

Grey's Anatomy (TV series)

■ Presentation

Grey's Anatomy is an American medical television drama about a group of surgeons at Grace Hospital in Seattle. It was first broadcast on 27th March 2005 and since then ten seasons have been produced by ABC. The title is a play on the name *Gray's Anatomy*, a famous human anatomy textbook originally written by Henry Gray.

The protagonist is Dr. Meredith Grey, a resident at the hospital, who is married to a neurosurgeon, Derek Shepherd. The series explores her relationship with her best friend Cristina Yang and patients and doctors in the hospital. Each episode focuses on different medical cases and doctors' personal lives.



■ Main characters

Meredith Grey – head of general surgery

Meredith has saved the lives of so many people over the course of the series.

She has survived major tragedies in her life; from almost **drowning** to death in icy water, to getting beaten up by a patient, to losing her mother, her half-sister, her husband who was the love of her life, and even being in the midst of a plane crash.

Meredith has only grown stronger through trauma, emerging a hero every time.

Derek Shepherd – neurosurgeon

Despite his dreamy image, there were times when Derek behaved in a particularly toxic

manner with his young sister Amelia and even with Meredith herself. His relationship with Meredith was **fraught with** tension at various points and he even manipulated the **board** into making him the Chief by **telling on** a colleague when he started drinking again.

Cristina Yang – cardiothoracic surgeon

Cristina is a real hero who saved Derek's life **at gunpoint** under extreme circumstances, and was the one who kept everybody together after the devastating plane crash at the end of Season 8. She also saved hundreds of patients.

Cristina represents a modern-day **empowered** woman.

board (of directors): *consiglio di amministrazione*
to drown: *annegare*
empowered: *emancipata*



fraught with: *irto/pieno di*
at gunpoint: *sotto la minaccia di un'arma*
to tell on: *fare la spia*

1  Read the text and complete the table with the following pieces of information.

- almost drowned
- a resident at the hospital
- behaved badly on some occasions
- has a dreamy image
- has survived many tragedies
- kept everybody together during a plane crash
- manipulated the board
- saved hundreds of patients
- saved the life of many people
- told on a colleague
- was beaten by a patient

		
Meredith Grey	Derek Shepherd	Cristina Yang

2  Use the information from the table and practise describing the characters.

3   Read a short presentation of other medical dramas and discuss with a partner.

1. Do you know any of them?
2. Have you seen any of them?
3. If so, what do you like?
4. If not, are you interested in watching any of them after reading this presentation. Why?

■ Other recent American medical dramas

The good doctor. The ABC's series **revolves** around the character of Shaun Murphy. He is a relatively young surgeon with Savant syndrome who works at the San Jose St. Bonaventure Hospital.

The resident. A Fox medical drama whose protagonist, Dr. Conrad Hawkins, is known for his unconventional approach to medicine.

New Amsterdam. The NBC's series revolves around the working lives of the medical professionals working at America's oldest public hospital in New York. At the centre of its story is the character of Dr. Max Goodwin, who is determined to fight bureaucracy in order to give all patients access to medical care.



to revolve: *ruotare*

