

SURVIVAL INSTINCT

1x01: The World We Used To Know
Written by Brian Melanson

SURVIVAL INSTINCT

Starring

Katie Cassidy as Julie Evans

Brian J. Smith as Ryder Ford

Dove Cameron as Caitlyn Evans

Sarah Paulson as Cameron Parks

Colin Ford as Lionel Matterson

Zoe Saldana as Belle Delgado

Nina Dobrev as Cassie Rhodes

Jorge Garcia as Benji Porter

Guest Starring

Regina King as President Claire Hawthorne

FADE IN:

OVER BLACK:

Sirens wail loudly as people scream bloody murder. GROWLS come over, as blood gushes loudly. It is clear there is something wrong.

FADE IN:

INT. NEWS STATION - NIGHT

Sitting in front of a desk an Anchor Woman. This is HELEN. Her outfit is disheveled. Her eyes showing her exhaustion. She looks up towards the camera.

HELEN

Are we on?

PRODUCER (O.S.)

Only in a few places.

Helen sighs and then straightens herself out.

HELEN

(exhausted)

We don't know who we are reaching.
We have received word that the
entire country has been placed into
Marshall Law. Borders to Mexico
and Canada have been sealed off.
All air travel... has been
grounded.

(beat)

The death toll has been said to
have risen to the tens of
thousands. We wish we could --

She takes a breath, looking off to a few people off screen. Her eyes then dart down to the papers on her desk. She then picks them up, ripping them apart.

HELEN (CONT'D)

We don't have time for this,
bullshit. It doesn't matter
anymore.

PRODUCER

Helen -- !

HELEN

-- It doesn't matter!

(beat)

The world's gone to shit.

She then looks directly into the camera.

HELEN (CONT'D)

I suggest all of you get shelter.
Stock up on food, put up walls. Be
with your family. Stay away from
the infected... And make amends to
your God.

(beat)

If anyone is listening to this...
may god save you. And whatever you
do?

(beat)

Survive.

The static then comes over the screen.

BLACKOUT:

SURVIVAL INSTINCT

FADE IN:

EXT. BOSTON, STREETS - DAY

Two Weeks Earlier...

The streets look like any other day. People are heading to work. But today is different. Today is the day of the Outbreak.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING, JULIE'S OFFICE - DAY

We come in on, JULIE EVANS (29, pale blonde woman. She gives off that "I might look weak, but I will kick your ass" look.) Her cellphone is up to her ear as she writes things down.

JULIE

I don't care, I'm not picking you
up.

INT. EAST BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL, HALLWAY - DAY

Walking down the halls slowly is CAITLYN EVANS (17, blonde with a round face. She is a bit slump-y but is like any other teenage girl. She wants to live life to the fullest. She's also Julie's younger sister)

CAITLYN

But I have a stomach ache.

Intercut between Julie and Caitlyn.

JULIE

You always have a stomach ache.
And a fever. And a broken toe.

CAITLYN

I almost convinced you with that one.

JULIE

Cait, you're staying at school.

CAITLYN

I hate being here. No one likes me here.

She leans against the lockers.

JULIE

It's only your second week. It's not my fault you got kicked out of the nice private school for underage drinking

CAITLYN

So my punishment is public school?

JULIE

You bet.
(beat)
Just survive the rest of today and we'll go to the Red Sox game tonight.

Caitlyn sighs and then smiles.

CAITLYN

Fine. But I want two Fenway Franks.

JULIE
 (laughing)
 I'll be right there with you. I
 love you, Caitlyn.

CAITLYN
 Yeah, you too.

She hangs up and heads down the hall. Julie sighs and sets her phone down. She stands up and turns the TV on in her office before heading out of the room.

INSERT: On the TV. RIOTS ERUPT IN BUNKER HILL: *21 shot dead. 50 injured. Army on scene.*

INT. BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT, OFFICES - DAY

The Police are in a frenzy. Everyone is running around, phones ringing off the hook. We come in on RYDER FORD RYDER FORD (29, tall, muscular rugged man. A Cop. Born to serve and protect). He runs from the back, heading towards CHIEF HOWARD (50s. Bold mustache, powerful and a bit tierd looking)

RYDER
 Chief. The riots are getting out of control.

CHIEF
 I know, but we can't send anymore men and women in. We have to let the military handle it.

RYDER
 These aren't like those Black Lives Matter protests, sir.

CHIEF
 We handled those. But we can't handle this.

RYDER
 But chief -- !

CHIEF
 Do not raise your voice at me, Ford. Your father may have been one of the top police men on the force. But that does not mean you can talk down to me. Are we clear?
 (beat)
 I said, are we clear?!

Ryder nods.

RYDER

Yes sir.

CHIEF

Get back to your desk.

Chief walks off and Ryder heads back to your desk. He looks towards the TV. Huddled around it are other police men and women.

INSERT: On the TV. A camera is focused on a crowd. The News Woman, STACEY stands in front of a camera.

STACEY

What is happening here at Bunker Hill... is not normal.

It cuts to the news studio. In the studio is HELEN.

HELEN

Stacey, these people are clearly acting out. Is there any reason as to why this is happening?

Back onto Stacey.

STACEY

No, Helen. We have no idea why this is happening. But --

Someone comes on screen with Helen, dropping off some papers to her.

HELEN

-- Stacey, we are getting word that...

(reading the paper)

This is ...

STACEY

That what?

HELEN

(to off camera)

This is mistake. This isn't -- !

PRODUCER

It is...

INT. OFFICE BUILDING, BREAK ROOM - DAY

Julie stands at the coffee machine. Pouring herself a drink. She looks towards her co-workers, all of them watching the same news report.

HELEN

But it's just... impossible.

Julie walks over.

JULIE

What's going on?

CO-WORKER 1

There are some riots at Bunker Hill.

CO-WORKER 2

They're saying that there is more happening in East Boston.

JULIE

That's where my sister is.

Julie grabs her phone and dials it. A dial tone comes across.

JULIE (CONT'D)

Damn it.

(beat)

I'm going to head out.

She begins to walk out but then --

HELEN

(on TV)

Ladies and Gentlemen. It appears as if we are... we have an incoming message from the President of the United States. Please stand by.

Julie turns back around, watching the screen. On the screen is PRESIDENT CLAIRE HAWTHORNE (40's. First black female president of the United States. She looks stressed, exhausted. But she keeps a professional look)

CLAIRE

My fellow Americans. It pains me to say this...

(beat)

(MORE)

CLAIRE (CONT'D)

We have learned from the CDC that what is happening right now in Boston, Chicago, New York, and other major cities around the U.S.A And the world... are under attack by...

(beat)

Zombies.

Everyone in the room gasps.

INT. EAST BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL, CLASSROOM - DAY

Caitlyn looks up. Watching the TV as the President talks. The students including the teacher watch in shock.

CLAIRE

We know how insane this may sound. But it is real. The CDC is calling it ... "Lazarus". A virus that kills you and then resurrects you. You then turn into a creature from fiction. A zombie.

INT. BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT, OFFICES - DAY

Ryder watches the TV, shocking coming across his face as everyone around the room is watching as well.

CLAIRE

I am telling you everything that other world leaders are telling their countries right now.

(beat)

We don't know the Origin of this virus. But we do know how it works. It is transferred by a bite. From there it will infect the blood stream. As soon as the host dies, the virus takes control of the brain. Resurrecting it and turning the host into a rabid killing machine.

EXT. NEW YORK, TIMES SQUARE - DAY

Times Square is in chaos. People are running away in fear. A HOMELESS MAN saunters slightly over towards a crowd of people.

FOCUS: On his teeth. They are bright yellow, disgusting and dripping with saliva.

He begins to growl slightly, his left leg dragging behind him. We pan down towards his arm, on it, a GIANT BITE, oozing blood.

Then on his eyes, blood shot red. The iris pulsing slightly as he focuses in on his prey. He then CHARGES after the crowd.

CLAIRE

(echoing)

We cannot protect you all. Lives will be lost. But... we will put all focus into finding a cure. As of right now... Stay in your homes. Find protection. Do not come in contact with the infected.

(beat)

I will take no questions at this time.

As reporters quickly try to get answers, the feed is cut off. Nuke sirens begin wailing over the city of New York. People continue running. More and more zombies running and taking down people.

The Screens are then replaced with a warning message.

EMERGENCY VOICE

This is a State of Emergency. A Virus is spreading. We ask you find shelter and remain calm.

People continue to run away, fear taking over.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING, BREAK ROOM - DAY

The same sirens wail over the city. The workers watch the TV as the state of emergency alert message is played.

EMERGENCY VOICE

We have reports of attacks happening in all major cities across the US and the World. Symptoms of the virus include, vomiting blood. Bloodshot eyes. If you are bitten, then you are infected. To put down a creature, destroy the brain.

Everyone now runs away in panic. They push past Julie as she tries to run away from the scene.

EMERGENCY VOICE (CONT'D)
Above all else... Survive.

The tone repeats and the message does as well.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING, ELEVATOR AREA - DAY

The workers panic as they bang on the doors, trying to get out and open them. The doors then open and people begin to fall down the shafts.

Julie notices this and runs to the stairs.

INT. BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT, OFFICES - DAY

Ryder is now stocking up on guns, grabbing them and stuffing them into a bag. He grabs a pistol and cocks it. The doors burst open and running in is ZOMBIES. The other cops fire their guns aimlessly, completely missing.

The Zombies take them down. Screams of horror come from them as they are eaten alive. The Chief takes down one, but another BITES him from behind.

Ryder goes into his desk, pulling out a very bulk-y cellphone. He then runs towards the EXIT.

INT. EAST BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL, HALLWAY - DAY

The Students and Teachers burst out of the rooms. All of them running in FEAR. Caitlyn is being pushed by a mob towards the door. She then falls, being trampled by people running out.

INT. PARKING GARAGE - DAY

Julie runs towards her car, opening it up and getting in. She then speeds off.

EXT. BOSTON, STEETS - DAY

Julie's car comes speeding out of the parking garage. Cars around her crash as people are now resulting in looting. She dodges whatever she can. Until she comes to the tunnel.

INT. CALLAHAN TUNNEL - DAY

Julie comes to an abrupt stop. Cars are bumper to bumper. Clearly everyone had the same idea.

INT. JULIE'S CAR - DAY

She honks at her horn, hoping that traffic would let up.

JULIE

Come on, god damn it!

She then leans over, grabbing her phone. She clicks on it as it dials. Suddenly, dial tone. She then throws her phone down onto the seat.

She sits back in the seat. She looks up. A horde of people coming running away. She runs past her car, a man FLYING into her windshield, SMASHING it. She then gets out of her car.

INT. CALLAHAN TUNNEL - DAY

Julie looks around, people running past her and pushing her to the side as they try to get to safety.

Julie then looks past the crowd and sees, coming towards her in full force. A horde of ZOMBIES.

Julie stumbles back and then begins running. They slowly walk towards her, a few of them a bit faster than the others. People are being taken down left and right, falling to the ground as they have now become food.

EXT. EAST BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

A Police Car comes speeding towards the school. Students are continuing to run, getting into busses and whatever they can. Coming out of the Police Car is Ryder. He runs into the school.

INT. EAST BOSTON HIGH SCHOOL, HALLWAY - DAY

The Hallways are now empty. Ryder has his gun pointed high. He looks around and notices laying on the ground is Caitlyn.

RYDER

Caitlyn!

He holsters his gun and helps her up. She looks at him and then hugs him tightly.

CAITLYN

Oh my god. I thought I was dead.

She holds onto him as he helps her up.

RYDER

We have to find your sister, okay?

CAITLYN

But she's on the North End.

Ryder then pulls out the cellphone, dialing it. He puts it up to his ear.

EXT. BOSTON, ALLEY WAY - DAY

Julie ducks into an alley way, hiding behind a dumpster. She rests her head back for a second. Her phone then rings. She looks at it and answers it immediately.

JULIE

Hello?!

Intercut between Ryder and Julie.

RYDER

Julie? It's me.

JULIE

Ryder... Oh my god. Listen, I need you to do something for me. I need you to find Caitlyn.

RYDER

I'm already with her. She was at the school.

JULIE

Oh thank god.

RYDER

Where are you?

JULIE

That doesn't matter.

(beat)

Ryder... Just get Caitlyn out of there. Get her out of they city.

Ryder groans and hits a wall, causing Caitlyn to jump in shock.

RYDER
No... I'm not leaving the city
without.

JULIE
I'll find my own way out!

RYDER
I'm not leaving you. Not again.

There is silence. Caitlyn then steps forward.

CAITLYN
North Station.

RYDER
What about it?

CAITLYN
We could get there. Get on a train
and go.

RYDER
Can you get to North Station,
Julie.

Julie looks around, seeing a sign for NORTH STATION.

JULIE
I'll be there.
(beat)
Ryder... If I don't make it --

RYDER
-- Don't talk like that. You're
going to survive. Just get to
North Station.

JULIE
Okay... Keep her alive.

RYDER
I promise.

They hang up and Caitlyn and Ryder run out.

Julie bolts out from the alley.

EXT. BOSTON, STEETS - DAY

Sweeping pan of the City. Smoke rises over the tall
buildings. The only sounds are screams, growls, and gun
shots.

People are taken down. Zombies run at high speeds, blood dripping from their mouths and failed gun shots that missed their heads. A child stands in the middle of the road, crying and screaming.

A Woman grabs her and runs with her. But running towards them is a DRUGGIE ZOMBIE. IT takes them down. The woman falls, suffocating the child as the Zombie begins to eat the woman's neck. Tearing it apart.

We come in on Julie. She runs fast, trying to avoid anyone she can. Some Zombies chase her. She then trips and falls. A zombie jumps ontop of her and she pushes them back. They bite at her, almost foaming at the mouth.

She then reaches over, grabbing a BEER BOTTLE. She then takes it and SMASHES it over the Zombie's head, causing it to fall over. She gets up and stomps on it's head. She then runs.

CUT TO:

Running down the street, Ryder and Caitlyn hold hands. Both of them holding on for dear life.

RYDER

We're almost at North Station!

A zombie then starts running towards them.

CAITLYN

RYDER!

Ryder grabs his pistol, shooting at it a couple of times. Miss. Miss.

RYDER

Son of a bitch!

CAITLYN

The head! Aim for the head!

RYDER

What?!

CAITLYN

Just do it!

Ryder then points his gun, instantly SHOOTING the Zombie right in the head. It's head bursts open. Blood blasting out from the back.

Caitlyn watches in horror. Ryder then grabs her and they resume running.

EXT. NORTH STATION - DAY

The station is crazy, everyone trying to get in. Military are set up in front of it, firing off into the crowd, unsure about who, or what, they are killing. In the sea of people, Julie makes her through.

JULIE
CAITLYN!

On the other side of the crowd, Caitlyn and Ryder stand on top of a car, scanning for Julie.

RYDER
I don't see her!

She continues to scan around. Suddenly, she sees Julie.

CAITLYN
JULIE!

Julie looks up and sees Caitlyn standing on top of a car. A smile comes across her face as she pushes past people to get to Caitlyn. Caitlyn jumps off the car running towards Julie as well. Ryder follows closely behind.

They finally get close together and just as they reach for each other --

INSERT: On Julie and Caitlyn's hands. A ZOMBIE comes ripping through the crowd, BITING Caitlyn's wrist. She screams and falls back from Julie. Julie lets out a blood curdling scream.

JULIE
(screaming)
Caitlyn! NO!!!

Ryder then takes his gun, shooting the zombie that bit Caitlyn. The zombie then falls dead to the ground. Caitlyn looks at her wrist, blood slowly pouring out. Off the shock we --

BLACKOUT.

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END OF EPISODE