

# TWIN PEAKS: THE RETURN, PARTS 1-4

## MAIN PLOT OUTLINE

After 25 years of imprisonment in the spirit dimension known as the Black Lodge, Dale Cooper is finally offered the chance to leave – however, as always with the inhabitants of this dark place, there is a catch. BOB must be enticed back to the Black Lodge, because Cooper and his doppelgänger cannot exist in the same realm at the same time. In a very strange turn of events, a man named Dougie Jones, almost identical to Cooper, is pulled into the Black Lodge to take Cooper's place, which allows him to leave. Now back in the physical realm, Las Vegas of all places, Cooper seems to be suffering from a disorder that completely erases his personality and human behaviour. Publically mistaken for Dougie Jones, he is taken back home to his "family", where flashbacks from his past as well as his time in the Black Lodge seem to be restoring him to his true self.

Elsewhere, BOB, now operating as a hitman somewhere in South Dakota, is fully aware of getting pulled back into the Black Lodge, and does everything in his power to stop that from happening. He ends up in federal custody, where he is interrogated by Agents Gordon Cole, Albert Rosenfield and Tamara Preston. Reluctantly buying into his story about where he's been for the last 25 years, Cole arranges for "Cooper's" release – mainly to bring him to someone who would immediately see if there's something truly wrong with him.

With both Coopers out of the Black Lodge, MIKE appears to warn Cooper that whoever was responsible for Dougie's sudden arrival in the Black Lodge, was not doing Cooper or BOB any favours. One of them must die in order to restore balance.

In Twin Peaks, the Log Lady relays one last message from her log to Deputy Chief Hawk: "Something is missing. Something related to Special Agent Dale Cooper," which leads to the re-opening of the Laura Palmer case file.

In New York City, a mysterious billionaire seems to have developed an unhealthy infatuation with the White and Black Lodges. He has hired a group of hitmen to take down Cooper, as well as BOB, and is using students to collect information on portals to the spirit realm, with obvious disregard of the danger involved.

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## RANDOM POINTS OF INTEREST

- After tons of speculation surrounding this issue ever since the announcement of this series, due to iconic actor Frank Silva's death in 1995, BOB is played by..... Kyle MacLachlan. Frank Silva reprises his role in a flashback, presented as somewhat of a one-off tribute to Silva before passing the role over to MacLachlan. "Evil Cooper" has his hair modelled after the original BOB, empty eyes, tanned and greasy skin, and leather clothes that make him immediately distinguishable from the real Cooper. He also speaks very differently than the real Cooper, and is prone to fits of violence and murder (duh). However, his methods are very different than before – he's much more careful and organized.
- Kyle MacLachlan also plays Dale Cooper, naturally, and Dougie Jones.
- The first dream sequence from Season 1 (where Laura whispers the name of her killer to the elderly Cooper's ear) is re-enacted without the presence of the Man from Another Place, with alternate dialogue including Laura's key line "I am dead, yet I live" and a previously unseen outcome where Laura's soul vanishes, and presumably dies. Leland later appears, and knowing of Cooper's attempt to escape the Black Lodge, he begs him to "find Laura".
- Bobby Briggs became a police officer. Don't adjust your glasses. She and Shelly have a daughter named Becky, but judging by the way Shelly's eyeing guys with her girlfriends at the Roadhouse, they're probably no longer together. ('Cause infidelity was never Shelly's thing... right?)
- James Hurley was in a motorcycle accident some years before the events of The Return, which might cover for James Marshall's real-life health problems that have affected his complexion and physical form. He's become shy and quiet, and has a severe crush on one of the girls in Shelly's new posse (played by Jessica Szohr – I don't blame James).
- Jerry Horne has started a business as a marijuana farmer after its legalization.
- Benjamin Horne has apparently stuck to the reformation he went through in Season 2; he's smoking cigars

again, but he resents his brother's current business activities – legal or not – and is NOT trying to get in his hot new assistant's (Ashley Judd) pants.

- Having his medical license revoked due to his unprofessional relationship with Laura Palmer, Lawrence Jacoby lives in a trailer in the woods, and collects shovels. Don't ask.
- Major Garland Briggs is played by Don S. Davis. Yep, that's right. As I theorized, the Major is a very important key figure here, just as he was as the Archivist in *The Secret History of Twin Peaks*. Phillip Jeffries (a voice-only part no longer delivered by David Bowie, obviously) first mentions the Major to BOB in a threatening manner. Bobby reveals that his father died when his station burned down (which finally explains the abrupt ending of *The Secret History of Twin Peaks*, and confirms that BOB killed him). Finally, the Major appears to the real Cooper in the Black Lodge – via the magic of archive footage – uttering the words "Blue Rose".
- Despite the Major and Tamara Preston's strong presence, and many of the book's plot points acknowledged, there has been no mention of "the dossier" that served as the foundation for *The Secret History of Twin Peaks*.
- Margaret Lanterman is just heartbreaking. Catherine E. Coulson's illness was at a very late stage when they started shooting these episodes, but rumour has it that the Log Lady wanted to go out in style, and suggested Lynch he should just simply present her in the condition that she was in, to empower her short scenes. She sets the wheels in motion for the Sheriff's Department to start looking for Cooper again. Her last words: "good night".
- The eye-less, deformed spirit of the Black Lodge that guides Cooper to "Major Briggs" bears some slight resemblances to Josie Packard.
- The spirit that Cooper last meets before his exit from the Black Lodge is Ronette Pulaski. What's interesting, though, is that Phoebe Augustine is credited as "American Girl".
- Albert did what he came here to do, he cracked me up, especially with the dialogue concerning "Cooper's" discovery by the highwaymen, went something like this: "He had vomited out some kind of poison." "...Local food, maybe?"
- Walter Olkewicz's character is called Jean-Michel Renault. After all the shit the Renault brothers, especially Olkewicz's original character Jacques pulled back in the day, I don't believe another member of the same family would've ever gotten a job in Twin Peaks again. I think he's just here as a tribute to the original Renault trio.
- It should be noted that the scenes between Cooper and the Giant are shot in black and white, in a different part of the Black Lodge. Also, Cooper seems to have a strange understanding of the Giant as opposed to his troubles of understanding every other Lodge inhabitant.
- Actor Michael J. Anderson's absence is explained by the Arm's (now the official name for the Man from Another Place, first introduced in *Fire Walk with Me*) "evolution" into an electrified tree with a brain. Nice. Bring me some of that stuff you had, David :D
- FBI Agent Phillip Jeffries returns – at least for now only in a speaking part obviously not delivered by David Bowie. His alignment is quite unclear at this point.
- Apparently Denise Bryson – now the FBI's Chief of Staff - is no longer a transvestite, but actually a woman, and somewhat jealous of the youth and looks of Agent Tamara Preston...
- ...Which brings us to how I wrong I was about her. Laura Dern – who I suspected would play this character – has not even appeared on the show yet. Another frequent Lynch collaborator, but mainly in the field of music, the lovely Chrysta Bell, plays Agent Preston.
- Other new characters introduced thus far include:
  - The unlucky couple of Sam Colby and Tracy Barbarino (Ben Rosenfield and Madeline Zima), who get brutally murdered during sex by some angry Lodge spirit just minutes after Cooper visits the New York portal Sam's supposed to watch.
  - Ray, Jack and Darya, BOB's close accomplices who are actually hired by the mysterious billionaire to kill him. BOB kills Jack and proceeds to viciously assault Darya, first interrogating her for all he knows, then shooting her brains out. (BOB's taken a liking to guns nowadays. Might have something to do with Cooper's marksman skills.)
  - Buckhorn school principal Bill Hastings (Matthew Lillard), framed for the murder of a local girl named Ruth Davenport by his wife Phyllis and BOB (who has apparently possessed him to commit the crime). BOB later kills Phyllis.

- The Buckhorn Police Department core cast consists of Detective Dave Macklay (Brent Briscoe), Detective Don Harrison (Bailey Chase), and forensics expert Constance Talbot (Jane Adams).
- Wally Brando (Michael Cera), the independent, travelling, sophisticated 24-year old son of Andy and Lucy – so sophisticated he's one of the most awkward characters I've ever seen on the show. He was born on the same day as Marlon Brando, which is probably why he adopted the name and started to dress up after Brando's 40's and 50's typecast look. Sheriff Harry S. Truman, absent from the show due to an illness that actually sounds serious – as well as Michael Ontkian's reluctance to come out of retirement – is mentioned as Wally's godfather.
- Sheriff Frank R. Truman (Robert Forster), first mentioned in the book, is very much like his younger brother Harry – kind, respectful and by the book, but he seems to have low tolerance for outstanding, awkward quirks such as those of Wally's.