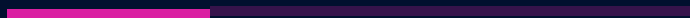


# THE 5 PILLARS

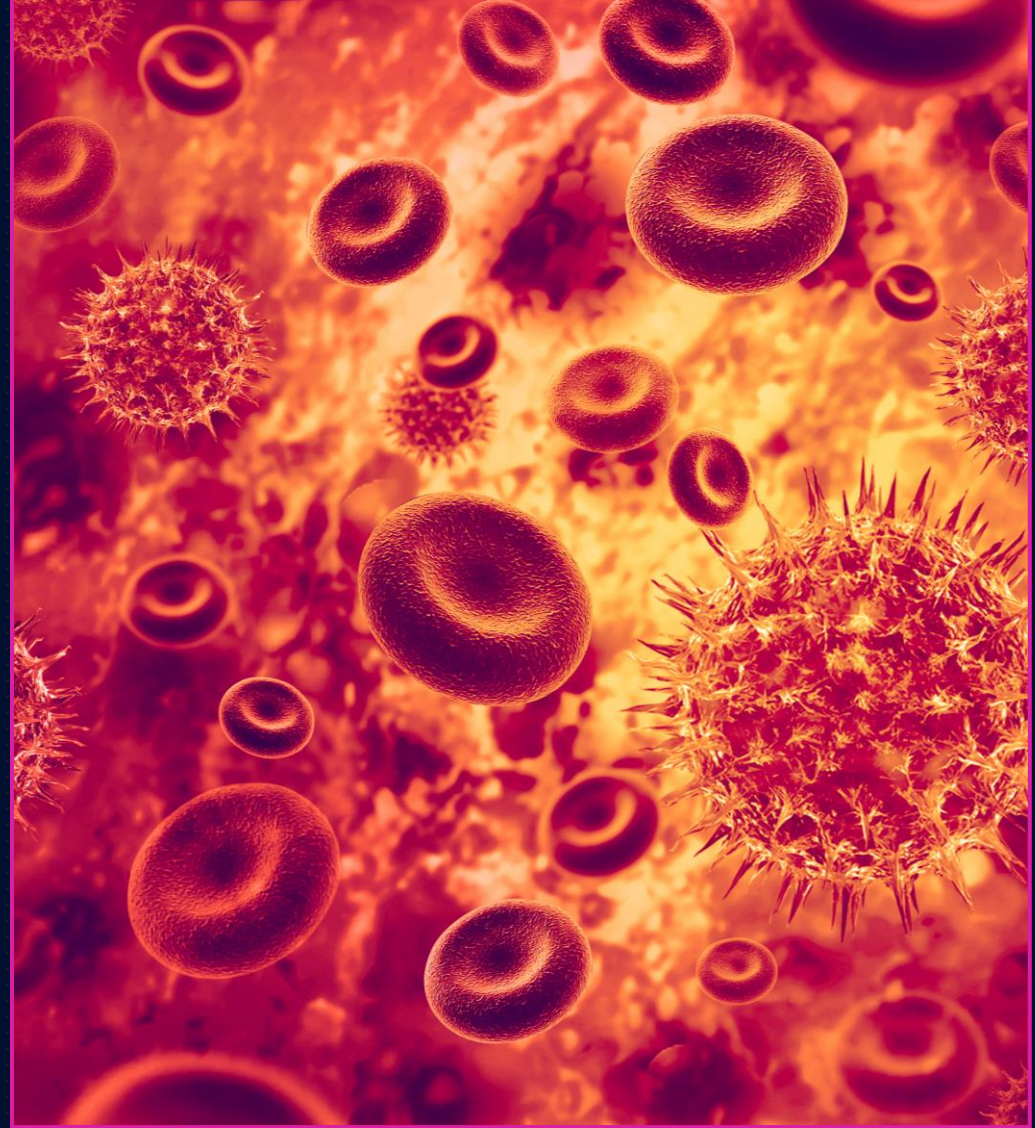
By Cassandra Betancourt



# LOGLINE

In the near future, a virus outbreak meant to kill only vampires, inadvertently kills humans, a woman who designed the virus seeks redemption and partners with a vampire she swore to destroy to help find a cure.

Format/Genre: 1-hr, Sci-Fi Drama



# INTRODUCTION

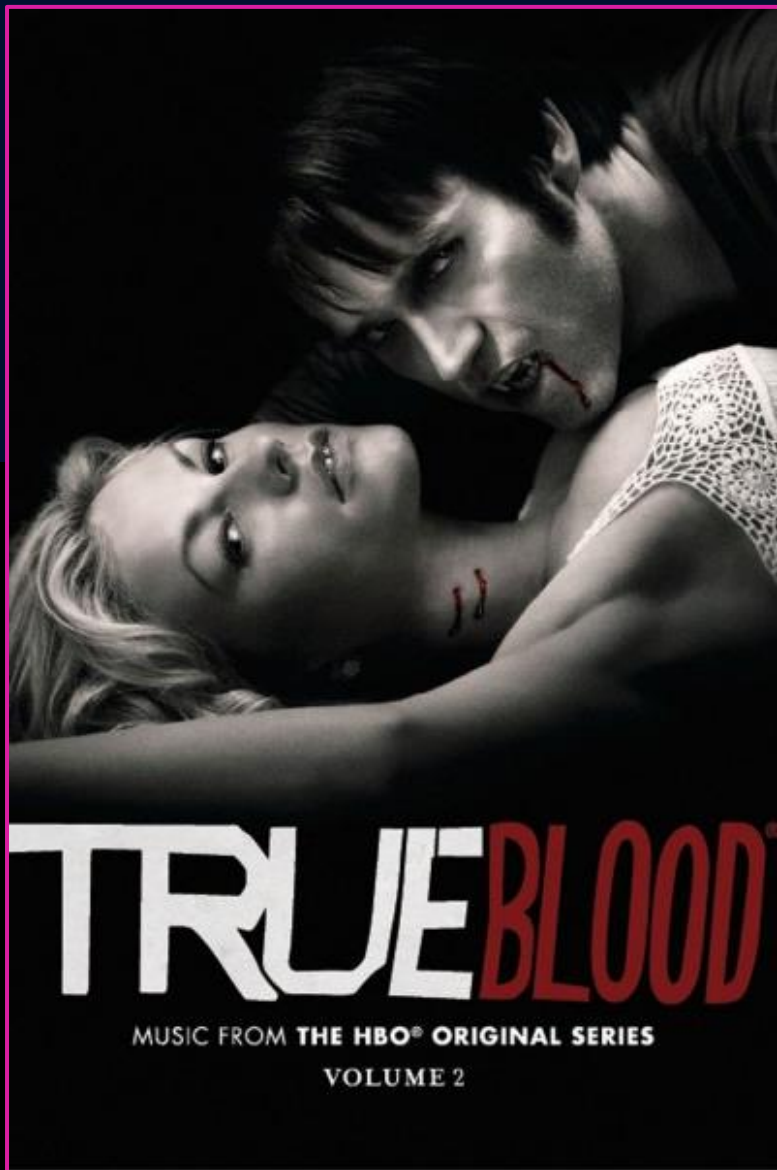
**The 5 Pillars** is a 1-hour sci-fi drama series.

Set in future America and inspired by Gen-Z vampire tv shows and movies, the series explores the crossroads of xenophobia, belongingness, and the sacrifice for love. The show pays tribute to millennial vampire movies with layered and complex characters.

Vampire lore has been explored in countless literature and modern mediums that cause fear and fascination to audiences, from vampires that walk in daylight to shapeshifting and spending eternity with their true love.

This series uses vampires as subtext for America's discrimination and fear of the unknown, as the virus is a metaphor for human error. The female scientist and vampire relationship are examples of love in the darkest of times, with the person you least expect.

The horrors of humanity's reckless reaction to fear and uncertainty lash out into an all-out war. If humans can't control their fear, they will use it to manipulate others. It no longer becomes about who is right but who is left.



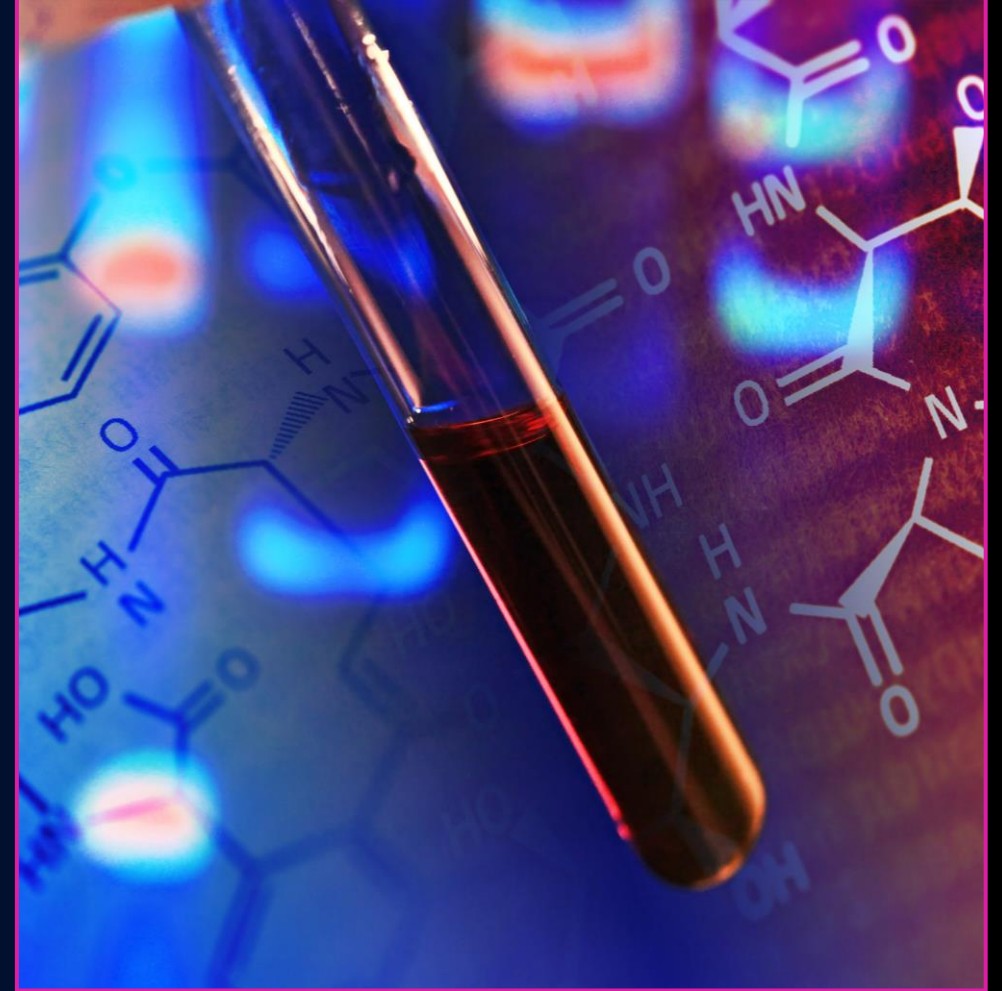
# THE STORY

A virus called V-Pak is developed to kill vampires. Instead, V-PaK becomes a disease for humans and vampires lose their immortality. With half the human population dead, this limits vampires food supply. As a result, both species are on the brink of extinction.

*DR. LILY ZORA* is one of the scientists responsible for the virus creation. She sets up a dangerous expedition to find a cure. Through warring factions of a broken world, she struggles to find redemption and success. She teams up with a vampire, *MIRA*, who is immune to V-PaK. In exchange for her help and supernatural abilities, Mira asks Dr. Zora to find a way to make her human.

Hatred for each species is at its peak. The remaining humans and vampires form separate states know as...

**THE 5 PILLARS.**



LEAD

## DR. LILY ZORA



### GOAL

Dr. Lily Zora (early 40s) son was killed by a vampire. Her hatred for them propels her to create V-PaK. Her guilt for developing a disease that accidentally kills humans, motivates her to find a former colleague, DR. DEAN STAZE, who can help her find a cure.

### CONFLICT

Lily reconciles with her hate and animosity for vampires with her pursuit to cure mankind. She does this at the expense of her moral compass. The leaders of the 5 Pillars want to keep their rule and secretly stand in her way.

### ARC

She accepts Mira as her partner in the expedition. Through her journey, she finds loyalty and solace in her unlikely vampire partner, with who she falls in love. She struggles to keep this secret in a world where secrets are as dangerous as the virus itself.

LEAD

MIRA

# THE VAMPIRE



## GOAL

Mira is a 1,000-year-old vampire with a death wish. She is tired of her immortal living and the loneliness that comes with it. As a result, she seeks mortality so that she can die and rid herself of guilt from the atrocities she has committed. Going on the expedition with Lilly puts her one step closer.

## CONFLICT

During the expedition she falls in love with Lily. She outweighs the love for her and the need to be her protector forever. She faces the wrath of her clan, who question her loyalty. Each pillar pulls her in a direction to embrace her vampirism.

## ARC

She proves her loyalty to Lily. She deciphers which species is worse during her journey, humans or vampires? This makes her decision to become mortal harder.

# PILOT

Vampires exist. The government enlists a taskforce of scientist lead by DR. LILY ZORA to create a virus to kill vampires. Thus, V-PaK is born. It needs more tests, but pressure from the media and human population force the government to push mass production of V-PaK. Bullets are laced with V-PaK that only law enforcement and military can use to hunt down vampires.

Vampires lay low. Until...

Fear and paranoid cause mass hysteria. Humans get illegal access to this new weapon and take matters into their own hands. The virus works. So they think... Infected vampires go down but not for long. They awaken as mortal, but still maintain their super-human strength and thirst for blood.

Vampires respond, going on a mass feeding frenzy.

Infected vampires transmit a variant of V-PaK to humans killing them or making them gravely sick. The outbreak happens so fast that neither vampire nor human can stop it. War erupts.

Dr. Zora's son is bitten by a vampire who was infected by V-PaK. He dies. She feels responsible. She is informed of a doctor, DEAN STAZE, who can help find a cure. A 1,000 year-old vampire, MIRA wants to become human again and believes Lily can help and asks to join on her quest. Lily discovers Mira is immune to V-PaK. She allows Mira into the mission.

# THE WORLD

The women's expedition is fueled by half-truths, functional lies, and bargained relationships.

With endless ideologies of this new, almost desolate world, the country is separated into **The 5 Pillars**. Each pillar has their own region, ruler, and population. There is little regard for others outside their own pillar. Their inhabitants live under the illusion of freedom in exchange for safety and security. Unlikely truces are made to keep both species civilized. Vampire hunting parties are created to keep them in line.

**The 5 Pillars** are...

1. PHARMA VILLE
2. TECH CITY
3. DEVOUT NATION
4. GEARS TOWN
5. DOOMSBURG



## RULER

*"The Specialist" (40s)* is a narcissist and former surgeon. He believes riches are not evil but a need to drive aspirations. The most respected leader of all the pillars for his unmatched medical knowledge.

## POPULATION

Richest humans and vampires.

## CONTROLS

A pill for humans that keeps the virus from spreading human-to-human.

## QUID PRO QUO

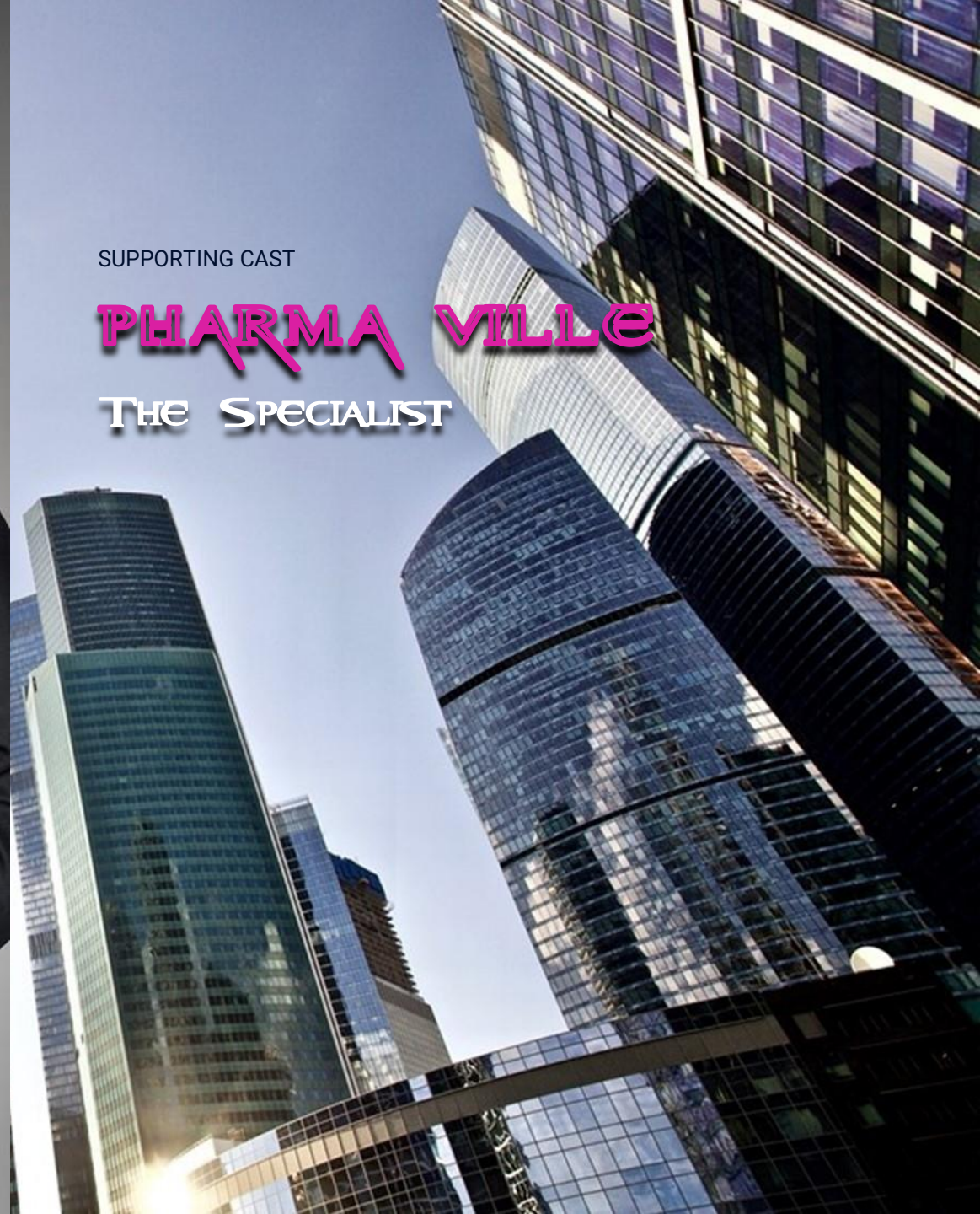
In exchange for Mira's blood, he gives the location of Dr. Dean Staze. He needs her blood to perform secret experiments to find everlasting youth.



SUPPORTING CAST

## PHARMA VILLE

### THE SPECIALIST





## RULER

"The Wizard" (late 20s) a genius, fuck-boy, millennial. His charisma, good looks, and money make him an easy leader to follow. He's too smart for everyone's own good.

## POPULATION

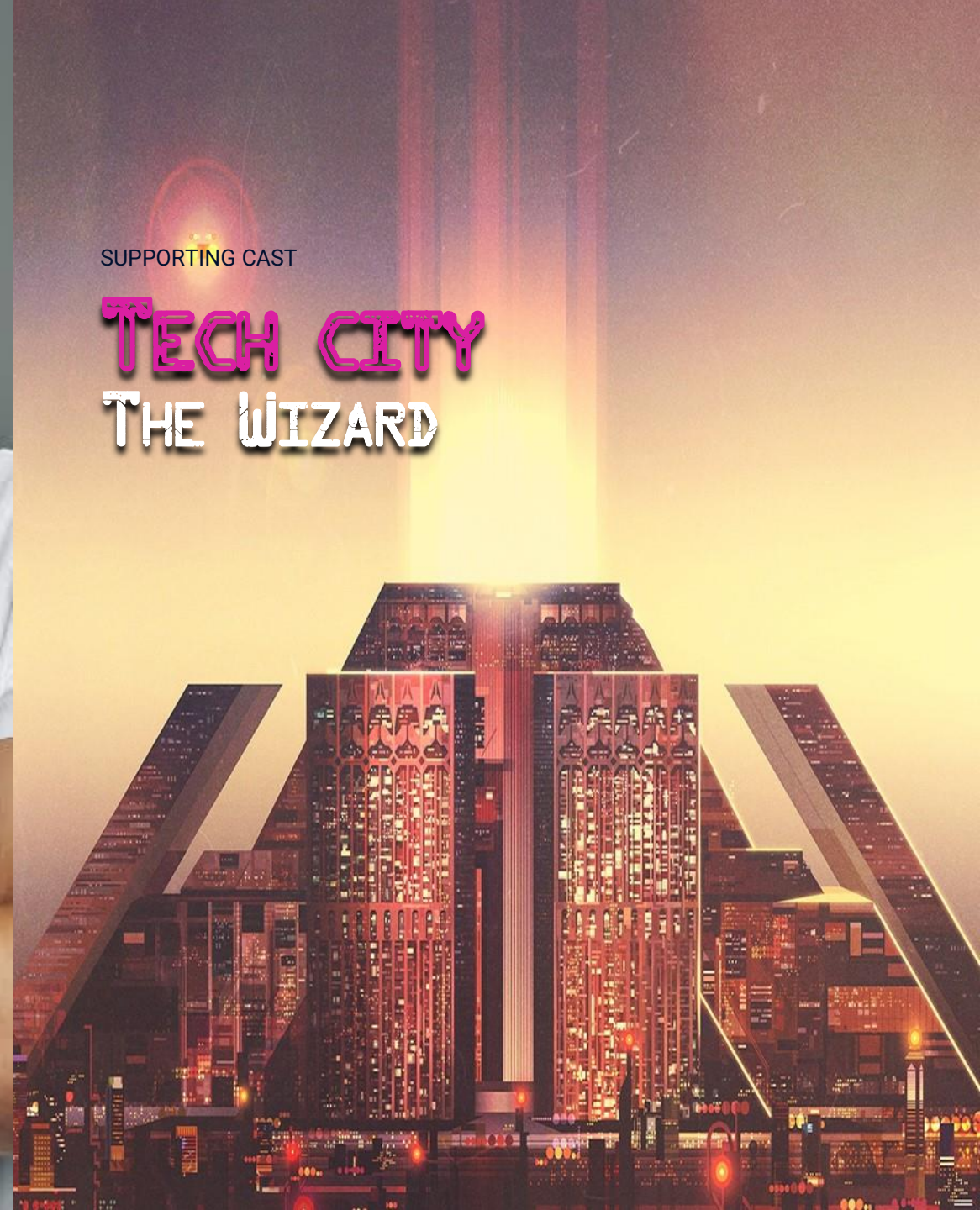
Millennials, Gen-Z, vampires and humans.

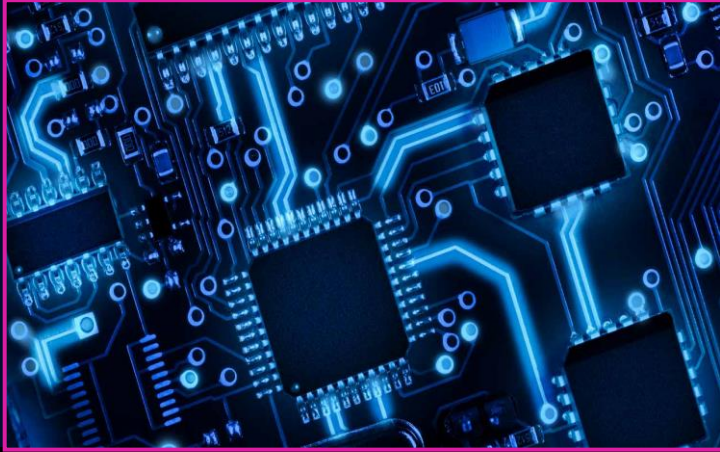
## CONTROLS

Solar energy and internet capabilities.

## QUID PRO QUO

The Wizard lusts for Mira; he agrees to supply surveillance and other high-tech gadgets for their quest in exchange for a sexual excursion with her. The more they use the equipment, the more hold he has over the group as he covertly uses the technology to spy on them for his dubious transactions.





## RULER

"The Priest" (40s) religious, zealot lesbian nun. She weaves an intricate web of lies to subdue her minions. A women's work is never done as long as men exist.

## POPULATION

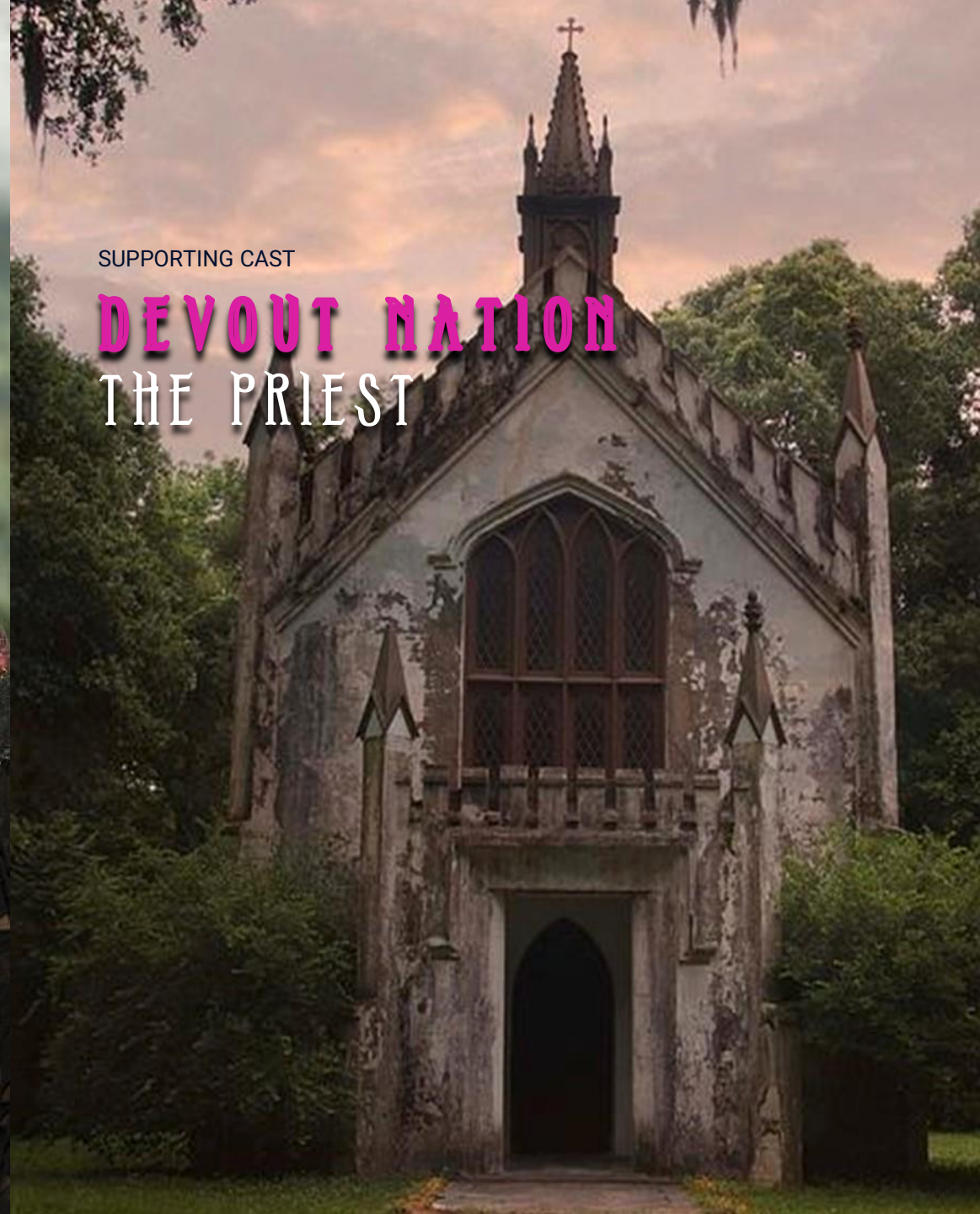
Only female humans, no men allowed.

## CONTROLS

Produce, herbs, and spices.

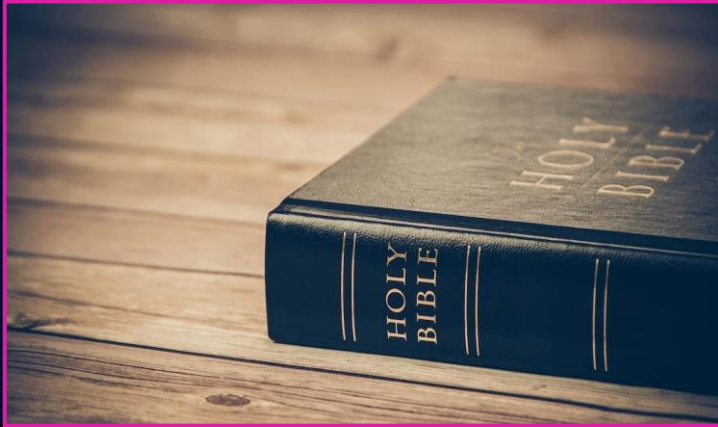
## QUID PRO QUO

The Priest gives two of her best warriors to Lily and Mira's cause. Unknown to the duo, she instructs her warriors to kill them and Dr. Staze. She knows the cure will destroy her pillar and the power she holds. Any vampire is a blasphemous notion as she considers them seeds of the devil.



SUPPORTING CAST

## DEVOUT NATION THE PRIEST



## RULER

*"The Operator" (12) is the only kid vampire. Before he was turned, he was the good kid that sat alone at lunch. His pent-up anger has blossomed him to be a psychopathic businessman.*

## POPULATION

Vampires only, humans are use as slaves.

## CONTROLS

Uninfected blood for vampires.

## QUID PRO QUO

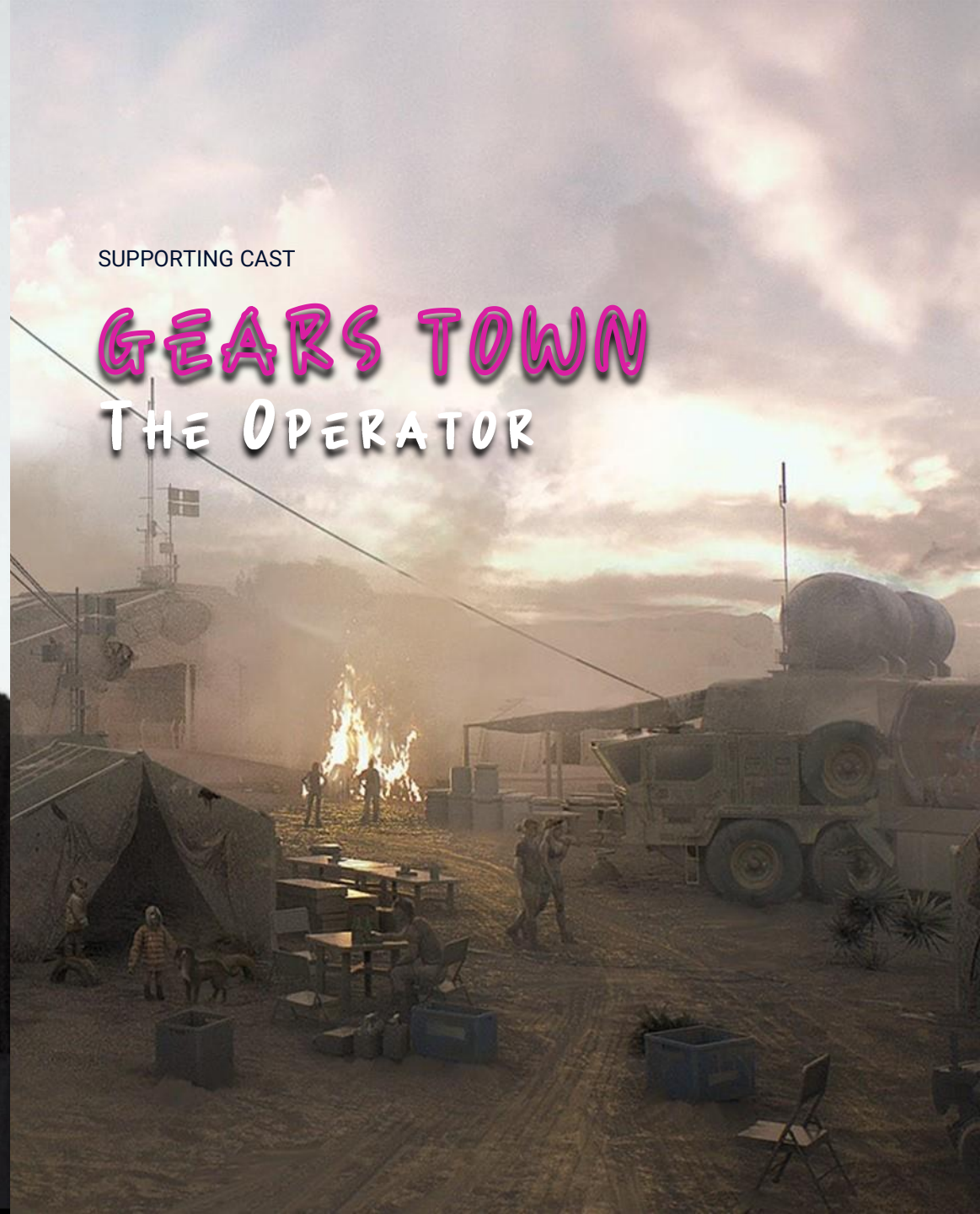
He helps Lily in exchange that she role-plays as his mother. She agrees, but this lasts longer than anticipated and delays their mission, becoming an obsession for nurturing affection. He reminds Mira of the early and painful memories of being a vampire.



SUPPORTING CAST

# GEARS TOWN

## THE OPERATOR





## RULER

"The Ranger" (50) former senator, gun-toting, evangelical Christian. He wants the world to go back to the old west. He'll do everything to keep himself in power and herd his sheep from anything outside his values.

## POPULATION

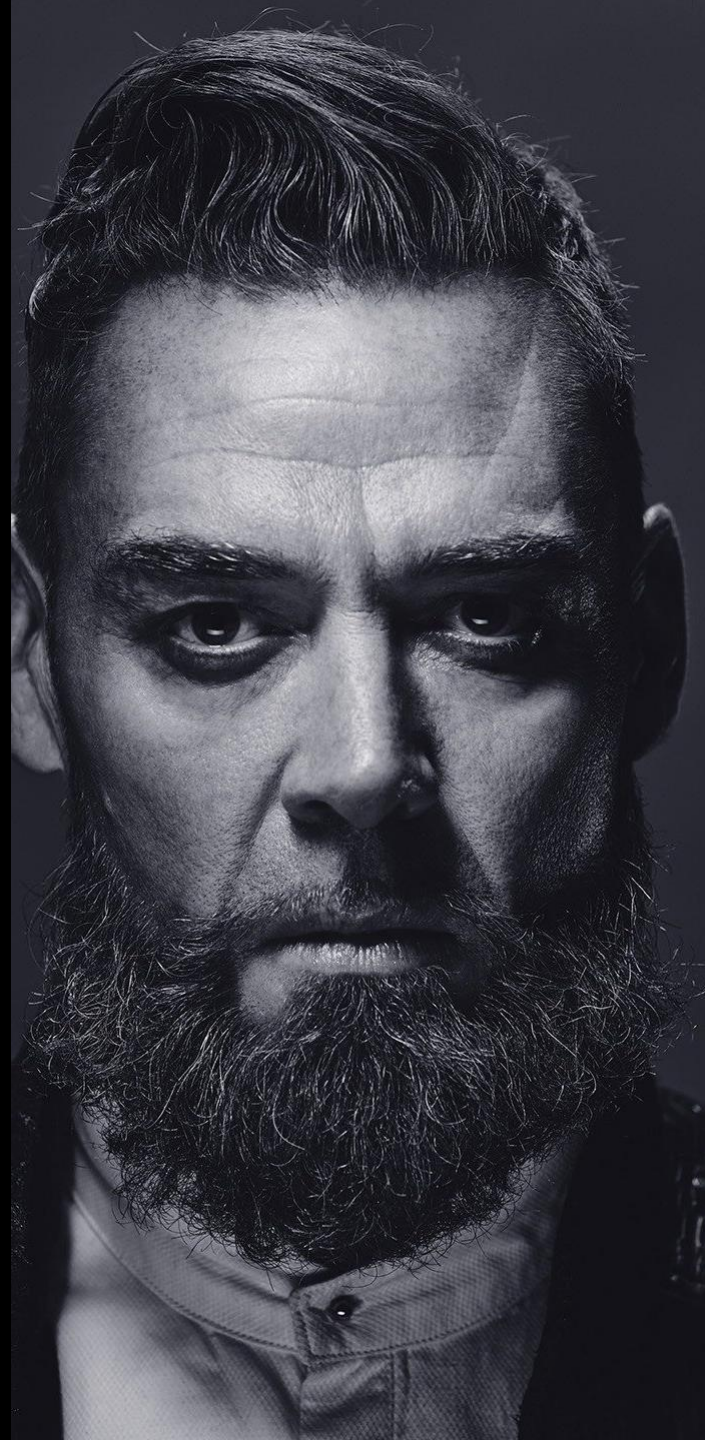
Mostly men, with women subjugated, vampires are captured and torture.

## CONTROLS

Guns.

## QUID PRO QUO

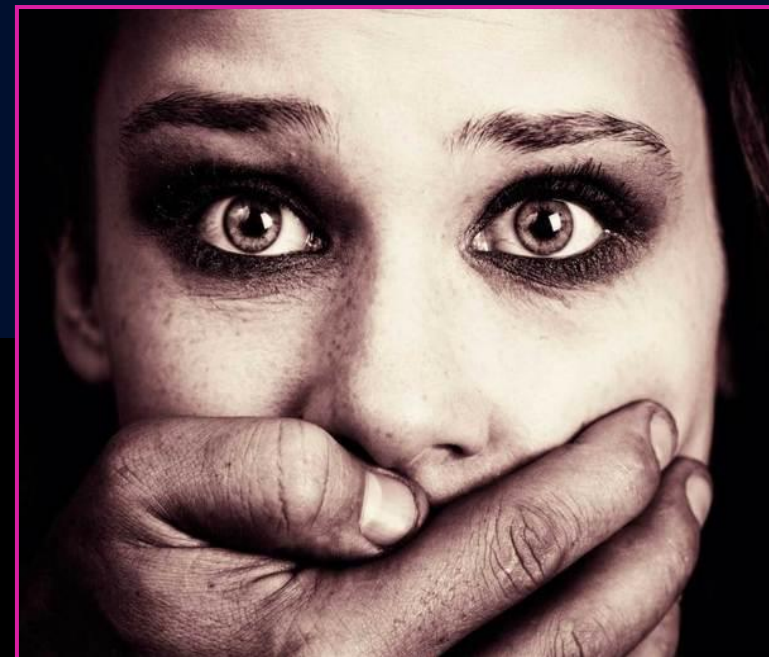
None. He discovers Mira is a vampire and forces Lily to be his wife. He learns Dr. Staze is helping the women and kills him. He holds the women hostage and ignites a war. He welcomes it.



SUPPORTING CAST

# DOOMSBURG

## THE RANGER



# tone & style

**The 5 Pillars** highlights humanity at its worse. They represent the struggle for power and self-interest while alienating the different. The show is a drama with supernatural action elements in a post-apocalyptic world. Although the world is drab, dark, cold, and isolated, the light shines through two unlikely allies and strong-headed women, Dr. Lily Zora and vampire Mira.

Each of the 5 pillars has its own distinct identity. No two pillars are the same. The population is oppressed with the illusion of freedom, adding an ominous tone. Our scientist and vampire will illuminate the same vibrancy of color throughout the show as they visit each pillar. The lead character's unspoken love will contrast in the backdrop of the warring factions.

Stylistically, the series establishes thrilling set-pieces. While we strive to have suspenseful drama, there are horror elements of uncertainty and someone lurking in the shadows to stop the women in their quest.

The show creates a post-apocalyptic sci-fi world in a political struggle for power like "Game of Thrones" with the drama of unspoken love and sensuality like "True Blood" and hand-to-hand action similar to the "Underworld" and "Blade" franchises.



# SERIES ENGINE

Dr. Lily Zora and Mira are women with a plan. Their motivations are clear, but their Supernatural Soap opera love story creates internal conflict that is pushed to the limits with the external forces of **The 5 Pillars**. Their series-long goal is to find humanity through love and create a peaceful co-existence.

Lily and Mira constantly have to protect their love in secret from their species to find allies and defeat their enemies. To create a new world where the two can love freely and without punishment. The pillars don't trust each other; they quickly use fear to maintain their power, leaving Lily and Mira to build bridges and break down walls to restore balance.

As they trek through each pillar, dodge vampire AND human hunting parties, slavery, rape, dictators, and friends turned enemies, they both find love and forgiveness to navigate this cruel post-apocalyptic world and save humanity.

Lily and Mira are a testament that true love is timeless because finding the good in the bad is what makes you truly human.

# FUTURE SEASONS

## SEASON 1

Lily and Mira find Dr. Dean Staze. At first, he refuses, but Mira and Lily change his mind when they confess their love for each other. Mira saves the last of her kin, and Lily forgives herself. They find Dean dead. There is no cure to be made. Instead...



## SEASON 2

Lily creates synthetic blood with an ingredient only found in DEVOUT NATION. Mira is used as a test subject as Lily must watch her suffer. Vampires and humans can coexist in peace. Separate pillars will no longer be needed. This sparks outrage between the rulers. Thus...



## SEASON 3

A new pillar has formed, Mira and Lily's. Mira's approach to rule is much different than Lily's. The synthetic blood works, but pillars choose sides and wage war. Mira sacrifices herself to save Lily.



# FRANCHISE POTENTIAL IP

## SPIN-OFF SERIES/MOVIES

This world can expand into spin-off series dedicated to particular pillars and continue the struggle for power and the fight against/or with vampires. For example, a series focus on Devout Nation and Doomsburg. Female stories can spawn from women at the whim of their dictators. As well as movie, a prequel to the tv series.



## GRAPHIC NOVELS

This creative outlet can demonstrate a world outside of time and budget constraints to an imagination that has no limits. Audiences can explore stories outside of America and learn about new pillars in other countries, appealing to a global and international audience.



## GAMING

This medium can engage a new audience and let players create their own pillars. With endless avatar profiles and stories to explore, will they choose to play as a human and fight to survive against the onslaught of vampires? Will they choose to play as a vampire and co-exist? Or quench their thirst for human blood?



## WHY NOW?

This series blends sci-fi, the drama of fear as it showcases the horrors of man's power struggle and the wreckage it leaves behind. Never has my generation witnessed this in the flesh like this past 5 years. We all have.

If you peel back the layers of vampires, supernatural violence, and an incurable virus, the show is a love story that transcends the test of time. With love and understanding, rather than, pointing fingers can we truly have the best of humanity.

Vampires have a huge fan base. It's an abused sub-genre; this is a new take with a sci-fi world that brings strong, diverse female characters with heart. I've never seen a tv series with lesbian lead characters in the mainstream world of sci-fi and horror. Let's change that.

## WHY ME?

I'm a huge fan of horror and sci-fi. Especially vampires, I want to see more diverse representation within these genres with female leads. I graduated with a B.A. in sociology and political science. I've always been intrigued by how cultural/economic norms dictate our social hierarchies in everyday life and want to explore this in a sci-fi world with vampires. Would it be different? Will we evolve or devolve? Does love conquer all?

These questions can be answered with narrative fiction in my favorite genres with splashes of supernatural action and drama of unspoken love.

# WHICH PILLAR ARE YOU?



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THANK YOU

