Heartwarming

Leonie Elliott, Helen George, Linda Bassett and Jennifer Kirby from "Call the Midwife"

MARCH 27 - APRIL 2, 2020

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TOP 100
FIVE STAR HOSPITAL
★★★★★

Choose Well. Choose Northern.
PBS’s hit series “Call the Midwife” reminds us that there is a time to be born, a time to die and a time for everything in between when Season 9 premieres Sunday, March 29, on PBS.

The show follows a group of midwives who work at the Nonnatus House and the nuns of the Order of St. Raymund Nonnatus, who live there. The first season was set in 1957, but this ninth installment brings us up to the mid-1960s, a time of social change and upheaval. As the world changes around them, the nurses and nuns of Nonnatus house team up to serve local families in the fictional area of Poplar, London.

Among the team of midwives is the newly sober Trixie Franklin (Helen George, “The Three Musketeers,” 2011), the prickly Phyllis Crane (Linda Bassett, “Calendar Girls,” 2005), the industrious Valerie Dyer (Jennifer Kirby, “RSC Live: Henry V,” 2015) and, one of the newest nurses at Nonnatus house, the resolute Lucille Anderson (Leonie Elliott, “Black Mirror”), the convent’s first black nurse. The nuns and nurses of Nonnatus house are led by Sister-in-Charge Julienne (Jenny Agutter, “Logan’s Run,” 1976), whose wisdom, kindness and steady hand have helped many of the sisters, midwives and townspeople through difficult times.

The show is based on the Midwife Trilogy, a memoir collection by real-life British nurse Jennifer Worth. The book series consists of “Call the Midwife,” “Shadows of the Workhouse” and “Farewell to the East End.” Much like the show, the books follow Worth as she worked as a nurse for a Whitechapel hospital alongside a group of Anglican nuns from the Sisters of St. John the Divine. Worth focused her work on low-income women and families in the area.

It’s no secret that the “Call the Midwife” series has effects that reach far beyond entertainment. The characters’ positive perspectives and empathetic attitudes have shine a light on female struggles and brought the stories of many forgotten women back into the public consciousness. The show has informed viewers about major health issues and good birthing practices, and it has been used to showcase midwifery, which is often misunderstood, as a credible and important career.

Most notably, the drama has educated viewers by featuring diseases and encouraging vaccination, and some experts attribute a rise in vaccination rates to the effect of the show. Due to its overwhelming popularity and critical acclaim, the series has been renewed for at least two more seasons, through 2022.

Following the lead of other British shows on PBS, Season 9 has already aired in the U.K. earlier this year. Because of this, it’s easy to find out what to expect from the new season (no spoilers here, though). The new season begins in January 1965 and features the characters receiving news of the death of Winston Churchill. With the ‘60s in full swing, your favorite midwives put their best foot forward when it comes to fashion this season, sporting time-trendy hair and colorful outfits.

The nurses also deal with some new equipment and changes to medical procedures, as well as an evolving landscape as the East End is rebuilt around them. But there’s a lot more than clothes and equipment on the horizon for these women — for all women, in fact. The show’s timeline is getting ever closer to the 1967 Abortion Act, which legalized abortion by licensed practitioners in certain areas of the U.K. in the hopes of ending the dangerous, and often fatal, back-alley procedures that were common before that time. We certainly saw the set-up for these changes towards the end of Season 8, when Nurse Valerie (Val) found out that her grandmother had been performing unhygienic, illegal abortions for money. It was a storyline that divided viewers and critics.

This fascinating time period is also when the revolutionary idea of contraception for all began to gain serious traction. Plus, last season we saw Nurse Trixie step up as an advocate for the Brook Advisory Centre, which is a fictional version of an actual center started in 1964 to help promote sexual health and safe-sex practices for unmarried youth.

It’s exciting to see how the show’s writer and creator, Heidi Thomas, works these issues into the plotline for the riveting new season. There are so many powerful stories to tell, and there are new challenges, and even new characters, to keep you hooked. A team of four handsome doctors arrives at Nonnatus house to shake things up, and we’re sure to see some friction as everyone gets adjusted, not to mention storylines highlighting gender struggles and the sometimes fraught doctor-nurse relationship. Could there be a chance for romance as well?

The first episode of the new season features a diphtheria outbreak and a baby abandoned in a dustbin — and things get even more dramatic with each episode. Deaths and departures pepper this installment, and you’ll need to tune in to find out which characters could be on their way out. Season 9 of “Call the Midwife” premieres Sunday, March 29, on PBS.

Jenny Agutter in “Call the Midwife”
FRIDAY BEST BETS

**Somewhere South**

Join chef Vivian Howard in this series premiere as she explores the food that unites Americans throughout the southern United States. She will help to develop savory dishes and create new traditions with the food she loves, beginning in West Virginia.

**Gran Torino**

An angry Korean War veteran (Clint Eastwood) begins to develop a relationship with his Hmong American neighbors after thwarting their son’s attempt to steal his most prized possession – a ’72 Ford Gran Torino – in this critically acclaimed drama.

FRIDAY EVENING MARCH 27, 2020
The Greatest Showman

(58) FX 6:00 pm

This award-winning musical is inspired by the life of P.T. Barnum, played by Hugh Jackman in the film. Barnum collects oddities, outcasts and animals to appear in his legendary circus, attempting to put together the greatest show on Earth.

The Kitchen

(708) HBO 8:00 pm

Funny females Melissa McCarthy, Tiffany Haddish and Elisabeth Moss star in this comedy as the wives of convicted 1970's gangsters. While the husbands are away, their wives will need to run their illicit businesses for them.
SUNDAY BETS

VICE
(728) SHOW 8:00 pm

Fearless, on-the-ground reporting made this series synonymous with exposing the underreported. Now returning for an eighth season, this team of dedicated reporters — including Paola Ramos and Isobel Yeung — is bringing audiences back to the frontlines.

Three Busy Debras
(60) TOON 12:00 am

In this quarter-hour comedy premiere, Debra (Sandy Honig), Debra (Mitra Jouhari) and Debra (Allysa Stonoha) get into some trouble on the way to brunch. This fever-dream-inducing black comedy, written by the three stars, plays fun at high society.

SUNDAY EVENING MARCH 29, 2020
## TV Search

| ART PUNK | GARAGE | POST-ROCK |
| BALLAD | GOSPEL | RAP |
| BHANGRA | GRIME | REGGAE |
| BLACK METAL | HOUSE | SALSA |
| CALYPSO | INDIE | SAMBA |
| COUNTRY | INDUSTRIAL | SCREAMO |
| DEATH METAL | INSTRUMENTAL | SHOEGAZE |
| DISCO | JAZZ | SKA |
| DUB | J-POP | SOUL |
| EMO | K-POP | SWING |
| FOLK | KRAUTROCK | SYNTHPOP |
| FUNK | POST-PUNK | TECHNO |

## Listen to This!
WHAT’S NEW ON NETFLIX
“Patriot Act with Hasan Minhaj” Volume 6
Comedian Hasan Minhaj (“The Daily Show”) returns for the sixth volume of his political talk show coming to Netflix on Sunday, March 29. Despite being first and foremost a comedy series, it’s not just political satire. Minhaj delivers his unique perspective on global and political issues and works to positively impact the world with comedy that has both depth and sincerity. While the show may sound like an extended version of a Stephen Colbert (“The Late Show with Stephen Colbert”) monologue, Minhaj’s series is based less on opinion and more on hard facts. He makes sure he can explain the nuances of serious subjects by dedicating each half-hour segment to a single topic, whether it be police brutality, the environmental impact of the fashion industry, or, of course, brutality, the environmental impact of the fashion industry, or, of course, political topics like his in-depth look at Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. With the current turbulence in both the political climate and global economy, Minhaj is sure to have lots of new and interesting issues to dig into. Don’t miss the premiere of the latest installment.

“Money Heist” Part 4
On Friday, April 3, don’t miss Part 4 of this epic crime series. When the show started, viewers were introduced to a group of robbers who use cities as code names. Under the direction of a criminal mastermind known as the Professor (Álvaro Morte, “Love in Difficult Times”), the team collaborates to pull off one of the biggest heists ever: an assault on the Royal Mint of Spain that would see them escape with 2.4 billion euros. Parts 1 and 2 of the series focused on the execution of the heist and were filled with many shocking moments as the team donned their red jumpsuits and Salvador Dalí masks. While the heist was mostly successful, there were some complications, and only five team members managed to escape with the printed euros. Part 3 saw the team disband, with Rio (Miguel Herrán, “Elite”) and Tokyo (Úrsula Corberó, “The Tree of Blood,” 2018) living peacefully on an island — that is, until the authorities managed to hunt them down and capture Rio. To get him back, Tokyo pulls the team back together for another amazing heist, this time targeting the Bank of Spain. Now, the stakes have never been higher, and there is more on the line than just money. Part 4 picks up with the gang in the bank, their plan quickly spiraling out of control as a war begins between them and the authorities. Find out who makes it out when Part 4 of “Money Heist” premieres this Friday.

WHAT’S NEW ON HULU
“Archer” Season 10
The latest season of this long-running spy comedy makes its debut Sunday, March 29. This adult animated sitcom follows the (mis)adventures of a team of somewhat dysfunctional secret agents. The show centers on the suave agent Sterling Archer (H. Jon Benjamin, “Bob’s Burgers”) as he works for the International Secret Intelligence Service (ISIS) in New York. His team includes his emotionally distant mother and ISIS director, Malory (Jessica Walter, “Arrested Development”); her crazy assistant, Cheryl (Judy Greer, “Kidding”); his on-and-off girlfriend and fellow agent, Lana (Aisha Tyler, “Criminal Minds”); the flamboyantly gay bomb specialist, Ray (Adam Reed, “Sealab 2021”); mild-mannered agent Cyril (Chris Parnell, “Rick and Morty”); eccentric scientist Dr. Krieger (Lucky Yates, “American Dad!”) and the head of human resources at ISIS, Pam (Amber Nash, “Frisby Dingo”). As we enter Season 10, Archer is still in a coma after being shot at the end of Season 7, and in his subconscious, the team becomes a crew on a spaceship. The characters are redefined as this season, subtitled “Archer: 1999,” spoofs the classic clichés of science fiction.

“Future Man” Season 3
On Friday, April 3, head back to the future in the third and final season of this comedy series. Josh Hutcherson (“The Hunger Games,” 2012) stars as JoshFrom the executive producers of “Daredevil,” “House” and “13 Reasons Why,” this new series is filled with suspense, and showrunners have said that the main character is similar to that of Benedict Cumberbatch in “Sherlock.” The first three episodes premiere this week, and new episodes debut Fridays.

WHAT’S NEW ON APPLE TV PLUS
“Home Before Dark”
When I was 9 years old, I was reading books like Nancy Drew and Harriet the Spy. When Hilde Swank (“Game of Thrones”) stars as Russ, the founder and inventor of “The Loop,” a machine that was intended to be used to learn about all the secrets of the universe. The machine didn’t work quite as planned, though, and now things that would be considered impossible, or likened to science fiction, are a normal part of life in this mysterious town. The series follows the emotional stories of those who live in the town, including Russ’s son (Paul Schneeber, “Parks and Recreation”) and a mother named Loretta (Rebecca Hall, “Teen Spirit,” 2018). Abby Ryder Fortson ("Togetherness"); Jane Alexander (“The Good Wife”) and Duncan Jones (“Amazing Stories”) also star.

WHAT’S NEW ON PRIME
“Tales From The Loop”
Inspired by the artwork of Swedish painter Simon Stalenhag, this futuristic new series premieres Friday, April 3. Jonathan Pryce (“Game of Thrones”) stars as the town’s lead investigator, started her own local newspaper and investigated a murder. On Friday, April 3, Apple TV Plus presents this new family drama inspired by the real-life events of Lysiak. Brooklyn Prince (“The Turning,” 2020) stars as a young girl whose life is uprooted when she moves from Brooklyn, New York, to the small town her father, Matthew (Jim Sturgess, “21,” 2009), is from. When she gets there, she realizes that the town is filled with secrets. She begins to pursue the truth, only to discover a cold case that practically everyone in town had a hand in burying, including her father. The show is filled with suspense, and showrunners have said that the main character is similar to that of Benedict Cumberbatch in “Sherlock.” The first three episodes premiere this week, and new episodes debut Fridays.

A scene from “Archer”
TELEVISION CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1  "Pulp Fiction" (1994) star Thurman
4  Make ___ of
8  Failing grades
11 ___-Man
12 Prefix meaning "one-billionth"
13 2 Down star
14 Volcanic spew
15 Bygone drama about a royal dynasty
17 "Call ____" (period drama set in London)
19 601, in Rome
20 Iconic Clint Eastwood role "The Man with ___"
24 Sanctify
27 Dependable
28 Sue Grafton's "___ for Alibi"
29 EUR alternative
30 "Au contraire!"
33 Actor Leonard, who starred in the parent show of 31 Down
35 "The Andy Griffith Show" star Don
37 Prefix with profit
38 "Good Trouble" is the sequel to this former family sitcom
43 Actress and singer Kristin
46 Small island
47 Half of a picker-upper
48 Native Nebraskan
49 ___-fi
50 P.D. rank
51 Indian flatbreads (var.)
52 La Brea goo

DOWN
1 ___ the crack of dawn
2 Old sitcom set in Korea
3 Masseuse's target
4 What the "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" gang often gets up to
5 Muslim messiah
6 All over again
7 Out of the office
8 "Xanadu" rock grp.
9 New Deal init.
10 Carrier to Sweden
13 Gland: Prefix
16 Roswell sightings
18 "Chicago Med" roles
21 Reunion attendee
22 Japanese soup
23 Whirlpool
24 River's edge
25 2019 remake "The ___ King"
26 "Salus populi suprema lex ___" (Missouri's motto)
31 Parent show of "Star Trek: Picard," in fan shorthand
32 Roman emperor after Galba
33 Snacks
34 Abbr. on a bank statement
36 Attach, as a patch
37 Idle
39 Greek cheese
40 Sunrise direction
41 Costa ___
42 Blend
43 Pennies: Abbr.
44 Big pig
45 Tolkien creature

Solution on page 2
Baking Buddy: Cake Boss vying to win

By Michelle Rose
TV Media

We're already a few weeks into Round 2 of Food Network’s Big King of Cake title bout, aka “Buddy vs. Duff.” In the first two episodes, we watched defending champ Duff Goldman and challenger Buddy Valastro go head-to-head in Big Apple- and dinosaur-themed showdowns. The East Coast leg of the competition continues this Sunday, March 29, when these two artists draw inspiration from jousts and pageantry to create a centerpiece for Medieval Times’ 30th anniversary.

There will be one more stop next week before the competition moves to the West Coast in the run-up to the May 3 finale. That last competition should be a good one if you love cake and Star Wars: Buddy and Duff will be tasked with creating the perfect edible showpiece for an event hosted by Billy Dee Williams at Disneyland’s Star Wars: Galaxy’s Edge attraction. “Buddy vs. Duff” is the kind of show that could only exist after the Discovery-Scripps merger in 2018. The $12-billion takeover brought Food Network, HGTV and Travel Channel under TLC’s parent company, meaning TLC’s “Cake Boss” (Valastro) and Food Network’s “Ace of Cakes” (Goldman) were now part of the same TV family.

And when you have two big stars with similar shows, this naturally suggests a rivalry, even if the two had already moved on to other projects. (If you really want to keep score, Duff was the first to ink a TV deal back in 2006, but Buddy had more spinoff success.) Enter “Buddy vs. Duff,” Food Network’s highest-rated show in 2019. News of its success might come as a surprise if you’ve read online reviews and comments, which don’t pull any punches when it comes to critiquing the scoring, the show’s format and even Buddy himself after he walked off in the second challenge. But viewers kept tuning in week after week. And that probably says a lot about the celebrity status and skills of these two cake artists, who seem to differ in every way.

The action and the competitive banter continue this week on “Buddy vs. Duff.” But if you’re a fan of Buddy, don’t change the channel after this week’s winner is announced. The Cake Boss himself will appear on the March 29 episode of “Beat Bobby Flay,” which airs right after “Buddy vs. Duff,” and he’ll be looking for a win in that one, too.
| BROADCAST | TW | 8 AM | 8:30 | 9 AM | 9:30 | 10 AM | 10:30 | 11 AM | 11:30 | 12 PM | 12:30 | 1 PM | 1:30 | 2 PM | 2:30 | 3 PM | 3:30 | DTV |
|-----------|----|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|
| WCWG      | 5  | 3    |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| WUNL      | 4  |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| WXLV      | 10 | 7    |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| WLXI      | 8  |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| WFMY      | 2  | 9    |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| WGHJ      | 12 | 10   |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| WXXI      | 11 |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| WMVY      | 15 |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| WPXM      | 16 |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| CABLE     | 8  |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| FREE 18   |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| DISN 19   |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| CNBC 23   |    | 5:00 |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| NICK 24   |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| CNN 25    |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| LIFE 26    |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| A&E 27    |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| DISC 28   |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| TBS 30    |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| BET 31    |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| ESPN2      |    | 32   |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| ESPN3      |    | 33   |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| BRAVO 34   |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| AMC 35    |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| USA 36    |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| CMT 37    |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| COM 38    |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| SYFY 42   |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| NICKJR 44 |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| FSS 46    |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| PARM 47   |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| TLC 48    |    | 67   |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| TBS 49    |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| MSBN 50   |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| HIST 51   |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| TCM 57    |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| FX 58     |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| FNC 59    |    | 60   |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| TOON 60   |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| HALL 62   |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| ANPL 63   |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| WE 74     |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| WGN 77    |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| PREMIUM   |    | 78   |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| HBO 700   |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| MAX 715   |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| SHOW 728  |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| TMC 745   |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |
| STARZ 750 |    |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |       |      |      |      |      |      |     |     |

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**MONDAY BEST BETS**

**Hunting JonBenét's Killer: The Untold Story**

(27) **A&E 8:00 pm**

The mysterious cold case of 6-year-old beauty pageant queen JonBenét is revisited by journalist Elizabeth Vargas in this documentary. With the help of Robert Clark, a retired FBI agent, she looks into new leads in the hopes of giving the family closure.

**BetterCallSaul**

(35) **AMC 9:00 pm**

Kim (Rhea Seehorn) sets the record straight, but Jimmy (Bob Odenkirk) is compromised by his clients in this new episode. Meanwhile, Gus (Giancarlo Esposito) attempts to calm the war that he is facing on all sides by placating multiple parties.
Ellen’s Game of Games

Ellen DeGeneres dances into primetime as the host of this wacky series based on her daytime show’s game segment. Pulled from the audience, contestants compete in hilarious and often awkward challenges for incredible prizes, but the real reward is playing.

The Scheme

This premiering documentary covers the still ongoing NCAA basketball scandal involving college coaches and activewear company, Adidas. Stemming from the arrest of Marty Blazer, the FBI has been investigating millions of dollars in fraud and embezzlement.
### WEDNESDAY BEST BETS

**Killers**

**3:30 AMC 12:45 pm**

Rom-com veterans Katherine Heigl and Ashton Kutcher star in this film about a newly-single woman who meets the seemingly perfect man while on vacation. The only problem is, he forgot to mention that he is a contract killer. Rob Riggle also stars.

**Schooled**

**7 XLV @ 8:30 pm**

Set in the '90s, this heartfelt teacher comedy focuses on the lives of a group of school faculty members as they attempt to fulfill their own dreams while helping kids reach for theirs.

**Tins**

**11:30 DISH DTV**

**DEAL**

**1285 W DODSON MILL RD., PILOT MTN, NC 27041**

**336-789-2141**

**OPEN: Mon-Fri 7am-5pm • Sat 8am-1pm**

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### WEDNESDAY EVENING APRIL 1, 2020

**TW - Time Warner**

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<th>Channel</th>
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**THURSDAY EVENING APRIL 2, 2020**

**How to Get Away With Murder**

Tune in for the gripping return of this series' final season. The truth about who killed Uncle (Matt McGorry) and Annalise (Viola Davis) will be revealed. Find out whether or not you can really get away with murder as this mystery comes to an end.

**Footloose**

Dystopian may not be the word, but a town where dancing is against the law is no place for high school senior Ren McCormack (Kevin Bacon), who fights to have the rules changed in this beloved, high-energy classic. Lori Singer and John Lithgow also star.

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Quality Products, Personal Service
 Bowen out gracefully: ‘Modern Family’ star lands next TV project

By Michelle Rose
TV Media

Bowen out gracefully: “Modern Family” takes its final bow next Wednesday, April 8, on ABC, and after 11 seasons of Halloween fun, overseas mayhem and dad jokes, it will be hard to say goodbye forever to the Pritchett-Dunphy-Tucker clan.

Luckily, it’s just “goodbye for now” for at least one cast member: actress Julie Bowen, a.k.a. Claire Dunphy, has already lined up a new TV project that takes her to CBS.

The two-time Emmy winner will play the lead role in the comedy pilot “Raised by Wolves,” which hails from “Will & Grace” creators David Kohan and Max Mutchnick. And if the pilot’s title sounds familiar, you might be thinking of the identically titled British sitcom that ran from 2013 to 2016, ABC adapted it for American audiences in 2017, but it never made it past the pilot stage.

Hopefully that won’t be the case for the CBS pilot, which bears no relation to the British series.

Bowen will star as Frankie Wolfe, a successful crisis manager whose world is thrown into chaos when she decides to adopt and raise an 11-year-old girl. Unlike her nervous sister, Frankie is a “put-together powerhouse.” But behind her blunt-talking approach (shades of Claire Dunphy, perhaps?) lies some still-unresolved issues with parents Barbara and Amie Wolfe, two of the “Wolves” mentioned in the series title.

“Raised by Wolves” isn’t the only new addition to Bowen’s lengthy showbiz resume. She reunited with “Happy Gilmore” (1996) co-star Adam Sandler in his sixth Netflix film, “Hubie Halloween.” Described as a Halloween whoodunit set in Salem, Massachusetts, the film should be available to stream later this year.

A new Dracula: It looks like the cast of ABC’s sexy new vampire soap opera (yes, you read that right) is quickly coming together.

“The Brides” is the latest project from “Riverdale” and “Chilling Adventures of Sabrina” executive producer Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa. It’s a reimagining of Dracula as a family drama with strong horror elements, and it centers on three immortal women — the Brides of Dracula — who will do anything to protect their legacy, wealth and undead family.

Earlier this month, it was announced that Gina Torres of “Pearson” and “Suits” fame had signed on to star as the queenly Cleo, the leader of the Brides of Dracula and a New York City real estate maven. Katherine Reis (“Rise”) landed the role of the youngest bride, aspiring singer Lily Stevens, whose relationship threatens the family dynamic.

Chris Mason (“Broadchurch”) and Sophia Tatum (“I’m Not Okay With This”) have also been cast.

But what about Dracula himself? Fret not. The King of the Night will be played by former “ER” doctor Goran Visnjic. In this version, Dracula is down but not out: he was left for dead after his Carpathian castle was destroyed. His wives fled and the new life they built together is the focus of this show, but there are a lot of hints in the casting announcements that suggest Dracula is going to complicate things.

TV pilots are never a sure bet, and “The Brides” is a project that’s been in the works for a while. It was first put into development at NBC in 2015, but nothing came of it. Now that it’s resurrected at ABC, there are whispers that this version might have a better shot since the concept aligns with ABC’s goal to boost female viewership.

Enter ‘Pantheon’: AMC is on a hiring, er, season pickup streak.

A few months ago, the Court- ney B. Vance (“American Crime Story”) drama “61st Street” became the first series on AMC to receive a two-season pickup right from the outset — even “The Walking Dead” gets renewed one season at a time.

And it seems AMC is becoming less commitment averse because it recently ordered two seasons of a new animated series, another first for the largely drama-dominated network.

From creator Craig Silverstein (“TURN: Washington’s Spies”) comes “Pantheon,” an hour-long animated drama based on short stories by Ken Liu. This one falls under the sci-fi genre since it’s set in a world “where uploaded consciousness is a reality.”

The first season revolves around Maddie, a bullied teen who gets help from a mysterious stranger online. It turns out that this person is her recently deceased father, David, or rather, his consciousness, which was uploaded to the Cloud in an experimental brain scan. This David is the first *Uploaded Intelligence* or UI, a new kind of being (but not the last). But don’t expect a long, happy family reunion, because a global conspiracy will soon push the world to the precipice of war, and it will have big implications.

If you’re curious about the animation style, former president of original programming David Madden was, too, when the concept was first pitched to AMC.

Under the network’s script-to-series model, Madden gave the okay to open a writer’s room in 2018 (and given the two-season pickup, the script-writing sessions must have been highly productive). Madden also requested a five-minute presentation to make sense of the visuals, which are described as a different take on graphic realism done in traditional 2D. Titmouse, the Emmy-winning studio behind “Bless the Harts” and “Big Mouth,” is handling the animation for this one.
Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9.
Solution on page 2.
TAKE 5

Use the clues above and beside the grid to fill in the squares.

SCREEN SCRAMBLE

Unscramble the letters for each word to reveal five movies and TV shows. Then, rearrange the circled letters to discover the actor who has appeared in all five.

**Solution on page 18**

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