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The Best TV Episodes of 2019



Aidy Bryant in “Shrill.” Allyson Riggs/Hulu

The “Shrill” pool party. The “David Makes Man” pilot. The quietest installment of the final “Game of Thrones” season. These are the episodes that stuck with us this year.

‘Shrill’ (Hulu)

“Pool”

Annie (Aidy Bryant) wants to write about the Fat Babe Pool Party for the alt weekly where she works, but her boss pooh-poohs it. “The last thing we need is everybody feeling comfortable in their own skin,” he tells her dismissively. “That would be the ’70s.” He’s joking, but he’s not actually joking, and over the course of the episode, Annie realizes how much she has lost in her life by feeling ashamed and unworthy. She decides she doesn’t want that anymore, the “mind prison” of self-loathing, and over the course of one monologue, you can see her become freer and more determined. It’s beautiful to watch someone become herself. *(Streaming at Hulu.)*