

= Instinct (Orphan Black) =

" Instinct " is the second episode of the first season of the Canadian science fiction television series Orphan Black . It first aired in Canada on Space and the United States on BBC America on 6 April 2013 . The episode was written by Graeme Manson and directed by John Fawcett .

The plot follows Sarah Manning (played by Tatiana Maslany) as she continues to impersonate Beth Childs , a woman who looks identical to Sarah , in order to take Beth 's money after seeing her commit suicide . In the episode , Sarah deals with the aftermath of the death of another identical woman , Katja Obinger , and begins to discover more lookalikes . Maslany plays each of the identical women ; " Instinct " marked the first episode in which more than one of Maslany 's characters was present in a single shot , which necessitated specific planning and technology to film and edit these scenes . The episode received positive reviews from critics , who praised the episode 's plot development and Maslany 's performance .

= = Plot = =

After Katja is shot , Sarah flees in Beth 's car and receives a call from a woman on Beth 's phone . The woman , after hearing that Katja is dead , instructs Sarah to dispose of the body and retrieve Katja 's briefcase . While burying Katja 's body , Sarah finds a hotel key in her pocket and keeps it . She visits her foster brother Felix 's apartment and discovers that the \$ 75 @, @ 000 she stole from Beth 's bank account has been taken by Beth 's detective partner Art . When she returns to Beth 's apartment she is surprised to find Beth 's boyfriend , Paul , who seems confused by Sarah 's demeanour but does not realise that she is not Beth . The next day , Sarah prepares to meet Art , and lies that the \$ 75 @, @ 000 belongs to Paul , but Art says he will return the money only after the hearing Beth must attend about a suspicious shooting in which she was involved .

Sarah disguises herself as Katja and gains entrance to her hotel room in order to find Katja 's briefcase . The room has been ransacked by the time she arrives but a hotel employee gives her the briefcase , which had been left with security . Inside the briefcase Sarah finds medical images , vials of blood , and evidence of more lookalikes , including a woman named Alison Hendrix , whose address is written on a note . Believing Alison to be the woman on the phone , Sarah drives to her address and follows her van to a soccer field , where she discovers that Alison is another of her lookalikes . Alison confronts Sarah , assuming that she is Beth , and refuses to believe Sarah when she explains that Beth killed herself , telling her to leave and wait for another call .

At the police station , pretending to be Beth , Sarah manipulates the resident psychiatrist into approving her return to duty , but Art refuses to give Sarah the money until she is fully reinstated . She receives a call from Alison , who tells her to bring the briefcase to her house that night . When Sarah and Felix arrive at Alison 's house , Alison threatens them with a gun before relenting and introducing Sarah to another lookalike named Cosima .

= = Production = =

" Instinct " was filmed in a block with the series ' first episode , " Natural Selection " , under the direction of Orphan Black co @-@ creator John Fawcett . It was filmed in Canada , although it is never made clear where in North America the show takes place . The episode refers to the fictional suburb of Bailey Downs , where Alison is said to live , which is a homage to the setting of the 2000 Canadian horror film Ginger Snaps , which was directed by Fawcett . One of the filming locations used for the episode was the office used by the show 's writers , which served as Beth 's psychiatrist 's office .

The episode featured one of the first scenes in which Maslany plays multiple characters interacting in the same shot . To construct the scene in which Sarah and Alison meet in the soccer field shed , Maslany and her stunt double Kathryn Alexandre first shot a master version of the scene using a Technodolly , a programmable camera crane that can memorise camera movements . Two versions of the scene were then re @-@ filmed without Alexandre , with Maslany playing each of the

characters . To simulate Alison placing her hand on Sarah 's shoulder , a grip stand was used in the place of Sarah 's shoulder for Maslany to hold when playing Alison , and to simulate Sarah slapping Alison 's arm away , Maslany slapped the air when playing Sarah and reacted as if she had been hit when playing Alison . The final scene was created through digital compositing , whereby both versions of the scene ? with Maslany playing both characters separately ? are combined to produce a single shot . Maslany felt that , as one of her early attempts at sharing a scene with herself , she over @-@ thought the process : " I think I was trying too hard to get it right . Nobody 's there when you 're shooting these things , so you overcompensate . "

= = Reception = =

Overall , " Instinct " was well received by critics . Caroline Framke of The A.V. Club gave the episode an A ? grade , writing that the series " continues to walk a fine line with extraordinary subtlety and confidence " . She gave particular praise to Maslany 's acting , saying that she " handles every curveball , new character , and impersonation upon impersonation with extraordinary deftness " . Tor.com 's Robert H. Bedford commended the way the different storylines were integrated and particularly enjoyed the interactions between Art and Sarah . Den of Geek critic Rob Kemp thought that the episode was well developed and felt that it stood out from " the current crop of TV science fiction " . He praised the serious nature of the episode as well as " the effort that has gone into grounding the show into reality " . Simon Cocks of CultBox gave " Instinct " 4 out of 5 stars , describing it as " riveting television " . He found Maslany 's performance " incredible " and " effortless " , and felt that her scenes with Art at the police station provided the strongest material . In a more mixed review for Twitch Film , Todd Brown opined that " Instinct " sometimes crossed " the line between camp and believability " . He praised the development of the story and the characters but felt that while Maslany 's acting was " remarkably strong as both Sarah and Sarah @-@ Being @-@ Beth her performance as Alison ... feels a bit shrill " .