

**To:** Jeof Vita  
**From:** Jeffrey Somers  
**Re:** *Sliders*  
**Date:** July 9, 1996

■ Jeof,

I swear we were made to work together. I really like your idea, and I suddenly had a flood of possible ideas. This is sort of a ramble, but let me know if you see anything worth developing here:

*Sliders: A World of Difference*

Our heroes slide into a dimension undergoing some sort of stress, an alternate world which has somehow "split" into two almost identical worlds. Wade accidentally slides into "B" World, while the men slide into "A" World. The two worlds are incredibly close to each other and are only divided by the thinnest of temporal barriers. What caused this odd "Doppelganger" dimension is not clear.

Following identical timeline until Sliders disrupt each in different ways?

This is a world recovering from an intense nuclear disaster, Nuclear Winter has set in and it is a world of grim cold and violent, ever-present storms. The energy of these storms stems partly from the friction of two dimensions lying so close to one another, a sort of "Earthquake-Effect" as the edges of the two realities grind against each other. Every time the odd lightning flares, the barrier between the two worlds thins to the point where they can observe each other, if only briefly.

The people of this world might be incredibly anti-technology, blaming the destruction of their perceived "past-paradise" on the technology that made it all possible. They might distrust the Sliders simply because they bear outlawed gadgetry (just a thought). Also, for increased tension, there might be a danger of severe radiation poisoning if they remain too long on this

**M - E - M - O**

world.

At any rate, one thing becomes clear: the two dimensions cannot coexist, and one of them (Wade's world) is *fading*. It is losing this struggle for existence to its more established "parent" world, bleeding back across the barrier and leaving behind less and less reality. Eventually, the "A" world will have absorbed it completely, the storms will lessen, and reality for this particular world will resume its normal course. If Wade is still trapped on "B" world when this happens, she will die, if not simply cease. Of course, she holds the Sliding Device, if she slides, the guys are trapped on a nightmare world.

Phase 1 Proton  
riff - can  
"reality" be  
added to  
"B" to stabilize  
it?

As she makes her way through whatever story we make up, she will notice how things seem to be getting.....*flatter, less there*. Everything will start to get indistinct -we can handle this in any number of ways. Once Quinn and Arturo perceive what has happened, they must somehow find a way to reunite so that a rescue of Wade (via sliding) won't also sign their death sentence.

As a side note, I think if we sharpen our brains a little we can have a LOT of fun with these mirror worlds, with clever riffs on duplicate characters, dialogue, and scenes. In other words, an exchange of dialogue between Quinn and a native of "A" world might have an eerily different context or meaning for Wade in "B" world. Something to ponder.

Let me know what you think.

Jeff

How thin is barrier? Can it be physically crossed at the right moment?  
Is Wade more "real" than the citizens of "B"?  
Can Wade + Guys communicate? If not, how do they even know what's happened - LIGHTNING shot.  
Perhaps as reality "bleeds" its possible to get caught in a current and be sucked into "A"?  
Shared A/B experience?

Jeof,

Some suggestions regarding "Separation Anxiety", briefly:

Okay, we need to increase the action factor, we need to get some more tension into Wade's story so she does more than sit around and chat until the BIG IDEA hits her like a Mack Truck. The boys we can just expand their wrong-headed attempts at escape, but Wade needs something that will allow her to go through the arc of realization we have outlined, but with more A-TEam and less X-files. Ideas off the top of my head:

- Cult: I think we both assume that the entire populace is behind Wade and hails her as a savior of sorts. What if that isn't the case? What if the populace is split, and half fear her and work against her, just as the populace in "A" world fear and hate Quinn et al? There might be some opportunity for conflict and confrontations.
- Perhaps we've created too static a world? Should this be above-ground, more of a mad-max type of environment? Then we might be able to introduce a second set of survivors, only these outside of AIs grasp. AI might actively try to capture these "Wilders" who live outside and suffer from radiation poisoning but live free -or perhaps the Wilders have developed some sort of radiation resistance, and live pretty comfortably up there. The citizens of the installation might fear them, but also wish they could join them. This of course might nix our whole Wade-as-savior thing.
- Maybe we need to once again think about Wade's computer skills. Maybe she gets the sliding device back on her own, using her knowledge, and then just as she does we have the "You're all just ghosts" exchange and AI and Wade have their little conversation.
- Maybe the special effects budget would be busted by this, but I think that at the end when Wade slides, she should be sliding just seconds ahead of the final FADE, we should get a real sense that she is just barely escaping doom.

Well that's all I have at this hour of the morning, hopefully you have a few more thoughts. What I sent to you yesterday was seriously just a rough amalgamation of what we had outlined, feel free to trash what you think should be trashed, re-work anything, et cetera. I think we have a good concept and a strong plot, but it lacks punch. We'll work on it.

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Jeff,

Enclosed is our masterpiece. But here's the catch, we've got 46 pages. It was strongly suggested that we get it up about 10 more pages. At the very least, 5.

I've done some padding and some suggested changes for a "punchier" ending. Check all of this out carefully because the ending is pretty different from what we originally set down.

I kinda like it but nothing flies without your eyes.

Look for any more scenes where we can beef this up. They especially like meaty "talking head" scenes. Maybe we should extend the Sliders' cell scene so we can get into their heads a little more. Perhaps, elaborate on Quinn's relationship to Wade and how he really feels for her?

Some other scenes that come to mind ... Wade's revelation of her Slider status to Cregar need not be as compact. Same for her exchange with BAIR in the final confrontation. Come to think of it, we didn't really see Arturo's reaction to Bennish as God. That might make for some nice play. Arturo thinks Bennish is a dumb dope-head ... now he's judge, jury and executioner. Ironic, no? Once again, Rembrandt is left out in the cold. How about a scene where he just stands in the corner singing, "I am black and I am free, look at me, look at me! I can sing and I can dance. I got rythmn in my pants! I love your women like my own. I can even roll a bone. I am black and I am free. Look at me. Look at me!"  
What do you say?

Give me a buzz after you've recovered from that trip through silly-ville.

-Evil Boy 1/2

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