

Reba (TV series)



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Reba is an American sitcom starring Reba McEntire that aired on The WB from October 5, 2001 to May 5, 2006 and on The CW from November 19, 2006 to February 18, 2007. Most episodes were filmed in front of a live studio audience.

Synopsis

The show is set in the suburbs of Houston, Texas, and stars Reba McEntire as a wisecracking single mother Reba Nell Hart, whose dentist ex-husband Brock (Christopher Rich) has left her to marry young, ditzy Barbra Jean (Melissa Peterman) his dental hygienist after an affair with her, when it is revealed in the pilot episode that Barbra Jean is pregnant. Ironically, though Reba sees "B.J." (Barbra Jean's nickname) as her nemesis, Barbra Jean considers Reba her best (and perhaps only) friend. As the show progresses Reba slowly and painfully comes to the conclusion that despite all her efforts to hate her, she likes Barbra Jean and considers her a friend. In the pilot episode it was revealed that Reba's oldest daughter, then high school senior Cheyenne (JoAnna Garcia), is pregnant.

Cheyenne married her baby's father, fellow high-schooler Van Montgomery (Steve Howey), a dim-witted but well-meaning football player. Van moves in with them, as his own parents kicked him out for standing by Cheyenne and Van comes to view Reba as a surrogate parent (something Reba is very comfortable with). Reba's other two children are Kyra (Scarlett Pomers), an intelligent and rebellious teenager who shares Reba's sarcastic streak, and Jake (Mitch Holleman), a young boy just trying to sort through the mess of his family. Since the fifth season, Van and Reba have been real estate partners.

The show was cancelled when The WB Television Network and UPN merged into The CW Television Network. However, in an 11th hour move on May 17, 2006, The CW renewed Reba with a 13-episode order, reportedly to fulfill a syndication contract worth \$20 million. 2 In November 2006, The CW announced that the show would be paired

Reba reba Reba Created by Allison M. Gibson **Starring** Reba McEntire Christopher Rich Joanna García Steve Howey **Scarlett Pomers** Mitch Holleman Melissa Peterman **Theme** Shelby Kennedy music Phillip White composer Opening "I'm a Survivor", theme performed by Reba McEntire Composers Steve Dorff (season 1) Jonathan Wolff (seasons 2-4) Tree Adams (seasons 5-6) Country of **United States** origin

with <u>7th Heaven</u>, Sundays at 7:00 p.m., beginning later that month. [3] *Reba* encores were scheduled for Sundays at 7:00 p.m. ET/PT, with a new episode at 7:30 p.m. *Reba* became the top-rated sitcom on the CW, also surpassing the dramas <u>Supernatural</u>, <u>One Tree Hill</u>, and <u>Veronica Mars</u>. [4] The final episode aired on February 18, 2007.

Series' end

Midway through season 6, word began circulating that the CW had ordered "the back nine," or the remaining episodes that would have given *Reba* a full-season order, but on 19 January 2007, during the network's TCA Press Tour, it was revealed that the series had been canceled, with no "back nine" on order. [5]

The series finale garnered 4.44 million viewers in its final half-hour. Rumors continued to float on the CW's message boards and *Reba* fan sites that the series might still have a chance at renewal, citing the possible removal of programming chief <u>Dawn Ostroff</u>, or that Lifetime may option to a Van/Cheyenne spinoff series. [6] It was soon announced that Garcia and Howey had each been signed to new shows for CBS and FOX respectively. [7]

An interview Reba McEntire gave as part of the press coverage of her then upcoming duets album revealed that the show was not being shopped around and that the series was indeed finished. In an interview with *Variety* on May 29, 2007, 20th Century Fox TV president Gary

Original language	English		
No. of seasons	6		
No. of episodes	127 (list of episodes)		
Pi	roduction		
Executive producers	Mindy Schultheis Michael Hanel (entire run) Allison M. Gibson (2001–2002) Kevin Abbott (2002– 2007) Matt Berry (2003– 2007) Donald Beck Christopher Case Pat Bullard Reba McEntire (all from 2005–2007)		
Producer	Jason Shubb		
Editor	Andy Zal		
Camera setup	Videotape (<u>filmized</u>); <u>Multi-camera</u>		
Running time	30 minutes		
Production companies	Acme Productions Bee Caves Road 20th Century Fox Television		
Original release			
Network	The WB (2001– 2006) The CW (2006– 2007)		
Release	October 5, 2001 – February 18, 2007		

Newman said that he regretted The WB's handling of the show in later years, saying that he was sure the series would have been a hit for CBS or ABC. [8]

Cast and characters

Character	Actor	Description	Relatives
Reba Nell Hart (née McKinney)	Reba McEntire	Reba is a single mom who struggles with taking care of everyone in her house after her husband divorces her for his dental hygienist. She is temperamental and prone to sarcastic remarks. But Reba can also be kind and caring, and is usually the sensible one. In the first couple seasons she worked as a secretary for her ex-husband's dental rival, Eugene. Later on in the series she becomes a real estate agent.	J.V. McKinney (father, <u>Barry Corbin</u>) Helen McKinney (mother, <u>Dorothy Lyman</u>)
Brock Enroll Hart	Christopher Rich	Reba's ex-husband, a dentist and golfer, who leaves her for his much younger, pregnant, dental hygienist, Barbra Jean. He is vain, addicted to tanning, and tries to convince everyone that he is still young. Brock sometimes shows regret for his divorce from Reba because of all the chaos it caused for his children. His marriage with Barbra Jean is rocky, due to his selfishness and impetuousness, but he is in love with her. His name is a play on "rock and roll."	Father- John D. Hart (died in season 1), Mother- Elizabeth "Liz" Hart (Jenny O'Hara)
Cheyenne Montgomery (née Hart)	Joanna García	Brock and Reba's oldest daughter, who initially is looking forward to her senior year of high school before learning that she is pregnant. She marries her boyfriend, Van Montgomery, who moves into Reba's house after his parents disown him. Cheyenne gives birth to their daughter, Elizabeth, after going into labor on graduation day. She can be somewhat airheaded and self-centered, but she can also be thoughtful and kind-hearted. She is very sensitive, especially when she is insulted (mainly by Kyra, her younger sister). Her work ethic and sense of responsibility improves as she raises her daughter and studies dentistry in college. Cheyenne also begins volunteering at a homeless shelter, improving her shallowness greatly. When she comes to the realization that she is an alcoholic, she's inspired to discontinue doing dentistry for her major, and, instead of that, decides to study counseling for those affected by alcohol and drugs. She is truly her mother's daughter and cares greatly for her entire family.	
Van Montgomery	Steve Howey	The star cornerback of his high school's football team, Van was kicked out of the house when his parents found out that he planned to marry his pregnant girlfriend, Cheyenne. He consequently moves in with Cheyenne at Reba's house, and his future in professional sports looks bright until an	Father- Dan Montgomery (Sam McMurray, Mark Tymchyshyn), Mother- Sue Montgomery (Carolyn Hennesy, Robin Riker)

		narrowing of the spine. He works to recover his life after the loss of his football dream, and eventually becomes a successful realtor in a partnership with Reba. Van is portrayed as a big goof and is not good with words, especially when it comes to Cheyenne. Kyra especially loves making fun of him. He is a great father to his daughter, Elizabeth. He cares deeply for his in-laws, especially Reba, for taking him in and caring for him in his darkest hours. His relationship with his parents remains strained throughout the series, and they never truly make up.	
Kyra Eleanor Hart	Scarlett Pomers	The middle child, Kyra has the fewest emotional issues of the family. Many of her traits and looks come from Reba, including her sharp wit and knack for sarcasm, although she's known to be more manipulative and difficult. In the final season, she decided not to go to college and focus on her music. Kyra also likes teasing Van. During season 5, she appeared in only two episodes towards the beginning of the season, due to Pomers' real-life battle with anorexia. She returned at the beginning of Season 6.	
Jacob "Jake" Mitchell Hart	Mitch Holleman	The youngest of the Hart children, Jake is often teased by his sister Kyra. In the earlier seasons, Jake sometimes is only seen for one scene where he would crack a joke or just mention something that involves the current topic. Jake is pretty oblivious of what goes on around him and has a habit of saying the first thing that comes to his mind without thinking. He acts like a normal boy for his age, although in earlier seasons he displays feminine characteristics that worry his father, Brock.	
Barbra Jean Hart (née Booker)	Melissa Peterman	"BJ" was Brock's dental hygienist and had an affair with him as his marriage to Reba was deteriorating. She gets pregnant even though Brock and Reba were not divorced yet. Her comically religious behavior was phased out over the course of the first season. Barbra Jean is more intelligent than Van, but is more oblivious than Jake and is often an easy target for Reba's sarcasm. While noisy and annoying, she is a kind-hearted person with good intentions. Her tendency to tell "over-the-top" tales results in her sharing many random and often bizarre facts about her childhood and past.	
		The most that can be understood is that she was born in Friendly, Texas, and was known as "the biggest baby in Juno County." She had a sister, currently married, a	

		brother named "Buzzard" (played by Bryan Callen of MADtv fame) and a father ("Big Daddy") who enjoys drinking and hunting. Brock is afraid of both Buzzard and Big Daddy because he knows they don't like him. She also claims to have an aunt who spits professionally. In the last season, she lost a considerable amount of weight and became a weather girl (with the stage name "Stormy Clearweather") with a public-access television cable station. Her meteorological expertise came from the fact her "butt-rometer" could accurately predict rain ever since she was struck by lightning in her Bedazzler-studded backside in 1982. In the last episode, she traded up to her station's roving news reporter, calling her segment "Babs Janson: Street Walker."	
Elizabeth Montgomery	Alena & Gabrielle Leberger	Elizabeth is the daughter of Van and Cheyenne. Elizabeth rarely speaks (although in the ninth episode in Season 5 she said her first line), but will sometimes be shown in a family member's arm or running around. She's a happy child who is often shown giggling.	
Henry Charles Jesus Hart	Alexander & Jackson McClellan	Brock and Barbra Jean's son and is also Cheyenne's, Kyra's, and Jake's younger half-brother. He sometimes displays bad behavior which leads Reba to believe that Barbra Jean is a bad parent.	

Reba McEntire, Christopher Rich, Joanna García, and Steve Howey are the only cast members to appear in every episode.

Episodes

	Season Episodes		Originally aired			
			First aired	Last aired	Network	
	1	22	October 5, 2001	May 10, 2002		
	2 25		September 20, 2002	May 9, 2003		
	<u>3</u> 23		September 12, 2003	May 14, 2004	The WB	
	<u>4</u> 22		September 17, 2004	May 20, 2005		
	5	22	September 16, 2005	May 5, 2006		
	<u>6</u>	13	November 19, 2006	February 18, 2007	The CW	

Opening sequences

The show's theme song, "I'm a Survivor," was written by Shelby Kennedy and Phillip White and performed by Reba McEntire. The song comes from Reba's album *Greatest Hits Vol. 3: I'm a Survivor*. Though the first part of the TV version's lyrics appear elsewhere in the song, the album version has a different chorus: "The baby girl without a chance / a victim of circumstance / the one who ought to give up / but she's just too hard-headed / a single mom who works two jobs/ who loves her kids and never stops / with gentle hands and the heart of a fighter / I'm a survivor. The show's lyrics are as follows:

Seasons 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Note: Season 6 was a shortened season.

My roots are planted in the past,
Though my life is changing fast,
Who I am is who I want to be.
I'm a survivor. (Season 2 version)
A single mom, who works too hard,
Who loves her kids and never stops.
With gentle hands and the heart of a fighter.
I'm a survivor.

In season 1, the opening credits were black-and-white photos of cast members interspersed with clips of each cast member from the show (mostly if not all from the pilot episode), along with color video shots of Reba on a soundstage. The theme song, "I'm a Survivor", was slower and softer, very similar to the original album version. The first ten episodes of season two featured a truncated opening sequence: Cast and crew names were shown during the first and second segments of the show. The song was re-recorded at a faster, more energetic pace, but only two lines of the chorus ("Who I am is who I want to be / I'm a survivor") were sung. New video inserts of McEntire were shot and played with a color photo of the entire cast at the end.

From the 11th episode of season 2 onwards, a full opening sequence was returned to the show. The fast-paced song played among the new shots of McEntire plus clips of cast members from previous episodes as their names scroll past the screen horizontally. In seasons 5 and 6, the song was re-mixed again, with more accompanying

instruments.

The series finale of *Reba* ended with a family photo, similar to the first episode and the season five finale "Reba's Heart". This marks the only time that *Reba* ended back to back seasons using the family photo of season one.

The final season of *Reba* was originally scheduled to debut in the spring of 2007, but returned in November 2006 following the cancellation of the CW drama *Runaway*.

Other songs

Other songs in the *Reba* series include Reba's hit single, "Walk On" which is in the pilot episode, and three unreleased songs performed for the specific episode, the songs are, "Angel's Lullaby" which Reba performs at the end of the season one finale episode, "It Ain't Over Till the Redhead Sings", the second song is Carole King's "So Far Away" which Reba performs at the end of the episode entitled, "Terry Holliway", the third and final song that is unreleased is Reba's and Melissa's performance of the hit <u>Dolly Parton</u> song, "9 to 5" in the episode entitled "Driving Miss Kyra."

Exterior shots

The house used in the exterior shots which served as Reba's house is located at 13522 Butterfly Ln, Houston, TX 77079 (https://www.google.com/maps/place/13522+Butterfly+Lane/@29.771944,-95.579648,3a,75y,324.07 h,90t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sMEm1ykoGJvmXY1aQ7U4cmw!2e0!7i13312!8i6656!4m2!3m1!1s0x0:0x29272d b2bc860b85!6m1!1e1)

American ratings

Reba set a new all-time viewership record for any program on the WB's Friday night (best-ever Friday in women 18–49). During its five seasons on the Friday night lineup, it often ranked 4th in its timeslot (ahead of both UPN and Fox), with a few episodes bringing in over 5 million viewers.

Reba's premiere on <u>The CW</u> Sunday averaged 4.02 million viewers, including 1.64 million viewers and 40 percent among adults 18–49 more than when <u>Everybody Hates Chris</u> and <u>All of Us</u> premiered in the same time slot, thus making *Reba* the highest rated sitcom on the network. With *Reba* as a lead in, <u>7th Heaven</u> saw a season high of 4.51 million viewers.

Reba was averaging 3,630,000 viewers since the beginning of its sixth season, making it the seventh most-watched show and the most-watched sitcom on The CW throughout the 2006–07 television season. The new *Reba* episodes vary as being either sixth or seventh most-watched program on the network, sometimes ranking as high as #3 for the week.

Throughout The CW's inaugural season (2006–07), no other program had higher viewer turnout for repeat airings than *Reba*. As a result of the lackluster ratings for encores of the summer drama *Hidden Palms*, repeats of *Reba* returned to the CW's schedule in June 2007 after being absent for three months, and they immediately became the most-watched program of the night. Later in the summer, repeats of *Reba* were the most-viewed program on the CW network.

	Season	U.S. ratings	Network	Rank
1	2001–2002	4.2 million ^[9]	The WB	#129
2	2002–2003	4.5 million ^[10]	The WB	#127
3	2003–2004	4.0 million ^[11]	The WB	
4	2004–2005	4.3 million ^[12]	The WB	#117
5	2005–2006	3.4 million ^[13]	The WB	#133
6	2006–2007	3.6 million	The CW	

Syndication

Reba has aired in syndication on <u>Lifetime</u>, <u>Ion Television</u>, and <u>Peachtree TV</u>. It began airing on <u>CMT</u> on Wednesday August 1, 2012 in <u>high definition</u>, and also began airing on <u>ABC Family</u> (now Freeform) on Monday August 6, 2012. It began airing on TV Land in 2015.

International success

Reba is broadcast worldwide in over 30 different countries. Worldwide, 8.2 million viewers watched the series final episode. It was extremely successful in the <u>Czech Republic</u> (under the name "The Diary of a Seasoned Mother") where the season premiere on September 29, 2007 garnered over 1 million viewers. It was also successful in Canada, <u>Mexico</u>, and <u>Croatia</u>. The show is extremely popular in the <u>Caribbean</u> giving McEntire an enormous fan base there.

Country / Region	Channel	Season Premiere
United States (origin)	WB - CW	October 5, 2001
United Kingdom (origin)	Lifetime	September 7, 2005
<u>****</u> Australia	Seven Network, Fox8, 111 (Australian TV channel)	2003
■◆ ■ Canada	CMT (Canada), Joytv	October 10, 2001
Netherlands	RTL 4	March 29, 2002
South Africa	M-Net Series (Season 1–6) M-Net	November 29, 2007
Barbados	CBC TV 8	November 22, 2008
■ Ireland	RTÉ ONE	June 13, 2005
+- Finland	MTV3, Sub	2004
Trinidad and Tobago	NCC 4	January 21, 2009

DVD releases

<u>20th Century Fox</u> has released the entire series run, seasons 1–6, of *Reba* on DVD in Region 1. All discs are double-sided in an effort to reduce the economics of producing the sets. In 2010, seasons 1-4 were re-released in standard, more compact DVD cases to match the fifth and sixth season releases.

Title	Season One	Season Two	Season Three	Season Four	Season Five	Season Six
Release date	December 14, 2004	December 13, 2005	April 25, 2006	November 14, 2006	January 13, 2009	June 23, 2009
Ep#	22 Episodes	24 Episodes	22 Episodes	22 Episodes	22 Episodes	13 Episodes
Disc #	3	3	3	3	2	1
Format	NTSC	NTSC	NTSC	NTSC	NTSC	NTSC

Awards and nominations

Awards and nominations for Reba

Year	Award	Result	Category	Recipient
	People's Choice Awards	Won	Favorite Female Performer in a New Television Series	Reba McEntire
		Nominated	Best Performance in a TV Comedy Series – Supporting Young Actress	Scarlett Pomers
2001		Nominated	Best Performance in a TV Comedy Series – Supporting Young Actor	Mitch Holleman
		Nominated	Best Family TV Comedy Series	Reba McIntire
		Won	Best Performance in a TV Comedy Series – Guest Starring Young Actor	Shawn Pyfrom
2002		Nominated	Best Performance in a TV Series (Comedy or Drama) – Supporting Young Actor	Mitch Holleman
2002	Young Artist Awards	Nominated	Best Performance in a TV Series (Comedy or Drama) – Leading Young Actress	Scarlett Pomers
2003		Nominated	Best Performance in a TV Series (Comedy or Drama) – Leading Young Actress	Scarlett Pomers
		Nominated	Best Performance in a TV Series (Comedy or Drama) – Young Actor Age Ten or Younger	Mitch Holleman
2004		Nominated	Best Performance in a TV Series (Comedy or Drama) – Leading Young Actress	Scarlett Pomers
		Won	Best Family Television Series (Comedy)	Mitch Holleman
2005		Nominated	Best Performance in a TV Series – Supporting Young Actor	Mitch Holleman
2003	Golden Globe Award	Nominated	Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series – Musical or Comedy	Reba McEntire
2006	Emmy Award	Nominated	Outstanding Cinematography for a Multi-Camera Series	Bryan Hays (For episode "Flowers For Van")
2007	Emmy Award	Nominated	Outstanding Cinematography for a Multi-Camera Series	Bryan Hays (For episode "The Goodbye Guy")
2008	Teen Choice Awards	Nominated	Choice TV Actress: Comedy	Joanna García

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External links

- Reba (https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0284722/) at IMDb
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