

= Pilot (Lost) =

" Pilot " is the two @-@ part television pilot of the ABC television series Lost , with part 1 premiering on September 22 , 2004 , and part 2 one week later on September 29 . Both parts were directed by J.J. Abrams , who co @-@ wrote the script with Damon Lindelof . Jeffrey Lieber , who had been commissioned by ABC to write the first version of the script , earned a story credit . Filmed in Oahu , Hawaii , it was the most expensive pilot episode up to that time , costing between \$ 10 and \$ 14 million , largely due to the expense of purchasing , shipping , and dressing a decommissioned Lockheed 1011 to represent Flight 815 's wreckage . Many changes were made during the casting process , including the selected actors , the characters ' behaviors and fates .

The pilot introduces the survivors of Oceanic Flight 815 , who experience a plane crash and end up on a mysterious island . Three of the characters , Jack Shephard (Matthew Fox) , Kate Austen (Evangeline Lilly) and Charlie Pace (Dominic Monaghan) , are featured before the crash in flashbacks of their experiences on the plane as it breaks apart in mid @-@ air ; this narrative technique would be reused in almost every subsequent episode of the series . The Lost pilot is one of the most critically acclaimed television pilots of all time . Both parts earned high ratings , with Part 1 breaking the record for a pilot episode with 18 @.@ 6 million viewers , and the episode would later win many awards and accolades .

= = Plot = =

= = = Part 1 = = =

On September 22 , 2004 , Jack Shephard (Matthew Fox) awakens disoriented in the jungle and notices a yellow Labrador retriever (Madison) darting through the bamboo forest . Following the path it came from , Jack runs haphazardly through the jungle to a beach , where he is confronted by the carnage of the airplane crash of Oceanic Flight 815 . Jack , a surgeon , administers medical aid to the survivors , assisting the pregnant Claire Littleton (Emilie de Ravin) , enlisting Hurley (Jorge Garcia) to watch her , and administering CPR to Rose Henderson (L. Scott Caldwell) , saving her life . After the initial shock passes , Jack retreats to a quiet area beyond the beach to tend to his own injuries , when he notices Kate Austen (Evangeline Lilly) passing through the jungle . He asks her for assistance , which she gives by helping suture a wound on his back . Sayid Jarrah (Naveen Andrews) organizes a clean @-@ up crew , while Hurley salvages meals from the plane 's galley and distributes them to the survivors . Shannon Rutherford (Maggie Grace) refuses chocolate offered by her brother Boone Carlyle (Ian Somerhalder) , believing that rescue is imminent . A Korean man , Jin @-@ Soo Kwon (Daniel Dae Kim) , tells his wife , Sun @-@ Hwa Kwon (Yunjin Kim) , in Korean that she should remain close to him at all times .

That night , as Jack and Kate decide to search for the plane cockpit as its transceiver would allow the survivors to send a distress signal , loud roaring noises and crashing trees are heard in the nearby jungle . The following morning , the two are accompanied by Charlie Pace (Dominic Monaghan) on their way into the jungle . The cockpit is found leaning against a tree , forcing the trio to climb it to reach the cabin . Charlie disappears into the bathroom while Jack and Kate awaken the concussed pilot (Greg Grunberg) in the cabin . The pilot tells them that the plane had lost radio contact six hours after take off , where it turned back for Fiji and hit wake turbulence . After estimating that the flight was 1 @,@ 000 miles off course before it crashed , the pilot tries using the transceiver , but cannot get a signal . Suddenly the strange roaring noises heard on the beach the previous night return , and when the pilot investigates , he is seized by something outside and blood splatters on the window , prompting the trio to grab the transceiver and flee . During the escape , Charlie falls and Jack returns to help him , while a terrified Kate runs on . After the monster disappears , Kate , Charlie and Jack reunite and find the pilot 's bloodied corpse suspended in a treetop .

===== Flashbacks =====

On the airplane , Jack jokingly tells a flight attendant named Cindy (Kimberley Joseph) that his alcoholic drink is not strong , and she gives him a stronger one . Charlie runs by while being called after by flight attendants before turbulence shakes the plane , scaring Rose , who is sitting across from Jack . The two talk , and Rose mentions that her husband is in the bathroom . The plane gets exceptionally shaky , causing a man to hit the plane 's ceiling and oxygen masks to fall .

===== Part 2 =====

Jack , Kate , and Charlie head back to the beach , where ten @-@ year @-@ old Walt Lloyd (Malcolm David Kelley) discovers a pair of handcuffs , which he shows to his father , Michael Dawson (Harold Perrineau) . Afterwards , James " Sawyer " Ford (Josh Holloway) attacks Sayid , claiming he is a terrorist who blew up the plane , but they are soon stopped by Jack and Michael . Sayid repairs the transceiver , but it has little battery life and does not have a signal . He explains to Kate that by heading up the mountains to higher ground , they might be able to acquire a signal . They decide to go inland , and Charlie , Sawyer , Shannon and Boone soon follow them . Along the way , they are attacked by a charging polar bear , which Sawyer shoots and kills . When asked about where he found the gun , Sawyer says he took it from a dead U.S. Marshal . Sayid accuses Sawyer of being the marshal 's prisoner . Kate takes the gun from Sawyer and Sayid instructs her on how to dismantle it .

Back at the beach , the marshal (Fredric Lane) wakes up as Jack is suturing him , and asks Jack , " Where is she ? " Inland , Sayid turns on the transceiver and it has a signal . However , it is being blocked by a looping transmission in French , which Shannon translates as " I 'm alone now , on the island alone . Please someone come . The others ... they 're dead . It killed them . It killed them all . " Sayid calculates that has been repeating for over sixteen years before Charlie says , " Guys , where are we ? "

===== Flashbacks =====

An anxious Charlie runs to the bathroom , where he locks himself to snort heroin . After the plane becomes shaky , Charlie is slammed against the bathroom ceiling , and decides to leave . After being nearly hit by a refreshment cart , Charlie rushes to a seat several rows back and straps himself in as the plane shakes .

Kate is revealed to be the marshal 's prisoner , wearing the handcuffs that Walt found in the jungle . As the turbulence hits , the marshal is knocked unconscious by a falling suitcase . Kate struggles to put on her oxygen mask due to the handcuffs , so she uncuffs herself using the marshal 's keys and puts the marshal 's oxygen mask on him before attaching her own , at which point the tail end of the plane suddenly breaks off and flies away .

===== Production =====

===== Conception and writing =====

The series began development in the summer of 2003 , when ABC senior vice president Thom Sherman decided to order from Spelling Television a script based on an idea of network president Lloyd Braun , who envisioned a series that was a cross between the novel Lord of the Flies , the movie Cast Away , the television series Gilligan 's Island , and the popular reality show Survivor . Braun had titled his concept Lost after a failed reality show that had broadcast in 2001 . Writer Jeffrey Lieber was contacted by Spelling 's vice president of series development Ted Gold , and in September 2003 pitched to ABC the concepts for what he called Nowhere . Sherman approved the idea and hired Lieber to write a script , but Braun wound up rejecting Lieber 's draft and subsequent

rewrites . In January 2004 Braun contacted J. J. Abrams , who developed the TV series Alias for ABC , to write a new pilot script , which would retain the title Lost . Although initially hesitant , Abrams warmed up to the idea on the condition that the series would have a supernatural angle to it and he was assigned a writing partner . ABC executive Heather Kadin sent him Damon Lindelof , who had long intended to meet Abrams as he wished to write for Alias . Together , Abrams and Lindelof developed the characters and plot of Lost , along with creating a series " bible " which would store the major mythological ideas and plot points for an ideal five to six season run for the show . Lindelof and Abrams worked between January 13 and 16 , when Lindelof sent a 21 ? page outline to ABC 's executives . A complete first draft of the pilot script was delivered on February 24 , and the teleplay kept on being revised , with the final script arriving on April 19 . The development of the show was constrained by tight deadlines , as it had been commissioned late in the 2004 season 's development cycle and Braun estimated that the whole process from writing to post @-@ production took 6 to 8 weeks . Despite the short schedule , the creative team remained flexible enough to modify or create characters to fit actors they wished to cast .

Though Abrams and Lindelof did not use Lieber 's work as inspiration for their own , Lieber 's request for arbitration at the Writer 's Guild of America pointing out the similarities in both scripts earned him a story credit . Lieber would later say the series would drift much from his concepts in Nowhere , declaring Lost was " more like Lord of the Rings than Lord of the Flies " . Writer @-@ producer Anthony Spinner later sued ABC on the accounts that he submitted a script titled " L.O.S.T. " to the network in 1977 , but the case was dismissed on the accounts that none of the people involved with Lost had read Spinner 's work .

= = = Casting = = =

In the initial plans for the series , Jack was going to die midway through the first episode . The role of Jack was originally offered to Michael Keaton , but when the producers quickly changed their minds about Jack 's death , making him the leader , Keaton gave up the job . After Matthew Fox 's casting as Jack , the character was established as a leader , and the airplane pilot was introduced to take Jack 's place as The Monster 's first victim . The pilot wound up being played by Greg Grunberg , a childhood friend of Abrams who the producer brings into most of his projects . Around seventy @-@ five women of different shapes , sizes , ethnicities and ages auditioned to be Kate . In the initial plans , Kate would emerge as the leader after Jack died . She was not going to be a fugitive , instead her husband was going to go to the bathroom shortly before the plane split in mid air , and she would remain adamant on the Island that he was alive . This ended up being used for Rose 's (L. Scott Caldwell) character instead . The producers were impressed with Canadian Evangeline Lilly 's audition for Kate , as she displayed the confidence with vulnerability that they were looking for . As this was Lilly 's first role , she had difficulty obtaining a visa to work in America . She was supposed to start on the first day of filming , but the schedule was rearranged to give her more time , and in the meantime , the producers began auditioning again in case the visa did not come through . However , during one of the auditions , they got an email confirming that she had obtained her visa and could start work on the show .

Matthew Fox , Dominic Monaghan and Jorge Garcia originally auditioned for the role of Sawyer , who at the time was supposed to be a suit @-@ wearing city con man , but the role was given to Josh Holloway . Garcia was the first actor the producers knew they were going to cast . While the producers thought Garcia was spectacular , they did not think he fit in the role of Sawyer , so they created the Hurley character for him instead . When Holloway auditioned for Sawyer , the producers liked his southern accent and the edge he brought to the character (Holloway reportedly forgot his lines and kicked a chair in frustration) . The producers knew he did not suit the role , but thought he was very watchable , so they rewrote the role to suit him , making him more feral , Southern , but kept the same intelligence he originally had . After appearing in The Lord of the Rings , Dominic Monaghan was offered many fantasy @-@ based roles , like elves and pixies . He was keen to portray a different role , so he wanted a contemporary part that had layers and an edge . Originally Charlie was an older rocker that has been a big hit in the 1980s but now had a heroin addiction .

After the producers enjoyed Monaghan 's audition of Sawyer , they decided to cast him as Charlie and rewrote the script to make Charlie a young has @-@ been instead .

When the producers were auditioning actors for roles in Lost , Harold Perrineau was in the area . The producers called it a " natural move " to have him audition . Although initially skeptical about the show , he took the role when Lost creator J. J. Abrams explained more about it . A lot of children were seen for the role of Walt . They were narrowed down to the top three , with Malcolm David Kelley winning it , after the producers were impressed with his role in Antwone Fisher . Abrams had worked with Terry O 'Quinn previously on Alias , and was keen to work with him again . He explained to O 'Quinn that although the role in the first episodes would be fairly small , the character will develop afterwards . O 'Quinn took the role as he trusted Abrams . He was also the only character who did not have to officially audition for a part of a main character . The producers were looking for someone who had a " Paris Hilton quality " to play Shannon , but she could not just be shallow , as the storyline would require more than that . A lot of women were auditioned before the producers finally settled on Maggie Grace . She was written to be an antipathetic character in the first season as the producers needed a character they could use to create opposition and conflict . Unlike many other characters of the first season , who were rewritten based on their actors , Boone was largely the same through production . He was originally going to be named Boone Anthony Markham V , going by the nickname , " Five " . Ian Somerhalder was cast in the role , but he did not want to shoot a pilot ; however , he jumped at the opportunity once he found out he would be working with Abrams .

Lost was planned to be a multi @-@ cultural show with an international cast . The producers thought it was essential that an Australian was cast for the part of Claire , and the Oceanic 815 was leaving from Sydney . Emilie de Ravin was working in Edmonton , so was unable to go to the auditions , which were being held in Los Angeles . From a video she sent to the producers , they were able to tell that de Ravin had the youth and sweetness required for the role , but also looked as though she had some life experience . Sayid was not in the original draft of the pilot episode , but executive consultant Jeff Pinkner had worked with Naveen Andrews on a short @-@ lived ABC series called The Beast , and was keen to have him on Lost . The producers were surprised that Andrews was interested in the role . When they cast him , all Andrews was told was that Sayid was from Iraq and had been in the army . Yunjin Kim originally auditioned for Kate . At her audition she told the producers that she spoke fluent Korean , having been raised in South Korea , where she had starred in several films . The producers were impressed with Kim 's performance and wrote her the character of Sun , who was planned to be someone who could not speak English , but after examining her relationship with her husband , the audience would learn that she does in fact speak it . Daniel Dae Kim was cast in the role of Jin , Sun 's husband . Dae Kim described his audition as a " really interesting experience " . He found it especially hard as it was his first time acting in Korean , and he had not spoken in it regularly since being in high school , when he would talk to his parents .

= = = Filming = = =

Filming began on March 11 , 2004 , with soundstage shooting in Los Angeles for the scenes set inside the flight . The primary location was the Hawaiian island of Oahu . The wreckage of Flight 815 was made with a Lockheed L @-@ 1011 built in 1972 and previously used by Delta Air Lines until 1998 , that after being purchased by ABC was broken up and sent to Hawaii by ship . The purchasing , shipping , and dressing of the aircraft body accounted for most of the pilot 's budget , which at an estimated \$ 10 to \$ 14 million was the most expensive pilot episode up to that time . Greenlighting such an expensive and risky project amidst ABC 's low ratings eventually led Braun to be fired by The Walt Disney Company , ABC 's parent company .

J.J. Abrams decided not to do aerial shots to avoid revealing too much of the island , and also because he felt that the different point of view could confuse audiences . Filming wrapped on April 24 , Lindelof 's birthday . Extensive usage of visual effects , particularly bluescreen , was used in the pilot . One effect in particular was re @-@ shot just before part 2 was broadcast . The scene involving a stuffed polar bear was used for a pre @-@ broadcast commercial and was freeze

framed and mocked on the internet , prompting ABC to replace it with a CGI bear .

= = Reception = =

The pilot episode 's world premiere was on July 24 , 2004 at Comic @-@ Con International in San Diego . Part 1 had its first ABC broadcast on September 22 , 2004 , reaching a ratings record for a pilot episode , with 18 @.@ 6 million viewers , and on the following week , part 2 scored 10 @.@ 5 / 17 on the Nielsen ratings , watched by 17 million viewers . Both parts aired on the same night for its first UK broadcast on Channel 4 , August 10 , 2005 , and it became an instant hit . It was the second most watched programme for Channel 4 for that week , with ratings of 6 @.@ 75 million , second only to Big Brother .

Reviews were favorable upon release . IGN gave it a 10 / 10 score declaring that Lost " delivers on every promise it makes to its audience . " In IGN 's 2008 series of " Flashback Reviews " , IGN 's Chris Carabott changed the scores ; he gave part 1 a 9 @.@ 5 / 10 , saying that the show 's mysteries " would keep many of us captivated for the next four years " ; he gave part 2 a 9 / 10 , saying that " It really is a roller coaster of emotion and that sense of dread that sets in here is brilliantly portrayed . " Entertainment Weekly gave an ' A ' , stating that even non @-@ science fiction and fantasy fans can like it , and USA Today gave it 4 stars praising the cast . The Futon Critic later chose the pilot as the fifth best TV episode of 2004 . TV Guide ranked the episode fifth on a list of the top 100 television episodes of all time .

At the 2005 Emmy Awards , Lost won a Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Drama Series . J.J. Abrams won an Emmy for Outstanding Directing for a Drama Series for the pilot , with Mary Jo Markey winning Outstanding Single @-@ Camera Picture Editing for a Drama Series and Michael Giacchino winning Outstanding Music Composition for a Series (Dramatic Underscore) . The show in general won Outstanding Special Visual Effects for a Series and Outstanding Casting for a Drama Series , while receiving additional nominations for Outstanding Sound Editing for a Series and Outstanding Writing for Drama Series . Casting director April Webster won an Artios Award for her work in the pilot . The first part of the pilot also won two Golden Reel Awards for Best Sound Editing in Television Short Form : Sound Effects & Foley and Dialogue & ADR , and a VES Award for visual effects . The episode was nominated for a Hugo Award and awards from the American Society of Cinematographers , Art Directors Guild and Directors Guild of America . " Pilot " , along with " House of the Rising Sun " and " The Moth " , won a PRISM Award for Charlie 's drug storyline .