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## Unlocking Premiere: The Top 3 Theories Explained

### Description

**[This narrative contains spoilers for the season two premiere of *Severance*.]**

"Admit it. I'm your favorite perk."

In an unexpected twist, it is John Turturro's sorrow-stricken character, Irving, who elicits the most joyful response during the somber moments of the season two premiere of *Severance*. Just as he contemplates irrevocably terminating his innie existence, Dylan (played by Zach Cherry) intervenes, preventing his friend from succumbing to despair. In that brief exchange, a wry yet melancholic Irving seizes the moment to jest about Dylan's affinity for finger traps, caricature sketches, and the myriad of incentives Lumon offers its employees.

However, for the astute audience of *Severance*, the most cherished 'perk' manifests in the form of an intricate Easter egg hunt that unfolds with each episode. As one of today's most compelling mystery box series, crafted by writer Dan Erickson and director Ben Stiller, the show continually conceals significant revelations within plain sight. The premiere provides fertile ground for at least three intriguing theories worthy of exploration. Let us delve into the hints already presented as season two begins.

### Lumon's Deceit

Mr. Milchick (Tramell Tillman) claims that five months have elapsed since the events of the season one finale and that he and the MDR team are heralded as heroes. Is this assertion credible, or merely another fabrication from Lumon? Several indicators suggest the latter, especially considering Lumon's notorious reputation for deception. Every update regarding the external world stems from this dubious source. Moreover, the fact that Milchick remains in the process of settling into his new office, combined with the lingering presence of Ms. Cobel's (Patricia Arquette) name on his computer, raises further suspicions.

### Identifying Helly: R or E?

Equally murky is the identity of Helly, or perhaps, Helena. Which iteration of Britt Lower has returned in this episode? Is it the defiant Helly, inclined to rebel against Lumon, or the authoritative Helena, a genuine Egan? Helly asserts that upon awakening, she perceived nothing amiss — a blatant untruth. Is she concealing her emotional turmoil from discovering her lineage as an Egan, or simply evading the truth out of self-preservation? Although she exhibits classic Helly tendencies, her motives warrant careful observation as the narrative unfolds.

### A Hint from Cold Harbor

True to the nature of the genre, the premiere culminates with a significant visual clue: the MDR team resumes its data analysis, but not before Mark's screen briefly displays an image of his outie's wife, Gemma

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(Dichen Lachman), alongside cryptic analytical data. This moment feels like a pivotal insight into the enigmatic and essential operations of MDR. The online community of fervent *Severance* enthusiasts is abuzz with speculation. Some propose it resembles a brain map, while others focus on the ominous label “Cold Harbor.” Could this reference relate to the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, a prominent institution renowned for DNA and cancer genetics research? Should it be so, it would create a personal connection worth exploring. My mind is thoroughly engaged, and perhaps yours will be too.

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*Severance* is currently streaming its inaugural episode of season two, with new installments available every Friday on Apple TV+. Read THR's *season premiere interview with writer Dan Erickson*.

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## Vocabulary List:

1. **Irrevocably** /,ɪr.ə'vɒk.ə.bli/ (adverb): In a manner that cannot be changed reversed or recovered.
2. **Cherished** /'tʃer.ɪʃt/ (adjective): Regarded with great affection; valued or held dear.
3. **Deceit** /dɪ'si:t/ (noun): The action or practice of deceiving someone by concealing or misrepresenting the truth.
4. **Emanated** /'ɛm.ə.neɪ.tɪd/ (verb): To come forth or originate from a source.
5. **Intricate** /'ɪn.trɪ.kət/ (adjective): Very detailed or complicated; having many interrelated parts.
6. **Ominous** /'om.ɪ.nəs/ (adjective): Giving the impression that something bad or unpleasant is going to happen.

## Comprehension Questions

### Multiple Choice

1. Who is the sorrow-stricken character that elicits the most joyful response in the season two premiere of <em>Severance</em>?

- Option: Dylan
- Option: Irving
- Option: Milchick
- Option: Helly

2. Who intervenes to prevent Irving from succumbing to despair in the premiere?

- Option: Milchick
- Option: Dylan
- Option: Helena
- Option: Gemma



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3. Who crafted the show *Severance*?

- Option: Ben Affleck
- Option: Dan Erickson
- Option: Steven Spielberg
- Option: Angelina Jolie

4. What is the significant visual clue displayed on Mark's screen in the premiere?

- Option: Brain map
- Option: Cryptic analytical data
- Option: Gemma's picture
- Option: Cold Harbor label

5. Which institution is speculated to be related to the reference of "Cold Harbor"?

- Option: Cold Storage Facility
- Option: DNA and cancer genetics research lab
- Option: Cold Harbor Hotel
- Option: Harbor Breeze Resort

6. What is the airing schedule of *Severance* season two on Apple TV+?

- Option: Daily
- Option: Weekly
- Option: Monthly
- Option: Bimonthly

### True-False

7. Irving contemplates terminating his innie existence in the season two premiere of *Severance*.

8. Mr. Milchick is settling into a new office with no presence of Ms. Cobel in the season two premiere.

9. Helly is revealed to be concealing her lineage as an Egan in the episode.

10. The online community is not speculating about the visual clue displaying Gemma's picture in *Severance*.

11. The reference to "Cold Harbor" relates to a popular vacation spot in the premiere episode.

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12. <em>Severance</em> season two has an exclusive interview with Ben Stiller.

### Gap-Fill

13. How many intriguing theories are mentioned in the premiere of <em>Severance</em> season two? At least \_\_\_\_\_ are mentioned.

17. The identity of Helly or Helena is murky in the episode, with questions about her \_\_\_\_\_ tendencies.

18. Every update regarding the external world in the episode is questioned due to Lumon's notorious reputation for \_\_\_\_\_.

### Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Irving 2. Dylan 3. Dan Erickson 4. Gemma's picture 5. DNA and cancer genetics research lab 6. Weekly

**True-False:** 7. True 8. False 9. True 10. False 11. False 12. False

**Gap-Fill:** 13. three 17. defiant 18. deception

### Vocabulary quizzes

#### **Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )**

1. What is a synonym for the word "cherished"?

- Option: Admired
- Option: Destroyed
- Option: Acquired
- Option: Detached

2. What is the meaning of the term "defamation"?

Option: Praise  
Option: Slander  
Option: Protection  
Option: Honor

3. What does the term "legacy" refer to?

Option: Future  
Option: Inheritance  
Option: Rejection  
Option: Progress

4. Which word best describes something that is "enduring"?

Option: Temporary  
Option: Lasting  
Option: Fleeting  
Option: Transient

5. What does the term "protracted" mean?

Option: Shortened  
Option: Prolonged  
Option: Delayed  
Option: Halted

6. What is the definition of "collusion"?

Option: Secret cooperation for illegal or deceitful purposes  
Option: Public agreement for common good  
Option: Friendly competition  
Option: Neutral interaction

7. How would you describe something that is "ominous"?

Option: Joyful  
Option: Threatening  
Option: Loud  
Option: Bright

8. What does the term "speculation" refer to?

Option: Factual information  
Option: Investigation  
Option: Conjecture  
Option: Certainty

9. In the context of health what is meant by "recovery"?

Option: Relapse



Option: Healing  
Option: Decline  
Option: Breakdown

10. Which word is a synonym for "anticipate"?

Option: Forget  
Option: Expect  
Option: Avoid  
Option: Delay

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. A mysterious glow \_\_\_\_\_ from the enchanted object.

12. The artist's work was widely \_\_\_\_\_ by critics and audiences alike.

13. The patient experienced a temporary \_\_\_\_\_ of the symptoms after the treatment.

14. The false \_\_\_\_\_ led to a series of misunderstandings and conflicts.

15. The doctor performed a thorough examination to reach an accurate \_\_\_\_\_.

16. The \_\_\_\_\_ design of the lace highlighted the craftsmanship of the artisan.

17. The media reported on the serious \_\_\_\_\_ made against the public figure.

18. He dressed in a \_\_\_\_\_ style for the relaxed afternoon gathering.

19. Understanding the social \_\_\_\_\_ within the group was crucial for effective teamwork.

20. The program focused on the successful \_\_\_\_\_ of the refugees into society.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. The legal process involving a lawsuit and court proceedings.

22. The act of deceiving someone by concealing or misrepresenting the truth.

23. Expressing strong agreement or confirmation.

24. Unable to be subdued or defeated.

25. A person who inspires or influences others especially in a particular field.

26. The intricate or complicated aspects of a situation or problem.

27. Highly praised or recognized for excellence.

28. Involving or characterized by retaliation or revenge.

29. Held in high regard or great respect.

30. Fascinated or enchanted by something or someone.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Admired 2. Slander 3. Inheritance 4. Lasting 5. Prolonged 6. Secret cooperation for illegal or deceitful purposes 7. Threatening 8. Conjecture 9. Healing 10. Expect

**Gap-Fill:** 11. emanated 12. acclaimed 13. remission 14. accusation 15. diagnosis 16. intricate 17. allegation 18. casual 19. dynamics 20. reintegration

**Matching sentence:** 1. litigation 2. deceit 3. affirming 4. indomitable 5. luminary 6. complexities 7. acclaimed 8. retaliatory 9. esteemed 10. captivated

## CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL5

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