

TREATMENT

The Pearl Earring

A Crime Drama

The Pearl Earring © 2023 John Stone

Pilot

“How far would you go to protect your identity?”

Enquiries

Jhnstn87@aol.com
Jhnstn87@hotmail.co.uk
Stoneleonard354@gmail.com

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The Pearl Earring is an edgy British crime drama, created for television. The narrative pushes boundaries and challenges the status quo of modern day policing, and explores uncharted territory with the aim to captivate audiences with a fresh perspective concerning its genre. Set in London's Soho district, the narrative concentrates upon a suspicious murder of a club owner's son, and his father's revenge. The story follows the plight of tough redheaded detective, DC Kiki Carruthers.

Kiki Carruthers is catwalk modelish and true to her convictions. She is dedicated and holds the torch of each assignment to its end by hook, or crook, and without total regard for the rules of law. She has grown up with domestic violence and child abuse, but she has a strong penchant for legal matters, due to her French parents who had both worked for the French judiciary in Paris. Kiki Jane Carruthers was born 1994, in the Latin Quarter of Paris. Her father worked as a prosecutor. Her Mother for the gendarmerie as a liaison officer. It was after Kiki had pushed her alcoholic Mother down the staircase at their family home that she left her disabled and bound to a wheelchair. At nine years old a troubled Kiki was sent to live in London with her aunty Cath, During her new life in the UK, Kiki attended Cambridge University where she studied sociology and psychology. However, with a keen interest in judicial matters she studied criminal law, before being fast tracked into the Metropolitan Police as a detective constable. She is promoted as an undercover detective, along with her lover DC Shelley Peters. Evidence of this is shown in the third scene when Kiki and Shelley arrest Italian Londoner drug mule Jorgio and confiscate four kilos of cocaine hidden inside the boot of his vehicle.

For most part, The Pearl Earring focuses upon the murder of twenty-eight year old David Savva, after he confiscates the pearl earring that falls from DC Kiki Carruthers ear whilst she performs at the pole, under the cover name Medusa. Unbeknown to David, Medusa has infiltrated his father's club to secretly film and gather intel concerning a drug smuggling ring and money laundering activities, and to build a case against Kris Savva - club owner and known hard man. During his swagger, his son David offers Medusa the return of the pearl earring in exchange for a personal lap dance, to which she is compelled to agree. But when she refuses his obscene sexual advances, he physically assaults her and withholds the earring. This single act of violence causes Medusa to reach out to her colleague, Snow Leopard (aka DC Shelley Peters) Also an undercover pole dancer at Tiffany's Nightclub.

Setting:

In the opening scene, we see David Savva hand over four kilos of narcotics to Jorgio. His job, to deliver to Colombian cartel member Dev Bakshi when he returns from a trip later that night. However, he decides to visit the red light district of Soho beforehand where DC Kiki Carruthers and DC Shelley Peters pose as prostitutes. Jorgio kerb crawls and then propositions them, before he is duly arrested and charged, not only with soliciting two bystanders, but also in possession of four kilos of cocaine.

It is when he is freed on bail that club owner Kris Savva and Dev Bakshi confront him and offer him a lifeline, if he can either pay for the missing four kilos of Charlie, or return the drugs to them. However, Kris Savva has mighty connections and makes a call to DS James Johnson - a detective on his payroll.

In the following scene Kiki Carruthers and Shelley Peters are rewarded for their good work when they are chosen for an undercover operation at Tiffany's Nightclub; Their mission to infiltrate and secretly film the goings on, using a pearl earring whilst they dance at the pole: The dramatic action of the overall plot begins when the pearl earring falls from Medusa's ear whilst at the pole. David Savva is first to spot the discarded earring. However, he is not privy to what is hidden inside the earring, but uses this as an excuse to proposition Medusa in return for her earring.

David Savva sits glued to a seat as Medusa lap dances for the return of the earring. He shows her his penis to which she rejects, instead grabs him by balls, before he viciously attacks her. This inciting incident causes a flashback to her childhood and the altercation that leads to her Mother's disablement when she pushes her down the stairs at their family home.

The following scene shows David Savva walking back towards his vehicle inside a dimly lit car park and when he accidentally trips on a raised piece of pavement slab, before he is viciously struck over the head and then robbed by homeless Bulgarian fugitive, Roman Petrescu.

DC Kiki Carruthers returns to the underground car park to collect her vehicle when she spots David lying on the ground with a severe head injury. She refuses his pleas for help, unless she has the pearl earring back in her possession. Through her peripheral vision she spots a shadowy figure hiding behind a parked vehicle - Roman Petrescu. She immediately apprehends him and searches him for the missing pearl earring, instead discovers other stolen property taken from David. She calls for back-up and when a unit arrives Petrescu is immediately taken into custody as prime suspect for David's murder. However, during questioning by detectives DI Steve Pearson and DS James Johnson, he reveals that he saw DC Carruthers talking to the victim before he died. This statement of fact causes immediate suspicion. DC Carruthers is then

prompted by DS Johnson to speak to the victim's father, Kris Savva. She refuses in fear of blowing her cover, so the suspicion upon her grows as Kris seeks revenge for his son's murder.

With the aid of Glaswegian DS James Johnson, Kris is convinced that his son's brutal murder has been committed by Bulgarian murder suspect Roman Petrescu. However, Petrescu pleads his innocence and maintains what he'd witnessed inside the car park. The dilemma for Petrescu is that he has a criminal background and is wanted in his Motherland for the rape of a sixteen year old girl who had later taken her own life. She, the daughter of the Mayor of Velingrad, and when he hears of Petrescu's arrest he immediately flies to London to seek retribution for his daughter. But as the dramatic action unfolds, DI Steve Pearson is seconded and DCI Anthea Must leads. And it is with her utter brilliance that she uncovers a deep plot, due to her keen eye at locating the murder weapon and the evidence of a cover up.

Roman Petrescu is held at a holding facility, awaiting his day at the Crown Court while DC Carruthers and DC Peters are arrested and charged with the murder of David Savva. Kris finally gets justice for his son. However, this is not merely enough for this London hardman. So with the assistance of DS Johnson a plan is devised to kidnap and murder Petrescu. And as the wheels are set in motion and Petrescu is driven to a piece of wasteland, the Mayor of Velingrad spoils the party when he arrives and insists that his vengeance towards Petrescu weighs far heavier than Kris Savva's. It is with a feeling of compassion towards the Mayor that Kris hands his prey over to him and Petrescu's fate worsens. He is never seen, or heard of again and the Mayor flies back to Velingrad.

In this extended version Kiki Carruthers and Shelley Peters await trial at the Crown. Kris Savva delivers a farewell speech from a banqueting suite where he reveals to his partners his plans to leave London and start a new life in Cyprus, but not before he orders the death of Kiki Carruthers if she gets off with his son's murder.

At the Crown Kiki Carruthers swerves justice and is freed while her colleague Shelley Peters is sentenced for David's murder. With a price on her head Kiki Carruthers is reinstated within the police service whilst under probation. She immediately flies to Paris to be with her father Dominic before she returns to Soho Nick.

In the meantime, Kris flexes his muscles when a drug for cash exchange is stumbled upon at his club by local rock musician Shane Burrows. He sells the drugs to local criminal Milan Birch. However, Shane leaves a vital clue to which Kris Savva promptly discovers when he searches for his package. Shane is picked up and then driven to the woods where he is beaten and left for dead. It is during this vicious attack that Shane reveals the name and address of Milan Birch to his capturers and he too is dealt with in the most violent of ways when they pay him a visit.

There is a failed attempt on Kiki Carruthers life when she crosses a busy main road. Her assailant, Dog only manages to inflict a minor injury upon her, before she becomes active and back on the cases of both Kris Savva and his Colombian colleague Dev Bakshi.

In the penultimate scene Kris Savva and his wife Helen are brutally murdered in their sleep at their country home Longmoor Manor.

In the final scene, after positive intel Kiki Carruthers and her colleague DS Millie Nunn execute the arrest of the perpetrator Dev Bakshi. This is where Kiki Carruthers reinstates the trust thrown upon her within the crime unit at Soho Police Station.

Main players:

DC Kiki Carruthers: Modelish redhead has sparkling green eyes and pallid skin. She was born in Paris to an English Mother and French Father who both work in the French judiciary. Kiki is highly sophisticated and attractive. Her sexual preference is women. The idea for her character is based upon Josephine Karlsson played by Audrey Fleurot. She was brought to England where she studied at Cambridge, then later went on to achieve a Bachelors in criminal law and psychology.

Kris Savva: A London Cypriot club owner has white hair and is rugged and raw. He is of sixty years, married to Helen. He has two daughters and a son, and is the owner of Tiffany's Nightclub. As a Freemason he has far reaching tentacles within political and criminal circles, and keeps his head above the parapet with his connections to the brotherhood. DS James Johnson is just one of those connections on his payroll.

Roman Petrescu: Melancholic, Bulgarian fugitive and opportunist.

David Savva: Club manager is cocky, arrogant and the son of Kris and Helen.

DC Shelley Peters: Tall blond, blue eyed colleague and girlfriend to Kiki Carruthers.

DCI Anthea Must: A strong well bred, mature woman who doesn't suffer fools around her. She is sharp and gets the job done. Based Upon Helen Mirren's character in Prime Suspect.

Jorgio: London, Italian dog's body and incompetent drug's mule.

DS Millie Nunn: South African descent. Addicted to biltong. She has an ECO hairstyle and plays by the book.

DS James Johnson: Smooth looker and Glaswegian detective on Kris Savva's payroll.

Dev Bakshi: Violent drug dealer from Colombia.

Shane Burrows: Rockabilly musician.

Milan Birch: Hispanic local criminal.

Dog: Driver and henchman for Kris.

DI Steve Pearson: A ageing, loyal black detective, dealing with the death of his father.

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