

BLANCA 2

Episode Synopses

Episode 1-2: *Under Attack*

Blanca has been officially promoted to police consultant. She now works so much she doesn't have time to take care of things at home, which in fact is now in quite a disordered state. She has to find a housekeeper, Lucia and Stella insist, but none of the candidates they interview seems right ... until Elena appears. She is about 50 years old and charming, even though her appearance is not exactly reassuring. She sets to work, taking care of both Blanca and Lucia, since the girl usually comes to visit her friend after school. She is a discreet and valued presence in our heroine's daily life.

In the meantime, new challenges are arriving that immediately put her to the test. After discovering the truth about the death of her sister, which took place at the hands of her uncle and not Sebastiano, Blanca today can't help but think that it was her fault, too, that the young man did to her what we witnessed in Season One. When she is now a witness at the trial against him, she decides to give as much of a watered-down version of what happened as possible. When Liguori discovers that Blanca has played down the facts to such an extent, he gets furious: partly for the sake of justice, partly because he thinks Sebastiano could still be a danger to Blanca, and partly because he is jealous of their relationship. Consequently, when Blanca also asks Liguori to go "softer" in his testimony, the inspector simply tells it like it is. Despite that, however, Sebastiano is released from prison. Blanca offers for him to stay with her until he finds a job and a new home.

In the meantime, another secret is lurking at Lucia's house. Blanca discovers that the girl has been living alone for three weeks because her father abandoned her, telling her he would not return, at least for the time being. Although Lucia begs her not to tell anyone, Blanca knows that the right thing to do is to notify social services. And so, Lucia, desperate and furious with Blanca, is taken away from home.

But at the opening of the season, general attention is catalyzed by a new, perilous case involving the San Teodoro police station. It all starts with the fake report of a robbery in progress in a supermarket. Fake because, as soon as the team arrives on site, our people just have time to enter the building and discover that there is no robbery, when suddenly the police car explodes, fortunately left with no one in it, parked outside the supermarket. Then our people receive the news of two other explosions that occurred simultaneously in other parts of the city.

Luckily there are no casualties. It is evident that someone has lured the police into a trap and the goal was to make a point. Our people are investigating how the bomber managed to place the explosives in the patrol cars. Meanwhile, there's a mysterious phone call at the police station: in a distorted voice, a man expressly asks to speak to Blanca. He is the serial bomber, who seems to have the police in his sights. Because of the goal he claims to have, Liguori begins to suspect that Sebastiano may be responsible for the attacks.

Suddenly, however, there's a new attack. This time right outside the police station, an explosion in which Liguori is seriously injured but above all a young officer loses his life. The "Polibomber", as he's dubbed by the media, has claimed his first victim – says one of the reporters who arrived at the police station after the tragedy. Blanca is very upset at almost losing Liguori, and it makes her realize how deep the bond with him is. Crossing the cameras outside the police station, the police trace a new suspect, Antonio Parodi, an antiques dealer. Our people discover that the man has it in for the police because, years earlier, during a robbery of his shop, the forces of order did not arrive in time to prevent his wife being killed. They tail him, keep him under surveillance, and in the end, they undertake a very dangerous action to prevent his next attack: Parodi wants to blow himself up right in front of the Baroni restaurant, the favorite restaurant of Bacigalupo and all the policemen in Genoa. Thanks to Blanca's courage, Liguori's, and this time also Bacigalupo's, the attack is thwarted.

The man ends up in jail but professes to be partly innocent: it's true, he detonated the bomb outside the police station and would have liked to have done so at the restaurant too, but he had nothing to do with the first three attacks. He's just a copycat of the real bomber. Blanca seems to believe him, unconvinced that he is the mysterious man who phoned the police station. But for Bacigalupo it's 'case closed'.

Only at the very end do we see the real bomber objectively. It is not Antonio Parodi, who is in prison, but another man. Gaunt faced filled with suffering. He is, in fact, the would-be reporter who had approached Blanca at the police station. And we see him in the hideout from which the phone calls came.

Blanca was right...

... And she still doesn't know the truth about another person she has let into her life. When Leone goes to visit his daughter at home, he finds Elena, her housekeeper, and recognizes her for who she really is: Nadia, Blanca's mother! We find out she abandoned the family years before and vanished without a trace. Leone threatens to call Blanca immediately, but Nadia asks him for time so she tell her daughter the truth herself.

Episode 3-4: *The Dognapper*

Blanca and our guys are grappling with a new case. In a public park, a man named Marco Piazza is found dead, with his dog, a Maremma shepherd, watching over him. It seems that a dog bite may have killed him.

So, the dog is likely to be put down, and the news triggers a protest from the group of animal rights activists of which it turns out the victim was a member, and among whom is also Carlotta, Bacigalupo's twenty-year-old daughter. Meanwhile Giovanni Aldi, a homeless boy, is the prime suspect in the case because he was recognized by park cameras with another dog, a pit bull, which may have attacked the victim. The boy has a difficult family situation: his mother, Cecilia, has drug addiction issues, and his father, Maurizio, has never cared much for his son. In fact, Giovanni has a legal guardian, Claudia.

The investigation brings to light a dog-fight ring in which Maurizio is thought to be involved. Giovanni is forced by his father to help him in trafficking the animals, but he has a kind disposition and is a dog lover, which is why he suffers from the brutal treatment

his father subjects them to. In particular, he tries to rebel when Maurizio wants to let a dog that is very close to his heart die, the pit bull he was running in the park. It turns out that Piazza wanted to denounce Maurizio's activity, and the presence of pheromones is detected on his body, a substance that attracts male dogs, most likely placed on the victim to make a dog attack him. The father had told Giovanni to release the pit bull in the park, and he had done so, without knowing that it was in order to kill Piazza. When our people go to a farmhouse where they suspect Maurizio keeps the dogs, they find the man dead next to an electric prod, with all his dogs around him.

Was it Giovanni who killed his father, in a desperate attempt to stop him? The boy clears himself, but his biggest concern is to find the pit bull, now missing. In the end, the real culprit is Claudia, Giovanni's legal guardian: with Piazza's death, she realized that Maurizio was exploiting his son and would let them indict him, so she had killed him in an attempt to stop him. Giovanni can now finally rebuild his life away from his parents, and with his pit bull, which Blanca managed to find for him.

The new domestic equilibrium in Blanca's house breaks down when she discovers the truth about Nadia, by noticing a detail in the woman's behavior, which triggers the realization of who she really is. Mother and daughter have an acrimonious confrontation: Blanca reproaches her mother for not returning when Beatrice died and she went blind. Nadia acknowledges her guilt, but, before leaving, she tells Blanca to ask her father for the truth about what happened after Beatrice's death. So, Leone is forced to tell Blanca that after the tragedy that had fractured the family forever, Nadia had, in fact, returned home. But he had stopped her from seeing Blanca again: he was too angry with her, feeling that if she had never left, perhaps things would have gone differently. However, Blanca is chagrined: her father's decision prevented her from choosing whether and how to have a relationship with Nadia. Leone is sorry, but he claims to have learned the hard way that that woman cannot be trusted. He advises her not to make the same mistake.

Meanwhile, Blanca tries to reconnect with Lucia, who now lives in an institution run by nuns and is angry about Blanca's "betrayal". At first, she doesn't even want to talk to her, but Blanca doesn't give up. And it will be Lucia – in a moment of openness with Blanca – who will urge her to give Nadia a second chance. After all, Lucia no longer has a mother, and even if their relationship was difficult, she would now give anything to have her back.

And so, Blanca discovers that in recent years Nadia has been living on a cargo ship, set up for the rescue of migrants. She is in Genoa because the ship is being repaired there, and she couldn't resist trying to peep into her daughter's life in some way. Blanca somehow begins to understand her mother's motivations: her desire to dedicate her life to a mission that would do good in the highest sense prompted her to choose to separate herself from the family. Blanca asks her if she intends to stay, partly because the idea of asking for Lucia's custody begins to whirl in her head, and the presence of her mother would help...
...Nadia doesn't know. But it's nevertheless a step up in their relationship.

Meanwhile, Sebastiano is looking for a job. After various unsuccessful interviews, he manages to find only a one-day replacement at the Baroni restaurant, where he then stays on as a temporary dishwasher. He lies to Blanca that they hired him. When Blanca discovers the lie, she helps him get hired on a permanent contract, and the bond between the two becomes more and more intense, so much so that they again become romantically

involved. Liguori criticizes Blanca for the decision to welcome Sebastiano under her roof, not to mention the fact that they are now together again: he still thinks that the guy is a potential danger to Blanca. After spending the first night together, Sebastiano wakes up happy next to Blanca. And the viewer has confirmation that Liguori's suspicions are not so unfounded when, instead of Blanca, Sebastiano suddenly sees Beatrice's face, as if in a hallucination.

But Liguori, for his part, is also taken up with other issues. Relations with his mother Livia, as we know, are bad and reduced to a minimum. Even when she needs a simple signature, for some bureaucratic matter concerning the family, Liguori has the documents sent to avoid any contact. And that's how Veronica arrives at the police station; she's a lawyer who works for Livia's firm. She is also a childhood friend of the inspector's, from the same background of upper-class Genoa. Spontaneous and self-confident, almost as a joke she invites him to go to a charity dinner that very evening. Liguori spends such a pleasant evening with Veronica that he begins to think he can give this retro relationship a chance. Nothing demanding, but Liguori discovers that he feels very comfortable with her... and they begin dating.

But he, Blanca, and the rest of our people are unaware of the threat that hasn't ceased to loom over them: the serial bomber enters the police station under a false identity, again as a reporter who wants to do an interview with Blanca. But in reality, he is preparing something for her, something that has every appearance of being a bomb...and at the end of the episode, Blanca receives a package in the police station that seems ready to explode. Surprisingly, however, she finds a note inside on a sheet of iron, placed on a tangle of electric cables. The sheet contains many holes that form an inscription in braille, which ominously reads: "BOOM".

This message reopens the question in Blanca's mind: is the Polibomber still at large?

Episode 5-6: *Blind Spot*

In the parking lot of the Ferraris Stadium in Genoa, after the Sampdoria-Naples match, a man named Tommaso Vannucci is found dead; in the past he was a prestigious photojournalist in war zones and then a sports photographer who fell into disgrace. The murder seems to be the result of a theft gone wrong, but subsequently the investigation focused on a stadium attendant who was with the photographer before his death: it is a surprise to discover – in the images from the cameras inside the building – that it is Federico, Stella's new boyfriend. Blanca's best friend Stella had in fact come to Genoa to introduce him to Blanca and unexpectedly announce that she has decided to get married, despite the fact that she has only known the guy for four months. Blanca is torn between the desire to shed light on the truth of the case and to protect her friend, who is apparently unaware of anything. Especially when she discovers that Federico is involved in a drug ring linked to a notorious Ultra boss, who operated between the stadium and the adjacent prison, the Marassi. It is a dangerous game, and we realize that when Stella is attacked by some men linked to that ring, with the aim of intimidating Federico so he won't say anything to the police. However, Federico confesses to our team that Vannucci had discovered the trafficking and was blackmailing him in exchange for his silence. But the biggest surprise for Blanca is when she discovers that Stella didn't know any of the details

about that story, although she did know that Federico was involved in something shady because he frequented unsavory people and had suspiciously large sums of money on him. The two friends argue.

Stella, however, is sure that Federico had nothing to do with the murder.

In the course of the investigation, the editor of the newspaper – who had a clandestine relationship with Vannucci – and Giulia, his daughter – who had deleted the photos taken by him from her father’s computer, in an attempt to protect her reputation – are also suspected. The real disclosure will be that Vannucci had a much bigger scoop on his hands than the drug dealing ring. He and his friend Ciavoni, a journalist who is a colleague of the photographer in the newsroom, had spotted a dangerous fugitive during a match at the stadium and had agreed to secretly photograph him at the next match of his favorite team, Naples, to then sell the news and revive their now ruined careers.

We discover that it was his friend who killed the victim: Vannucci had suffered pangs of conscience – publishing the scoop would have prevented the police from arresting the fugitive – and he had opted out of the deal.

There had been a quarrel between them, then a punch-up in which Vannucci lost his life.

In her private life, too, Blanca once again faces a series of challenges. First of all, she has decided to ask for Lucia’s custody: the girl, obviously, is happier than ever. However, the social workers are of a different opinion, and, as well, the Mother Superior, who manages Lucia’s foster home: the nun explains that the real problem is not Blanca’s blindness, but her frenetic lifestyle and certain aspects that are not exactly reassuring. The dangerous job with the police, a mother who lives on a ship and will soon leave again, and above all the cohabitation with Sebastiano, who, everyone knows, is the man who until recently wanted to kill her. Nadia’s presence, for the moment at least, proves to be a great help so they can consider entrusting Lucia to Blanca, but Nadia’s availability does not convince Leone, who continues not to trust his ex-wife, despite Blanca trying to convince him that she has changed. Blanca is sorry that Leone is unable to forgive her, but Nadia surprises her by telling her another piece of the truth about their past: she had left not only to undertake humanitarian missions, but also because at the time she had fallen in love with another man. That’s why Leone is so mad at her. For Blanca it is a blow. She apologizes to her father for pressing him, since the reason he had said nothing before was to protect his daughters.

While the skirmishes continue between Blanca and Liguori regarding their respective relationships, given that Liguori continues to see Veronica more and more openly, we see the relationship between Blanca and Sebastiano turning more and more serious: the two love each other deeply, and the young man enters more and more into the dynamics Blanca’s family, being there for her – and he will be the one to persuade Leone to give Nadia a second chance. He sets up a surprise dinner where Blanca and her parents will meet for the first time in a long time. But as he grows closer to Blanca, he also grows aware that he can’t let go of the past. In fact, Bea’s ghost returns forcefully, to such an extent that Sebastiano can manage those “visions”. It is increasingly clear to him that continuing to be with her will be detrimental to obtaining custody of Lucia, and also to Blanca herself. Sebastiano therefore decides to tell the truth to Blanca: when he looks at her, he sees Bea.

For the good of all, therefore, he has decided to leave and disappear from Blanca's life. While experiencing this storm of emotions in private, tension continues to grow on the working side as well: in the case of the Polibomber. Blanca received the sheet of iron with the word "BOOM" on it, and there are no traces of any kind on it. Bacigalupo thinks it's the work of a mythomaniac, but to her it is clear that it is the work of an expert criminal. And her suspicions prove well founded when the Polibomber, whom we saw working on a mysterious device during the episode, shows up again, announcing a new attack, this time it starts at the carousel of an amusement park full of children. In a frantic race to stop him, Blanca and our team must find the bomb on the carousel and defuse it, all without raising an alarm or evacuating the area, otherwise the Polibomber threatens to blow everything up. In the end Blanca manages to find the bomb... but when she tries to defuse it, instead a display of fireworks starts, which attracts the attention of the gathered crowd. It was a fake warning, specially designed for Blanca and the Genoa police, to make them realize that the game is officially on. The threat continues.

Episode 7-8: *Smoke Gets in Your Eyes*

Yuri Campana, an employee of the Staglieno Cemetery in Genoa, is found dead on the landing of his apartment during a fire in the building. The one who found him while trying to save herself is Arianna Danili, 20, a blind girl who lives on the same floor. It turns out that the fire was not real: someone set fire to bins to simulate it, and Campana was shot in the chest. Basically, an execution. Investigating the victim, Blanca and Liguori go to Staglieno and meet the director, Tommaso Farini. Farini says that Campana had been on leave for months, and neither he nor his colleagues with whom our people speak, Simona and Giacomo, know why. Everyone only knows that he never left his house. Blanca goes back to Arianna to see if she can help them, but the girl isn't very cooperative: she's blind, how does Blanca expect her to help them? She went blind one night when she fell asleep on her best friend Camilla's boat, which mysteriously caught fire. Camilla, however, lost her life. Our heroine takes it to heart because she understands that for the girl, who has been blind for just over a year, that tragedy and her own condition are still an open wound. Meanwhile, one night, someone sneaks into Campana's empty house. They search it and find metal smelting equipment...and a mysterious wedding ring. Thus, they discover that the victim stole gold objects from the deceased in the coffins he buried, to then melt down and make money. Simona was also an accomplice in this illegal activity, and he tells our people that for a few months Campana had been receiving notes with threats: that's why he never left the house – he was terrified.

It is a shock for Blanca when she realizes that Arianna had sent those threats: she recognizes a spelling error typical of the dictation program for the blind that she also uses. Arianna, nailed as a suspect, is forced to confess: she was mad at Campana because one day, in the cemetery on Camilla's grave, she had recognized by chance his voice as that of the man who had pulled her out of the water before running away, and he realized he was the one who started the fire on the boat.

Blanca and Liguori go to Camilla's parents' house and discover that her mother's new husband is none other than Farini. It can't be a coincidence. Blanca asks Arianna for help

in reconstructing the moment she found Campana's body, and finally the girl is able to remember the sound of a set of keys she heard then. Keys like the ones Farini always keeps hanging from his belt. And indeed, the investigation brings to light the truth: Camilla had discovered that Farini was cheating on her mother with Simona, and that he was with her only because she was rich. She had confronted him, and he had killed her. To make the body disappear, she had asked Campana for help, already being accomplices in the thefts from the deceased, and Campana had made Camilla's body disappear by setting fire to the boat. He didn't know that Arianna was there too, and her threats terrified him so much that he would end up telling the police everything... so Farini had killed him too. However, our team do not have enough evidence to indict him: so, with Arianna's help they stage a bluff that finally leads to his arrest. Arianna, thanks to Blanca's support and example, was instrumental in solving the case, and now she can let go of the painful past. She will go back to living her life to the fullest, in the company of a Labrador puppy that Blanca gives her.

But our heroine will have a lot to do on other fronts as well.

First, the Polibomber case is officially reopened. To track him, the central police station sets up a crisis unit, led by Paolo Sivori, head of Special Forces in Genoa. But our team are now ousted, and they're really upset: especially Blanca.

From now on, she must no longer talk on the phone with the bomber.

We then discover that someone else is on the trail of the Polibomber: Sebastiano, whose hallucinations worsen so much that he begins to imagine he is talking to Beatrice, although he does not stop protecting Blanca, even from afar. He secretly begins to check on her, as if he were a sort of secret guardian angel, and thanks to these continuous stakeouts, he manages to trace the Polibomber's car, even if he does not know his identity, and follows him to a disreputable area of the port. To find out more, Sebastiano has to deal with dangerous people and ends up being attacked. Blanca, unaware of anything, tries several times to contact him to find out how he is doing, even going to his house, but Sebastiano lies to her, saying he is being treated and has found a new job.

Meanwhile, Blanca will find herself getting closer to Liguori due to an issue related to his mother, Livia. The inspector learns from Veronica that his mother wants to sell the *Eroica*, the boat belonging to Liguori's father, of which he is very fond because it is the only thing left of him. Liguori gets angry and doesn't understand why she wants to sell it, so Veronica is forced to tell him the truth: Livia has a tumor, and given her practical nature, she is managing family properties with the inheritance in mind. It's a shock for the son, who doesn't know how to deal with the issue and withdraws into himself. Veronica tries to help him like a good lawyer and offers to continue to act as intermediary with his mother on the matter – with a simple signature from him, she can take charge of everything, and Liguori won't have to suffer more than necessary. And there's more: to stay close to him, she asks Liguori if he wants to settle down with her for a while. Blanca, on the other hand, when she learns of Livia's illness, deals with it directly: she thinks that Liguori should talk to Livia and give her a chance before it's too late. Liguori heeds her and goes to his mother's house. Despite everything, mother and son manage to talk it through at last. That

moment between them is a possible new beginning, and somehow, they make peace and forgive each other. For that, he has Blanca to thank, since it was she who persuaded him to bury the hatchet between his mother and him.

At Blanca's house things seem to be getting better and better. Lucia has been chosen to play at a concert outside the city, and Blanca asks Nadia to accompany them. Then when the woman's car breaks down, she asks Leone for help. All together they spend enjoyable and emotional hours, like an odd family that has re-found itself, hours suspended out of time. Even the relationship between Nadia and Leone now seems more serene. But Blanca doesn't know that things are about to take a decidedly unexpected turn on several fronts...

...Sebastiano is getting closer and closer to intercepting the Polibomber. He sees him enter an abandoned warehouse, follows him there, and finds himself in his hideout. But he finds it empty, and Sivori and the officers of the crisis unit break in, arresting him, surrounded by all the evidence against him.

We discover that Sivori had been surveilling him: he thinks Sebastiano is the bomber.

Blanca still doesn't know any of this, and while it's all happening, she has decided to try it again with Liguori. She joins him at the dock where he keeps the *Eroica*, which will go on sale from the following day. Blanca asks him to take one last cruise, and the two find themselves at sea together, as close as ever. Just then, Lucia phones Blanca with special news: they will give her custody! In an access of joy, Blanca and Liguori end up kissing. But at the same time, in the finale we witness another far more unexpected kiss: the one between Nadia and the Polibomber.

We shockingly discover that Blanca's mother is an accomplice to the mysterious criminal.

Episode 9-10: *The Son Seeker*

In the park of Villa Durazzo Pallavicini in Genoa, a man of Middle Eastern origin is attacked, found by the police in a state of unconsciousness due to a head injury. Blanca and Liguori find out from the park keeper that the victim, perhaps a homeless man, wandered around the area with a battered motorbike and spent hours watching the kids play. Which is why many parents had become annoyed, and above all there had been an argument with one of them, Samuele Fares. The latter is very wealthy and well-known, half Italian and half Libyan, an art dealer and philanthropist. In fact, his house is a real museum, as Blanca and Liguori have the opportunity to discover by going there for the investigation. Blanca cannot fully appreciate its beauty, being without the sense of sight, but Fares guides her to discover a statue through touch, and so she manages to reproduce its image in her 'black room'. Fares is a lover of beauty, and he holds that everything must be done to preserve it: in fact, he also helps UNESCO safeguard works of art in war zones. The most beautiful work he owns is that statue, a Minerva, whom the Arabs call Allat.

But it is only a copy, he says, the original is missing.

Fares admits that he had an argument with the man found in the park because he annoyed his son Giorgio, but he says he was not the one who attacked him. And little Giorgio

confirms that, although he seems fearful in saying so. Blanca is convinced that Fares is hiding something. In the meantime, our men find the victim's motorbike: it is equipped for long trips, and on the back waves a flag with Arabic writing and the photo of a little boy... while inside there are many other photos, all of boys. This leads more and more to the belief that he is a molester, but the analysis of the writings and photos with the help of an interpreter brings the truth to light: the man's name is Ismail, a Syrian, and for ten years he has been looking for his son, kidnapped during the war and now missing. Maybe Giorgio is the son he had been looking for so long? Although Fares is reluctant to admit it, Blanca discovers that Giorgio was adopted. However, Fares continues to maintain that he did not attack Ismail. Then the man comes out of the coma and confirms our team's version: he has identified Giorgio as the son he has been looking for all those years, and his real name is Nadir. He had talked to Fares about it, but he had kicked him, so he had approached Giorgio at the park. Giorgio had run away, upset, but on the night of the attack he had returned to him: his father had told him that Ismail was lying, but the boy no longer believed him and wanted to know the truth... and then, Ismail had been attacked. Our men then ask Fares to speak with Giorgio, who certainly saw the attacker, but they tell them that Giorgio has left for a holiday in Lebanon with relatives. It is clear that they are lying ... and in fact Fares hides other secrets. We see him meeting, in the warehouse of his company, with Middle Eastern traffickers, with whom it is clear that he has an arrangement. These criminals exploit his logistics network, built for the art trade and the shipment of medical supplies to the Middle East, to illegally transport weapons to war zones.

In return they promised Fares something he cares a great deal about: the statue of Minerva. The traffickers kidnapped Giorgio as a guarantee that their scheme will go through, now that the police are after Fares following the attack in the park. In the end, Ismail himself will be the one to convince Fares to confess the truth: he thanks Fares because, by adopting Giorgio, even though he didn't know he had been kidnapped, he allowed him not to see the war and to grow up surrounded by beauty... and now, just as he does with the artwork, he begs him to save him. From a clue in a video sent to Fares by the traffickers, our people guess that Giorgio is inside a container in a freight yard, which will soon be put on a departing train. They rush to there, and in the end, Blanca finds the boy by following the sound of his voice, as, from inside the container, he sings a lullaby Ismail had sung to him when they met again. Later, Ismail will discover that Giorgio is not his son: the DNA does not match. He was wrong. But he is still happy that the boy is safe, and thanks Blanca for helping him. He then resumes his journey in search of his Nadir.

Blanca's private life, meanwhile, is pretty topsy-turvy. After the kiss with Liguori, she lays it out for the inspector: until he clarifies the situation with Veronica, they will not be together. He shouldn't imagine for a second that he can have it both ways. Veronica, for her part, notices that he is acting elusive, since one evening he didn't come back to her house to sleep, and he hasn't responded to her messages since the day before. She talks about it with Livia, and the latter has a very frank discussion with her son. She sides with Veronica – not for the reasons we might think, but because she sees herself in Blanca: never standing still, always fighting to feel alive. And she sees in the relationship between Blanca and Liguori what she had with Liguori's father: a great passion, but at the same

time an irremediable incompatibility of character that led them – and would also lead Blanca and Liguori – to always argue repeatedly, despite the obvious love they feel. She tells him to drop Blanca, if he doesn't want to take the war home with him.

In fact, Blanca and Liguori disagree about a number of things. They both argue against Sivori's belief that Sebastiano is the Polibomber, and in fact at a certain point the suspicions against him are dropped. Sebastiano is freed but must agree to undergo therapy. But Blanca and the inspector think differently about Sebastiano still being dangerous. She would like to stay close to him, but he is the one who asks her to stay away so he can get back on his feet: in fact, his psychiatrist told him that Blanca is his 'kryptonite'. Blanca reluctantly accepts his wishes. However, Liguori claims that Sebastiano doesn't really stay away from her as he said, because he catches him checking on her several times again, and suspects that he is not following his therapy. So, he goes to Sebastiano's house and confronts him, ordering him to stay away from Blanca and get treatment. Sebastiano unexpectedly loses it and attacks Liguori, who is forced to request obligatory treatment and have him hospitalized. When Blanca finds out, she's furious and confronts Liguori just as he is having lunch with Veronica. From the tone of the clash, Veronica understands that there is a strong feeling between them that leaves no room for the relationship she would like to have with the inspector.

But why did suspicions about Sebastiano, as we said, end? After the shocking discovery that Nadia is an accomplice of the Polibomber, we gradually got wind of more of his plan: now he aims to ensure that Blanca is put back on the crisis unit, and, to do so, he gets Nadia to give her the number of Blanca's private cell phone. He calls her just when Blanca is visiting Sebastiano in the clinic, increasing the young man's anxiety about protecting her. The call warns Blanca of an imminent attack: and in fact, the Polibomber detonates a drone right in front of the police station. There are no casualties, but the message is clear: Sivori must put Blanca back on the team and accept that he will only ever talk to her.

Meanwhile, Blanca grapples with her new role as Lucia's foster mother: she discovers that it involves a huge commitment and realizes how difficult it is to reconcile her work with caring for Lucia. At school she has difficulties related to feelings of insecurity that she doesn't want to show, because she doesn't want to be a burden on Blanca, yet underneath she requires attention. Blanca tells Lucia that she is always her priority. After Lucia hurts her finger in a volleyball match, Blanca takes care of her, and one day the two leave the house to go get an X-ray. Then the Polibomber phones to warn her of a new attack he is preparing. Blanca asks Lucia to warn Liguori and then go home: from the background noise of the call, she has guessed that the bomber is very near her house. It is a surprise for her at a certain point to hear Sebastiano's voice on the phone: he has run away from the clinic where they were treating him, and we discover that, having resumed keeping an eye on Blanca, he has identified the bomber on a nearby terrace. He reached him without being seen and now he has him at gunpoint after attacking him. It seems that he has caught him, but the Polibomber reacts: there is a scuffle and the man pushes Sebastiano over the terrace railing, to his death.

Episode 11-12: *The Bomb*

Sebastiano's death is devastating for everyone, but especially for Blanca. She feels guilty for not having defended and protected him, and she takes it out on Liguori. If he hadn't been so stubborn in suspecting Sebastiano and his intentions towards Blanca, he would never have been shut up in that clinic and would still be alive.

Capturing the Polibomber now becomes a real obsession for her. Blanca stays late into the night at the police station. She asks Liguori to tell her what he sees on the cameras that captured Sebastiano's last moments, desperately searching for clues. She wants to get the Polibomber at any cost. Liguori tries in vain to reason with her: now he really gets what Livia meant, when she said that he and Blanca would always be at war. Meanwhile Veronica, who genuinely cares about him, tries to be there for him through this difficult time. The two get closer, and she proposes to Liguori that they go and see a house where, if he wanted to give their relationship a chance, they could go and live together.

The tragedy also has consequences on the relationship between Blanca and Lucia. The social workers inform Blanca that they are considering suspending her custody: Blanca's job and the danger to which she is exposed are probably not suitable for the care of a young girl. Blanca confesses her doubts to Nadia: was it really a good idea to take responsibility for Lucia? She replies frankly, even according to her own experience: not all women are destined to be mothers. Blanca, like her, is an independent woman, and perhaps she is not made to take care of someone and have her freedom curtailed. That was why Nadia left. Family life was not for her, and it is clear that it is not for Blanca either. Her thoughts throw Blanca into crisis. They do not realize that Lucia has unfortunately heard everything. In order not to be a burden to Blanca, Lucia decides to lie and tell her she has a school trip to Cremona for a couple of days, but the reality is that she runs away, to stay away forever. When Blanca finds out, she doesn't believe her ears and reaches her just in time before the girl leaves Genoa, but she fails to convince her to give her a second chance: Lucia has already requested to return to the foster home.

Nadia, in secret, is also in crisis. She is shaken by Sebastiano's death and confronts Raffaele: they had spoken of demonstrative acts, not of killing. However, the Polibomber manipulates her into believing that Sebastiano's death was an accident and asks her to stay by his side until the end. He manages to convince her, but then without her noticing, he steals a set of keys from her bag: what is his plan?

He phones Blanca, announcing the target of his next attack: he will demonstrate that the police are incapable of protecting citizens by striking at the Nautical Fair, a very important event that attracts twenty thousand people a day and which will open in Genoa three days later. Sivori decides not to cancel it. They will catch the bomber before he can strike, even if it means very high risk and tension for all of them.

But it will be Blanca who experiences the greatest tension of all when, by chance, from a phrase that the Polibomber used on the phone and which Nadia unknowingly repeats to her, she realizes that her mother is an accomplice to the bomber. Blanca's world collapses. Her mother didn't come back to finally be part of her life, but just to use her! Blanca would like to drop everything, even resign, but in the end – partly thanks to Liguori's support – she decides otherwise. She will use this discovery to play a double game with Nadia, so

that she herself will bring our team to the bomber. First, she bugged her mother's house to monitor her exchanges with the man. Unbeknownst to our people, however, things get complicated: The Polibomber has snuck into Blanca's house to steal data from her PC – hence the theft of her keys. We still don't know what he wants to do, but we see that by chance he overhears a conversation between her, who has just returned, and Stella, in which he discovers that Blanca knows the truth about her mother. When she finds that out, Nadia can't stand it: she can't bear to go on with her daughter, now that she knows everything, it's too much. She wants out. Surprisingly, however, Raffaele blackmails her: if she doesn't stay with him until the end, their agreements will be null, and everyone will be in danger... including Blanca.

Meanwhile, the police finally discover the identity of the Polibomber. The man's name is Raffaele Randi, an activist who has worked for cooperation projects and humanitarian missions. That's how he met Nadia. The reason for his attacks is the loss of his twenty-year-old daughter Frida, also an activist, three years before, killed in a charge ordered by the police during a protest march. The trial established that the fatal blow had been inflicted by a demonstrator, but Raffaele is sure that the policeman who ordered the charge was to blame for her death.

We find out that it was Sivori and that he is the Polibomber's actual target.

At one point, however, Blanca disregards Sivori's orders and makes it clear to her mother that she knows everything. The masks fall, and Blanca and Nadia face off. Blanca asks her to give up helping Raffaele and to come over to their side. To be there for her.

Nadia, however, flees the confrontation and escapes with the Polibomber.

On the day of the inauguration of the Nautical Fair, the crisis unit meets. Sivori, Blanca and our team are all there, and the tension is sky high. Blanca doesn't know that she is about to become the instrument of the assassin's atrocious revenge: Raffaele had forced Nadia to replace Blanca's personal computer, which she takes with her to the crisis unit meetings, with an identical one, but with the screen loaded with explosives destined for Sivori.

We see Raffaele stationed in Piazza De Ferrari, near the entrance to the building where the meeting is being held. He follows Blanca's movements thanks to a tracker. Blanca takes her place at the meeting, and opening the computer, Sivori makes a joke about her computer screen: this is how she realizes that, although all the programs are working, the screen is black. Blanca understands immediately: the explosive is in there. The bomb is her. Raffaele is about to press the button that will detonate the charge, when he realizes with dismay that Blanca is leaving the crisis unit room...

... Blanca goes out into the square and heads towards the famous fountain in the center. She begins to circle around it as Sivori and the squad, but also the Polibomber, wonder what she's doing. The Polibomber calls her, and she stalls, continuing to walk in circles. Liguori understands that she is doing it to signal to them, as they watch from the balcony overlooking the square, the Polibomber's location. Our men rush to arrest the Polibomber, and Blanca dives into the fountain to block the explosion with her body just as Raffaele presses the detonator, but... surprisingly, the bomb does not explode. We only find out what happened when Blanca resurfaces, semiconscious, with Nadia above her. Her mother reveals that she went back, deciding to betray Raffaele and save Blanca by

defusing the explosive. She asks her forgiveness for the danger she put her in, and then she leaves escorted by officers, who in the meantime have also arrested Raffaele.

Blanca is happy and proud to have solved the case, which allowed her to understand one important thing: that she doesn't want to be like Nadia. she does not want to sever ties because they present some kind of burden. It is a shock for her to discover, right at the very end, that Liguori has chosen to go and live with Veronica. But she's not going to give up on her happiness, and she's also willing to take the risk of being attached to someone. Because only by accepting risk can she truly appreciate, and even more, the beauty of *dancing in the rain*.

What is closest to her heart is Lucia's happiness. Life brought them together, perhaps for the very reason of understanding just that.

She asks her if she wants to move back in with her.

In response, Lucia throws her arms around her neck and gives her a huge hug.