

# VESTA

A Sisterhood forged by Fire  
Created by Lucia Frangione

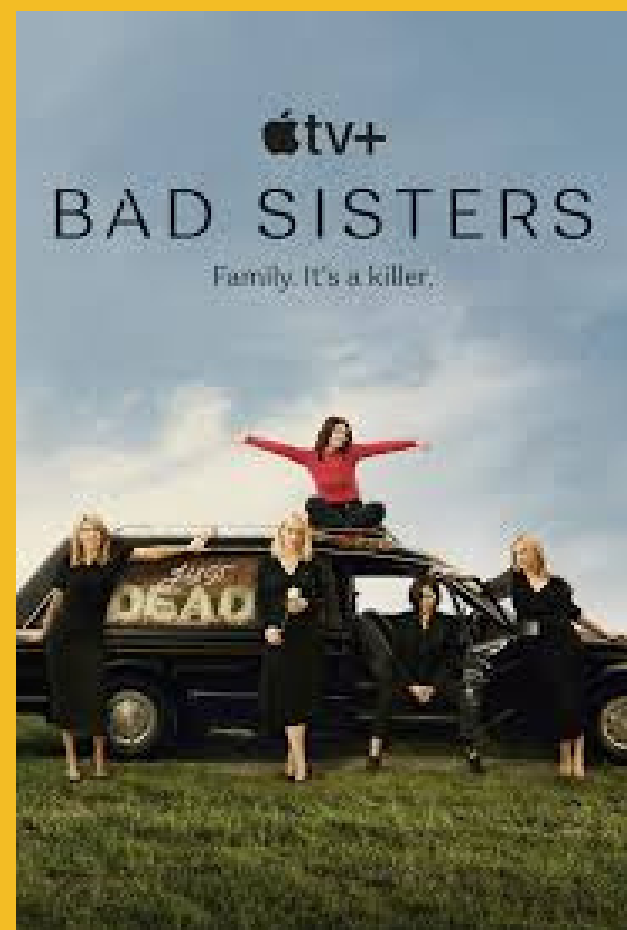
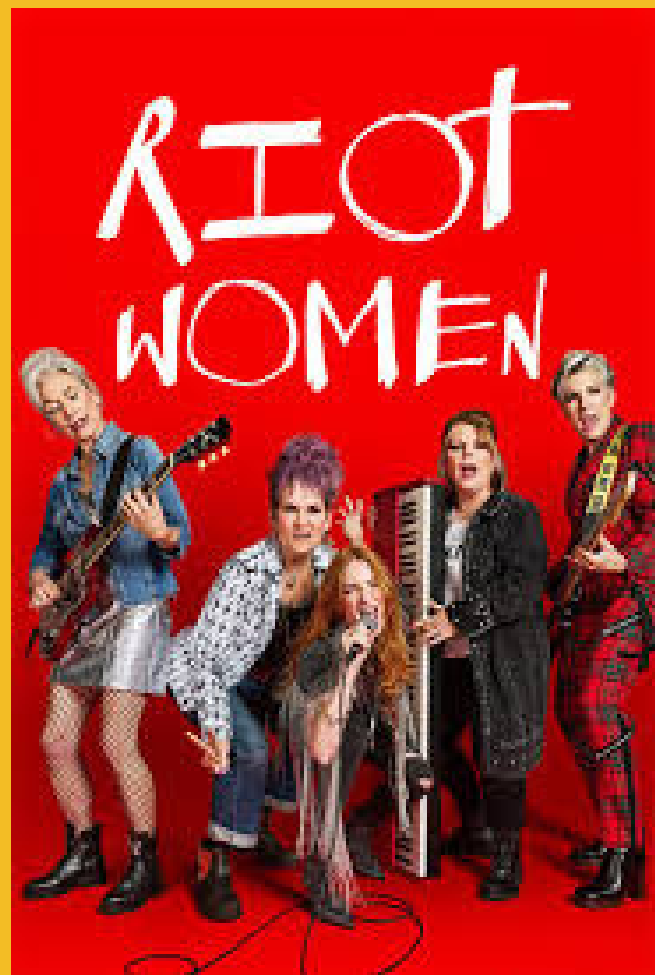




## VESTA LOGLINE

After Natalie's life is saved by the female rookie she reviled, she forges a sisterhood of female firefighters, a bond essential to surviving the intense life of being a first responder in the Cariboo North.

# Comps



drama  
with procedural elements  
60x8



# pilot summary



Natalie's a courageous respected fire fighter in Prince George, heart forward with victims. She's worked hard to gain the respect of her colleagues, nearly all men.

When rookie Maxine is stationed to her hall, the last thing Nat wants to do is coddle her. Maxine struggles to trust her team, doesn't ask questions and makes rookie mistakes. They have a blow out and Nat advises her to quit.

While on a call, dealing with a fatal car crash, Maxine not only proves herself to be good in a crisis, but she ends up saving Natalie's life .

Natalie is challenged to rethink the importance of sisterhood.



# Season One



The women of fire confound gender expectations in the hall, face hard calls on the road, meet the challenge of winter weather and wildlife in the Cariboo North, then radically shift to home life, dealing with motherhood, menopause and marriage.

When Natalie becomes a captain it tests her sobriety, Max becomes a parent while navigating a new job and new city, and Ceci tries to retire only to instantly regret it.

They support each other with dark humour and loyalty. Season two brings summer: wild fire evacuations and volunteer service. Vesta is joined by Indigenous helicopter pilot, Amber George.

# Natalie Buscema



Natalie (38) is one of the “guys”: tough talking, quick thinking, brave. She rides a hog, and she rides the much younger, Raj.

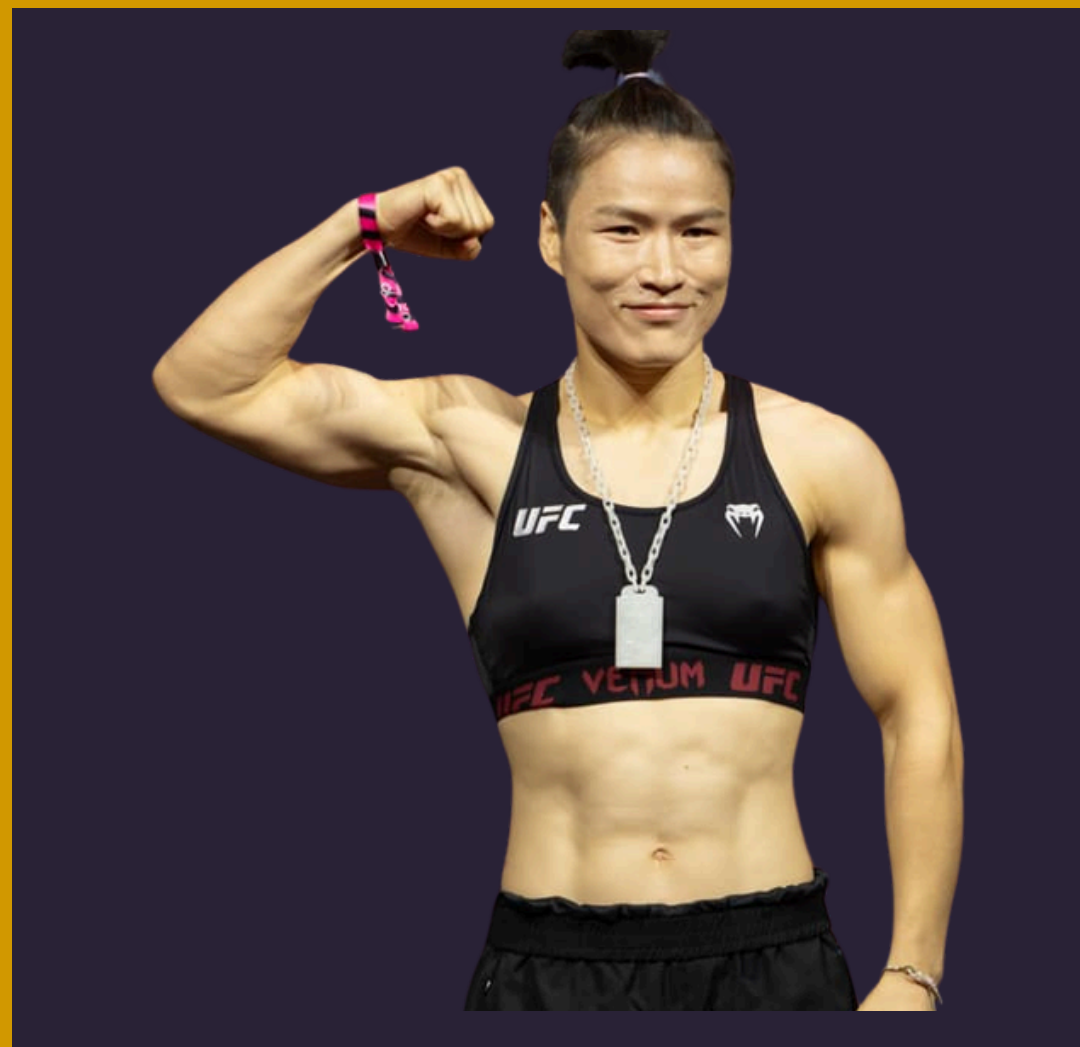
A local, she often connects with the victims, which takes its toll. Three years ago she lost a pregnancy during a violent call. She started drinking and it ended her marriage.

The only family she has is her stoic Italian Mom. Her best friend is Ceci, a workaholic, which exacerbates Nat’s loneliness.

Nat is on a captain’s track, she really wants it, but has a tenuous hold on her sobriety.



# Maxine Tam



Maxine (26) is an athletic recruit who takes pride in being able to provide for her pregnant wife, Blessica. They've moved from Vancouver for this job. They're hoping it will be worth it.

Max bristles with the subservience required of a rookie, having come from the RCMP as an underwater rescue diver. She was left to drown: the core of her trust issues.

Her strength of character and her ability to think clearly in a crisis wins the crew over.

She begrudgingly respects Nat, though thinks she's reckless. She has a high regard for Ceci.



Chief Cecilia Crudo (52) is a lauded fire chief and an absentee mom. Nat's best friend.



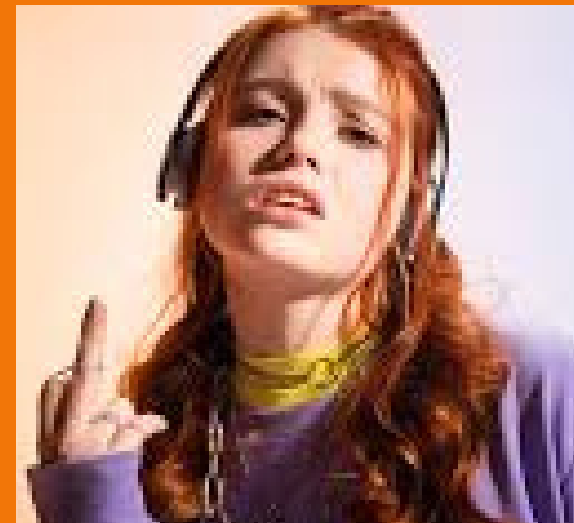
Captain Barry Potts (45) is all quarterback swagger, a ticking time bomb of unresolved trauma.



Ronnie Allard (36) is a family man of faith who turns the other cheek.



Blessica (28) is a musician and Max's pregnant wife. She's hoping she hasn't sacrificed her dreams in exchange for an affordable home .



Alessandra (16) is Cecilia's troubled daughter. She pushes hard against her mother.



Raj (26) is a fire fighter and Nat's "friend with benefits" enjoying his freedom before his parents marry him off.

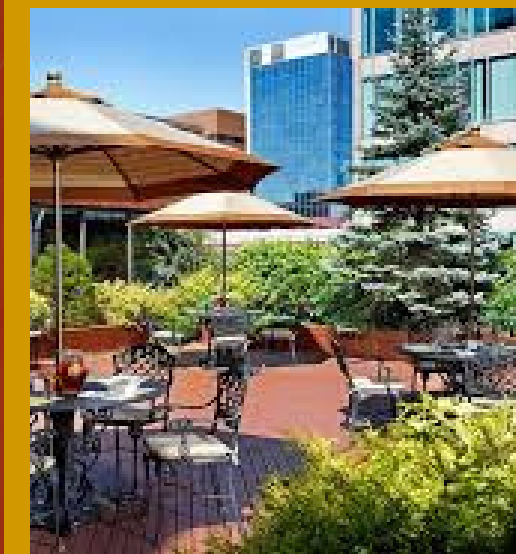
# Prince George



This Northern Cariboo city is surrounded by deep forest. The winters are fierce and the summers threaten wild fires.

There's a university and oil money hotels, and there are grizzly bears rooting through residential garbage.

The city is large enough for major car accidents and fentanyl overdoses, but small enough that fire fighters often know the victims involved. Here, every street has a memory and soon, every citizen is someone they've met on the worst day of their life.



# Tone



- blue sky, green forest, white snow. Fresh, wild, dangerous, optimistic
- urban centre can be pale, neglected
- adventurous, heartbreaking, adrenalin charged
- fire fighters are fit, bold, sexual, sporty, love food
- a bright intense world, energizing



# The Inspiration

I'm married to fire captain Scott Johnson and through him met the first female fire fighters in BC: Nancy Innes and my dear friend, Isabel Ruediger (below).



# The Author



Lucia Frangione is a 2026 Pacific screenwriting Program scripted series lab cohort, hot on the heels of graduating with honors from the Vancouver Film School writing program, which she attended on full scholarship.

Her short films: *Room for the Rest* and *Pop Switch*, screened at several festivals globally, the latter won the NSI Bite Comedy award. She has a feature in development.

Lucia has had 33 plays produced across Canada and in cities like Chicago, Boston, London and Warsaw. She's won the CAEA National emerging artist award, the Sydney Risk award, the Unknown Country award in NY and the Gordon Armstrong Award. She is also an award-winning actor, having performed in film and on regional stages across the country.

Her debut novel, *Grazie*, published by Talon Books, is a BC Bestseller.