

S1E1 Treatment

“The Cure and the Con”

Logline: A razor-sharp New York mediator rushes to settle a dispute between two nanotech companies, only to get pulled into a biotech family feud that could lead to a cure for her blind father—until leaked “confidential” books, an FBI raid, and a vanished CEO compel her to invest in the research.

Tracy Shepard is a ruthless, hyper-competent New York mediator with a talent for forcing powerful men to stop posturing and sign deals. At JFK, she’s about to miss a flight to Los Angeles when an ordinary-seeming man, Fischer “Fish” Cuttbate, gallantly offers her his first-class seat. Tracy takes it—because Tracy always takes the advantage—and lands in L.A. just in time to referee a vicious corporate war between two nanotech giants, NanoNano and PicoTech. In the conference room, she dominates the room with profanity, intellect, and intimidation, and forces an ugly truce. The job done, the NanoNano CEO Matt Blankenschein tries to flirt and recruit her into future battles, but Tracy is already mentally moving on to the next dispute.

On the return flight to New York, fate seats Tracy beside Fish again. Their “meet-cute” turns into something more loaded when Fish reveals he runs a biotech firm, RodCone Laboratories, developing a therapy for retinitis pigmentosa—the disease that has blinded Tracy’s beloved father. Suddenly, Tracy’s professional instincts collide with her personal desperation. Fish explains RodCone is deadlocked: he wants venture capital to fund clinical trials, but his twin brother and co-owner Fletcher refuses. Tracy, who lives to mediate conflict and now has skin in the outcome, offers her services—charging an almost symbolic \$1,000—because this case isn’t just business.

Tracy’s home life sharpens the stakes: her father is frail and blind, and Tracy discovers he’s hiding a pistol in his kitchen—an alarming detail she quietly pockets, then later learns how to safely disarm. It’s a subtle warning that beneath Tracy’s polished control, danger and desperation are already present in her world.

Tracy heads to RodCone’s shabby offices, where Fish gives her a scientific pitch via Dr. Torrent and business director Chad Knecht. Tracy then travels to meet Fletcher in Hamilton Square, New Jersey—expecting a combative co-owner and finding instead a guarded, eccentric, emotionally raw man with artistic sensibilities and a guitar. Fletcher resents Fish’s VC ambitions and reveals a bombshell: RodCone’s “therapy” is profitable, but Fletcher is working—quietly—on a true cure, and he believes Fish (and his team) would

rather monetize lifelong treatment than deliver a one-time solution. Tracy and Fletcher unexpectedly bond—through shared pain around blindness, through music, and through the relief of being understood.

Back in New York, Tracy discovers something worse: Knecht “accidentally” sent her confidential financial spreadsheets—and the numbers look like fraud. When Knecht quickly emails a retraction (“wrong file”), Tracy knows she’s been shown something she wasn’t meant to see. She warns Fletcher, and he acts: hires a forensic accountant and calls the FBI. Soon after, Tracy gets the chilling confirmation—RodCone has been raided, accounts frozen, and Fish and Knecht have vanished.

With RodCone in ruins, Tracy’s role transforms from mediator to power broker. Fletcher—now isolated and vulnerable—leans into Tracy for help, and their relationship turns romantic and sexually charged. Tracy, still running high-octane mediations (including a Jets/agent/player dispute that she handles with threats and leverage), finds herself pulled deeper into Fletcher’s world: a cure is within reach, but money is the gatekeeper. At a VC meeting, Tracy outmaneuvers the financiers, then makes a decisive move: she offers to become Fletcher’s angel investor—not a lender, but a partner.

They attempt to formalize the new venture—Cuttbate Associates—with lawyers and accountants, with Tracy demanding board power and aggressive upside through options. She wins the terms. But the victory is short-lived.

When Tracy arrives for the first board meeting, the office is gutted and abandoned. A cleaning lady says they left two weeks ago. Hannah’s research confirms the nightmare: the incorporation filing was rejected, phones are disconnected, the lease was long expired and paid month-to-month in cash, and Fletcher’s bungalow is up for rent. Tracy realizes she has been maneuvered—used, deceived, or set up—and she ends the episode alone at a bistro, smoking, drinking, and staring into the mess as her world tilts from corporate combat into something darker: a disappearing company, vanished men, a fake paper trail, and a cure that may have been bait.

The episode closes with Tracy—usually the one who controls the room—suddenly facing a game she may not understand yet.