

Reunion time with Ann Curry



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WHAT IT'S ABOUT Hosted by former "Today" news anchor and host Ann Curry, this six-part series explores historic events through the eyes of people who lived through them, and who want to find long-lost friends who shared those lives with them. Tuesday's episode is about Reiko, a Japanese-American who was sent to an internment camp as a child and wants to find her childhood friend who stood by her through the trauma; and Peter, whose family fled Germany in the mid-1930s to settle in the Jewish ghetto in Shanghai.

MY SAY Many years ago, Vera Lynn made popular a song that still deeply moves anyone old enough to remember its sweet, sad message. "We'll Meet Again" was the sentimental soundtrack for a generation at war, with its power and pathos drawn from the realization that many people would not meet again. Curry's series borrows the name and message but offers the slightest bit of closure that the song never could.

And for Curry — still dodging "Today" questions 5 1/2 years after she left — there couldn't be a more perfect second act. Fans may or may not agree on Curry's suitability as a "Today" anchor, but the job does require a certain emotional detachment because one segment might be about a war, then five minutes later,



PBS / DAVID TURNLEY

Curry hosts "We'll Meet Again," a new six-part series on PBS.

★★★★
THE SHOW "We'll Meet Again"
WHEN | WHERE Premieres Tuesday at 8 p.m. on WNET/13

another about a diet for the perfect abs.

There was *never* anything detached about Curry as host. Whether for a story about war or perfect abs, or whether interviewing a guest or addressing viewers, she'd lean in, lock eyes and affect a valiant attempt to look into their hearts. On the air, there was a fundamental decency about her — Curry's chief appeal, in fact — and a sentimental core. As viewers now know, there's nothing sentimental about "Today."

But there is with "We'll Meet Again." Curry's trademark style is on display here, but it's not on over-display. She wisely stands aside for the most part and lets her subjects tell their stories. She does what she does best, which is draw those out.

Tuesday's "Children of World War II" features two elderly people whose lives were profoundly affected by cataclysmic world events. They want to find people, or lost friends, who can offer some meaning to this or some closure. That's a deeply human impulse and, incidentally, makes for good TV.

But "We'll Meet Again" is a search-and-closure operation. It mostly succeeds and so does the host.

BOTTOM LINE Sentimental — and perfect — second act for Curry.

TV ON DVD

'Killing' time with a celebrity icon

Catching up to offbeat options:
KILLING HASSELHOFF Ken Jeong goes to town in this crazed celeb-death-pool flick with the "Knight Rider"/"Baywatch" icon and Jim Jefferies, Will Sasso, Tony Rock, Gena Lee Nolin; \$15, Universal.
IN SEARCH OF FELLINI During time off from voicing Bart Simpson, Nancy Cartwright wrote this movie about her odyssey through Italy tracking her favorite filmmaker, with

Ksenia Solo ("Lost Girl," "Turn"), Maria Bello, Mary Lynn Rajsckub; \$15, Ambi.
LEWIS BLACK: BLACK TO THE FUTURE Topical comic in high dudgeon in 2016 Marquis Theatre special, plus bonus "The Rant Is Due" audience Q&A hour; \$12, MVD.
DRAWN TOGETHER: COMPLETE COLLECTION Wild adult animated half-hour lampoons reality/challenge shows through three seasons (2004-07), movie (2010), inter-

views, commentaries, more; \$23 for seven discs, Comedy Central.

DVD calendar
Feb. 6 "Taboo" (FX)
Feb. 13 "The Deuce" (HBO)
Feb. 20 "The Master" ('80s Lee Van Cleef)
Feb. 27 "MacGyver" (CBS reboot)
March 27 "Legion" (FX)
April 10 "Vice Principals" complete (HBO)

— DIANE WERTS

today's picks



KEO FILMS / ABI MOWBRAY

"Exodus: The Journey Continues" tells stories of refugees and migrants, such as at the Malakasa refugee camp in Greece.

FRONTLINE (9 p.m., WNET/13) — "Exodus: The Journey Continues" looks at personal journeys of refugees and migrants caught in Europe's migration crisis.

NCIS (8 p.m., CBS/2) — McGee (Sean Murray) and Torres (Wilmer Valderrama) visit the home of a high school student who witnessed a hit and run.

THE QUAD (10 p.m., BET) — Season 2 begins as college president Dr. Eva Fletcher (Anika Noni Rose) is hit with the news that the family of Terrence Berry (Kevin Savage) is demanding a public apology.



WGN / JAN THUIS

Anna Paquin plays a cop in WGN crime drama "Bellevue."

offthewall

NOT THE HOSPITAL "True Blood" star Anna Paquin headlines eerie new crime drama "Bellevue" (Tuesday at 10 p.m., WGN); she's also an executive producer. Paquin plays a small-town detective haunted by her own past and decades-back deaths. Also starring: Shawn Doyle ("The Expanse"), Allen Leech ("Downton Abbey").

— DIANE WERTS

tv talk

DAYTIME

CBS THIS MORNING (7 a.m., CBS/2) — Singer-songwriter Khalid
TODAY (7 a.m., NBC/4) — Nick Nolte
KELLY & RYAN (9 a.m., WABC/7) — David Duchovny
STEVE HARVEY (2 p.m., WNBC/4) — AnnaLynne McCord
HARRY CONNICK JR. (2 p.m., WNYW/5) — Jillian Michaels
DR. PHIL (3 p.m., WCBS/2; 8 p.m., WLNY/10/55) — Double-trouble brothers follow-up
ELLEN DEGENERES (3 p.m., WNBC/4) — Hoda Kotb

NIGHT

DAILY SHOW (11 p.m., Comedy Central) — Jason Reynolds
CONAN (11 p.m., TBS) — Kathy Bates
FALLON (11:35 p.m., NBC/4) — Alex Rodriguez
MEYERS (12:35 a.m., NBC/4) — Michael Che and Colin Jost
CORDEN (12:35 a.m., CBS/2) — Kim Kardashian West (repeat)



Hoda Kotb visits Ellen.

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