

SURVEILLIA

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MARJANE, an isolated UK surveillance analyst, recklessly entangles herself in the life of a turbulent family she's assigned to monitor.

This thriller is a 6 x 60min serial, running post-watershed on a Sunday or Monday evening, and expandable to further series. It is intended for people aged 18-45 and has a dark contemporary slant similar to Humans or Black Mirror. We will spotlight topics such as mental health, state surveillance and extremism, and the interplay between those things which you and I see too often going terribly south in the news.

Iranian-born Marjane is socially crippled by feelings of powerlessness and anxiety. Her colleague and higher-up, TIM, is an intelligent and noble-minded man who has access to her reports and checks their integrity. Marjane's neighbour, LUKE, is an aggressive and opinionated breadwinner who has been inattentive at home while his wife, WILLOW, has become bored, depressed, and in need of a friend.

Marjane lives in the Cheltenham suburbs and wants more than anything to have people around her again. Every day she surveils domestic security threats, but when she's assigned to surveil Willow and Luke's dysfunctional family (which seems to harbour a dangerous anti-western extremist!), she inserts herself into their lives. Using her surveillance of them to ensure she always pleases them, scrutiny of her doctored reports builds at work.

She's there with the jumper cable when their car won't get out of the driveway, but has to lie to Tim about a repairman in company documents. She finds herself suddenly confident, happy and outgoing around the family due to her extensive knowledge of their private lives, but as suspicions build from Willow and Tim, she finds herself descending on a knife-edge.

Further down the line, she becomes sexually involved with Luke, whom she believes to be the extremist. However, as her friendship helps Willow recover from depression, the extremist online behaviour slows almost to a stop. Realising Willow's true, terrifying nature and the risk of her surveillance being ordered to cease, Marjane actively encourages Willow's villainous intentions. Tim builds a case against Marjane, but instead of reporting it internally, he releases it as part of a massive Snowden-esque document leak. Almost (but not!) fired and with surveillance on hold, Marjane finds herself returned to powerlessness — but this time facing Willow's wrath. Eventually Marjane escapes with her life and a resentful, out-of-options Luke, and begins to get help with her social anxiety.