
Subject: Thoughts on new fall season shows

Posted by [Chris Buckley](#) on Tue, 10 Oct 2017 17:04:15 GMT

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I've seen an episode of most of the new season shows I might be interested in. Here's my quick reactions to them, in decreasing order of probability I'll finish out the season watching each.

Shows I expect to watch all of:

Children of the Whales - Kujira no Kora was Sajou nu Utau: I hadn't heard anything of this, but it looks very nice from the first episode.

A fantasy featuring a society which has split itself from the mainland onto a whale/island in a sea of deserts (with most of the island population not knowing the real story.) I like stories that make you think, and the main conflict here is obviously a clash of philosophies.

The Ancient Magus Bride - Mahoutsukai no Yome: This is the most anticipated show of the season (based on the manga and OVA's released several months ago). It should be quite good, a quieter character oriented show (which I also like), with a well thought out world with elements that are purposefully both positive and negative (like fairies).

Fireball Humorous: A series of shorts (Dave says there's only 3? Boo!) about a very quirky female robot girl. I enjoyed the earlier series of her a few years ago - this is a prequel series.

Just Because: A high school slice of life that is very character oriented. The first episode shows that a lot of thought has been put into it.

Shows I'll watch more of, but may drop:

Net-juu no Sosume: Main character is a 30-year old female NEET, playing a male character on-line, meeting a cute female character on-line (being played by a real-life male). Might be good as a nice, quiet, enjoyable series, but won't be deep.

Kino no Tabi: Looks like a well-done sequel to the 2003 _Kino's Journey_. I think I'll have the same reaction as to the original - good, with occasional excellent episodes, but I'm more interested in novels than short stories, and this is very much a short story series.

Kekkai Sensen & Beyond: another sequel series from a year or two ago: I liked it, but have started and never finished rewatching it twice!

Houseku no Kuni: A different original world, with the main characters being (breakable, and mendable) jewels, in conflict with invaders who value them only as jewels. Reasonable, but could be good or could be bad.

Juuni Taisen: Another conflict to the death among a dozen characters with various powers. The first episode was interesting primarily because the main character was so unlikable. We'll have to see where it goes from here!

Hozuki no Reitetsu: A comedy sequel that I like individual pieces of, but for my tastes would be much better as a series of shorts. (That's my reaction to most comedies - may be good in small doses, but not in longer pieces without something else to be thinking about.)

Blend S: A comedy cute girl series which has the girl waitresses all playing roles opposite to what they are really (eg, a shy, apologetic girl being a sadistic waitress). A nice setup for interesting issues, but I doubt the director will go that way, so I expect to be dropping it.

Shows I've already dropped:

Imouto sae Ireba Ii: A over the top sis-con that exhibited some more serious possibilities at the end of the first episode. I may keep tabs on it to see what will dominate.

_Shoujo_shuumatsu Ryouka_: two girls in a post-apocalyptic world. The setup as described in the first episode has too many holes in it - I kept on thinking "that would never happen". Again, I could see checking in on the show's reviews later to see if they supplied a different background, but I'm not optimistic.

Love is Like a Cocktail - Osake wa Fuufu ni Natte Kara: an adult social drinking series that looks pleasant, but nothing for me there.

Amias Aite was Oshiego, Tsuyoki na, Mondaiji: a series of shorts about a relationship between a female teacher and male student. Unbelievable and a bit unpleasant.

Ousama Game - King's Game: a horror series with loads of violence for the sake of violence.

Subject: Re: Thoughts on new fall season shows
Posted by [Chris Buckley](#) on Thu, 12 Oct 2017 21:56:18 GMT
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On 2017-10-10, Chris Buckley <alan@sabir.com> wrote:
> I've seen an episode of most of the new season shows I might be interested
> in. Here's my quick reactions to them, in decreasing order of probability
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Here's a couple more as the new show debuts are coming to an end, I think.

Inuyashiki - The Last Hero: A terminally ill 58 year old is rebuilt by passing aliens who accidentally killed him, but they only had weapon spare parts on hand. The first episode was definitely emotionally driven, and done well in that aspect- you feel the despair of the main character - but I have no idea how they will continue. It could be one of the best shows of the season, or I could drop it after one or two more episodes!

Evil or Live: This is just an ugly show, with ugly characters that I can feel no positive empathy towards. I would drop it quickly, but it's Chinese, and a show coming from that background about re-education camps and indoctrination (to cure internet addiction here) may have some interesting political points, so I'll watch another show or two.

Onyankopon: A series of shorts evidently aimed at 5-7 year old girls, and is not of interest to anyone else, even if it might possibly be of interest to them (though I doubt it).

Boku no Kanojo ga Majimesuguru Sho-bitch: I surprisingly enjoyed last season's _Tsurezure Children_ which was about the misunderstandings of first relationships, as is this show. But they have nothing else in common that would make this show watchable. I have no empathy for the characters who are acting pretty much randomly just to get a quick laugh (and a laugh at them, rather than sympathizing with them.)

Chris

Subject: Midseason thoughts on new fall season shows
Posted by [Chris Buckley](#) on Tue, 21 Nov 2017 23:38:28 GMT
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Here's my mid-season thoughts, written as a followup to my initial impressions.

On 2017-10-10, Chris Buckley <alan@sabir.com> wrote:

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- > in. Here's my quick reactions to them, in decreasing order of probability
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- > onto a whale/island in a sea of deserts (with most of the island population
- > not knowing the real story.) I like stories that make you think, and the
- > main conflict here is obviously a clash of philosophies.

A major disappointment (seen 7). Yes, it is a philosophical clash, but not one that makes you think. A pacifist island vs warrior outer world, with both sides treated very simplistically and unrealistically. The minor characters completely change their lifelong philosophies at the drop of a hat. Time and again things happen just because it's convenient for the plot for them to happen, not because there's any reason or likelihood of them happening.

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- > anticipated show of the season (based on the manga and OVA's released
- > several months ago). It should be quite good, a quieter character
- > oriented show (which I also like), with a well thought out world with
- > elements that are purposefully both positive and negative (like fairies).

A minor disappointment. We're 7 episodes in, and we're being told that the main character is changing, not being shown why she's changing. The changes are unbelievable just based upon what we've seen. Nice, but nothing to grab me.

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- > about a very quirky female robot girl. I enjoyed the earlier series of
- > her a few years ago - this is a prequel series.

Still only seen the first one.

- > Just Because: A high school slice of life that is very character oriented.
- > The first episode shows that a lot of thought has been put into it.

Still watching (seen 6), still about the same. More angst and less events than I would have expected.

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- > a male character on-line, meeting a cute female character on-line (being
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Enjoying this (seen 7), but is not deep.

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- > I think I'll have the same reaction as to the original - good, with occasional
- > excellent episodes, but I'm more interested in novels than short stories, and
- > this is very much a short story series.

Dropped. Not particularly well-done, unfortunately. I didn't get a sense of consistency for the main character, and that's a major lack in a short story anime.

- > Kekkai Sensen & Beyond: another sequel series from a year or two ago: I
- > liked it, but have started and never finished rewatching it twice!

Dropped. Just wasn't interested in trying to figure out the world again.

- > Houseku no Kuni: A different original world, with the main characters
- > being (breakable, and mendable) jewels, in conflict with invaders who
- > value them only as jewels. Reasonable, but could be good or could be bad.

Enjoying this one so far (seen 7). Very different, with an appealing flawed main character. The world is still being built even now; we don't have a good idea of what's really going on.

- > Inuyashiki - The Last Hero: A terminally ill 58 year old is rebuilt
- > by passing aliens who accidentally killed him, but they only had
- > weapon spare parts on hand. The first episode was definitely
- > emotionally driven, and done well in that aspect- you feel the despair
- > of the main character - but I have no idea how they will continue. It
- > could be one of the best shows of the season, or I could drop it after
- > one or two more episodes!

The jury is still out on this one (seen 6)! Meant for very mature audiences and often unpleasant (from the creator of Gantz and it shows). Neither the good guy nor the bad guy is handling their new superpowers well. It's interesting just as a more grounded psychological study of what happens when you're given superpowers.

- > Juuni Taisen: Another conflict to the death among a dozen characters
- > with various powers. The first episode was interesting primarily because
- > the main character was so unlikable. We'll have to see where it goes from
- > here!

On the verge of dropping it (seen 7). No main character and no discernible theme. Individual characters are interesting, but you can't attach yourself to them because they might get killed off next episode!

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- > for my tastes would be much better as a series of shorts. (That's my
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Dropped. As expected a comedy that is not my thing.

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- > roles opposite to what they are really (eg, a shy, apologetic girl being a
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- > director will go that way, so I expect to be dropping it.

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- > setup as described in the first episode has too many holes in it - I
- > kept on thinking "that would never happen". Again, I could see checking
- > in on the show's reviews later to see if they supplied a different
- > background, but I'm not optimistic.

I've been keeping an eye on this, since others think it is the anime of the season, but my sense of disbelief is too large. I can accept pretty much any ridiculous setup to begin with, but then the characters have to act consistently with that setup. They don't here.

Chris

Subject: Re: Midseason thoughts on new fall season shows
Posted by [Dave Baranyi](#) on Thu, 23 Nov 2017 14:31:17 GMT
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On Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 6:38:31 PM UTC-5, Chris Buckley wrote:

- > Here's my mid-season thoughts, written as a followup to my initial
- > impressions.
- >

My comments are below, underneath your comments on the series that I'm still watching.

- > On 2017-10-10, Chris Buckley <alan@sabir.com> wrote:
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> lifelong philosophies at the drop of a hat. Time and again things
> happen just because it's convenient for the plot for them to happen,
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I dropped this after three episodes and everything that I've read subsequently has convinced me that it was a correct move on my part.

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>> The Ancient Magus Bride - Mahoutsukai no Yome: This is the most
>> anticipated show of the season (based on the manga and OVA's released
>> several months ago). It should be quite good, a quieter character
>> oriented show (which I also like), with a well thought out world with
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> the main character is changing, not being shown why she's changing.
> The changes are unbelievable just based upon what we've seen. Nice,
> but nothing to grab me.
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I'm still watching this. It's cute, but not overly compelling. The best thing is that the anime is downplaying the angst that makes the manga impossible for me to follow.

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>> about a very quirky female robot girl. I enjoyed the earlier series of
>> her a few years ago - this is a prequel series.

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I found the second one the other day. Still as wonderfully bizarre as ever. ("C" is for "Convenience Store Bento"...))

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> have a good idea of what's really going on.

This is the most intriguing series that I'm following this season. I didn't expect much, but I find it to be some of the most imaginative story telling I've seen in an anime in quite some time.

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- >> reaction to most comedies - may be good in small doses, but not in longer
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I'm still watching this. It's not as hilarious as the first season but I'm still having lots of fun with it.

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> Chris

The other new shows that I'm still watching and enjoying are "Garo" and "Infini T Force".

"Garo" is a beer and popcorn anime and is being done well enough to keep me popping the popcorn.

"Infini T" is very retro in many ways, but surprising in many other ways. I'm enjoying it a lot.

Dave Baranyi
