

= Man of Science , Man of Faith =

" Man of Science , Man of Faith " is the first episode of the second season of Lost and the 26th episode overall . The episode was directed by Jack Bender and written by Damon Lindelof . It first aired on September 21 , 2005 , on ABC . The flashbacks focus on Jack Shephard 's struggle to heal Sarah , who would later become his wife . In real time , John Locke and Kate Austen decide to enter the now @-@ open hatch shaft .

While writing the season premiere , the producers decided to pick up the hatch storyline which was left hanging after season one 's finale " Exodus " , leaving the raft events to be explained in the following episode , " Adrift " . " Man of Science , Man of Faith " received positive reviews , and stands as the most @-@ watched episode of the series in North America , with 23 @.@ 47 million viewers .

= = Plot = =

= = = Introduction = = =

A man (Henry Ian Cusick) wakes up from his bunk bed and immediately presses a few keys on what appears to be a late 1970s @-@ era computer . He then gets dressed , and begins his day as the camera moves about the surrounding rooms , which contain an assortment of objects from the 1960s to the present . He puts on some music , begins an exercise routine , has a shower , makes himself some breakfast , and injects himself with a vaccine . He is interrupted by an explosion , spurring the man to arm himself before using a telescope @-@ and @-@ mirror system . His gaze reveals the faces of Jack Shephard (Matthew Fox) and John Locke (Terry O 'Quinn) standing around the now @-@ open Hatch shaft .

= = = Flashbacks = = =

Jack encounters his future wife , Sarah (Julie Bowen) , who has arrived in his emergency room after a car crash . Jack saves Sarah 's life , but goes on to tell her that due to spinal cord injury , it is unlikely that Sarah will regain the ability to walk .

After being chastised by his father (John Terry) about his pessimistic bedside manner , Jack operates on Sarah , and goes running a Tour de stade . While running he falls , and meets another runner named Desmond , who tells him that he is training for a race around the world . Jack shares with Desmond how he failed Sarah , and Desmond advises him about his need to feel and provide more hope . When Jack returns to Sarah 's room , he discovers that she has experienced a miraculous recovery .

= = = On the island = = =

At the Hatch entry , Locke says that they should not wait for the sun to come up to enter the Hatch . Jack , on the other hand , feels that their entry should be delayed . At the same time , at the caves , Shannon Rutherford (Maggie Grace) and Sayid Jarrah (Naveen Andrews) search the jungle for Walt 's (Malcolm David Kelley) dog , Vincent . During the search , Shannon has a vision of Walt , dripping wet and speaking incoherently . She talks about this with the rest of the survivors , but no one believes her .

Upon reaching the caves , Jack explains the situation to the survivors , promising them they will be all right along with Kate , as long as they stay together . Locke then appears , carrying cable and saying he is going into the hatch . Soon after , Kate Austen (Evangeline Lilly) follows behind him . While Locke is easing her down the shaft , Kate realizes and mysteriously disappears during a sudden burst of light from within the Hatch .

Back at the caves , after informing the survivors why they went into the jungle and that Dr. Arzt (

Daniel Roebuck) is dead , Jack decides that he is going after Kate and Locke . Upon reaching the Hatch , he finds no one there and rappels down the shaft on his own . While exploring , he comes across a painted mural , and a wall where the key hanging around his neck is pulled by a strong magnetic force . Finally , after being surprised by a bright light and loud music , he enters what appears to be an underground geodesic dome with computer equipment , including an Apple II Plus computer with its prompt glowing and its shift key relabeled execute . As Jack is about to use it , Locke appears and tells Jack not to touch it . After Jack raises the gun and asks where Kate is , Locke is revealed to be at gunpoint . The gunman threatens that he will shoot Locke if Jack does not surrender . Jack refuses , instead taunting Locke about his destiny . Finally , the gunman steps out and Jack seems to recognize him . The gunman is Desmond .

= = Production = =

While " Man of Science , Man of Faith " alludes to a quote in the previous episode where Locke describes himself as a man of faith and Jack as a man of science , writer Damon Lindelof stated that the episode has the title to imply that Jack is both , with the flashback making the empiricist " man of science " facing a miracle while treating a patient . The episode was written to focus on the opening of the hatch , so the other cliffhanger left in " Exodus " , the destruction of Michael 's boat and the kidnapping of his son Walt by the Others , would be explained in the second episode , " Adrift " . The cliffhanger also influenced the tone : the protagonists are expecting an attack by the Others , but the audience knows the Others are not coming since they were going for the boat instead . To make the episode accessible to new viewers , many instances of dialogue recap events of the first season .

The producers decided to start the episode inside The Swan because they considered the audience would expect to pick up from Locke and Jack looking into the hatch shaft , so the opening instead is filmed in a place that does not reveal its location or period - Jack Bender stated it made him remember a San Francisco apartment - until the explosion of the hatch . For the flashbacks , director Jack Bender decided to avoid making the hospital scenes similar to ER , filming mostly with handheld cameras to give a " spontaneous feel " to the scene . Sarah 's operation was filmed in an actual surgery room in Oahu , while Aloha Stadium in Honolulu is used for Jack and Desmond 's tour de stade .

Starting in this episode , the castaways start abandoning the caves , which the producers considered a location hard to film and " not aesthetically good " . The Swan would become a centerpiece location because of its mysteries and the commodities given to the protagonists , such as electricity and food . The station was designed to invoke modernism of the 1970s , similar to how Disneyland 's Tomorrowland evokes what was modern in the 1960s , but with an appearance that decayed after decades without maintenance . Foreshadowing the fact that the station is used for dangerous means , the design added the concrete wall with a magnetic force . The hatch shaft was completely computer generated with shots filmed using a greenscreen .

This is the first episode to feature the song " Make Your Own Kind of Music " by Mama Cass , which is heard in many later episodes . Lindelof picked the song as it reminded him of his childhood , as his mother " used to listen to on Sunday mornings , when she ? d put on music , vacuum and cry . " Lindelof also declared that the song " lyrically felt right " , and had a haunting feeling due to Mama Cass ' personal history .

= = Reception = =

The season premiere hit a ratings high for the series , with 23 @. @ 47 million American viewers . The episode was third in the weekly audience ranking , behind CSI : Crime Scene Investigation and Desperate Housewives , and stands as the most watched episode of Lost .

Critical reviews were positive . Jeff Jensen of Entertainment Weekly was frustrated at the episode not revealing what happened to the raft characters and unveiling of so many new mysteries , but liked the writing and symbolism considering that " the whole enigmatic enterprise seemed grounded in rich layers of meaning " . TV Squad 's Keith McDuffee said he was " held in suspense "

throughout the episode . Chris Carabott of IGN rated " Man of Science , Man of Faith " 9 @. @ 3 out of 10 , praising the flashbacks for being " edited incredibly well with the on island content " and Julie Bowen 's performance as Sarah . The Chicago Tribune 's Maureen Ryan described the episode as " a wonderfully paced , terrific return to form " . Ryan McGee of Zap2it considered the introduction in the hatch and Desmond 's scene with Jack at the stadium to be the highlights of the season premiere .

Director of photography Michael Bonvillain was nominated for a Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Cinematography for a Single @-@ Camera Series for this episode . IGN ranked " Man of Science , Man of Faith " the 18th best episode of Lost , while a similar list by Los Angeles Times ranked the episode 11th , saying it had the best Jack flashback and demonstrated " a show confident in itself and at the height of its powers " .