

## **Twisted But True Book III**

by John Halas, ScreenwritersForHire.Com

based on the book, *Twisted But True Book III*

by Darren Burch

### Logline

A close-knit group of police officers deals with unruly and twisted individuals while unraveling volatile situations to secure the city of Phoenix and maintain their sanity.

### Characters

**Darren Burch (M)** - Mid-twenties. A police officer at the Phoenix Police Department and the show's primary protagonist. He has short, dirty blonde hair and a chiseled face. After a life-changing experience as a teenager, he dedicates his life to saving people. He is brave and looks out for his partners. He also has a great sense of humor and excellent leadership skills.

**Sgt. Jim Markey (M)** - Late thirties. A police sergeant heading the sex crimes unit of the Phoenix Police Department. He gives Darren cases that build his expertise and encourages him to try his hand at other units in the force.

**Robyn (F)** - Early twenties. Darren's daughter. She has a great relationship with her father, and she's always been the number one victim of his pranks.

**Coleen (F)** - Darren's wife. Coleen always supports Darren throughout his career and encourages him to go further and try new opportunities.

**Bill Schemers (M)** - Mid-twenties. He is an officer in the phoenix police department and Darren's favorite partner in his

entire career. Bill sports brown hair and a humorous personality.

**Officer Paul (M)** - Mid-twenties. He's a rookie assigned to Darren, who catches on really quickly. He has a knack for solving cases quickly and is a good team player.

### Episode 1 Summary

#### Chapter 10 - Eastern Massacre

- Darren is recognized for the Angel Miguel Lopez serial rape case. He gets to his office the next day to meet a message from Sgt. Smallman, asking him to join a homicide squad temporarily. Darren's sex crimes Sergeant, Sgt. Jim Markey encourages him to take the assignment.
- Darren interests his wife with his theory about homicide being domestic-related because it is the holiday period. As soon as he arrives home, Coleen is excited. They go shopping for new clothes suitable for a homicide detective during the weekend. Early on Easter Sunday morning, Sgt. Smallman wakes Darren up about a triple murder.
- Darren arrives at the apartment complex where the crime scene is situated. Sgt. Smallman introduces him to Det. Ray Roe as the case agent. Det. Tom D'Aguanno joins the group outside the apartment and briefs them on what he's found inside. All the while, Tom is wary of Darren's presence.
- The three victims consist of male and female siblings and a care worker. The male victim is Andrew Parks, a known drug dealer with some medical issues, while the female victim is his sister Shelly Parks. The health care worker is Andrew's care worker. After giving a detailed briefing of the situation in the apartment, Sgt. Smallman excuses himself to make a call.
- Ray tells Tom and Darren about the first person at the scene, Brian Dann, Shelly's boyfriend. Brian was worried when he didn't see Shelly in bed with him that morning.

He called her phone, but she didn't answer, and since Andrew's place isn't very far, he drives down, and that is when he finds them dead in the apartment. According to Ray, Brian was cooperative and didn't appear deceptive. Tom also confirms that Brian's version of the story is consistent with what he saw at the crime scene.

- Tom is still unclear why Darren is with them, and while he explains the crime scene to Ray again, he throws Darren more suspicious gazes. Tom's strange looks only continue as Sgt. Smallman directs Darren to the surveillance camera in front of the house. Different detectives process the scene for burglary and drugs.
- Darren wonders why no item seems to be missing, aside from the surveillance camera's VHS tape. Sgt. Smallman instructs Darren to canvas the area for any discarded items, and Tom is further surprised. Tom's amazement reaches its peak when Sgt. Smallman tells Darren he would interview the neighbors door-to-door after helping Tom process the crime scene.
- Darren goes to his car to change into his white suit when Tom approaches him and introduces himself. He confesses that he's never witnessed a reporter being allowed in a crime scene. Darren laughs at Tom's assumption before correcting him. Tom and Darren laugh about it, and they also make jokes about Darren's "Columbo Jacket."
- After bagging and tagging evidence from the scene, Darren suggests to Sgt. Smallman that they further look into Brian as a suspect and his clothes should be taken as evidence. Brian wasn't looked at as a suspect because he had no motive for the three murders. He had an alibi; he was at a neighborhood bar, cooperative, and the Son of a highly respected Judge.
- While Darren talks to the neighbors, he discovers that there were two separate sets of shootings that night with a few hours between them. He then checks the alleys and trash cans in the neighborhood but finds nothing. Darren gets permission from Sgt. Smallman to visit the bar. He talks to the owners, Rick and Linda, and they confirm Brian's presence in the bar around the time of the murder. They also confirmed that he called Shelly severally but couldn't reach her.

- Although they confirm Brian being at the bar, they cannot be sure he didn't slip out at any time during the night. Darren talks to other patrons at the bar, but they do not provide any tangible information. Finally, he sees a man, George, who gives him information about Brian. He witnessed how Brian was pissed because Shelly wanted to leave him, his weapon possession, and the threat to use it. The murder weapon is found in Brian's ex-wife's house.
- As soon as Brian is arrested, his father retires from the judge. Darren watches and learns from Ray when he interviews Brian's ex-wife. Darren also writes the report for the three autopsies of the murder victims. Brian represents himself at his trial a year later, but the jury finds him guilty of all three murders, and he is sentenced to death.
- Years after the first trial, a change of law necessitated another trial. Brian is again sentenced to death, but he dies from cancer instead. Darren testifies again and stands in for Tom, who's away on vacation.

## Episode 2

- Chapter 14: DNA (Does Not Apply)
- Chapter 18: Light Him Up
- Chapter 25: Bill's One Case

While reminiscing with Jeff about misusing the term DNA in a job application, Darren remembers the case of a rapist whose DNA matched with a convicted felon. Further investigation reveals that the culprit is the twin brother of the person who the police had in their records. Darren assists Freddy in containing a violent man threatening to kill his partner. Following Darren's instruction, Freddy lights up the big man, using the exact unprofessional language in his report. Freddy tells other cops about how he always manages to avoid writing reports, and Darren is displeased. Darren's quick thinking solves a puzzling murder that has bothered Bill for a long time. Suicide with a single shot from a .38 revolver completely blasts the victim's head.

### Episode 3

- Chapter 24 - April Fools
- Chapter 26 - March Madness
- Chapter 17 - The Eyes Don't Have It

Darren plays another April Fool's prank on his daughter, Robyn, after she's announced to her students that she won't fall for her father's prank this year. He also reminisces about how his mother always played pranks on him and his brother. Darren goes on a book tour, and all the proceeds go to the Silent Witness program. He survives a tornado during the trip, and when he gets home to tell his wife the story, she isn't as receptive to it as he expected. She tells him about the murder of her co-worker, Joshua, in his home. Darren learns how to use software to create software composite. In the course of using it for his sex crimes investigations, he discovers that all the composite he has made so far never had eyebrows.

### Episode 4

- Chapter 13 - Propping Pillows
- Chapter 15 - Guess Who's Not At Dinner
- Chapter 11 - If The Pants Fit

An FBI agent, Hitch-Cock, records himself having sex with different women using the properties of the FBI until Darren catches him. A one-handed man, Lefty, sexually assaults his wife while she sleeps. He uses a pillow to prop her to have his way with her. Darren is assigned the case of Cassie and her masked assaulter, who is called "daddy" by Genie, Cassie's daughter. Darren mistakes a victims' mention of "Tommy" as the owner of a pant for the suspect's name. Another detective helps out by telling Darren, the victim, about Tommy Hilfiger's pants.

### Episode 5

- Chapter 9 - He's No Angel
- Chapter 8 - Hit Job
- Chapter 2 - Blind Justice

It is Darren's first serial rapist case. After Lopez has escaped capture from the police, Darren dedicates resources

and time until he catches the criminal and sends him behind bars. Working on another serial rapist case, Darren coordinates his investigation with a Det of Scottsdale detective. Mildred Pierce. The case makes it to trial, and the suspect is convicted. Unbeknownst to Darren, the convict has ties with the New Jersey mafia, and there is a hit on him. To complete his first warranty arrest, Darren stops a woman with a warrant for skipping court. Darren has to arrest her, but her husband is blind, and she has little kids in the car. Darren is unhappy with the decision, but he has to arrest her.

### Episode 6

- Chapter 1 - A Warranted Job Interview
- Chapter 3 - First Day Solo, All Alone
- Chapter 4 - Shots All-Around

After serving in the US Army, Darren worked in the "family business" before moving to law enforcement. However, before he can go for his last interview, he must clear an arrest warrant recorded in his name while serving his country. It is Darren's first day patrolling by himself. His radio refused to work, and he encountered a drunk driver. He managed to get the problem under control, but he made a blunder in his report. At a time, the entire Phoenix Police Department became targets for random shootings. Darren is involved in a couple of them. Still, luckily no one was seriously harmed until the group's leader got caught.

### Episode 7

- Chapter 6 - It's Freakin' Friedkin
- Chapter 12 - Hi, My Name Is Darren, And I'm A Turtle Thief
- Chapter 7 - Swabbing The Deck

During one patrol, Darren gets a For Information Only that leads him to a motel where a girl is held hostage. He talks to William Friedkin, The Exorcist's director, through her rescue. Coleen's friend, Misty, is an animal lover. She finds that her neighbors abandoned their home with their pets inside, so she makes Darren and Coleen take Tutor the Turtle. Suddenly, Darren finds himself listed as a suspect in a burglary. He

finds out that Misty had unknowingly implicated him in her pet rescue. The officer listed him as a suspect. Darren plays a big prank on a new partner by asking him to swab a rapist's penis.

### Episode 8

- Chapter 19 - On The Back Burner
- Chapter 20 - All Arms and Legs
- Chapter 23 - It's A Sign

Darren and Officer Ryan respond to a Person Disturbing call only for the store clerk to claim the culprit is family and it will be handled. Darren is forced to go back when another call about an incident comes in at the exact location. He gets there, and the clerk's friend, Mr. Meth, has locked himself inside a freezer. An explosion erupts, and Darren injures himself as he tries to help. In the end, the clerk sues his friend, and he is also fired because Mr. Meth is his supplier. A woman witnesses two people carrying a body out of a house and into their car. She reports the matter to the police, and they spend a lot of time investigating until Det. Paul Dalton arrives at the scene where he immediately proves that the body was a dog. Darren gives his mother some safety tips before going on her vacation to Hollywood. Luckily, these tips help her escape an armed robber and rapist during her visit to the Hollywood Sign.

### Episode 9

- Chapter 21 - Words Hurt
- Chapter 22 - Caught Red-Faced

Jim plays Russian Roulette with his friend, but things go wrong, and he blows off his own head. Darren visits the family in the hospital, explaining their Son's crime involvement and how his death isn't an accident. His words hurt Jim's mother, and months later, she calls him and reminds him of what he said to her and how it hurt her. Darren feels the hurt and apologizes. He moves to his new job that same day, a Crimes Against Children Unit Sergeant. A new grandpa molests a young girl in the presence of her grandma, and she does nothing.

After investigating and convincing the girl to talk, he is sentenced to life imprisonment.

### Episode 10

- Chapter 5 - A Dumpster Fire
- Chapter 16 - Heaven Sent
- Chapter 27 - Come Sail Away

Bill and Paul receive a call about some public disturbance. They report to the location, but the man, DB, isn't committing any crime. Again, they are called, and until they offered to drive the man to a friend's house, the calls came in. DB's friend lives within another police jurisdiction, but they are notified of a crime before they can make it out. Suddenly, cops swarm the place, and Bill is forced to confess his unprofessional dealing with the unruly man.

Meanwhile, Darren is at lunch, waiting on Bill and Paul to show up, but they never come. Darren has a flashback to the accident that prompted his resolve to join the force. Darren goes back to the present to another accident scene to help the victims. However, he has locked all his necessary gears, including his car key, in his patrol car. It takes the miracle of Officer Ken Collins arriving at the scene to save himself from ridicule. Once the no-sail order is lifted, Rick and his wife, daughter, Shannon, and Addie go on a cruise with Darren and Coleen to celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary. On the cruise ship, they meet a man, Mullet Man, who has an altercation with another lady, shouting and drawing unwanted attention to himself. Darren helps to de-escalate the problem until the ship's security arrives and takes over. Later, they hear the story that preceded the man's actions.