



ANTHRAX ISLAND

A Little Change Would Do You Good.

This virus infects your mind and your devices.
Cut. Paste. Delete.
Chaos is coming.

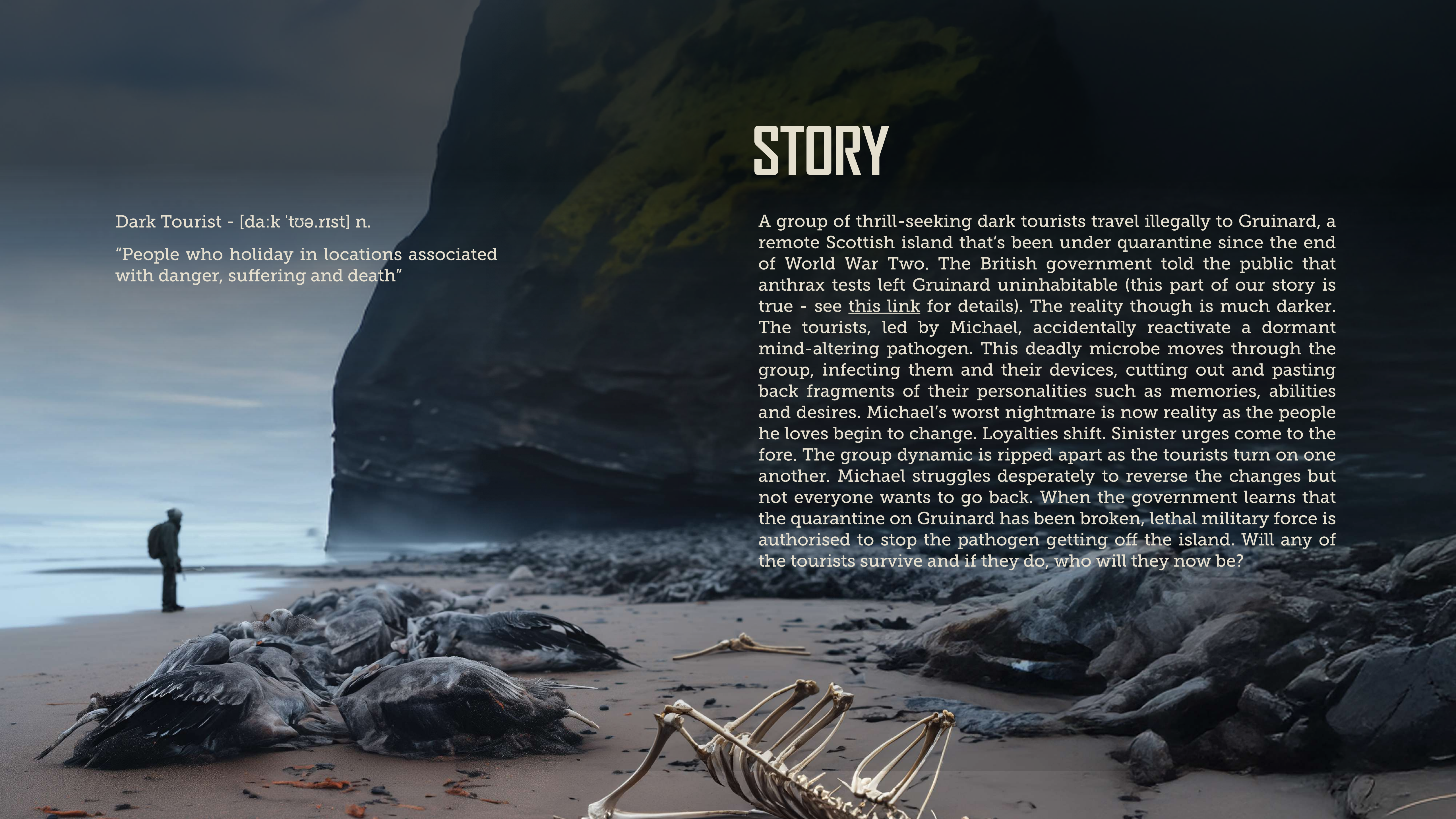
Created by
Chris Rubino & Detsky Graffam

STORY

Dark Tourist - [da:k 'tʊə.rɪst] n.

“People who holiday in locations associated with danger, suffering and death”

A group of thrill-seeking dark tourists travel illegally to Gruinard, a remote Scottish island that's been under quarantine since the end of World War Two. The British government told the public that anthrax tests left Gruinard uninhabitable (this part of our story is true - see [this link](#) for details). The reality though is much darker. The tourists, led by Michael, accidentally reactivate a dormant mind-altering pathogen. This deadly microbe moves through the group, infecting them and their devices, cutting out and pasting back fragments of their personalities such as memories, abilities and desires. Michael's worst nightmare is now reality as the people he loves begin to change. Loyalties shift. Sinister urges come to the fore. The group dynamic is ripped apart as the tourists turn on one another. Michael struggles desperately to reverse the changes but not everyone wants to go back. When the government learns that the quarantine on Gruinard has been broken, lethal military force is authorised to stop the pathogen getting off the island. Will any of the tourists survive and if they do, who will they now be?



WHY NOW? WHY US?

As big tech pushes the boundaries of A. I. and mind control, it seems our brains may not be our exclusive property much longer. Is a controllable, mind-altering virus really that far away?

As a kid Chris was repeatedly moved between care homes and foster families. His only constant was his friends and the idea of staying true to himself. Detsky's family has a history of mental health issues and he navigated a challenging childhood by learning to effortlessly slip into different characters. These contrasting viewpoints have inspired the show's philosophical themes of IDENTITY and EGO.

THE TARGET AUDIENCE

Anthrax Island combines the psychological mystery of Severance with the edge of the seat struggle to survive of The Last Of Us as we take the body-switch genre to a new level. Our audience (15yrs to 65yrs) will ask: what if this was happening to me? How much of me needs to change before I lose myself?



THE CONCEPT

17th March 2026



Michael's
Vertigo

into
Emma



Emma's Love
for Ed

into
Joal



Joal's Brexiteer
Views

into
Ed

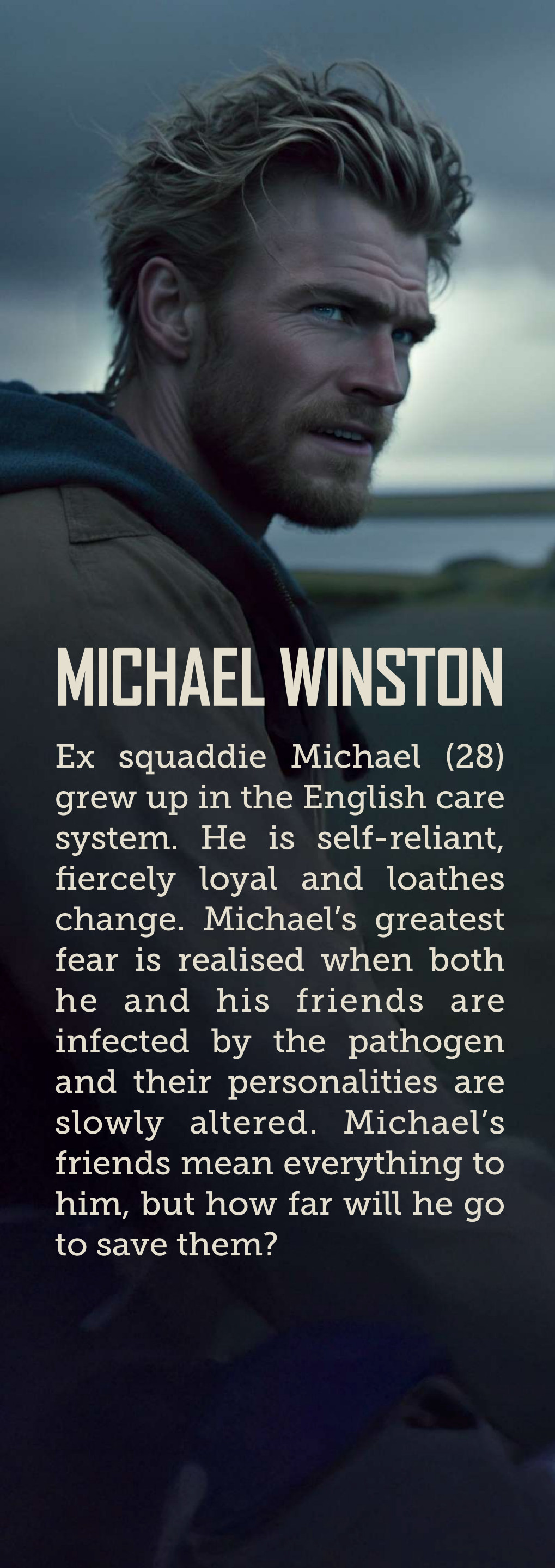


It's moving
things around!!

Into
Emma

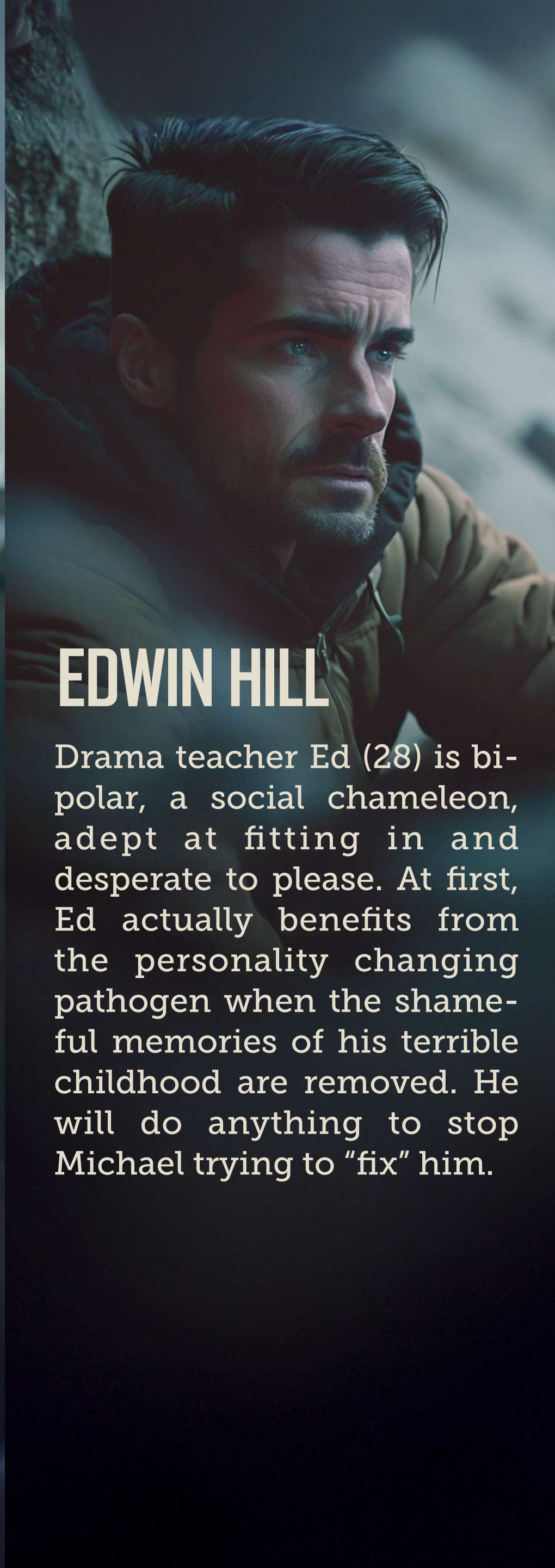
Ed's memory
of affair
with
Ida





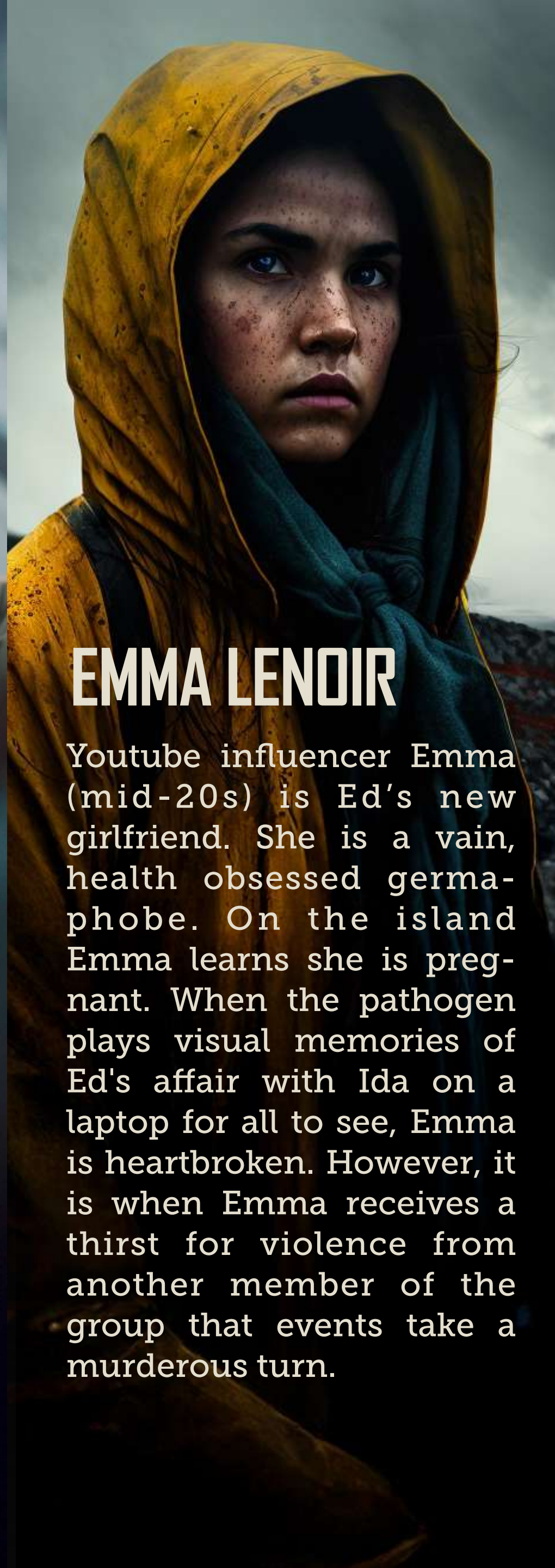
MICHAEL WINSTON

Ex squaddie Michael (28) grew up in the English care system. He is self-reliant, fiercely loyal and loathes change. Michael's greatest fear is realised when both he and his friends are infected by the pathogen and their personalities are slowly altered. Michael's friends mean everything to him, but how far will he go to save them?



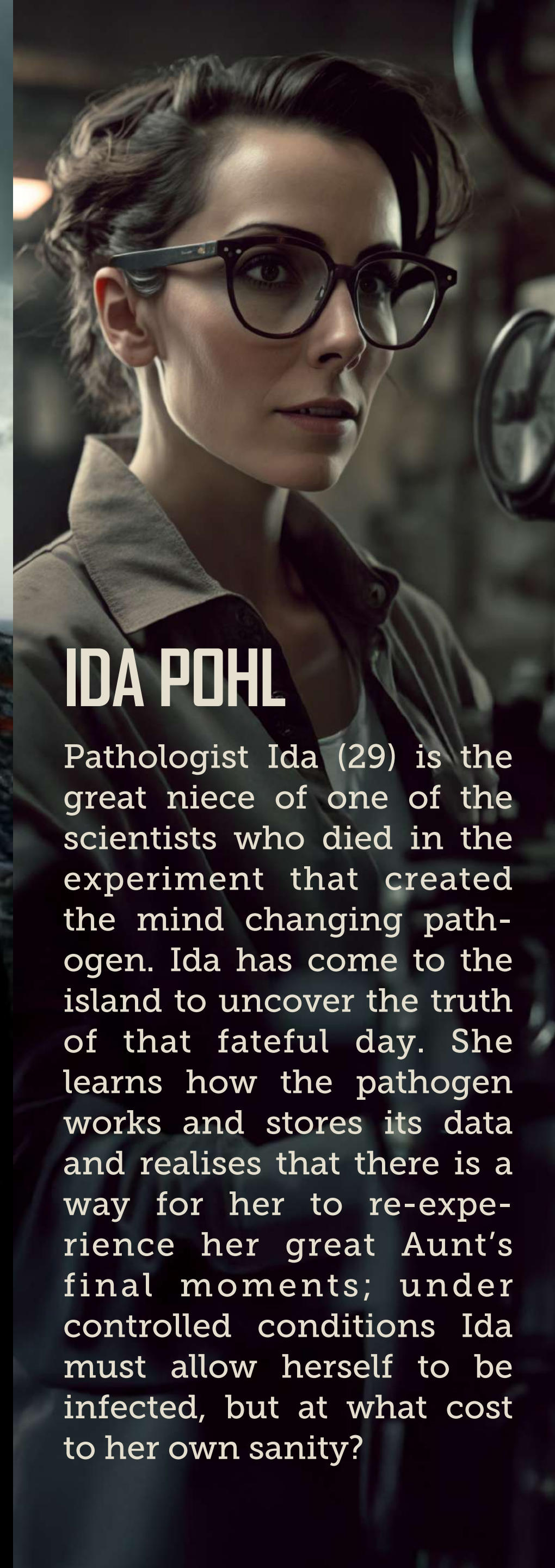
EDWIN HILL

Drama teacher Ed (28) is bipolar, a social chameleon, adept at fitting in and desperate to please. At first, Ed actually benefits from the personality changing pathogen when the shameful memories of his terrible childhood are removed. He will do anything to stop Michael trying to "fix" him.



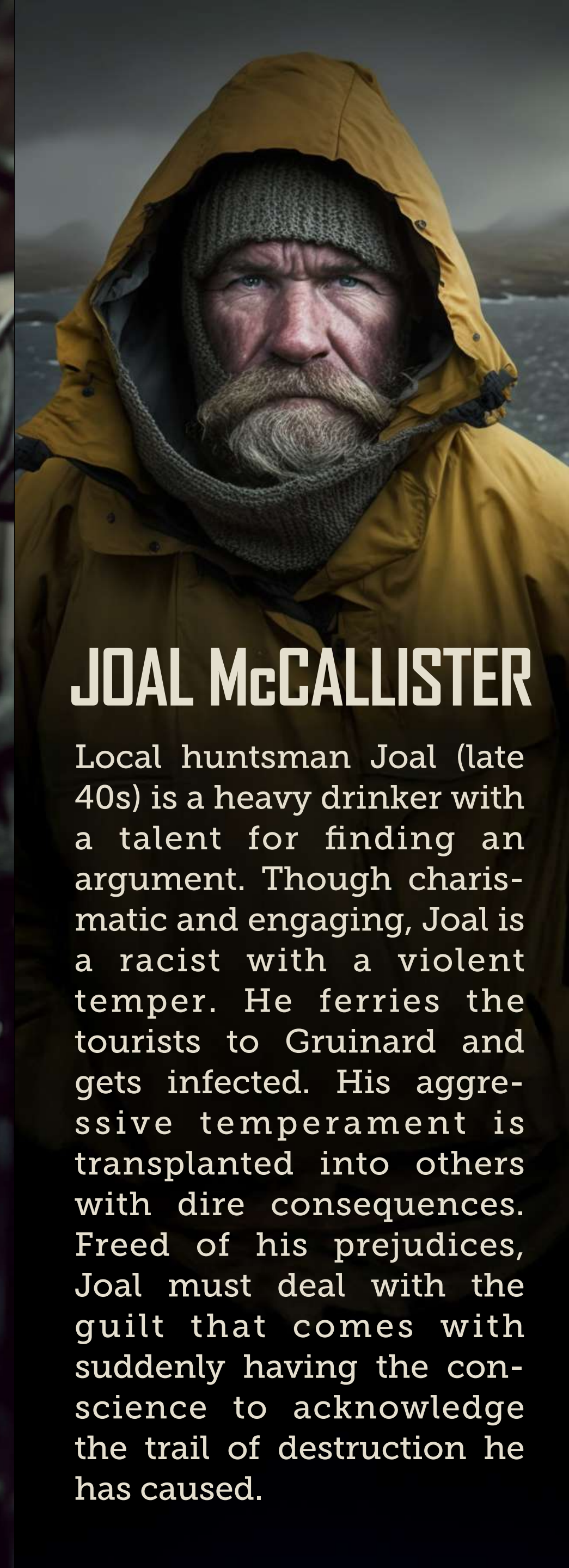
EMMA LENOIR

Youtube influencer Emma (mid-20s) is Ed's new girlfriend. She is a vain, health obsessed germaphobe. On the island Emma learns she is pregnant. When the pathogen plays visual memories of Ed's affair with Ida on a laptop for all to see, Emma is heartbroken. However, it is when Emma receives a thirst for violence from another member of the group that events take a murderous turn.



IDA POHL

Pathologist Ida (29) is the great niece of one of the scientists who died in the experiment that created the mind changing pathogen. Ida has come to the island to uncover the truth of that fateful day. She learns how the pathogen works and stores its data and realises that there is a way for her to re-experience her great Aunt's final moments; under controlled conditions Ida must allow herself to be infected, but at what cost to her own sanity?



JOAL McCALLISTER

Local huntsman Joal (late 40s) is a heavy drinker with a talent for finding an argument. Though charismatic and engaging, Joal is a racist with a violent temper. He ferries the tourists to Gruinard and gets infected. His aggressive temperament is transplanted into others with dire consequences. Freed of his prejudices, Joal must deal with the guilt that comes with suddenly having the conscience to acknowledge the trail of destruction he has caused.



SERIES THEMES

Anthrax Island poses fundamental questions about the phenomenon that is the human personality. Are you your memories, your abilities, your innate characteristics, your learned behaviours or all of the above? Just how much of you has to change before you lose your sense of self?

Anthrax Island will run over three seasons.

At the end of Season One some of the tourists make it off the island and take the deadly pathogen with them.

In Season Two the survivors return to their old lives. Families and friends quickly sense something is amiss. The pathogen again moves through a small, isolated social group before it eventually gains access to the telecommunications network and the Internet. The government realises what is happening, but the genie is now out of the bottle.

In Season Three the pathogen is able to infect and change the mindset of whole societies, which was of course, the purpose of its design. Now though, as it reaches the corridors of power, it has no master to control it. The polarisation we see today is nothing compared to the en masse brain washing the pathogen unleashes. The survivors of Season One must return to Gruinard where the scientists who created the mind-altering microbe left the secret to stopping it.

WRITERS TEAM

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TIMELINE



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