What makes an Excellent Television Pilot?

TV Pilot Episode Comparison + NEW Series CONCEPT

Due Tues. Nov. 30th (3-pages single spaced)

What makes a good TV SERIES pilot episode? What **story, character** and **production techniques** compel viewer**s** (not just you) to **engage** in a TV series? What makes them **fully commit** (brand loyalty) to multiple seasons? What stimulates them to **binge-watch beyond** a simple desire to escape or to be entertained and connect to the actors, characters, events, or other elements of a series?

These are important questions in our current world of global television. In fact, given the intense competition for streaming TV viewers worldwide (Netflix, Amazon, Disney, Hulu, HBO, CBS, BBC, etc.), such questions have **HUGE financial implications** and potential returns$$$.

Now it's your turn to be an insightful television critic and CREATOR.

Part 1: The following are ALL strong TV series, but each with very different types of approaches when it comes to attracting audiences via their pilot episodes. Choose **THREE** (one from each column below), watch the pilot episodes and then COMPARE and CONTRAST their different approaches **technically** and **conceptually** (story/plot progression, character development, acting, visuals, effects, etc.).

PART 2: **THEN**, using the important elements that you've observed/described in those pilot episodes, **DEVELOP/DESCRIBE your own idea for a new TV Series**. This should NOT just be a rehash or sequeling/prequeling of a former series, but rather, something **NEW** and **FRESH** which (hopefully) is **worthy of funding, watching…even binge-watching in the future (if it gets produced).**

List 1	List 2	List 3
Gentefied	The Rookie	Amend: The Fight for America
Queens Gambit	Made in Heaven	The Bodyguard (TV Series Netflix)
Mare of East Town	Firefly	American Rust
Resident Alien	Broadchurch	Stranger Things
Madam Secretary	Halt and Catch Fire	Humans 3.0
Suits	The Tunnel	Turn
The Americans	Jane the Virgin	Homeland
The Good Wife	Mozart in the Jungle	FBI