

Counting Down the 40 Best TV Series of 2022: the Top 10

By Steve Sternberg



This concludes my countdown of the 40 best TV shows of 2022, with the top 10. We are in a new Golden Age of great TV content. Excellent shows with more niche audiences, which might have been quickly canceled were they limited to broadcast or cable networks (as they would have been just 10 years ago), can thrive on streaming services, which care more about reach and subscriber growth than average ratings or artificially constructed demographics. Take [Evil](#), for example. Had Netflix and Paramount+ not yet existed, this great series (#10 on my list) would have been canceled by CBS after its first season. It instead was shifted to Paramount+ and I am eagerly awaiting its fourth season. Likewise, [Manifest](#), which was canceled by NBC, is now thriving on Netflix.

Because there are so many good series on so many platforms, you may not have seen, heard of, or even have access to all the shows on my list. Likewise, I'm sure I did not include some of your favorites. It's a subjective exercise, and opinions invariably vary.

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Some of these shows had spectacular debuts, others had nearly perfect series finales. Some are in the middle of long runs, while still others are awaiting word on whether they will be renewed for another season. The only thing these shows have in common is that they are substantially different from anything else on television, and substantially different from one another. And they all have something that in my view places them above the pack, and worth your time to check out.

As a reminder, #40-11 on my list are, *Reacher* (Prime Video), *Star Trek: Strange New Worlds* (Paramount+), *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* (Prime Video), *The Gilded Age* (HBO), *Industry* (HBO), *Tehran* (Apple TV+), *Hacks* (HBO Max), *Abbott Elementary* (ABC), *The Offer* (Paramount+), *Harley Quinn* (HBO Max), *Under the Banner of Heaven* (Hulu), *Yellowstone* (Paramount Network), *Ms. Marvel* (Disney+), *Only Murders in the Building* (Hulu), *The Boys* (Prime Video), *The Old Man* (FX, Hulu), *The Flight Attendant* (HBO Max), *Slow Horses* (Apple TV+), *House of the Dragon* (HBO), *The Walking Dead* (AMC), *Wednesday* (Netflix), *Andor* (Disney+), *Tulsa King* (Paramount+), *For All Mankind* (Apple TV+), *Billions* (Showtime), *The Good Fight* (Paramount+), *Yellowjackets* (Showtime), *Bosch: Legacy* (Amazon Freevee), *A League of Their Own* (Prime Video), and *1883* (Paramount+).

Note that streaming series dominate my list this year, accounting for about two-thirds of my top 40 shows. Only one broadcast network and six ad-supported cable series made my list. Of my picks for the 40 best TV shows in 2022, Paramount+ has six, HBO has five, Apple TV+, Netflix, and Prime Video have four apiece, HBO Max and AMC each have three, Hulu, Disney+, Showtime, and FX each have two, and Amazon Freevee, Paramount Network, and ABC each have one.

Here concludes the countdown with my 10 best TV series of 2022. There are some spoilers ahead, but I tried not to reveal too much detail about key storylines.

#10



Evil (CBS/Paramount+ 2019-): Three investigators with vastly different backgrounds work for the Catholic Church to explore whether seemingly supernatural events have scientific explanations, or are actually miracles or demonic possessions.

[Katja Herbers](#) gives an extraordinary performance as Dr. Kristen Bouchard, a retired forensic psychologist raising four daughters – her husband Andy ([Patrick Brammall](#)) is a mountain climbing guide, often away from home. Kristen is not religious and does not believe in the supernatural, but her skepticism is constantly tested as she is confronted by numerous unexplained events.

Kristen is recruited by David Acosta ([Mike Colter](#)), a priest in training, to work with him for the Catholic Church. He is a true believer. David once experienced a vision that both he and the Church believe was a message from God. He now experiments with hallucinogens to try and replicate the experience. One of his roles for the Church is to assess if an exorcism is in order. Unbeknownst to the rest of his team or his church superiors, David is recruited by the Vatican Secret Service to undertake mysterious missions.

Rounding out the investigative team is Ben Shakir ([Aasif Mandvi](#)), a contractor who works with David as a technical expert. He was raised a Muslim, but is now even more of a skeptic than Kristen, and is always looking for the scientific explanation for any unusual phenomena. Despite increasing evidence to the contrary, he steadfastly holds onto his belief that everything has a rational explanation.

This supernatural mystery thriller is funny, creepy, dramatic, twisty, and often intense – everything you want from a supernatural mystery thriller. Shifting from CBS to Paramount+ in its second season allowed the series to tackle darker themes and edgier subject matter that might not get approved on an ad-supported broadcast network (such as discussions of racism within the church, and Kristen and David's growing sexual attraction). Once free of network restrictions, the show got even better, and was quickly renewed for a third season. It has since been renewed for a fourth, set to premiere in summer 2023.

Here's a look at the other major players:



[Michael Emerson](#) (best known for his roles in [Person of Interest](#) and [Lost](#)) is at his creepiest best as Dr. Leland Townsend, a rival forensic psychologist of Kristen's, and the biggest threat to our heroes. He is obsessed with trying to get others to commit evil acts. In addition to constantly trying to undermine Kristen and get into her head, he despises David, constantly taunting him and trying to get him to doubt the Catholic Church and its teachings. Whether he is a dangerous psychopath or actually demonic is an ongoing question.

[Christine Lahti](#) sizzles as Kristen's hard-living and hot-tempered mother, Sheryl, who is not nearly as gullible as she initially seems – and may have her own involvement with the supernatural. Much to Kristen's chagrin, she is courted by Leland. But she may have her own secret agenda.

[Kurt Fuller](#) is Dr. Kurt Boggs, a psychiatrist and Kristen's therapist. He is initially a voice of reason and sanity, until Leland tries to corrupt him.

[Brooklyn Schuck](#), [Skylar Gray](#), [Maddy Crocco](#), and [Dayla Knapp](#) play Krysten's daughters, one of whom may have a supernatural secret of her own.

[Andrea Martin](#) steals every scene she's in as Sister Andrea, a nun who sometimes gives David advice. You never know when she is going to decide to help him. She sees herself and David as two of the few who are equipped to fight in the war against demonic forces. Her confrontations with Leland are delicious. She can see demons who are invisible to others.

[Marti Matulis](#) is George, a demon who appears to Kristen in her dreams (he also plays several other demons and creatures in the series).



The first season provides enough logical explanations for seemingly supernatural occurrences, that Kristen, David, and Ben each find enough evidence (or lack thereof) to support their own world view. As the series progresses, however, all three have reasons to question what they are experiencing and seeing with their own eyes. At the end of season 1, Kristen takes drastic and shocking action to protect her family, which has ramifications through much of season 2.

In season 2, the series shifts from a largely procedural drama with supernatural/horror elements to a full-on horror series (episode four's *Elevator Game* episode is genuinely creepy). While one of the central questions in the first season was whether Leland is actually a demon or simply a delusional psychopath, several new questions arise in the season 1 finale and throughout season 2. Chief among them – are demons in charge of a fertility clinic and spiritually corrupting the eggs of expectant mothers to create a generation of humans who are more susceptible to temptation and sin – and was Kristen's oldest daughter affected (Kristen had received fertility treatments there)? While David was the one primarily having visions in season 1, now Kristen and Ben are having visions of angels and demons as well (and they are not taking hallucinogens).



The first two seasons were great but uneven, as it seemed as though they hadn't decided whether *Evil* was a dark comedy, an *Exorcist*-style horror show, a supernatural thriller, or a CBS procedural. Season 3 is brilliant on every level, as it leans into all of the above with equal relish.

There are many memorable sequences and scenes.

- A demon takes the form of Kristen so it can seduce newly ordained priest, David.
- There is a seemingly haunted stretch of highway that our heroes explore as the car's glitching radio gets stuck on 666.
- Leland tries to corrupt Kristen's daughters using an avatar pretending to be another child in an online game, but they figure out who he is and they get their revenge.
- Leland manages to corrupt Kristen's straight-laced therapist, Kurt by using a demonic record player to inspire him to finish his half-written manuscript.
- Sister Andrea does her best Warrior Nun imitation as she fights a house full of demons with a shovel.
- The season 3 finale has a distinct *Rosemary's Baby* vibe.

You never know when an episode will shift from family comedy to horror to procedural drama, to just plain bizarro world. It's a truly exceptional one-of-a-kind series.

#9



Killing Eve (BBCA/AMC 2018-2022): In this British spy thriller, the always great [Sandra Oh](#) is the title character, Eve Polastri, an ambitious and insightful MI5 security officer. [Jodie Comer](#) is brilliant as her nemesis, Villanelle, a mercurial and brutal international assassin. Eve is recruited by a secret intelligence

division within MI6 to help track down Villanelle and the secret organization that employs her, known as The Twelve.

Villanelle's methods of killing her targets are increasingly elaborate and creative. She considers herself an artist, and has nothing but disdain for more pedestrian hit men. She senses a kindred spirit in Eve.

[Fiona Shaw](#) is excellent as Carolyn Martens, head of the Russia section of MI6 (and Eve's sometimes boss), whose real agenda remains a mystery. [Kim Bodnia](#) is brutally humorous as Konstantin, Villanelle's handler, who trained her to become an assassin. Carolyn and Konstantin share a mysterious past.

In season 1, Eve is tasked with hunting down the sociopathic Villanelle. As they become more and more obsessed with one another (admiration, fear, love?), a fierce game of cat and mouse ensues. Men are the peripheral characters here, and most of the victims.

Season 2 picks up immediately following the surprise season 1 finale. The chase and head games between the two adversaries continue. The second season lacks some of the magic of the first, no

doubt because the great Phoebe Waller-Bridge (who created the series) was no longer the head writer. There are a few extra (and unnecessary) storylines, as Eve and Villanelle become even more obsessed with and attracted to one another. But it was still better than most other series on television.

Season 3 amps up the stakes as both Eve and Villanelle start to question their career paths and come to terms with how they feel and why they are drawn to one another. And, of course, more bodies drop in Villanelle's wake, as she comes up with ever more innovative ways to kill her targets.

Each of the first three seasons has an almost perfect ending setting up the next installment.



In the fourth and final season, both Eve and Villanelle are trying to convince themselves and each other that they have changed, until they each realize neither really wants to. As they go on their separate missions of revenge against members of The Twelve, they may actually be on the same side. Virtually every scene involving both Eve and Villanelle is riveting. As one of Konstantin's newly minted assassins ([Anjana Vasan](#)) joins the fray, things come to a head in their conflict.

The show's finale delivers a brilliant and exciting end to a brilliant and exciting series.

#8



Succession (HBO 2018-): One of the buzziest shows in the past few seasons, this satirical drama is that rare series that actually lives up to the hype. When Logan Roy ([Brian Cox](#)), an

aging Rupert Murdoch-style media tycoon has a stroke, his four adult children ([Jeremy Strong](#), [Kieran Culkin](#), [Alan Ruck](#), [Sarah Snook](#)) start jockeying for control of the family's international media and entertainment empire. When he recovers and lets them know he has no intention of stepping down anytime soon, all types of power plays, backstabbing schemes, and elaborate infighting ensue, as ambitions collide with family loyalties.

One might think a series about unlikeable and privileged one-percenters (actually 0.001 percenters) is not the recipe for broad success, but sharp writing, fierce acting, and effortless shifts between comedy, tragedy, and family drama, make this compelling and entertaining viewing.

While owing something to the [Dallas](#)- and [Dynasty](#)-type soaps of the 1980s, the key differences become obvious from the start. Viewers might have felt that with the right breaks they could become akin to the Ewings or Carringtons, and might even behave as J.R. and his clan did if they amassed similar wealth. In some ways these shows could be considered aspirational.



But [Succession](#) is different. You will never accumulate this type of wealth unless you inherit it, and nobody on this show acts the way you might if you suddenly became rich. They live in their own little insulated bubble universe, with no sense of community with the real world. They have little concern over what content goes out on their news network, and no sense of obligation to the public – as long as it makes them money. They have no fear of any consequences for their crimes or subsequent cover-ups – they can always find a patsy to take the fall. They are so out of touch with the real world, that they have no qualms about supporting a neo-Nazi for president and having their picture taken with him – they assume that whomever Logan Roy and his network support will be the presumptive Republican front-runner.

The opening credits sequence (the images change slightly each season) and award-winning original theme music might be the most fascinating 90 seconds of television on the air. The video sequence intersperses images of the New York City skyline with home-video footage of the Roy family. The patriarch (Logan Roy) is shown mostly from behind as he observes (directs?) his privileged, isolated, and largely unhappy children growing into screwed-up adults.

Here are the major members of the powerful, wealthy, and dysfunctional Roy family.

Logan Roy ([Brian Cox](#)) is the billionaire founder of Waystar RoyCo. a giant media and entertainment conglomerate. He has four children from two of his three previous marriages. He is ruthless and misogynistic, and treats his family as nothing more than pawns on a chess board. His ex-wife says of him, “Logan enjoys kicking the things he loves just to see if they’ll come back to him.” When one of his kids asks him why he’s doing something that they see as a betrayal, he replies, “Because it works. I fucking win. Go on, fuck off, you nosy fucking pedestrians.”

Kendall Roy ([Jeremy Strong](#)) is Logan’s second son (the first from his second marriage), and presumed to be his successor. He struggles to prove he is worthy, while battling substance abuse. At the end of season 2, he makes a stunning move that throws everything and everyone for a giant loop, thrusts the company into chaos, draws new battle lines between him and his father, and sets the stage for the confrontations to come in season 3.



Roman Roy ([Kieran Culkin](#)) is Logan’s middle son from his second marriage. He is immature and does not take his responsibilities seriously. But he’s street-smart and has people skills. He is often at odds with his siblings, as they vie for their father’s attention and power.

Despite all evidence to the contrary, he continues to think his father believes in him. He is constantly

telling penis jokes, and even sends “dick pics” to Gerri Kellman ([J. Smith-Cameron](#)), Waystar’s general counsel and Roman’s mentor, with whom he has a very strange relationship.

Siobhan “Shiv” Roy ([Sarah Snook](#)) is Logan’s youngest child and only daughter. She was a left-leaning political fixer, whose views clash with the conservative Waystar media company. But she comes back to work for her father when he dangles the CEO position (which she desperately wants but never gets). She thinks she is much more qualified to run the company than her brothers, but Logan, who has a general disdain for women, keeps frustrating her by shutting her out of major corporate decisions.

Connor Roy ([Alan Ruck](#)) is Logan’s eldest son from his first marriage. He wants more involvement in the family business, but he is not seen by the others as particularly qualified for anything, and has been shunted aside. In season 2 he announces he plans to run for President of the United States.



Tom Wambsgans ([Matthew Macfadyen](#)) is Shiv’s fiancé and later her husband, and one of the most put upon characters on the show. He is the head of Waystar’s global news outlet. He is a people-pleaser and vies for more power, but is thought of as an outsider by the family’s

inner circle. Shiv has been casually cruel and dismissive toward him for virtually the entire series, oblivious to how it might affect him. At one point he says to her, “I just wonder if the sad I’d be without you is less than the sad I get from being with you.” He appears to have made a surprise move in the season 3 finale that stuns Shiv and promises even more fireworks in season 4.

Nicholas Braun ([Greg Hirsch](#)) is Logan’s bumbling but opportunistic great nephew – the grandson of Logan’s estranged brother, Ewan Roy ([James Cromwell](#)). He is manipulated by some members of the family, particularly Tom, until he starts to wise up.

The first season starts out slowly, but builds into something great as the season progresses. Season 2 is near perfection, with strong guest starring roles for [Cherry Jones](#) and [Holly Hunter](#). The surprise ending sets the stage for everything that happens in season 3, which sees Kendall Roy face off with his father, an uphill battle to be sure, as the viewer wonders if any of his siblings will eventually join him. But as Tom says to him when he tries to get him to switch sides, "...my hunch is you're going to get fucked, because I've seen you get fucked a lot and I've never seen Logan get fucked once."

In the season 3 finale, Logan makes a move that threatens the future financial security of all his children, as Shiv and Roman seek Kendall's help to try and stop him. This episode is a true acting masterpiece – it expertly builds tension, reveals what people are thinking based solely on their body language – and ends with a boom. Season 4 should be a blast.

#7



Ozark ([Netflix 2017-2022](#)): In his most nuanced performance to date, [Jason Bateman](#) is Marty Byrde, a brilliant Chicago financial advisor whose partner is killed (in the first episode) after stealing money from a Mexican cartel drug lord client ([Esai Morales](#)). To avoid a similar fate, Marty is forced to move to a summer resort community in the Missouri Ozarks with his wife Wendy ([Laura Linney](#)) and their two teenage kids to launder money for the cartel. When they get there they also have to deal with local gangsters, drug dealers, and corrupt politicians.

Quirky and gritty, with dangerous characters and situations everywhere, and an unusual but very effective mix of humor and violence (which is often sudden and jarring), combined with brilliant acting on every front, places this among the best television series anywhere.

[Julia Garner](#), who has won multiple Emmys for the role, is a revelation as Ruth, a tough-as-nails young woman who lives in a trailer with her dysfunctional and often violent family. After initially clashing with Marty, she winds up working for him until they have a falling out – their evolving relationship is one of the show's driving forces.



Over the course of four seasons, as Marty and Wendy descend further into criminality, [Laura Linney's](#) gradual shift from reluctant tag-along wife to political mastermind and ruthless take-charge protector of her family is chilling (and compelling to watch).

[Sofia Hublitz](#) is excellent as their daughter Charlotte, who shifts from frightened teenager wanting to be emancipated, to being all in with the family's criminal enterprise. Their son Jonah ([Skylar Gaertner](#)) goes from an innocent 10-year-old to a 14-year old computer whiz and money launderer.

Only [Jason Bateman's](#) Marty Byrde seems to not dramatically change his demeanor or motivation as the show progresses (until the final few episodes). His veneer of calm in light of the increasing danger surrounding his family is impenetrable. But it's still [Laura Linney's](#) Wendy and [Julie Garner's](#) Ruth who shine the brightest.

The first two seasons have Marty and Wendy trying to establish themselves in town, and looking for businesses to buy where they can launder money. They eventually decide to build a casino, which involves Wendy developing political connections to get the necessary approvals, and Marty working with the Kansas City Mafia. They also have to deal with the dangerous and impulsive local poppy

dealer Darlene ([Lisa Emery](#)), who has no qualms about killing anyone who gets in her way (including cartel members).

Season 3 reaches several boiling points as Marty and Wendy clash with one another, with Ruth, and with local mobsters, while trying to stay one step ahead of the FBI – all while continuing a dangerous alliance with the Mexican drug cartel leader ([Felix Solis](#)), who is involved in his own war with a rival drug gang.

[Tom Pelphrey](#) is Wendy's brother Ben, whose bipolar disorder and reckless behavior threatens to put the family in peril. How Wendy decides to deal with him has major ramifications going forward.

There's also a threat from the cartel's sinister attorney (the always excellent [Janet McTeer](#)), who doesn't trust the Byrdes, and wants the cartel to eliminate them. For Marty and Wendy, protecting their family has become more complicated than ever.



The fourth and final season dropped in two seven-episode segments in 2022. The violence quotient continues unabated and the tension level reaches new heights as Ruth seeks revenge against the cartel leader's hotheaded nephew ([Alfonso Herrera](#)) for an attack on her family, and the Byrdes devise a dangerous plan to finally free themselves from the clutches of both the drug cartel and the FBI.

Marty finally starts to get rattled as he and Wendy have different ideas on how to proceed. Meanwhile, a private detective is hired by Wendy's estranged and secretly abusive father ([Richard Thomas](#)) to look into the mysterious disappearance of her brother. At the same time, the drug cartel's leader comes into conflict with his equally dangerous and ambitious sister ([Veronica Falcon](#)), putting Mary and Wendy in the middle of yet another dire situation.

The final resolution and fates of the main characters are sure to satisfy some, while disappointing others, but the series is great from start to finish.

#6



Stranger Things (Netflix 2016-): Supernatural mystery thriller set in Hawkins, Indiana during the 1980s. The series centers around the town's connection to a dangerous alternate dimension called the *Upside Down*. Outside of *House of Cards*, this is more responsible for putting Netflix on the map than virtually any other

show. It has annually been one of most popular streaming series on any platform, and has been a magnet for new subscribers.

The first season focuses on the disappearance of a young local boy, Will Byers ([Noah Schnapp](#)) and the appearance of a girl known as Eleven ([Millie Bobby Brown](#)), who has telepathic and psychokinetic abilities. A local laboratory that supposedly does scientific research for the U.S. government, from which Eleven escapes, conducts secret experiments into the paranormal that has created a portal to an alternate dimension called the *Upside Down*, which has calamitous effects on the town. A creature from this dimension has abducted the young boy. Will's mom Joyce ([Winona Ryder](#)) and the town's police chief Jim Hopper ([David Harbour](#)) team up to search for Will, while Eleven helps Will's friends Mike ([Finn Wolfhand](#)), Dustin ([Gaten Matarazzo](#)), and Lucas ([Caleb McLaughlin](#)), conduct their own search.

The second season takes place a year later, on Halloween 1984, and centers on the aftermath of Will's abduction. While apparently safe, Will's friends and family soon discover that he is still being influenced by entities from the *Upside Down*, which pose a greater threat to their reality. A large tentacled monster called the *Mind Flayer*, terrorizes the town.

In the third season, a new giant mall has become a major attraction in town, putting many of the local stores out of business. At the same time, a secret Soviet laboratory is operating under the mall, trying to open gateway to the *Upside Down*. Entities from the alternate universe start possessing people in Hawkins – as the *Mind Flayer* takes control of local bully, Billy Hargrove ([Dacre Montgomery](#)), and uses him to do his bidding. This results in an epic battle that winds up destroying the mall and having dire consequences for police chief Jim Hopper and many other residents of Hawkins.



Other regular cast members include: [Natalia Dyer](#) as Nancy Wheeler, Mike's older sister and an aspiring journalist; [Joe Keery](#) as Steve Harrington, a good-looking, popular high-school student and Nancy Wheeler's boyfriend in the first two seasons, before they break up - he is reluctantly known as "the babysitter," since he's often stuck looking after the kids, especially Dustin, to whom he is closest – he works at an ice-cream store in the mall when it is attacked by a monster from the *Upside Down* in season 3; [Maya Hawkins](#) as Robin Buckley, who works with Steve Harrington at the ice-cream store when the monster attacks the mall in season 3; [Charlie Heaton](#) as Jonathan Byers, Joyce's son and Will's older brother – he becomes Nancy's boyfriend in season 3; [Sadie Sink](#) as Max Mayfield, a tomboy who starts dating Lucas – she is one of the teens targeted by a new monster from the *Upside Down* in season 4; [Priah Ferguson](#) is Erica Sinclair, Luca's obnoxious but clever 10-year-old sister, who helps the group – she has an avid interest in *Dungeons & Dragons*; [Joseph Quinn](#) as Eddie Munson, leader of the Hellfire Club, a group whose main activity is playing *Dungeons & Dragons*.



Season 4 is the best season yet, and brilliant comedic-horror storytelling. It takes place several months after the season 3 finale, and is (forgive the well-worn, promotion-inducing phrase) a non-stop thrill ride – with several related sub-plots that eventually merge.

- Eleven has lost her powers. A new monster from the *Upside Down* (called Vecna) starts killing and mutilating teens in Hawkins, opening new gateways between the worlds in the process. The town blames Eddie Munson and the Hellfire Club – there were nationwide rumors in the mid-1980s that games like *Dungeons & Dragons* encourage Satanic cults.
- Will, Mike, Dustin, Lucas, Nancy, Steve, Jonathan, Max, and Robin mount their own investigation while trying to avoid members the high-school basketball team, who are armed and searching for them (believing they have something to do with the murders).
- To try and help fight off the monster, Dr. Sam Owens ([Paul Reiser](#)) and Martin Brenner ([Matthew Modine](#)) take Eleven to an underground facility to attempt to restore her powers. They are pursued by the military, which believes Eleven is responsible for the deaths in town, and want to kill her.
- While all this is going on, Joyce and Murray fly to Russia to rescue Hopper from a Gulag (he was captured by the Russians at the end of season 3, and has been in a hellish prison for most of season 4).

[Stranger Things](#) has been renewed for a fifth and final season.

#5



Barry (HBO 2018-): Dark comedy with the superb [Bill Hader](#)

as a disillusioned and depressed midwestern hitman. In season 1, he travels to L.A. to kill an actor who is sleeping with a mobster's wife. He follows his target to an acting class, where he becomes drawn to the community of dedicated and hopeful (but hopelessly mediocre) students. He is particularly drawn to Sally Reed ([Sarah Goldberg](#)), one of the more talented (but self-centered and dysfunctional) students, whose goal of becoming a famous actress seems perpetually out of reach.

Barry remains there to take acting lessons from the pompous and eccentric washed-up former star, Gene Cousineau (brilliantly played by [Henry Winkler](#)). Once a famous and successful actor, Gene has been shunned by the industry because of his previous arrogance, bad behavior, and callousness toward fellow actors. He becomes something of a father figure and mentor to Barry (until Barry crosses a line that Gene can't forgive).

While Barry tries to pursue a more normal life, he finds that changing is not so easy, as gangsters he's worked for and against come to town. Barry doesn't look particularly dangerous, but he is a highly trained former marine, an army of one, and can spring into action at the drop of a hat, singlehandedly killing multiple enemies.

On paper, this high concept show shouldn't work. On the screen, with these stellar performances, it somehow creates magic. Bill Hader's ability to seamlessly move between light comedy and dark drama, and transform Barry's facial expressions from dead-eyed assassin, to manic excitement when

he thinks up a spur-of-the-moment plan to redeem himself, to quiet confidence that he can get an acting job despite having no experience, to sudden, uncontrollable rage when something goes wrong, is an acting master class.



[Anthony Carrigan](#) provides some comic relief as the wonderfully wacky and relentlessly positive mobster, Noho Hank, a bald, tattooed member of the Chechen mafia, for whom Barry sometimes works. His constant attempts to become friends with Barry are met with nothing but disdain,

but he keeps trying.

[Stephen Root](#) shines as Barry's "handler," Monroe Fuches, an old family friend who groomed him for a career as a hitman after he left the marines. He makes a living from setting up hit jobs for Barry, and is determined to see his protégé continue his life of crime despite his desire to change.

Season 1 shifts back and forth between Barry's old world of hitmen and assassins and his new world of acting classes and his budding relationship with Sally. The major achievement of the first season is how it effectively balances these two worlds without the viewer or his fellow students seeing Barry as a monster. He is initially presented as a fundamentally decent person who was damaged by what he was forced to do in war. But he doesn't understand the difference between being ordered to kill people during wartime and what he does now as a paid hitman. After all, he's still killing bad guys. His fellow students see his occasional rage and talk of killing people as simply "method" acting.

Starting with the first season's pitch-perfect finale, the show gets significantly darker (I hesitate to call it a comedy anymore). Gene ([Winkler](#)) had become romantically involved with a police detective, Janice Moss ([Paula Newsome](#)), who starts to suspect Barry is actually the murderer on a case she is investigating. When she threatens to expose him, Barry takes drastic action. And just like that,

everything he thinks he has accomplished in freeing himself from his violent life is over – yet he still believes he is just one move away from redeeming himself.

There's a lot going on in season 2, as we start to see Barry for the killing machine he is, and any real hope of him redeeming himself might just be his own self-delusion. It starts out in the aftermath of the disappearance of Gene Cousineau's girlfriend, Detective Janice Moss, and Barry trying to hide his involvement. But his handler, Fuches, gets caught by police and agrees to wear a wire to implicate Barry in her death. Fuches also tells Gene that Barry killed her. In a typically bizarre [Barry](#) moment, the detective in charge of the case offers to clear Barry of the crime if he will just kill Ronny Proxinn ([Daniel Bernhardt](#)), the man who stole his wife.



Episode 5 of season 2 is devoted almost entirely to Barry fighting the unhinged Ronny, and his feral young daughter, Lily ([Jesse Giacomazzi](#)). This episode encapsulates what makes this show unique – it is at once funny, tragic, violent, and bizarre. Barry, wearing an orange ski-mask and sunglasses, walks into Ronnie's house and starts casually telling him that he was hired to kill him but has decided not to if he would just leave town for about a year. In Barry's mind, It makes perfect sense that Ronnie would simply comply. But as he gradually walks around the house, he starts to notice Ronnie's many martial arts trophies. From there. the episode takes off into the stratosphere.

Over the course of the season, Barry dispenses with (massacres might be a better word) numerous gang members from three different foreign mobs. Sally continues to be so self-absorbed that the fact her boyfriend is a hired killer completely escapes her. Elsewhere, Barry's borderline insane intensity in theatrical performance showcases has gotten the attention of agents and producers, and may actually lead to an acting career.

The pandemic-related hiatus resulted in viewers having to wait about three years between seasons 2 and 3. It was worth the wait.

The great third season is all about consequences and whether it is really possible to redeem yourself and start over. Several main cast members go through some very hard times and startling changes as violence breaks out everywhere, often with jarringly sudden impact. Barry is becoming increasingly unhinged and starts seeking out targets from an online hitman marketplace. Noho Hank is captured by rival gangsters and barely escapes with his life. Sally is attacked by her abusive ex-boyfriend and takes drastic action of her own. And Gene finally works up the courage to betray Barry.

As is the case when [Barry](#) is at its best, the series seamlessly moves from thrilling, to funny, to tragic, to dramatic, to funny, and back to thrilling, at the drop of a hat. The finale sets up a fourth season that can go in any number of directions.

#4



The Bear (FX on Hulu 2022-): Carmen “Carmy” Berzatto ([Jeremy Allen White](#)) is a young James Beard Award-winning chef who has worked in some of the best restaurants in the world. He comes home to run his family’s struggling Italian beef sandwich shop (called The Original Beef of Chicagoland) after his brother Mikey (played in flashbacks by [Jon Bernthal](#)) commits suicide and leaves him the restaurant in his will.

Carmy has to deal with a set-in-their-ways kitchen staff who resist his efforts to modernize. He also has strained family relationships and the considerable debt he inherited from his brother’s

mismanagement, all while trying to turn the restaurant into a “destination” and restructure how the business does almost everything.

Before Carmy arrived, Mikey’s stubborn, obnoxious best friend Richie ([Ebon Moss-Bachrach](#)) was running things in a way that can only be called chaotic and haphazard. In an effort to bring some structure to the restaurant, Carmy hires Sydney ([Ayo Edebiri](#) in a standout performance), a new ambitious chef, brimming with ideas, who has her own fine-dining credentials (which makes Carmy wonder why she wants to work at a local sandwich shop). He quickly promotes her to sous-chef, making her responsible for instituting changes that no one else is ready to implement. This puts her at odds with Richie and some others among the staff.



The initial conflict between Richie and Sydney is one of the more interesting aspects of the show. He is loud, abrasive, explosive, used to settling disputes with his fists (or a gun), and seemingly has no emotional depth (until we discover he actually does). She is calm, restrained, and efficient, and solves disputes through reason and compromise – but there’s something bubbling under the surface, and you almost expect her to explode at any moment.

Helped by a ticking clock and pulse-pounding soundtrack, the writers and cast do a remarkable job of making you feel the hectic and often frantic pace of the back-of-house staff, as well as the overwhelming stress of the kitchen’s claustrophobic environment. Tempers and temperatures often rise among the overworked “chefs” as they narrowly avoid collisions while racing around the confined space to get everything ready for the crush of hungry and impatient lunch customers every day.

Everything seems all at once on the verge of either triumphant success or catastrophic failure. When Carmy takes one of his many cigarette breaks where he stares off into space, I can’t tell whether he’s processing how to solve the latest problem or it’s simply despairing. But then he snaps out of it and

jumps into action. In one telling scene, Carmy sees Richie taking Xanax, and asks him why he needs that. Richie tells him, “I suffer from anxiety and dread,” to which Carmy replies, “Who doesn’t?”

As the staff starts to see the results of their labors, and Carmy and Sydney’s unrelenting confidence that they know what they’re doing, staff members are gradually won over. Showing the intricacies of the kitchen jargon and making the sausage, to the lingering shots of their mouth-watering final dishes, provides details that raise the series to another level – and shows how much everyone involved with the show loves food.



Each cast member is given their own moments to shine. [Lionel Boyce](#) is Marcus, the restaurant’s creative baker, eager to learn new ways of doing things, and inspired by Carmy and Sydney, He starts researching new recipes and adding artistic flair to his scrumptious

desserts. [Liza Colon-Zayas](#) is Tina, the wary prep cook, reluctant to make any changes, and resentful of having to take direction from a young upstart. Ebraheim ([Edwin Lee Gibson](#)) is the sturdy, unflappable line cook, whom we discover survived the Somali civil war. [Matty Matheson](#) is Neil, the genial handyman, who finds his services constantly needed. [Abby Elliott](#) is Carmy’s sister Natalie “Sugar” Berzatto, with whom he has a complicated relationship – they have completely different ways of dealing with their brother’s death.

The show might be intensely stressful, but it is also funny, dramatic, thought-provoking, exhilarating, and addicting – and unlike anything else on television. It’s been renewed for a second season, which will air exclusively on Hulu.

#3



Severance (Apple TV+ 2022-): Work-life balance comes to the forefront in this mystery thriller from Ben Stiller. Office workers voluntarily undergo a medical procedure known as “severance,” which surgically divides their memories between their work and personal lives. When they are in the office, they do not recall anything about their outside lives, friends, or families. When they leave the office, they remember nothing about their jobs or co-workers.

The elevator ride into and out of the office erases their memories. Their work selves are referred to as “Innies” and their outside selves as “Outies.” There is extremely tight security and full body scans upon entering the building’s elevator to prevent either version of an employee from trying to smuggle communications or clues to their other self.

While the Innies and Outies are technically the same people, only the Outies have any life experience. The Innies only exist at work, and are essentially placed into a world where they have no past and no knowledge of anything or anyone beyond the few co-workers with whom they share a windowless fluorescent-lit office space, and their controlling bosses who dole out rewards if they meet production quotas and punishments if they break the rules. Once they leave the office they have no memory of going home or going to sleep. Their experience is leaving the office and immediately returning to the office (and somehow feeling refreshed if their Outies had a good night’s sleep).



The series follows Mark Scout (a pitch-perfect [Adam Scott](#)), an employee at the mysterious Lumon industries, who was recently promoted to lead a team in the Macrodata Refinement division on the “severed” floor (in the basement of the building). He was elevated to the position after the previous team leader and his best friend (at work), Petey ([Yul Vaquez](#)), was fired under mysterious circumstances.

Petey’s replacement, Helly R. ([Britt Lower](#)), quickly decides she doesn’t want to work there, but since her Outie does (and she has no idea why) there’s no escape. Her award-worthy performance is nothing short of spectacular. The rest of Mark’s team are Irving (the always terrific [John Turturro](#)), who is a stickler for company policy, and Dylan ([Zach Cherry](#)), a follower, who enjoys the bizarre company perks employees receive for achieving certain goals (such as finger traps, waffle parties, or five-minute music/dance breaks).

On the outside, the severance procedure is controversial, with many people protesting it as unethical. Mark’s Outie is grieving the death of his wife, and as his pregnant sister ([Jen Tullock](#)) tells him, “forgetting for eight hours a day is not the same as healing.” At work, with no recollection of his outside life, Mark is relatively content, although he misses Petey and is constantly trying to deal with Helly R. and prevent her from being punished for breaking the rules and trying to escape.

One day, in his outside life, a man he doesn’t recognize approaches him and says he is his co-worker Petey, and has managed, with help from a secret organization, to reverse the severance procedure (something which is supposed to be impossible). He goes on to tell him that Lumon industries is an evil company, but won’t say exactly what they do – he fears the company is searching for him and his life is in danger. This sets up everything that follows.



[Patricia Arquette](#) is chilling as Harmony Cobel, Mark's boss at Lumon, who is also his next door neighbor, Mrs. Selvig, on the outside. Although she takes on two separate identities, we soon realize she is not severed, and is actually keeping tabs on Mark. [Christopher Walken](#) plays another of his many quirky characters as Burt, the severed chief of the mysterious Optics and Design division, who has a mutual attraction to [John Turturro's](#) Irving. [Tramell Tillman](#) is excellent as Mr. Milchick, the constantly smiling supervisor of the severed floor, who doles out rewards and punishments. [Dichen Lachman](#) is a find as the robotic Mrs. Casey, a Lumon wellness counselor on the severed floor, who may be more than she seems.

The season finale has some major reveals and a bold cliffhanger (considering it was filmed before the show was officially renewed for a second season) – it's one of the most tension-filled episodes of television I can recall.

#2



Better Call Saul (AMC 2015-2022): This prequel to [Breaking Bad](#) (2008-2013) starts out six years before the events in that series begin, and chronicles the long slide down the slippery slope that culminates with former con-artist and hustling small-time attorney Jimmy McGill re-inventing himself as sleazy mob lawyer, Saul Goodman. Several parallel storylines gradually converge as the series gets closer to, and eventually overlaps, the [Breaking Bad](#) universe.

Having been a big fan of *Breaking Bad*, I was extremely skeptical, and didn't get why anyone would want to develop a series around mob lawyer, Saul Goodman. It didn't seem like there was that much to work with, and I expected it to be cheesy, pointless, and quickly canceled. Man was I wrong.

Better Call Saul is every bit as great as the show that spawned it (maybe better). [Bob Odenkirk's](#) performance is so good that viewers familiar with *Breaking Bad* (who know what he eventually becomes) can still be unsure of his motives and moral compass. [Rhea Seehorn](#) is equally compelling as his colleague/girlfriend, who goes back and forth between her straight-laced corporate attorney life and the more exciting seat-of-your-pants (and fun) lawyering she gets to do with Jimmy.

Two major *Breaking Bad* characters, mob fixer Mike Ehrmantraut ([Jonathan Banks](#)) and drug kingpin Gus Fring ([Giancarlo Esposito](#)) are excellent here, as both are fleshed out and given more in-depth backstories. In fact, the series is almost as much Mike's story as it is Jimmy's/Saul's.

Here are the main and major recurring characters:



[Bob Odenkirk](#) is simply brilliant as Jimmy McGill/Saul Goodman, a former scam artist who is trying to become a respectable lawyer. After he loses his license and eventually gets it reinstated, he starts working for himself, quickly building a reputation for doing whatever it takes to

help his low-rent clients get justice. In the process, his moral compass gets murkier and murkier. He uses his street smarts and con-artist skills to win case after case, and to get out of one jam after another, often with the help of his fellow attorney and girlfriend Kim and criminal fixer and sometime ally, Mike.

[Rhea Seehorn](#) gives a superb performance as Jimmy's girlfriend Kim Wexler, who worked her way up from the mailroom to become a successful attorney at the high-powered law firm, Hamlin, Hamlin,

and McGill (HHM), which was co-founded by Jimmy's older brother Chuck ([Michael McKean](#)). While Kim thrives in her corporate attorney world, she finds it boring, and is thrilled by Jimmy's con-man side (even though she sometimes thinks he's conning her as well). She eventually starts working for herself, and occasionally joins Jimmy in scamming unsavory characters just for fun. She is almost always the smartest person in the room.



[Jonathan Banks](#) is great in another of his gangster-style roles as Mike Ehrmantraut, whom we know as a criminal fixer from [Breaking Bad](#). He's gruff, quietly assured, and intimidating, yet surprisingly kind-hearted to those he doesn't consider a threat. When we first meet

Mike, he is a parking lot attendant at the Albuquerque courthouse frequented by both Jimmy and Kim. He's a retired Philadelphia cop who, to help support his widowed daughter and granddaughter, starts working as a fixer and bodyguard for a drug cartel, eventually coming under the wing of drug distributor, Gus Fring ([Giancarlo Esposito](#)).

Jimmy, Kim, and Mike each justify their growing moral ambiguity because being good hasn't gotten them where they want to be, and the people they are facing off with are really bad people (a lot worse than they are).

The always good [Giancarlo Esposito](#) shows up in season 3, reprising his [Breaking Bad](#) role as the ruthless Gus Fring. He handles the Southwestern U.S. cocaine distribution for the Juarez Mexican drug cartel using his fast-food restaurant (Los Pollos Hermanos) as a front. He's known derisively as "chicken man" by several of the cartel members. But he wants to get into the even more profitable methamphetamine business to work for himself and be free of the cartel.



Gus has an ongoing vendetta with the notorious Salamanca family (part of the Juarez Mexican drug cartel), headed up by Hector Salamanca ([Mark Margolis](#)) and his nephew Lalo ([Tony Dalton](#)).

[Raymond Cruz](#) also reprises his role from *Breaking Bad* as the psychopathic and violent Tuco Salamanca, another of Hector's nephews.

[Michael Mando](#) is riveting as Nacho Varga, a clever and ambitious drug dealer and reluctant member of the Salamanca drug ring. Hector Salamanca wants to use Nacho's father's legitimate business as a front for trafficking drugs. When his father refuses and is threatened by the Salamanca's, Nacho starts planning to take out Hector. Nacho is instrumental in getting both Mike and Jimmy involved with the cartel.

[Michael McKean](#) is solid as Jimmy's brilliant and insufferably arrogant older brother, Chuck McGill, who was a founding member of the HHM law firm. He is a semi-recluse, who seldom leaves home because of what he claims is an allergy to electricity. Despite Jimmy taking care of him, he has nothing but disdain for Jimmy's legal career, and tries to get him disbarred.

[Patrick Fabian](#) gives an under-rated, nuanced performance as HHM's managing partner, Howard Hamlin, who becomes Jimmy's nemesis. Jimmy once worked in the law firm's mailroom, but when he got his law degree, Howard refused to hire him (we later find out he was following Chuck's orders). He also has a number of conflicts with Kim. He tries to be a decent person, but makes a number of unfortunate decisions, and doesn't understand what he did to get Jimmy and Kim to hate him.

[Tony Dalton](#) is scary as the vicious and murderous Lalo Salamanca, who takes over his family's operation as part of the Juarez drug cartel after his uncle Hector has a stroke. After Gus unsuccessfully tries to have him killed, he goes underground to plan his revenge – Saul, Kim, Mike, and Gus are all in danger because they have no idea where he is or when he will resurface. Lalo will

kill anyone who gets in his way without regard to whether they are real threats or just innocent bystanders who happen to see his face.



Each of the first five seasons starts out with a flash-forward to Saul's post-*Breaking Bad* persona, Gene Takavic, who manages a Cinnabon at a mall in Omaha, Nebraska. This identity was set up at the end of *Breaking Bad*, to keep him safe. As Saul said to Walter White at the time, "From here on out I'm Mr. Low Profile; just another douchebag with a job and three pairs of dockers. If I'm lucky, a month from now, best case scenario, I'm managing a Cinnabon in Omaha." But now it seems a relocated cab driver might recognize him from his days in Albuquerque. This comes to a head in the sixth and final season.

Much of the first two seasons center around Jimmy trying to convince his brother Chuck that he's a good lawyer, Kim's politicking as she moves up the ladder at HHM, Jimmy and Kim's clashes with Chuck and HHM as their romantic relationship evolves, and Mike's growing association with the criminal world.



Season 3 ramps up the chaos as Jimmy's conflict with his brother reaches a shocking conclusion. Jimmy adopts the name Saul Goodman for the first time when he turns to making commercials after his law license is suspended (the name derives from the phrase, "it's all good man"). Nacho makes his move against Hector. Mike meets Gus Fring for the first time, and together they scheme to topple the Salamanca crime family. Kim becomes more and more enamored with Jimmy's care-free, bend-the-rules, scam-artist lifestyle.

The fourth season starts to get darker as Jimmy's transformation to Saul Goodman takes shape. He manages to persuade the bar association to reinstate his law license (with a passionate plea that

even fools Kim into thinking he's sincere). Here is also when he starts to become more involved in the criminal world. Gus Fring is preparing to build the enormous underground meth lab used by Walter White and Jesse Pinkman in [Breaking Bad](#).

Everyone is in peril during season 5. Gus tries to solidify his power, which leads to a violent conflict with Lalo Salamanca. Jimmy embarks on a dangerous foray into the desert to retrieve \$7 million the cartel buried there to bail a drug lord out of jail. Jimmy's influence on Kim becomes more apparent, as she crosses ethical lines she wouldn't have considered a few years ago. After a major conflict with HHM, Kim quits the law firm and devises a plan to destroy the reputation of its managing partner, Howard Hamlin.



Season 6 is brilliant on every level, including the first meeting between Kim and Mike. When word gets out that Jimmy managed to get a drug lord out of jail, Saul Goodman's reputation sinks among his legal peers, but soars among the criminal element, and his client base grows dramatically. The war between Lalo Salamanca and Gus Fring heats up, and tension mounts, first with Nacho and then as Jimmy and Kim get caught in the middle. Almost every scene is fraught with danger – one shocking event forever changes both Saul and Kim.

Since Kim does not appear in or is even mentioned in [Breaking Bad](#), fans had been anxiously wondering about what happens to her in the sixth and final season. I hesitate to use the word “perfect,” but a decision she makes and her ultimate fate are as close to perfect as writing and acting on a television series can be. It's also the last piece in Jimmy McGill's final transformation into the Saul Goodman we know from [Breaking Bad](#).



And then there's the all black and white episode devoted to Saul's new life as Gene Takavic, as he has to deal with a cab driver named Jeff ([Pat Healy](#)) who recognizes him from his commercials in Albuquerque. He meets Jeff by getting close to his mom, played by the incomparable [Carol Burnett](#). He obviously misses the excitement of his previous life, and channels his inner Saul Goodman, coming up with an elaborate scheme to have Jeff and a friend rob luxury-brand items from the mall he works in after it closes for the night. He, then blackmails them into keeping quiet about his identity.

What happens next is surprising, exciting, touching, and tension-filled – a testament to the brilliant writing and great acting by [Bob Odenkirk](#) and [Rhea Seehorn](#). The series finale is a perfect ending to Jimmy and Kim's journey together.

#1



[Peaky Blinders](#) ([Netflix 2013-2022](#)): After World War I, Britain is rocked by economic upheaval and shifting social mores, as returning soldiers, revolutionaries, criminal gangs, and average citizens all struggling to survive. Returning war hero, Thomas Shelby ([Cillian Murphy](#)) is the cunning, charismatic, and ambitious young leader of one of the more notorious local gangs, the Peaky Blinders, which he runs with his family. They are so named because of the razor blades sewn into the peaks of the newsboy caps they wear, and are loosely based on a real urban street gang of the time.

The series is stylish, suspenseful, moody, beautifully shot, and filled with superb actors. It contains many of the family dynamics of great gangster dramas, while at the same time redefining the genre. Rising up from poverty to build a criminal empire, family loyalty and betrayal, trying to legitimize the family business, brutally violent rival gangs, the start and end of prohibition, shifting alliances, and the evolution of Thomas Shelby into a triumphant but ultimately tragic figure. And it has perhaps the coolest theme song of all time (*Red Right Hand*, sung by Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds), which is pitch perfect for the show.

Peaky Blinders has a large ensemble cast of regular and recurring characters, some of whom cross multiple seasons. The series has won several international awards for acting, directing, music, various craft and production elements, and for the show itself.



The Shelby family includes: [Helen McCrory](#) as Thomas Shelby's aunt, Elizabeth "Polly" Gray, the tough and clever heart of the family; [Paul Anderson](#) as Arthur Shelby, Thomas's unstable and violent older brother and best friend; [Sophie Rundle](#) as the only female sibling, Ada – smart and tough, she eventually helps Thomas Shelby run his business; [Finn Cole](#) as Helen's son and Thomas's younger cousin Michael Gray, who starts out being Thomas's protégé but eventually tries to take over the business; [Annabelle Wallis](#) as Grace Shelby, Thomas's girlfriend, a former undercover agent who becomes his first wife and mother of his son, Charles; [Natasha O'Keefe](#) as Lizzie Shelby, an ex-prostitute and Thomas's secretary, who eventually becomes his second wife and mother of his daughter, Ruby; [Kate Phillips](#) as Linda Shelby, Arthur's wife and a devout Christian, who is constantly trying to get him to change his ways; [Ana Taylor-Joy](#) as Gina Gray, Michael Gray's American wife, whose uncle is a pro-fascist south Boston gang leader and powerful businessman, ([James Frecheville](#)), and [Joe Cole](#) as John, the youngest Shelby.



A barely recognizable [Tom Hardy](#) has a great turn as Jewish gang leader Alfie Solomons, who is Thomas Shelby's sometime ally and sometime adversary. [Packy Lee](#) is Johnny Dogs, Tommy's gypsy friend. [Sam Neil](#) is Chief Inspector Chester Campbell, one of the Shelby's main adversaries during the first couple of seasons. [Aiden Gillen](#) is Aberama Gold, a gypsy assassin who becomes a Shelby ally and Polly's lover. [Adrian Brody](#) is New York mafioso, Luca Changretta, who has a vendetta against the Peaky Blinders and tries to kill them all (with a team of assassins he brings over from the U.S.). [Sam Claflin](#) is Oswald Mosley, a Fascist British politician who becomes the Shelby's fiercest adversary in seasons 5 and 6. [Amber Anderson](#) is Mosley's wife, Lady Diana Milford, a British aristocrat and Fascist socialite.



The sixth and final season, which consists of just six episodes, was delayed because of the pandemic. Unfortunately, during that time, [Helen McCrory](#) passed away from cancer. If not for the production delay, she would have had a central role in the final season, which had to be rewritten following her passing. In the tense and exciting series finale, Thomas Shelby resolves much of his unfinished business, as his and his family's lives are in constant danger. Although the sixth season was its last, a [Peaky Blinders](#) movie is reportedly in the works, and there's talk of a potential spin-off series.

Feel free to let me know what you think of my list – comments welcome via email at steve@thesternbergreport.com or on Twitter [@stevesternberg](https://twitter.com/stevesternberg)