

# ARNE DAHL II

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10 x 60' or 5 x 115' HD

Mediakit



**When investigations become emotional  
and a profession turns personal.**



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When investigations become emotional and a profession turns personal.

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## GENERAL SYNOPSIS



Arne Dahl's A Unit has been disbanded for the last two years. When a wave of brutal murders hits Polish nurses in Sweden, the National Police see their chance to instate the unit again. Kerstin Holm, previously a member of the A Unit, is assigned to lead them.

The A Units official role in the police force is to investigate complex, violent crimes with international connections. Kerstin builds her team with former members of the unit Nyberg, Chavez, Svenhagen and Söderstedt, but she is assigned a new recruit as well, somewhat reluctantly – Ida Jankowicz, a wiry, yet powerful, rookie with exceptional language skills. Paul Hjelm, previously a key figure in the A Unit, has been promoted to a job as head of Internal Affairs. At first, he and the A Unit are pretty far removed from each other, but their paths will cross sooner than any of them could imagine.

We meet a chastened unit of individuals who have allowed the all consuming nature of their police work to eat away at their private lives. Demands and expectations have never been higher and a cold wind blows through the corridors at the National Police headquarters. Can Kerstin get the unit to deliver or is this new effort a misguided attempt by a paranoid police force in a time of increasingly unusual and refined criminal activity?



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## EP. 01 › A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM



After a period of dormancy, the A Unit is reinstated by National Police Commissioner Frank Albrekt, in response to a series of brutal murders of Polish women who have been hiding out in Sweden. The victims turn out to be key witnesses in a big case against the Polish mafia. Three of them are found murdered within a couple of days, and two are missing. The hope is that the missing women are still alive.

Chief Inspector Kerstin Holm gets the case, and she gathers members of the old gang: Gunnar Nyberg, Arto Söderstedt, Jorge Chavez, Sara Svenhagen, as well as a new addition, Ida Jankowicz, who has a military background. She is a language expert from the Swedish Armed Forces Language School in Uppsala, and a newly graduated "rookie" from the Police Academy. The hunt for a ruthless killer and his shady victims begins.

A Unit's former member, Paul Hjelm, has become head of Internal Affairs. He also gets a new secretary: quick-witted Lotta Björk. But Paul soon experiences the manner in which his new position can put him in difficult situations, when a police officer is reported for drug possession. It turns out to be Jorge Chavez – his best friend and former colleague. What should Paul do? He knows that he must confront Chavez, but at the same time he doesn't want to risk getting Chavez fired. It doesn't make things easier, knowing that Jorge Chavez and his partner and colleague Sara Svenhagen are having a hard time right now negotiating life with a small child. They love their daughter of course, but they fight – like all parents of

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## EP. 01 › A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM



small kids – about whose job is most important. Who should have to sacrifice their career? If Chavez were to end up the subject of an Internal Affairs investigation it wouldn't make his relationship with Sara any easier.

As far as Paul Hjelm's personal life is concerned, he has gotten divorced and started a relationship with Kerstin. They've tried to keep it a secret, but now Kerstin thinks it's time to take the next step. But, Paul is terrified of commitment and hesitates. In the meantime, Kerstin gets back in touch with her former colleague from Stockholm County Police, Bengt Åkesson ...

As the clues fall into place, we follow a parallel story about Dan Meyer and his sister Jeanette's struggle to stay off of drugs. It doesn't make it easier for Jeanette that her boyfriend is missing. Although Dan seems to think it is a good thing ...

When Jeanette overdoses in despair, Dan is devastated and furious. And through sheer coincidence, they are connected to A Unit's investigation.



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## EP. 02 › REQUIEM



Early one morning, a bank office in the middle of Stockholm is hit with a violent robbery. The head of A Unit, Kerstin Holm, happens to be there and is taken as a hostage, along with the other bank customers. A crisis team is assembled. The A Unit tries desperately to find a way to get their boss out of harm's way. The SWAT team is sent in. The hostages are freed. But, suddenly, they realise that the robbers have vanished without a trace. The event mystifies the A Unit, and it becomes clear there is an international connection. So the case is naturally given to A Unit, under the supervision of the U.S. Intelligence service.

When they look through surveillance footage, they realise that the robbers were assisted by a third person. It seems that someone put on a SWAT team uniform and went in at the same time. How is it possible? The National Police Commissioner is furious. Paul Hjelm, with Internal Affairs, is assigned to investigate who obtained the uniform, and how. Could it be that someone from the SWAT team is involved?

The robbers are identified through Interpol. They are two Russians, known to work as hired thugs. The third robber can't be identified.

When A Unit finds a strange hiding place inside one of the bank's walls, with traces of secrets from the days of the Cold War, it soon becomes clear that the bank robbers are just pawns in a larger game. A game that will soon claim more victims.

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## EP. 02 › REQUIEM



Requiem is the story of two scientists – a couple, the Beckers – who researched cold fusion in East Germany during the height of the Cold War. Their research sought to eliminate the need for oil and gasoline by creating a new energy source – an energy source that was completely environmentally friendly, and completely free for everyone, in limitless quantities.

Through hard work and perseverance, Gunnar, Sara and Ida find the Russians. One is shot, and the other is taken alive. The third suspect turns out to be the son of the Beckers – and he has been shot and wounded. Who else is chasing them, if it isn't the police?

Ultimately, it all comes down to a single person (Becker), who gets his hands on something valuable that he thinks can help him create a better life for himself, and the opposition he meets from powerful forces that are willing to sacrifice him in order to maintain their control of the black gold – and the world.



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## EP. 03 › HIDDEN NUMBERS



The National Police Commissioner gives Kerstin Holm and the A Unit a new assignment: several teenage girls have disappeared, and are later found dead on the outskirts of Brussels. The circumstances surrounding their deaths point to a vicious trafficking operation and the Swedish branch of the Black Hearts motorcycle gang. When another girl, Lykke, disappears from the same area in Bergslagen, in connection to a school trip, A Unit sees a shocking pattern.

Ida and Sara are assigned to go to Bergslagen. Once there, they start to find some context for her disappearance. It seems Lykke has been in contact with someone online, who convinced her to steer the school trip to Bergslagen. But who is this person? Shortly after this information comes to light, a suspected kidnapper is found brutally murdered and the connection to Black Hearts becomes even more puzzling. Is someone else behind this? And where is Lykke? It becomes a race against the clock through the forests of Bergslagen to find her.

The further they dig into the case, the deeper into a ring of pedophilia networks they come. Perhaps more than any other case they've encountered, this one touches the A Units officers on a personal level. Ida becomes more and more upset and angry. Sara tries to calm her down. One evening, Ida can't keep her childhood secret any longer – she was sexually assaulted by a close relative when she was young.



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## EP. 03 › HIDDEN NUMBERS



Meanwhile, a motorcycle gang member named Jörgen is found shot to death. Arto, Gunnar and Jorge are assigned to take a closer look into the motorcycle gang world. They interrogate the gang's leader, Peter Jeppson. He seems like someone who is hiding something! Could it be the gang leader himself who killed Jörgen? What has Jörgen done to deserve a death sentence?

Kerstin Holm and Bengt Åkesson with the State Police are a couple now. He starts to talk about moving in together, and she thinks things are moving a bit too quickly.

Paul Hjelm has begun to grapple with depression. Jealousy has taken him down in a vicious spiral. Then, Kerstin turns up at his apartment and admits that she doesn't want to move in with Bengt. He tries to comfort and support her.

Paul also has another side-story in this episode. Angelica, a prostitute, files a complaint against a police officer for assault – a sensitive subject within the police force.

The story is further complicated when the officer, Hans, is found murdered. Angelica has to tell them about how Hans and another man raped her in a storage facility. Paul decides to go there. He asks Bengt if he wants to come along and do a little “real police work”. The only problem is that everything goes wrong. Kerstin goes there too – as fast as she can. Unfortunately, she arrives too late. Bengt is shot and dies in Kerstin's arms.

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## EP. 04 › AFTERQUAKE



A Belgian man named Tom Graus comes to Sweden through Arlanda Airport. He goes to see a Swede – Niclas Ask – who belongs to neo-Nazi organizations. Tom tells him that something big is going down soon.

The explosion is powerful and the devastation enormous when a subway train explodes in Stockholm's tunnel system on a November night. A total of eleven people die and six are seriously injured. The country is in shock. And when a group calling themselves "The Holy Riders of Siffin" claim responsibility for the attack in an anonymous phone call, the level of panic rises. Circumstances point unarguably to Muslim terrorists.

National Police Commissioner Frank Albrekt and Säpo Chief Tillberg call a press conference to advise caution – outwardly calm, but inwardly panicking. A Unit is assigned to run the investigation, under the supervision of Säpo, of course.

Kerstin Holm goes to see Swedish Minister Annie Brandt, who is deeply involved in peace negotiations in Syria. Säpo has decided to put her under protection and place her in a hotel. Kerstin Holm wants to find out if Brandt thinks that the subway bombing could have anything to do with her work. "It is in many people's interest to derail the peace process, so it's possible", says Annie Brandt.

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## EP. 04 › AFTERQUAKE



Belgian citizen Tom Graus turns out to be a ruthless killer and right wing extremist. Tom realizes that Niclas Ask has called the police and sent them after a false lead about a Muslim group, and that A Unit has exposed them. Tom is afraid that his real purpose for coming to Sweden will be revealed, so he decides to clear Niclas and his friends out of his way. As he eliminates them one by one, A Unit makes the connection and realizes they are dealing with right wing fascists.

Arto and Gunnar conduct a parallel investigation on the passengers on the train. Who are the dead victims? What did they have in common? And then there is a breakthrough: one of the young women who was in the blast suddenly appears from a subway tunnel, where she has been hiding. The men on the train were on their way to a sex party. The girls who lured them there were actually out for revenge on male society. A Unit discovers that the bombing was executed by a scorned boyfriend, who blew himself up as revenge against one of the girls.

When it becomes clear that the Belgian terrorist has left the country, everyone breathes a sigh of relief and Minister Annie Brandt can return home to celebrate her daughter's birthday. Everything is calm and quiet, until Paul Hjelm sees surveillance footage from Arlanda Airport and realizes that Tom Graus hasn't left the country at all. He is in a taxi on his way to Jungfrugatan Street in Stockholm.



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## EP. 05 › EYE IN THE SKY



A half-naked, badly beaten woman stumbles through the streets of Stockholm, which are decorated for Christmas. The trail of her blood leads the police to a shop owned by GC Fitness. They find evidence of a torture-like assault there, as well as illegal prescription drugs worth between three and four million euros. They suspect the involvement of an international smuggling organization, Maximus. According to Interpol, the head of the organization is likely in Sweden and A Unit's assignment is to find him.

To begin with, Kerstin Holm and her colleagues search for the owner of the shop – George Carrera. They find him with his girlfriend, but in the middle of their raid, Kerstin gets a phone call from her son, who is home sick. For a few seconds, she loses focus and Carrera jumps off the balcony, disappearing along a walking trail. A man is waiting there, who executes him in cold blood. Kerstin realizes that she has made a mistake. Her colleagues are critical and Frank Albrekt questions her leadership abilities. From witness testimony, they create a sketch of the killer. It turns out that the man's name is Walter Englund. Could this be the man behind Maximus?

The investigation is marked by several bizarre discoveries of women who have been beaten and murdered. The common thread that links the victims is that they were all part of the same group of friends in high school. What is being hidden here? Bullying and sexual exploitation? Someone wants revenge! But who?

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## EP. 05 › EYE IN THE SKY



Paul Hjelm is contacted by the new Chief of Säpo, Signe Falk, who tells him that his newfound friend at Säpo, Tore Mikaelis, is dead. The trailer he used as a fishing cottage has exploded. Paul has a hard time believing this, and starts to investigate his death, along with another Säpo officer Helena Rudfeldt. When Paul searches Tore's trailer, he is shot at. Who wants to have him silenced?

It comes to light that Tore has been looking into a man within Säpo named Rikard Junker. Could Junker have killed Tore?

Finally, Paul, Helena and the A Unit realize that there is a connection between Walter Englund's drug trafficking and Rikard Junker's defection from Säpo. The clues lead to a shipping company in an industrial area. Helena and Paul also realize that Säpo Chief, Signe Falk, is involved somehow. But how?

In this episode, Gunnar has a new girlfriend. Paul and Kerstin also find their way back to each other. Paul comes over to Kerstin's apartment dressed as Santa Claus and they share a Christmas full of joy and companionship.

So ends the second season of Arne Dahl – with hope and a sad smile.

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## THE CHARACTERS

› Malin Arvidsson as Kerstin Holm  
*Head of A Unit*



Kerstin (Malin Arvidsson) is the new head of A Unit and lead interrogator. She is loyal, detail-oriented and a democratic leader. She listens to her colleagues. But she has a tough exterior and has a hard time showing her weaknesses.

On the personal side, she is a widow and single mother to Anders, which of course has affected her. She longs for love and sharing her life with someone.



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## THE CHARACTERS

› Niklas Åkerfelt as Arto Söderstedt  
*The Analyst*



Arto (Niklas Åkerfelt) is the thinker in the group, the analyst. He is calm and intellectual. A bit of a workaholic, he has difficulty turning off his mobile. He has unique knowledge of international crime syndicates. He has a background in law, and helped a few too many criminals in his capacity as a defence attorney in Finland. His old clients didn't like it when he joined the police in Sweden ...

He is a vigilante – he thinks of himself as an avenger for justice. He and his wife Anja have five children and a harmonious marriage.



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## THE CHARACTERS

### › Magnus Samuelsson as Gunnar Nyberg *The Bodyguard*



Gunnar (Magnus Samuelsson) – "Sweden's biggest police officer" is driven by strong feelings of guilt for his past as Mr. Sweden, a steroid junkie and spouse abuser.

He is big, gruff and can seem threatening, but he is actually a nice guy with a good heart. He has many contacts in the underworld.

Nyberg has been divorced for a long time. He has two adult children, Tommy and Tanja, with whom he hasn't had any contact since they were little. He has recently ended a relationship with a woman named Ludmila. In his free time, he sings with Nacka's church choir and he enjoys having a beer at the local pub.



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## THE CHARACTERS

› Matias Varela as Jorge Chavez  
*IT Expert*



Jorge (Alexander Salzberger) is an IT expert with capabilities beyond the norm. He is ambitious, but a little restless. He has a hard time sitting still. He sometimes has difficulty controlling his temper.

Paul Hjelm is his closest friend on the police force. He was part of a gang in Norsborg as a teenager, and thus has many personal contacts to help him penetrate that world. He has a naive over-confidence in his own self-control and abilities. Jorge also has a romantic side and is married to Sara Svenhagen. They have a young daughter – Isabel.



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## THE CHARACTERS

### › Natalie Minnevik as Ida Jankowicz *Language Expert*



Ida (Natalie Minnevik) comes to A Unit on the recommendation of National Police Commissioner Frank Albrekt. He was her mentor at the Police Academy.

Kerstin Holm isn't particularly positive to her in the beginning. But despite everything, Ida becomes A Unit's language expert.

Ida enrolled for military service at the Swedish Armed Forces Language School in Uppsala. She served one year in Afghanistan. She was recruited to the Police Academy because of her language skills. Besides speaking Polish and Swedish at home, she speaks English, French, German, Spanish, Dari, Farsi, Persian, Arabic and Russian. Ten languages, altogether. She is a good shot, but is generally over-confident when it comes to her physical capabilities. Ida is single, but has had relationships with both men and women.

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## THE CHARACTERS

› Vera Vitali as Sara Svenhagen  
*Pedophilia and Trafficking Expert*



Sara (Vera Vitali) has disturbing breadth of knowledge about the world of pedophilia, the sex trade and trafficking. She is reliable. Quick. Results-oriented. She never gives up. Sometimes she can be a little bit too engaged.

Because of what she has seen through work, she has a hard time bonding with her daughter Isabel, who she has with her husband, Jorge Chavez. She has seen too many horrible things happen to other children, which makes her want to have total control. Her marriage with Jorge is passionate and stormy.



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## THE CHARACTERS

### › Shanti Roney as Paul Hjelm *Head of Internal Affairs*



Paul Hjelm (Shanti Roney) has just taken the job as head of Internal Affairs. His new division investigates crimes committed within the police force. Now and then his path crosses A Unit's. The fact that he is afraid of conflict doesn't help when he has to investigate his old colleagues' activities.

Paul is brave and loyal, work always comes first. He would rather take a bullet himself than lose a colleague.

He has a hard time expressing his feelings. He has two teenage children, and is divorced from Cilla. His best friend is Jorge Chavez, but Hjelm has also developed a close friendship with Kerstin Holm, and in this new season they have a secret romantic relationship



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## THE PRODUCTION

### › The Team

› Produced by  
**Fimlance International AB**

› Producer  
**U. Synnerholm**

› Executive Producers  
**L. Blomgren, C. Wikander, W. Feindt, T. Abel, L. Haugaard, H. Zein**

› Directors  
**T. Allister Diesen, L. Farzaneh, C. Cowan, P. Klänge**

› Writers  
**E. Ahrnbom, L. Gottfridsson, F. Agetoft, P. E. Falck**  
**Based on the award winning, bestselling novels written by Arne Dahl**

› In co-production with  
**Sveriges Television, ZDF German Television Network, ZDF Enterprises GmbH, Nordisk Film Production**

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## THE PRODUCTION

### › The Author

Celebrated author Arne Dahl debuted in 1998 with the first novel in the bestselling “Intercrime” series. He is regarded as one of the very finest contemporary Scandinavian literary crime writers. In 2007 Arne Dahl was chosen by Reader’s Digest as Europe’s best crime novelist.

The much praised “Intercrime” series of ten novels and a loosely attached eleventh installment has sold two million copies and has won its creator several awards such as the premier crime writing award in Germany – German Crime Writing Award (Deutscher Krimi Preis) 2005, and the premier crime writing award in Denmark – Danish Crime Writing Award (Palle Rosenkrantz Prisen) 2004. Arne Dahl is the only Scandinavian crime author ever to win both of these prestigious awards.

In 2011 Arne Dahl received the prestigious Best Swedish Crime Novel of the Year in Sweden for “Chinese Whispers” (“Gier”, published in Germany 27 February 2012), the first part in a new quartet about contemporary, international crime and the controversial Europol unit that is there to fight it.

Arne Dahl’s crime novels have been translated into 25 languages, published in more than 30 countries and praised by both readers and critics.



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## THE PRODUCTION

### › Filmlance

Filmlance is one of Sweden's largest independent production companies and since the establishment in 1988, Filmlance has produced high-end television and feature films.

The filmography includes more than 100 titles of major motion pictures, animated children's films, TV films, TV series and short films. Many of Filmlance's productions have received awards and attracted a great deal of attention at film festivals around the world. Filmlance currently has 20 employees and is part of Shine Nordics, which is part of the Shine Group.

Filmlance is the proud founder and creator of Bron / Broen that has been and is a big success worldwide. Sold to more than 160 countries and the remakes of the series "The Tunnel" (France / UK) and "The Bridge" (USA / Mexico) have been widely successful.



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