

Suits

Suits follows Mike Ross, a brilliant but uncredentialed law prodigy, and Harvey Specter, a top-tier attorney, at the law firm Pearson Hardman, which evolves through various names, including Pearson Specter Litt and finally Litt Wheeler Williams Bennett. The series explores legal cases, office dynamics, and personal relationships, with a focus on maintaining Mike's secret.

Season 1: Introduction and Initial Tensions

Season 1 introduces Mike Ross, a college dropout with a photographic memory, hired by Harvey Specter at Pearson Hardman despite lacking a law degree. The plot unfolds with internal tensions, including Louis Litt's attempts to undermine Harvey and blackmail Mike, including a faked failed drug test. Mike has a complicated relationship with Jenny, his friend Trevor's ex-girlfriend, and growing chemistry with paralegal Rachel Zane, culminating in a kiss witnessed by Louis. Jenny questions Mike's feelings after Louis hints at his late nights with Rachel, leading to Mike choosing Jenny after a double date. Rachel, upset, demands Mike find a new paralegal after ending their flirtation. The season ends with Trevor, after hearing a voicemail from Rachel about Mike and Jenny, revealing Mike's secret to Jessica Pearson, jeopardizing his employment and potential prosecution.

Season 2: Revelations and Power Struggles

Season 2 begins with Mike's secret being revealed to Jessica, leading to drama and a near-successful hostile takeover by Daniel Hardman. Harvey blackmails Daniel to keep Mike employed, and Donna destroys a false memo to protect Harvey, resulting in her temporary firing but reinstatement after exposing Daniel's scheme. Daniel returns, sues the firm for fraud, and briefly becomes managing partner before being ousted, with Jessica reinstated. Jessica considers merging with Darby International, but Harvey opposes it, betting that Mike can win three lawsuits against Darby to prevent the merger and become a named partner. Mike is forced to lose to protect his secret, leading Harvey to temporarily fire him, but Jessica vetoes the decision. Mike and Rachel progress in their relationship, with Rachel confessing feelings in a voicemail from the end of Season 1. They date but break up to protect the secret, eventually reconciling after Mike reveals his secret and they have sex.

Season 3: Name Changes and Legal Challenges

Season 3 sees the firm's name change from Pearson Darby to Pearson Darby Specter mid-season, and finally to Pearson Specter. The main case involves Ava Hessington and Hessington Oil, with themes of bribery and murder. Harvey forgives Mike early in the season for the mistakes of Season 2, and Mike reveals his secret to Rachel, becoming engaged and moving in together. Rachel secures her

future at Columbia Law School with Jessica's help, who waives the Harvard-only hiring rule. Mike faces professional challenges, including Louis's suspicions about his credentials (no file found at Harvard, resolved by Rachel) and extortion by a rival attorney. He's also questioned by the U.S. Attorney, but not about his secret, and ends up taking a job at Sidwell Investment Group. Jessica and Harvey work together on murder and takeover cases, with Stephen Huntley (Darby's fixer) being framed for murder. This leads Darby to dissolve the U.S. partnership, leaving the firm to Jessica and Harvey.

Season 4: New Horizons and Internal Conflicts

Season 4 sees Mike working as an investment banker at Sidwell Investment Group. He's reprimanded by Jonathan Sidwell for getting involved in the takeover of Gillis Industries. He's offered \$30 million by Logan Sanders to back down (which he refuses), is fired by Sidwell after Forstman reveals the deal, and is then rehired at Pearson Specter by Louis with a \$1 million signing bonus from Forstman. The firm faces problems with Eric Woodall of the SEC, hiring Jeff Malone as a senior partner, who has a romantic relationship with Jessica. Louis and Jeff handle the SEC case, and Charles Forstman buys shares of Gillis, leading the firm to become Pearson Specter Litt after Louis blackmails his way to named partnership. Mike and Rachel have ups and downs, with Rachel kissing Logan, Mike calling for a break, but ultimately reconciling and proposing marriage at the end, with Rachel saying yes. Donna poses as an NTSB employee in the Liberty Rail case, facing fraud charges, but the case is dropped after Harvey and Mike threaten a lawsuit. Harvey tells Donna "You know I love you," but they remain distant. Donna joins Louis after the death of his assistant.

Season 5: Exposure and Consequences

Season 5 sees Mike's secret exposed, resulting in his arrest for fraud. The firm defends him, and Mike accepts a two-year prison sentence to prevent the prosecution of the firm. Harvey struggles without Donna, who has left the firm, and sees therapist Dr. Paula Agard. Jack Soloff proposes changes to compensation that negatively affect Harvey. Mike works with his future father-in-law Robert Zane, signs a prenup, and is promoted to junior partner despite the risks. Daniel Hardman returns, threatening a hostile takeover with Charles Forstman from prison, but Harvey stops the takeover, and the police arrest Mike. Sheila Sazs, a Harvard employee and Louis's on-and-off partner, sends an anonymous email to ADA Anita Gibbs after seeing an article about Mike's attendance at Harvard. Sheila looks for the file but doesn't find any records, eventually being identified as the whistleblower. The season ends with Mike in prison, calling off his wedding with Rachel, wanting to wait until after his sentence.

Season 6: Prison and Redemption

Season 6 begins with Mike in prison, serving 9 episodes before being released. Pearson Specter Litt loses all but Jessica, Harvey, and Louis due to Robert Zane poaching, facing a \$100 million lawsuit for Mike's old cases. Mike initially gets along with his cellmate Frank, but Frank threatens Rachel, leading to Mike losing visitation rights. Harvey intervenes, making things worse, and Mike is almost stabbed. Kevin Miller, the real cellmate, helps Mike but is stabbed by Frank. Harvey involves SEC prosecutor Sean Cahill, and Mike informs on Kevin to gain early release. Kevin's backstory involves protecting his wife from insider trading charges against his father-in-law, William Sutter. Rachel is busy at Columbia Law School and with the Innocence Project. Jessica helps Rachel exonerate a client and decides to move to Chicago with Jeff, leading to the spin-off *Pearson*. Post-release, Mike works at a legal clinic and then agrees to take the bar exam with Harvey's help. Jessica returns briefly as a character witness to approve his application.

Season 7: Changes and Farewells

Season 7 feels like the beginning of the end, setting up the exits of three main cast members. Jessica moves to Chicago, and Harvey becomes managing partner, worrying about his preparedness. Louis mistreats associates until Rachel and Donna correct him, with Donna becoming COO after 12 years. Harvey recruits Alex Williams from Bratton Gould, causing danger to the firm, but Alex negotiates a deal saving PSL. Mike, working at the legal clinic, returns to PSL with a deal: one pro bono case per corporate case, plus funding for the clinic, and hides extra work, uncovering a cover-up involving a prison, Alex's negotiation, and a major client, winning a big case. Jessica moves to Chicago to reconnect with family, facing a corrupt real estate developer, loses her Illinois license, and joins the corrupt mayor's office to change it from within. The firm is threatened by senior partners led by Stanley Gordon, working with Rand Kaldor & Zane, to oust Harvey and Louis. Mike convinces Robert to join, forming Zane Specter Litt, stopping the plan. Mike and Rachel marry, moving to Seattle for a legal clinic focused on class-action lawsuits. Harvey breaks up with Paula to keep Donna in his life.

Season 8: New Dynamics and Unions

Season 8 sees Jessica in Chicago and Mike and Rachel in Seattle. The firm is now Zane Specter Litt, then Zane Specter Litt Wheeler Williams. Robert becomes managing partner, creating conflicts with Harvey over promotions for Alex and Samantha. Louis becomes managing partner to resolve the rivalry, promoting both to named partners. A conflict arises from a bad faith deal involving Harvey's client and Alex's client, involving Donna's relationship with Thomas Kessler. Donna informs Thomas, leading to Simon Lowe hiring Daniel Hardman, threatening Harvey's disbarment. Robert sacrifices his law license at the ethics hearing, having Alex claim he broke privilege, expiating past guilt for fabricated evidence in a case 8

years prior involving Samantha. Harvey and Donna finally get together in the finale after Harvey realizes Donna is his person, sharing a passionate moment.

Season 9: Closure and Farewells

Season 9, with 10 episodes, is about fighting to keep the firm intact with all the names on the door. Harvey and Donna are together from the start, shown in bed in the first episode. Donna breaks up with Thomas Kessler. They must remove "Zane" due to Robert's disbarment, becoming Specter Litt Wheeler Williams, and ultimately Litt Wheeler Williams Bennett. Faye Richardson becomes interim managing partner, restricting operations, firing Samantha for fabricating evidence, and permanently demoting Louis after a loophole attempt in IT. Rachel doesn't appear, but Mike returns for a case against Harvey (basketball player vs. Brick Street), knowing Harvey well and proposing a settlement. Sean Cahill is accused of conspiring to get Mike out of prison early. Harvey defends him, Malik fabricates evidence, ending with Malik imprisoned and Harvey and Cahill free. Harvey's mother dies, Mike returns for the funeral, helping with a wrongful termination suit against Faye. The firm tricks Faye into signing a document, and she leaves. Harvey and Donna move to Seattle with Mike and Rachel. Louis marries Sheila, and their daughter Lucy is born during the wedding. Harvey proposes to Donna at the reception, and they get married there. Katrina becomes a named partner after Sam is reinstated.