

Freedom City (Working Title) (Sample Pages)

Created and Written by

Aslan Hollier

Series Logline:

A cyber sleuth on a dystopian island uses his new powers against transcendental villains who seek to control, possibly, the last city on Earth.

Pilot Episode: **Diva Heart and the Heart Stealers**

Episode Logline:

When a man's heart is cut from his chest, an old-school detective is hired to seek out a devious femme fatale, who happens to have plans of transformation for him.

WGAW Registered
Copyright 2019
Aqueouslionproductions@gmail.com

TEASER

EXT. DOWNTOWN - MARLOWE'S - EARLY EVENING - RAINING

LIGHTNING FLASHES and THUNDER CLAPS. RIDERS ON THE STORM BY THE DOORS PLAYS.

JOE PSYKES (30-40s), clean cut beard and piercing blue eyes. He's dressed in all black, except his coat, hat and tie are blue. He sweats as he throws a restrained and tape-mouthed GRAFFITI ARTIST down at MARLOWE's feet, then groans and grabs his chest.

PSYKES

Here's the guy that desecrated the wall of your store.

Marlowe smiles.

MARLOWE

Ah, yes. Thank you, Joe. You alright?

Marlowe hits the artist in the face with his robotic red right hand.

PSYKES

Nothing I can't handle.

MARLOWE

What do I owe you this time?

PSYKES

I'll take a pack of Spirit Sticks and a flask refill of Whiskey.

MARLOWE

I can't do Whiskey today. Kingpin gave Uptown more than their fair share. I can give you some Moonshine I made myself though. You sure your heart can take it? I know a good doctor...

PSYKES

I don't need a fuckin' doctor. I'll die when I'm good and ready. Not gonna be some android trying to stay in this shitty place any longer than necessary.

(coughs)

No offense.

Psykes takes out his flask and hands it to Marlowe. Marlowe sighs, grabs the flask and kicks the Graffiti guy in the

stomach and walks away.

MARLOWE (O.C.)
Shame. I kinda like having you
around. And I bet Kid does too.

Psykes looks at the ground and rubs his chest.

INT. PSYKES APARTMENT/OFFICE - NIGHT

RIDERS ON THE STORM BY THE DOORS plays.

The front door with the squeaky clean glass has the words "Bounty and Sleuth". The apartment also serves as an office. There's a bookcase full of books and a spot where he grows small plants. Dirty ashtrays and empty bottles are scattered about the place.

Joe Psykes sits at his desk puffing a cigar, looking at an electronic tablet and talking on the phone.

PSYKES
Yes, Mrs. Miser, I'm looking at it
now. You got the gold, I got the
time...If the property owner hasn't
had the body taken, or had the
place cleaned, then I can check it
out...Sure, we'll be in touch.

He hangs up and takes a big swig from his flask.

On the tablet he reads an article from THE FREEDOM PRESS and the headline reads "DIVA HEART STRIKES AGAIN!" There's a picture of Gaeron's house. In the bottom right corner of that picture is a smaller picture of GAERON as Diva left him.

ZOOM IN: PICTURE OF GAERON'S HOUSE

EXT. GAERON'S HOUSE - NIGHT - RAINING

Psykes stands big and tall in the yard of Gaeron's house wearing his blue and black outfit.

PSYKES (V.O.)
It's the kind of night when you can
feel death in the air. A sharp,
cold drop of rain that follows your
spine. Chilling to the bone.

He waits for a moment, then walks to the porch. He covers his nose.

EXT./INT GAERON'S HOUSE - PORCH/LIVING ROOM

The Detective puffs his cigar.

PSYKES (V.O.)
I've been down and out for a while,
but I could use the gold, and this
case really calls my attention.

INT. GAERON'S HOUSE - KITCHEN

Psykes makes a pot of coffee.

PSYKES (V.O.)
Coffee helps cover the smell of a
rotting corpse.

INT. GAERON'S ROOM - NIGHT

Psykes leans in the doorway, looking into the room as he
puffs on his cigar and stares at the scene.

POV PSYKES: GAERON SITS DEAD IN THE CHAIR

PSYKES (V.O.)
This new world is nothing but a
sexual and violent place. Right
back to what our ancestors escaped.

CLOSE UP - VICTIM'S WIDE DARK EYES

Psykes closes his eyes and shivers a little.

PSYKES (V.O.)
I can't stand looking dead people
in the eyes. It feels as if death
itself is sneaking into my soul.

Psykes crosses over to the victim, closes the victim's eyes
and begins to examine the body.

PSYKES (V.O.)
Poor son-of-a-bitch. My heart will
kill me too. What **would** it be like
to live without a heart?

He looks at the cuts and at the anatomy stuff on the walls,
then notices a glittery substance on the floor. He turns off
the lights and pulls out a small black light to shine over
the area, then he rubs his finger on it and sniffs it.

PSYKES (V.O.)
It quickens the blood, clouds the
mind and causes partial paralysis.

He turns the lights back on and looks through Gaeron's clothes. He finds a green and gold coin that says "Going" on one side and "Green" on the other.

PSYKES
Hmmm...

He looks at it another moment, then grabs his chest in pain. Dropping the coin.

END TEASER

ACT I

The song SPLITTING THE ATOM by MASSIVE ATTACK plays.

EXT. FREEDOM CITY - LATE AFTERNOON

It's dark. Flashes of red light peak through the black clouds that surround the sky over the rough and murky water.

In the distance clouds gather in a central point, forming a sheath over the atmospheric, holographic dome that covers the two islands that center into view.

The islands incline from West to East and are split by a deep ridged canyon, but connected by a rickety metal bridge that lies over a broken and burnt wooden bridge. A rotating green light shines from the peak of the Eastern island (Uptown) that produces the protective layer.

SUPER: FREEDOM CITY - YEAR 297AA (After Apocalypse) UNDER DEFENSE FREE POWER

PSYKES (V.O.)
Freedom City. The forever divided
island that survives on its own.
Isolated, but not deserted.

EXT. FREEDOM CITY - DOWNTOWN - LATE AFTERNOON

CU: REMNANTS OF A HUGE CRUISE SHIP LIES ON THE WESTERN SHORE (DOWNTOWN)

PSYKES (V.O.)
Three-hundred years ago, citizens
sailed on a cruise ship, escaping
the nuclear apocalypse of the old
world.

The Downtown island is dark, has lots of plant life and country roads. The buildings and houses are small and dirty with limited technology/machines, and much was built from cruise ship parts.

PSYKES (V.O.)
Founders felt it was the spirit of
the world that lead them to these
uncharted islands. Which began the
Spiritual Free Power.

EXT. FREEDOM CITY - UPTOWN - TEMPLE AND RECORDS

The enormous building has pillars, a dome top, a blue and green globe that sits atop the peak and the words "TEMPLE AND RECORDS" engraved into it. It's the central spot of Uptown.

PSYKES (V.O)

Those citizens created an Ultimate Rule system that can never be amended or broken, and only made three rules.

Ultimate Rules are etched into the side of the building.

- 1 Citizens must vote on a "Change of Free Power" every century.
- 2 Every citizen that can vote, must vote.
- 3 After each power, an Ultimate Rule must be made to benefit the Citizens.
- 4 Give thanks and be creative.
- 5 Defend our Citizens.

EXT. FREEDOM CITY - DOWNTOWN

A Repair Shop plays videos of repair work on a tube TV.

PSYKES (V.O)

Citizens progressed through Creative Power. Machines and better technology came to our lives.

A Club has a flickering naked HOLOGRAM GIRL dancing in the front window.

PSYKES (V.O)

A holographic barrier dome was created to protect us from the radiated world, but it was after mutated outsiders, "Nuctates", made it through to cause chaos.

A GANGLA, deformed human, dressed in a dark green hood paddles a small boat into a swampy cave.

PSYKES (V.O)

Some live inside the island, struggling to survive, but bred with citizens. Hybrids are Ganglas, and they're even more dangerous.

EXT. FREEDOM CITY - BRIDGE - LATE AFTERNOON

In the middle of the bridge is an ANDROID GUARD that has a human top and a mechanical bottom attached to a cage.

PSYKES (V.O.)
"The Battle of Nuctates" led to our
current Defense Power.

EXT. UPTOWN - ENFORCEMENT STATION

A huge steel building that has the words, "In Order To
Defend, We Must Enforce" engraved into it. There are no
windows, no way in other than four secure entrances on each
side. Cameras surround the building.