



REJOICE, TV HORROR FANS: 'SCREAM' & 'VAN HELSING' BOTH GOT RENEWED

The 'Dracula'-affiliated Syfy series just started; MTV's version of Wes Craven's and Kevin Williamson's four-movie saga premiered off last year

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October 14, 2016



MTV

Two cable series based on hyper-well-known horror franchises have both been renewed. Syfy's *Van Helsing*, only four episodes into its first season, will be back in 2017; MTV's *Scream* will be, as well. *Scream* Season 3 will only run six episodes; *Van Helsing* Season 2 will go a full 13.

Van Helsing's plot involves subterranean vampires creeping above ground after a volcano blows, rising, as Deadline writes, "up through a dark, ash-filled sky to overtake America." Their greatest foe is Vanessa Van Helsing, whose ancestor fought the god Dracula. Fun twist on the lore: she's immune to getting vamped, *and* she can turn the undead back into humans.

Van Helsing showrunner and writer Neil LaBute celebrated the renewal like so:

"We have a wonderful and terrifying road ahead planned for Vanessa, her allies and her enemies. I think this is a world and a story that can be sustained for many years and I am inspired to do so thanks to Syfy's obvious trust and commitment in the storytellers, cast and crew."

Scream's renewal feels tentative, with the shortened season and with a new, still-TBD showrunner, the third switcheroo for that role since the series' June 2015 debut. A pair of two-person showrunner units came before. Deadline writes that the show has endured "a lot of turnover" and, ratings-wise, has "had a bumpy run." On Oct. 18, a two-hour *Scream* Halloween special will set up Season 2.