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# EDEN FALLS

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# INTRODUCTION

## EDEN FALLS

‘Luxury mental health treatment.  
Discretion guaranteed.’

Drama series set in an exclusive psychiatric institution.

Behind the walls of Eden Falls stately facade, the over-worked doctors must struggle to treat their patients while dealing with their own emotional issues and the complications of their own lives and relationships.

Eden Falls is an exclusive psychiatric institution set in the remote English countryside. For over a hundred years it has provided mental health care to the rich and famous and become renowned as a pioneer in cutting-edge treatment.

Over the course of Season 1 (10 episodes) Eden Falls comes under increasing threat of a takeover by a pharmaceutical company which wants to use its patients as human guinea pigs for trial drugs.





## EDEN FALLS - SEASON 1, NARRATIVE

The main focus of Season 1 is the attempt of a hostile takeover by a major pharmaceutical company who secretly begin using trial drugs on the patients of Eden Falls. By the final episode it seems like all is lost and the takeover is successful.



# CHARACTERS

**Doctor Alexander Auletta**, (60) is the Head Psychiatrist. He is a benign traditionalist, who has worked at Eden Falls for over forty years. He struggles with recurring alcoholism and suffers through a painful divorce.

*' Early morning in the madhouse is my favourite time of day. Those quiet, still moments just before life begins. '*

Desired casting: Anthony Andrews



**Doctor Harrison Miller** is a brilliant psychiatrist with incredible psycho-analytical skills, but is himself considered to be borderline insane. Intense and unorthodox, he manages to antagonise virtually everyone he comes into contact with.

*'It is the masks we choose to hide behind, which reveals the most about us.'*

Desired casting: Richard Armitage



**Anna Selkirk** is a successful film actress admitted to Eden Falls after suffering a severe breakdown. She undergoes therapy with Doctor Miller and they embark on a tumultuous romance which may either save or destroy them both.



*'I was surrounded by darkness and all I could hear was the pounding of the waves crashing inside my head.'*

Desired casting: Eva Green

**Doctor Janet Chang**, an efficient and severe authoritarian who must use all her ingenuity and political engineering to find some way of saving Eden Falls from closure.



*'It's not defeatist. It's called strategy. There is no point fighting a battle you can't win.'*

Desired casting: Gemma Chan

**Doctor Ryan Connor** is the roguish, young Irish psychiatrist. His devil-may-care outlook is threatened when he falls in love with one of his patients – Rebecca, a mysterious amnesiac.

As their illicit relationship deepens Dr Connor has to decide whether or not to sacrifice his career for her.



*'This place is a casino, the human mind is a roulette wheel and I'm the ultimate gambler.'*

Desired casting: Tom Felton

**Doctor Laura Jacobs** is a talented but aloof psychiatrist who treats her patients and her colleagues with a clinical detachment. Her hidden past threatens to destroy her when her estranged husband is admitted to Eden Falls for treatment.



*' I know I can help him, but I don't know how. And if I don't help him God knows what will happen to him.'*

Desired casting: Kate Backinsale

**Doctor Richard Castells** is the new psychiatrist at Eden Falls. A youthful idealist, he was inspired to become a psychiatrist after witnessing his own father's problems with schizophrenia. He is offered the chance to save Eden Falls by accepting an offer from a pharmaceutical company to run experimental drug trials on his patients.



*'I have spent most of my life waiting for this moment.'*

Desired casting: Rami Malek

# EPISODE GUIDE

**EPISODE 1:** *Cracked Actor*- In the opening episode, Anna Selkirk, a famous actress is admitted to Eden Falls after suffering a breakdown on set. Doctor Miller must discover the repressed childhood trauma which now overwhelms her.

**EPISODE 2:** *Cosmic Dancer* – Dr Jacobs estranged husband, who is a prominent politician, is admitted after claiming to be abducted by aliens. Doctor Miller uses hypno-regression therapy on him and the results make both Doctor Miller and Doctor Jacobs question everything they believe in.

**EPISODE 3:** *Interesting Drug* - Dr Auletta is approached by a pharmaceutical company with a lucrative offer, but he turns them down on moral grounds. Dr Chang and Dr Castells realise that to save Eden Falls they must accept the offer and begin the trials in secret.



**EPISODE 4:** *Die in the Summertime* – Richey Weir, a suicidal singer is admitted to Eden Falls. Doctor Miller's attempt to treat him has tragic consequences. Dr Castells has a breakthrough with the drug trials after testing it on his own father

**EPISODE 5:** *Everything Counts* - The drug testing is leaked to the media and Eden Falls comes under police investigation. Doctor Connor's affair with his amnesiac patient, Rebecca is discovered by Dr Laura Jacobs who must decide whether or not to report him.

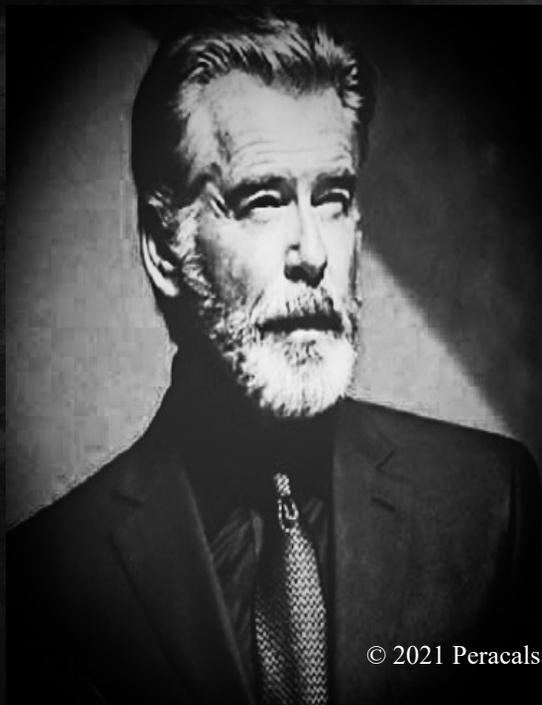
**EPISODE 6:** *More Than This* – A Russian technocrat, Nina Bostrum, is declared mentally unsound by her board of directors. Dr Miller is convinced that Nina is a victim of corporate gaslighting.



**EPISODE 7:** *This Hollywood Life* – A film producer accused of sexual harassment is admitted. The staff are divided as whether to treat him or not, some believing he is beyond redemption while Dr Chang and Dr Castells believe he can be helped and his behavior modified.

**EPISODE 8:** *The Kick Inside* – A football player is crippled by fear after being stalked by an obsessive fan. Dr Connor discovers Rebecca's true identity. Dr Jacobs has a breakthrough with her most challenging case – a young boy who murdered his parents.

**EPISODE 9:** *The Double Life* – Aran Aristedes, the leader of religious cult, claims to be possessed by the spirit of Socrates. He is arrested for fraud. His lawyer pleads insanity. The Eden Falls doctors must assess his mental capacity to stand trial. He challenges each of their belief systems and turns them against each other.



*'The human need for belief is so great, that people will choose to believe anything, however absurd or unlikely, rather than believe in nothing.'*

*Aran Aristedes*

Desired casting: Pierce Brosnan



**EPISODE 10:** *To the End* – Two new patients diagnosed with schizophrenia seem to have a mysterious connection. Dr Miller’s paranoia escalates as he becomes convinced the are they are not what they seem. Dr Auletta takes drastic steps to save Eden Falls.

*'And is this how the world ends not with a bang but with the whimpering of accountants and bureaucrats? Are our lives now ruled by those who rise to power with the click of a mouse? I pray to god that tomorrow will bring a brighter world.'*

*Dr Auletta*

# SEASON 2

## Outline

- Eden Falls is bought by a wealthy but highly dysfunctional family who move into the building. Their teenage daughter has become part of a religious cult and they use Eden Falls' resources to try and get her to leave. Several members of the cult infiltrate Eden Falls and attempt to indoctrinate the staff and patients.

- Dr Jacobs suffers a breakdown after her estranged husband commits suicide. She throws herself into her work and takes on a series of 'impossible' cases including helping profile a serial killer.

# SEASON 2

## Continued

- Dr Auletta's drinking worsens and he struggles with suicidal depression as he tries to find meaning in his life. An unexpected revelation causes him to start fighting back.

- Dr Miller grows increasingly possessive and controlling towards Anna. After assaulting a man that has been stalking Anna, he is admitted to Eden Falls as a patient.

- Dr Chang receives a series of mysterious threats and discovers that her family have been involved with international money laundering. She must decide whether to protect her family and risk involving Eden Falls with an international criminal organisation.

- Dr Connors' affair with his patient, Rebecca is exposed and with it the truth about her identity. Fearing arrest and incarceration, they go on the run and find refuge in Rebecca's ancestral home.

- Dr Castells' father dies in mysterious circumstances and he becomes obsessed with a radical new treatment for schizophrenia.



# INSPIRATION

The original thinking behind devising Eden Falls was the enormous popularity of such medical dramas as *ER*, *House* and *Grey's Anatomy* and the profound belief that their dynamic would be more fascinating and powerful, if it dealt with psychological as opposed to physical illness. The human mind and the almost endless variations of traumas and neuroses it creates and suffers from is an incredible source of drama.

To my knowledge, this is not something which has been attempted before and Eden Falls represents a unique opportunity for storytelling of a special nature whilst employing the traditions hospital drama narrative.

The series creator, Jason Fité has a background in psychology and also his parents both worked in a London mental institution for many years. This led to an early introduction to the world of 'institutional insanity' as when he was a child, he would often be allowed to wander the hospital grounds and interact with the patients. This may seem like an extraordinary situation in the modern world, but this was the late seventies and it was a very different world. Many of the characters and events in Eden Falls are inspired by real life.

The theme of mental breakdown and of 'madness' is one that has defined humanity and it's storytelling for thousands of years beginning with the *Epic of Gilgamesh* and continuing to be one of the dominant elements of the fiction of the last few centuries. Ironically, film and television has done relatively little to explore this intrinsic part of the human condition, although when it has done so it has been with great cultural and creative success with Hitchcock's *Spellbound*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *Girl Interrupted*.

# DETAILS

**NAME:** EDEN FALLS

**GENRE:** HOSPITAL DRAMA,

**WRITER:** JASON FITE

**PRODUCTION:** PERACALS PRODUCTIONS

**WEBSITE:** [www.peracals.com](http://www.peracals.com)



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