

Brian

TELEVISION SERIES PITCH DECK



Logline

A teenager navigates relationships, high school, and bullying as he learns his mother’s incredible claim that he is half alien is proving to be true.



Synopsis



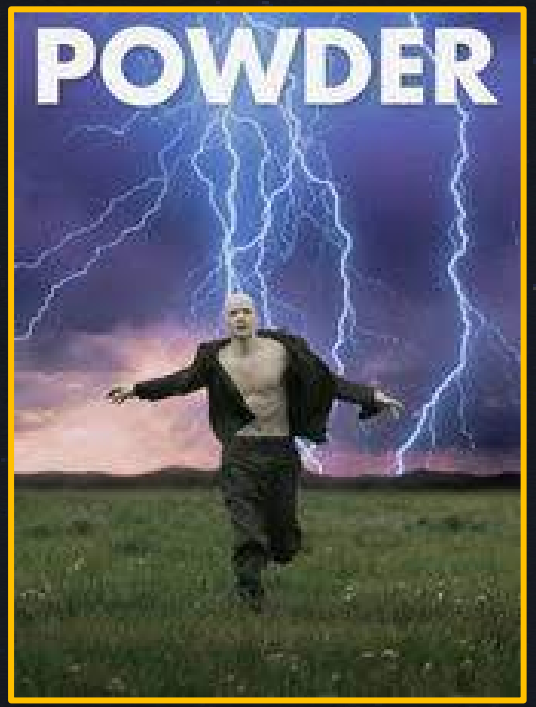
Brian is a one-hour TV drama about the trials of 16-year-old Brian Goodwin, whose mother claims he is the son of an alien who impregnated her during an abduction. Brian has been bullied at school his entire life not only because of his mother's ludicrous claim but also because he has no ability to grow body hair, giving him stereotypical characteristics of an extraterrestrial.

Brian's mother, Heather, claims she had not had sex with a man for four years before Brian was born. Because she remained in denial of her pregnancy until she was in labor, the State sought to institutionalize Heather. However, Heather's psychiatrist testified that, under hypnosis, Heather responded like she was physically attacked when brought back to the time she became pregnant. To her doctors, it's logical that she was raped and has suppressed any memory of the attack. So the State dropped their case and allowed Brian to be raised at his grandmother's home by his mother and Aunt Shannon. But regular dreams about being on board an alien spaceship makes Heather believe she was impregnated by aliens—something she discusses openly on social media, in UFO chatrooms, and at an alien abduction support group.

But the show is not about Heather. It's about a boy who was conceived out of a horrific violation—whether rape or alien experimentation—and grows up with challenges because of it. But as Brian gets closer to his 16th birthday, strange things begin to happen around him, and he finds he has developed special gifts that he must learn to control if he doesn't want to stand out any more than he already does.

Show Cross







The World

Brian takes place in the small town of Spencer, Massachusetts—where acres of protected land and unobstructed night skies abound, yet access to larger cities is within reach. The high school Brian attends is the only one in town, so Brian is forced to attend school at a place where he is constantly bullied because of his unusual looks and mother's ludicrous claims that Brian is a human-alien hybrid.

Brian lives with his mother and Aunt Shannon, both who inherited their mother's house when she passed away. Shannon was only 17 when Brian was born and brought to their house. Now 32, she often functions as more of a caretaker than Brian's own mother. As Brian approaches his 16th birthday, Shannon has begun observing unexplained phenomena around him that she tries to make sense of. Some of the phenomena include power fluctuations when Brian is home, telekinesis that Brian sometimes unintentionally exhibits, vivid dreams Brian has about other worlds, and Brian's unusual sleep talk. The power fluctuations and telekinesis also occasionally happen at other places, but rarely are they to the extent that others notice Brian is the cause—at least not until he grows older.

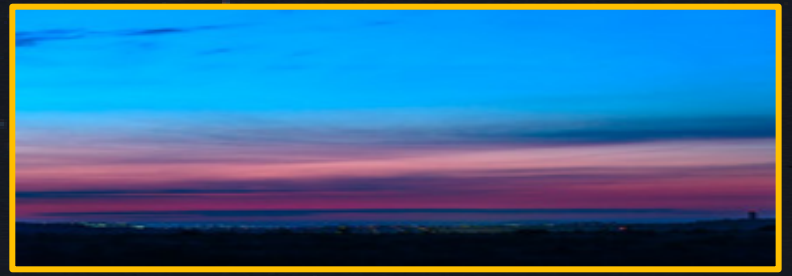
Brian occasionally accompanies his mother to meet with an abductee support group, which he does mostly to support his mother, despite her selfishness and flawed maternal skills. Brian also spends time in open outdoor areas when he needs to decompress. He has an affinity to nature and open skies, which he frequently shares with his best friend and romantic interest, Abby.











The World





















Brian Goodwin

16 · OUR HERO



Brian is a high school student at Spencer High. The circumstances around his conception are a mystery to medical professionals. However, some unexplained phenomena we see around him suggest that his mother's claims that he is half alien might be true. He was born with the inability to grow body hair, a condition doctors have simply diagnosed as *alopecia universalis*. Between this condition and his mother's claims that he is half alien, most of the schoolkids have bullied him growing up. As a result, he has only one true friend who has constantly supported him—Abby, whom Brian likes as more than a friend. Brian grew up living with his grandmother, mother, and aunt. His grandmother has since passed, but he still lives in the same house with his mother and aunt—his aunt often functioning more as his primary caretaker. Brian struggles to understand what he is. He is a brilliant student without doing much work, and he wants to be just a regular kid. But he recognizes that unexplained phenomena is happening around him and becoming more intense.

SEASON 1 ARC: In the series pilot, Brian is about to turn 16. Until now, he has been mostly a normal teen—but one who deals with having an eccentric mother who is the laugh of the town. He is patient with his mother's claim that he's half alien because he knows there were extreme circumstances around his conception. He is also very logical, and there is nothing about his mother's claim that anyone can factually deny. As Brian turns 16, he begins noticing some unexplained phenomena and starts to think his mother might be telling the truth. His vivid dreams and sleep talk eventually lead Brian to believe that, having turned 16, he has entered an adolescent phase of his alien nature, in which he must learn to control his powers. He also grows to believe that, sometime during this year, his paternal family will be back to visit.

Heather Goodwin

42 · BRIAN'S MOTHER



While a little quirky, Heather was a "normal" person until she was 27 years old and gave birth to Brian. She claims to have not had sex with a man for 4 years before Brian was born and denied knowing she was pregnant until she was in labor. Through hypnosis, doctors have learned she experienced a traumatic event around the time Brian was conceived. They believe it was a suppressed sexual assault, but Heather believes it was something else because she has dreams of being onboard an alien spaceship. Because of this, people think she might be mentally unfit. Heather loves her son deeply, but she is a bit selfish and cares more about what having an alien son would mean on a larger scale than protecting her son's privacy. To Heather, Brian's lineage is something that should be celebrated. Heather used to be an art teacher but has since lost that job. She now has a part-time job as a clerk at a local store. She attends regular sessions with her psychiatrist as a court order to keep custody of Brian. But she spends most of her time trying to learn more about her alien abductors through a support group with other alien abductees.

SEASON 1 ARC: Having lost her teaching job and being constantly laughed at, Heather is desperate for a win—she is lonely and has no dates or close friends. Despite her love for her son, she believes she is entitled to happiness at any expense. So she uses Brian's story to endear herself to friends she has made at an alien abductee support group. It's there where she also finds romance (or at least she thinks), through the newest member, James. Having a place where she feels she belongs only makes her more drawn to the group and less drawn to her responsibilities at home. At Season 1's end, she has finally found happiness, but at her family's expense.

Shannon Goodwin

32 · BRIAN'S AUNT



Shannon is Brian's aunt and Heather's much younger sister. Even though Shannon helped raise Brian, her age makes her act more like a friend to Brian than an aunt. She also often functions more as Brian's caretaker than does Heather. Shannon is a nurse at a medical facility in a nearby larger city, so she tries to keep a low profile about her sister and Brian. But Shannon is keeping one huge secret…she believes she witnessed her sister's claimed abduction. She refuses to tell anyone, even Heather and Brian, because she knows it could ruin her untarnished reputation (she too has a little bit of the "selfish gene" her sister has). Besides, she was partying with her friends that night and isn't completely sure what she saw. She also doesn't want to risk putting Brian in danger by discussing it. As Brian turns 16, Shannon notices unexplained phenomena at the house and takes a particular interest in Brian's sleep talk. When she can no longer keep things to herself, she begins confiding in her friend Frank, who conducts space research for the government at a nearby university.

SEASON 1 ARC: Shannon begins the season as Brian's primary caretaker, something she has been since Brian was born. When Heather is out late (as she often is when she is with her support group), Shannon makes sure Brian finishes his homework, does his chores, and gets to bed at a reasonable hour. As she begins to notice unexplained phenomena around Brian, she starts to question if what Heather has been claiming is true. Having witnessed something the night of Heather's abduction, Shannon begins wondering if Brian might in fact have alien powers. Needing a confidant, she shares her information with her friend Frank; however, Frank's loyalty turns out to be with his contacts in the U.S. government. By the end of the season, Shannon has done the one thing she wanted to avoid—she put Brian in danger.

Abby Taylor

16 · BRIAN'S BEST FRIEND



Abby is Brian's best friend and romantic interest. She befriended Brian in first grade, when other students began bullying him. She is used to childhood struggles because she had a brother who died of cancer and, because of chemotherapy, lost all his hair—a trait Brian has that initially made her relate to him. While Brian likes Abby more than as a friend, she has no idea at first and goes about dating other boys. But those boys lose interest because they soon realize they don't want to be dating the girl who's best friends with "the freak." Abby doesn't care about the claims Brian's mother makes about him…she is wise for her age and understands that everyone has their quirks. She cares only about how everything affects Brian. She completely trusts Brian and is accepting when he begins sharing with her the things he is learning about himself. Wherever that path leads, she is there for him. Abby has a solid group of friends, even though her best friend (Brian) isn't popular. It's just that her friends immaturely accept only her and not Brian. This is Abby's greatest struggle—being a good friend to Brian while trying to maintain a healthy social life in high school.

SEASON 1 ARC: We first meet Abby when she stands up to students who are bullying Brian at school. But recently she hasn't been there for Brian as much because of a boy she has been dating. When Abby promises to start spending more time with Brian (and then keeps that promise), her boyfriend gives her an ultimatum—Brian or him. She chooses Brian. As she continues spending more time with Brian, he shares with her the phenomena he has been observing around himself. She too becomes consumed with it, and her top priority becomes helping Brian understand what he is.

Dr. Howard Ellis, MD.

50 · HEATHER'S PSYCHIATRIST



Dr. Ellis meets with Heather for therapy and is a steady advocate for her. He believes something traumatic happened to Heather that she has suppressed but that she is using a concocted story about alien abduction to protect herself from remembering the painful truth. Dr. Ellis doesn't believe in extraterrestrial life—a challenge Heather enjoys as she tries to convince him.

Kelly Madison

32 · BRIAN'S TEACHER & FAMILY FRIEND



Kelly is a science teacher at Brian's school who puts in the extra effort to support Brian because she is Shannon's childhood friend. Her husband, Frank, is the researcher Shannon confides in about Brian. This creates tension between Shannon, Kelly, and Frank because Shannon and Frank are not upfront about their discussions.

Dr. Frank Madison, PhD.

36 · KELLY'S HUSBAND & SHANNON'S CONFIDANT



Frank is a space researcher at a nearby university, where he works on classified projects for the U.S. Government. Shannon confides in him when she finally believes Brian might be half alien. Frank uses his resources in government to provide information to Shannon but in fact is acting as sort of a double agent, feeding information about Brian back to the government.

James Sabatini

40 · HEATHER'S FRIEND & A PAIN TO BRIAN



James is Heather's best friend in her support group. He's knowledgeable in all things UFO but has a shady past swindling people—something he claims to have changed after being abducted by aliens. One thing we do know about his swindling…he uses those skills to convince Heather that the aliens intended for the two of them to mate.

Season 1 Overview

The first season opens with Brian approaching his 16th birthday and phenomena starting to happen that makes him believe his mother may be telling the truth that he is half alien. He's not sure who he can trust with this information. If he tells Abby, he risks losing his only friend if she shrugs him off as crazy. If he tells his mother, he risks her sharing the information with the world. Little does he know, his Aunt Shannon has also been quietly noticing the phenomena and has begun confiding in her space-researcher friend, Frank.

At first, it's no big deal. Some minor telekinesis that could be rationalized, and some strange dreams with conversations in his sleep. Even Frank tells Shannon it's probably nothing to think twice about. But one night Shannon looks in on Brian while he's talking in his sleep and sees several objects in his room levitating and moving on their own. When she takes a video to Frank, they swear each other to secrecy and agree they should continue observing Brian. However, Frank becomes a double agent of sorts and begins sharing everything he learns with his government contacts.

Meanwhile, Heather has dreams of her own that she shares with James and the support group. The group is convinced that the dreams are proof that aliens abducted and impregnated her. Brian eventually goes to a meeting to support his mother, and the group begins hailing him as a messiah. James then begins a sexual relationship with Heather and tries to get "insider" information from her.

Brian's dreams become more vivid, and he learns through them that 16 is an important age on his alien side because it is when he must learn to harness his powers. Having difficulty keeping all of this to himself, Brian finally tests Abby to see how she responds to a small piece of information. Abby admits that she observed an incident with Brian but thought she must have imagined it. Brian realizes he can trust Abby with this information and begins sharing more with her. Their friendship grows stronger, and she helps him learn to harness his powers.

As the season nears its end, Brian dreams of an alien telling him he has an alien family who will arrive sometime while he is 16 years old. So he spends many nights in a field waiting in vain. The season ends with Brian and Abby waiting and finally seeing something unusual in the night sky, while Shannon and Frank spy on them in the distance.

Season 2 Overview

The second season opens with a possible alien spacecraft approaching Brian and Abby's location. While Shannon and Frank spy on them, several government agents show up, and Shannon realizes Frank hasn't been keeping their secret. When Brian hears others in the distance (though he doesn't see who), the approaching ship reverses course. Brian and Abby take off, afraid of who might be out there. Alone in the woods, the two kiss, which leads to them dating.

Upset with Frank, Shannon "admits" to Frank and the agents that the whole thing was just a hoax. But one government agent doesn't believe her and secretly threatens Shannon with Brian's safety to make her continue observing him and reporting directly to the agent.

James from the support group starts hanging around the house and constantly tries to get information from Brian when Heather isn't paying attention. Heather likes James a lot, so she ignores Brian's warnings that James has other motives. In fact, he does—James has been secretly writing a book on the whole thing. James' presence also discourages Shannon from confessing to Heather what's been going on.

Abby continues helping Brian harness his growing powers, and Brian tries to make contact with his paternal family through telepathy. It works, and Brian begins having dreams of another alien spacecraft returning. But Brian's powers have become too strong to keep hidden from everyone and now, thanks to Shannon, government agents are after him. The night the aliens are believed to be returning, the agents chase Brian and Abby to the arrival place. The agents want to take Brian in, but even their tasers don't work against him. In fact, Brian telekinetically turns the tasers on the agents. To defend themselves, the agents draw guns and shoot, hitting both Brian and Abby. To this, an alien spacecraft arrives.



Pilot Episode

The series pilot begins with a flashback to 15 years ago, with Heather delivering a baby she didn't know she was pregnant with. Then, when psychiatrist Dr. Ellis places her under hypnosis, Heather sees is a team of aliens on board a spacecraft performing medical procedures on her.

We then come to the present and meet Brian, who is about to celebrate his 16th birthday. Brian starts having dreams about aliens who visit him, but he believes they're simply because his mother has started talking about a new man (James) at her alien abduction support group.

Shannon, on the other hand, has been getting woken up in the middle of the night by Brian's new habit of talking in his sleep. He has strange conversations in an unknown language that she starts recording. She also observes strange phenomena in his bedroom and decides to confide in her friend Frank because he is a space researcher.

Brian finally turns 16 and is thrown a small birthday party with Heather, Shannon, and Abby, who is at odds with her boyfriend because he doesn't like her hanging out with "the freak." Heather's new friend, James, also shows up and awkwardly observes Brian instead of paying attention to Heather.

The next day, Brian is about to go out for his first driving lesson with Shannon in the family's old-fashioned key-start automobile. Amidst Brian's excitement, the car's engine starts on its own.







Additional Sample Episodes

MIRACLE

Middle of Season 1

To support Heather, Brian accompanies her to one of her alien abduction support groups, where James pries for information while the others greet Brian as a messiah. Later, Brian and Abby find themselves as onlookers at a nearby fire that has trapped an elderly couple inside. Because the flames are so severe, firefighters are unable to get inside to save the couple. Amongst a crowd of emotional people, Brian unintentionally uses telekinesis to displace the oxygen around the fire, causing it to extinguish. No one can understand what happened, so it is hailed as a miracle. Brian and Abby realize the good Brian can do with this gift, but they don't recognize the potential weapon that exists in telekinetically displacing oxygen from an environment. Shannon and Frank suspect Brian had something to do with the miracle, and they ARE aware of the power's potential dangers.

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Season 1 Finale

On the night before his 17th birthday, Brian and Abby go to the field Brian has been seeing in his dreams. It's the last night of being 16, so if his "paternal family" is going to arrive, tonight is the last night to do so. Shannon and Frank follow them and spy on them in the distance. The episode ends with a spacecraft in the night sky that appears to be arriving.

FOES

Season 2 Premier

Brian and Abby watch the approach of what appears to be an alien spacecraft, but government intruders seem to cause the spacecraft to retreat. While hiding from the intruders, Brian and Abby share a first kiss. Heather invites James to the house for a family dinner, where he continues snooping into Brian's business. A government agent threatens Shannon to continue observing Brian and reporting back on him.



Brian

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