

Torres

CRIMINAL LONER TURNED HIGH-VALUE MERCENARY

Full Name

Axel Torres

Nickname(s)

The Phantom

Age

19

Height

6'0"

Weight

175 lbs.

Nationality

South American

Military Rank

Private (AWOL)

Years of Service

2 months

Specialty

Close Combat

GOAL

Stop Maddox and Global Risk's plan to destroy him and Black List

CHARACTER ARC

Self-serving loner to self-sacrificing savior of Black List

TRAITS

- Seething contempt for Global Risk, their tactics, and disregard for life
- Charismatic loner
- Sarcastic wit
- Expert marksman
- Master thief and lock pick
- Impressive agility and strength
- Desperately seeks to belong to a 'family' but can't admit it



BLACKLIST

PERSONAL STORY & JOURNEY

Torres was raised by a single mother in a harsh, developing South American town. As a Black List soldier, she prepared him to follow in her footsteps almost from the time he was walking, seeing in him a potential to be "someone bigger." He enlisted in Black List at the first opportunity, but it was short-lived. His mother's murder at the hands of Global Risk cast him into deep despair. He abandoned his military duty and turned to a life of crime, bastardizing the notion of 'bigger' to become a thief known on the streets as *The Phantom* for his ability never to get caught.

His life hovered at rock bottom for nearly a year, filled with self-destructive behavior and guilt. He blamed himself for not protecting his mother and giving up on the legacy she worked so hard to make a reality.

Torres's winding route is one of self-discovery and acceptance of his destiny, turning both his mother's inherited legacy and Fontaine's manipulation of him into a life he can fully own.

When targeted by Maddox and Global Risk early in the story, he is stuck in self-preservation mode. Even when asked by Niklas to join the fight in the hospital, Torres is reticent even though he already believes in Black List's cause. Torres can only think of his own needs. Through forging bonds through battle with Logan, Cora, Niklas, and even Sonja, Torres finds a renewed desire to not only join Black List but sees value in saving his fellow soldiers. Through lessons learned from all his close relationships, he finds the courage to accept that his 'bigger' purpose means sacrificing his own life so that his Black List ideals and family can survive.

Maddox

GLOBAL RISK MASTERMIND AND EXTREMIST



GOAL

Eliminate Black List to further his goal of a utopian society without war

CHARACTER ARC

Descent from respected leader to paranoid maniac

TRAITS

- Arrogant belief he is never wrong
- Expert manipulator; enjoys finding ways to trick opponents into defeating themselves
- Surprisingly strong physical strength
- Trained in all aspects of combat and warfare
- Brutal, unforgiving demeanor
- Rallies troops with calls of self-sacrifice and dying with honor

Full Name

Zane Maddox

Nickname(s)

None

Age

49

Height

6'2"

Weight

215 lbs.

Nationality

American

Military Rank

Lieutenant Colonel

Years of Service

31 years

Specialty

Tactical Mastermind

PERSONAL STORY & JOURNEY

Maddox cut his teeth as a Navy SEAL during the Second Gulf War, earning him numerous valor citations and a place in the infamous U.S. counter-terrorism force, SEAL Team Six. He was one of the members of the team that raided and killed Osama Bin Laden in 2011. Abandoning the modesty most SEALs exhibit, Maddox positioned himself as the public face of the Western anti-terrorism movement, artificially elevating his status to that of a savior. Global Risk recruited him a few years later to bolster their position and recruitment during the worldwide shift to mercenary forces.

His ultra-conservative media posturing and belief in American Exceptionalism led him to promote doctrines of rapid domination through excessive force and Shock and Awe tactics. Everyone in Global Risk knows and reveres him (or fears him), but few feel genuinely connected to him. His strongest ally is found in Sonja, his Chief Science Officer, and several loyal followers known as his "Mad Dogs." He believes a lasting peace and 'utopian future' are possible but only through the complete elimination of terrorist forces like Black List. Ironically, he's tormented by the idea that a warlord like him may not have a place in the utopia he strives so hard to create.

His path through this story is a sharp descent into insanity, fueled by the success of Torres and his Black List allies and the secret manipulation by The Organization who want him dead. He begins as a stalwart voice for Global Risk's plans to dismantle Black List. Still, with every setback, he turns more brutal and violent until he snaps and orchestrates the killing of his troops, ultimately leading to his downfall when Torres and Sonja team up to stop him.

Cora

BRAZEN KNOW-IT-ALL HACKER

Full Name

Cora Gabriel

Nickname(s)

Crash, Core

Age

24

Height

5'10"

Weight

155 lbs.

Nationality

American (exiled)

Military Rank

Sergeant

Years of Service

4 years

Specialty

Hacking

GOAL

Save the world by preventing the nanovirus outbreak in the future

CHARACTER ARC

Descent from trusted security expert to traitor

TRAITS

- Acerbic wit often gets her in trouble
- Driven by a need to prove herself right and force others toward justice
- Wanted felon in the U.S. for breach of national security
- Playful demeanor
- Digital espionage expert
- Feisty, closed off when asked personal questions



PERSONAL STORY & JOURNEY

Cora is a self-taught computer systems analyst and hacker. Her aptitude for circumventing security systems led to her being hired as a security advisor and developer for DARPA before she finished high school. Within the first month of employment, she intentionally crippled their internal network to prove their defenses extremely vulnerable to attack, earning her the nickname "Crash." She was immediately arrested but escaped prison by hacking a stolen cell phone off a prison guard. She then fled to South America and was recruited by Black List.

Cagey about her past, her psychological profile suggests habitual loss and abuse scarring her formative years and making her unable to truly trust or connect with anyone. Cora wears the depth of her mind on the sleeves for the entire world to see, and her ego won't let others forget she's the most intelligent person in any room.

She grew tired of Fontaine's cryptic missions, so Cora hacked the Black List network to view the classified Catalyst predictions of the future. Now secretly knowing the Ghost Kit leads to a ravaging nanovirus outbreak, she secretly works to prevent the Ghost Kit from existing. Fearing she will be imprisoned or possibly killed by Black List, she works in the shadows to sabotage missions and hinder the progress of the Ghost technology. When Torres is able to assemble a Ghost Kit and uses it in the raid on the Black List base, she has no option but to expose her betrayal and attempt to kill him to save the future. When that fails, and she barely escapes with her life, she is exiled from Black List and recruited to join The Organization since they are fighting for the same future.

Sonja

CONFLICTED IDEALIST



GOAL

Eliminate Black List to protect the world from terrorism

CHARACTER ARC

Ascent from follower to leader

TRAITS

- Chief Science Officer
- Genius level intelligence
- Advanced degrees in engineering, mathematics, and physics
- Weapon developer for Global Risk
- Calm, rational demeanor
- Extreme hatred of terrorist organizations and oppressive tyrants
- Strong bond with Maddox who sees her as the daughter he never had

Full Name

Sonja Hellström

Nickname(s)

None

Age

24

Height

5'8"

Weight

145 lbs.

Nationality

African, Swedish

Military Rank

Lieutenant

Years of Service

3 years

Specialty

Weapon development

PERSONAL STORY & JOURNEY

Sonja and her younger brother Niklas were orphaned when their parents were executed as resistance fighters in the Sierra Leone civil war. A European couple on a humanitarian trip to the region adopted them and took them back home to be raised in Sweden.

Sonja never forgot her roots and, to this day, voices strong opposition to any oppression in developing nations. She joined Global Risk believing their mission to eradicate terrorism throughout the world would prevent atrocities like the one that defined her childhood. She was star-struck when she first met Maddox – the public face of Western anti-terrorism – and their shared beliefs bonded them in no time. She and her brother took diverging paths into mercenary forces with conflicting ideologies, ironically for the same reason. She hides the fact her brother enlisted in Black List, fearing it will endanger her career. She has yet to forgive him for “betraying” their upbringing.

Sonja’s journey is the coming of age story of a brilliant woman who needs to define the limits of her beliefs and learn to stand behind them. In the beginning, she is a devout follower of Maddox and, like most in Global Risk, believe that Black List is a terrorist organization that needs to be dismantled to better the world. Through finding common ground with Torres, a growing threat against her brother’s life, and ultimately Maddox’s extremism threatening Global Risk itself, she discovers the will to stand against her most trusted ally. She finally sees the Black List and Global Risk agendas for what they truly are and helps to defeat Maddox, saving Global Risk from destruction. Then assuming command, Sonja becomes the leader she was always destined to become.

Logan

VETERAN SOLDIER SEEKING REDEMPTION

Full Name

Logan Clark

Nickname(s)

None

Age

39

Height

6'2"

Weight

245 lbs.

Nationality

American

Military Rank

Lieutenant

Years of Service

2 months

Specialty

Heavy Weapons

GOAL

Follow orders to protect Torres and save Black List

CHARACTER ARC

Rise from a "failure" to a redeemed savior

TRAITS

- Brutish exterior hiding a tormented soul
- Prides himself on physical perfection
- Commanding demeanor
- Virtual encyclopedia of military weapons and ammunition
- Sees himself as a protector of Torres even before the story begins
- A man of few words; speaks more through his actions



PERSONAL STORY & JOURNEY

From when he was a little child, Logan always knew he was destined to be a soldier. With his parent's blessing, he emancipated himself to join the Army when he was only 16 years old. When the Second American Civil War broke out, Logan served with the Army Rangers out of Fort Lewis. The operations and vitriol of that war transformed Logan in ways he could never have imagined. He grew up idolizing American soldiers and their honorable defense of a great nation, but in the civil war, he was fighting his own people. Clear lines of right and wrong vanished in the fog of wars he didn't want to fight.

Eventually, disillusionment in the military whims of superpowers drove Logan to join Black List. There he found a purpose and the type of family bonds he expected out of military service. He could follow orders without shame or guilt until that is, years later, when he was assigned a protection detail on one of their own, Torres' mother. He let his guard down for a moment one afternoon, and she was killed by Global Risk. He sees this as his greatest failure, for which he owes a debt he can likely never repay.

Logan's quest in this story is to execute his orders and save Black List and hold the troops under his command together at any cost. Once he learns Torres is a key to Black List's survival, he sees an opportunity to redeem himself by saving Torres, thus keeping his dead mother's legacy alive. After thwarting multiple attacks on Torres's life...he ultimately is forced to sacrifice himself to ensure Torres continues on.

Niklas

IDEALISTIC NEW RECRUIT

Full Name

Niklas Jabari

Nickname(s)

Jab

Age

20

Height

6'1"

Weight

183 lbs.

Nationality

African, Swedish

Military Rank

Private First Class

Years of Service

1 year

Specialty

Grenadier

GOAL

Find a way to truly help Black List survive

CHARACTER ARC

Background support role to a key member in the fight to stop Maddox

TRAITS

- Intense desire to prove himself and eliminate tyranny in the world
- Exceptional stamina
- Brooding
- Introspective and reserved
- Trained in explosives and bomb disarming/disposal
- Prides himself in a lack of fear



PERSONAL STORY & JOURNEY

Niklas lived a life of suffering in Sierra Leone with his parents and older sister, Sonja. His first memory was of his parents' execution at the hands of a warlord when he was three years old. Shortly after, he and Sonja were adopted by a family and moved to Sweden, where they focused his frustrations and energy into more positive outlets. But the constant nightmares of his biological parents' murder haunted him and fueled conflict between him and his sister. Although sharing a deep-seated hatred of tyranny, Niklas often argued with Sonja creating a vast ideological divide between them.

While Sonja kept her adoptive Swedish surname, Niklas changed back to his birth surname of Jabari as a show of allegiance to his roots. He enlisted in Black List believing oppressors are overthrown by empowering the people they enslave to rise up against their subjugation.

Raised in Europe but with scars of violent African oppression coursing through his veins, Niklas is searching for his place in Black List -- wanting more than anything to empower others to save themselves.

Niklas operates in a support role in this story, as desperate to positively impact the defense of Black List against annihilation as he is to keep the knowledge his sister is an officer in Global Risk a secret. Always striving to prove his worth to his Black List comrades, Niklas advances through the story as a stranger, ally, friend, potential traitor, and finally to critical element to Black List's success, all the while building a brotherly bond with Torres along the way.

Fontaine

UNTRUSTING MASTERMIND IN SEARCH OF A LEGACY

Full Name

Véronique Fontaine

Nickname(s)

None

Age

31

Height

5'7"

Weight

128 lbs.

Nationality

French

Military Rank

Commander

Years of Service

8 years

Specialty

Tactical Mastermind

GOAL

Realize Catalyst prophecy and create to the Ghost Kit to save Black List

CHARACTER ARC

From terrified her cause and legacy will disappear to confident they will persevere; transcendence

TRAITS

- Cold, icy demeanor masking deep feelings of attachment and caring
- Tactical mastermind willing to deceive anyone to achieve a goal
- Brilliant psychoanalyst
- Obsessed with saving Black List
- Knows she is absent from Catalyst images, strives to create a legacy



PERSONAL STORY & JOURNEY

Injuries sustained at the end of Operation: First Frost left Fontaine paralyzed from the waist down and barely clinging to life. Her recovery was swift, but the damage was done. She was forced to accept her days doing fieldwork are behind her, now bound to the Black List Command Center and a wheelchair.

Wracked by depression brought on by this change in her career trajectory, Fontaine set out to ensure the Catalyst mission were not in vain and yield the best possible intel. Her astute findings mapped out numerous possible future events. She eventually had a horrible revelation: of the hundreds of Catalyst images foretelling the future, none feature her at all, suggesting she doesn't survive much longer. Uncertain of how much time she has left, Fontaine is focused on saving Black List from annihilation and preserving her legacy in the process. She believes her legacy is creating the Ghost Kit; a weapon foretold to even the balance of power between Black List and Global Risk in the coming wars.

In this story, Fontaine again operates in the background, manipulating her people from the shadows, but her machinations and relationships are far more visible than before. Every mission, every interaction she controls from the shadows, has something to do with assembling a functional Ghost Kit: Ordering the rescue of Torres, secretly injecting him with nanomachines, orchestrating the theft of the power source, and even indirectly influencing Torres to sacrifice himself to become the Ghost. All of this is the product of puppet strings pulled by Fontaine.