

## TV Feature: Fall 2011 New Network Series Bubble Watch

Submitted by [BrianTT](#) [1] on October 11, 2011 - 1:28pm

- [2 Broke Girls](#) [2]
- [A Gifted Man](#) [3]
- [Brian Tallerico](#) [4]
- [Bubble Watch](#) [5]
- [Charlie's Angels](#) [6]
- [HollywoodChicago.com Content](#) [7]
- [New Girl](#) [8]
- [Pan Am](#) [9]
- [Person of Interest](#) [10]
- [Prime Suspect](#) [11]
- [Revenge](#) [12]
- [Ringer](#) [13]
- [Suburgatory](#) [14]
- [Television](#) [15]
- [Terra Nova](#) [16]
- [The Secret Circle](#) [17]
- [Unforgettable](#) [18]

CHICAGO – It feels like only yesterday that we were naming [the most promising shows of 2011](#) [19] (and would like to point out that our #1 was the first program given a full-season order for just one second). Just about a month into the new season, what are the breakout hits? What's canceled and what will soon join that club? What could turn around and build an audience? Let us guide the way network by network.

It might seem premature to put shows on the bubble for cancellation a month into their existence but tell that to the producers of "The Playboy Club," "Free Agents," or "H8R," three shows that have already felt the sharp blade of the cancellation axe. TV watchers are at that point where they're trying to decide if they want to devote a season pass to a new program and they don't want to get involved with something only to see it get canceled. What's next? What will survive? Let us guide the way with our predicted fate for every new show.

### ABC

#### 7 New Shows — 2 Likely Full-Seasons, 2 Likely To Be Canceled, 3 Yet to Premiere



Charlie's Angels  
Photo credit: ABC

#### "Charlie's Angels

The actresses on the latest failed reboot better start asking Charlie for a new assignment. This could be canceled by the time you read this and seems like a likely bet for the next to go. It opened weakly but it's been the erosion from week to week that's been remarkable. People are sampling and not coming back. **Will Be Canceled Soon**

**“Last Man Standing”**

Debuts tonight. Our critic Matt Fagerholm hated it and I agree wholeheartedly. One of the worst new shows of the season and if there’s any justice it will be quickly axed. Which means, of course, it will probably run five years. We’ll be back with ratings news on it tomorrow.

**“Man Up”**

Debuts next week, October 18th. Sneak preview — it’s awful.

**“Once Upon a Time”**

Debuts on October 23rd. Sneak preview — meh.

**“Pan Am”**

Here’s another case of a show that came out of the gate looking like a winner but is seriously losing steam as it continues around the track. The show fell hard in week three this past Sunday, down 27% in the 18-49 demo with an anemic 1.9 rating there (below 2.0 is unacceptable for a show on the big three) and a total just over 6 million viewers. For comparison, “The Good Wife” in the same time slot is on constant bubble watch and it had almost 10 million viewers this week. In other words, “Pan Am” is in trouble. It doesn’t help the show that ABC has a LOT of quality product waiting in the mid-season wings. Something will have to go to make room and it will be the stewardesses, ending the network’s brief flirtation with finding a “Mad Men” clone. **Will Be Canceled Mid-Season**

**“Revenge”**

The guilty pleasure of 2011 started very strong and most assumed that it would land an almost-immediate full-season order but it’s dipped a bit as it’s gone along. The numbers are “good enough for ABC” with the 10/5 episode landing over 7.5 million total with a 2.4 18-49 rating, ratings that compare to “Law & Order: SVU” (but not to “CSI”). I think if “Revenge” has plateaued it will be around but it better not continue to slide and the fact is that it’s doing incredibly well when compared to what was in the time slot last year, which is all that really matters — improvement. **Likely Full Season**

**“Suburgatory”**

Despite mediocre reviews, it’s done surprisingly well, drawing over 9 million viewers in its last airing, keeping almost all of its lead-in audience (“The Middle”) and actually improving on it in the 18-49 demo. It seems almost guaranteed that the sitcom will get a full-season order, especially with “Happy Endings” dipping strongly on the same night in total viewers (although holding in some key demos). Sadly, that superior show is more likely to get canceled before “Suburgatory”. **Likely Full Season**

Click to the next page for CBS...

**CBS**

**5 New Shows — 1 Full-Season Order, 2 Likely Full-Seasons, 1 Cancellation, 1 Likely To Be Canceled**



2 Broke Girls  
Photo credit: CBS

**“2 Broke Girls”**

One of the biggest new hits of the year, this show feels not only like it will be on at this point next year but in 2012, 2013, and beyond. When CBS finds a hit comedy, they ride it for YEARS (“Two and a Half Men,” “How I Met Your Mother,” even “Rules of Engagement” is still on). So, if there’s one new show that I would say you don’t have to worry about being on the bubble for some time, it’s “2 Broke

## Girls.” **Full-Season Ordered**

### “A Gifted Man”

I’ll start to sound like a broken record here but this is another show that started strong and has slipped to the point where there’s serious reason for concern. Shot in New York with high-profile actors, this can’t be a cheap program to produce and if they can’t lift their numbers soon, which seems unlikely, they won’t make it too far. With few other dramas falling, the net is going to have to make room for something in mid-season and I think this will be the evictee. **Will Be Canceled Mid-Season**

### “How to Be a Gentleman”

Audiences turned away from this train wreck and the show has technically already been canceled. It’s been moved to Saturday nights to burn off already-produced episodes and “Rules of Engagement” has taken its spot on Thursday nights. It never had a chance. There is TV justice every once in awhile. **Canceled**

### “Person of Interest”

With no lead-in support (“How to Be a Gentleman”), the show has struggled a bit, but still seems like a very-likely candidate for at least one season. The network has to be annoyed that it’s losing the demo battle to 3 of the other 4 networks in that time slot but they’ve always skewed older and the total numbers are impressive, only half a million people behind “The X Factor” last week. **Likely Full Season**

### “Unforgettable”

The demo numbers aren’t great — it’s drawing more older viewers, which doesn’t make advertisers happy — and I think that’s what has held CBS back from a full-season order already but I expect it to come soon anyway. A 2.4 rating in the 18-49 demo isn’t great for most networks but it will do for older-skewing CBS and actually wins the time slot for the net. I feel like “Unforgettable” is a hit in large part because of weak competition — “Body of Proof” and “Parenthood” — and that the other nets could challenge it with something stronger but that doesn’t seem likely soon and so...**Likely Full Season**

Click to the next page for THE CW...

## THE CW

### 4 New Shows — 2 Likely Full-Seasons, 1 Cancellation, 1 Likely To Be Canceled



Hart of Dixie  
Photo credit: The CW

### “H8R”

Never heard of it? You’re not alone. **Canceled**

### “Hart of Dixie”

Ratings are so anemic across the board at The CW that it’s hard to say what’s on the bubble and what’s not. The whole network could be on the bubble and I honestly don’t see how The CW can survive long term without a major overhaul. Even relative “hits” for the network are bombs. “Hart” built in its most recent episode and gets higher ratings than its lead-in (“Gossip Girl”), so I think it will survive...if the network itself does. **Likely Full Season**

### “Ringer”

The Sarah Michelle Gellar show started strong and has slid since then, dropping a steep 33% in its most recent installment, pulling only a 0.9



rating in the 18-49. Yet again, what is a hit on The CW? Its lead-in, “90210,” notched only a 0.6 in the same demo. Can they cancel them both? I think “Ringer” will continue to slide and will just eke out a first season but not get a second. **Likely Full Season**

“The Secret Circle”

Here’s the biggest problem for the net in that their biggest hit, “The Vampire Diaries,” should provide more support for what follows but “The Secret Circle” drew a 0.8 18-49 last week down from a 1.0 the week before. The erosion and the lack of maintaining its lead means it’s in serious trouble. All three of their dramas are struggling but this one is struggling the most and I think they can only cancel one given the fact that they don’t seem likely to have that many replacements to fill the holes in their schedule. This will be the one. **Will Be Canceled by Mid-Season**

Click to the next page for FOX...

FOX  
5 New Shows — 2 Will Play Out As Planned, 1 Full-Season Renewal, 2 Yet to Premiere



“Allen Gregory”  
Debuts on October 30th.

“I Hate My Teenage Daughter”  
Debuts on November 30th. Sneak preview — it’s bad enough that the rumors that it may actually get canceled before it airs have some validity.

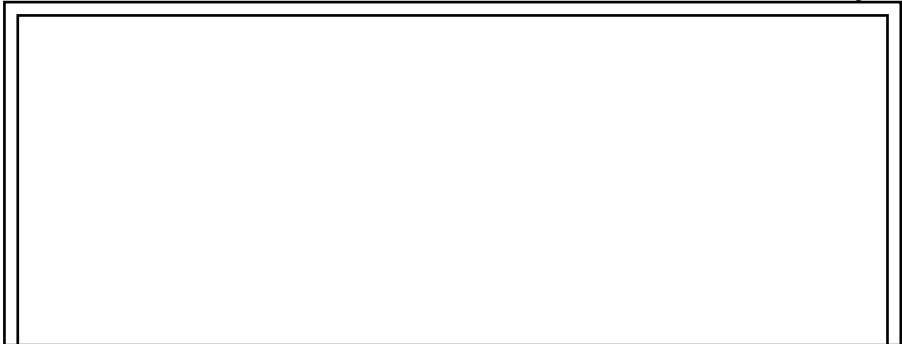
“New Girl”  
The first breakout hit of the season and the first sitcom hit for FOX in years. It earned a well-deserved full-season already. **Full-Season Ordered**

“Terra Nova”  
The first season was ordered at 13 episodes and so there won’t be a standard “full season” but the numbers are strong enough that we’ll see all of season one and can probably expect a second season a year from now if it keeps it up. It almost ALWAYS the case that a highly-promoted series premiere does well and then it drops the next week. “Terra Nova” did decently in week one but the big news was that it maintained 100% of that audience in week two. That’s remarkable. With an 18-49 number above 3.0 and holding it a second week, this is a hit. **Will Play All 13 Episodes, Likely Renewed**

“The X Factor”  
Like “Terra Nova,” there’s no chance that “The X Factor” won’t play out. It’s rare to cancel a reality show mid-season. It has to truly bomb and that’s not happening here, even if the numbers aren’t what people expected. I don’t think “The X Factor” is going anywhere unless Simon Cowell decides it’s not working. In other words, if he wants it back next year, it’ll be back. It’s not an “American Idol”-sized hit but it works for the network. **Will Play All of First Season, Likely Renewed**

Click to the next page for NBC...

NBC  
6 New Shows — 2 Full-Seasons, 2 Cancellations, 1 Likely To Be Canceled, 1 Yet to Premiere





Prime Suspect  
Photo credit: NBC

#### “Free Agents”

Why bother writing about this disaster any more? No one watched it and I’d like to thank all of you for giving my choice for the worst new show of the year the fate it deserved. **Mercifully Canceled.**

#### “Grimm”

Debuts October 28th.

#### “The Playboy Club”

The answer to the trivia question of what was the first show canceled in the Fall 2011 season. **Canceled**

#### “Prime Suspect”

This might be the biggest question mark on any network. The numbers haven’t been good and they’ve been sliding week to week but the show has received good reviews and it feels to me like NBC might stick with it to give it time to develop. The concern for the producers has to be that the net has a strong mid-season slate (including hour-longs “Smash” and “Awake”) and there’s going to have to be room somewhere. If “Rock Center” works in the “TPC” spot then one of those new shows will have to go here and there’s no reason to believe that another NBC news show won’t find a decent audience. In other words, Maria Bello better find an audience under that hat real soon. **Canceled at Mid-Season**

#### “Up All Night”

Will Arnett finally has a hit. The show is not setting the ratings on fire but it’s doing well with the right audience. If it can maintain or even grow (and a rumored move to Thursday nights would help), this could be a long-term hit of the kind that NBC hasn’t developed in years. **Full Season Ordered**

#### “Whitney”

Given a surprising full-season order by the network that seems even more bizarre as it continues to slide in the ratings and has already dipped below the last-year ratings for “Outsourced.” Who did Whitney Cummings bribe? **Full Season Ordered**



[20]

By [BRIAN TALLERICO](#) [21]

Content Director

HollywoodChicago.com

[brian@hollywoodchicago.com](mailto:brian@hollywoodchicago.com) [20]

Source URL (retrieved on **Apr 23 2024 - 6:06pm**):

<http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/15988/tv-feature-fall-2011-new-network-series-bubble-watch>

#### Links:

[1] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/users/briantt>

[2] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/2-broke-girls>

[3] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/a-gifted-man>  
[4] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/brian-tallerico>  
[5] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/bubble-watch>  
[6] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/charlies-angels>  
[7] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/hollywoodchicagodotcom-content>  
[8] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/new-girl>  
[9] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/pan-am>  
[10] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/person-of-interest>  
[11] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/prime-suspect>  
[12] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/revenge>  
[13] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/ringer>  
[14] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/suburgatory>  
[15] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/television>  
[16] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/terra-nova>  
[17] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/the-secret-circle>  
[18] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/unforgettable>  
[19] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/news/15551/tv-feature-the-ten-most-promising-new-shows-of-fall-2011>  
[20] <mailto:brian@hollywoodchicago.com>  
[21] <http://www.hollywoodchicago.com/about#BRIAN>