

## WC 09: TERMINATOR'S FUTURE

**Summer Glau, Shirley Manson and Sarah Connor producer Josh Friedman discuss the end of Season 2.**

by [Colin Moriarty](#)

**US, March 1, 2009** - The final day at San Francisco's 2009 WonderCon seemed quieter compared to the extremely-crowded Saturday that preceded it. Yet, if something brought an excited crowd to the Moscone Center's Esplanade auditorium, it was the afternoon panel for *Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles*, moderated by none other than IGN TV's very own Eric Goldman. Appearing on the panel was series creator Josh Friedman, actress Summer Glau (Cameron Phillips), and newcomer to the acting scene Shirley Manson (Catherine Weaver), who gained considerable notoriety in years past as singer of the rock band Garbage before beginning her acting career.

But before the questions started, four minutes of footage was shown from the upcoming six episodes that mark the end of the show's second season. The footage was an intense mix of action and story sequences, complete with an eerie rendition of the old Scottish folk song "Donald, Where's Your Trousers?" to close off the final scenes. [**Spoiler Warning** for those who don't want to know the sequences shown] Highlights included the creepy moment where John Henry greets Cathrine Weaver's human daughter - and the reveal that the little girl then goes missing in the aftermath of this encounter. We also see a sequence where Cameron brutally shoots up a building of people, which looks to take place in the future, as Jesse reveals more about the time she came from. But perhaps the biggest surprise came from the very last scene shown, where for just a few brief seconds it appears John Connor and Cameron Phillips end up in some sort of romantic situation with one another, with him seemingly about to kiss her.

When pressed about the implications of such a teasing scene, Josh Friedman remained quiet. "I'm not gonna tell you what was going on... you don't want me to tell you!" In fact, Friedman answered that "all will be revealed" when he was further pressed on integral plot points. However, he was more than willing to talk about his choice of Shirley Manson for the role of Catherine Weaver. "Like most women, Shirley scares the s\*\*t out of me," Friedman joked.

Manson herself stated that when Josh Friedman approached her to play Catherine Weaver, she "didn't think he was serious." Nonetheless, she's taken to the role and had some interesting opinions on playing a Terminator. When asked about a machine's possible emotional capacity, she admitted that she's pondered the question of "does a machine experience emotion," but that she "couldn't answer that question." She did conclude that her breed of machine is indeed "capable of acts of great cruelty," however, no doubt witnessed many times by fans of the *Terminator* franchise over the years. She even noted that when watching one of the episodes on television, she came to the conclusion that her character was "scary bad."

Friedman was asked about some fan outcry over the Cameron character not being in the show enough in recent episodes. The creator admitted that it was a bit of a problem, but explained it like this. "One of the challenges with the Cameron character is that she's as much, if not more of an alpha [type] as the Sarah character... if you really want to investigate Sarah, it's sometimes hard to have Cameron around." Fans of Cameron should rest assured, however, as Friedman has promised plenty of her in the second season's final six episodes.

Perhaps the most interesting discussion occurred around the style in which *Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles* is written. As with all serials, pacing of the plot is integral. Friedman remarked that he doesn't "like to move things too fast... for me, if you eat through so much plot -- character plot -- it turns into a soap opera, and you end up

[with] all these twists and turns" which, ultimately, "end up meaningless." As far as tie-ins with *Terminator* mythology, Friedman noted that there were references here and there, but that he didn't want *The Sarah Connor Chronicles* to become "a Where's Waldo? of *Terminator* trivia."

*Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles* is a show its own creator admits is "ratings challenged." When prodded about the future of the show beyond the second season, Friedman repeated the statement "I don't know anything" a couple of times. However, diehard fans of the show will be glad to know that the brainchild behind the story arc has "a plan," and he added that he hopes that if a third season isn't ordered, "nobody's satisfied," because Season 2 is not meant to be the end of the story. That sounds like someone with plenty of ideas yet to be seen.

"Ourselves Alone", the first of the final six episodes, airs Friday, March 6th, with subsequent episodes airing on Fridays through April 10. Will a third season be ordered thereafter? Stay tuned to IGN TV for future updates

<http://uk.tv.ign.com/articles/957/957908p1.html>