

Networks

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considered on its own, is a pretty good B movie. But unless viewers are able to invest in the relationship and its consequences (which seems unlikely), "Betrayal" is a failure.

• **"The Goldbergs," ABC, 9 p.m. Tuesdays (Sept. 24)**
2 stars

Adam Goldberg was a nerdy, film-obsessed kid who turned his 1980s family into a homegrown sitcom. Now he's turned that true story into an actual sitcom, with Jeff Garlin and Wendi McLendon-Covey as the parents of three (Goldberg has turned one brother into a sister) and George Segal as the slightly daft grandpa. The show is broad and loud (so much yelling!), but it's warmhearted and often actually funny, a rarity in this year's new comedies.

• **"Hostages," CBS, 10 p.m. Mondays (Sept. 23)**
2 stars

Dylan McDermott wants doctor Toni Collette to kill the president in this grim, convoluted thriller, intended for a limited run (but with a second season possible). There's little likable here except the family golden retriever, and too many characters have too many secrets to keep up with. But the pace is brisk, and by the end of the episode, you may find yourself involved enough to want more.

• **"Mom," CBS, 9:30 p.m. Mondays (Sept. 23)**
2 stars

Anna Faris is sympathetic as a single mother, newly sober, trying to keep her teenage daughter from making the same mistakes while also reconnecting with her own, outrageous mother (Allison Janney). "Mom" is a solid drama from Chuck Lorre, but unfortunately, it's supposed to be a comedy. Perhaps later episodes will have more humor.

• **"The Originals," CW, 9 p.m. Tuesdays (preview 10 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 3)**
2 stars

A spin-off of "The Vampire Diaries" focuses on the first family of vamps as Klaus (Joseph Morgan) returns to New Orleans and picks up where he left off centuries ago. If you're a "VD" fan, you'll most likely enjoy this; if not, you'll find it impenetrable.

• **"Super Fun Night," ABC, 9:30 p.m. Wednesdays (Oct. 2)**
1 1/2 stars

Rebel Wilson plays an earnest misfit whose new job at a law firm jeopardizes her play time with her two misfit gal pals (Lauren Ash and Liza Lapira) in a comedy with more cringes than laughs.

• **"Dracula," NBC, 10 p.m. Fridays (Oct. 25)**
1 1/2 stars

Jonathan Rhys Meyers is the proto-vampire, posing (in Victorian London) as an American entrepreneur but actually out for blood, in a cartoonish and not compelling new spin on the classic.

• **"Welcome to the Family," NBC, 8:30 p.m. Thursdays (Oct. 3)**
1 1/2 stars

Two sets of parents (Mike O'Malley and Mary McCormack; Ricardo Chavira and Justina Machado) are forced to get along when their teenage kids announce that they're having a baby and plan to get married. It's a sweet enough little show, but you have to wonder how it wound up on the night where "30 Rock" used to air.

• **"Back in the Game," ABC, 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays (Sept. 25)**
1 1/2 stars

Maggie Lawson plays a former softball star who falls on hard times and is forced to move in with her father, an obnoxious drunk played by James Caan, in a loud comedy that's rarely funny and often painful to sit through. Lawson and Griffin Gluck, who plays her young son, deserve better; Caan should know better.

• **"Reign," CW, 10 p.m. Thursdays (Oct. 17)**
1 1/2 stars

Adelaide Kane is 15-year-old Mary, Queen of Scots, arriving in France with a gossipy entourage to marry Prince Frances (Toby Regbo) in a soapy historical drama that's heavy on dramatics and light on actual history. In addition to political intrigue and teenage liaisons, supernatural forces are at work here, all set to a contemporary score. Kids, enjoy this if you choose to, but don't use it to help you pass a history test.

• **"Sean Saves the World," NBC, 9 p.m. Thursdays (Oct. 3)**
1 star

Sean Hayes is a divorced dad, trying to raise a daughter and please a tough new boss (Thomas Lennon) and deal with an outspoken

mother (Linda Lavin) in a too-broad, not-funny-enough sitcom. Megan Hilty joined the cast after the original pilot was shot, so there's that.

• **"The Tomorrow People," CW, 10 p.m. Wednesdays (Oct. 9)**
1 star

Young people who have evolved super powers work together to fight evil in a drama (based on a British series) with Peyton List and Robbie Amell. I rarely had any idea what was going on and wasn't engaged enough to try very hard.

• **"We Are Men," CBS, 8:30 p.m. Mondays (Sept. 30)**
1 star

Christopher Smith is left

at the altar (where have we seen that before?) and moves into a swinging singles apartment complex, where he makes friends with Tony Shalhoub, Jerry O'Connell and Kal Penn. The results are depressing.

• **"Ironside," NBC, 10 p.m. Wednesdays (Oct. 2)**
1 star

In this unnecessary remake of the 1967-75 Raymond Burr drama, being in a wheelchair doesn't keep cop Blair Underwood from beating a suspect senseless or having a way with the ladies, if you know what I mean. Jumping forward and backward in time (so Underwood can get out of that chair) and dribbling out clues cryptically,

"Ironside" is too grim and unengaging to be so much work.

• **"Enlisted," Fox, 9:30 p.m. Fridays (Nov. 8)**
1 star

This "bro" comedy is literally about brothers, three of them, reunited as part of a "Bad News Bears" unit on an Army base in Florida. Chris Lowell and Parker Young are varying degrees of slacker and/or inept, and older brother Geoff Stults, back from war, is now their leader. High jinks ensue.

• **"Dads," Fox, 8 p.m. Tuesdays (Sept. 17)**
One-half star

Two young entrepreneurs (Seth Green and Giovanni Ribisi) are saddled with Archie Bunker-ish fathers

(Martin Mull and Peter Riegert) in an offensively unfunny comedy from Seth MacFarlane. If it were funny, maybe it wouldn't be so offensive — but yes; yes it would.

• **"Once Upon a Time in Wonderland," ABC, 8 p.m. Thursdays (Oct. 10)**
No stars yet

The creators of "Once Upon a Time" go through the looking glass and down the rabbit hole for this spin-off, which alternates between Alice in deep therapy and Alice deep in the alternative universe we know as "Wonderland." A complete pilot wasn't available at press time.

Also premiering: "Million Second Quiz," NBC, 9 p.m. Mondays (Sept. 9) and "Ju-

nior MasterChef," Fox, 8 p.m. Fridays (Sept. 27).

MIDSEASON

"The 100," CW; "About a Boy," NBC; "Bad Teacher," CBS; "Believe," NBC; "Friends With Better Lives," CBS; "Growing Up Fisher," NBC; "Intelligence," CBS; "Mind Games," ABC; "Mixology," ABC; "The Quest," ABC; "Reckless," CBS; "Star Crossed," CW; "Us and Them," Fox.

In addition, "Mike & Molly" will return at midseason on CBS.

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