



I remember when The Americans first began to campaign and I thought to myself, "I should watch that show." I didn't know what it was about. Honestly, I thought it was going to be a witty comedy about Russian spies living in America who fall in love with democracy and act silly. Boy was I way off.

My introduction to the series takes place in episode 7 of the shows second season titled, Arpanet. I'm quickly tossed into the show, kind of waiting for Kerry Russell to arrive (as she's the only face I know from the shows original campaign), but as I wait I become intrigued to the point that I don't want to turn away from the screen.

The episode finds both sides trying to get their hands on Arpanet, a precursor to the internet, after an informant reveals how potentially powerful a weapon this could be for either side. It causes a lot of paranoia, a pretty good theme found in the entirety of the episode and one that makes a lot of sense when your talking about spies.

So I'm watching the episode and kind of just following along the best I can. It's not hard. Even with my complete lack of knowledge the show falls into place rather easily. So while I'm patting myself on the back for figuring out the whose who in the show I'm complete blown away when the episode ends and all of the skullduggery and motives come out from behind the lies and reveal themselves.

See, this is at least twenty minutes after the show has ended and I'm washing dishes and suddenly it dawns on me. I have to go back and watch the episode again for clarification and that's when I decide that I'm in love with this show.

All together the episode, even as a jumping off point for a newbie like myself, manages to sustain a stand alone environment as a single picture of the life of a spy (or several). Joshua Brand really outdoes himself in the writing of this episode and is aided by a great cast that manages to make every moment real. Just a real on the edge of your seat episode that captures all of the stages of paranoia in under an hour and powerfully delivers the execution without missing a stroke.

The Americans: Season One is available to Prime subscribers at Amazon for free. I plan on taking advantage of that and getting caught up so I can be fully in the loop. Great stuff and well worth tuning in for to see if it's for you. Enjoy.

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