

POPULAR

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FREE WEEKLY

KANATARA CHAPTER ONE

Another winner from
Rishab Shetty

GHOSTS

A finely told tale that's funny and
entertaining

BREAKING BAD, SOPRANOS, SEINFELD AND MORE

Netflix, Prime, JioStar, Sony...

HELEN MIRREN

British Actor



Cover: Rukmini Vasanth

PIC COURTESY: PUBLIC DOMAIN

FEMALE LEAD KANTARA: CHAPTER ONE

POPULAR

Phil Dass
Editor

Editor's Note

There are hidden gems in the labyrinth of entertainment and it is serendipity, most of the time, that lands us home.

So it is that I watched *Death of a Unicorn* without much expectation and was rewarded by spectacular visions of terrifying unicorns. The plot is passe but then, the visuals mesmerise.

I watched *Ghosts* and was mildly charmed by a idyllic story - copied from a British drama of the same name - of ghosts from different centuries coming together... what a humdinger of stories one could weave with such characters!!!





Kantara Chapter One

RISHAB SHETTY HAS THE GOLDEN THUMB

Kantara: Chapter 1 is widely considered a massive cinematic achievement that builds on the success of the original, delivering a spiritual and visual spectacle designed for the big screen.

Rishab Shetty (Direction and Acting): Shetty is widely praised for his dual role. His direction is called "intense and visionary," with the prequel amplifying the scale of the original. His performance as the protagonist, Berme, is described as deeply immersive and a "force of nature," especially in the climactic sequences.

Climax and Visuals: The climax is frequently mentioned as the highlight, with many calling it

"unforgettable" and "visually surreal." The film is a technical marvel, with praise for the stunning cinematography by Arvind S. Kashyap, impressive set designs, and high-quality VFX and action sequences (including a dramatic tiger scene and a chariot sequence).

Story and Theme: The film successfully delves into the origins of the legend and the Bhuta Kola ritual, blending tribal beliefs, spirituality, and human conflict in an epic, yet intimate, way. It is set in the 4th century CE during the Kadamba dynasty and explores the conflict between the forest dwellers and the tyrannical king.

Supporting Cast: Rukmini Vasanth as Princess Kanakavathi and Jayaram as King



Kantara A Legend Chapter One

Rajashekara have received praise for their strong, grounded performances.

Minor Criticisms

Pacing: A few reviewers noted that the first half, while effective in world-building, felt slower or less impactful at times. The film is also described as being "unwieldy" or having "a little too much going on" in an attempt to be more ambitious than its predecessor.

Narrative Focus: Some criticism suggests that the deeper social and philosophical context of the conflict between the tribals and the rulers is occasionally lost amidst the grandeur and action.

Plot Overview (Prequel)

The film explores the ancient roots of the Daiva traditions (Panjurli and Guliga) and the conflict between the forest-dwelling tribes and a powerful kingdom.

It follows Berme (Rishab Shetty), a warrior and Naga Sadhu, as he confronts the ambitious and tyrannical royalty, including Prince Kulasekhara (Gulshan Devaiah) and his sister Princess Kanakavathi (Rukmini Vasanth), to protect the sacred Kantara forest and the rights of his people.

IMDb Rating: 8.8

Rishab Shetty, Anirudh Mahesh, Rukmini Vasanth

Released: 22 September 2025

Director: Rishab Shetty

[Watch Trailer Here](#)



Ghosts

Critical Acclaim: The US version like the UK version is also well-received, generally getting generally favourable reviews.

Strengths: Critics and fans enjoy its light-hearted, fun, and broadly appealing nature, calling it a delightful and charming comfort watch. The large cast of ghosts, representing different eras of American history, and their individualized character backstories are often highlighted as a strength.

Tone: It is generally a more conventional, energetic American network sitcom. It has a higher episode count per season, which allows for more in-depth exploration of the ghosts' world and more "sitcom shenanigans."

IMDb Rating: 7.9

On Jiostar

No. of seasons: 8 | 2011-2019

Genre: Sitcom

[Watch the trailer here](#)



Homeland is an acclaimed American espionage thriller television series.

The series focuses on Carrie Mathison (played by Claire Danes), a brilliant but volatile CIA operations officer who has bipolar disorder, and her mentor, Saul Berenson (played by Mandy Patinkin).

Critical Reception: The series, particularly its first two seasons, received widespread critical acclaim and won multiple awards, including

the Emmy and Golden Globe for Best Drama Series. Claire Danes and Damian Lewis also won multiple acting awards for their roles.

Seasons: Homeland ran for eight seasons, premiering in 2011 and concluding its final season in 2020.

IMDb Rating: 8.3


Stars: Claire Danes · Damian Lewis · Morena Baccarin · David Harewood

On Prime TV / Jiostar

No. of seasons: 8

Genre: Espionage / Drama

[Watch the trailer here](#)

A promotional image for the TV show Breaking Bad. It features a close-up of Walter White (Bryan Cranston) on the left, wearing his signature glasses and having a serious expression. To his right is Jesse Pinkman (Aaron Paul), also with a serious look. The background is a dark, textured blue. The text 'IT WAS ALL IN THE CHEMISTRY' is visible in the upper right corner.

IT WAS
ALL
IN THE
CHEMISTRY

BREAKING BAD

Breaking Bad is widely regarded as one of the **greatest television** dramas of all time.

The series follows Walter White (played by Bryan Cranston), a struggling, overqualified high school chemistry teacher in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

After being diagnosed with inoperable lung cancer, Walter becomes desperate to secure his family's financial future. He partners with his former student, Jesse Pinkman (played by Aaron Paul), to manufacture and sell crystal methamphetamine.

IMDb Rating: 9.5

62 Episodes

Created by Vince Gilligan. With Bryan Cranston, Anna Gunn, Aaron Paul, Betsy Brandt

[Watch the trailer Here.](#)



THE SOPRANOS

The Sopranos is widely considered one of the greatest and most influential television dramas of all time. It is credited with ushering in the "Golden Age of Television" due to its complex storytelling, cinematic quality, and morally ambiguous anti-hero protagonist. It was telecast in 1999 for six seasons.

IMDb Rating: 9.2

Jiostar and Prime Video
[Watch Trailer Here](#)



Suits

Suits is an American legal drama television series.


The series is set in a fictional, prestigious corporate law firm in New York City. The central plot revolves around Harvey Specter (Gabriel Macht), a successful and charismatic senior partner, who hires Mike Ross (Patrick J. Adams), a brilliant college dropout with an eidetic (photographic) memory, as his associate. The major twist and central conflict of the early seasons is that Mike does not have a law degree and is practicing law illegally, a secret they must go to great lengths to hide from everyone, including their colleagues.

Meghan Markle went on to marry British royalty and that adds some more value to the series. It has a spinoff too so, we are in touch with the present!

IMDb Rating: 8.4

Starring: Gabriel Macht (Harvey), Patrick J Adams (Mike), Meghan Markle (Rachel), Sarah Rafferty (Donna), Rick Hoffman (Louis Litt)

[Watch the Trailer Here](#)



As movies go, this one is special not for its story but its fantastic picturization and how well made are the scenes featuring the unicorns! After you see the movie, you will look at unicorns through new eyes.

You thought unicorns were huggable creatures, right. Well here we see them as demonic animals, at least for the villains.

IMDb Rating: 5.9

Jiostar

[Watch the Trailer Here](#)

DEATH OF A UNICORN

PAYBACK IS A BEAST

IN THEATERS

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Seinfeld

Seinfeld is one of the most iconic and influential American television sitcoms of all time, often famously described as "a show about nothing."


Here are the key details about the series:

- **Premise:** The show follows the everyday lives of stand-up comedian Jerry Seinfeld (playing a fictionalized version of himself) and his three neurotic friends in New York City, focusing on the minutiae of social conventions, dating, and urban living.
- **Aired:** The series ran for nine seasons on NBC, premiering on July 5, 1989, and concluding on May 14, 1998.
- **Creators:** It was created by Larry David and Jerry Seinfeld.

IMDb Rating: 8.9

Netflix

[Watch the Trailer Here](#)

A portrait of Dame Helen Mirren, an English actress, with short blonde hair, wearing a white cardigan and pearl earrings, sitting on a dark couch. The background is dark and out of focus.

Dame Helen Mirren is an English actor. With a career spanning over six decades of screen and stage, her accolades include an Academy Award, five Emmy Awards, a Tony Award, a BAFTA Film Award, three BAFTA Television Awards, and a Laurence Olivier Award.

Born: 26 July 1945