Your Guide to Gilmore-isms

The 411 on many of the show's witty and memorable wordplays and pop culture references. *Ab Fab* - Reference to Jennifer Saunders' brilliant creation, British comedy series *Absolutely Fabulous*. (Ep. 9)

A.J. Benza - A former gossip columnist for the *New York Daily News*, he hosted the now cancelled *E! Mysteries & Scandals*. (Ep. 2)

Akira Kurosawa - Japanese film director of such classics as *The Seven Samurai* and *Ikiru*. (Ep. 19)

The Algonquin - Hotel and site of the famous Algonquin Roundtable, where Robert Benchley, Dorothy Parker and other literary luminaries gathered to drink and converse. (Ep. 11)

Andy Hardy - All-American boy-next-door character played by Mickey Rooney in a series of movies co-starring Judy Garland. (Ep. 13)

Anne Heche's alien language - Reference to the actress' claim that she lived much of her life through an alternate personality from another planet, whom she called Celestia and who was able to communicate to God through her own secret language. (Ep. 10)

Amy: "To quote Anne, 'Oh, Quiness. Nokka dune notta." Need I say more?"

Anne Sexton - American poet who won the Pulitzer Prize in 1967 and later lost a lifelong battle with mental illness and committed suicide. (Ep. 7)

Annie Sullivan - Helen Keller's teacher, she taught the deaf, dumb and blind woman to communicate. (Ep. 22)

Asaad Kelada - Television director. (Ep. 19)



Barbara Hutton, Doris Duke and Gloria Vanderbilt - High society heiresses all three, Hutton was the heir to the Woolworth fortune who was married famously seven times, at one point to Cary Grant; Duke, the daughter of American Tobacco Company founder and Duke University benefactor James Buchanan Duke and a famous collector of art and antiquities; Vanderbilt, a member of the prominent Vanderbilt family and most famous as a spokeswoman for high-end blue jeans. (Ep. 6)

The Barrymores - Family of actors that includes Lionel, Ethel and Drew. (Ep. 14)

Battlebots - Television series on Comedy Central in which remote controlled robots attempt to destroy one another. (Ep. 6)

Baz Luhrmann - Film director of Moulin Rouge, Strictly Ballroom and William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. (Ep. 21) Amy: "His office called us one day and asked to see some shows. I sent him shows. He sent me a note. I framed it. I talk to it. It doesn't talk back, but it will. Oh yes, it will. "

The Beav - Nickname of the character played by Jerry Mathers in the series *Leave It To Beaver*. (Ep.9)

Bhagavad Gita - Sacred Hindu text known for its length and complexity. (Ep. 18)

Billy Graham - A Southern Baptist minister and evangelist who received attention for his extended work in Los Angeles and preaching tours around the world. Graham later found friends amongst high-ranking politicians and Presidents. (Ep.9) *Billy Jack* - 1971 film in which an ex-Green Beret karate expert fights to save a school from social injustice. (Ep. 3)

Bob Vila - Host of This Old House home improvement program. (Ep. 2)

Bobby Fischer - Former world chess champion who reached the height of his fame at age 15 when he defeated the Russians and became a Cold War hero. (Ep. 18)

Bobby Flay - Celebrity chef made famous for the restaurant Mesa Grill but now perhaps better known for his Food Network show *Hot Off The Grill With Bobby Flay*. (Ep.1)

Boca Burger - Meatless soy-based hamburger substitute, found in your grocer's freezer aisle. (Ep. 2)

Bogarting - Synonym for "hogging" or "monopolizing." (Ep. 10)

Boone's Farm - Fruity-flavored wines known for their affordability and popularity amongst young drinkers. (Ep. 21) *Aug: "Tickle pink."*

Boy In the Plastic Bubble - Television movie first broadcast in 1976 that starred John Travolta as a boy forced to live in a plastic isolation bubble due to his non-functioning immune system. (Ep. 13)

Breakfast Club - John Hughes film about ill-behaved kids and their Saturday detention. (Ep. 5)

Brigadoon - 1954 Broadway musical by Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe about a magical village in Scotland that comes to life for one day every hundred years and the American tourists who fall in love with its residents. (Ep.22) "Calgon, take me away." - Famous motto for women's bathing salts. (Ep. 15)

Castro - Fidel Castro overthrew the Batista government of Cuba in 1959 and established a Communist state. (Ep. 2)

Chachi - Reference to Scott Baio's character in the television series *Happy Days* and *Joanie Loves Chachi* who started out as a bit of a hoodlum before he fell in with the right crowd. (Ep. 20)

Chairy and Captain Carl - Chairy (a giant, plush, talking chair) and Captain Carl (one of the Playhouse gang, played by Phil Hartman) were characters on *Pee Wee's Playhouse*. (Ep. 14)

Chang and Eng - Conjoined twins in the 1800's, they achieved notoriety in circus freak shows before settling down in North Carolina and collectively siring 21 children. (Ep.9)

Cher, Greg Allman - The singer Cher was married to Allman Brother Greg for nine days in 1975. They later reconciled, then divorced in 1977. (Ep. 1)

Chicken Ranch - Legal brothel in Nevada. (Ep. 16)

Chuck Mangione - Jazz flugelhorn player best known for his 1978 soft-rock instrumental hit *Feels So Good*. (Ep. 10)

Cocktail - 1988 film in which Tom Cruise plays a cocky New York bartender who earns his popularity through flashy drink-making performances. (Ep. 19)

Colossus of Rhodes - A statue of the patron god Helios that stood at the entrance to the harbor of the island of Rhodes in Greece until an earthquake destroyed it in 282 B.C. Commonly known as one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. (Ep. 17)

The Coreys - Former child stars, Corey Haim and Corey Feldman co-starred in such films as *Dream A Little Dream* and *License To Drive*. (Ep. 11)

Cosa Nostra - Another term for the mafia. (Ep. 7)

Coyote Ugly - World-famous saloon in downtown Manhattan known for its cheap drinks, all-Country jukebox, and scantily-clad female bartenders who dance on the bar. The establishment eventually inspired a chain of theme bars and a feature film. (Ep. 11)

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Cujo - Rabies infested canine from the Stephen King novel and film. (Ep. 1)

The Damned - English punk band formed in 1976. Their debut album *Damned Damned Damned* was released six months before The Sex Pistols' debut *Never Mind the Bollocks*. (Ep. 2)

"Danger Will Robinson! Danger!" -

Famous robot line from the TV series Lost In Space. (Ep. 8)

David and Lisa - Reference to a play by James Reach whose title characters did not like to be touched. (Ep. 17) Daniel: "I attended a high school production of this play while a freshman at St. Genevieve in Panorama City. There are 8,743 holes in the ceiling tiles in the St. Genevieve auditorium."

David Lynch - Eerie filmmaker of Blue Velvet and Twin Peaks fame. (Ep. 4)

Dodger - The character of the Artful Dodger from Dickens' novel *Oliver Twist.* (Ep. 5) **Don Rickles** - Internationally famous comedian often called the "King of Insult" who still plays Las Vegas after working his first gig there in 1959. (Ep. 20)

Boogle

Dr. Dre - Founding member of rap group *N.W.A.* and producer for Eminem, he was sentenced to house arrest and slapped with an ankle bracelet in 1996. (Ep. 14)

Dr. Laura - Dr. Laura Schlesinger, television talk show host and self-help guru. (Ep. 5)

Driving Miss Daisy - Film starring Jessica Tandy and Morgan Freeman about a chauffeur and his demanding passenger. (Ep. 16)

Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy - Reference to ventriloquist Edgar Bergen and his dummy, Charlie McCarthy. (Ep. 13)

Electra Woman and Dyna Girl - Sid and Marty Krofft-produced Saturday morning show about two superheroines played by Deidre Hall and Judy Strangis. (Ep. 3)

Emily Post - The unchallenged authority on manners and decorum. (Ep.9)

Ernest Builds A Snowman - Reference to bumbling movie character Ernest P. Worrell, played by the late Jim Varney. (Ep. 10)

Euell Gibbons - Spokesman for the vegetarian lifestyle as being beneficial for longevity, died of natural causes in his early sixties. (Ep. 15)

Eve Harrington - Anne Baxter's character in the classic 1950 film *All About Eve* who plots to maneuver her way into, then steal for herself, the life and career of Broadway star Margo Channing, played by Bette Davis. (Ep. 19)



"Exene wannabe" - Exene Cervenka sings with early eighties and still existing LA punk outfit *X*. (Ep. 11)

Fat Albert - Character from the 1970's cartoon by Bill Cosby. (Ep. 7)

Fellini - Italian filmmaker renowned for his offbeat, sometimes surreal sequences. (Ep. 5)

"Forget it Jake. It's Chinatown." - Famous and fatalistic last line from the film *Chinatown*. (Ep. 4)

Fredo - Ne'er-do-well son of Don Corleone in *The Godfather* who bemoaned his lack of power and respect. (Ep. 5)

Freud - Sigmund Freud was the Austrian inventor of psychoanalysis. (Ep. 4)

From Here To Eternity - 1953 film most memorable for its scene of Burt Lancaster and Deborah Kerr kissing on the beach. (Ep. 13)

"The full-on Diana" - Reference to Princess Diana and her famous fairy-tale wedding. (Ep. 2)

Gary Mule Deer - Comedian who frequently opens for Johnny Mathis. (Ep. 7) Amy: "Friend of my dad's. He bought my first car from me."

Geneva Convention - A diplomatic conference held in Geneva in 1949 at which the standard rules for the treatment of prisoners of war were agreed on. (Ep. 18)

George and Martha - Alcoholic, argumentative couple from the film and play *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (Ep. 6) *Girl, Interrupted* - Reference to the book by Susanna Kaysen about her stay in a mental hospital that was later made into a film starring Winona Ryder and Angelina Jolie. (Ep. 22)

Glitter - Mariah Carey's 2001 box office disaster. (Ep. 8) Amy: "I saw it and I can tell you, it's no 'Showgirls.'

Gloria Allred - High-profile attorney most famous for her pioneering work on behalf of women and minorities, Ms. Allred is currently the President of the Women's Equal Rights Legal Defense and Education Fund. (Ep. 22)

Godot - The character who never shows up in Samuel Beckett's play *Waiting For Godot.* (Ep. 18)

Gomer - Reference to Gomer Pyle, a character played by Jim Nabors in a television show of the same name. (Ep. 18)

Greg Louganis - Considered by many to be the greatest diver in history, he is often remembered for a diving incident at the Seoul Olympics in 1988 in which he struck his head on a diving board. (Ep. 22)

Guy Fawkes Day - In England in 1605, a group attempted to blow up King James I and the Houses of Parliament by tunneling under the House of Lords and igniting two-and-a-half tons of gunpowder. Fawkes, the explosives expert, was captured and killed. Today in England, Guy Fawkes Day is celebrated with fireworks and a bonfire on which an effigy of Fawkes is burned. (Ep. 3) Daniel: "To be perfectly candid, I put this reference in them had to look it, up three years later because I had

then had to look it up three years later, because I had completely forgotten what it was."



Hubert H. Humphrey - Vice President to Lyndon Johnson, he ran for President against Richard Nixon in 1968 and was defeated. (Ep.22)



Hummel - Collectible ceramic figurines, originally the craftsmanship of German artist M.I. Hummel. (Ep. 21) Daniel: "With apologies to the estate of M.I. Hummel, I grew up with one of these figurines sitting on the tank of our toilet."

"I Like Ike" - Campaign slogan of Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States of America from 1953-1961. (Ep. 15)

Ida Morgenstern - Overbearing mother character played by Nancy Walker on the sitcom *Rhoda*. (Ep. 15)

J. Edgar Hoover - Hoover was appointed head of the FBI in 1924 and held the position until his death in 1972. He was known for keeping extensive files on politicians, celebrities, and others. (Ep. 1)

Jack Kevorkian - Advocate for physician-assisted suicide. (Ep. 14)

Jan - Jan Brady, often beleaguered middle child of The Brady Bunch. (Ep. 3)

John Birch Society - A United States radical Right organization originally established in 1958 to fight the influence of Communism on American life. (Ep. 8)

John Cleese - Member of British comedy troupe Monty Python. Amongst his stock of characters was "The Minister of Silly Walks." (Ep.13) Daniel: "I learned everything at the feet of Monty Python. Including the fact that they have unattractive feet." **The Judds** - Country music group consisting of Wynona Judd and her mother Naomi. Though not part of the group, Ashley Judd is part of the family. (Ep. 12)

Kabbalah - An aspect of Jewish mysticism that is an offshoot of traditional Judaism, Kabbalah is frequently misused by non-Jews and has been recently made famous by celebrities such as Madonna and Demi Moore. (Ep. 5)

Lady Godiva - The Saxon lady who, according to the legend, rode through the streets of Coventry on her horse naked with only her long hair covering her. (Ep. 17)

"Lead to our Jumping Frog." - Reference to *The Jumping Frog* of *Calaveras County*, a short story by Mark Twain. (Ep. 21)

Lenny Bruce - Brilliant comedian known for his controversial performances and resulting harassment from the law. (Ep. 13)

Liberace - Famously flamboyant pianist and entertainer. (Ep. 4)

Library of Alexandria - Founded at the beginning of the third century B.C., The Royal Library of Alexandria is believed to have been the largest library in the Mediterranean world. (Ep. 17)

Lily Tomlin / John Travolta Movie - *Moment By Moment*, a film starring John Travolta and Lily Tomlin as a couple in a May-December romance that was both a critical and box-office disaster. (Ep. 6)

Lon Chaney Jr. - Character actor whose career was mostly overshadowed by his more famous father, the silent film star Lon Chaney. (Ep. 19)

Luca Brasi - Don Corleone's go-to henchman from The Godfather. (Ep. 16)

Marcus Schenkenberg - Swedish-born male supermodel. (Ep. 21)

Marianne Faithfull - Famously drug-addicted singer/songwriter who was romantically involved with Mick Jagger of The Rolling Stones. (Ep. 19)

Martha Stewart - Domestic guru whose empire includes a magazine, a television series and a line of housewares, and whose advice on inventive homemaking has led her to great fame and fortune. (Ep.9) Amy: "I learned how to give my chow a massage from this woman. She's a saint. A goddess. And by God, she will be back."

Mel Brooks - The comedic genius behind *Young Frankenstein*, *The Producers* and *Silent Movie*. (Ep. 15)

"Mencken's Chrestomathy" - A collection of writings by Baltimore journalist H. L. Mencken. (Ep. 1) Daniel: "This certainly was the first time the word 'chrestomathy' was ever uttered on The WB. And with God as my witness, it won't be the last... oh wait, it's actually the second time. We referenced it in season one. Dann!"

Mensa - Mensa is an organization for people with high IQ's. (Ep. 3)

Mickey Hargitay - Father of Mariska Hargitay and 1955 Mister Universe winner who was married to Jayne Mansfield. (Ep. 20)

Midnight Express - Drug-smuggling movie written by Oliver Stone. (Ep. 4)

Mojo - British-music lover's guide to essential rock recordings. (Ep. 5)

Monticello - The Virginia estate of founding father Thomas Jefferson. (Ep. 8)



Mother Teresa - Famous Catholic nun who served the poor of Calcutta; she founded the Missionaries of Charity and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979. She was also very short. (Ep. 2)

Mussolini - Benito Mussolini ruled Italy as a fascist dictator from 1922 to 1943. (Ep. 3) Daniel/Amy: "The quote attributed to Mussolini, 'We have buried the putrid corpse of liberty,' was used on our own wedding invitations. Honest. We're that sick."

Napoleon and Elba - French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte was exiled to Elba in 1814. (Ep. 18)

"Next time hold an envelope up to your head before you do that." -Reference to Johnny Carson's *Tonight Show* bit, "Carnac the Magnificent," in which Carson held sealed envelopes to his forehead and predicted their contents. (Ep. 20)

Nick & Nora - Dashing, martini-sipping husband and wife characters from *The Thin Man* film series. (Ep. 5)

"Nico obsessed" - The late Nico achieved prominence as a singer with The Velvet Underground. (Ep. 11)

"Nobody puts Baby in a corner." - Quote from the 1987 film *Dirty Dancing*, which stars Patrick Swayze and *Gilmore Girls*' Kelly Bishop. (Ep. 6)

N'Sync - Formerly a popular boy band. (Ep. 3)



On The Town - 1949 film based on the Broadway musical by Leonard Bernstein, Betty Comden and Adolph Green, which starred Frank Sinatra and Gene Kelly as sailors on leave who go out for a night in New York City and meet up with Betty Garrett and Ann Miller. (Ep.9) **"Patience, Grasshopper."** - Famous quote from the television series *Kung Fu*, starring David Carradine. (Ep. 15)

Patricia Hearst and the SLA - Heiress Patricia Hearst was kidnapped in the early seventies by the Symbionese Liberation Army (SLA) and brainwashed into assisting in a bank robbery. (Ep. 17)

Patricia Krenwinkle - A member of the Charles Manson "family" and one of his murdering emissaries, Krenwinkle was involved in all seven Manson murders and is currently imprisoned in California. (Ep. 12)

Pauline Kael - Influential film critic for *The New Yorker* magazine. (Ep. 19)



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Pee Wee Herman - Paul Reubens' character, the eccentric star of children's television series *Pee Wee's Playhouse* and feature film *Pee Wee's Big Adventure.* (Ep. 14)

"Phasers on stun." - Refers to the non-lethal setting of a standard issue phaser in *Star Trek.* (Ep. 8)

Pixies reunion - Legendary rock band The Pixies were a notoriously quarrelsome group who suffered a nasty breakup in 1993. Although a reunion was rumored at the time of this episode's airing in 2001, it seemed unlikely until the band in fact reunited in 2004. (Ep. 10)

Pop Rocks - A candy first introduced to the public in 1975 from which small amounts of carbonation are released, causing a popping sensation in the mouth and a sizzling noise. (Ep. 17)

Princess Grace - Grace Kelly, the American actress and star of *Rear Window*, retired from showbusiness when she married Prince Rainier III of Monaco. She died in 1982 in an automobile accident. (Ep. 2)

"Rabbit boiling on the stove?" - One of Glenn Close's modes of revenge in the film *Fatal Attraction*. (Ep. 14)

Richard Burton, Elizabeth Taylor, Mike Todd - Actress Taylor was married to producer Todd in 1957 until his death a year later. She married actor Burton in 1964 and divorced him a decade later. They were remarried for a year in 1975. (Ep. 3)



Riff - Leader of the New York City teenage gang The Jets in the musical *West Side Story*, Riff's death is the event that causes hero Tony to commit murder. (Ep. 5)



Rizzo - Troublemaking character played by Stockard Channing in the movie *Grease*. (Ep. 4)

Robert Benchley - A humorist, drama critic and film actor who was a famous contemporary of Dorothy Parker. (Ep. 11)

Romanoffs - The last royal family of Russia; all died by firing squad when the Communists took over. (Ep. 17)

Sadie - Reference to a married woman, from the song *"Sadie, Sadie,"* which was in the Broadway musical (and later film) *Funny Girl*, Barbra Streisand's debut.

Sal Mineo - Academy Award[®]-nominated star of *Rebel Without A Cause* who is often remembered for his brutal murder in 1976. (Ep. 20)

Sally Field Movie - Reference to the 1991 motion picture *Not Without My Daughter*. (Ep. 1)

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Sandra Day O'Connor - The first woman to serve on the Supreme Court. (Ep. 7)

Sephora - National chain of all-encompassing make-up stores. (Ep. 14) Amy: "And the place I must be buried."

The Shaggs - All-girl garage band whose sloppy 1960's recordings have achieved classic status. (Ep. 15)



Shaun Cassidy - The younger brother of *Partridge Family* star David Cassidy, singer/songwriter Shaun Cassidy was a seventies teen-idol who later went on to reinvent himself as an actor and television writer/producer. (Ep. 21)

Shecky - Shecky Greene, comedian and actor. (Ep. 6)

Sid & Nancy - Not so dashing, heroin imbibing bass player in The Sex Pistols and his equally besotted girlfriend. (Ep. 5)

Snow White and Rose Red - Fairytale popularized by the Grimms that tells the story of sisters Snow White and Rose Red, named for the two rose bushes in their mother's garden, one bearing white roses and the other red. (Ep. 7)

Space pen - Bullet-shaped pen developed by NASA for use in space. (Ep. 4) Daniel: "If they stopped manufacturing the space pen, my life would cease to exist. I'm that fragile."

Stalin - Infamous bald dictator of Marxist/Communist Russia. (Ep. 9)

Stan Freeberg - Radio comedian, recording artist and influential adman. (Ep. 19)

Stephen Hawking - Famous scientist and author of the groundbreaking *A Brief History of Time*. (Ep. 1)



Sulu - Captain Hikaru Sulu, the character played by George Takei on TV's *Star Trek*. (Ep. 8)

Tammy Faye Bakker - Ex-wife of televangelist Jim Bakker, Tammy became involved in her then-husband's scandal and is best remembered for wearing an excessive amount of mascara. (Ep. 10)

Tante - The Yiddish word for aunt. (Ep. 21)



Ted Nugent - A rock musician and guitar showman, Nugent is responsible for a few memorable tunes such as *Cat Scratch Fever*, and is well-known for his support of hunter's rights. If it walks, crawls, swims or flies, Ted's gonna shoot it. (Ep. 16)

"The tiny fellow on that *M***A***S***H* **program."** - Gary Burghoff's character "Radar" O'Reilly was the reliable assistant on the television series *M***A***S***H*. (Ep. 20)

The 2000-Year-Old Man - In which Mel Brooks, as the 2000-year-old man, is interviewed by Carl Reiner. (Ep. 15) Amy: "Some kids had Barney, I had Mel and Carl. My motto in elementary school was 'There's something bigger than Phil.'"

Thelma & Louise - Ridley Scott's 1991 film follows Thelma (Geena Davis) and Louise (Susan Sarandon) traveling cross-country, escaping the law, and driving off a cliff into the Grand Canyon. (Ep. 2)

Them! - Science fiction film featuring giant ants that take over America. (Ep. 3)

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Tony Manero - Character played by John Travolta in *Saturday Night Fever*. (Ep. 3)

Unabomber - Ted Kaczynski, a loner who lived in a Montana shack, is in prison for mailing explosive packages. (Ep. 15)

The Valley Girl Song - Novelty song that parodied San Fernando Valley culture, or lack thereof, performed by Moon Unit Zappa. (Ep. 4)

Van Gogh - 19th Century Impressionist painter famous for cutting off his own ear. (Ep. 8)

Vanna - Vanna White, the longtime letter-turner for the game show *Wheel of Fortune*. (Ep. #9)



Vicious Circle - A term often used to describe the members of the Algonquin Roundtable, the group of literary greats that included Dorothy Parker. (Ep. 18)

"Whack you with a cannoli..." Lorelai: "In the corner, the mafia table where nobody can sneak up behind you and whack you with a cannoli." Rory: "Whack you with a cannoli? Oh, because he left the gun and took the cannoli." - Reference to Pete Clemenza's line of dialogue in *The Godfather:* "Leave the gun. Take the cannoli," spoken just after the murder of one of his associates. (Ep. 14)

Whatever Happened To Baby Jane? - Cult classic film starring Bette Davis as a former child star long forgotten and Joan Crawford as her more famous actress sister, who is confined to a wheelchair and forced to endure Jane's torment. (Ep. 19) *"Who's On First"* - Popular Abbot and Costello routine concerning a baseball team and the confusion over player names. (Ep. 2)

William Holden - Late, great movie star of such films as Bridge On the River Kwai, Sabrina and Sunset Boulevard, Holden won an Oscar[®] for Stalag 17. (Ep. 13)

"...writing letters to Jodie Foster." - John Hinckley, the gunman responsible for the attempted assassination of President Ronald Reagan in 1981, was famously obsessed with actress Jodie Foster. He wrote many letters to her, including one just before the assassination attempt, explaining that he was going to shoot the President in her honor. (Ep. 22)

Xuxa - Brazilian children's television host who wore revealing outfits, she briefly hosted an American version of her show in the early nineties. (Ep. 2)

Ya-Ya Sisterhood - *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*, a novel by Rebecca Wells that became a feature film. (Ep. 7)

Zelda Fitzgerald - Wife of F. Scott Fitzgerald. She eventually went crazy and was institutionalized. (Ep. 1)

Zsa Zsa Gabor - Glamorous beauty and sometime actress best remembered for slapping a Beverly Hills policeman in the 1990's. (Ep. 7)

