

THE DEAD ZONE

“SAVED”

Story by Christina Lynch & Loren Segan

Our first reunion between Johnny Smith and Greg Stillson since the season opener isn't going to be the story anyone suspected, but one that will rock the Dead Zone landscape for episodes to come.

Greg Stillson has picked up the pieces of his broken life and moved forward. In fact, he's met a girl and fallen deeply in love. But this storybook union comes crashing down around him when a tragic boating accident sends his beloved overboard and presumed dead.

Grieving and not buying or believing the spin his new handlers are putting on the story, Greg Stillson does the unthinkable... he secretly knocks on Johnny's front door and asks for help. Help to fill in the missing twenty minutes during the boating crisis (Stillson blacked out) and help in piecing together a puzzle that he believes is missing a few important pieces. But is Stillson telling Johnny the truth? Or is he just trying to cover his ass?

Johnny eventually realizes that the young woman is actually still alive and may have, in fact, staged her own death (her body remains missing at sea and she's presumed dead). Not revealing everything he knows, Johnny strings Stillson along in an attempt to find out what's really going on. Johnny eventually catches up with the terrified young woman and hears a story of fear, lies and isolation. Her relationship with the handsome young Congressman had been set-up by Stillson's enigmatic new handler, MR. JANUS. Realizing that even her own family might be involved in the arrangement (she's from a powerfully political family), she was pushed to desperate measures when Stillson, while in a drunken rage, implicated himself in the 'accidental' death of his father. Terrified of what she was being led into, the young woman devised a scheme to make it appear as if she'd drowned at sea. And now she's been found by Johnny Smith minutes before she's scheduled to board a bus taking her off to an anonymous new life. But things don't stay quiet very long as there's a violent attempt on her life, as Johnny realizes he's been followed by Janus' men, leading him to wonder if Stillson might have set him up.

What unfolds is Johnny's discovery that Stillson did indeed kill his father and Johnny's very personal introduction to our new uber-villain, Mr. Janus. The noose begins to tighten around Johnny's neck, when the girl he's fought to set free does the unthinkable and returns to Stillson's side (she claims to have been rescued by a fishing boat and publicly declares her love for Stillson). In an emotional press

conference, she tells the tearful tale of her miraculous survival and her true love for the courageous young Congressman with the million-dollar smile. Johnny watches in stunned disbelief as Stillson proposes marriage on camera and reporters begin making references to the newly minted power couple as a modern day Camelot .

Could this dazzling young woman be the key to Stillson's ultimate ascension to the White House? Too Armageddon? And what was it that made her decide to return to the arm of a man she suspects of cold-blooded murder?

Johnny eventually realizes she returned in exchange for Janus' word that Johnny's life would be spared. Janus goes so far as to send Johnny his own personal 'vision-gram', warning him that his promise to keep Johnny safe was contingent on him leaving Stillson alone. *"There are things in motion that only God can destroy now."* So Johnny is left to realize that by trying to save the young woman's life, he might have inadvertently set in play the events to propel into the White House the one man on the planet that he knows is a key player in Armageddon. All bets are off as Johnny realizes it will be more difficult to end Armageddon than just stopping one man. He may have to stop his army too.