



## **THE STORY OF "2"**

Streaming Series, Independent

(Fantasy | Myth | Grounded Sci-Fi | Neo-Western Noir)

Season One: 6 Chapter Episodes, Approximately 330 minutes

Cast: Ensemble

Time: The Present | Setting: The U.S. Desert Southwest

Production Locations: International

*I seen things. In this desert. Some with no explanation. Not a rhyme. Nor a reason. And other things... Well, you wouldn't want the explanation.*

~ BIG JON ALLEN

**GRAYSON NEWMAN** awakens in an arid desert lake bed. Naked. No idea who he is, how he got there, where he was headed, or why he was left there alone. Surrounding him: bottled water, a couple of apples, and a phone, as well as enigmatic trinkets and some ill-fitting clothes. Clues. Artifacts of a life. His life? He couldn't tell you. On his inner wrist, an abstract marking...



Grayson starts out, but not toward anyplace he is certain of. Memory and awareness are gone — not amnesia or trauma but rather the human equivalent of a reformatted computer — the hard drive contents dragged to the trash.

What first seems like an unidentifiable force is his own inner compass, directing him in search of “The Lakes” — a tongue-in-cheek nickname for Les Cours, the large city tucked in one corner of the sprawling, mysterious and phenomena-heavy Desejo County. With no knowledge or recollection, and only limited tools or fragments of assistance, he journeys in a search to recover... himself.

But Desejo County is a 19,000 square miles expanse; sparse, insulated desert replete with dangers. Mysterious cyphers and talismans; drug-running desert hillbillies; a bought and paid for lawmen; a businessman victim to his own ambition and insecurities; and the county's self-claimed boss whose reach is as far as his violent nature and back soul are deep. A man who rages with a fury to settle a score. With Grayson.

Duplicitous thefts, brutal assaults, toxic overdoses, conspiratorial working girls, powerful seductions, unexplainable and otherworldly occurrences, and a climactic shootout reminiscent of a long ago West are not out of place. Not in the wilds of Desejo County.

As is pointed out to Grayson:

*It's a lot easier to get into Desejo County than to get out.*

~ HOPE

## SEI STUDIOS

Over it all, a patina of myth. Fantasy. Otherworldliness. Evidence of unseen forces at work. And agendas just as masked, mysterious, and potentially perilous. Characters that run the full gamut of intentions and actions; from the warmest light to the darkest recesses of the universe...

### THE TRIANGLE

**HOPE**, a demi-earth goddess, beautiful, mysterious and alluring. Born of a mother goddess and mortal father. A being without a true home, her history up to the point of the story one of being adrift, following the winds of her heart. Capable of limitless kindness or cool distance. Empathic compassion or stark retribution. Passions that run hot. Or cold. As if turned by a tap.

HOPE exists trapped in a relationship better described as “captivity,” with a man for whom she holds no love and only lingering affection. Their situation very much one of *inconvenience*.

Nonetheless, HOPE manages to be a kind protector to GRAYSON — the only explanation: an intense cosmic love that binds them but lays firmly in the past. Destined to the shadows. A history GRAYSON cannot recall. And one HOPE cannot reveal. Her secrets seem endless. As does she.

Completing the central triangle: **DOWAN TENANT**. An ambitious, social climbing, self-serving excuse of a man. He has wormed, cajoled and bought his way into the bloodstream of Desejo County. His pursuits of unrestrained indulgence and power at any cost are fueled by a lifetime of seeing himself as the underserving victim. He lusts to simultaneously get his self-determined due and make the world pay for its transgressions against him.

On his arm: HOPE. An example of his uncanny good fortune and oddly aligned planets. But their union is... inexplicable. At least by any normal measure. But his hold on her is undeniable.

### THE HONEY TRAP

Forty... fifty... maybe sixty years ago, the hard-baked ground of Desejo County desert cracked open and spit out **BIG JON ALLEN**. A hulk of a man, with perpetual stubble, most at home in battered hat, duster coat, and tired boots. Rough-hewn in all manner, Big John overcame the burden of being born a sweet kid to grow into a bitter, crust of a man, meaner than 700 Hells and out for no one and no thing as much as himself.

Ownership of the Ocean Palm Casino, and his beloved brothel, The Honey Trap, (as well as a handful enterprises less reputable or legal), and most of the land

under the rest of the rural areas of Desejo resulted in a contained empire for the self-made but brutal king. But the kingdom is in decline; the Casino barely surviving, ownership of The Honey Trap (and more than \$3 million) lost in a poker game, little cash to fund his drug and other businesses. As in most such reigns, hubris the cause. All of which has only fed BIG JON's savagery.

Out in Desejo, if you happen upon BIG JON ALLEN, no need to cross the street at his approach — if it's you he's coming for, he'll be waiting for you on the other side.

Counsel, Confessor, Fixer, Manager, Protective Figure to "her girls," **MAMA FREYA** is equal balance intrinsic beauty and hard thorns. Day-to-day oversight of The Honey Trap is the focal point of her life. Fiercely mothering the staff and keeping order, 20 years working for BIG JOHN in various roles have earned her a grudging trust and what passes for his respect.

FREYA stands down to no man, but she also prioritizes addressing issues in the earliest stage with a quick, authoritative air that makes clear there is a time for nonsense and a time for none. Exotic beauty, strength, loyalty and judgement are rarely found in the interwoven quality that they are in MAMA FREYA.

The Honey Trap is also a work / home to a variety of women.

**SAVANNAH**, barely 18, when she headed out from neighboring White Dune County, aimed for the bright lights and fast life of the coast, she new the legends of Desejo County, but it was her most direct path. Now, she works The Trap, finding the best in those that cross its doorstep, journaling about her days and dimming dreams.

Keeping BIG JON abreast of the happenings at The Honey Trap — which he is hellbent to retake — is **DELILAH**. Her allegiance an open secret, she has little interaction with the other women, holds MAMA FREYA in palatable contempt, and draws her only support from an exiled BIG JON ALLEN.

MAMA FREYA's right hand in management of The Trap is **MACIE**. Sweet and unassuming to the eye, she is doggedly loyal to FREYA. Someone seemingly always in the room, but seldom drawing notice.

### THE DESERT RATS

Four street kids. Taken in before school age by a kind, benevolent, widowed rancher where they lived as siblings. They have grown to adulthood equipped with instinctive life skills, but little in the way of expectations. Not a dim mind among them, the vestiges of having been or felt abandoned still resonates, which led somewhere along the way to a modest heroin enterprise.

## SEI STUDIOS

The only female of the four: **JULIANA**. Early-20s, she is blatantly *of the desert*. Small build, leaning toward scrawny, unfazed by sun or heat or desolation. Smart, resourceful, quick on her feet, and arguably the glue — or even the unofficial *leader* — that holds the clan together. More than anything... a survivor. **JULIANA** has arrived at an age and mindset, however, where surviving alone is no longer enough. She has ambitions for something better. And a plan to make it happen.

**LATHROP**, 20, is desert-worn and a young soul. Innocence and hard scrabble rolled into one. The youngest of the "desert hillbillies," he never made it beyond a decent portion of high school, but is intuitive; possessing street savvy (if you give him a few moments) and resourceful enough for most situations. Just back from a jail stay, he is anxious to plug back in to the desert existence, the family business, and on catching up for a lot of lost time with women.

**AIDAN** (early 30s) and **COLBY** (30). The other two family members are away from Desejo County, but **AIDAN**'s command of the family and its business hangs heavy, even in absence. The two are on their way back, though. With surprises that will threaten the bonds and safety of the entire family.

### IN SUPPORT

**YING**, an ancient spirit / soul (literally), currently in the form of a young Asian girl. She is, in fact, the spiritual guide and overseer of supernatural / fantasy element of the story. In meetings with the Hope, she is guide and taskmaster, confidante and mentor.

**CALLIA** and **SONDO**, a young woman and boy, two mysterious cyphers, experienced only by **GRAYSON**. Real or imagined? Protectors or hunters? They seem to direct him onward, but toward what destination?

**ERIS**, an embodiment of a Greek Fate — a child of the Universe, answering to no other being or energy. Not even Zeus himself. Affecting and dictating the turns of fate for mortals she encounters through chaos. At times mischievous and benevolent; at others, icy and spiteful. In Desejo County, she will encounter energies never before confronted proving the Universe to be home to more forces than can be known.

**SHERIFF LANCE JANSEN**, the resident law enforcement for the enormous county. Long ago having sold his allegiance and fragile moral compass to **BIG JON ALLEN**, **SHERIFF JANSEN** is at a crossroads. Time to pick a side. Moment of Opportunity. As always, also a moment of peril.

**SHERIFF GREER MOFFAT**, everything **LANCE JANSEN** is not. An effective but kind caretaker of neighboring White Dunes County, **GREER MOFFAT** "inherited"

the job from a father who held the position for 40 years. Now, she has reignited the hunt for SAVANNAH (known in her White Dunes life as “Carli”), who ran off a few weeks ahead of her 18th birthday, bound for a life she had imagined, but who has not been heard from since she left.

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With inspirations as broad as Homer’s *Iliad* and *Odyssey*; films such as ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE WEST, NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN, and A TOUCH OF EVIL; and television series *Westworld*, *Severance*, *Twin Peaks*, *Lost*, and *The Twilight Zone* — “2” tells a story of timeless themes, mystical action, dark humor, and darker motives. In a world where dangerous agendas rule and realms collide, a story of a man trying to get home. A story that, at long last, sets him on course. Toward what he once knew as home. But a man entangled by a past he no longer recalls risks a future he cannot reach and falling victim to a present that hunts him.

GRAYSON NEWMAN. Battle weary, in his own way. A man who was found. And then lost. Both at his own hand. Now, a blank slate. Offered a choice by the gods. One that at long last sets him on a course. Driven by an instinctual need to return to his origins. Toward what he once knew as home. Unaware of the trials, the temptations, and the dangers that will beset his journey. And an ultimate decision that will define his destiny.

And a woman. Also in a quest for home. Alone, beset with feeling unwanted and unworthy from an age before she can barely remember. No place or family feeling truly her own. Unwittingly trapped by her own allure and bad choices, home has never been more important. More hungered for. More in need of definition and discovery. For a woman at the doorstep of her powerful destiny.

Set in the beautiful and rugged terrain of the U.S. Southwest, “2” will utilize previously never or seldom filmed production locations and landscapes to serve as a grand, intimidating canvas for its ensemble story. A cryptic Chinese tattoo parlor, inner rooms of a desert brothel, a county general store, desert drug stashes, a modern-day opium den, a sidetracked freight train boxcar, desert ruins... all just a partial list of the settings and locations in Season One of “2”.

*As the first story in the SEI Universe, “2” introduces a vast, remote area where mortals live and gods from every mythology and structured religion come and go, all without visible identification of their true natures, highlighting that the divine and the human are more alike than either realizes... or would ever care to admit.*

~ Greg Anderson  
Series Creator