

## = The Deep End ( TV series ) =

The Deep End is an American television series created by David Hemingson and produced by 20th Century Fox Television for the ABC television network . Starring Mehdad Brooks , Matt Long , Tina Majorino , Clancy Brown , and Billy Zane , the show follows five first @-@ year associate attorneys from diverse backgrounds as they learn how to cope with the challenges of working at one of the most prestigious law firms in Los Angeles .

Hemingson based the series on his work experience as an attorney . To cut production costs , the show was filmed in Las Colinas , a real estate development in Irving , Texas ; ABC scheduled a six @-@ episode run , and the series premiered as a midseason replacement on January 21 , 2010 . The show was described as a cross between L.A. Law and Grey 's Anatomy , but it was criticized for its lack of originality and for reusing ideas from similar shows . Critics said the show was so poor it was a failure after its first episode . The series was canceled in May 2010 .

## = = Plot = =

Five recent law school graduates from different backgrounds begin working together as first @-@ year associates at Sterling , Huddle , Oppenheim & Craft , a prestigious Los Angeles law firm ; they are thrown in the deep end and are forced to deal with court cases that conflict with their personal beliefs and ethics . The " Prince of Darkness " , Cliff Huddle , is initially their boss , but things start to change when firm partner Hart Sterling returns after a long hiatus spent taking care of his sick wife . Even though the firm 's partners make things difficult for them , the five attorneys quickly bond under pressure as they learn to make tough ethical decisions .

## = = Production = =

The Deep End was created by David Hemingson , co @-@ executive producer of How I Met Your Mother . Before he became a writer and a producer , Hemingson was formerly an associate in a law firm . The Deep End is based on Hemingson 's early work experience as an attorney . Due to the cost of filming on location in Los Angeles where the story takes place , the show was filmed on a soundstage in the planned community of Las Colinas in Irving , Texas . Despite the change in location , references to local Los Angeles landmarks were still made on the show . 20th Century Fox Television produced the show for ABC . The show was described as L.A. Law meets Grey 's Anatomy . Hemingson said the show contains " the back @-@ stabbing of The Devil Wears Prada and the sun @-@ drenched bed @-@ hopping of Entourage " . Texas Film Commission head Bob Hudgins estimated production costs at about \$ 20 million . ABC scheduled six episodes of The Deep End for Thursday nights .

## = = Cast and characters = =

Matt Long as Dylan Hewitt , an earnest , idealistic and innocent young man . Hewitt is the hero of the story , an Ivy League graduate who believes in justice . Hewitt is attracted to Katie Campbell , the firm 's paralegal . Long 's performance has been described as an " older version " of Jack McCallister , a character Long played from 2004 ? 2005 on the television series Jack & Bobby .

Norbert Leo Butz as Rowdy Kaise , the firm 's associate and chief talent scout ; He acts as a mentor to the new recruits . Kaiser has an arrogant personality and makes empty promises . Kaiser loves corn liquor and cashmere wool .

Ben Lawson as Liam Priory , a first @-@ year associate from Australia who is " too @-@ cool " and possesses an uncircumcised penis . Priory has a self @-@ described " impulse @-@ control problem " when it comes to dealing with women , as he has sex with almost every woman in the law firm , except Adelaide " Addy " Fisher . Priory made his appearance in the first episode with his pants down to his ankles .

Tina Majorino as Adelaide " Addy " Fisher , a meek and insecure first @-@ year associate . Fisher

comes from a large family in the Midwest . She graduated top in her class at Case Western Reserve University and has " great legal instincts and a natural ' flair ' for the law " . She likes to bake . Hemingson created the character of Fisher as a CWRU alumna because one of the most intelligent people he knows attended that school .

Clancy Brown as Hart Sterling , the firm 's managing partner ; Sterling inherited the title through his family . Sterling believes that the law is a calling that can be used to enhance society and the world ; he also believes the firm should do good , including pro bono work .

Billy Zane as Clifford " Cliff " Huddle , the firm 's other managing partner . Known as the " Prince of Darkness " , Huddle is " cold " and " ruthless " , and is considered the villain of the show . Although he is married to Susan Oppenheim , the firm 's litigation partner , he has an affair with the firm 's paralegal . Brimming with contempt , he thinks law is a way to make money , and does not care about the broader consequences . Huddle asserts that the firm should be run " as a business , not as a soup kitchen " . He also frequently clashes with Sterling due to their diametrically opposed convictions about the law .

Mehcad Brooks as Malcolm Bennet , an outsider and first @-@ year associate . Regarding the show and the topics it covers , Brooks says , " It definitely plucks at your heartstrings . But its quick @-@ witted , glib , slightly arrogant , and very inspirational . It 's some of the funniest stuff I ever read in my whole life . "

Leah Pipes as Elizabeth " Beth " Branford , a wealthy , blond , first @-@ year associate . Although she seems self @-@ assured , she is secretly vulnerable and thinks money can buy a career .

Nicole Ari Parker as Susan Oppenheim , the firm 's head litigation partner and the wife of Clifford " Cliff " Huddle . Together , Oppenheim and Huddle are antagonists against Sterling . Oppenheim chooses to go to jail rather than miss a motion ? filing dateline .

Recurring cast

Rachelle Lefevre as Katie Campbell

David Giuntoli as Jason Carpenter

= = Reception = =

The show premiered on January 21 , 2010 as a 2009 ? 2010 midseason replacement for FlashForward , attracting 7 million viewers and receiving a low 1 @.@ 7 rating in the category of Adults 18 @-@ 49 . The series received a negative critical response , averaging 40 / 100 on Metacritic , based on 23 reviews with one positive , 14 mixed , and eight negatives . Critics said that the show lacked originality and appeared similar to shows like L.A. Law , The Practice , Boston Legal , Damages , Eli Stone and The Good Wife . The show premiered in the time slot before Grey 's Anatomy and Private Practice , leading the Washington Post to say that The Deep End resembled the two other shows " closely enough to warrant a paternity test " . Toni Fitzgerald of Media Life Magazine said that even though The Deep End received a great deal of publicity , the show " sank in its first outing " . Tom Maurstad of the Dallas Morning News observed that it was noticeable that the show was shot in Las Colinas , not in its setting of Los Angeles . Alan Sepinwall of The Star @-@ Ledger said the show consisted of a " bunch of attractive people in suits saying the same lines " . Glenn Garvin of The Miami Herald described the show as " a dreadful attempt to duplicate Grey 's Anatomy in a law office " . Mark Peikert of the New York Press said that the show was " sailing in shallow waters " .

Attorneys criticized the show as unrealistic due to numerous violations of the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct by the fictional attorneys on the show . The show was also criticized for its depiction of young associates performing tedious legal research with hard copy books in a law library ; a firm the size and caliber of Sterling , Huddle , Oppenheim , & Craft would have a subscription to online databases like Westlaw or LexisNexis .

ABC canceled the show in May 2010 .

= = Episodes = =

