

## Fall 2012 Television Season Review

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It's the most wonderful time of the year – the Fall TV season is upon us and shows are new again! While some new shows have stumbled out of the gate, canceled after only 1-2 airings (we hardly knew you, **ANIMAL PRACTICE** and **MADE IN JERSEY**), some old favorites and new surprises are heating up the Fall with ratings galore and stories that are keeping me tuned in!

**REVOLUTION**, the latest apocalyptic drama to hit the airwaves, is from the mind of Eric Kripke (creator of **SUPERNATURAL**) and the production company of JJ Abrams (a god among mere mortals in the TV world). It asks the question of viewers “What would you do if all power, electric, steam, you name it, was gone?” And the team on screen is living life, 15 years after a blackout that took everything away – no TV, no iPads, no cars. Sword-fighting and archery are the name of the game, and gone are the governments we've all been used to – in are militias and dangerous bounty hunters. The show, which has been a huge ratings grabber for NBC, has helped to put the network heretofore known as a failure in a comfortable first place heading into November Sweeps!

Also on the drama side, season 2 of surprise hit **SCANDAL** is heating up ABC's Thursday nights! What started as a story of Olivia Pope and her team – fixers in the Washington, DC, area – has become a story of government conspiracy, inter-office politics, and relationship turmoil that creator Shonda Rhimes (of **GREY'S ANATOMY**) can write with her eyes closed! Kerry Washington as Pope and Tony Goldwyn as the President of the United States lead an all-star cast that never give away when a big surprise is coming. If you didn't watch last year, definitely watch it now!

Other dramas you should be watching this Fall: **LAST RESORT** on ABC (a sub is targeted by the US, and takes up as a sovereign nation on a remote island in the Pacific), **NASHVILLE** (also on ABC, about a country music legend facing off against a new chart topper), **HOMELAND** (one of the best shows ever made, airing Season 2 on Showtime), and **DEXTER** (also on Showtime, having a creative upswing this season due to what Deb saw in the finale last year). Dramas to skip: **THE MOB DOCTOR** on FOX. It's not long for this world with the current ratings!

The surprise comedy hit of the season so far, for me, is ABC's strange alien show **THE NEIGHBORS**. When Marty and Debbie Weaver moved to the suburbs, they did not expect that their entire neighborhood would be filled with a species of Zabriovians, aliens who are studying the Earth to send information back home. Through each other, the families are learning about acceptance in the most absurd way. It's not re-inventing the wheel, but I'm perfectly happy to be along for the ride!

In returning comedy news – there is no show better than **HAPPY ENDINGS** on ABC right now! **MODERN FAMILY** can take on the Emmys – this group of 6 friends are content to be the

funniest group on TV, and don't need the statues to prove it. Eliza Coupe (SCRUBS) and Damon Wayans, Jr (of the extremely talented Wayans family) lead this group of friends through the ups and downs of life. It is, in a word, perfection!

Other comedies to put on the DVR schedule: **RAISING HOPE** and **BEN & KATE** on FOX, and **THE MIDDLE** and **SUBURGATORY** on ABC! They are all family comedies with a ton of heart! Comedies to skip: **PARTNERS** on CBS (it's painful) and **GUYS WITH KIDS** on NBC (see the description for PARTNERS).