She was the first time around in her early teens.

Ceremony as an opportunity to be in the spotlight, at youth in her own way through a do-over of her

37 sec.

Molly Bernard, Sutton Foster, and Debi Mazar, cast

Tricia Brock, director

Dottie Dartland Zicklin and Eric Zicklin, writers

Darren Star, creator for television

TV Land, 2015

Season 1, Episode 1

Younger

Elements from both traditions.

His son a "hip-hop bro mitzvah" that incorporates

Of-age ceremony. Ultimately realizing his son is

At school and are not being raised "Black enough."

That his children are too influenced by the white kids

When Andre Jr. says he is converting to Judaism in

Anthony Anderson, Tracee Ellis Ross, and Marcus Scribner, cast

ABC, 2014

Season 1, Episode 1

Black-ish

Seth Meyers suggests Jacob speak spontaneously, he

Pointer on a Torah scroll and thanks relatives as he

Acting as though he is performing bar mitzvah rituals,

The character Jacob the Bar Mitzvah Boy periodically

Saturday Night Live "Jacob the Bar Mitzvah Boy Teaches the Story of Hanukkah"

The Dick Van Dyke Show "Buddy Sorrell: Man and Boy"

Adult, rather than adolescent, bar and bat mitzvahs

The Simpsons "Today I am a Clown"

Luna Mitzvah, creator

Vanessa Bayer, Zach Kanin, and Melissa Suyker, writers

Vanessa Bayer and Jeff Suyker, cast

Vanessa Bayer and Jeff Suyker, cast

The character Jacob the Bar Mitzvah Boy periodically joins Saturday Night Live’s "Weekend Update" crew to share his wisdom on a Jewish topic, Jacob’s clothes and his demeanor evoke his recent bar mitzvah. Acting as though he is performing bar mitzvah rituals, Jacob places his finger on the text as if it were a Torah pointer on a Torah scroll and thanks relatives as he would have done in his speech. Whenever the host Seth Meyers suggests Jacob speak spontaneously, he further exhibits adolescent awkwardness.

Black-ish Pilot

When Andre Jr. says he is converting to Judaism in order to have a bar mitzvah bash for his thirteenth birthday, his father, Andre, is scandalized. He worries that his children are too influenced by the white kids at school and are not being raised “Black enough.” Andre refuses to allow the bar mitzvah and instead insists on a theme of his own: an African coming-of-age ceremony. Ultimately realizing his son is exploring his identity, Andre compromises, throwing his son a “hip-hop bro mitzvah” that incorporates elements from both traditions.

Younger “Hot Mitzvah”

The series Younger follows Liza Miller, a forty-year-old woman pretending to be twenty-six, but this episode focuses on her Jewish friend Lauren. She returns to her own way through a do-over of her bat mitzvah. Lauren enthusiastically seizes upon the ceremony as an opportunity to be in the spotlight, at a time when she no longer as socially awkward as she was the first time around in her early teens.

Bob’s Burgers "Mazel-Tina"

When Tina does not receive a highly coveted invitation to her classmate Tammy’s bat mitzvah, she finds another way in, landing the catering gig for her family’s restaurant. Tammy’s reception features classic elements of a bat mitzvah party taken to the extreme: an absurd number of food options, ubiquitous DJ’s, and a signature cocktail (the “Tammy-tini”). The theme of the event is just “Tammy,” preposterously perfect for the spoiled and narcissistic teen. She is introduced with much fanfare as “the star of the evening.”

The Simpsons "Today I am a Clown"

Joel Silverstone, creator

Joel Silverstone, writer

Renee Zellweger, Julie Kanter, Jessica Meave, and Henry Shearer, cast

19 sec.

Krusty the Clown feels lost and disappointed when he is (inaccurately) informed that, since he did not have a bar mitzvah, he has not truly a Jewish man. Krusty’s party, staged very much like his tacky variety show, is a parody of Jewish celebrations, with the emcee Simon Says proclaiming “I can’t Schrooom you!” and a Beach Boys tribute band performing songs full of random Yiddish and Hebrew terms that rhyme. The party is supplemented with a more “traditional” ceremony during which Krusty speaks mostly nonsensical Hebrew words while pretending to read from the Torah.

Raising Hope "Burt Mitzvah: The Musical"

Sing star, Paul A. Kegel and Mark Tungate, writers

Darren Star, creator

Garrett M. Ellwood, Lissa Neft, Jesse Kruts, and Martha Stengel, cast

1 min., 16 sec.

When they reveal to Burt, that falsey, that he is Jewish, Burt’s parents pressure him into having a bar mitzvah. The music-video pep talk about the ceremony borrows from 1970s glam rock and recalls bar mitzvah parties of that era. Burt is serenaded with details about the event, the musical number concluding “You ain’t no shmendrik [fool; you’re gonna rock the Torah!”

Crazy Ex-Girlfriend "Will Scarsdale Like Joshua’s Shyma Punimi?"

Rachel Bloom and Alane Brosh McKinnon, creators

Don Gagar and Doug Mood, writers

Rachel Bloom, Sarah Feldshuh, Kyla Pratt, and Vincent Rodriguez III, cast

2 min., 1 sec.

When Rebecca brings her boyfriend Josh to the East Coast for the bar mitzvah of one of her relatives, she gives him a tutorial on the darker undercurrents of the celebration. While Josh observes a fun party, Rebecca cautions, “It sounds like one thing, but means another.” She manifests an alternate universe in her mind, a vision that includes a traditional hora dance with the lyrics changed. Expertly delivered by the Broadway stars Tammy Blanchard as Rebecca’s older sister and Patti LuPone as the rabbi, the refrain—and the lesson—is, “Remember that we suffered!”

Difficult People "Fuzz Buddies"

In Difficult People Julie often has complicated exchanges with Marilyn, her opinionated and attention-craving Jewish mother. This episode, however, catches the two of them in a rare tender moment at Marilyn’s adult bat mitzvah. The event has not gone the way she had hoped. So, in a restroom away from the party, Julie comforts her mother, reassuring her that, no matter how the party turns out, the important thing at the end of the day is to be surrounded by loved ones.