

P7343 THE PRETENDER (USA, 9/19/1996-5/13/2000) [TV SERIES]

Series summary: Science fiction/adventure series set in the contemporary U.S. Jarod (Weiss), a boy genius with a special gift for pretending, was kidnapped and held prisoner by a corporation that used him as a human simulator in their clandestine research. Escaping from The Centre more than 30 years later, Jarod now searches for clues to his true identity and family. He also uses his ability to quickly become an expert at anything to right wrongs and exact revenge on the wicked. All the while, Centre operatives led by Miss Parker (Parker) work relentlessly to capture Jarod, and return him to The Centre.

Agent of Year Zero (3/11/2000)

Credits: director, Harry Dunn ; writer, Vern Gillum.

Cast: Michael T. Weiss, Andrea Parker, Jamie Denton, Tzi Ma, Dieutinh Ales.

Summary: Jarod, the Pretender (Weiss), and Miss Parker (Parker) question the motives of Mr. Lyle (Denton) when he uses the Centre's influence to try to gain U.S. citizenship for a Cambodian refugee named Ki Mok (Tzi Ma). Assuming the guise of a U.S. immigration officer, Jarod befriends a blind Cambodian woman, Kim Che (Dieutinh Ales), who claims the Mr. Lyle's new 'friend' is actually Colonel Thon, a Khmer Rouge officer, who ruthlessly executed thousands - including her entire family - during the war. She has suffered from psychosomatic blindness ever since. Jarod aids her in recovering her sight so she can identify Col. Thon and see him arrested.

Collateral damage (1/3/1998)

Credits: director, Rodney Charters ; writer, Tommy Thompson.

Cast: Michael T. Weiss, Andrea Parker, Vanessa Williams, Daniel Von Bargaen.

Summary: Jarod, the Pretender (Weiss), visits the Vietnam Veterans Memorial looking for information about his father. He encounters a young Black woman (Williams) who is trying to find information about her father, Mark S. Clements. Clements was a soldier in Vietnam in 1972. He was killed in a land mine explosion, but because he was suspected of selling information to the enemy, his name was never inscribed on the Wall. His daughter is trying to clear his name. Jarod decides to help her. He locates Duc (Kim), a Vietnamese refugee who implicated Clements in the sale of secrets and learns that Duc lied to win a trip to the U.S. for his family. Jarod impersonates a U.S. Army Ranger lieutenant and infiltrates a special anti-drug unit commanded by a Captain who was one of the real traitors in Vietnam. He learns that the Captain and a Congressman (another survivor of Clements Vietnam unit) are still selling secrets - now to Colombian drug dealers. Jarod lures the Captain into a trap with a fake land mine and gets him to confess his treason for a hidden camera. In the closing scene, Clements' daughter sees her father's name added to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

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