Taylor Swift is going to officially take over the world (as if she hasn't already). "Taylor Swift was sworn into the 13 bloodlines of the Illuminati by the queen herself: Beyoncé," Alice explains. Obviously.

Brian and Grover buy some NZT off Alice, and as she tries to explain how people "usually use about 10 percent" of their brains, there's a nice little meta joke as Brian cuts her off: "Yeah, that's a myth actually. That whole 10 percent thing."

So, Brian gets his fix, and within seconds, he realizes that Apocryphon isn't necessarily the name of the new NZT on the market, but maybe it's named after the person who created it. The FBI, with help from Brewster the DEA agent, are busy chasing down pharmacists they think they might be responsible, but Brian and Grover use their NZT-enhanced brains to interrogate NZT drug dealers until they find the source of it all.

(First, Brian has to tear Grover away from Alice, who's fully convinced him of Taylor Swift's omniscience. Grover: "Taylor Swift is going to seriously take over the world." Brian: "Well, shake it off!")

Brian tracks all the NZT to a pharmacist named Clay Meeks, who blatantly confesses to being the guy who created all the new NZT in league with Sands. But before Brian can get any answers about where Piper is, Clay straight up disappears in a cloud of smoke like David Copperfield or the Wicked Witch of the West. It's an insane moment in an insane episode, and IT'S GREAT.

But with Clay Meeks disappearing into thin air, Brian has no proof that Clay is the guy behind it all, and the FBI is still following tips from Brewster. They end up rounding up a whole bunch of people who confess to being involved with NZT, but something still isn't sitting right with Brian. It isn't until he takes his last NZT pill that he figures it all out: Brewster was working with Sands the whole time.

Shocker! Basically, any time the FBI works with anybody outside the FBI, they end up being a traitor/murderer/generally terrible human being. I don't care if they've worked with Naz for 20 years or if they're Boyle's old army buddy: If they show up suddenly in one episode and we've never heard of them before, they're probably terrible. Did we learn nothing from ADIC Johnson??

Brewster breaks Sands out of jail. All those people Brewster had the FBI round up weren't Sands' people but actually Morra's people, and a convenient explosion kills them all off. Things have never been more dangerous for Brian or the FBI, and while we don't exactly know what Sands is planning, it's a pretty safe bet that whatever it is, it can't be good.

Finale: Part Two!!

Season 1
Episode Number: 22
Season Episode: 22

Originally aired: Tuesday April 26, 2016
Writer: Craig Sweeny, Taylor Elmore
Director: Douglas Aarniokoski
Show Stars: Jake McDorman (Brian Finch), Jennifer Carpenter (FBI Special Agent Rebecca Harris), Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio (FBI Special Agent in Charge Nasreen "Naz" Pouran), Hill Harper (FBI Special Agent Spelman Boyle)
Recurring Role: Colin Salmon (Jarrod Sands), Ron Rifkin (Dennis Finch), Michael James Shaw (Agent Mike), Tom Degnan (Agent Ike), Michael Devine (James "Tech" Padgett), Musto Pelinkovicci (Stavros)
Guest Stars: Georgina Haig (Piper Baird), Christina Vidal (Lucy Church), Jacob Pitts (DEA Agent Adam Brewster), Marc Kudisch (Gordon Cooker), Stephen O'Reilly (II) (Spike Four), Sarah Wilson (IV) (Jessamyn Eubanks), Richard Bekins (Jean-Pierre Morneau), Robbie Tann (Clay Meeks), Michael Torpey (Andrew Inouye), Ronnie Mund (Mundt), Kathleen Mary Carthy (Christine Poule), Lorianna Izrailova (Andrea Who Knows Things), Roy Jackson (Foreman), Harriett D. Foy (NYPD Uniform), Jade Wu (Mary Wu)
Summary: Brian deals with a stunning betrayal as he and the FBI race to stop an NZT-enabled Sands and his associates from orchestrating an international incident of evil. Meanwhile, Brian also experiences devastating side effects when his NZT immunity begins to wear off.



The episode picks up exactly where part one left off. Brewster, the Legion of Whom's spy for the DEA, has sprung Sands from jail. The Legion has flooded the streets with extra NZT pills, and people are starting to lose their minds — and even die — because of the pill's side effects. Brewster had the CJC round up a bunch of people they believe to be involved with the NZT flood, only to kill them all in a violent explosion. (And it turns out the victims weren't involved with the Legion of Whom at all; they were on Morra's team.) Brian and the CJC still haven't figured out what the Legion's evil

master plan is, and Sands still has Piper locked up somewhere, forcing her to make the NZT antidote for him. Oh yeah, and Sen. Morra is nowhere to be found.

Those would be some pretty serious problems for Brian to solve on a normal day, but things are complicated further by the fact that Brian's own NZT immunity shot is wearing off. He needs every bit of brain power he can get to take on Sands, but every time Brian takes an NZT pill, the side effects get progressively worse until he's hallucinating warped versions of Piper and creepy fingers in donuts. Still, the stakes are high enough that Brian is willing to risk it all and take as many pills as he needs to find Piper — or die trying.

The only lead Brian and the CJC have is Clay Meeks, the David Copperfield wannabe who's been working for the Legion and creating mass amounts of NZT. Even though Meeks pulled

his disappearing act before and vanished into a cloud of smoke, à la the Wicked Witch of the West, the CJC still manages to track him to his foster mother's place, where he gives them a name: Morneau. Brian's convinced that Morneau is Jean Pierre Morneau, the Canadian secretary of state for global affairs, but by the time they find him, it's too late. He's dead. Which isn't suspicious at all.

Morneau was in town to negotiate a treaty with Greenland. With global warming on the rise, a solid block of ice between the two countries will soon open up, creating a much-anticipated northwest passage that would allow ships to move seamlessly from ocean to ocean. There's a lot of money in that passage, and while Morneau was refusing to sign the treaty with Greenland, hoping that Canada would get exclusive rights to the passage, he's dead now — which means that the treaty is almost definitely going to happen. As a result, people are investing a lot of money in this new passage, but Sands and the Legion of Whom are betting against it. They're creating a huge bubble, and they plan to pop it by killing off the Greenland ambassador. With the Greenland ambassador dead and the treaty completely off the table, they get to walk away with all the money that people had invested in the passage.

As far as supervillain conspiracies go, it's not the most glamorous or innovative plot, but hey, if it makes you a couple billion dollars, it works.

The CJC try to take the Greenland ambassador into protective custody, but they're too late. The ambassador's Canadian bodyguard shoots him in the head, and while it looks like he's just a crazy Canadian nationalist, Brian figures out pretty quickly that he's just a patsy and Sands blackmailed him into shooting the ambassador. Unfortunately, the bodyguard has no new information for them about Sands — until Rebecca gives him an NZT pill, and he can suddenly remember plenty of helpful details.

The bodyguard remembers enough about his meeting with Sands to point them to a chemical refinery uptown. There, they find dozens of lab employees manufacturing NZT — and Sands. While Boyle and Brian head out to try and find Piper, Rebecca earns the Most Badass Moment of the Season Award for her epic confrontation with Sands.

"You murdered my father; you murdered Morra's people; you aren't going to murder anyone else," she tells him, and even though Sands is on NZT, she takes him out with a single shot to the head. Go Rebecca.

The Legion of Whom is disbanded. Sands is in custody, but they're not sure if he'll survive his gunshot wound. Everything is wrapped up in a neat little bow, but there's still one major problem weighing on Brian's mind: Piper. She's still nowhere to be seen, and by the time he heads back to his dad's house, dejected, he's not sure if he'll ever see her again.

Except she's there! Chilling in the living room and talking to his dad, like she did when she and Brian first met all those weeks ago. Turns out that she was at the chemical refinery after all, but instead of waiting around to get rescued by Brian and the CJC, she grabbed the NZT enzyme and bolted. See, she's been working on something that she'd rather not tell the government about: a new NZT enzyme that grants permanent immunity. That means no more booster shots and no more deals with Morra or Sands. The only catch is that she can't stay and be with Brian... Imagine how dangerous things would be if the government had her recipe for permanent NZT immunity. It's a bittersweet moment, but as a parting gift, she grants the immunity shot to Brian, leaving him free to take as much NZT as he wants for the rest of his life.

Actor Appearances

A

Matthew K. Addison	1
0121 (Bro 1)	
Gbenga Akinnagbe	2
0110 (Quentin Walker); 0114 (Quentin Walker)	
Sydney Cole Alexander	1
0113 (Receptionist)	
Raquel Almazan	1
0116 (Alisha)	
Adrian Alvarado	1
0106 (Red Team 1)	
Vinny Anand	1
0117 (Hazmat Guy)	
Deven Anderson	1
0115 (Data Dweeb Guy)	
Cooper Andrews	1
0110 (Kenny Sumida)	
Sergey Anikeev	1
0118 (Vladi)	
Ngozi Jane Anyanwu	1
0106 (Admission Liason)	
Jodi Applegate	1
0121 (Reporter 1)	
Andrei Arlovski	1
0107 (Aleksey Basayev)	
Paton Ashbrook	1
0103 (Sarah Braden)	

B

Sarah Babb	1
0106 (Counselor)	
Simone Bailly	1
0112 (Brandy Jo Hawkins)	
Max Baker	1
0104 (Arthur Maciel)	
Matthew James Ballinger	1
0121 (Iggy)	
Martin Barabas	1
0104 (Claxion Executive)	
Murray Bartlett	1
0120 (Conrad Harris)	
Steven Ted Beckler	1
0106 (Ubient Head of Security)	
Richard Bekins	1
0122 (Jean-Pierre Morneau)	
Starla Benford	1
0110 (Female Career Tour Guide)	
Marc Blucas	1
0111 (Nick Tanner)	
Lauren Blumenfeld	1
0115 (Janice)	
Rob Breckenridge	1
0116 (SA Bradley)	
Kenya Brome	1
0118 (Hip Publisher)	
Blair Brown	6

0101 (Marie Finch); 0102 (Marie Finch); 0109 (Marie Finch); 0112 (Marie Finch); 0117 (Marie Finch); 0118 (Marie Finch)	
Warren Bub	1
0101 (Bank Security Guard)	
Jared Burke	1
0106 (Cabbie)	
Charles Anthony Burks	1
0101 (Motorman)	
Jeremy Burnett	2
0113 (Evidence Control Agent); 0114 (Evidence Control Agent)	
McCaleb Burnett	1
0110 (Aaron Shaw)	
Bernard Bygott	1
0112 (Security Guard)	

C

Timothy TV Cao	1
0108 (Pradeep)	
Chris Carfizzi	1
0121 (Gary)	
Kathleen Mary Carthy	1
0122 (Christine Poule)	
Paul Castro Jr.	1
0108 (College Roommate)	
Julee Cerda	1
0114 (Gerd Rep)	
Melody Cheng	1
0110 (Ellen Kang)	
Ka-Ling Cheung	1
0118 (Publicist)	
Edward Chin-Lyn	1
0114 (Spike One)	
Norma Chu	1
0103 (Chinese Woman)	
Zachary Clark	1
0121 (Anonymous 1)	
James Colby	1
0115 (Adrian Vescovi)	
Justin Colon	1
0111 (Manbun)	
Dominick Coniglio	1
0105 (Young Chris)	
Patrick Cooley	1
0114 (Spike Two)	
Bradley Cooper	5
0101 (Senator Edward "Eddie" Morra); 0103 (Senator Edward "Eddie" Morra); 0106 (Senator Edward "Eddie" Morra); 0112 (Senator Eddie Morra); 0119 (Senator Eddie Morra)	
Victor Costa	1
0103 (Officer Rodriguez)	
Michelle Liu Coughlin	1
0113 (Examiner)	
Todd Alan Crain	1
0121 (Reporter 3)	

D

Patch Darragh.....	4
0102 (Cameron Finch); 0109 (Cameron Finch); 0117 (Cameron Finch); 0121 (Cameron Finch)	
Tom Degnan.....	19
0102 (Agent Ike); 0103 (Agent Ike); 0104 (Agent Ike); 0105 (Agent Ike); 0106 (Agent Ike); 0107 (Agent Ike); 0108 (Agent Ike); 0109 (Agent Ike); 0110 (Agent Ike); 0111 (Agent Ike); 0112 (Agent Ike); 0113 (Agent Ike); 0114 (Agent Ike); 0115 (Agent Ike); 0116 (Agent Ike); 0117 (Agent Ike); 0118 (Agent Ike); 0119 (Agent Ike); 0122 (Agent Ike)	
Michael Devine.....	10
0105 (James); 0109 (James); 0112 (James); 0114 (FBI Tech James); 0115 (FBI Tech James); 0116 (FBI Tech James); 0117 (FBI Tech James); 0119 (James "Tech" Padgett); 0120 (James "Tech" Padgett); 0122 (James "Tech" Padgett)	
Jack Dimich.....	1
0115 (Sergei)	
Sean Donnelly.....	1
0110 (Line Chef)	
Tate Donovan.....	1
0114 (John)	
Brady Dowad.....	1
0105 (Sam Garper)	
Dina Drew.....	1
0102 (Aide)	

E

Dashiell Eaves.....	1
0102 (Darren Cullen)	
Ariel Eliaz.....	1
0106 (Subject 13)	
Venida Evans.....	1
0111 (Cora Boyle)	

F

Jasson Finney.....	1
0118 (Andrei)	
Kerry Flanagan.....	1
0107 (School Bus Driver)	
Ari Fliakos.....	1
0105 (Norris Allen)	
Lolita Foster.....	1
0120 (Angry Woman)	
Harriett D. Foy.....	1
0122 (NYPD Uniform)	
Joel de la Fuente.....	1
0119 (Guest Star)	

G

Henry Gagliardi.....	3
0101 (10-year-old Brian); 0103 (8 Year Old Brian); 0105 (Young Brian)	
Julian Gamble.....	1
0115 (Keener)	
Lee Garrett.....	1
0121 (Dealer)	
Jordan Geiger.....	1
0107 (Counselor Dan)	
Sophia Gennusa.....	1
0120 (12 Year Old Rebecca)	
Greg Germann.....	1
0108 (ADIC Grady Johnson)	

Gian-Murray Gianino.....	1
0114 (TheScrubJay)	
Claire Glassford.....	1
0101 (Lisa)	
Derek Goh.....	1
0105 (Christopher Garper)	
Daniel Eric Gold.....	1
0101 (Adam Honeycutt)	
Elisabeth Gray.....	1
0120 (Margaret Curran)	
Dan Grimaldi.....	1
0112 (Johnny Opera Velardi)	
Zabryna Guevara.....	1
0107 (Carla Paz)	
Zuleyma Guevara.....	1
0101 (Teller)	
Megan Guinan.....	8
0101 (Sarah Finch); 0102 (Sarah Finch); 0104 (Rachel Finch); 0109 (Rachel Finch); 0116 (Rachel Finch); 0117 (Rachel Finch); 0118 (Rachel Finch); 0121 (Rachel Finch)	
Arjun Gupta.....	1
0101 (Eli Whitford)	
Jack Gwaltney.....	1
0107 (Dean Merrick)	

H

Cole Hagen.....	1
0101 (Young Luke)	
Georgina Haig.....	3
0112 (Piper); 0118 (Piper Baird); 0122 (Piper Baird)	
Christopher Halladay.....	1
0113 (Andre Hannan)	
Walker Hare.....	1
0103 (Bartender)	
Desmond Harrington.....	3
0105 (FBI Agent Casey Rooks); 0109 (FBI Agent Casey Rooks); 0111 (FBI Agent Casey Rooks)	
Lukas Hassel.....	1
0115 (Gudmund Friedrich)	
Kathleen Hays.....	1
0101 (Sabrina)	
Jessica Hecht.....	1
0106 (Ubient Executive)	
Jeremy Holm.....	1
0119 (Mister Y)	
Joe Holt.....	1
0103 (Sgt. Randy Moore)	
Todd A. Horman.....	1
0102 (AC Dealer)	

I

Theogan Iyer.....	1
0119 (Rohan Kumar)	
Lorianna Izrailova.....	2
0118 (Andrea); 0122 (Andrea Who Knows Things)	

J

Andre Jackson.....	1
0105 (Riot Cop)	
Roy Jackson.....	1
0122 (Foreman)	
Joy Lynn Jacobs.....	1
0116 (Night Nurse)	
Ajna Jai.....	1
0108 (Mitra)	
Rebecca Naomi Jones.....	1

0121 (Alice)

K

Lohrasp Kansara	1
0108 (Felix Durmaz)	
Mellini Kantayya	1
0105 (Chief of Staff)	
Adam Keane	1
0107 (Young Brian (14 years old))	
Eva Grace Kellner	1
0107 (Girl on Bus)	
Jay Klaitz	1
0121 (Grover)	
Marc Kudisch	1
0122 (Gordon Cooker)	
Misha Kuznetsov	1
0118 (Nicholai Zukov)	

L

Julie Lauren	1
0119 (Guest Star)	
David Lavine	1
0111 (Dermatologist)	
Danny Lee (III)	1
0102 (Doctor Lee)	
Aurora Leonard	1
0109 (Young Hottie)	
Kecia Lewis-Evans	1
0111 (Chrystal)	
Joel Van Liew	1
0102 (Teacher)	
Teresa Avia Lim	1
0104 (Jogger)	
Christine Lin	1
0121 (Reporter 2)	
Todd Litzinger	1
0113 (Nolan Bale)	
Whitney Kimball Long	1
0106 (Red Team 2)	
Jack Luceno	1
0109 (Phillip Brubaker)	

M

Tom Malmed	1
0101 (16-year-old Brian)	
Brian Mannain	1
0120 (Huston)	
Robert Ray Manning Jr.	1
0116 (Daryl)	
Moti Margolin	1
0118 (Intelligence Apparatchik)	
Chantal Maurice	1
0121 (Busker)	
James McDaniel	2
0106 (Red Team Leader); 0108 (EAD Kenneth Paulson)	
Kohler McKenzie	1
0117 (NYPD Uniform)	
Jason Mello	1
0109 (Jay Allen Clements)	
Zach Miko	1
0101 (Cameron)	
Eric T. Miller	1
0121 (Daytrader)	
Sinclair Mitchell	1
0106 (Ubient Security Guard)	
Sepideh Moafi	1

0106 (Dr. Pauline Wilson)

Adele Mori	1
0103 (Cellist)	
Brandon Morris	1
0117 (Man in Black)	
Sipiwe Moyo	3
0101 (Nurse); 0102 (Nurse); 0103 (Sipiwe)	
Adam Mucci	1
0107 (Mike Timms)	
Aimee Mullins	1
0120 (Dr. Peri)	
Ronnie Mund	1
0122 (Mundt)	

N

Sergey Nagorny	1
0107 (Abe Froman (Miklos Petrov))	
Al Nazemian	1
0117 (Bodega Witness)	
Phil Nee	1
0104 (Mao Zhang)	
Kat Nejat	1
0117 (Corey Martinson)	
Dante Nero	1
0121 (Hades)	
Mark Noonan (II)	2
0101 (Luke Finch); 0102 (Luke Finch)	

O

Colin O'Brien	1
0104 (YouTube Guy)	
Stephen O'Reilly (II)	2
0114 (Spike Four); 0122 (Spike Four)	
Jeffrey Omura	3
0112 (Guest Star); 0119 (Danny); 0121 (Senator Morra's Aide (Danny))	

P

Frank Pando	1
0117 (Detective Hernandez)	
Timothy Britten Parker	1
0106 (Ubient Head of Operations)	
Wole Parks	1
0111 (Kevin Mitchell)	
Katelyn Pearce	1
0102 (Olivia)	
Musto Pelinkovicci	6
0109 (Stavros); 0111 (Stavros); 0115 (Stavros); 0119 (Stavros); 0120 (Stavros); 0122 (Stavros)	
Eddie Pepitone	1
0113 (Josh-O-Saurus Josh)	
Jessica Perez	1
0104 (Tall Model)	
Jennifer Perry	1
0110 (Woman (on monitor))	
Jacob Pitts	2
0121 (DEA Agent Adam Brewster); 0122 (DEA Agent Adam Brewster)	

Q

Allene Quincy	1
0109 (Ginnie)	

R

Marc Raco 1
 0116 (Richard)

Evgeniya Radilova 1
 0115 (Irina)

Maria Elena Ramirez 1
 0117 (CDC Official)

Gene Ravvin 1
 0118 (Russian Policeman)

Margaret Reed 1
 0115 (Female Voice)

Katie Reid (II) 1
 0120 (Maggie Harris)

Tim Reid 1
 0117 (Sturgeon Reid)

James Lloyd Reynolds 1
 0114 (Gerard Turmann)

Peter Reznikoff 1
 0118 (Maxim Lavrov)

Ron Rifkin 10
 0101 (Dennis Finch); 0102 (Dennis Finch); 0104 (Dennis Finch); 0109 (Dennis Finch); 0110 (Dennis Finch); 0112 (Dennis Finch); 0117 (Dennis Finch); 0118 (Dennis Finch); 0121 (Dennis Finch); 0122 (Dennis Finch)

James Riordan 1
 0113 (Dr. Howard Gilroy)

Christopher Brian Roach 1
 0117 (Maurice)

Sam Robards 1
 0102 (Miles Amos)

Shirley Roeca 1
 0120 (Amelia Glosser)

Lee Aaron Rosen 1
 0107 (Cameron (Kyle Hollinger))

Barbara Rosenblat 1
 0108 (Loretta)

Rob Leo Roy 1
 0108 (Timothy Urbaniak)

Zachary James Rukavina 1
 0110 (Guy in Suit)

William Ryall 1
 0103 (Johan Makinin)

S

Bruce Sabath 1
 0104 (Attorney Raymond Dell)

Colin Salmon 15
 0103 (Sands); 0104 (Sands); 0105 (Sands); 0106 (Sands); 0108 (Sands); 0112 (Mr. Sands); 0113 (Jarrod Sands); 0114 (Jarrod Sands); 0115 (Jarrod Sands); 0116 (Jarrod Sands); 0118 (Jarrod Sands); 0119 (Jarrod Sands); 0120 (Jarrod Sands); 0121 (Jarrod Sands); 0122 (Jarrod Sands)

Pallavi Sastry 1
 0104 (Annie)

Robert Sella 1
 0117 (Ian Marshall)

Charlie Semine 1
 0104 (Guest Star)

Gabrielle Senn 1
 0104 (Amanda)

Terry Serpico 1
 0113 (David Englander)

Lipica Shah 1
 0102 (Receptionist)

Jeremy Shamos 1
 0106 (Andrew Epperly)

Michael James Shaw 14

0102 (Agent Mike); 0103 (Agent Mike); 0104 (Agent Mike); 0105 (Agent Mike); 0107 (Agent Mike); 0109 (Agent Mike); 0111 (Agent Mike); 0113 (Agent Mike); 0114 (Agent Mike); 0115 (Agent Mike); 0117 (Agent Mike); 0118 (Agent Mike); 0119 (Agent Mike); 0122 (Agent Mike)

Mihran Shlougian 1
 0102 (General Ram Ananda)

Teja Shtrom 1
 0120 (5 Year Old Natasha)

Curtis Shumaker 1
 0121 (NYPD Cop)

Karim Sioud 1
 0111 (Russ Marinovich)

Gabriel Sloyer 1
 0103 (Marco Ramos)

Brett G. Smith 1
 0105 (JTTF Agent)

Trev Stevens 1
 0121 (Bro 2)

Catherine Mary Stewart 1
 0108 (Deputy Director Catherine Rovick)

Craig Sweeny 1
 0101 (Cecil)

T

Robbie Tann 2
 0121 (Clay Meeks); 0122 (Clay Meeks)

Lucy Taylor 1
 0104 (Beth Gunther)

Rosalie Tenseth 1
 0111 (Evelyn)

Alok Tewari 1
 0121 (Antoine Jacoby)

Talia Thiesfield 1
 0121 (Alex)

Anthony P. Thomas 1
 0121 (Trader Buddy)

Analeigh Tipton 1
 0103 (Shauna)

Eli Tokash 1
 0105 (Young Sam)

Michael Torpey 1
 0122 (Andrew Inouye)

Ed Trucco 1
 0119 (Mister X)

V

Michelle Veintimilla 1
 0108 (Ava)

Nicholas Verina 1
 0101 (Sarah's Husband)

Christina Vidal 2
 0115 (Lucy Church); 0122 (Lucy Church)

W

Matt Walton 1
 0103 (Jeffrey Vachs)

Susan Kelechi Watson 1
 0114 (Elo)

Charle Webb 1
 0108 (FBI Agent)

Caleb Wells 1
 0121 (Beardo)

Isiah Whitlock Jr. 1
 0109 (Lawrence Drake)

Sarah Wilson (IV) 2

0101 (Jessamyn Eubanks); 0122 (Jessamyn Eubanks)
Kenny Wong 1
0108 (Tattoo Face)
Jade Wu 1
0122 (Mary Wu)

Y

Pascal Yen-Pfister 1
0111 (Henri Bouchard)
Malik Yoba 1
0107 (Rooney (John Kellerman))
Perry Yung 1
0108 (Ahmad Wan)

Z

Evan Zelnick 1
0110 (Prep Cook)