

VANISH PITCHING DOCUMENT

Working Title

Vanish

Genre(s)

Crime thriller

Length / Format

Miniseries on Netflix; 6 episodes. 60-minute episodes
Scope for an anthology series with the lawyer.

Target Audience

15+ and those who love trying to work out crime mysteries. The series will keep them guessing until the end.
Taste communities: Crime / Thrillers / Mystery

Log Line

A family on holiday in Spain are accused of murdering a local resident.

Tag Line (s)

Who's lying?
Are they just an ordinary family? Or do they live extraordinary lives?

Moral / Message

Do we really know our family?

Series Synopsis

A family on holiday is arrested and accused of killing a local resident.

Their home back in the United States is raided and tons of evidence has been found, plotting the murder of this man.

Through a series of investigations and interviews, the series will take on the issues of right and wrong in the justice system and come to eventually conclusion - were the family framed?

At the end of the series, they have escaped imprisonment and are free, but in the last few scenes, it is revealed that the family planned the murder and are not innocent.

They change their identities and vanish from all who knew them.

Episode One Overview

The Peters, an English family, are on holiday in Spain enjoying the sun on the beach when the body of Frank Marts is washed ashore nearby. The beach is closed. Frank Marts property is searched, and a diary is discovered linking him to the family.

The family are arrested and separately interviewed by the Spanish authorities. They plead their innocence about not knowing the man. They believe they are being framed.

At the end of the episode, an English lawyer arrives, who seems to know more about the case than he lets the family know.

Visual Realisation / Important Images

Sunny/rainy Spain. Interview rooms. The beach. Police station. Spanish towns. Car chases. Flashbacks. Jail cells. Hidden messages and notes used by the family to communicate when they are separated from one another.

Statement of Intent

With the endless possibilities of a crime story whereby the main questions are whether the family are innocent or not, this story will take a new route questioning their loyalties to one another, and as to how they are all connected to case. The story centres around an ordinary family plunged into an extraordinary circumstance and makes the audience question what if that was them? What if there was compelling evidence to convict them to a crime?

Audience Appeal

Audiences looking for a fast-paced crime thriller with lots of twists and turns with an unexpected ending then Vanish is for them. Six episodes of high-octane thrills, audiences who enjoy binge watching will likely be the ones to enjoy this from start to end in one sitting.

Similarity: *The EVENT* (2010-2011), *Line of Duty* (2012-)
The Sinner (2017-), *Ozark* (2017-) and *The Stranger* (2020).

Character Bios

The Family

ROGER PETERS (52), husband, father, strong-willed, but has a dark-secret past

JANE PETERS (50) - wife, mother, determined to fight for her freedom, but also has a secretive past

OLLIE PETERS (18) - Son, smartest student at his school, a law-whiz.

HAYLEY PETERS (19) - Daughter, an intelligent forensics student.

The Lawyer

JANET MULLAN (56) - a fierce, intelligent lawyer who has never lost a case in her life.

Spanish authorities

MIGUEL HERNÁNDEZ (62) - The Chief of Police, a dangerous corrupt man.

RODRIQUEZ DE LEON (35) - A new detective ordered by Miguel Hernandez to take control of the case

GARCIA LOPEZ (42) - Partnering detective to Rodriguez De Leon. Suspects her boss is corrupt.