# [**Mariska Hargitay Reveals Ideal Dream Ending for 'Law & Order' Character**](https://parade.com/news/mariska-hargitay-reveals-dream-ending-for-law-and-order-olivia-benson)

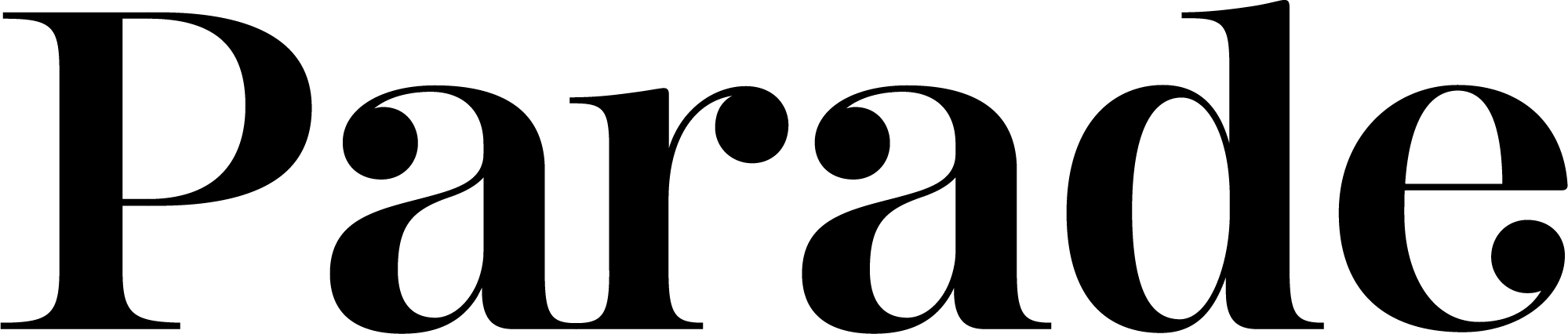
The actress' answer might surprise you.

* [DEVON FORWARD](https://parade.com/author/devon-forward)
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Just ahead of the premiere of Season 24 of [*Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*](https://parade.com/news/kelli-giddish-departs-law-order-svu-season-24), [**Mariska Hargitay**](https://parade.com/news/law-order-svu-star-mariska-hargitay-shares-vacation-photos-instagram-peter-hermann-birthday) finally revealed what she has in mind for her character's ending.

Don't worry, *Law & Order: SVU* isn't ending this season—or likely anytime soon—but while playing Captain Olivia Benson for over two decades, Hargitay has had plenty of time to consider what the perfect end to Benson's story might be.

While at the premiere event for *Law & Order: SVU* Season 24, Hargitay revealed her answer to [*E! News*](https://www.eonline.com/news/1347087/how-mariska-hargitay-wants-olivia-benson-s-lessigreaterlaw-and-order:-svulessigreater-story-to-end?cmpid=social&content=organic&medium=link-post&source=twitter-enews)*,* and surprisingly, it includes [retirement](https://parade.com/1219083/michelleparkerton/retirement-wishes-messages/) from the force.



Hargitay said about Benson's happy ending, "I hope that she can get to a point where she feels like she's done enough service and it's time to rest and be and see the best that [life](https://parade.com/937586/parade/life-quotes/) has to offer, because she's spent so much time in the darkest of what life has to offer."

It makes sense that Benson, who faces difficult cases every day, would want to one day put down the badge and move on.

Luckily for fans of *Law & Order: SVU*, Hargitay didn't stop there, and she gave some specifics about what "the best that life has to offer" would be for her character.

She said, "I think it would be sharing her life with someone, and being able to focus totally on the joys of motherhood."

The interviewer from *E! News* asked Hargitay who the "someone" might be, to which the actress responded, "I don't know. Let's see what pops up!"

Many fans have been rooting for Benson to get together with her former partner, Detective Elliot Stabler ([**Christopher Meloni**](https://parade.com/news/mariska-hargitay-christopher-meloni-responds-to-second-wife-title-2022)), for many years, and there have been hints throughout Season 23 that their time might be coming soon.

As for motherhood, Benson is the adoptive mother of a young son named Noah Porter-Benson, played by **Ryan Buggle**. While she is happy raising Noah, maybe she'll adopt or have more children in the future.

*Law & Order: SVU* is still super successful, so it's anyone's guess when the show might go off the air, but at least we know that Hargitay has a vision in mind when that time comes.