

TRIUMVIRATE 2

Main Character Arcs

Character development analysis based on the 17 August 2026 screenplay draft

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1. Overview of the Character Architecture

Triumvirate 2 is built around contrasting responses to power, belief, responsibility and identity. Ethen Prest begins with almost total confidence that supernatural power gives him the right to remake nations and ends physically exposed as the monster Hamidi recognised from the beginning. Hamidi follows a steadfast but tested positive arc: his principles do not change, but his certainty that he can confront evil alone is broken. Cathleen Henshaw develops from determined ally into an independent operational force whose human courage becomes decisive. George Kelso moves from cynical observer to committed witness and participant. Meti Gebre begins as a protected child and reveals that she possesses agency and unexplained power of her own.

Character	Arc Type	Starting Position	Ending Position
Ethen Prest	Negative / power corrupted into self-destruction	Charismatic President convinced power and destiny entitle him to reshape the world	Destroyed after political domination, supernatural overreach and contempt for human agency converge against him
Hamidi Abdullahi	Steadfast positive / humility through dependence	Experienced supernatural guardian confident he can confront Ethen directly	Still morally steadfast, but victorious only by trusting Cathleen, Meti, George and Winston
Cathleen Henshaw	Empowerment / belief into agency	Wanted ex-FBI agent who believes Hamidi but still operates largely in his orbit	Independent strategist and decisive human agent who kills Ethen and earns Hamidi's acknowledgement
George Kelso	Awakening / witness into participant	Cynical reporter sceptical of Ethen and reluctant to invest in the story	Active resistance member whose reporting can preserve the truth and honour Donny's sacrifice
Meti Gebre	Awakening / inherited identity	Calm child protected by Hamidi's circle, apparently vulnerable to Ethen	Reveals emerging supernatural ability, helps enable her own rescue and returns home changed
Winston Burnie	Steadfast supporting arc	Survivor whose old debt to Hamidi is personal and private	Repays that debt by equipping Cathleen and becoming a refuge for the resistance
Marilyn & Jane	Predatory certainty / downfall	Confident demonic enforcers who treat humans as prey and Ethen as their superior	Their certainty is disrupted by Meti's power and Cathleen's mercury ammunition; their threat is broken

The strongest unifying idea is that power is revealed by how it is used. Ethen regards power as entitlement and possession. Hamidi regards it as responsibility. Cathleen, George, Meti and Winston have less raw power than Ethen, yet their choices make them increasingly consequential. The film therefore shifts the centre of victory away from supernatural dominance and toward cooperation, courage and action.

2. Ethen Prest

Ethen carries the screenplay's dominant negative arc. He does not become evil during the story; he begins as a concealed demon already committed to authoritarian rule. The arc instead charts the expansion of his power until confidence becomes overreach and the political mask is finally replaced by the Serpent beneath it.

A ruler who believes supernatural power proves his right to control others eventually discovers that power without restraint creates the conditions of his own destruction.

Starting State

- Ethen enters the film at the moment of maximum public legitimacy: his inauguration as President of the United States.

- He already possesses the Black Seal of the Seven Winds, recovered for him by Marilyn and Jane, giving him an advantage over Hamidi before their conflict begins.
- He understands spectacle and public psychology. His weather demonstration turns impossible power into political theatre rather than something hidden.
- He regards institutions, law and democratic process as obstacles to be repurposed rather than principles to be respected.
- His core belief is that strength, destiny and public adoration justify domination.

Driving Want and Internal Defect

External want: Transform the United States into a single authoritarian system under his control, absorb Europe and remove any remaining opposition.

Internal need: To recognise limits, the autonomy of others and the danger of treating all relationships as instruments of power.

False belief: If he can control institutions, populations and supernatural forces, resistance becomes irrelevant.

Fatal contradiction: He demands complete obedience while answering to Cerberus himself, exposing that even his fantasy of absolute sovereignty is incomplete.

Major Stages of the Arc

1. Political charisma becomes supernatural proof

At the inauguration Ethen combines populist promises with impossible control of the weather. Rather than hiding his nature, he tests how readily spectacle can be converted into loyalty. The enthusiastic response confirms his belief that people will accept extraordinary control if it is presented as fulfilment of their desires.

2. Reform becomes institutional capture

The American Renewal Act converts campaign rhetoric into structural change. Ethen frames dismantling the old political order as renewal, while the American Ultra slogan—One nation. One purpose. One voice.—turns ideological conformity into patriotic aspiration. His success teaches him that constitutional resistance can be absorbed rather than merely defeated.

3. Opposition becomes personal punishment

Donny Harlow is murdered and displayed as a traitor. Cathleen's parents are intimidated. Ethen no longer treats dissent as a political disagreement but as contamination to be publicly punished. His regime increasingly reflects his demonic worldview: loyalty is absolute and disobedience deserves exemplary suffering.

4. The Black Seal proves he can wound Hamidi

Hamidi enters the White House expecting to confront Ethen directly, but the Seal allows Ethen to burn him almost to death. This is Ethen's most important private victory. He learns that the being he considers his principal enemy can be physically broken, encouraging a dangerous sense that every obstacle now has a controllable mechanism.

5. Domination expands beyond government

Ethen forces a relationship with the Colombian cartels, using a locust plague when persuasion fails. The encounter reveals the same pattern seen in politics: he offers cooperation, but only on terms that preserve his supremacy. Business, diplomacy and terror are interchangeable tools.

6. Meti turns victory into leverage

The abduction of Meti changes the conflict from strategic opposition to intimate coercion. Ethen believes Hamidi's love for his daughter can be converted into retreat. Yet his decision to keep Meti alive introduces an unpredictable variable into the system he believes he controls.

7. The Seal creates a new world order—and exposes limits

Ethen uses the Black Seal to remove resistance among officials and then at the European Parliament. Europe is declared the fifty-first state, and the British Prime Minister is subsequently forced into compliance. Yet each mass use visibly drains Ethen. His greatest victories therefore contain evidence that his power has limits, even if he refuses to respect them.

8. Control becomes paranoia

Meti escapes. Marilyn is killed. Hamidi and Cathleen remain alive. Ethen responds not by reconsidering but by escalating: he brands them terrorists, mobilises the state against them and turns to Cerberus for reassurance. The ruler who once appeared omnipotent now needs his master to confirm that victory is still within reach.

9. Global ambition becomes annihilation

Cerberus orders him to gather his generals and let chaos reign. Ethen moves from authoritarian conquest toward catastrophic destruction, accepting retaliation and civilian loss as mere collateral damage. This is the endpoint of his ideology: once the world cannot be perfectly possessed, destruction becomes acceptable.

10. The mask finally disappears

When Cathleen steals the Seal, Ethen abandons presidential performance and transforms into the Serpent. His final form externalises the identity Hamidi identified at the inauguration. Yet Hamidi alone cannot stop him. Ethen is ultimately killed by Cathleen using Winston's mercury ammunition—the very human network Ethen repeatedly underestimated.

Arc Resolution

Ethen achieves astonishing external success but no internal growth. His downfall comes because he mistakes control for invulnerability. He can condition governments, terrify criminals and injure Hamidi, yet he never understands the strength created when people freely choose to act together. His physical destruction strips away the presidential image and leaves only the monstrous identity beneath it.

What the Arc Demonstrates

- Charisma can make authoritarian control appear desirable before its violence becomes undeniable.
- Power without restraint expands until it consumes the person wielding it.
- Ethen's greatest weakness is not a lack of power but his inability to imagine that ordinary human agency can matter.
- His service to Cerberus complicates his claim to absolute authority: the would-be master of the world is still someone else's servant.

3. Hamidi Abdullahi

Hamidi follows a steadfast positive arc with a significant internal test. His moral purpose remains consistent, but the film challenges his assumption that responsibility means facing danger personally and

directly. Ethen's use of the Black Seal forces Hamidi to accept vulnerability, dependence and the value of human allies.

A guardian accustomed to carrying the burden alone learns that strength is not diminished by relying on others; it becomes effective through them.

Starting State

- Hamidi immediately recognises Ethen as the Serpent and understands that the President's promises will be fulfilled in dangerous ways.
- He is experienced, calm and confident in his supernatural abilities.
- He sees himself as the person who must confront Ethen, initially choosing Ajani rather than Cathleen to accompany him.
- His personal history, age and exact nature remain deliberately concealed, reinforcing his emotional self-containment.

Dramatic Function and Inner Test

External want: Stop Ethen before political and supernatural domination becomes irreversible, protect Meti and prevent global catastrophe.

Core belief: Power creates responsibility, and evil must be confronted rather than accommodated.

Risk: His confidence can become isolation—the belief that because he possesses unusual powers, he must carry the decisive burden himself.

Arc test: Can he remain the guardian he has always been while accepting that he cannot defeat this enemy alone?

Major Stages of the Arc

1. Recognition before proof

Hamidi sees through Ethen immediately. While Cathleen and the wider public hear bold political promises, Hamidi identifies the eyes of the serpent. This establishes his role as someone who perceives the moral reality beneath spectacle.

2. Cathleen challenges his protective instinct

Hamidi initially argues that returning to the United States is too dangerous for Cathleen. Her insistence that she knows the terrain and has already proved herself forces him to make the first small concession: trust her rather than protect her by exclusion.

3. Direct confrontation fails

Hamidi walks into the White House believing his powers and courage will be sufficient. The Black Seal overturns that certainty. Ethen burns him severely and sends him back broken. The defeat is important because Hamidi does not lose his principles; he loses the illusion that personal strength alone can solve the problem.

4. Incapacity transfers agency to Cathleen

While Hamidi is unconscious and recovering, Cathleen seeks George, researches the Seal and finds Winston. Hamidi's temporary absence allows the resistance to become larger than him. His earlier relationships and past acts of compassion now produce practical help without his direct control.

5. Fatherhood exposes the private cost

Ethen's capture of Meti reveals a vulnerability that political threats cannot reach. Hamidi wakes after three weeks not thinking first about himself or Ethen but about his daughter. The conflict becomes personal without reducing his broader duty.

6. Mystery gives way to intimacy without explanation

Cathleen presses Hamidi about his unchanged appearance since the Gulf War. He refuses to explain who or what he is, but allows a greater degree of emotional closeness. The grooming scene and hand contact suggest trust developing even while the mythology remains withheld.

7. Meti becomes an active partner

Hamidi cannot locate Meti while she is kept disoriented. Her own emerging power raises the shutters and gives her a view of Washington, allowing him to identify the CEB Tower. During the rescue she slows Marilyn and Jane long enough for them to escape. Father and daughter therefore begin operating through reciprocal power rather than one-way protection.

8. The protector entrusts his daughter to others

When Ethen mobilises the country against them, Hamidi allows George to take Meti to safety while he continues with Cathleen. This is a meaningful extension of his arc: he trusts another ordinary human with what matters most to him.

9. In the climax he holds, but Cathleen acts

Hamidi disrupts White House communications and later physically holds the transformed Ethen back, but cannot finish him. His function is essential yet incomplete. Cathleen fires the final mercury round. Hamidi's "You did it" acknowledges the truth the film has forced him to learn: the decisive act belongs to someone he once tried to keep out of danger.

10. Return to humility and remembrance

After the crisis, Hamidi returns Meti home, honours the fallen men and disposes of the Black Seal in Lake Tana. He does not preserve the artefact as a source of useful power. He recognises that some power is too dangerous to possess, completing the film in an act of restraint rather than domination.

Arc Resolution

Hamidi ends as the same moral figure he was at the beginning, but his understanding of how duty is fulfilled has widened. He remains mysterious and powerful, yet the victory belongs to a community of actions: Meti makes herself findable, George creates access, Winston provides the means, Cathleen infiltrates and fires, and Hamidi holds the line. His steadfast arc is therefore strengthened by humility rather than changed belief.

4. Cathleen Henshaw

Cathleen's arc is one of empowerment, commitment and earned belonging. She begins as a fugitive former FBI agent who insists on accompanying Hamidi. By the end, she is no longer simply following his mission: she has become the principal human strategist and the person who delivers the decisive blow against Ethen.

A woman who begins by demanding to be trusted ultimately becomes the person everyone must trust when the supernatural protector can no longer win alone.

Starting State

- Cathleen already believes Hamidi because of what she witnessed in the first film, but she remains legally vulnerable and cut off from her former institutional identity.
- She refuses to remain in Ethiopia while others act, arguing that she knows America and can contribute more than protection would allow.
- Her practical instincts are strong, but her place within Hamidi's supernatural world is still comparatively new.
- She values action over reverence and consistently challenges Hamidi rather than treating him as an unquestionable authority.

Driving Want and Internal Need

External want: Help stop Ethen, survive the manhunt, protect those drawn into the conflict and remove the Black Seal from his control.

Internal need: Move from seeking validation of her usefulness to acting from confidence in her own judgement.

Starting tension: She believes in Hamidi, but still sees herself partly through the identity she lost as an FBI agent.

Arc movement: From “trust me” to becoming the operative whose decisions, relationships and courage make victory possible.

Major Stages of the Arc

1. She refuses exclusion

Cathleen's first major choice is simply to insist on returning to America. She argues from competence, not sentiment, and forces Hamidi to recognise that protecting her by leaving her behind would also remove the person best equipped to navigate the human terrain.

2. Donny reconnects her to the world she left

Donny embodies her former professional life. Their reunion reminds Cathleen that she abandoned an official role, while also validating that the skills and relationships created there still matter. His murder makes Ethen's regime personally costly and turns abstract resistance into grief.

3. Hamidi's defeat creates her independent mission

When Hamidi returns badly burned, Cathleen becomes caregiver, investigator and operative. His fragmented instructions—find George, arm yourself, find Winston, understand the Seal—do not solve the problem for her. She must build the solution herself.

4. She constructs a human resistance network

Cathleen approaches George, establishes the importance of the Seal and secures his help. She then finds Winston, listens to his history with Hamidi and acquires mercury ammunition. These scenes move her decisively beyond sidekick status: the second-half counterattack is assembled through her initiative.

5. Understanding Hamidi becomes personal

Winston's Gulf War story and Cathleen's later questioning of Hamidi deepen her relationship with him. She wants to understand the person she has chosen to follow, not merely his powers. His refusal does not drive her away; instead, mutual trust becomes more intimate while remaining unresolved.

6. Meti tests Cathleen as protector

Cathleen supports Hamidi's rescue and becomes the escape driver. During the pursuit, the mercury ammunition she obtained kills a demon attacking the car. Her practical preparation pays off in direct protection of Hamidi and Meti.

7. The state turns her into the enemy

Ethen publicly labels Cathleen a disgraced former FBI agent turned terrorist. Her old institutional identity is weaponised against her. Yet she no longer needs official approval to know what she is doing is right. She focuses on escape, safeguarding Meti and continuing the mission.

8. She chooses infiltration over dependence

Working with George and Joshua, Cathleen enters the White House under a false cleaning identity. The plan relies on observation, courage and ordinary human access rather than supernatural force. She reaches the Oval Office safe and removes the Seal—the object that previously made Hamidi powerless.

9. Human agency becomes decisive

After Ethen transforms and Hamidi can only hold him back, Cathleen's gun clicks empty. She remembers the final mercury round, loads it and fires. The victory is not handed to her by Hamidi; it comes from the network she helped build and her ability to act under extreme pressure.

10. She belongs without needing reinstatement

In the aftermath Cathleen promises that Donny's Agency will remember him, but the emotional resolution lies elsewhere. She returns to Ethiopia with Hamidi and Meti, is welcomed by Liya and joins them in honouring the fallen and disposing of the Seal. She has crossed from visitor to participant in Hamidi's world.

Arc Resolution

Cathleen ends with greater authority, not simply greater belief. The line "He's opened my eyes" acknowledges Hamidi's influence, but Liya's reply—"That is his purpose"—does not reduce Cathleen to a follower. The story has already demonstrated that Hamidi's purpose is fulfilled partly by enabling others to act. Cathleen becomes the clearest example.

5. George Kelso

George's arc moves from professional cynicism to moral participation. He begins as a reporter who assumes the political story is predictable enough to write before it happens. Donny's warning, murder and the accelerating collapse of democratic norms force him to recognise that detachment is no longer sufficient.

A journalist who begins by treating politics as a familiar performance discovers a story so dangerous that witnessing it requires participation as well as reporting.

Starting State

- George is sceptical of Ethen's "miracle" and openly cynical about the American Ultra majority.
- He sees political coverage partly as routine, joking that he could write the Joint Session story in advance.
- His scepticism is healthy but initially passive; he observes rather than intervenes.

Major Stages of the Arc

1. Cynical observation

At the inauguration and Washington Press, George positions himself outside the enthusiasm surrounding Ethen. He is not fooled by spectacle, but neither does he yet perceive an extraordinary responsibility.

2. Donny makes the story personal

Donny contacts him with Cathleen's claim that the President intends to dismantle democracy. George initially responds with disbelief, but agrees to meet. Donny is murdered before that meeting can happen, turning a bizarre tip into a moral obligation.

3. Public conformity frightens him into recognition

George sees Donny's body labelled TRAITOR while a police officer rationalises the killing and a crowd chants for the American Ultra Party. The reporter who once mocked the political theatre now sees that language, institutions and public behaviour have changed in dangerous ways.

4. He becomes Cathleen's evidence-and-access partner

George accepts Cathleen's account, helps research the Black Seal and begins working out how she might reach Ethen. His journalistic skills—finding information, contacts and access—become operational tools rather than merely reporting tools.

5. Witness becomes protector

When the group has to split, George takes Meti to safety. He is now responsible for a child at the centre of the supernatural conflict. The shift is important because his role can no longer be reduced to observing what others risk.

6. He enables the final infiltration

George works with Joshua to provide Cathleen with the identity and route she needs to enter the White House. He then crosses onto the grounds and helps guide Cathleen and Hamidi out after Ethen's death.

7. The story becomes testimony, not career

At Winston's house, George is told his reporting could win a Pulitzer. His immediate response is that it does not feel like winning without Donny. The distinction completes his arc: professional recognition matters, but the human cost now defines the meaning of the story.

Arc Resolution

George ends still recognisably a journalist—curious, wry and drawn to stories—but no longer protected by cynicism. He has participated in the events he will report and carries responsibility for preserving what happened. His likely Pulitzer therefore functions as recognition of witness rather than a conventional career reward.

6. Meti Gebre

Meti's arc is an awakening rather than a conventional coming-of-age story. She begins as a child surrounded by adults who protect her and is abducted because of her connection to Hamidi. Captivity reveals that Ethen has underestimated her: she possesses emerging abilities and an unusual composure that suggest a larger identity still to be explored in the trilogy.

A child treated as leverage discovers that she is not merely the object of the conflict but an active force within it.

Starting State

- Meti is protected by Liya, Ajani, Makda, Dawit and the village group while Hamidi is abroad.
- She already possesses an unusual calm and certainty, telling her mother that Hamidi will come for her.
- Ethen assumes she may be connected to Hamidi but initially senses none of his powers in her.

Major Stages of the Arc

1. Vulnerability becomes composure

Marilyn and Jane slaughter the men protecting the house, yet Meti emerges from behind Liya with striking calm. Her response does not erase fear; it establishes that she possesses an inner certainty the demons do not understand.

2. Captivity turns her into a question

Ethen keeps Meti alive because she may provide leverage over Hamidi. Marilyn suspects she is a “re-inc,” while Jane doubts it. Meti’s ambiguous “Maybe” preserves the mystery while suggesting that the supernatural terminology is not entirely alien to her.

3. Power emerges through resistance

After Jane tests and mocks her, Meti telekinetically throws and returns the bottle. She then raises the shutters and moves herself across the room. The scene transforms her from hostage into unpredictable participant.

4. She makes herself findable

Ethen’s security depends on preventing Meti from knowing where she is. By opening the shutters and seeing Washington, she creates the condition Hamidi needs to identify the CEB Tower. Her rescue is therefore partly initiated by her own act.

5. Father and daughter act together

During the rescue, Meti unbuckles her restraints and later slows Marilyn and Jane when Hamidi’s strength begins to fail. Her power complements rather than duplicates his. The sequence hints at inheritance or reincarnation without resolving either.

6. Return to ordinary childhood with extraordinary implications

In the epilogue Meti eats pancakes, high-fives George and calmly says she would like to visit America again. The ordinariness is valuable because the audience now knows something extraordinary exists beneath it. George’s “Strange kid” becomes an affectionate recognition of the mystery rather than a joke at her expense.

Arc Resolution

Meti returns home safely, but not unchanged. Her abilities have surfaced and the adults around her now understand that she cannot be defined only as Hamidi’s daughter. The screenplay deliberately does not explain the meaning of “re-inc”; the arc resolves her role in this film while preserving her larger significance for the trilogy.

7. Supporting Arc Functions

Winston Burnie

Winston follows a steadfast loyalty arc. He begins as a man whose life was saved by Hamidi during the Gulf War and who has carried that knowledge privately for decades. Cathleen's arrival converts gratitude into present action. He provides the mercury ammunition that first proves effective against Marilyn and ultimately kills Ethen, then gives Cathleen and Hamidi sanctuary. His role demonstrates that an act of mercy from Hamidi's past can return as practical salvation years later.

Marilyn and Jane

Marilyn and Jane form a paired downfall arc. They begin as supremely confident demonic operatives who recover the Black Seal and kill without meaningful resistance. Their abduction of Meti appears to confirm their dominance, but the child becomes the first variable they cannot classify or control. Meti's power unsettles them; the rescue breaks their custody; Cathleen's mercury ammunition destroys Marilyn and ends their certainty that human weapons are irrelevant. They function as a compressed reflection of Ethen's larger flaw: contempt for human and emerging powers they do not understand.

Donny Harlow

Donny's arc is brief but structurally important. He begins as Cathleen's sceptical institutional contact, irritated by her disappearance but willing to help because he trusts her judgement. He bridges the fugitives and the legitimate world, then pays for that choice with his life. His murder catalyses George's awakening and gives Cathleen a personal reason to ensure the institutions Ethen corrupted eventually remember those who resisted.

Liya Gebre

Liya is comparatively static but emotionally significant. She begins as Meti's mother and one of the few people who appears to understand Hamidi without needing him explained. Her terror during Meti's abduction gives the supernatural conflict domestic cost. In the epilogue, her reunion with Hamidi and welcome of Cathleen restore home, faith and continuity. Her line "That is his purpose" quietly frames Hamidi's effect on others without resolving his identity.

Cerberus

Cerberus is intentionally a limited presence because the larger trilogy reserves direct confrontation with him for the third film. Within this screenplay his function is to reveal hierarchy. Ethen, who dominates almost everyone else, calls Cerberus "Master" and "my Lord." Cerberus reassures him, names him Ebab—the Serpent—and authorises the final descent into chaos. He therefore expands the mythology without taking ownership of Ethen's film-specific arc.

8. Interlocking Relationship Arcs

Relationship	Beginning	Ending
Ethen / Hamidi	Ancient enemies operating through political and supernatural fronts; Hamidi expects direct confrontation to be sufficient.	Ethen is exposed as the Serpent; Hamidi can hold him but needs Cathleen to finish the fight, proving the conflict cannot be resolved by power alone.

Hamidi / Cathleen	Mutual respect, but Hamidi remains protective and Cathleen still has to insist on being included.	Partnership of genuine dependence: Cathleen becomes the decisive operative and Hamidi openly credits her with victory.
Hamidi / Meti	Father as distant protector; Meti is kept safe by his wider circle.	Father and daughter act through connected powers; Hamidi entrusts her to others and returns her home with a fuller recognition of her strength.
Cathleen / George	Strangers connected through Donny and a claim George initially encounters as an extraordinary conspiracy.	Trusted resistance partners; George enables Cathleen's infiltration and later becomes custodian of the public story.
Cathleen / Winston	She arrives seeking equipment from a stranger linked to Hamidi's past.	Winston becomes ally, supplier and refuge; his ammunition enables Cathleen's decisive actions.
George / Donny	Professional contact and friend, with George sceptical of Donny's extraordinary warning.	Donny's death becomes the moral cost behind George's reporting and prevents his eventual success from feeling merely careerist.
Ethen / Cerberus	Ethen appears to the world as the supreme political authority.	The private hierarchy is exposed: Ethen is still subordinate to Cerberus, setting the larger trilogy conflict beyond Ethen's defeat.
Cathleen / Liya	They do not know one another; Cathleen is an outsider to Hamidi's home life.	Liya welcomes Cathleen and recognises her courage, marking Cathleen's acceptance into the human world surrounding Hamidi.

9. Overall Evaluation

The principal arcs in *Triumvirate 2* are coherent because they all respond to the same dramatic question: what makes power legitimate—possession of force, or the choices made with it?

- Ethen possesses the greatest institutional and supernatural reach but uses it to remove choice, making power increasingly destructive.
- Hamidi has extraordinary power but ultimately succeeds by accepting limits and enabling others to act.
- Cathleen has no supernatural advantage yet becomes decisive because competence, courage and preparation convert belief into agency.
- George moves from commentary to responsibility, discovering that bearing witness can require personal risk.
- Meti moves from protected child to emerging force, suggesting that identity is larger than the role others assign her.
- Winston demonstrates that past acts of compassion can create future strength, while Donny demonstrates the cost of choosing loyalty under authoritarian pressure.

As the second part of a trilogy, the screenplay also balances film-specific resolution with larger mythological progression. Ethen is destroyed and the Black Seal is removed from the story by being thrown into Lake Tana. By contrast, Cerberus, Hamidi's identity as an "Angel," Meti's possible status as a "re-inc," and the deeper supernatural hierarchy remain deliberately incomplete. Those are not unresolved character arcs in this film; they are controlled pieces of the larger architecture.

Arc Classification Summary

Character	Arc Classification	Essential Movement
Ethen Prest	Negative arc	Popular authority → total domination → overreach, exposure and destruction
Hamidi Abdullahi	Steadfast positive / tested guardian	Confident solitary protector → defeated and dependent → collaborative victory and restraint

Cathleen Henshaw	Empowerment arc	Insists on inclusion → builds the resistance → becomes decisive agent of victory
George Kelso	Awakening arc	Cynical observer → frightened witness → committed participant and keeper of the story
Meti Gebre	Awakening / identity arc	Protected child → supernatural leverage → self-revealing participant with emerging power
Winston Burnie	Steadfast loyalty arc	Old debt of gratitude → practical assistance → refuge and decisive contribution
Marilyn & Jane	Downfall arc	Confident predators → destabilised by Meti → defeated by powers and weapons they underestimate
Donny Harlow	Sacrificial catalyst	Sceptical ally → chooses to help → death awakens George and deepens Cathleen's commitment

The arcs are strongest when behaviour and physical outcome carry the development. Hamidi's burns force him to surrender control; Cathleen independently creates the means of resistance; Meti raises the shutters rather than waiting passively for rescue; George takes responsibility for her safety; Ethen's polished presidential image gives way to the Serpent; and the Black Seal that rises from the earth at the beginning disappears beneath the water at the end.

Source: Analysis based on TRIUMVIRATE 2, screenplay draft dated 17 August 2026.