



ONE EPIC YEAR

By J. S. Anderson

**For four friends, one year will change their lives
and save the world
& the wedding & the pub & the government
& time and space**

ONE EPIC YEAR

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Synopsis

Have you ever had friends that you have lost contact with? Friends that have moved on? That is what has happened to Gareth, Cal, Luke, and Dan, four best friends since they were children but have lost touch at some point over the past few years. Now as they each turn 40, they have been brought together by forces unknown to them. For reasons, unknown to them.

Over the course of one epic year, they will go through a multitude of adventures and tests. To see if they are worthy to be the keepers of the rings and save the world from alien threats. Alien threats that may be a little closer to home than we originally thought.

So, get ready for an epic year that goes from genre to genre, event to event and mystery to mystery. To unfurl, what is out there, where did we come from, and what do they serve in that pub, and is there food?

A ten 1-hour episode series, following the adventure of four childhood friends as they navigate a year full of adventures. Each episode taking place on a different holiday or event in the calendar, New Year's Day, Valentines Day, Good Friday etc.

Each of the episodes utilises a different genre depending on what is being celebrated, spy thriller on Guy Fawkes night, horror at Halloween, musicals on May Day etc.

All while building a continuous timeline throughout the year. Setting up a fantastical world within our own, within our own time. With twists and turn along the way, to keep all designated target audiences intrigued.

Filled with easter eggs and reference, call-backs and set ups for future plot lines, it would be the kind of show that's talked about at work, in the pub, online by movie and TV commentators, and shared with anyone who is a fan of any of the genres used and hooks them in to watch every event.

How/Why I came up with it

I first came over the idea for what happened here in 2017. I just seen Kingsman the Golden Circle at the cinema with my girlfriend at the time and it was a couple of days later when we were travelling up to Scotland for some time away together. Driving along through the mountains, I was playing the Kingsman soundtrack in my head, there was completely different music playing on the actual radio. I just happened to look over to the side and I could see an old steam train travelling along the tracks at the same time. Listening to the soundtrack in my head, I'm obsessed with soundtracks (I'm literally listening to the Now You See Me soundtrack while I write this as it helps me concentrate and work), looking at the road as well as the train alongside us, I was piecing together a scene that could play out to the soundtrack on that old steam train in the mountains.



It started with an aerial shot over the Scottish mountains, before coming in on the train. The next shot would be of a man in a tuxedo inside the train barging through a door and standing there in hero pose as the music swelled. Then it was revealed, his on the train with zombies, "Ah, shit" he would "Why did it have to Zombies" and then as the music got faster, he start to fight the zombies. Then cut to the outside of the train and he had friends on the outside racing along with the train as werewolves chased them. It went on from there until everyone was int the car racing away from the after a death defying jumping from the train by tuxedo guy



The rest of that holiday was pretty miserable. It rained the whole time away, so we didn't do much. We stayed in the cabin, which was by the lake. And that's where I thought of the final shot of that scene. The guys, including tuxedo guy jumped out of the car, it was now a convertible, and onto a boat, with another friend waiting for them. As they sailed out into the middle of the lake, they could see a fiery, round portal underneath the water. The passed it slowly as the music became more ominous. That fiery portal is where all the monsters were coming from.

How/Why I came up with it

After a couple of days, we went into the local village to visit a pub for some proper scotch from Scotland. Turns out I'm not a fan of scotch. But while there, there was only two or three punters in there, and the managers accent was so broad we could barely understand him. As we sat there nursing our glasses filled with watery brown sludge, I looked around and went back into movie mode.



What if the guys who dealt with the train zombies, were on their way here for a lad's trip away, they came to this pub, and found out the whole village was haunted and besieged by monsters we see in movies. A soundtrack entered my head again as they were being lynched by vampires who broke through the windows and picked them off. They had to get to the cabin to regroup. They had to get an important artifact that was on the train and launch it into the water over the portal to close it and save this little village and the world. Four normal lads, who just wanted a weekend away. Its writing itself as I sat there in that pub looking over the lake, with a truly awful drink.

Less than a week later, we were back in London, and we had broken up. Something about me not paying attention to her and always being in fantasy film land, which I thought was a really weird way to start a conversation.

But it was Guy Fawkes night, and I was watching V for Vendetta, and thought to myself, what if that happen today, like a Guy Fawkes-esk attack on the houses of parliament. Maybe the four lads from the Halloween adventure could be involved in that as well, thwarting modern terrorism in low-rent, comedic way. Horror for Halloween, spy thriller for Guy Fawkes night.



ONE EPIC YEAR

How/Why I came up with it

Then it hit me, what if these four lads were caught up in adventures for all of Britain's major holidays of the year with different themes and genres.

New Year's Eve, Valentines Day, Easter, May Day, Bank Holidays, Christmas etc.



From there, I have spent the last few years listening to various soundtracks, new and old, I started taking inspiration from other movies



and TV shows, thinking of how I can pay tribute to them, honour them, even better them, and bundle those ideas and plot points into various holidays and events throughout the year and create One Epic Year of television.



Episode Synopsis

New Year's Day

Genre Used - Coming of age movies. Pilot episodes and Opening chapters of franchises.

The four lads are reunited after years away from each other, only to find not only each other but who they really are in themselves. They must learn to work together to escape the cellar in which they are being held. In doing so, they reignite the spark of what made them friends in the first place. Their captors? Gary and Sandra, the landlord and lady of the pub, along with an old regular named Jim, but the true reason why remains a mystery.



Valentine's Day

Genre Used - Romantic comedies

The lads must work together to save Dan's impending wedding, thwart his love rival, Ryan, and help Gareth deal with his breakup, all before the I do's. But ruining the wedding is not Ryan's only plan to create havoc for the boys.



Good Friday

Genre Used - Mysteries, Dark thrillers

The lads must deal with the loss of a dear friend Jim, who as they discover has made more of an impact on their lives over the past 40 years than they first think. The mysterious Jim has been popping up throughout their lives without them knowing it, and they must put the pieces together to find out why. Towards the end of the night, during a late night visit to Jim's grave, they get sucked into a fiery portal.



Episode Synopsis



Easter Sunday

Genre Used - Sci-fi

After sucked into a fiery portal at Jim's grave, the lads have been thrown into a time-loop repeating the same day over and over again, until they discover there are forces out there repeatedly causing their demise and rebirth. They must work together to stop repeating their mistakes, end the loop, and stop the out of this world threat.



May Day

Genre Used - Musical

Cal must come to terms with something that has been holding him back from being honest with his friends and family. Luke attempts to take a step forward in his life, even if it means sacrificing some of the people, he holds dear. Dan and his new wife, takes steps into their new life away from the lads. And Gareth struggles to let go of the past.



August Bank Holiday

Genre Used - Heist Thrillers

With the pub in danger of being closed for good and the landlord in hospital, it is up to the lads to take matters into their own hands and take back what's theirs. By pulling off the most daring heist

London has ever seen, twice, to put an evil corporation in their place and protect their own.



Episode Synopsis

Halloween

Genre Used - Horror

The lads travel to a Scottish loch to escape for the weekend and have a low-key lad's holiday. While there they discover the local town has been taken over by monsters and ghouls only seen before in movies, that somehow have a link to not only Jim, but also a mysterious man in black, that been following them around all year. Together they must banish these evils in order to save this little town and possibly the world.



Guy Fawkes Night

Genre Used - Spy Thriller

More truths come out about Cal as he tries to take down a terrorist threatening to blow up important buildings and landmarks damaging the British economy and infrastructure as a whole. He enlists the rest of the lads to help catch him and detain him. But things go wrong as the deadly terrorist starts making sense to one of the lads. With horrific consequences for them all, London, and the fate of the Earth.



Christmas Day

Genre Used - Christmas movies, travel movies

As Dan's baby is about to be born the remaining lad's band together to help him get to the hospital in time for the birth. Elsewhere, Gareth, now in isolation from the others and civilisation, is visited by three entities, Jim from the past, Lara from the present and a mysterious man named DJ who takes him a post-apocalyptic future and they help him discover that none of what happened this year was an accident and what role the boys play in the apocalypse and that no matter what, they must work together.



Episode Synopsis



New Year's Eve

Genre Used - Epic Disaster Movies

The lads must put all they have learnt and achieved this year to good use for this epic showdown to save the world.

Even when help comes from the most unlikely and mesmerising of sources. After working out all

the mysteries that have arisen, answering the questions that have been asked, finding the ultimate power thanks to the mysterious rings, but they must also make the ultimate sacrifice for the greater good. But will they be able to manage it?



Main Characters

These are not cast actors, merely a representation, and something I used as a model while writing the series.

Gareth

Douche. Starts off the year on a high as a marketing director, with a beautiful London flat and gorgeous girlfriend (Lara), but over the course of the year he loses it all and starts to become bitter, verging on the villain of the piece.



Cal

Shifty. A Muslim guy trying to live in a white world. Cal has many secrets that over the course of the year come out, as does he. Some secrets rock the group more than others, as he finds himself being dejected from the communities, he's grown accustomed to.



Dan

Hopeless Romantic. Dan is going through many changes throughout the year, moving across the country (much to the chagrin of the others), getting married expecting a baby all while going through the out of this world experiences this year holds.



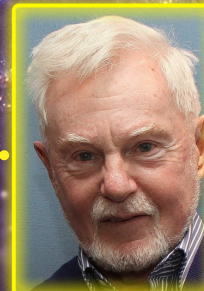
Luke

Loveable goof. Often the butt of the jokes, hiding a real tragedy that awaits him at home. Which becomes more apparent as the year goes on, and he finds his strength to stand up for himself and his family.



Brian/Ryan

The main villain of the piece. Always lurking in the shadows, controlling the boys without them even knowing. His plan enveloping years (not always in the right order as he's a time traveller) comes from beyond the stars. His story will take a separate timeline to understand. Hence needing to be played by two different actors.



Secondary Characters

These are not cast actors, merely a representation, and something I used as a model while writing the series.

Lucy

Strong and loyal. Dan's wife, who is one of the targets of Ryan's seduction.



Lara

Strong, but secretive. Starts off as the girlfriend to Gareth, over the year becomes a good friend, even though she has secrets that would rock everyone's world.



Christine

Aggressive and unfaithful. Wife to Luke, mistakes her aggression and selfishness for strength.



Jim

Cranky, often drunk, but has a plan. One of the original Keepers, now a regular at the pub, until his death, architect to the plan to save the world.



Gary

Emotional heart. Landlord of The Keepers Inn and one of the original keepers of the ring.



Sandra

Mute support. Wife to Gary and landlady to the pub, always ready to lend an ear and helping hand to all that need it.



Brian/Ryan Timeline

To give an idea of the twisted timeline throughout the show, here is the timeline and arc of the main villain Brian/Ryan

Time - Present Day

Episode - Easter Sunday

Aliens come to earth looking for four powerful rings. The boys confront them, and talk them down, outsmarting them using the time loop they are caught in after falling through a portal on Jim's grave

They leave one of their own behind, who uses the still open time portal on top of Jim's grave, trying to take advantage of time loop to be victorious but is sent back to the 80's

Time - 80's

Episode - Christmas Day

Finds a ring and uses its power to transform into a human named Brian

He befriends Jim, Gary, and Dave (Dans now deceased father)

The four of them find the other rings and becomes their keepers

He gets a visit from his older, heavily scarred self, who tells him what to do. Brian uses the ring to travel to the future

Time - Present

Episode - Easter Sunday

Continues affair with Christine as Ryan, during the arrival of his kind and watches it while in a hotel bed with her

Time - Present

Episode - Valentines Day

He becomes Ryan to fit in and tries to come between Dan and Lucy

He has an affair with Christine to split up her and Luke and makes her abusive

Time - 80's

Episode - August Bank Holiday

As Brian, he starts a very successful company using his knowledge of the future, that loans money to Gary so he and Sandra can buy a pub and call it The Keepers Inn

Time - Present

Episode - Good Friday

Uses that company to buy Dans Architecture firm and relocates them up north away from the rest of the boys

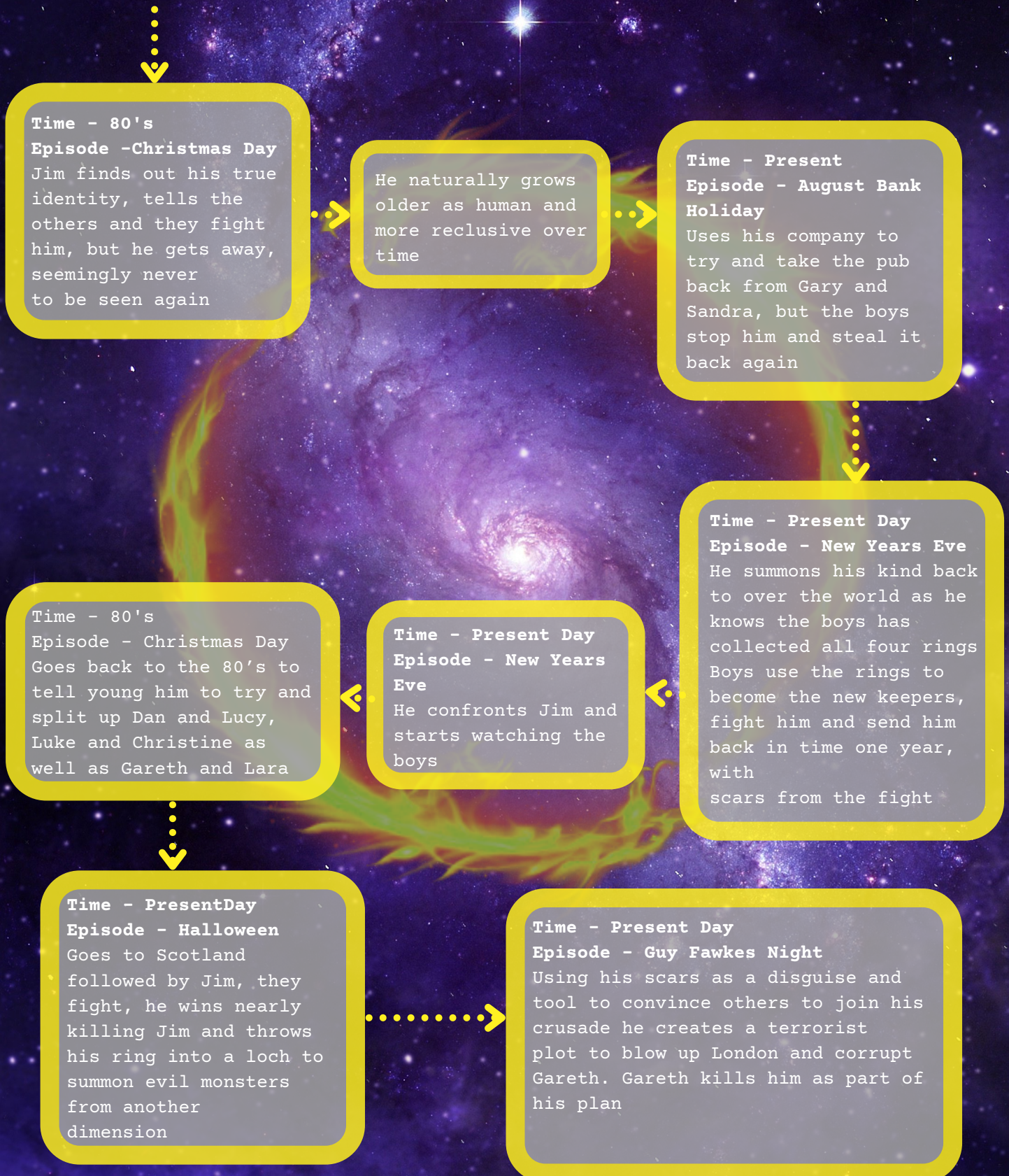
Time - 80's

Episode - Christmas Day

Tries to stop Dan from travelling up the country to be at the birth of his son. Fails and is sent back to the 80's by Gareth

Brian/Ryan Timeline

To give an idea of the twisted timeline throughout the show, here is the timeline and arc of the main villain Brian/Ryan



Target Audience

The Netflix logo is displayed in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters within a red rectangular box.

Target Network & Audience

Target network for something like this I believe, realistically, would be Netflix, Amazon Prime, or another form of streaming service. This way it could be put on worldwide release instantly and available for all the target audiences.

The Disney+ logo features the word "Disney" in its signature script font, followed by a blue plus sign, all within a white rectangular box.

Given the holidays and events are mainly based in the British calendar, it would have worldwide potential with its use of different genres.

The Amazon Prime Video logo is shown in white and blue text on a black rectangular background.The Planet Broadcasting logo consists of a stylized globe icon and the words "PLANET BROADCASTING" in blue, set within a white rectangular box.The New Rockstars logo features the letters "NR" in a large, bold, black and red font, with "NEW ROCKSTARS" in smaller black text below, all within a white rectangular box.

Particularly the sci fi and action elements that gain the most following. This is the kind of show that would be followed and commented on by the myriad of influencers and youtubers that are online right now, dissecting and reviewing many properties from DC and Marvel. YouTube channels like New Rockstars, Mr Sunday Movies, Marvellous Videos, Whatculture, and many many more. Which would produce free and almost instantaneous promotion. Thanks to the mystery, easter eggs and references dotted throughout the shows full season.

This show could exact the same kind of cult following as many of the DC and Marvel shows, as well as the likes of Star Wars, Star Trek, and Doctor Who to name just a few. And it is the fans of those shows, as well as others thanks to the different genres, that we would be targeting.

The What Culture logo features a red geometric icon and the words "WHAT CULTURE" in bold black text, all within a white rectangular box.

Future Franchise

Future Possibilities

Thanks to the massive world building of the show, along with the mysteries and multiple timelines of the show, there are many possibilities for future seasons and spin offs. Continuing in what would be called The Keeper Series.

The main series would continue with new and different threats coming to earth, or this time. It would explore different holidays and events in different calendars, such as, Diwali, Eid and many more to encompass all cultures. As well as the main characters overcoming their own demons like in this series.

Another aspect of the main series would be swapping out keepers, for example Dan being injured in battle and his wife Lucy taking over his responsibilities as keeper.

One possibility for the second season would be to have mystical entities come to this world to find DJ, Dan and Lucy's new-born son and Gareth's mysterious guide from the future. These entities would corrupt Luke, who has become the strongest keeper of the rings in an effort to destroy DJ before he becomes a keeper in the future. The apocalyptic future Gareth saw in the Christmas episode.

Spin offs would include what adventures did the 80's keepers get up to in the time between them finding the rings to present day when the boys were brought together again New Year's Day of One Epic Year.

Summary

Summary

I remember, back in the day, there were special episodes. TV used to be an event, Only Fools and Horses, Vicar of Dibley, and Doctor Who, would have not only Christmas specials but, Easter Specials and others too. Those days seem long gone. Event TV that was looked forward to is over it seems. Thanks to instant streaming, and bingeing, the churning out of reality shows have diminished what was.

I intend to change that with One Epic Year.

With each of the episodes set at a different holiday or event throughout the year, and broadcast/streamed at that time as well, it can bring back event television that audiences will look forward to seeing again. This will result in lots of conversations, drawing fresh audiences and repeat viewings to catch up before the next episode. Each episode getting bigger, more grandiose and opening more plot threads as the overall arc and mythology is explored.

By broadcasting or streaming the episodes during the event in the calendar takes place, will help production gauge audience capture as well as the ability to better control the productions budget and finances and the series goes on and episodes become more technically involving. The MCU have been doing this kind of thing with movies for 13 years, I think it can be done with TV in one.

There is a massive world to explore within this series, which can go on for many years. The world will just keep getting bigger, drawing audiences in.

These few pages just scratches the surface of what is possible within this world. I would be more than happy to discuss it further and explain more of the plot points, character arcs and the world of One Epic Year

By
J S Anderson