

Appendix: Episode Summaries

The Mary Tyler Moore Show (1970-1977) Summaries

(Source: Robert S. Alley and Irby B. Brown, *Love Is All Around: The Mary Tyler Show*, Dell Publishing, New York, 1989).

First Season:

Episode #1: “Love Is All Around,” September 19, 1970

Mary Richards moves to Minneapolis after her engagement is broken off. She goes to the WJM newsroom seeking a job. She meets the drunken, caustic news director, Lou Grant, for an interview. After an uncomfortable but classic conversation in his office, Grant hires Richards as associate producer of *The Six O’Clock News*. In the newsroom, she also meets anchorman Ted Baxter and news writer Murray Slaughter.

Episode #5: “Keep Your Guard Up,” October 17, 1970

Frank Carelli, a former pro football player, comes to the office to sell Grant insurance. They knew each other when Carelli played for the Vikings. Richards thinks Carelli will be a good sportscaster. But, he does not get the job. Carelli moves to Florida to work with children at a municipal playground.

Episode #8: “The Snow Must Go On ,” November 7, 1970

WJM is trying to cover an election but a blizzard in Minneapolis makes it impossible for the staff to receive any news. Meanwhile, the staff attempts to air news on the election as best it can. Baxter ad-libs on-air; Richards produces. Rhoda Morgenstern handles the tally-less tally chart.

Episode #9: “Bob and Rhoda and Teddy and Mary,” November 14, 1970

The WJM staff anticipates the Teddy Awards. The event includes local TV awards and a dinner. Baxter obsesses about the award show throughout the episode. Richards is nominated for a Teddy Award. But she is distracted by Morgenstern’s new boyfriend who is crazy about Richards.

Episode #10: “Assistant Wanted, Female,” November 21, 1970

Richards’s friend and neighbor, Phyllis Lindstrom, makes her way into WJM as her assistant. But she irritates everyone at the station. Lindstrom continues to stereotype Gordon (Gordy) Howard (the weatherman) as the sportscaster because he is black.

Episode #12: “Anchorman Overboard,” December 5, 1970

Lindstrom begs Richards to get Baxter to speak at a women’s club she chairs. Richards convinces Baxter to agree. But the event turns into a disaster. Baxter stands in front of the people with awkward silences because he is not able to answer any of the questions. Richards then has to give Baxter the confidence he needs to anchor the news.

Episode #13: “He’s All Yours,” December 12, 1970

Grant hires a new, young cameraman, Allen, who happens to be his nephew. But Allen is more interested in Richards than the station. When Grant finds out that Allen is hitting on Richards, he gets very angry. He tells Allen that Richards is like a daughter to him.

Episode #14: “Christmas and the Hard-Luck Kid,” December 19, 1970

Richards is assigned to work on Christmas Day. So, at WJM, she tries to instill the newsroom with some Christmas spirit.

Episode #16: “Party Is Such Sweet Sorrow,” January 9, 1971

Richards leaves WJM to work at a larger station in Minneapolis. But, it is just too hard for her to leave her friends and decides to stay, even though it may not be the best career move.

Episode #21: “The Boss Isn’t Coming to Dinner,” February 13, 1971

Richards invites Grant and his wife, Edie, for dinner at her home. Soon enough, Richards learns that Grant and Edie are having marital problems. She tries to help them out. In fact, the WJM staff goes to a bar to talk to Grant.

Episode #24: “The Forty-Five-Year-Old Man,” March 6, 1971

The ratings for WJM have declined. So, owner of WJM, Wild Jack Monroe, decides to fire Grant. Meanwhile, Grant begins to look for a new job, calling some old journalism friends. The news team – Baxter, Slaughter, Gordy Howard and Richards – meet at Richards’s apartment to plan a strike to save Grant’s job. Richards then pleads with Wild Jack Monroe, and Grant gets his position back.

Second Season:**Episode #25: “The Birds...and...um...Bees,” September 18, 1971**

Richards produces a documentary to be aired on WJM entitled, “What’s Your Sexual IQ?” It causes a lot of ruckus in the newsroom as viewers call in with obscene comments. Phyllis asks Richards to tell her daughter Bess the facts of life. Richards agrees.

Episode #28: “Room 223,” October 9, 1971

There is a breaking news story. Richards takes so long to write it that it does not make the broadcast. Richards feels she lacks sufficient journalism experience. She and Morgenstern enroll in a TV journalism class at night school. Grant is invited to speak about the field and gives a terse lecture to the class. Richards becomes romantically involved with her instructor, Dan Whitfield.

Episode #32: “Thoroughly Unmilitant Mary,” November 6, 1971

It becomes a disaster in the newsroom when the writing and technical unions go on strike. This leaves only Richards, Grant and Baxter to put on the newscast. Richards takes Slaughter’s place by writing news stories. When Baxter’s union goes on strike, Grant has to fill in as anchorman. Eventually the unions come to an agreement, and everything goes back to normal.

Episode #33: “And Now, Sitting In for Ted Baxter,” November 13, 1971

Baxter is forced to take a vacation. The anchor Rod Porter (played by Jed Allen) who fills in for him is a big success. He boosts the ratings for WJM’s *The Six O’Clock News*. Baxter worries that he may lose his job.

Episode #36: “...Is a Friend In Need,” December 4, 1971

After Rhoda gets fired from her job, she finds an opening at WJM. But Richards does not want to work with a friend and lies to her about it. In the end, Rhoda gets a job at Hempel’s – decorating their windows and receives a higher salary than Richards.

Episode #40: “Feeb,” January 8, 1972

Richards complains about an incompetent waitress who then gets fired. Richards feels guilty about it and finds a job for her at WJM-TV. But, the waitress is just as incompetent in the newsroom as she is at the restaurant.

Episode #48: “His Two Right Arms,” March 4, 1972

Richards plans a talk show for WJM. So, she invites Councilman Pete Peterson to the show. But the politician is incompetent and is uninformed on current events. He makes a great interview match for Baxter.

Third Season:**Episode #49: “The Good-Time News,” September 16, 1972**

Richards confronts Grant about her salary after she finds out that the man who had the job before her made more money. He eventually gives her a raise. Grant, Richards and Baxter meet with the station manager, Jack Stoneham (played by Slim Pickens). He wants the newscast to be more entertaining. Grant explains that he is strongly against turning news into amusement. While Grant does not endorse the new format, Richards is put in charge.

Episode #50: “What Is Mary Richards Really Like?” September 23, 1972

Columnist Mark Williams interviews Richards for an article, which features her as the only woman in the newsroom. Grant dissuades Richards from the interview because he knows Williams writes negative columns. But Richards still meets up with Williams for the interview. The resulting article makes Richards look great but portrays Grant as a drunk.

Episode #51: “Who’s in Charge Here?” September 30, 1972

WJM management promotes Grant to program director. Slaughter then takes Grant’s place as news director. But Slaughter is not qualified for the task, and the work place becomes a disaster.

Episode #53: “It’s Whether You Win or Lose,” October 14, 1972

Slaughter has problems as a compulsive gambler. Richards plans a poker game in which he participates. The gambling gets to Slaughter, and he even bets on Baxter’s inability to read the script on the news correctly.

Episode #56: “But Seriously Folks,” November 4, 1972

Wes Callison writes for Chuckles the Clown. But he wants to do more, like having an on-air news spot. As hard as he tries to obtain the job, he still fails to get it.

Episode #57: “Farmer Ted and the News,” November 11, 1972

Baxter hires an agent to help him renegotiate his contract by allowing him to do commercials. As Baxter tries hard to push all sorts of products, Grant gets frustrated. He wants Baxter to stop doing the commercial. Grant gives him a raise, and Baxter agrees to stop.

Episode #61: “Operation: Lou” December 9, 1972

Grant goes to the hospital for a procedure to remove some World War II shrapnel. This leaves Richards and Slaughter in charge of the newsroom. But without Grant, it’s a mess at WJM. While Grant is in the hospital, he bonds with Baxter.

Episode #64: “Lou’s Place,” January 6, 1973

Grant and Baxter purchase a local bar. This exemplifies Grant’s penchant for alcohol. But Grant seems to frighten all his customers away. He gives orders to make the atmosphere fun.

Episode #68: “What Do You Do When the Boss Says, ‘I Love You’,” February 3, 1973

Barbara Coleman is hired as the new station manager for WJM. Richards feels pleased that a woman is now in charge; Grant feels uneasy about it. Coleman then falls in love with Grant, making him feel very uncomfortable. Grant explains to her that he is flattered but not interested because he is married to Edie.

Episode #71: “Put On a Happy Face,” February 24, 1973

This episode centers on the Teddy Awards. Richards is nominated but nothing goes right for her. She even ends up wearing a shoe and a fuzzy slipper to the banquet dinner.

Fourth Season:

Episode #76: “The Lou and Edie Story,” October 6, 1973

Grant and Edie are having marital problems. Grant is depressed and seeks the advice of Richards and Rhoda. Edie then decides to leave Grant. This episode portrays a tough newsman, Grant, devastated by his marriage falling apart.

Episode #77: “Hi There, Sports Fans,” October 13, 1973

Richards asks Grant for more responsibility in the newsroom. So, Grant gives Richards the task of firing the old sportscaster and hiring a new one. So, Richards has lunch with the man to tell him the news. He hits on her during their talk, and she then drops the news. This gives Grant an opportunity to teach Richards a lesson: Don't fire the old sportscaster until you hire a new one.

Episode #79: “Son of ‘But Seriously, Folks’,” October 27, 1973

Wes Callison returns to work in the newsroom. He falls in love with Richards. He spends more time trying to win over her than doing work in the newsroom.

Episode #80: “Lou’s First Date,” November 3, 1973

Now that Grant is divorced from Edie, he begins to date women. Richards finds him a date for an awards dinner he must attend. But she gets the names mixed up, and Grant ends up going out with an 80-year-old woman.

Episode #83: “Just Friends,” November 24, 1973

Grant is saddened by his divorce and spends much of his time at Richards's apartment. Richards tries to get Grant to avoid relying on her so heavily. So, she decides to reunite Grant and Edie. By the end of the episode, Grant remains alone.

Episode #85: “I Gave at the Office,” December 8, 1973

Richards insists that the newsroom needs an assistant. So, she hires Slaughter's daughter, Bonnie. But Bonnie turns out to be not as competent as Richards had imagined. The girl even accidentally breaks Grant's favorite coffee cup. Grant becomes a nervous wreck while Bonnie works in the newsroom.

Episode #87: “Happy Birthday, Lou,” December 22, 1973

Richards throws a surprise party for Grant. But Grant hates surprises and refuses to come.

Episode #88: “WJM Tries Harder,” January 5, 1974

Richards dates an anchorman from one of Minneapolis's top news stations, Ross Nelson. She begins to question the quality of news at her station. WJM hires student journalists as correspondents. One of the correspondents reports a student strike and scoops Ross' station.

Episode #90: "The Co-Producers," January 19, 1974

Morgenstern has an idea for a discussion show for WJM. Richards and Morgenstern get permission to develop the program. They are pleased with the show until they find out that Baxter and Sue Ann Nivens, the "Happy Homemaker," were chosen to host it.

Episode #92: "Better Late...That's a Pun...Than Never," February 2, 1974

On a late night, Richards and Morgenstern write silly obituaries for fun. One of the people they write about actually dies. Baxter grabs the copy from Richards's desk and ends up reading it on air. Grant reprimands Richards and fires her. When she comes back to visit the newsroom, she sees her desk occupied. But in the end, she gets her job back, and the staff is reunited.

Episode #93: "Ted Baxter Meets Walter Cronkite," February 9, 1974

Baxter campaigns to win a Teddy Award, which he has lost eight times before. He even prays on air, which greatly angers Grant. Baxter finally wins the award. Walter Cronkite, an old friend of Grant's, comes to visit the newsroom and meets Baxter.

Episode #94: "Lou's Second Date," February 16, 1974

Grant is supposed to go to a company dinner with Richards but she gets sick. So, Grant goes out with Morgenstern. After the banquet, Grant and Morgenstern begin to date. The newsroom assumes they are very serious, even though the dates are more about companionship.

Episode #95: "Two Wrongs Don't Make a Writer," February 23, 1974

Richards enrolls in a creative writing class to improve her skills at WJM. Baxter decides to take the same class so that he can write his own copy. He ends up stealing Richards's idea for a composition. So Richards has to come up with a new one.

Episode #96: "I Was a Single for WJM," March 2, 1974

The WJM staff meets to brainstorm about a new angle for the news. The team does live coverage of a singles bar. But the cameras scare all the customers away. Richards, Grant and Slaughter are left to ad-lib.

Fifth Season:**Episode #97: "Will Mary Richards Go to Jail?" September 14, 1974**

This episode deals with journalism most directly. Encouraged by Grant, Richards refuses to reveal her news source on a story. Grant fervently believes in the strength of a free press and is pleased with her decision. The judge orders her to go to jail. In prison she meets two prostitutes. Grant comes to Richards's rescue when he visits her in jail.

Episode #99: "You Sometimes Hurt the One You Hate," September 28, 1974

Grant loses his temper when Baxter endorses a political candidate on the news. So he throws Baxter through the office doors. Richards gets angry at Grant for his behavior. Grant regrets what he has done and feels sorry for Baxter. Grant gives Baxter a ride to the hospital and helps him out. But Baxter takes advantage of Grant's generosity.

Episode #100: “Lou and That Woman,” October 5, 1974

Grant dates a cocktail lounge singer but is haunted by her past. The WJM staff pokes fun at him for dating her.

Episode #101: “The Outsider,” October 12, 1974

WJM hires a consultant, Bob Larson, to boost the station’s ratings. Grant tells Richards that everyone has to take orders from Larson except him. Larson offends everyone in the newsroom. But, he does increase the ratings. He then tells the news team that he must leave for another job to advance his own career.

Episode #103: “A New Sue Ann,” October 26, 1974

Richards prepares for Morgenstern’s wedding. Nivens’ job as the Happy Homemaker is threatened. One of her fans, Gloria, persuades Nivens to hire her. The WJM station manager prefers Gloria to Nivens.

Episode #105: “Not a Christmas Story,” November 9, 1974

The news team at WJM is snowed in at the office. The staff argues with one another. Sue Ann decides to organize a Christmas party at the office even though it is only November.

Episode #106: “What Are Friends For?” November 16, 1974

Richards attends a broadcaster’s convention in Chicago. When Nivens finds out about it, she joins Richards. At the convention, Nivens Ann looks for men. Richards discovers the real life she leads.

Episode #109: “Neighbors,” December 7, 1974

Grant decides to sell his house and move into a smaller place. He thinks about renting Morgenstern’s old apartment. Richards is apprehensive to have her boss as a neighbor. Grant begins to interfere in Richards’s private life.

Episode #110: “A Girl Like Mary,” December 14, 1974

Grant wants to make the news more interesting so he decides to hire a woman newscaster. Richards and Nivens compete for the position. But Grant ends up giving it to another female, Enid.

Episode #112: “Mary Richards: Producer,” January 4, 1975

Richards presses Grant for more responsibility in producing the news. Grant gives her the opportunity to produce *The Six O’Clock News* by herself.

Episode #115: “The Shame of the Cities,” January 25, 1975

Grant reminisces about his old days in journalism. Excited about investigative reporting, Grant decides to pursue a story. He tries to expose a city official who turns out to be perfectly honest and responsible.

Episode #118: “You Can’t Lose Them All,” February 15, 1975

Grant receives the Albert Mason Award, which he had previously put down. Baxter is devastated because he did not win the newscaster award.

Episode #119: “Ted Baxter’s Famous Broadcasters School,” February 22, 1975

A con man tricks Baxter into opening Ted Baxter’s Famous Broadcasters School. The man disappears and Baxter is left alone. He persuades Richards, Slaughter and Grant to help him out. So they work to put the curriculum together and become the faculty. The news team shows up to teach the first night but only one person shows. And at the end of the evening, he wants his money back.

Sixth Season:**Episode #121: “Edie Gets Married,” September 13, 1975**

Edie gets remarried. Grant does not take it very easily. He is sad and angry about seeing his ex-wife getting married.

Episode #126: “Mary’s Aunt,” October 18, 1975

Richards’s aunt, Flo Meredith, comes to visit her in Minneapolis. Meredith is a successful and well-known journalist. Grant and Meredith become competitive journalistic rivals.

Episode #130: “Grant Douses an Old Flame,” November 15, 1975

Grant’s old girlfriend, Veronica, arrives in Minneapolis. Grant meets up with her in a restaurant. It turns out that she wants to borrow money from him. Grant is disappointed about her motives.

Episode #133: “The Happy Homemaker Takes Grant Home,” December 6, 1975

Nivens persuades Richards to set her up with Grant. Richards tells Grant that she wants to introduce him to a friend. He is surprised to find out that the ‘friend’ is Nivens.

Episode #135: “What Do You Want to Do When You Produce?” December 20, 1975

Slaughter lands another job to make more money. He becomes producer for the Happy Homemaker Show. But Nivens makes his life miserable by giving him unbearable and demeaning tasks.

Episode #137: “The Seminar,” January 10, 1976

Grant and Richards go to a press junket in Washington D.C., where Grant was once a correspondent. He tells her that he is waiting to receive phone calls from his old friends in the area. Richards does not believe that he has political connections in the Capitol and decides to go out herself. When she returns, Grant tells her that he hosted a party attended by President and Betty Ford. Then Richards answers the phone and talks with Betty Ford.

Episode #138: "Once I Had a Secret Love," January 17, 1976

Grant ends up in Nivens' apartment overnight. He comes to the office the next day disheveled. Grant tells Richards a secret about his stay with Nivens. Slaughter persuades Richards to divulge the secret. When Grant discovers that Richards has told, he no longer considers her a friend.

Episode #140: "Murray Takes a Stand," January 31, 1976

Slaughter is upset with the station owner's new policies. He tells him off over the phone. The next day, the station owner fires him. The news staff works to get Slaughter rehired.

Episode #141: "Mary's Aunt Returns," February 7, 1976

Richards's Aunt Flo Meredith comes to Minneapolis to visit again. Grant and Meredith want to produce a documentary about a large family with 20 children. When the parents in the family get divorced, Grant and Meredith have different ideas for the piece. It becomes a competition between Grant/Richards and Meredith/Slaughter. In the end, the network chooses Grant and Richards's documentary to broadcast.

Episode #142: "A Reliable Source," February 21, 1976

Richards finds out that an old friend and politician, Brian Nordquist, is seeking re-election. Apparently, he received funds from the mob. Grant wants to report the story. But Richards does not want to expose the politician because she likes him.

Seventh Season:**Episode #145: "Mary Midwife," September 25, 1976**

Nivens hosts a party for the WJM news team. Georgette, Baxter's wife, goes into labor at the party. Grant and Richards help deliver the baby.

Episode #146: "Mary the Writer," October 2, 1976

Grant criticizes Richards's writing. She lies to him, saying that her piece will be printed in *Cosmopolitan*. Finally, Richards confesses that she lied.

Episode #148: "What's Wrong with Swimming," October 16, 1976

Richards hires a new sportscaster, B.J. Smathers. She only wants to cover swimming. When Grant discovers that Smathers reports on international diving rather than on the Vikings, he gets mad. Richards fires her.

Episode #150: "One Producer Too Many," October 30, 1976

Grant promotes Slaughter to co-producer of the evening news to dissuade him from taking an offer from a rival station. But Richards does not know. When she finds out, she does not want to be co-producer with Slaughter. But Grant threatens to fire Richards if she does not agree.

Episode #152: “Mary Gets a Lawyer,” November 13, 1976

Richards did not reveal a source (from a previous episode), which put her in jail. Now, the case lands in court. Richards hires a lawyer who is distracted because he ends up infatuated with her.

Episode #153: “Lou Proposes,” November 20, 1976

Grant has feelings for Meredith. He proposes to her, but she does not accept.

Episode #154: “Murray Can’t Lose,” November 27, 1976

Grant learns from a source that Slaughter is going to win a Teddy Award for news writing. The WJM staff cannot resist telling him. There must have been a mistake because Slaughter does not win. The team goes to Richards’s house where Slaughter delivers his acceptance speech.

Episode #157: “Look at Us, We’re Walking,” December 25, 1976

The new station manager refuses to give Richards and Grant a raise. So, they threaten to quit.

Episode #158: “The Critic,” January 8, 1977

The station manager hires a critic to improve ratings for WJM. The critic is rude to everyone in the newsroom and even attacks Minneapolis and its citizens.

Episode #161: “Sue Ann Gets the Ax,” January 29, 1977

Management cancels Nivens’ “Happy Homemaker” show. But Nivens does not want to leave WJM. So she ends up working odd and humiliating jobs around the station. Grant gives Richards the authority of hiring. And Nivens begs Richards for a job in the newsroom. She reluctantly complies.

Episode #162: “Hail the Conquering Gordy,” February 5, 1977

Former weatherman Gordon “Gordy” Howard comes to the WJM newsroom to visit. He works in New York hosting a talk show. Baxter tries to convince Howard that he is qualified to be a co-host on the program.

Episode #164: “Murray Ghosts for Ted,” February 14, 1977

Baxter pays Slaughter to write an article on his behalf. *Reader’s Digest* likes it so much that the paper buys it. But Slaughter gets no recognition. When Grant and Richards find out that Slaughter wrote the article, they pressure Baxter to tell Slaughter’s family.

Episode #167: “Lou Dates Mary,” March 12, 1977

Richards is tired of going on disastrous dates. Georgette encourages her to go out with Grant. So, Grant comes to Richards’s apartment for a dinner date. It is very awkward for both of them. And they reaffirm their friendship.

Episode #168: “The Last Show,” March 19, 1977

In this final episode, management fires everyone in the newsroom except for Baxter. The farewell show reveals how much the staff has become a family for one another. The final scene has become a television classic.

Lou Grant (1977-1982) Summaries

(Source: Douglass K. Daniel, *Lou Grant: The Making of TV's Top Newspaper Drama*, Syracuse University Press, New York, 1966).

First Season:**Episode #1: “Cophouse,” September 20, 1977**

After Lou Grant gets fired from WJM, he comes to Los Angeles seeking a job at the *Tribune*, where he becomes city editor. George Driscoll, a police reporter, refuses to report a sex scandal among officers because he thinks he will lose his contacts. When reporter Joe Rossi finds out about the scandal, he begins reporting it and dramatizes it. Grant is there to keep both reporters straight and make sure the *Tribune* delivers a fair and balanced story. Grant insists that Driscoll's job is to report the news. And Driscoll ends up writing the article.

Episode #2: “Hostages,” September 27, 1977

Rossi writes a story about the shooting death of a robber by a store clerk. The brother of the victim, Andrew Martin, is upset by the coverage. He holds the *Tribune* staff hostage in the newsroom and demands Rossi write another story about the incident. Martin believes that the reason his brother was killed is because the store owner owed him money. Publisher Mrs. Pynchon promises to print the truth about the shooting, and Martin gives up. She then tells her staff that all news about the incident should be covered on the inside pages of the paper.

Episode #3: “Hoax,” October 4, 1977

Grant's old friend Jack Riley tricks the *Tribune* into sending reporters to Jamaica. Riley convinces them that Luther Cardell, a missing industrialist who is believed to have been kidnapped, is in Jamaica. He, Grant and Rossi go to the Caribbean country for an exclusive interview with Cardell. It turns out that his body is found in a car crash in Los Angeles. Riley admits he made up the information for fun. The *Tribune* then publishes a story about the hoax.

Episode #4: “Henhouse,” October 11, 1977

Grant meets the editor of *Tribune*'s “Today” section, Irene Mott. Grant is convinced that the women's section is not hard news and as demanding as his city news section. One of the “Today” section's feature reporters, Billie Newman, is working on an assignment in New Mexico. Grant sends Rossi to cover a famous playwright's murder. Newman and Rossi do not get along very well. But when Newman gets the scoop that it was actually a suicide, confirmed by the police, Grant and Rossi agree that she is a good reporter. Grant asks her to join the city staff and she agrees.

Episode #5: “Nazi,” October 18, 1977

Rossi is on his way to cover a florist strike when he drives past a neo-Nazi demonstration. He asks Grant if he should cover it and Grant insists that it is more important to cover than the story he was initially going to cover. Grant then assigns Newman to cover the story. She meets the Nazi leader, Donald Stryker. She does some investigative reporting and finds out that he grew up in an orthodox Jewish family. Stryker first threatens her and then begs her not to publish it. However, she prints it anyway. Stryker commits suicide when he finds it in the paper. Grant consoles Newman when she feels guilty.

Episode #6: “Aftershock,” October 25, 1977

Grant experiences his first earthquake while at work in the newsroom. Rossi and Dennis “Animal” Price, a photographer, investigate a scientist's claim that his cockroaches can predict earthquakes. The researcher indicates the time and date of an upcoming quake, which never actually happens. Also, a *Tribune* reporter, Duncan Aldridge, dies. His widow, Gloria, is depressed about it and begins to rely on Grant for emotional support. Grant finally has to bluntly tell her that he is not interested in a relationship with her, but they still stay friends.

Episode #7: “Barrio,” November 1, 1977

A woman in East Los Angeles is shot and wounded by a gang. Newman persuades Grant to let her do a story on Latino gangs. Newman and Grant meet George Delgado, a Hispanic leader who works with youth. They meet the son of the wounded woman, Henry. Newman goes to his home for dinner. While she is there, a drive-by shooting happens. Henry wants to join a gang, but Delgado persuades him not to. Meanwhile, Grant meets a woman whom he likes, Lynn. He asks her on a date but has too much work in the office. He calls her an hour after their date was supposed to begin and asks to reschedule, but she says no. Newman tells Grant that her work at the *Tribune* is taking a toll on her dating life as well.

Episode #8: “Scoop,” November 8, 1977

This episode features reporters trying to get the “scoop.” Newman covers a kidnapping story with great detail but misses the deadline to get it published in the paper. Rossi writes an article about a politician, Councilman Garber, running for office. It turns out to be wrong, and Grant takes the blame as his editor. Rossi next covers a demonstration of a new motorcycle by Police Chief Rankin. The chief crashes as he shows the press how to ride it. Rossi wants to be the first to report the accident. But the problem is that Rossi reports that the chief died when he actually survived. Grant, Hume and Mrs. Pynchon meet to discuss the inaccurate stories. Newman and Rossi prove that they still can be fine reporters when they get a scoop about a kidnapping that was actually invented by the victim and his girlfriend.

Episode #9 – Judge – November 15, 1977

A woman comes to the *Tribune* to complain that her boyfriend did not receive a fair trial from Judge Felix Ruthman. She tells the staff that he is a crazy judge. So, Grant goes to Judge Ruthman’s court and witnesses his bizarre behavior. When Grant stands up to leave the courtroom, Ruthman jails him for contempt of court. Newman and Rossi investigate the story by interviewing the judge’s colleagues. Ruthman then goes to the *Tribune* and tells Publisher Mrs. Margaret Pynchon, Managing Editor Charlie Hume and Grant that he will put up a fight if the story is published. They insist that he retire, which he finally agrees to do. The judge then orders a new trial for the boyfriend and retires.

Episode #10: “Psych-Out,” November 22, 1977

Grant criticizes Rossi’s stories, claiming he does not delve far enough. So when Grant assigns him a story about abuses at a mental hospital, Rossi decides to check in as a patient. The staff does not realize that he is at the hospital. After Rossi does his research there, he is ready to leave but the administrators will not let him go. Grant rushes to the hospital and demands he be released. Meanwhile, a man threatens the paper over Newman’s coverage of an anti-obscenity drive. Grant insists that the *Tribune* cannot shy away from an issue for fear of being sued. Hume introduces him to the paper’s new lawyer, Fred Sackler. Grant and Sackler get into a bit of a fight because Grant insists the First Amendment protects the paper while Sackler sees a potential for lawsuits.

Episode #11: “Housewarming,” November 29, 1977

Newman reports on spousal abuse and meets a woman, Alice, who has been abused by her husband. However, Alice refuses to leave him. Meanwhile, Grant has a housewarming party at his new home. There, Newman learns that a *Tribune* copy editor, Roger, beats his wife. He ends up flirting with Newman at the party. When she confronts him about abusing his wife outside, he almost hits her. Newman runs back to Grant’s. He consoles her. Alice is beaten again by her husband, and she goes to Newman’s apartment. When her husband comes to apologize, Alice refuses to go back to him. At the office, Grant suggests that Roger write a story about spousal abuse as therapy for himself.

Episode #12: “Takeover,” December 6, 1977

Mrs. Pynchon only controls 49 percent of the *Tribune* stock with her attorney controlling 2 percent and her nephews 49 percent. The nephews are not happy with the newspaper. They want sensationalism to raise readership. Media mogul Russell Grainger has a history of turning respectable newspapers into tabloids. The nephews support a takeover by Grainger. Grant and Mrs. Pynchon persuade the board that it is important to maintain the *Tribune*'s independence and reputation. The paper's attorney is persuaded by this and votes against the takeover.

Episode #13: “Christmas,” December 13, 1977

A man, Walter Harper, comes to the newsroom complaining that he was misquoted. Apparently Rossi printed information from an off the record interview with Harper. Grant punishes Rossi by giving him a mundane story about a low-level state official, Malcolm Findlay. But Rossi finds an interesting twist in the story – Findlay is a bigamist and has two families. He decides not to publish it because it would ruin the man's life. Meanwhile, Newman covers a poor family who camps out by a highway. After the story is published, donations pile up for the needy family. Newman then finds out that it is all a plan. The family goes from city to city getting money and sympathy.

Episode #14: “Airliner,” January 3, 1978

Hume's daughter is on a plane headed to Los Angeles. Apparently, the plane cannot lower its landing gear. The newsroom begins to cover this breaking story. It is such a significant story that Grant decides to cut the advertising to include it in the next edition. He argues with the advertising manager, Hal Pearson, about the necessity of cutting the ads. The plane eventually lands safely.

Episode #15: “Sports,” January 10, 1978

There are reports of recruitment violations in a local college sports program. The *Tribune*'s veteran sportswriter, Sid Locke, refuses to investigate the story. Grant is not pleased with Locke's actions. So he has his city room staff cover the story. Locke worries that readers will be angry about a negative story regarding the program. Nevertheless, Newman and Rossi interview coaches and players and publish the article.

Episode #16: “Hero,” January 17, 1978

Newman works on a story about a halfway house. She speaks with the women who were once felons and writes a story about it. A bystander saves a gubernatorial candidate from a man who was about to assassinate him. The bystander is William Danvers, a successful financial consultant, who had a criminal past. Danvers comes to the *Tribune* to complain that the paper published his criminal record, and he is losing clients. Grant blames himself for allowing the article to be printed. Then, the paper publishes follow-up stories about Danvers' predicament, and he gets new clients.

Episode #17: “Renewal,” January 30, 1978

Grant talks to the man who runs a newsstand, Earl. He finds out that Earl is being evicted from his apartment by Tyler Armitage. Grant goes to Earl’s home and discovers that he has been painting beautiful murals on his walls. Earl does not want to leave his apartment and his work. Even Mrs. Pynchon goes to Earl’s home to see the artwork. She agrees that the building should not be torn down. The *Tribune* covers the story. The building is torn down, and Earl loses his art. Earl tries to destroy Armitage’s personal art, but Grant convinces him to not. Later, Earl paints in a new apartment.

Episode #18: “Sect,” February 6, 1978

Hume is very upset when he finds out that his son, Tommy, joined the Hare Krishna movement. Hume tries to get his son out of the sect, evening going so far as enlisting someone to talk Tommy out of it. Rossi and Newman do some research on religious cults for a story. Finally, in the end, Hume comes to accept his son’s decision.

Episode #19: “Scandal,” February 13, 1978

Rossi attempts to cover the reelection campaign of city supervisor Corwin. But he cannot get very far in an investigation. Grant and Hume hire a new reporter, Liz Harrison, and place her on the story. Harrison gets a lot of information and writes many stories about Corwin. Rossi suspects she is having a relationship with him. Grant confronts her, and she admits it. She tries to convince Grant that despite her relationship with her source, she is still objective in her coverage. Grant does not buy it. He and Hume fire her to protect the credibility of the newspaper.

Episode #20: “Spies,” February 27, 1978

The *Tribune* begins to investigate the drug arrests of two young men. The Central Intelligence Agency asks the paper not to cover it. Grant insists that Rossi and Newman do some investigation. Meanwhile, everyone at the *Tribune* is convinced that somebody on staff works for the CIA. Rossi and Newman do not collect enough information for a story. So, the paper does not print anything regarding the arrests.

Episode #21: “Poison,” March 6, 1978

Rossi has a friend, Sam Beecher, who works at a nuclear plant. He complains to Rossi about the terrible conditions and safety problems he confronts at work. Rossi goes to the plant to do an investigative story. Beecher suddenly dies after being hit by a car. Newman finds that the car accident is linked to the nuclear plant. Rossi’s investigation does not get very far because the people living in the town do not criticize the plant that gave them jobs and improved the economy. Grant refuses to print the story without proper verification. Rossi received a back-up set of photos that Beecher had sent before he died. Now the *Tribune* has enough information to publish the story.

Episode #22: “Physical,” March 20, 1978

Grant helps a copy editor who wants to become a reporter by giving him stories to write for practice. The staff has hired college correspondents to contribute to the newspaper. One of the students writes something inappropriate in the paper as a joke. Grant fires him. Then, Grant undergoes an operation after he is diagnosed with thyroid cancer. The staff visits him in the hospital for support.

Second Season:**Episode #23: “Pills,” September 25, 1978**

The *Tribune* investigates unethical practices by doctors after a young girl dies. The paper is under the impression that the girl died after a doctor gave her an illegal prescription. Her boyfriend, Peter, sneaks into the doctor’s office, takes his files and gives them to Rossi. The newsroom has a discussion about the coverage and agrees that the story should be pursued even if the paper is sued. Rossi refuses to reveal his source and is arrested for not cooperating with authorities. Later, Peter turns himself in, and Rossi is released from jail. The *Tribune* publishes the story about the prescription scam.

Episode #24: “Prisoner,” October 2, 1978

A South American country, Malagua (fictional), becomes the focal point of this episode. The wife of the dictator comes to Los Angeles to visit. The newspaper does stories on people’s reactions to the Malaguan government. Mrs. Pynchon hosts a reception for dictator’s wife. However, Hume continues to have nightmares about being tortured in Malagua when he was a young reporter. Grant convinces Hume to write a story about his experience in Malagua.

Episode #25: “Hooker,” October 16, 1978

Newman covers the murder of a prostitute. She meets a young hooker, Patti, who wants to make enough money to obtain a license to become a real estate agent. Newman becomes emotionally attached to her source. She even helps Patti study for the license test. But before she has a chance to take the exam, Patti is arrested for prostitution. When Newman bails her out of jail, Patti opts not to take the test. Newman is very disappointed.

Episode #26: “Mob,” October 23, 1978

Grant and Rossi go to a resort to book the newspaper’s annual tennis tournament. They find a Senate candidate at the resort, which is supposedly owned by a mobster. Grant calls in Animal to take photographs of the candidate with the mobsters. But, later on, his film is stolen. Now that the *Tribune* staffers do not have evidence, the paper cannot print a story.

Episode #27: "Murder," October 30, 1978

A young black woman is murdered in Los Angeles by a man who wanted to steal her welfare money. Newman investigates the woman's life and the ghetto she lived in. Meanwhile, a wealthy white woman scares off an intruder with a golf club. This story makes the front page while the murder ends up deep into the newspaper. As Newman continues to cover the black woman's story, she waits in the woman's old apartment where the killer happens to arrive. Police arrest him. Grant argues successfully during the budget meeting to have this article appear on the front page.

Episode #28: "Dying," November 6, 1978

A doctor diagnoses Peggy, mother of assistant city editor Art Donovan, with leukemia. Art acts irritated in the newsroom and refuses to talk about it. He thinks about taking her to Mexico where he heard about a miracle cure. His mother accepts her predicament, and Art and his mother bond.

Episode #29: "Schools," November 20, 1978

The *Tribune* offers a scholarship for qualified students. Grant meets with Jenny Davis, a school counselor, to help him choose the winners. The staffers work on education stories. Rossi talks to teachers about problems in the schools while Newman interviews an administrator who denies any problems. Grant begs Davis to keep her job because the students need her. Students rape Davis, and she quits. The scholarship winners are chosen and awarded.

Episode #30: "Slaughter," November 27, 1978

Grant meets up with an old friend, Chip Murphy, a newspaper editor in a small town. Murphy tips Grant off about an epidemic that may be killing off the cattle in the area. Grant investigates the problem and finds out that the cattle feed is contaminated with antifreeze. Journalists urge health officials to issue quarantine.

Episode #31: "Singles," December 4, 1978

Mrs. Pynchon hires media consultant Michael Barton to raise readership of the paper. He recommends staffers write articles about singles to interest a younger demographic. Rossi covers video dating as Newman writes about a computer dating service. Barton insists that the reporters write even more sensational stories. But, Grant is against this way of increasing readership. The *Tribune* staff begins to resent Barton and his ideas. Mrs. Pynchon fires him.

Episode #32: "Babies," December 11, 1978

Newman and Rossi do some investigative reporting on black-market adoptions. They pose as a couple wanting to adopt a child. Just when they are supposed to receive the child, the attorney raises the price by 50 percent. They finally get the baby. They then write an article exposing the corruption in adoption practices.

Episode #33: "Conflict," December 18, 1978

Mrs. Pynchon gets angry when she finds out that the food editor's trip to Italy was paid by the food industry. She tells her staff that there will be no more "freebies." Rossi then gets a new position as the *Tribune's* media critic. He angers everyone in the newsroom with his criticisms. Newman protests against the widening of the street by her house using connections she made with a city councilman. Hume's wife, Marion, works for a politician running for office. But she quits her job before Hume gets fired for it. Mrs. Pynchon supports a charity that uses unethical practices. When Grant publishes a story exposing the problems with the charity, Mrs. Pynchon gets distressed.

Episode #34: "Denial," January 1, 1979

Grant's daughter, Ellen, and his grandson, Nick, visit him at the *Tribune*. Grant learns that Nick has a hearing disability. Ellen will not admit that her son is losing his hearing. Grant tries to help his grandson. Meanwhile, Rossi is upset with his editors because they refuse to let him publish a story about faulty building construction. The editors claim Rossi does not have enough evidence for the story. Rossi then gets into trouble by giving his information to a rival reporter. Hume considers firing Rossi, but Grant convinces him otherwise. He explains to Hume that Rossi was acting to protect the construction workers. Eventually, Ellen does take Nick to a school for the deaf.

Episode #35: "Fire," January 8, 1979

The staff works on stories about a series of arson fires. Fire investigator Frank Durning tells the *Tribune* in confidence about an arson-for-profit ring linked to two fire officials. Durning gets in trouble by his department after the *Tribune* publishes a story about it. Another arson fire happens near where Photographer "Animal" lives. He escapes unharmed, but one of his neighbors dies. Later, firefighters tell Durning they are happy he reported the ring to the newspaper. Durning was glad to leak the information to the *Tribune* even though it risked his job.

Episode #36: "Vet," January 15, 1979

Dennis "Animal" Price tries to take photographs during a hostage crisis and risks his life. Grant learns that "Animal" is a Vietnam veteran who is still haunted by his experiences during the war. Grant meets Sutton, a panhandler and Vietnam veteran. Grant assigns his staff to cover stories about the hardships of veterans. Grant tries to convince Mrs. Pynchon that Sutton deserves a job at the newspaper. Grant then cannot locate Sutton. Apparently, he moved to another city. "Animal" begins to feel better suited to deal with his issues as a veteran.

Episode #37: "Scam," January 22, 1978

Grant wants to invest money that was given to him by his son-in-law as repayment for his loan. He finds out that Hume's financial adviser, David Milburn, is under investigation for fraud. Hume will not believe that he may have been scammed. The *Tribune* staff learns that several investigators claim they were defrauded by Milburn, who is sentenced to 10 years in prison. Hume is upset when he learns that he lost his savings.

Episode #38: "Sweep," February 5, 1979

Rossi and Newman delve into stories about illegal immigrants. The reporters learn about holding cells where the immigrants are detained once they are ordered back to Mexico. They also learn about the plight of these immigrants and why they want to enter the United States. Grant learns that Mrs. Pynchon's niece, who is a copy editor at the paper, is illiterate. He encourages Mrs. Pynchon to get her help.

Episode #39: "Samaritan," February 12, 1979

Several years ago, a killer calling himself Samaritan committed five murders. The *Tribune* now receives a letter explaining that Samaritan has returned. Jim McCrea, a reporter who covered the initial story, is assigned to investigate the current one. The staff decides not to publish the letter for concern it will upset the public. Columnist Jack Town writes about the letter in the paper. Then, another letter from Samaritan is received. Rossi interviews a detective who tells him that the letters are fake. Apparently, Jim made up the letters as a hoax.

Episode #40: "Hit," February 19, 1979

Rossi meets a strong-headed woman, similar to himself, named Martha. She is investigating the hit-and-run accident that killed her son two years earlier. Rossi begins to ignore his assignments at the paper to help Martha find out more about the incident. She eventually finds that a traffic judge was the culprit, and she brings charges against him.

Episode #41: "Home," February 26, 1979

An elderly woman was taken out of her nursing home and placed at a county office because she had not paid her bills. Rossi and Newman delve into the story. An administrator at the home will not give Rossi a tour of the facility. Newman goes undercover and applies for a job at the home as an assistant. She complains about the insufficient care at the home and is fired. Grant learns about the human side of these problems from an older friend, Fred Horton.

Episode #42: "Convention," March 5, 1979

There are rumors that a radical group is going to kidnap someone at a newspaper convention in Palm Springs. Mrs. Pynchon, Hume and Grant go to the meeting. Everyone is hysterical because they are worried about a terrorist incident. However, nothing happens during the meeting. Newman investigates and finds out that the rumors were a joke for publicity.

Episode #43: "Marathon," March 19, 1979

A tunnel collapses in Los Angeles, causing the staff to work hard to get it reported. The staffers also must deal with a life-size fly at a building in Downtown and a man who is sure that aliens will land at an Air Force base. The news team works all day and night investigating these breaking stories. Art considers taking a job at the governor's office.

Episode #44: “Bomb,” March 26, 1979

Rossi learns that a young man has plans for an atomic bomb and is threatening to blow up Los Angeles. Federal officials are certain that this is a hoax. Meanwhile, the staff investigates. Rossi interviews the would-be terrorists. Federal agents then arrest the terrorists. Grant fears that these threats are the first of many more.

Episode #45: “Skids,” April 2, 1979

Rossi is assigned to cover the people living on skid row. However, he is uncomfortable with doing the story because of his father who is an alcoholic. Grant learns that one of the bums living on skid row, Doc, used to be a surgeon. Newman meets a mentally ill woman, Dirty Donna. Rossi finally comes to terms with his father. Doc dies, and Grant is deeply saddened.

Episode #46: “Romance,” May 7, 1979

Rossi does a story about a musician who is being sued by an ex-girlfriend. Newman covers a young mother who is on welfare. She leaves her child trapped in a car to go to a party. Newman meets another young girl who wants to have a child so that she can get welfare and quit school. Newman becomes friends with her and tries to assist. Grant and his girlfriend, Susan Sherman, a police officer, discuss living together. But Grant is a traditional man and tells her that he would prefer marriage. She is not ready for the commitment, but they still stay together.

Third Season:**Episode #47: “Cop,” September 17, 1979**

The *Tribune* staffers look into recent deaths of homosexuals – Grant’s gay neighbor is killed and five people at a gay bar are killed in a fire. Patrolman Mike Tynan tells Grant that he is gay but cannot tell anyone for fear he will be ostracized. The editors decide to publish the names of the people who died in the fire because they feel a newspaper cannot withhold information. Patrolman Robert Dennahy, Tynan’s partner, finds out that he is gay and asks to be transferred. The officers find the suspect, and Tynan saves Dennahy’s life. Dennahy has newfound respect for Tynan.

Episode #48: “Exposé,” September 24, 1979

The *Tribune* staffers cover a story about City Supervisor Bonita Worth. The news team then finds out that Bonita’s husband, Mark, is an alcoholic. He threatens to punch Hume in his drunken state. He later interrupts a budget meeting to complain about an editorial that criticizes him. A tabloid looks down upon the *Tribune* for publishing details about Mark’s drunken behavior. Mrs. Pynchon worries that her newspaper and others have unfairly covered the Worths. In the end, Bonita resigns.

Episode #49: “Slammer,” October 1, 1979

Grant and Rossi assist inmates in a local prison in starting a newspaper. Rossi does a feature story about one of the inmates. But his victim is outraged by the coverage, sparking a debate between rights of victims and rights of inmates. The prisoners then try to publish a story in their paper about one of the inmates, claiming he was killed by a prison gang. The warden stops it from being published because of lack of sufficient information. Grant then convinces the warden that the newspaper is important for the inmates, giving them an outlet to express their feelings and concerns.

Episode #50: “Charlatan,” October 15, 1979

Religion reporter Marcus Prescott criticizes Rossi and Newman’s work regarding a religious leader accused of fraud. Mrs. Pynchon and Hume do not believe in defending a pornographer who publishes names and undercover agents in his magazine. Grant disagrees with them and decides to testify in court on the pornographer’s behalf. The news team is divided between both freedom of religion and freedom of the press.

Episode #51: “Frame-Up,” October 22, 1979

The *Tribune* is criticized for being anti-industry after it publishes a story about a company that pollutes the environment. Newman wrote the story which also said that the business was relocating to Los Angeles. The company later announces that it will not be moving, and Newman’s story loses its credibility. A secretary from the business leaks some information to Newman, saying that the company made up the story to gain tax incentives. After the story is published, the company sues the *Tribune* for libel. Apparently what the secretary said was a hoax, and Newman had been tricked. But Rossi comes to the rescue. He finds the phony secretary and exposes the whole situation in the newspaper.

Episode #52: “Hype,” October 29, 1979

Rossi and Newman cover research at Los Angeles University Medical Center. At the facility, researchers develop new medicines that contribute to its own funding. One of the researchers, Dr. Daniel Todson, falsifies study results of a new medication, claiming it is a breakthrough at a press conference. The *Tribune* exposes this ruse.

Episode #53: “Gambling,” November 5, 1979

One of the *Tribune*’s business reporters, Mac McIvor, illegally gambles. When he cannot pay his debts, he borrows money from Newman. McIvor starts making financial investments on behalf of the newsroom, violating conflict of interest. Grant fires McIvor because of his behavior. A friend of Grant’s wins thousands of dollars by betting on a fixed race. This story is covered by the *Tribune*.

Episode #54: “Witness,” November 12, 1979

A lawyer is badly beaten. The incident is connected to a grand jury investigation of a game show host. The attacker admits what he has done to Newman. He tells her that he was hired by the host to attack the lawyer. The assailant is mysteriously murdered. And Newman’s brakes on her car do not work. Police Detective Dan Staley takes Newman into protective custody. She finally testifies before a grand jury.

Episode #55: “Kidnap,” November 26, 1979

High school basketball teams from a small town are missing. The *Tribune* learns it is a kidnapping. Grant assigns his news team to cover the story. Newman and Rossi fight over who will get the bigger story. Instead of working together, they work as rivals. Art turns out to get the story. He discovers first that the athletes are safe and the kidnappers were found. A large newspaper chain is interested in buying the *Tribune*, but Mrs. Pynchon refuses to sell it.

Episode #56: “Andrew, Part I: Premonition,” December 3, 1979

This episode focuses on Donovan’s cousin Andrew. He is emotionally disturbed and has been through therapy. Donovan and Andrew’s mother, Edna Raines, are worried that Andrew will do something crazy one day. Andrew claims he hears voices. He finally goes to a hospital but is released in just a couple of days. Police arrest Andrew for murdering his mother’s friend.

Episode #57: “Andrew, Part II: Trial,” December 10, 1979

The news staff debates on how it should cover Andrew’s story. Donovan is worried that the coverage will wreck his chances of a plea bargain. The editors assign Newman and Rossi to cover the stories about Andrew’s case. Andrew escapes from jail. Donovan is upset with the *Tribune* for not protecting him in its coverage. Andrew goes on trial and is found guilty of second-degree murder. The judge sentences him to 15 years in prison.

Episode #58: “Hollywood,” December 17, 1979

The staff writes articles on an old murder case of Philippine boxer, Baby Duarte. The reporters meet with Mrs. Polk, who still lives in an old cantina where Duarte was killed. The case is still a mystery. Mrs. Polk divulges that she loved Duarte but could not marry him because he was of a different race. She also admits she could not let him leave the Philippines. Perhaps she killed him.

Episode #59: “Kids,” December 24, 1979

The staff covers children-related stories. Grant helps out Mark, a troubled boy who is ignored by his mother. Rossi does a story about a child actress, Carly, and the problems that accompany child acting. Newman writes about two adolescents who committed suicide.

Episode #60: “Brushfire,” January 7, 1980

The *Tribune* works on stories about a brush fire in the Los Angeles area. The fire approaches Hume’s home. He and his wife try to save their house. Police use Price’s photographs to locate the arsonists who started the fires.

Episode #61: “Indians,” January 14, 1980

Newman and Rossi cover stories regarding urban Indians. They talk to a boy who ran away from an Indian boarding school. They also meet other Indians. They begin to see their plight and cultural differences.

Episode #62: “Cover-Up,” January 21, 1980

Rossi covers a story about Jeff Lindsay, a teacher who is wrongly accused of molesting a student. The school board dismisses Lindsay from the school. Newman investigates a film studio executive who receives kickbacks. The man resigns but still works for the studio as an independent producer. Neither of their stories are printed in the *Tribune*. The editors felt that they did not have sufficient verification for the articles.

Episode #63: “Inheritance,” January 28, 1980

Newman works on a story about a young woman, Jessica Downey, who sues drug companies that make DES. It is an artificial hormone that had been prescribed to pregnant women, but the medication is linked to cancer in children. Rossi talks to Sarah Hartounian, who also used the medication. She is fighting to be included in her father’s will. The family has left her out because they resent that she, an Armenian, married a Turk. The judge rules on her behalf, but she still cannot reconcile with her family.

Episode #64: “Censored,” February 4, 1980

In a small rural community, citizens burn books due to strict censorship. A teacher in the town is fired because she uses one of the banned books. This leads the news team to pursue articles on censorship. Apparently, Grant’s old friend, newspaper editor Mitch Webster, started the censorship in the town. But the *Tribune* itself is censored as Hume refuses to run a political cartoon for fear of being sued.

Episode #65: “Lou,” February 11, 1980

This episode focuses on Grant and the challenges of being city editor. Mrs. Pynchon is upset with him for not being polite on the telephone. Newman complains about her assignment. Grant crops a photograph but “Animal” is not pleased with the results. Grant fires a reporter who plagiarized an article from a college newspaper. Rossi is not happy with Grant’s advice to improve his story. Grant is annoyed and goes to Hume for some consolation. Grant is overwhelmed with the pressures.

Episode #66: “Blackout,” February 18, 1980

An earthquake in Los Angeles leaves the newsroom without electricity. Grant is determined to print the newspaper. The staff works by candlelight. Rossi, Newman and Animal write about looting and rioting throughout the city. Grant gets permission to use the presses from a newspaper in Long Beach. The publication is printed.

Episode #67: “Dogs,” March 3, 1980

Mrs. Pynchon’s dog, Barney, has been stolen. The staff learns that he was used to help train fighter dogs. Rossi works on a story about dog fighting by interviewing a human society investigator. He works undercover at a gas station and becomes friends with a breeder. At a dog fight, Rossi is beaten. He still is able to produce a story. And Mrs. Pynchon gets her dog back.

Episode #68: "Influence," March 10, 1980

The *Tribune*'s financial editor, Adam Wilson, is an alcoholic. Mrs. Pynchon joins a group of advocating construction of a new airport. She decides that the staff should reevaluate its coverage of the airport. Grant finds Adam drunk at a bar and takes him home. Wilson gets arrested for drunk driving and asks Grant to bail him out. Grant refuses and insists that Wilson get help. Mrs. Pynchon decides to leave the group because she feels as a publisher, she needs to remain independent.

Episode #69: "Guns," March 17, 1980

At a St. Patrick's Day party at the local bar, McKenna's, Grant befriends an Irishman, Francie Fitzgerald. He later learns that Francie has stolen weapons from a gun shop. He is tied to the Irish Republican Army (IRA). But IRA officials are not happy with Fitzgerald. Meanwhile, Newman and Rossi look into the insurgency in Ireland. Disenchanted Fitzgerald ends up holding Grant at gunpoint.

Episode #70: "Hazard," March 24, 1980

Rossi sees a man crash his motorcycle on the street. This leads him to investigate allegations that a certain make is unsafe. He interviews Paul Kramer, from the motorcycle company, who tells him that it saves money by paying for death and injury claims rather than fixing the vehicle. Kramer demands money from Rossi in order to give him the documenting evidence. Mrs. Pynchon stands up against this "checkbook journalism." Grant tells Mrs. Pynchon that she is already violating this stand by paying and then publishing memoirs of a former government official. In order to get the story, Rossi pays Kramer with his own money. After he gets the information, he finds out that he is not the first with the news. Apparently, Kramer leaked it to other media outlets.

Fourth Season:**Episode #71: "Nightside," September 22, 1980**

Grant works overnight in the newsroom. He learns what it is like to be working at the *Tribune* in the middle of the night. Breaking news stories emerge with a plane crash and a yacht sinking. Newman and Art arrive in the newsroom to help the news team with coverage. Grant is so exhausted by morning time that he falls asleep in the office.

Episode #72: "Harassment," September 29, 1980

Harassment is the theme of this episode. Rossi speaks with a husband who assaults a man suspected of harassing his wife. In the newsroom, an advertising manager harasses his assistant who is a woman. Newman writes her story about harassment, learning that half the women at the *Tribune* had been harassed in the past. Hume does not want Newman to use the reporters in the newsroom as sources. But Mrs. Pynchon agrees with Grant that the *Tribune* should expose its flaws.

Episode #73: “Pack,” October 27, 1980

Newman is on the campaign trail of a Senate candidate, Jim Carlisle. She is frustrated with being part of the “pack” of reporters. Her editors criticize her writing and coverage. They complain that she does not have unique reports that set her apart from the rest of the pack. Newman finally comes up with a story about Carlisle’s temper which is different from her colleagues’ coverage. Her fellow reporters are not happy with her for finding this story. However, they later join her in pressuring him to admit he supports gun control.

Episode #74: “Sting,” November 17, 1980

Hume and his wife move to an apartment that is located closer to the *Tribune*. The Humes rent their house to the Thatchers. Hume finds out from the couple that they are undercover agents on a “sting” operation. Suddenly, they disappear and Hume questions whether he was duped by them. The newsroom later finds out that the Thatchers are with the state attorney’s office. The Thatchers catch public officials who committed bribery. Eventually, Hume and Marion return to their house.

Episode #75: “Goop,” November 24, 1980

Chemicals and hazardous waste are found in a pond by a residential community. Rossi and Newman investigate and discover that the suspect is the Dillard chemical plant. Newman decides to go undercover and take an assistant job at the plant. She becomes friends with her co-workers including Teri Wilk. Newman finds records that reveal a trucking crew is polluting the pond with waste. Rossi and “Animal” catch them dumping the chemicals. Newman then tells her friend Teri that she had to deceive her to expose the unethical activities.

Episode #76: “Libel,” December 8, 1980

The news team looks into a tabloid, the *National Spectator*. The *Tribune* staffers want to expose its sensational and inaccurate reporting, but they worry that the tabloid will retaliate. The paper files a \$60-million lawsuit against the *Tribune*. Grant feels the threat of the lawsuit undermines his ability as an editor. So, he refuses to answer questions during a deposition. After Mrs. Pynchon insists that he cooperate, Grant finally does.

Episode #77: “Streets,” December 15, 1980

The *Tribune* staff covers tensions in the inner city. Rossi clashes with black reporter Milt Carmichael on how the story should be presented. Carmichael comes to the realization that he was assigned the story only because he is black. But Rossi insists that the paper needs his perspective. Together, Rossi and Carmichael do their reporting and get their article published.

Episode #78: “Catch,” January 5, 1981

Newman meets Ted McCovey, a baseball player. He invests in a real estate company, which Newman is investigating. She worries that he is getting too close for comfort to her source. McCovey and Newman end up kissing in the newsroom.

Episode #79: "Rape," January 12, 1981

Rossi becomes friends with one of his colleagues, Sharon. When he finds out that she has just gotten robbed and raped at her house, Rossi tries to help her out. He even admits that he would like to beat the man up. Mrs. Pynchon urges her staff to improve the way it covers rape issues.

Episode #80: "Boomerang," January 19, 1981

A *Tribune* reporter in Central America dies due to a defective respirator. Newman learns that the respirator was banned in the United States. She discovers that some companies in the U.S. sell faulty equipment to foreign countries. Columnist Sidney Kovac urges the issue to be further explored. Grant is not pleased that Newman and Rossi are neglecting their regular assignments. They later admit to Grant that they were wrong.

Episode #81: "Generations," January 26, 1981

The *Tribune* looks into elderly people and how they deal with younger people. Hume's grumpy old father, Rupert, moves in with him after he is caught shoplifting. One of Grant's neighbors, Harvey, is made fun of by kids in the neighborhood. The man is so angry that he ends up shooting one of the kids to death.

Episode #82: "Search," February 9, 1981

Rossi writes a story about a mother reunited with her daughter who was given up for adoption. Lisa is a photographer for the *Tribune* and also was adopted. After Rossi's story is published, she gets inspired to search for her birth mother. Rossi helps, and together they locate her mother in Virginia. Lisa's natural mother is not pleased with the reunion and does not want to think about it. Lisa then comes to the realization that her adoptive mother is her true mother.

Episode #83: "Strike," February 16, 1981

The *Tribune* welcomes a new computer system. But the problem is that employees lose their jobs because of this innovation. The printers go on strike and are joined by other members of the staff. Grant has to remain at work because he is part of management. One of the strikers dies of a heart attack at the picket line. Grant finally joins his colleagues in the strike. Mrs. Pynchon negotiates an agreement with the union to end the strike.

Episode #84: "Survival," February 23, 1981

Rossi works on a story about survivalists after encountering one, Ralph Cooper, on his visit to Donovan's cabin in rural California. Cooper is preparing for the breakdown of American society. An imminent storm threatens Donovan's cabin. Grant and Rossi help Donovan by covering the hillside with plastic to protect his house from flooding. They become stranded at the cabin. Cooper arrives and holds them hostage at gunpoint. When Cooper gets injured, Grant and Rossi save his life.

Episode #85: “Venice,” March 9, 1981

“Animal” goes to Venice Beach to take photographs. He sees a woman, Leslie, drowning in the ocean. Officials call her death a suicide. Animal wants to know why a young girl would kill herself. He does the research and finds out that Leslie was unhappy with her life.

Episode #86: “Campesinos,” March 16, 1981

Rossi covers a farm worker strike where he meets labor leader Tommy Hernandez who uses activist Hugh Holstrum to lead the strikers into the fields. Holstrum is arrested for trespassing. *Tribune* reporters interview the laborers and growers. The growers’ guards kill Tommy. The workers and growers reach a settlement.

Episode #87: “Business,” March 23, 1981

A fire erupts at a manufacturing firm, Cal Electronics. Rossi and Newman cover the story. They find that the blaze is linked to safety violations. But fire officials discover that the blame falls on city street workers. An official from the company, Russel Davidson, is upset with the *Tribune* for what he considers to be inaccurate reporting on the fire. Grant and Hume blame business for not cooperating with the media. Management at the paper decides to improve business coverage so they begin to publish columns by business people.

Episode #88: “Violence,” April 4, 1981

The *Tribune* staff researches football and movies. Rossi looks into “Crusher” Carter who is a football player sued for injuring an opponent. Newman interviews doctors about the dangers of the sport. Grant disagrees with *Tribune* movie critic Melissa Cummings about violence in motion pictures. Grant does not think it is necessary in entertainment.

Episode #89: “Depression,” April 13, 1981

Reporter George Driscoll tries to commit suicide after he separates from his wife. He begins to accept his estranged daughter’s suggestion that he face his problems. Meanwhile, in the newsroom, Mrs. Pynchon is looking for an executive editor. Hume is upset that she does not consider him for the job.

Episode #90: “Stroke,” May 4, 1981

Mrs. Pynchon remains ill after she suffers a stroke. Hume and Grant are worried that her nephews will take over the *Tribune* while she is recovering. Newman works on a story about the controversy over a magazine taking nude photos of female students. Mrs. Pynchon’s lawyer votes in favor of the paper acquiring a magazine. Finally, two months later, Mrs. Pynchon returns to work.

Fifth Season:**Episode #91: "Wedding," November 2, 1981**

Newman goes out with baseball player Ted McCovey. He asks her to marry him. She accepts but is worried that marriage will not give her enough time for her career. Grant also has a problem making time for relationships outside of work. He feels his devotion to his job is deteriorating his relationship with his daughter, Janie. The day before Newman and McCovey marry, the computer system at the *Tribune* crashes. The staff has to work hard to get the paper published. Grant cannot meet with his daughters because he is forced to help out his news team. Finally, Newman and McCovey get married at Hume's house. Grant's daughters surprise him with a visit.

Episode #92: "Execution," November 9, 1981

Kitty Larsen, who has been convicted for killing four people, wants to be executed. She tells Rossi that she would like him to cover her story. Newman-McCovey works on the research by contacting the victims' family members. Rossi becomes close to Larsen and urges her not to seek the death penalty. Larsen decides to pursue a book and movie deal. The press learns that Larsen and Rossi are having an affair, which is not true. Rossi comes to the realization that he was used to promote her story.

Episode #93: "Reckless," November 16, 1981

Somebody vandalizes Hume's car. He suggests that the *Tribune* organize a crime hotline where people can call up with tips. Police use one of the tips to find a murder suspect. The suspect's lawyer accuses the newspaper of promoting anonymous tipsters to show the significance of the publication. Hume finally realizes that the hotline is basically paying people for stories. He feels it is overstepping the boundaries of the paper and gives it up. Grant gets arrested for driving under the influence. This leads Newman-McCovey to do a story about drinking and driving and its consequences.

Episode #94: "Hometown," November 23, 1981

Grant visits his hometown of Goshen, Mich.. after his aunt dies. Grant learns that a glass factory in the city will be closing. It is owned by a company in Los Angeles and he assigns his staff to cover the story. The employees, fearing they will lose their jobs, buy the company to keep it open. He also meets up with an old girlfriend, Georgann. Then, he returns home and back to the *Tribune*.

Episode #95: "Risk," November 30, 1981

Rossi and reporter Sharon McNeil investigate a pornography ring. They promise to keep their sources anonymous. McNeil meets with a mother who allows her 19-year-old daughter to be in pornographic movies to help contribute money to the family. The story is published in the *Tribune*. Police demand that the paper reveal the identities of the mother and daughter. Grant and Mrs. Pynchon agree with McNeil that the newspaper cannot give out its anonymous sources but do admonish her for giving confidentiality too quickly.

Episode #96: “Double-Cross,” December 7, 1981

A gold cross hidden in a 100-year-old capsule is the center of a family fight. The family finally decides to donate it to the city. The capsule is opened but to everyone’s surprise it is not as elaborate as thought. Newman-McCovey investigates the cross by interviewing historian Michael Shepherd. Newman-McCovey discovers that the cross is fake. The real cross is in somebody else’s hands. The staff learns it is on a statue of the Virgin Mary at a church.

Episode #97: “Drifters,” December 14, 1981

Hume helps his nephew Scott find a job. Hume lets him stay at his home in the meantime. He learns that Scott had a nervous breakdown and should be on medication. Scott is fired from his job and Hume begins to learn of his emotional problems. Scott agrees to go back to therapy.

Episode #98: “Friends,” December 28, 1981

Rossi’s friend, Burt Cary, is running for the board of supervisors. Grant offers Rossi the chance to cover the story. But, Rossi declines because he wants to maintain his objectivity. Cary framed his opponent by linking him to purchasing cocaine. When Rossi learns about it, he cannot help telling the scoop to his staff even though it means losing a friend.

Episode #99: “Jazz,” January 4, 1982

Rossi is fascinated with jazz musician Sonny Goodman. He gets Goodman to reunite with the rest of his band and perform a concert together. Reporter Jed Crosley has trouble working on his own after his partner retires. He finally gets a story – a public official illegally using funds to remodel his home.

Episode #100: “Ghosts,” January 11, 1982

Newman-McCovey works on a piece about a woman who died after falling off a second-floor railing. Newman-McCovey learns that a 10-year-old girl was murdered in this house and since then it has been considered haunted. The woman’s husband is the murder suspect. His lawyer argues that the wife was killed by a poltergeist. The husband eventually pleads guilty.

Episode #101: “Cameras,” January 25, 1982

Two men hold children hostage in a restaurant where they were attending a birthday party. The staff watches the television coverage of this breaking story. They realize that they cannot compete with the speed of television news. The judge in the trial allows cameras in the courtroom, which becomes a debate in the newsroom. Newman-McCovey works on a story about mothers exploiting their children. Grant and Donovan edit the story, making the mother appear manipulative. Newman-McCovey is angry at Grant for altering her story and making it less accurate.

Episode #102: “Review,” February 2, 1982

Rossi writes a story with another reporter about a councilman who tells racist jokes. Meredith Hall-Sutton, a former *Tribune* reporter whom Mrs. Pynchon had fired, is highly critical of the story. She belongs to the Western States News Council, which is about to vote on whether the *Tribune* treated the councilman fairly. Hume thinks Hall-Sutton is biased against the paper. The council determines that the councilman was not treated properly. The *Tribune* then publishes a story about the council’s actions even though it puts the paper in a negative light.

Episode #103: “Immigrants,” February 15, 1982

Tam has difficulty adjusting himself to life in Los Angeles as a Vietnamese refugee. The *Tribune* hires him as a photographer. But he becomes a nuisance in the newsroom by not following the rules. Some people pressure Tam’s family to use their supermarket as a food stamp fraud sting. In the evening, Tam’s porch is destroyed by a grenade. He gives Rossi all of the information about the food stamp criminals.

Episode #104: “Hunger,” March 1, 1982

Rossi makes a bet with Grant that he can get a story out of any random person. They meet Grantise Frawley on the street. She is a nun who runs a soup kitchen. Rossi begins to learn about the problems feeding the homeless. The story gets complex, and Grant tells Rossi to drop it. But Rossi is intrigued by the story and does research on his own time. After Rossi writes it, the editors put it on the front page.

Episode #105: “Recovery,” March 8, 1982

Rossi looks into a scandal where people took advantage of Japanese Americans during World War II. He finds that Mrs. Pynchon’s husband made money by purchasing the land from Japanese Americans going to internment camps. Mrs. Pynchon is shocked when Rossi tells her about her husband’s involvement. Newman-McCovey works on a Medicaid scandal in which the doctor leaves the country. The man’s wife was just elected to the police review board. She is arrested later for corroborating with her husband.

Episode #106: “Obituary,” March 22, 1982

Newman-McCovey is supposed to catch a flight for an assignment, but her editors reassign her to another her story. The plane crashes and kills three journalists who were on it. Grant, Rossi and Newman-McCovey do profiles on each of the journalists. Meanwhile, “Animal” has trouble with photographing a rare moth for the *Tribune*. He is worried that when the picture appears in the paper, it will reveal where the moths live and harm the endangered species.

Episode #107: “Blacklist,” April 5, 1982

Readers are not happy with the *Tribune*’s new sex column for teens, “Dr. Valentine.” The editors decide to keep it in the paper even though they lose advertisers. Rossi finds out that his girlfriend’s father was blacklisted in the 1950s. The father, Mr. McCann, tells them that reporter Frank Ober was part of the FBI during that time. Ober tells Grant about it. He admits to Grant that it saved him from being blacklisted.

Episode #108: "Law," April 12, 1982

Grant sues a plumber who does poor work for him. The plumber then counter sues Grant. He drops the suit for fear legal fees will build up. But he protests in front of the plumber's shop. A councilman sues a group of petitioners who fail to win a recall effort against him.

Episode #109: "Fireworks," April 19, 1982

Newman-McCovey works on a piece about lobbying and fireworks. She goes to Sacramento to complete her assignment by dealing with her ex-husband, lobbyist Greg Serantino. He had lobbied for legislation that would reduce restrictions on fireworks. In the newsroom, the staff debate over a Greenwood Foundation award. The organization was founded by a company with a poor environmental record and a background of selling products banned in the United States to foreign countries. Hume thinks the award would be beneficial for the *Tribune*. But the staff as a whole agrees not to pursue the award.

Episode #110: "Unthinkable," May 3 1982

There is an oil crisis in the United States as cooperation with the Middle East breaks down. People are concerned the disagreement will result in nuclear war. Grant and Rossi cover this possible nuclear strike. Newman-McCovey works on a piece about a young girl who survived a school bus crash but is badly burned.

Episode #111: "Suspect," May 17, 1982

A new *Tribune* reporter, Lance Reinecke, covers an environmental activist who dies in a hit-and-run crash. Reinecke looks into whether it really was an accident or a set-up. Grant demands that Reinecke give his research to the police. Reinecke becomes aware that his speculation was wrong. It was a real accident. Grant consoles Reinecke by telling him that it is important as a journalist to try to figure out what happened even if it proved wrong later on.

Episode #112: "Beachhead," May 24, 1982

Rossi does a story on surfer gangs. The *Tribune* is blamed for covering it after a fight breaks out among the gangs. Grant did not want the coverage of the surfers to be on the front page. But he now must serve as a representative of the paper in appearing at a city council meeting regarding the coverage. Grant tells Hume that he made a mistake in making the story bigger than it was.

Episode #113: "Victims," August 30, 1982

Grant is robbed and shot in a parking lot. At a liquor story, police officer Vince DeMayo shoots a robber to death. Vince becomes depressed after the shooting. He goes to a counselor to help him deal with his troubles. Grant is in the hospital being treated for the shooting wounds. He is finally released and returns to work.

Episode #114 “Hume,” September 13, 1982

Hume disagrees with Mrs. Pynchon about what to do with a *Tribune* employee who suffers from a drinking problem. He comforts Donovan who is worried that his girlfriend may be pregnant. Newman-McCovey considers moving to Sacramento to spend more time with her husband.

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