# TV'S TOP NEW COMEDIES!

October 2018 | \$7.99

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THE

magazine

#### THE WALKING DEAD

What's In Store For Rick Grimes' Final Season?

> NATHAN FILLION ELI ROTH DANCING WITH THE STARS: JUNIORS

SCARIEST FILMS Airing This Month

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ALEC BALDWIN Gets His Own Talk Show

# Jennifer Goes "Camping"

"I always said I'd come back to TV."

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#### AMC's next chapter in its multipart docuseries AMC Visionaries taps the talents of director, writer, actor and producer Eli Roth. Inside, Roth talks about tackling the History of Horror.

#### 3 TV's Top New Comedies

The fall rollout of new shows continues – this month we picked a handful that will keep you laughing.

#### 18 Based On True Stories

Castle's Nathan Fillion gets his turn as an LAPD rookie, and an NFL star's life is chronicled in a new CW drama.

#### **NEXT MONTH**

The drought is over for *Outlander* fans. Plus, Alexander Skarsgård returns to TV in an espionage thriller.

CHANNEL GUIDE'S READER REWARDS
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#### Editor's Note

#### Comedy & Horror — A Good Combo?

When it comes to holidays, Halloween is one that people either really love or couldn't care less about. In the retail market, Halloween has become like Christmas — you see themed merchandise getting set out earlier and earlier. If you fall on the lovefest side of the holiday, you may crazily decorate your home or office space, host parties or trick-or-treat extravaganzas for your kids and neighbors, and/or plan your costumes months in advance — like *Blindspot*'s Jaimie Alexander (see page 21). Here at the magazine, we love the holiday and the movie/TV genre of all things scary. Our TV listings manager David Lange actually combs through over 3,000 movies and tags all the horror, suspense, thriller and Halloween-focused films with a skull icon so you can quickly find them in the Movies section.

We also like to laugh, so we dedicated a section of the magazine to fall's top new comedies, including Jennifer Garner's HBO series *Camping*. Garner, as you would imagine, is just as delightful, kind and cheery in person as she typically plays onscreen. In *Camping* she's nothing like that, as her character is uptight, rigid, self-centered AND completely hilarious.

Enjoy the fun mix of scares and laughs inside!

Barb Oates, Editor in Chief



P.S. Here's a behind-the-scenes shot of celebrity photographer Maarten de Boer shooting Jennifer Garner for our cover!

#### GET MORE ONLINE! channelguidemag.com

Questions or comments about this magazine? Call us at 888-333-5388 or contact us at letters@ntvbmedia.com You can also write: NTVB Custom Media Attention: Editor 9275 N. 49th Street, Suite 100, Brown Deer, WI 53223

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#### Meet THE CREW

#### BARB



First on my list to DVR: The Kids Are Alright on ABC

Still distressed over: The ending of HBO's Sharp Objects, and the ending of ABC's A Million Little Things pilot episode

#### JEFF

First on my list to stream: The Haunting of Hill House on Netflix

Scariest thing I saw on TV as a kid: Dark Night of the Scarecrow (TV movie)

#### KELLIE



First on my list to DVR: The Walking Dead on AMC. After my chat with the series' new showrunner Angela Kang, I've got tons of scoop!

#### My Walking Dead spirit

animal is: Carol. I look sweet, have deadly aim and can bake a mean batch of cookies.

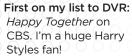
#### RYAN



**First to watch live:** Flight of the Conchords:

Live in London on HBO

#### TAYLOR



The TV house I'd like to move into: Lorelai's house from *Gilmore Girls*. Think of all of the fun pizza parties!

#### I Random Rants & Raves

#### Your Thoughts On Recently **Canceled Shows**

I really hate seeing that ABC has canceled Designated Survivor. Of course, the show portrayed the president as a compassionate family man who has a sense of values but yet is strong enough to stand up for his convictions. Maybe he was too much of a conservative for ABC. The show was such a great concept of a low-ranking Cabinet member suddenly being thrust into the highest position in the free world. And Lucifer was renewed!! Sort of tells us something of our values, doesn't it? - Janice

"Lucifer" was canceled after its third season on FOX but found a new home on Netflix, where the fourth season is expected to debut in 2019.

#### **QUESTION OF THE MONTH:** What's a movie that still haunts you today?

Email us at letters@ntvbmedia.com

I am really going to miss The Chew. It was so nice to eat my lunch and listen to people that really enjoyed each other. You could just see it in the way that they reacted to each other. I will also miss the recipes and crafts. - Pat

Say it isn't so!!! I'm really upset about Code Black's cancellation. I love this show, good cast, script ... come on, give me a break already!! The powers that be really blew it on this one!! – Barbara

I really hate to see *Taken* canceled. It was my favorite series. Monday night or Thursday night would be great for airing the show. - Carol

I am MOST upset about *The Brave*. Fantastic interaction between the characters. We also are disappointed

You had a lot to sav about the cancellation of Designated Survivor. The good news is that Netflix picked up the series for a 10-episode Season 3 to premiere in 2019. Most of the core cast, including Kiefer Sutherland, is set to return.



to see Designated Survivor and Code Black end. - John

I object to your cancellation of: Designated Survivor - a modest man honorably fighting to govern fairly. Quantico - agents in action that most Americans don't realize comes close to reality. The Brave - one of the best you've managed to come up with men self-sacrificing for our country. The Night Shift - the most interesting of your hospital shows. The Last Ship - difficult to continue, but good. Now cancel Madam Secretary and save me a bundle, as I can cancel my service. – C.H.

"The Last Ship" may be coming to a close, but it's not over yet! Its final season began Sunday, Sept. 9. And just a reminder, the networks decide which shows to cancel - we don't!

Most upsetting cancellation: Designated Survivor. - Greg

I really liked Kevin (Probably) Saves the World. Brought back some good memories of [star Jason Ritter's] dad (John Ritter). I think he would have been proud. A shame it wasn't given a better time period. - Judith and John

I am going to miss quite a few shows that have been canceled, and here they are: The Crossing, The Chew, Designated Survivor, The Middle and Quantico. - Linne

I was very upset that Starz canceled The White Queen and The White Princess. I thought the series would continue with the Tudors. I know the Tudors were done before, but who wouldn't watch them over and over again? They were so charismatic, so intelligent, so plotting, so scheming and so murderous! Starz, bring back the Tudors! I'm a very disappointed history buff. - Jean

A new show, "The Spanish Princess," will continue the storyline and is currently in production.

We had four people write us to say that we had the wrong picture for Dana Andrews on Aug. 22 in the Summer Under the Stars feature. We corrected the photo in the electronic version of the guide. Thanks to all who wrote and/ or emailed us.

Include your address when you write or email us, and we'll most likely send you something. We're not promising, we're just saying. Also, if you didn't know this, the letters and opinions above reflect the views of our readers, so don't go crazy on us because you don't like what someone else said.

Send your thoughts to:

letters@ntvbmedia.com or write to Random Rants & Raves, Channel Guide, 9275 N. 49th St., Suite 100, Brown Deer, WI 53223-1495.

# ALEC BALDWIN'S New Gig Has An Old-School Feel By Kellie Freeze

Alec Baldwin's new series takes a decidedly oldschool approach to the chat show category by doing something that's been lacking in the genre for quite some time – talking. Unlike modern late-night or talk shows that rely on skits and gimmicks, Baldwin proposes a more cerebral and conversation-centric series in the vein of *The Dick Cavett Show* and Tom Snyder's *The Tomorrow Show.* "It's a unique opportunity to do a thoughtful, smart talk show, without a lot of bells and whistles," says executive producer Jason Schrift. "It's less of an interview, and more of eavesdropping on a conversation."

The series - originally called Sundays With Alec Baldwin - had a test run in March in the post-Oscars time slot, where Baldwin interviewed comedian Jerry Seinfeld and SNL standout Kate McKinnon and tackled topics ranging from their careers and shared histories to cufflinks and the #MeToo movement. "Alec's a curious guy, and he really brings it out in people with the way we shoot the show," says Schrift. "It's one where he's able to just do a long, deep dive. We don't interrupt him; we don't give him commercial breaks. He's able to really just talk and extract whatever he can." The approach to the series is high-brow and low-tech. Schrift explains, "We keep our cameras far back. There is no audience on the show. When the guest is brought out on the stage, that's exactly when the show starts. So there's no stage manager saying 'action' or no one coming over the loudspeaker. It is how a conversation would start in normal life, except with a microphone." The Alec Baldwin Show airs on ABC Sundays beginning Oct. 14.



# If You LIKE...TRY

Remember when word of mouth and watercooler talk were how you discovered new TV shows, good restaurants and your next great read? Now we've got recommendation engines matching us up to what to watch next. Here we keep it simple.



# **7 GUESTIONS** With **EDWARD JAMES OLMOS** Of FX's "Mayans M.C." By Jacqueline Cutler

Edward James Olmos has the air of an elder statesman, one accustomed to having to explain matters to people, especially important basics of Latinos' contributions, culture and history. Long an activist, from doing simple acts of volunteerism to consistently working with youth over the decades, Olmos, 71, founded the Youth Cinema Project, which has taught thousands of kids how to create films. That elder statesman vibe is partially because Olmos has been at this for so long, trying to bridge gaps in a world where far too often Hispanics are portrayed as gang members. "The stereotype is predominant," he says. "It is an aspect of our culture, the only one that gets any play." On FX's *Mayans M.C.* (airing Tuesdays), Olmos plays butcher Felipe Reyes, who owns his own business. Olmos' first lines are in Spanish. "He's a father – a simple yet very complex dad who tried desperately hard to build a balanced and constructive life," Olmos says of his character. His voice is gravelly and intimate, somewhere between a whisper and a growl, as he answers our "7 Questions."

**1** What were a few of the jobs you had before you got into acting? I had a deal as a rock 'n' roll singer many years ago and supported myself and put myself through college. I still do it.

**2What's a movie you can watch repeatedly?** *Stand and Deliver* [for which Olmos was nominated for an Oscar]. It is such a powerful usage of the medium. That man was such an inspiration. He was such a good human being.

**3**What are three foods you have to have in your fridge or pantry? Fruit, vegetables, beans. What is your most prized possession? My life.

**5** Splurge? I gave my children and as many of my siblings' children as possible the opportunity to go to school.

**5** Tell us about a time you were starstruck. With [actor] Mario Moreno. He was "Cantinflas," and I admired him.

**T**if you could invite a handful of people (dead or alive) to a dinner party, who would they be? Mahatma Gandhi, Cesar Chavez, Jesus, Mother Teresa.



#### **Returning Favorites**

Arrow The CW (Oct. 15) Below Deck Bravo (Oct. 2) black-ish ABC (Oct. 16) Black Lightning The CW (Oct. 9) Blindspot NBC (Oct. 12) Castlevania Netflix (Oct. 26) Child Support ABC (Oct. 5) Crazy Ex-Girlfriend The CW (Oct. 12) Criminal Minds CBS (Oct. 3) DC's Legends of Tomorrow The CW (Oct. 22) Dr. Oakley, Yukon Vet Nat Geo Wild (Oct. 6) Dynasty The CW (Oct. 12) The Flash The CW (Oct. 9) Fresh Off the Boat ABC (Oct. 5) Gold Rush Discovery Channel (Oct. 12) Lore Amazon (Oct. 19) Madam Secretary CBS (Oct. 7) The Man in the High Castle Amazon (Oct. 5) Midnight, Texas NBC (Oct. 26) Rav Donovan Showtime (Oct. 28) Riverdale The CW (Oct. 10) SEAL Team CBS (Oct. 3) Shakespeare Uncovered PBS (Oct. 12) Shark Tank ABC (Oct. 7) Speechless ABC (Oct. 5) Splitting Up Together ABC (Oct. 16) Stan Against Evil IFC (Oct. 31) Station 19 ABC (Oct. 4) Supergirl The CW (Oct. 14) SuperMansion Sony Crackle (Oct. 4) Supernatural The CW (Oct. 11) Superstore NBC (Oct. 4) Talking Dead AMC (Oct. 7) Versailles Ovation (Oct. 6) The Walking Dead AMC (Oct. 7) Will & Grace NBC (Oct. 4) Wolf Creek Pop (Oct. 21)

#### They're Back, Baby!: Recently Renewed Shows

From Jedi Knight to Knight Templar – Star Wars icon Mark Hamill has joined the cast of History's Knightfall, which has been renewed for what is promised to be a "grittier, darker" second season. ... AMC has renewed three original series: Better Call Saul and Fear the Walking Dead will return for fifth seasons, while McMafia has been upped for Season 2. ... TLC's can't-turn-away-even-if-youwant-to summer hit Dr. Pimple Popper will return with new episodes in January 2019. ... Showtime has renewed its drama The Affair for a fifth and final season. HYPE

Judges Mandy Moore, Val Chmerkovskiy and Adam Rippon

#### CHA-CHA CHILDREN! PINT-SIZE PASO DOBLE! "Dancing With The Stars: Juniors" Promises Dance Moves And More. By Taylor Neumann

Possible Junior Dancers?



Honey Boo Boo star Alana Thompson



*black-ish* star Miles Brown

Dancing With the Stars: Juniors (airing Sundays on ABC beginning Oct. 7) is a new version of your favorite dancing competition show, featuring kid pro dancers paired with celebrity children. These pros will be mentored by adult dancers, including some of your favorite *DWTS* veterans such as Cheryl Burke, Witney Carson, Lindsay Arnold (mentoring her little sister) and Jenna Johnson (mentoring her niece).

Returning to the show as a judge is fan favorite Adam Rippon, the Olympic figure skater who recently won *DWTS: Athletes.* Joining him at the table will be choreographer Mandy Moore and Val Chmerkovskiy, who has two Mirrorball trophies under his belt as a pro on the original series.

*DWTS: Juniors* will be a little different from the show you know and love: While it will run for a full season of 10 weeks, regular episodes will be an hour long instead of two. The episodes will also be pretaped rather than live to allow for the kids' schedules.

Though the super-secret list of celebrity kids likely won't be released until the *DWTS* season premiere on Sept. 24, rumored to be included are *Here Comes Honey Boo Boo* star Alana Thompson, 10-year-old surfer and skateboarder Sky Brown, and Scottie Pippen's daughter Sophia, as well as *black-ish* son Miles Brown.

Hosting this season will be two former *DWTS* competitors: *Malcolm in the Middle* star Frankie Muniz and previous winner Jordan Fisher from Broadway's *Hamilton*.



#### THE GREAT AMERICAN READ Meredith Vieira Preps To Announce America's Best-

Loved Novel. By Kellie Freeze

In May, PBS kicked off *The Great American Read* – a nationwide initiative to get America reading and talking about books – by revealing a list of the country's 100 most popular novels, as chosen in an online poll. The list includes classics like *The Count of Monte Cristo*, critical darlings like Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, popular favorites like Andy Weir's *The Martian* and even the eyebrowraising *Fifty Shades of Grey* trilogy.

The series resumed in September (it airs Tuesdays), and each subsequent episode has tackled a specific theme, ranging from love to heroes and villains to fantasy, and features a lively discussion with authors, celebrities and book lovers. The series culminates on Oct. 23, when host Meredith Vieira will share the results of the nationwide vote and announce America's best-loved novel. Vieira shares, "I don't have an opinion on what I think's going to win because they're all so great. I mean, there are so many wonderful books!"



#### YANKED!: Recently Canceled Shows

Make room for more Kardashians! E! ousted *The Royals* after four seasons. ... After three seasons, USA Network's *Shooter* is out of ammo. ... ESPN's *SportsNation* ended its nine-year run in August. ... truTV closed the curtain on *The Chris Gethard Show*. ... Tough times to have a talk/comedy show on Netflix: *The Joel McHale Show With Joel McHale* and *The Break With Michelle Wolf* are over after mere months. ... It's official: *The Big Bang Theory* will sign off in May after 12 seasons on CBS.

#### **STREAMING PICKS!**

A look at the best shows and movies to stream online.

> New cast member ason O'Mara with Alexa Dava The Man in the High Castle

# HE MAN IN HE HIGH CA Jason O'Mara Joins The Alternate-Reality

#### Drama For Season 3. By Jeff Pfeiffer

Nearly two years after Season 2 was released, fans of Amazon's acclaimed adaptation of Philip K. Dick's classic novel The Man in the High Castle - which imagines an alternate reality in which the Axis powers won World War II and divided America among themselves - can finally enjoy the third season this month.

Thrust into the action this season is new character Wyatt Price, played by Jason O'Mara (Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D., Terra Nova). Wyatt fled the war in Europe, with his family immigrating to New York from Ireland as refugees and then fleeing west again ahead of the Nazi invasion. Wyatt uses his skills as a hustler to survive in the Neutral Zone, but he is described as more than a survivor. He is billed as a man who "believes in what America was and what the Neutral Zone still is - a melting pot worth saving."

The character of Wyatt Price was not in Dick's novel and joins the ranks of characters like Sewell's John Smith who are original to this series.

"My main concern was how my character might fit into the High Castle world," O'Mara told us. "He needed to bring something new, something that we hadn't seen on the show before."

Wyatt may not have come from the original source material, but that's not to say that he does not spring from other notable inspirations.

"I was told by one of our senior writers, Wes Strick, that the inspiration for Wyatt initially came from Rick Blaine [Humphrey Bogart's character in Casablanca] and Han Solo [Harrison Ford's character in Star Wars]," O'Mara said. "That's a lot to live up to!

"I felt like we were able to create a character who is fresh and new to the show, while also borrowing from those iconic characters that sense of intrigue and moral ambiguity. Is Wyatt just in it for himself? You'll have to watch and see!"

Meanwhile, people have noticed that the show itself seems to be inspired from what has become the reality of America and the world as of late. O'Mara agrees it's an unfortunate coincidence that the real world sometimes resembles High Castle.

"To be clear," he said, "I have never got the sense that the writers are chasing headlines. In fact, it seems the opposite. They write these stories and tackle these themes in the show, then I go and watch the news as life proceeds to imitate art! It's disturbing. ... But as far as I'm concerned, I just play the scene. Whether or not Wyatt represents something bigger is for other people to decide."

The Man in the High Castle Season 3  $\rightarrow$  Amazon  $\rightarrow$  Available Oct. 5

#### THE ROMANOFFS

"We were a little tightlipped about [The Romanoffs]," teased Jennifer Salke, head of Amazon Studios, near the end of the streaming service's presentation at this summer's **Television Critics Association** press tour, "but I can tell you we couldn't be more excited. The series defines addictive. bingeworthy, prestige television at its absolute finest."

Indeed, there hasn't been too much in the way of footage of this new drama anthology series from Mad Men creator Matthew Weiner aside from a teaser trailer. So the whole project seems about as mysterious as the Russian royal family from which the series takes its name.

Created, written, directed and executive produced by Weiner, The Romanoffs is set in seven countries around the globe. It features eight separate stories about people who believe themselves to be descendants of the famed family. Each story takes place in a new location, with a new cast. And that cast includes big-name players like Christina Hendricks and John Slattery, who starred in Weiner's Mad Men, as well as the likes of Aaron Eckhart, Diane Lane, Amanda Peet, Janet Montgomery, Paul Reiser and more.

The Romanoffs  $\rightarrow$ Amazon  $\rightarrow$  Available Oct. 12



The Roma

: C Credit: Liane Hentscher

n the High

Fall is the perfect time to be haunted by a new, shudder-inducing series, so whether you crave thrillers, gore or just a dash of the supernatural, we've got your ghoulish guide to Shocktober's most scare-tastic and spooky-fun shows.

#### ELI ROTH'S HISTORY OF HORROR

AMC • Sundays beginning Oct. 14

Eli Roth has directed some of the scariest cult-horror movies of the past 15 years, including *Cabin Fever* and the *Hostel* franchise. Up next, the actor/director/producer acts as curator in *AMC Visionaries: Eli Roth's History of Horror*, which premieres late-night Oct. 14. This is the third time that AMC has taken a deep dive into a topic under its *AMC Visionaries* banner.

In the episodes steered by Roth, he and his fellow horror luminaries gather and conduct salon-like discussions about horror films that have impacted pop culture. Roth will be joined by stars and storytellers including Stephen King, Quentin Tarantino, Jordan Peele, Robert Englund, Linda Blair, Tippi Hedren, Rob Zombie, John Landis and Jamie Lee Curtis.

"I wanted a really good balance, a lot of different voices," Roth shares. "But people that I knew would be super enthusiastic and great – a mix of historians, mix of actors, mix of directors – so you get lots of really fun perspectives. And I want to hear their perspectives on other movies. I love Robert [Englund] telling stories about Freddy [Krueger], but I'd love to hear what he thinks about *King Kong* and *Frankenstein*."

#### In your opinion, who are the modern masters of horror? Eli Roth: I look at George Romero, [John] Carpenter, you know, they have that long history, but the directors that I've seen recently

that I go "wow" are definitely John Krasinski's *A Quiet Place*, Jordan Peele's *Get Out*, André Øvredal, who did *Trollhunter*, and also his second film, *The Autopsy of Jane Doe*, is fantastic. ... So there are really, really exciting new directors.

#### If you had the opportunity to remake a horror classic, which one would you want to redo and why?

*Caddyshack II.* I was so hugely disappointed that it was an unintentional horror movie. That or *The Fly II.* I remember being profoundly let down by that movie. It deserved a better sequel. I have some other films I want to remake, but I can't list them or someone else will think of it and maybe get the rights before I do.



#### When have you snuck an homage to a horror classic into one of your films?

When have I not? *Cabin Fever* is a series of homages. But I am very proud that I snuck in a *Texas Chainsaw Massacre* reference into *The House With a Clock in Its Walls* that adult fans will notice but that kids will see as a PG-rated joke.

#### What horror movie first made you lose sleep?

*The Exorcist.* Age 6. I don't know if a movie has ever affected me quite like that. I've probably been chasing that high ever since.

In your opinion, which is Lon Chaney's finest horror role?

The Phantom of the Opera. That image terrified me as a kid. What Chaney did was so revolutionary and iconic. I love so many of his films, but *Phantom* for me will always be the top.

#### Tell us about *The House With a Clock in Its Walls*, produced by Steven Spielberg's Amblin Entertainment; is this a new era of your filmmaking?

For me it was really that exercise in creativity, trying to be scary in a child-friendly kind of way but still with that bit of Amblin mischief like *Gremlins*. I really wanted to make a movie that felt like *Gremlins* or *E.T.* or *Raiders of the Lost Ark* or *Poltergeist*, because as much as I love *Maniac* and *A Nightmare on Elm Street*, the movies I saw in the theater were those scary PG Amblin movies. So really, it's a dream to get to carry the torch.

#### What early horror movies inspire you?

You look at Carl Dreyer's *Vampyr*, *Nosferatu* and *Frankenstein* – those are still terrifying. Also, Quentin [Tarantino] and I go very deep in the show talking about Abbott and Costello – *Abbott* and Costello Meet the Mummy, Abbott and Costello Meet

*Frankenstein* – wow! As a kid, the stuff that was on TV, the horror movies, when they got into Abbott and Costello, you're like, "Oh my gosh, I'm seeing what Abbott and Costello would do!" Those two worlds merging completely blew my mind as a kid because they were mixing horror and comedy, and the monsters would still kill people in those movies. They weren't funny monsters. The monsters were always monsters. – *Kellie Freeze* 



#### MORE FRIGHTS TO WATCH, IF YOU DARE ...

#### LEGACIES The CW • Thursdays beginning Oct. 25

The next entry in the Vampire Diaries franchise, this new show from creator Julie Plec takes place at the famed Salvatore Boarding School for the Young and Gifted, a place for supernatural children. Originals vampire Klaus Mikaelson's daughter Hope (Danielle Rose Russell) is a student there, attempting to learn about and control her unusual combination of powers: vampire, werewolf and witch. While at the school, she makes



friends with the other students, who are also struggling with their dark origins. Hope also attempts to get close to a few of the locals of Mystic Falls who are clueless about her enhanced abilities.

While the show may be a continuation of a bigger story, don't expect a rehashing of previous material, as Plec promises new horrific things to come. "There is definitely an overall big bad that we slowly hint at, but we're doing something I have never done before, which is embracing, often, a monster of the week, the special effects prosthetics and all that." Added star Matt Davis, "We're fighting lots of awesome monsters. That's, like, the selling point." – *Taylor Neumann* 

#### THE WOMAN IN WHITE PBS • Sundays beginning Oct. 21

Note to self: If you ever encounter a ghostly woman dressed in white on a moonlit road, keep moving. Don't even look at her. The five-episode psychological thriller is based on Wilkie Collins' 1859 classic novel. The series stars Ben Hardy, Jessie Buckley, Olivia Vinall, Charles Dance and Dougray Scott.



#### INTO THE DARK: "THE BODY" Hulu • Oct. 5

Tom Bateman and Rebecca Rittenhouse star in the first installment of this 12-episode horror event. The anthology series will debut a new holiday-driven story the first Friday of each month. First up is Halloween with "The Body," set in the selfie culture of Los Angeles on Halloween night. Bateman plays a hitman lugging his victim through the L.A. streets.



#### CHANNEL ZERO: THE DREAM DOOR Syfy • Oct. 26-31

The fourth installment of this horror anthology series based on user-submitted online paranormal tales (often called "creepypasta") is inspired by Charlotte Bywater's short story "Hidden Door." It follows newlyweds Jillian and Tom, who have each brought secrets into their marriage. When they discover a strange door in their basement, those secrets start to threaten their relationship - and their lives. If you're interested in seeing previous installments of Channel Zero, spooky streaming service Shudder (shudder.com) has recently acquired exclusive streaming rights to the series.



#### THE HAUNTING OF HILL HOUSE Netflix • Oct. 12

The 10-episode drama features an impressive cast, with Timothy Hutton, Henry Thomas, Michiel Huisman and Carla Gugino. The story, from Shirley Jackson's 1959 novel, "is iconic and was adapted perfectly [as a movie] in 1963," creator Mike Flanagan says. "Our story is really its own thing." The best scares in this series are born of the characters themselves – their secrets, insecurities and fears.

#### CHILLING ADVENTURES OF SABRINA Netflix • Oct. 26

Mad Men's Kiernan Shipka stars as Archie Comics' character Sabrina the Teenage Witch - half-witch, half-mortal - in this dark coming-of-age tale. "We see the devil in many incarnations," creator Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa says, as this Sabrina looks to his original graphic novel and adds retro vibes in the vein of The Exorcist and Rosemary's Baby.

#### LIGHT AS A FEATHER Hulu • Oct. 12

The traditional slumberparty game of "Light as a Feather, Stiff as a Board" always has a bit of creepy chills surrounding it, usually in a fun way. But in this new 10-episode series, the game leads to true horror. When five teen girls play, they each begin dying off in the exact way that was predicted.

#### LORE Amazon • Oct. 19

The creepy show based on the popular podcast, which explores the real-life frightening and disturbing tales that give rise to modernday myths and legends, returns for another season. Season 2 will star new cast members and feature new tales from the podcast as well as original stories not yet available in podcast form.

#### **STAN AGAINST EVIL** IFC • Wednesdays beginning Oct. 31

It's the third season of this quirky, gruesome series where every sheriff in a sleepy New Hampshire town has died an early, violent, horrible death except reluctant retiree Stan (John C. McGinley) and his replacement Evie (Janet Varney). This go-round, the portal has opened, the Land of the Dead is threatening to corrupt the Land of the Living and it's a hot mess.

#### TOP TEN DEADLIEST BEASTS

#### Smithsonian Channel • Oct. 24

These animals are almost more terrifying than Freddy Krueger! While profiles of giant sea scorpions, terror birds, monitor lizards, plesiosauri and some of the other deadliest predators of all time are not necessarily jumpout-of-your seat programming, this is a fascinating look at creepy creatures.

#### TELL ME A STORY CBS All Access • Oct. 31

Writer/executive producer Kevin Williamson - who. as a creative force behind The Vampire Diaries and the Scream movie franchise, is no stranger to dark and scary projects - is among the behind-the-scenes talents for this 10-episode series. It takes the world's most beloved fairy tales and reimagines them as a dark and twisted psychological thriller. Set in modern-day New York City, the first season of the serialized drama weaves "The Three Little Pigs," "Little Red Riding Hood" and "Hansel and Gretel" into an epic and subversive tale of love, loss, greed, revenge and murder. Williamson explained that there will be "no supernatural element. It's very real. It's very grounded. It's a character piece."

# TV'S TOP NEW COMEDIES

LIGHTEN UP, EVERYBODY! Comedy is the cure for these contentious times, and there are lots of laughs to be had this month. There's a spinoff of a reboot, an outdoor adventure gone haywire, a family's funny flashback to the '70s and more to help you turn that frown upside down.



ABC executives took a risk when they rebooted *Roseanne* this past spring, knowing star and executive producer Roseanne Barr's volatile reputation. The risk reaped a big ratings reward, and the show was renewed for a second season.

Then Barr torpedoed the show with a racist tweet. ABC Entertainment President Channing Dungey was swift and decisive: "Roseanne's Twitter statement is abhorrent, repugnant and inconsistent with our values, and we have decided to cancel her show."

Soon after, ABC announced that it picked up *The Conners*, and that principal cast members John Goodman, Laurie Metcalf, Sara Gilbert, Lecy Goranson and Michael Fishman were onboard to salvage something from *Roseanne*'s wreckage – without any involvement by Barr.

According to the network, the Conner family faces "a sudden turn of events." In late August, Goodman hinted to *The Sunday Times* that the Roseanne character dies, saying that Dan will "be mopey and sad because his wife's dead."

Viewers will tune in to *The Conners* to learn Roseanne's fate, but will they come back for more? Without the irascible Roseanne, the series has a hard row to hoe. ABC, Tuesdays beginning Oct. 16

Lecy Goranson

Michael Fishman

John Goodman

et up your pup tent and plop yourself in front of your TV: Jennifer Garner returns to television in HBO's Camping. "I always said I'd come back to TV," the dimpled actress grins, but since Garner's highoctane spy drama Alias ended in 2006, she has been in big demand on the big screen. She's starred in Hollywood blockbusters ranging from charming rom-coms like 13 Going on 30 and Oscar-winning dramas like Dallas Buyers Club to family flicks like The Odd Life of Timothy Green and buttkicking action flicks like September's Peppermint.

"I love the ongoing nature of TV," she tells us. "I love the familial feeling on set. I love getting a new script every week. But it has to be something that is written well, and *Camping* is." The eightepisode comedy is based on Julia Davis' British series of the same name, but with a fresh Americanized twist, courtesy of the writing/producing team of Lena Dunham and Jenni Konner. "I didn't hesitate because the writing was so smart, and because it was Jenni Konner directing, and because I laughed my head off when I read it," Garner reveals.

CAMPING Jennifer Garner Gets Her Turn To Be Unlikable And Bitingly Witty In This HBO Remake. By Kellie Freeze

"And it was shot in L.A. – I'm a mom, I have to figure that stuff out."

The satire follows uptight suburban mom Kathryn (Garner) as she leads an ill-fated group camping trip to celebrate the 45th birthday of her husband, Walt (David Tennant). They are joined by a ragtag group that includes Kathryn's meek sister (Ione Skye), her drugaddicted boyfriend (Chris Sullivan), a married couple consisting of Walt's best friend and Kathryn's ex-best friend (played by real-life couple Brett Gelman and Janicza Bravo), the group's recently separated pal (Arturo del Puerto), and a bizarre free spirit (Juliette Lewis) who has crashed the party and is along for the adventure.

"It's definitely a group of fish out of water," Garner laughs. "These people do not really belong in the woods, and they're part enjoying it, part tolerating it for Walt, and also just breathing through the fact that Kathryn has insisted on this weekend. I mean, it's one thing to go camping with your friends for a night or two, but it's four days. At the Groupon rate!"

Garner describes her character as "a lot to handle" and admits that when she watched the U.K. version of *Camping*, she was intimidated by her. "The British version is unflinching, and she is relentlessly shrill and controlling," Garner shares. "The British are unafraid in this way. They don't give her a moment where you see why, or who she is underneath, or any sense of humanity."

Garner recalls that she told



It has nothing to do with what you want. It is what she's decided, and she's aggressively making you do it, and then making you feel like @#\$% for not being as appreciative as she thinks you should be at all times.

depth and humanity, she was overjoyed.

language to expose the emotions of a

person," she gushes. "Jenni's ability just

to articulate the emotion of a moment is

just so ... oh, it's just so fun, and so rich."

And while Dunham spent most of the L.A.-based shoot on the opposite coast,

Garner tells that her presence infused

She was in New York for a lot of it, but

everything she sent our way, it was just

so incredibly funny, and they're also just

not afraid to turn over the rock and see

And under Kathryn's rock of

pseudo-perfection and aplomb hides

something for you, it's aggressive,"

explains Garner. "It has nothing to do

with what you want. It has nothing to do

with the group dynamic. It is what she's

decided, and she's aggressively making

you do it, and then making you feel like

@#\$% for not being as appreciative as

In her drive to facilitate a perfect,

she thinks you should be at all times."

Instagram-worthy weekend, Kathryn

insists on adherence to a hyper-

a seething pile of ill will. "Kathryn's one

of those people who, when she's doing

what's underneath.'

the production. "Lena's just funny.

"They are so facile in their use of

amping: Credit: Anne Marie Fox/HBO.

Dunham and Konner that she didn't know if the role was right for her. She told them, "I don't know that I can play that. I appreciate her bravery in her unlikability, and I think it is funny, but I don't know if an American audience would get that." But when Garner saw the satirical but sensitive scripts delivered by Konner and Dunham that were filled with biting wit but also with regulated schedule of events. Her rigidity is quickly kiboshed by her much less enthusiastic fellow campers, who aren't as interested in having fun on a timetable. As Kathryn's best-laid plans crumble around her, she falls apart spectacularly and lashes out at everyone around her.

While recalling the vitriol that she got to spew as Kathryn, Garner shares,

"It was fun to play someone who was so complicated, and who said such hateful and ridiculous things. And to commit to them, I mean, I can't tell you how often I would try to soften it, and Jenni [Konner] would say, 'No, no. Go hard! She is not apologizing. This is really how she feels about it,' and then to look for the moment where you see why she is the way she is, and what is going on in her mind, and who she was back when she was fun. To find those moments, it just made it really a rich experience."

And for Garner, playing a woman who is completely out of control and out of her league allows her to deliver some eyebrow-raising lines. "It is so funny and so ridiculous," laughs Garner, "to run around and say, 'Do you want me to have a dysfunctional pelvic floor for the whole of your birthday weekend?!' I got the giggles so badly saying that. I could not look at David Tennant and say that with a straight face. There are many, many times that David just had to be very patient and wait for me to get my act back together, because it was just so funny."

Tennant, known for playing villainous roles in *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* and *Marvel's Jessica Jones*, and as the Tenth Doctor in the *Doctor Who* franchise, shines as the mild-mannered antithesis of Kathryn. "It was lovely to play someone who's so sweet and open-hearted and longsuffering and possibly most like the real me that I've ever done," he reveals. "It was hugely appealing to kind of get into that head space and bucket hat."

While Garner feels that the characters on *Camping* are ill-suited for the great outdoors, she admits, "I'm a very good backyard camper. A very committed backyard camper." She enjoys camping with her kids' Girl Scout troop and reports that she and her fellow castmates thought about going camping in real life – as long as the location was snake-free. "When we were there 'camping' on set, we had a rattlesnake wrangler going through the set first," Garner recalls. "And I can tell you, almost every day there was a big rattler in his bucket!"

#### HBO, Sundays beginning Oct. 14

ABC, Tuesdays beginning Oct. 16

# THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT

Michael Cudlitz Finds A Universal Theme In Parenting In Feel-Good Comedy. By Barb Oates

t was two years after Michael Cudlitz said goodbye to his character – the beloved ginger-haired Abraham – on *The Walking Dead* that he read the script for ABC's endearingly funny *The Kids Are Alright*. He was looking for something lighter after his postapocalyptic run on *TWD* and an unsuccessful ABC pilot. He found that in Mike Cleary, an Irish-American father to eight boys and husband to Peggy (Mary McCormack) in the 1970s. Together they do the best they can to raise their rambunctious boys in a three-bedroom, one-bath, way-too-much-testosterone home.

"I think he's like most parents – he certainly is like me as a parent, which for the most part, you're figuring it out as you go along, and trying to do the best you can," tells Cudlitz, a father of twin boys. "We didn't have a tremendous amount of money growing up. We were really very much like the Clearys, if not worse off, in the sense of having to make ends meet – both my parents had to work, and they worked multiple jobs."

For Mike Cleary, however, life is colored and shaped through the lens of the Catholic church and how he was raised. And in the turbulent '70s, that proves to be challenging.

Michael Cudlitz and Mary McCormack

Cleary's soon to discover that some of his sons don't see their future quite the same way as he does.

"I think one of the great things about the show is that you have two parents that are wise, doing the best they can, but they also love their children very much. And as hard as we are on them, and as much as we don't appear to have all the time in the world to spend with them individually, we do love them, and we do carve out time to make sure that we are parenting each of them in the way that they need to be parented," Cudlitz shares. "And I think that's, for me, one of the strengths and the attractions of the show – the tremendous heart that there is in the show.

"I'm kind of amazed at how what we want for our kids is universal," Cudlitz continues. "All we want for our kids is something better than we had, whatever it is that we had. That's what you strive for – you want to raise healthy, smart kids that go out in the world and make a difference and do more than you. That's kind of the goal, I hope."

Amen to that. That's some feel-good TV and messages we all can live by.



#### CUDLITZ RETURNS TO "THE WALKING DEAD"

When Michael Cudlitz first came on *The Walking Dead*, he had a talk with showrunner Scott M. Gimple about his life interests, one of them being directing. Over the years, the topic would come up, but the opportunity was never there. Last winter Gimple and then senior writer (now showrunner) Angela Kang (see page 22) called and offered him a directing job. He hung up the phone, called his wife and walked around Manhattan for about 40 minutes crying. "It wasn't sobbing, but there was definitely tears," Cudlitz says. "I was just really excited and honored. It was very humbling knowing where the show is so far as one of the biggest shows on television." He will be directing Season 9's Episode 7, airing in November.

#### TV'S TOP NEW COMEDIES



#### THE NEIGHBORHOOD Cedric The Entertainer Isn't Afraid To Go There. By Ryan A. Berenz

Loosely based on the real-life experiences of creator/executive producer Jim Reynolds, this multicamera comedy explores what happens when a white family from the Midwest moves into a predominantly black neighborhood in Los Angeles. Cedric the Entertainer stars as Calvin Butler, who's wary of his new neighbors, played by New Girl's Max Greenfield and 2 Broke Girls' Beth Behrs. "This is a show about families, about neighbors, about friendship, those universal themes and relationships that we all know and are familiar with," Reynolds says. Cedric the Entertainer believes that his character isn't simply a black Archie Bunker. "We can't really be afraid of that, the idea that people do have biases, that they do have these kind of strong opinions," he says. "My character has to be a person that can grow to a place."

CBS, Mondays beginning Oct. 1

# I FEEL BAD

Feelings of "mommy guilt" – though dads get them, too – occur when a good, hardworking mom gets down on herself when everything isn't absolutely perfect all the time. That notion is at the center of NBC's singlecamera comedy *I Feel Bad*, which was created by Aseem Batra and has Amy Poehler among the executive producers. Sarayu Blue plays Emet, a wife, mom and successful video game artist who has trouble letting go of the little things that fall short of flawless. "This is a lens in which to tell a

working-woman story that I haven't quite seen before, which is this idea that whenever we're doing it all, there's about two or three things on that list that we feel like we're giving 10 percent to," Poehler says. "There's always something that feels like it's getting short shrift." – Ryan A. Berenz

NBC, Thursdays beginning Oct. 4

# HAPPY TOGETHER Dr. Happy Together, 30-something married couple Claire (Amber

On *Happy Together*, 30-something married couple Claire (Amber Stevens West) and Jake (Damon Wayans Jr.) find their staid suburban existence turned upside down when his accounting client, pop star Cooper James (Felix Mallard, best known for starring in Australia's *Neighbours*), suddenly moves in. The premise is inspired by a period when One Direction heartthrob Harry Styles sought refuge in the home of TV producer Ben Winston and his wife. "Maybe seven or eight years ago, I was making a film with One Direction, directing a few of their music videos, and I had just moved into my very modest, quiet house in London," tells Winston. "A young man who I was working with at the time with the name of Harry Styles asked me if he could live in our attic for what would only be a couple weeks. ... Eighteen months later, Harry moved out of our attic."

CBS, Mondays beginning Oct. 1

#### WHAT'S NEW

#### "Castle" Star Nathan Fillion Returns To ABC And Fictional Police Work. By Jeff Pfeiffer

#### **BASED ON A TRUE STORY**

Fan favorite actor Nathan Fillion's last regularly starring lead television role was in ABC's beloved 2009-16 drama Castle, in which he played a mystery writer helping police solve crimes. In his return to the network, and to a starring role, with the new drama The Rookie, Fillion is again fighting crime - but this time, his character is actually one of the heroes in blue.

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In this series inspired by actual events, Fillion plays John Nolan, a 40-something man who, after a life-altering incident, decides to pursue his dream of becoming an LAPD officer. Naturally, as the force's oldest rookie (his fellow rookies are all in their 20s), Nolan is met with skepticism from some higherups, who view him as just a guy with a midlife crisis who might end up putting others at risk. But he hopes to show them otherwise and make sure his second shot at life counts.

"This is, I feel, a new norm that we are experiencing culturally," Fillion said. "It's the 'do-over.' It's the 'reboot.' It's the 'I got fired. What's my next job going to be?' It's 'I'm no longer a dad. I'm no longer a husband. Now what am I?'

"And I think this is relatable in that sense. I don't think everybody is going to become a rookie cop, but I think there are a lot of people who are either having this reinvention experience or at least know someone who has."

Series creator/executive producer/writer Alexi Hawley, who was also a showrunner and EP for Fillion's Castle, agreed, adding, "The idea of a character who is at a crossroads in his life and is willing to sort of throw everything aside and change his entire life without knowing how it's

going to work out was kind of a great jumping-off point for a character."

It's fitting that a fun and genial actor like Fillion can put his trademark charm, wit and humanity on display here especially during the physical scenes in which Nolan is seen out of breath or otherwise physically showing his age, to which Fillion could certainly relate.

"Six pounds of Epsom salt," the 47-year-old actor quipped about what he needed after one particularly rough day of shooting. "[For] bruises up and down my thighs.

"Listen, I'm at the point in my life where, if I can have a stunt guy run down the street for me, these knees will appreciate it."

Beyond sympathizing with Nolan's physical pains, Fillion is also able to look at the premise of The Rookie and find perspective in terms of his own long and successful acting career. "This January, guys," Fillion pointed out to reporters, "[I'll have] 25 years in the business. ... You find yourself playing somebody's son, and then somebody's brother. And then maybe all of a sudden now you are married, now you have a baby. And then your baby is actually 14, and then she grows to 22, and now you are the oldest.

"That's your jam now. That's your title, 'the oldest.' That happens. [And] I feel fortunate that I still feel a little bit relevant."

**EXAMPLE :** The Rookie  $\rightarrow$  ABC  $\rightarrow$  Tuesdays beginning Oct. 16 Stream on: Hulu & abc.com

A Series About Living In Two Places At Once. By Taylor Neumann

#### **BASED ON A** TRUE STORY

Based on the life of NFL star Spencer Paysinger, All American stars

Daniel Ezra as Spencer James, a high school football player recruited by coach Billy Baker (Taye Diggs) to move from his Compton team to a new school in Beverly Hills. He must learn to adapt to his new affluent environment while still navigating his way through the South L.A. neighborhood he's grown up in. Along the way, he encounters friends - such as the coach's daughter Olivia (Samantha Logan) and new crush Layla (Greta Onieogou) - and foes,

including guarterback Jordan (Michael Evans Behling) and rival Asher (Cody Christian), who would like nothing more than to send Spencer back to the south side.

"We've really tried to capture not just sort of the challenges of the [South Central] neighborhood, but the beauty of it as well," said executive producer April Blair at the Television Critics Association press tour. "People are really excited to have us there and have us tell the story accurately. ... The barbershop we shoot in is the barbershop that [Paysinger's] been getting his hair cut at since he was a little boy."

What about the accuracy of the football scenes? Blair attested, "We have a football consulting firm that designs all of the plays. Spencer [Paysinger] spent a lot of time in the pilot making all the plays accurate." Director Rob Hardy added, "We wanted to complement the different story points and character moments that we want to really show."

If you liked the class dynamics of The O.C. and the football drama of Friday Night Lights, you'll love All American.

**All American**  $\rightarrow$  The CW  $\rightarrow$ Wednesdays beginning Oct. 10 Stream on: cwtv.com

#### THE CIRCUS **PBS Miniseries Explores Life Under** The Big Top. By Kellie Freeze

In the 18th and 19th centuries, the traveling circus was a siren that called to restless and adventurous spirits as it crisscrossed America and caused a spectacle of excitement. PBS' American Experience explores the circus from its 18th century beginnings through 1956, when circuses stopped performing under the big top and moved the shows indoors.

In addition to telling the stories of the circus' early pioneers, the two-night special offers personal insight from the people who've lived circus life firsthand. Johnathan Lee Iverson made history twice: in 1999 as the first African-American ringmaster in the history of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, and then again 18 years later as the circus' last ringmaster when the company closed in 2017.

While audiences of thousands stared gapemouthed at the wonders within the circus ring, lverson had the unique perspective of standing in the middle of it all and looking back. He gazed upon a smiling patchwork

of faces, filled with multitudes of colors, races and ages, and saw that the circus was one of society's great equalizers. "The circus audience is literally the most diverse thing you'll ever see in your life," he shares. "I've seen everything - from bikers, to nuns, to the Amish, to Muslim families, to gay couples, to young ladies having a bachelorette party - at the circus. I mean, everyone is there, and they're all congregating and fellowshipping in unison."

The Circus  $\rightarrow$  PBS  $\rightarrow$  Oct. 8-9

# ABOVE AND BEYOND: NASA'S JOURNEY TO TOMORROW

Famed Documentarian Rory Kennedy Explores The Organization Her Uncle Helped Build. By Barb Oates

Think of what our world has accomplished in just 60 years through NASA – we've walked on the moon, roved on Mars, discovered new galaxies, built an international space station, monitored and learned about our Mother Earth, and so much more.

Oscar-nominated director Rory Kennedy brings us a celebration and exploration of NASA in *Above and Beyond: NASA's Journey to Tomorrow.* When Rory's uncle, John F. Kennedy, delivered his famed speech at Rice University in 1962, his vision was clear. He told the world: "We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard, because that goal will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one which we intend to win."

Rory was less than a year old when that vision was achieved, and man walked on the moon. She grew up among the likes of John Glenn and Jim Lovell and developed an unparalleled adoration and respect for our space program. "They were celebrated in our house in a significant way," she tells us.

From a very young age, she was aware of NASA and its extraordinary accomplishments. "In structuring the film, we look at the very specific efforts that NASA is doing here on Earth, to help us understand our climate, our oceans, our atmosphere, how they work



with each other, and what role humans are playing in that, and how it's affecting the survivability of species on Earth. And at the same time, really celebrating with, I think, a sense of awe and wonder of all their extraordinary accomplishments. It was a fantastic experience for me."

Above and Beyond: NASA's Journey to Tomorrow  $\rightarrow$  Discovery Channel & Science Channel  $\rightarrow$  Oct. 13



#### Amanda Giese And Her Pack Rescue Special-Needs Dogs. By Kellie Freeze

Not all superheroes wear capes; some, like animal rescuer Amanda Giese, sport shaved heads. Through her animal nonprofit Panda Paws Rescue, Amanda and her family rescue, rehabilitate and re-home medically fragile animals. "I call them our unicorn cases," she explains, "the one-of-a-kind cases that we really have never seen in the veterinary world." In Animal Planet's uplifting docuseries *Amanda to the Rescue*, Giese is joined by her compassionate kids, Jade and Beast, her partner Gary, and their animal pack that includes a trio of Cavalier King Charles spaniels and a two-legged boxer as they open their hearts and their home to animals that often have no options left. "We want to be a fighting advocate for the ultimate underdog," she says, "the dog that's often overlooked, that just needs a little extra TLC."

Giese describes a few of the special dogs that she and her family meet this season, including Goldilocks, who has broken bones "from the tip of her nose to the base of her tail"; Splat, who comes into the household as a hospice patient; Jedi, "who has no eyes, but we haven't told him"; and a Chinese

crested named Rogue who joins the family permanently. Where others might see a "damaged dog," Giese sees an animal with the potential to be someone's best friend. Her mantras are "Kindness is cool" and "You can't judge a book by its cover," and she lives by these mottos with the same sincerity and unwavering love that she shows her animals.

Amanda to the Rescue  $\rightarrow$  Animal Planet  $\rightarrow$  Sundays beginning Oct. 28

#### RETURNIN

Looks are deceiving, aren't they? Jaimie Alexander stars as Jane (left), the heroine, and as Remi (right), a ruthless villain.

#### Star Jaimie Alexander Talks Villains, Heartbreak And Halloween!

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By Taylor Neumann

t the end of *Blindspot*'s last season, viewers gasped as heroine Jane woke up in the hospital as her previous evil self, Remi, ready to infiltrate and destroy the FBI from the inside. But before she can do that, she needs to convince the team that she's actually Jane. We spoke with star Jaimie Alexander, who plays Jane and Remi, about what we can expect from the fourth season and what lies in store for her character.

Plot twist! Jane's memory has been wiped again, and now she's woken up as "Remi" intent on taking the FBI down. How will the introduction of Jane/Remi as the big villain influence Season 4? How excited are you for this? Jaimie Alexander: I'm really excited to explore Remi, the villainous side of Jane. So far, we've only seen her in flashbacks. Little glimpses here and there. I feel it will be fun for the audience to know that Jane is now Remi, as the entire cast has no idea. All the characters on the show are in the dark. There have been a few times where Remi has almost blown her cover, and it's going to be quite the roller coaster for our viewers at home.

What can you share on Weller (Sullivan Stapleton) and Jane's relationship this season, given that she's now hellbent on dismantling their team? He's got to be the first person to suspect something has changed, right? So far, he doesn't suspect anything. Remi is quite good at playing the "doting wife." It's heartbreaking because Weller is so in love with Jane, and Remi uses his love to manipulate him. Eventually, I believe the darkness will come to light and he will find out Remi's secret. It's going to be heartbreaking.

#### Can you tease one of your favorite scenes so far this season?

I really love my scenes with Rich Dotcom (Ennis Esmer). If

anything, Rich is the one who suspects Jane is acting a bit bizarre. Whereas Jane kind of adored Rich, Remi despises him. We laugh a lot between takes. It's a fun dynamic this season.

# Anything changing with the tattoos this season? Has that process gotten any easier for you in terms of the time you spend in makeup?

No changes to the tattoos. This season focuses primarily on each of the characters and their daily lives rather than the typical "case of the week." However, the tattoos will continue to play a big role as they always have.

#### I'm really excited to explore Remi, the villainous side of Jane. So far, we've only seen her in flashbacks.

# Since this comes out in our October issue, and we know you are a big fan of Halloween – have you started thinking of what you are going to do this year? Any costume ideas?

Yes, I really do love Halloween. It's such a beautiful season in New York. I love all the festivities and the fall weather. I think I'll go as either Trinity from *The Matrix* or Arwen from *The Lord of the Rings*. That way my boyfriend could be either Neo or Aragorn. We kind of want to do a "couples" costume.

- **Blindspot**  $\rightarrow$  NBC  $\rightarrow$  Fridays beginning Oct. 12
- Stream on: Hulu & nbc.com

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(left) © 2016 NBCUniversal Media, LLC. Credit: Mathias Clamer/NBC; (right) © 2018 NBCUniversal Media, LLC Credit: Virginia Sherwood/NBC/Nlamer

RETURNING FAVORITES

Andrew Lincoln as Rick Grimes

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The Series' New Showrunner, Angela Kang, Talks Rick's Departure And Maggie's Future. By Kellie Freeze





Danai Gurira as Michonne

Lauren Cohan as Maggie

Norman Reedus as Daryl

ngela Kang has been a writer on AMC's *The Walking Dead* since Season 2, but for the apocalyptic drama's ninth season, she'll be taking over the reins of the hit series as its showrunner. Kang previews the season premiere on Oct. 7 and offers a few morsels about the upcoming departure

of star Andrew Lincoln, who has played Rick Grimes since the series began in 2010 and is in a limited number of episodes this season.

#### Where are we at the start of Season 9?

**Angela Kang:** When we open the season, we start about a year and a half after the end of the previous season. And that's given our communities enough time to start to heal and rebuild after the all-out war with the Saviors.

And it means that their world is changing around them. We're exploring what happens when man-made structures start to crumble when nature starts to become a bit of an obstacle in ways that it wasn't before. We're exploring how people deal with scarcity. So, when it's harder to find gas that's stable and usable, how do you travel? We're seeing people use horses, and come up with innovative ways to do things. You're seeing less use of bullets, because it's not a resource that they'll have indefinitely. You're seeing them turn back to farming to make sure that they have some sort of sustainable food source going forward.

You're really seeing human ingenuity figuring out how to not just survive day-to-day, but build a future for themselves and the children who are being born into the world.

#### Andrew Lincoln is leaving the series this season; how are you approaching the end of Rick's storyline?

We knew that Andy's time on the show would be coming to an end because he wanted to go back to his family. He's such a wonderful leader of the show – just an incredible human being – and so we really wanted to do service to his character and tell a story that felt satisfying for the season. So, I think, we really approached it as what feels like an organic part of the story in this time jump – which is kind of based on the time jump in the comics – so that we can tell a specific little arc for Rick that feels tied to both the season as well as his journey on the show as a whole.

#### Does Andrew get a say in how his character's journey ends?

I fully talked to him about the story, and I wanted to get his thoughts and input. Fortunately, he's been incredibly supportive – he just got excited about what we were trying to do, because he felt like it was a fitting story.

#### With a core character set to leave the series, which characters will become more central to the action?

The Walking Dead: © 2018 AMC Film Holdings LLC. All Rights Reserved. Credit:

I think what's been really exciting this season – from a writing standpoint – has been diving into some of the core relationships that we've been following on the show for a lot of years. There's so much history there when you have a scene between Rick and Daryl, or Michonne and Rick, or Daryl and Maggie. There's such a richness there. We definitely will be seeing a lot more from Michonne. We'll be seeing a lot from Daryl and Carol. I'm excited for the fans to see the journeys that those characters are taking.

So is there any chance that Rick just hops into the helicopter that Jadis saw and returns at a future point? I have to respectfully defer my answer, if you don't mind. We are really trying to save the story for fans and hope that they go along on the character.

What can you tease about Jadis and Negan's storylines? For both Jadis and Negan, we're gonna see some aspects of their characters that are different, because they're just in a different place. We're seeing Jadis – who got this wonderful invitation to come fold into the community – trying to integrate, but we also see some of the challenges associated with that. We'll get to see sort of a softer side of Jadis, but we'll also see there is some mystery and complication to her. And she still has some sort of relationship with this mysterious helicopter, so that will definitely be a part of the story.

For Negan, he's basically in solitary confinement to start off the year, and for someone who loves to have an audience and to kind of hold court and do his "Negan thing," this is a terrible punishment for him. We'll see Negan grappling with what it means not to be a leader anymore and feeling like, "What is your place after the war has ended and you've lost?" We'll see some really interesting interactions between him and some of our characters who go down to visit.

# With Lauren Cohan starring in the upcoming series *Whiskey Cavalier*, how is she balancing that project and the role of Maggie?

We're really happy that we *do* have Maggie this season. We have a certain number of episodes with her, and I think we have a really great story for Maggie. Lauren is another one of our actors who is doing spectacular work. There's stuff that I just saw that gave me chills. We've got some tricks up our sleeve with how we're going to balance Maggie, because we love telling stories for her.

#### What can you share about the new characters that we will meet in Season 9?

We'll be meeting some new characters who will be familiar to fans of the comics, but we're adding our own twist to them. We're meeting Magna and Yumiko, these really great women who in our world have a bit of international flavor. ... We have the wonderful, wonderful Dan Fogler playing Luke. He brings a lot of great comedy chops and humanity to this role, and fans love him from the *Fantastic Beasts* franchise. And we have Lauren Ridloff and Angel Theory playing Connie and Kelly. We're playing them as sisters, and we're playing Connie as a deaf character – Lauren is herself deaf and is an amazing actress. We really wanted this group to come in and have a specific sort of vibe and interactions with each other. It allows us to tell some really interesting stories with this entire group.

The Walking Dead  $\rightarrow$  AMC  $\rightarrow$  Sundays beginning Oct. 7

#### MOVIES ON DEMAND NEW RELEASES



#### Ant-Man and the Wasp

(Action) Scott Lang is balancing fatherhood with his life as the superhero Ant-Man when Dr. Hank Pym presents him with an urgent new mission that will have him fighting alongside the Wasp. *Paul Rudd, Evangeline Lilly, Michael Peña* (PG-13, 1:58) (HD) **EVAPPIER OF 16** 



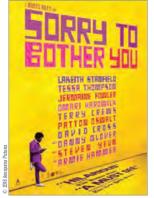
#### Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation

(Comedy) Dracula has always hosted people on vacation at the hotel, but what happens when Mavis surprises Dracula with a family trip on a monster cruise ship? *Voices of Adam Sandler, Mel Brooks, Selena Gomez* (PG, 1:37) (HD)



#### Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again

(Comedy) Travel back to when it all began as the story of Donna meeting Harry, Sam and Bill is told via flashback and, of course, song. *Lily James, Amanda Seyfried, Meryl Streep* (PG-13, 1:54) (HD) **Premieres Oct. 23** 



#### Sorry to Bother You

(Comedy) Cassius Green is doing everything possible just to get by in life. When a coworker at his telemarketing job encourages him to use his "white voice," Cassius unlocks an entire world of opportunity and pitfalls. *Lakeith Stanfield*, *Tessa Thompson, Jermaine Fowler* (R, 1:51)



#### Skyscraper

(Action) Will Sawyer is a veteran who assesses security for some of the tallest buildings in the world. While on assignment in Hong Kong, he finds himself thrust into the middle of a fire at what is purportedly one of the safest buildings in the world. *Dwayne Johnson, Neve Campbell, Pablo Schreiber* (PG-13, 1:42) (HD) Premieres Oct. 9



### Sicario: Day of the Soldado

(Drama) Dangerous steps need to be taken on the U.S./Mexican border when the cartels begin trafficking terrorists in addition to drugs. To combat this problem, CIA operative Matt Graver enlists the help of his old friend Alejandro. *Benicio Del Toro, Josh Brolin, Isabela Moner* (R, 2:02) (HD)



#### The Spy Who Dumped Me

(Comedy) Best friends Audrey and Morgan are thrust into an international conspiracy when Audrey's ex-boyfriend shows up with a team of assassins on his tail. *Mila Kunis, Kate McKinnon, Justin Theroux* (R, 1:57) (HD)



Slender Man (Horror) Many have searched for the mysterious, tall, thin figure that is reportedly responsible for the disappearance of young Katie, among others. Once you see him, you cannot unsee him. Joey King, Javier Botet, Annalise Basso (PG-13, 1:33) (HD) Premieres Oct. 30





#### The First Purge

(Horror) The New Founding Fathers of America have created the Purge ritual in an experimental attempt to lower the crime rate by allowing individuals in one community to release their aggression for one night with no consequences. See how the franchise we all now know was born. *Lex Scott Davis, Y'lan Noel, Marisa Tomei* (R, 1:38) (HD) **Premieres Oct. 2** 



#### Teen Titans Go! To the Movies

(Comedy) Five teenage superheroes long for Hollywood stardom. Why will no one ever make a film about them? The heroes try to stop a villain from world domination in the hopes that he could be the archnemesis who makes them famous. *Voices of Nicolas Cage, Kristen Bell, Will Arnett* (PG, 1:24) (HD)

### At-A-Glance

**October Movies On Demand** 

PREMIERES	BEGINS
Air Strike	10/26
All Square	
American Chaos	
Andy Irons: Kissed by God	
Ant-Man and the Wasp	
Assault to Freedom	
Battle of the Bulge: Wunderland	
0	
Bayou Caviar	
Behold the Earth.	
Better Start Running	
Born Racer	
Boundaries	
Brampton's Own	10/19
Catwalk: Tales From the	
Cat Show Circuit	10/9
Champion	
Change in the Air	10/19
Constantine: City of Demons	
Coyote: The Mike Plant Story	10/16
A Crooked Somebody.	
The Darkest Minds	
Darrell Hammond: Mayhem	10/30
	10/0
Explained DC Super Hero Girls:	10/2
Legends of Atlantis	10/0
Death of a Nation	10/30
Death Race: Beyond Anarchy	
Domain	10/2
Don't Worry, He Won't Get	
Far on Foot	10/9
Egon Schiele: Death and	
the Maiden	
Eighth Grade	10/9
Extremity	10/2
The First Purge	10/2
Galveston	
Generation Wealth	
The Guilty	
A Happening of Monumental	
Proportions	10/23
Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer	10/20
Vacation (3D)	10/0
The House of Violent Desire	
I Still See You	10/12

Knuckleball	10/5
Leave No Trace	10/2
The Legend of Halloween Jack	10/2
Logan's Syndrome	10/2
Look Away	. 10/12
Looking for Lennon	
Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again	. 10/23
Maximum Impact	
McKellen: Playing the Part	10/2
McQueen	10/2
A Midsummer Night's Dream	. 10/16
My Big Gay Italian Wedding	10/9
My Pet Dinosaur	10/2
Nigerian Prince	. 10/19
RBG	10/3
Sicario: Day of the Soldado	10/2
Skyscraper	10/9
Sleep No More	10/2
Slender Man	. 10/30
Snow White	. 10/16
Sorry to Bother You	. 10/23
The Spy Who Dumped Me	. 10/30
Strange Nature	10/2
The Super	. 10/19
Tales From the Hood 2	10/2
Teen Titans Go! To the Movies	. 10/30
Three Identical Strangers	10/2
Under the Tree	10/9
Unfriended: Dark Web	. 10/16
Viking Destiny	10/5
ALSO AVAILABLE Adrift	ENDS
Gotti	
Hearts Beat Loud	
Hereditary	12/4
Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom (3D)	0/07
Ocean's 8 Solo: A Star Wars Story	
Solo: A Star Wars Story	
Superry	. 12/20

#### How To Order On Demand Movies:

1. Using your digital remote, tune to your Movies On Demand channel

- 2. Choose the title you wish to view and select "BUY/ORDER"
- 3. Use your arrow keys on remote to pause, play, fast-forward or rewind

Won't You Be My Neighbor? ..... 1/30

#### SPORTS

Mookie Betts and the Boston Red Sox are safe at home on top of the AL

MLB Postseason Schedule Wild-Card Games, ESPN (Oct. 2) & TBS (Oct. 3) NL Division Series, FS1 or MLB Network (beginning Oct. 4) AL Division Series, TBS (beginning Oct. 5) NL Championship Series, FOX or FS1 (beginning Oct. 12) AL Championship Series, TBS (beginning Oct. 13)

World Series, FOX (beginning Oct. 23)

#### Major League Baseball Slides Into October. By Ryan A. Berenz

One of the biggest rivalries in baseball might again bring some playoff heat.

The Boston Red Sox and New York Yankees had epic playoff series in the early 2000s, but the AL East foes haven't met in the postseason since 2004, when the Red Sox overcame a 3-0 deficit in the AL Championship Series and went on to win their first World Series since 1918. Last year, the Yanks and Red Sox both reached the postseason for the first time since 2009, and at the time of this writing, the teams have the two best records in baseball. A brawl during a series in April proved there's plenty of fuel to reignite this rivalry for a new generation. They could be on a collision course again, as the Red Sox should have the division title wrapped up, and the Yankees will likely host a wild-card game.

Elsewhere in the AL, the Cleveland Indians have the Central in hand, and the defending World Series champion Houston Astros are locked in a tight battle with the Oakland A's for first in the West.

The NL picture isn't as clear, with the Atlanta Braves and Philadelphia Phillies contending in the East; the Cubs, St. Louis Cardinals and Milwaukee Brewers fighting it out in the Central; and the Arizona Diamondbacks, Colorado Rockies and L.A. Dodgers still alive in the West. The regular season concludes Sept. 30, and if any tiebreakers are needed, ESPN will air the game(s) Oct. 1. The win-or-go-home wild-card games are Oct. 2-3 on ESPN and TBS, followed by the best-of-five-game division series starting Oct. 4 (NL) on FS1/MLB Network and Oct. 5 (AL) on TBS. The best-of-seven NLCS begins Oct. 12 on FOX or FS1, with the ALCS airing exclusively on TBS beginning Oct. 13. FOX again has exclusive coverage of the World Series beginning Oct. 23, with home-field advantage in the series going to the team with the better regular-season record. World Series Game 7, if necessary, is Oct. 31.

LeBron James takes his talents to L.A.

#### The **DEPTH CHART**

#### NBA Season Tip-Off

TNT gets the season started with Philadelphia at Boston and Oklahoma City at Golden State Oct. 16. The following night, ESPN has New Orleans at Houston and Dallas at Phoenix. LeBron James debuts with the L.A. Lakers at Portland Oct. 18 on TNT.

#### **NHL** Opening Night

Alex Ovechkin and the Stanley Cup champion Washington Capitals raise their banner to the rafters before taking on the Boston Bruins in the NHL season opener Oct. 3 on **NBCSN**.

#### Driver vs. Driver 2

Fourteen finalists present their innovative driver concepts on the second edition of *Driver vs. Driver*. One design will win \$250,000 and be made into Wilson Golf's next world-class driver. (**Golf Channel**, Tuesdays beginning Oct. 2)

#### NFL Football

Enjoy a full day of football Oct. 28 beginning with Philadelphia at Jacksonville from London (**NFL Network**) in the morning and ending with New Orleans at Minnesota in a "Minneapolis Miracle" rematch (**NBC**).

#### SHORT LIST

Oct.

We Break Down The Month's Biggest And Best Programming So You Never Miss A Must-See Minute.

Happy Together, CBS – New Series The Neighborhood, CBS – New Series

#### 2

MLB Playoffs: NL Wild-Card Game, ESPN Driver vs. Driver 2, Golf Channel

- Season Premiere

#### 3

Criminal Minds, CBS – Season Premiere SEAL Team, CBS – Season Premiere NHL Opening Night, NBCSN MLB Playoffs: AL Wild-Card Game, TBS

#### 4

Station 19, ABC – Season Premiere Superstore, NBC – Season Premiere Will & Grace, NBC – Season Premiere

#### 5

Child Support, ABC – Season Premiere Fresh Off the Boat, ABC – Season Premiere Speechless, ABC – Season Premiere The Man in the High Castle, Amazon – Season Premiere MLB Playoffs: AL Division Series: Game 1, TBS

#### 7

- Dancing With the Stars: Juniors, ABC – New Series Shark Tank, ABC – Season Premiere Talking Dead, AMC – Season Premiere The Walking Dead, AMC – Season Premiere Doctor Who, BBC America
- Season Premiere

Madam Secretary, CBS

- Season Premiere

#### 9

Black Lightning, The CW – Season Premiere The Flash, The CW – Season Premiere

#### 10

All American, The CW – New Series Riverdale, The CW – Season Premiere

#### 11

Supernatural, The CW - Season Premiere

#### 12

Crazy Ex-Girlfriend, The CW – Season Premiere Dynasty, The CW – Season Premiere Gold Rush, Discovery Channel – Season Premiere MLB Playoffs: NL Championship Series: Game 1, FOX or FS1 Light as a Feather, Hulu – New Series Blindspot, NBC – Season Premiere The Haunting of Hill House, Netflix – New Series



#### 13

Above and Beyond: NASA's Journey to Tomorrow, Discovery Channel & Science Channel MLB Playoffs: AL Championship Series: Game 1, TBS

#### 14

The Alec Baldwin Show, ABC – New Series Charmed, The CW – New Series Supergirl, The CW – Season Premiere Camping, HBO – New Series

#### 15

Arrow, The CW – Season Premiere

#### 16

black-ish, ABC – Season Premiere The Conners, ABC – New Series The Kids Are Alright, ABC – New Series The Rookie, ABC – New Series Splitting Up Together, ABC – Season Premiere

NBA Opening Night, TNT

#### 21 e Woma

The Woman in White, PBS – New Series Wolf Creek, Pop – Season Premiere

DC's Legends of Tomorrow, The CW – Season Premiere

23

MLB: World Series: Game 1, FOX The Great American Read, PBS – Series Finale

25 Legacies, The CW – New Series

#### 26

Midnight, Texas, NBC – Season Premiere Chilling Adventures of Sabrina, Netflix – New Series Channel Zero: The Dream Door, Syfy – Season Premiere

#### 28

Amanda to the Rescue, Animal Planet – New Series NFL Football: New Orleans at Minnesota, NBC Ray Donovan, Showtime

– Season Premiere



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