

CERTIFIED NORMAL

Comedy Series

13 x 25-minute episodes

A comedy about
two couples who are
completely normal.
At least according to them.



Original Idea by
Maria Maya



Written by
Daniel Porto



Directed by
Maria Maya

SERIES OVERVIEW

LOGLINE

The everyday lives of two couples become a comic lens for strange syndromes, neuroses, fears, and behavioral quirks.

FORMAT

Single-camera comedy series •
13 episodes • 25 minutes each

AUDIENCE

Adults 18–65 with broad appeal.

TONE & REFERENCES

Sharp, character-driven, emotionally astute, and playfully neurotic.

Seinfeld • *Grace and Frankie* • *The Four Seasons*

SYNOPSIS

Julia, an endodontist, is married to Roger, an accountant. They like each other—just not that much—but they also do not dislike each other enough to break up. For years, they have wanted another couple with whom they can share dinners, complaints, and competitive games of Pictionary. They finally bring together Carlos, Julia’s younger brother and Roger’s coworker, and Beatriz, a book copy editor and one of Julia’s patients.

Carlos and Beatriz get married, separate, and soon get back together. Meanwhile, Julia and Roger—the couple who never quite falls apart—begin to show signs that they need something new. As the series unfolds, the relationships between the two couples move through constant highs and lows.



THE WORLD OF THE SERIES

Set in and around New York City, the series uses geography as comedy: intimate apartments, long commutes, polished offices, crowded schedules, and the constant pressure to appear fine.

SETTING

- Julia and Roger live in Astoria, Queens
- Carlos and Beatriz build their married life in Sunnyside
- Roger and Carlos work at a Midtown Manhattan accounting firm
- Julia practices dentistry in Long Island City
- Beatriz is originally from Jersey City

WHY IT WORKS

- The city keeps the characters close enough to stay entangled
- New York adds rhythm, friction, and visual identity
- Familiar neighborhoods make the comedy feel lived-in and real

SERIES DNA

Relational comedy with a high-concept episodic engine, grounded in everyday insecurity, intimacy, and self-delusion.



MAIN CHARACTERS

Visual character references



JULIA

38. An endodontist who is genuinely passionate about her work. Julia speaks about everything with total conviction and likes to know exactly what is happening around her. She sees herself as a perfect host, but her intensity can easily overwhelm the room.



ROGER

40. An accountant and Carlos's brother-in-law. Traditional, self-assured, and emotionally tone-deaf, Roger tends to theorize about life, men, women, and human behavior—and is convinced he is usually right.



CARLOS

32. Julia's younger brother and Roger's coworker. Quiet, restrained, and hard to read, Carlos rarely reveals what he is really thinking. He is underfulfilled at work, though he would never admit it matters much.



BEATRIZ

30. A book copy editor who believes she is far more rational than she actually is. Smart, skeptical, and emotionally guarded, she struggles to say what she really thinks—especially to Carlos.

EPISODE ENGINE

Each episode takes a rare syndrome, unusual condition, or behavioral phenomenon and refracts it through the characters' everyday lives. The condition becomes the comic engine; the relationships make it human. Each episode ends with a brief specialist explanation of the featured condition.

SAMPLE EPISODES



EPISODE 1 — CAPGRAS DELUSION

After the wedding, Beatriz becomes convinced that Carlos is starting to resemble her ex. Carlos, in turn, believes Beatriz is behaving exactly like his mother.



EPISODE 2 — DIOGENES SYNDROME

After the breakup, Beatriz stays with Julia and Roger, filling their apartment with objects that remind her of Carlos and turning the place into emotional storage.



EPISODE 3 — STOCKHOLM SYNDROME

Julia throws a party, but once the guests arrive, she refuses to let anyone leave. Carlos, Roger, and Beatriz devise a rescue plan—only to discover that some guests may not want saving.



EPISODE 4 — COTARD SYNDROME

Overworked and exhausted, Carlos and Roger become convinced they are dead. Julia and Beatriz try to talk sense into them, only to start believing it themselves.

EPISODE HIGHLIGHTS



EPISODE 5 — PARIS SYNDROME

Julia and Carlos's stepfather arrives in New York expecting the city of his dreams and crashes into reality instead. To pull him out of his disappointment, the siblings attempt to stage a fantasy version of the city.



EPISODE 6 — STENDHAL SYNDROME

Roger buys a painting at an online auction and becomes utterly mesmerized by it, while Carlos, Beatriz, and Julia try to convince him that the masterpiece is little more than a blank canvas.



EPISODE 7 — CLÉRAMBAULT SYNDROME

A former pop idol becomes a client of Roger and Carlos's firm. After doing his taxes, Roger becomes certain the star is secretly in love with him.



EPISODE 8 — FOREIGN ACCENT SYNDROME

When Beatriz gives a public talk and people mistake her nationality, she improvises a foreign accent. The performance is such a success that she can no longer seem to shake it.



EPISODE 9 — NOMOPHOBIA

During a dinner constantly interrupted by phones, the four make a bet to see who can stay disconnected the longest. Beatriz, fiercely competitive, becomes the first to sabotage everyone else.

MORE EPISODE HIGHLIGHTS



EPISODE 10 — DYSCHRONOMETRIA

When Beatriz's mother comes to stay, Beatriz becomes irritated by how insistently she is treated like a child. Determined to prove she is a fully independent adult, she overcompensates in every possible direction.



EPISODE 11 — ALICE IN WONDERLAND SYNDROME

Julia accidentally inhales anesthetic gas at her practice and begins misperceiving the scale of everything around her—just as she must prepare a dinner for Roger and Carlos's boss.



EPISODE 12 — PROSOPAGNOSIA

A man arrives at the accounting office acting as though he has known Carlos and Roger forever. Since neither of them has any idea who he is, they enlist Julia and Beatriz to solve the mystery.



EPISODE 13 — MÜNCHHAUSEN SYNDROME

Julia falls for a patient and invents an endless list of dental problems to keep him coming back. When Roger senses what is happening, he fakes an illness of his own to win back her attention.



WHY THE SERIES WORKS



- A high-concept engine with long-running episodic potential



- Four characters with clear comic tension and emotional chemistry



- An elevated New York setting that remains producible



- Relationship comedy with both bite and warmth

CERTIFIED NORMAL

A sharp ensemble comedy about love, self-delusion, and the strange things people do to feel normal.



SERIES SNAPSHOT

Genre: Comedy Series

Format: 13 x 25-minute episodes

Setting: New York City

Language: English



PROJECT CREDITS

Original Idea by Maria Maya

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CONTACT

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