

Amazing Shows Featuring Unforgettable Women

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The world of television is home to some incredible women, women who can capture our hearts, keep us on the edge of our seats, or make us laugh like crazy people. Some of them are based on real people, and some are entirely made up, but either way they come through the screen as though you could run into them at the store. Here are five of their shows.

Call the Midwife

A friend, pretty accurately, dubbed this show "Call the Kleenex," given how deeply it touches you. Based on the memoirs of Jennifer Worth, a midwife in London's poor East End in the 1950s, it chronicles the lives of the women she and other midwives helped. The show is packed with people so real, you forget they lived more than half a century ago. Season three premieres March 30th, so now's the time for a marathon. If your heart can take it.

Orange is the New Black

Who would have thought a show about a women's prison could reveal so much about who people really are? Also based on a memoir, this show, from "Weeds" creator Jenji Kohan, reveals the vulnerable side of the women we rarely think about. It does it so well, you'll be rewatching the series before you know it, whiling away the time until it returns in June.

Miranda

This hilarious sitcom is written by star Miranda Hart, a devastatingly funny English actress. She, incidentally, also appears in "Call the Midwife," and has her own memoir, "Is it Just Me?" so she's a busy lady. With a charming group of family, friends and frenemies, this one's a happy watch. The only sad bit is that series three doesn't seem to be available in the U.S. Sigh.

The Fall

Gillian Anderson is back on TV, and this time, she's British, playing Detective Superintendent Stella Gibson. In this series set in Ireland, Anderson stalks a killer in Belfast. Beautifully shot and directed, it plays like a miniseries. The good news, though, is that it isn't: series two is already filming.

Orphan Black

With the second season premiering April 19, there's enough time to catch up on this taut sci-fi thriller. Starring the amazing Tatiana Maslany in multiple roles you can't believe come from the same person, this intense show is the kind of incredible viewing experience that defies description. Guess you're just going to have to watch.