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WRI 634
18 March 2021

Science Fiction TV Series Premise Page

Genre: Cyberpunk, Sci-fi, dystopian, action, romance

What platform is it designed for:

Netflix, because Netflix has a cyberpunk TV series “Altered Carbon” in 2018, which shows Netflix has an interest in cyberpunk themed TV series. Cyberpunk aesthetics is seen more in movies than TV, it is an area waiting to be tapped in for the TV world.

PREMISE:

The story is set in a cyberpunk futuristic dystopian world where AI and neurotechnology is advanced. Neuro chips are widely used and legally required to be implanted at birth for “monitoring physical health and mental health, enhancing cybernetics¹, and unlocking all the possibilities within your brain.” The Neurochips are invented and manufactured by a megacorporation named Vega Corporation. The company also offers an Extraction Service that extracts and erases unwanted memories such as trauma and heartbreaks; Afterlife Service for saving the deceased loved ones memory into the Afterlife Cloud System. Implanting Service for newborn and anyone who is not implanted already.

Vega Corporation was once a social enterprise for a good cause to bring a better future to humans, founded by inventor, entrepreneur and philanthropist Xander Weyer. Xander wanted to cure mental diseases with his Neuro chips without being invasive to the human body and privacy. The megacorporation Noronha Venture Capital (NVC) invested millions for shares as they saw how they could exploit this technology on a greater scale at the expense of people’s privacy and data. Xander had to surrender because he disagreed to let Noronha Venture Capital be involved but the Board agreed for the money the venture capitals was investing in the company and saw how great the profits would be in the future. They kicked him out of the board, only allowing him to continue to be the inventor, but he was prohibited to meddle with any business decisions because his actions and behavior “jeopardized the future of the company”.

Xander was forced to add a “Control” feature for the company to be able to control minds and planned to sell this technology to the government. He was unable to persuade them and they wouldn’t let him resign. He had no choice, so he added a “LOCK” as a security mechanism to prevent this feature from being activated. Once activated, it can brainwash, inject and erase memories with no barriers, giving Vega Corporation and the government full access to manipulate people’s minds directly. Allegedly he was interrogated but died shortly after. Since then, hackers were recruited from the black market and paid highly to crack the LOCK. But no

¹ Cybernetics is the science of communications and automatic control systems in both machines and living things.

one has succeeded so far. This is when the Board and government decide to go after his daughter, Nova. They think she might know something. They were unable to track her down at first because she was never implanted. After Nova learned the whole story, she is determined to destroy the Control feature once and for all.

CHARACTERS

Protagonist: Nova Yi (daughter of Xander Weyer and Manda Yi)

Want: she wants to prevent the Control feature to be accessed by anyone, even if it means she destroys it.

Drive: she knows her father chose death over revealing the LOCK codes, she wants to protect Xander's legacy

Characteristics: rebellious, strong willed, emotional, intelligent, inventive, adventurous, gadget head, aggressive, romantic, kind, has robotic limbs, great in combat, invented her own prototype gadgets that allow her to glide in the sky after jumping off skyscrapers, destructive

Backstory: She grew up with her mother and she worked at her mother's gadget shop, providing maintenance, selling new models and parts of robot limbs (like today's apparel, cars, robotic limbs are items to show off in the cyberpunk world) and inventing new add-on features for robotic limbs, which exposes her to the engineering mechanics industry. Living in the ghetto parts of the city, Nova learned to be militant in order to not be abused by gangsters. She isn't necessarily affiliated with gangs but she knows how to deal with them.

Flaw: she has a hard time trusting people and has problems with self-worth

Need: believe and love herself

Antagonist: Nicolas (Director of Noronha Venture Capital (NVC))

Want: He wants to crack the LOCK in order to gain access to the Control feature and sell it to the government

Drive: He wants to be a powerful man because he was once poor

Characteristics: ambitious, greedy, money and power hungry, experienced businessman, family oriented, capitalist, persuasive, manipulating, dominant

Backstory: Nicolas is the definition of rags to riches. He grew up poor and swore to get out of this dumpster. His intelligence brings him out of the lifestyle when he first joined a gang and helped them investments. The gang made millions of dollars and he got a cut from all the investments and trust from them. He is also great with his words and knows how to manipulate people to play their part for his plans. He never misses any chances to make money.

Flaw: His insecurity of never making enough money. Scared to return to the dumpster ever again.

Need: realize happiness doesn't come from money but from within.

Xander Weyer (The Founder of Vega Corporation)

Want: He wants to invent technology for a better future for humans, cure mental diseases with his Neurochips without being invasive to the human body and privacy.

Drive: His mother had Dementia and she was unable to recognize anyone in the family. He shared a very close relationship with her and it devastated him. When his mother died in his arms, she didn't even know that was her son.

Characteristics: intelligent, genius in science and technology, strong willed, caring, loyal, stubborn, stays true to himself, sentimental, entrepreneurial, inventive

Backstory: Xander named his company after Vega, the brightest star of the Lyra constellation, believing his company is like a bright star to lead to a better future with no mental illness and better health. His team worked hard to attract investors and eventually the government to back their company, but in turn they have to give shares to the government and the government has a lot of say in the Board. Xander was strongly against it and he was kicked out of the board, but he was the driving force of the company so they couldn't eliminate him entirely. They kept him to be the inventor but prohibited to meddle with any business decision. When he was forced to create an inhumane "Control" feature, he made a "master key" that serves as a security mechanism to prevent the feature from being activated at all cost. He was interrogated but died shortly after.

Flaw: still haunted by his mother's death, the idea of losing a loved one is scary

Need: leave the past behind

Manda Yi (Xander's wife)

Want: Be the best mother she can to Nova

Drive: Nova is the only person left that is part of Xander

Characteristics: body shop owner, caring, loving, gentle,

Backstory: She met Xander when she was a researcher at Vega Corporation at its very early stage. They fell in love with each other and Xander thought it wasn't appropriate to date a colleague so Manda resigned soon after they started dating. When NVC invested in Vega and gained voting rights, Xander warned Manda about it. They were never married but nothing could break them apart. Manda got pregnant with Nova around the time Xander was forced to create the Control feature and couldn't quit. He told Manda to never let their child be implanted and don't take on his last name, because what he was going to do would bring a lot of trouble and drama if NVC found out Xander had an offspring.

Flaw: her fear of losing Nova like she lost Xander

Need: have faith in her daughter Nova

Hector (Nova's love interest)

Want: He wants to get the high compensation for cracking the codes of the LOCK

Drive: To climb up the social ladder, to have a better lifestyle instead of living in the ghetto and poverty

Characteristics: genius hacker, ambitious, dreamer, caring, longing for love, loyal,

Backstory: Hector comes across the recruitment of hackers from the NVC with high compensations. He joins and becomes one of the rare hackers that gets close to cracking the codes of the LOCK. He meets Nova when Nova comes to check out what all the hype is about with hacking the LOCK. Nova's feisty personality attracts him immediately.

Flaw: fear to be a failure in life, never escaping the ghetto

Need: home is who you feel at home with, not an expensive penthouse or dumpster

