



# THE PURITAN POST

| by Hank W. Mardukas |

## This Week on TV

### *True Detective* (Sundays, HBO)

It took some time for Ol' Hank to get over *The Sickness*, and also some time to get over talking like I was in *Game of Thrones*, so it has been a while since I have written a new PURITAN POST. Since then, HBO has dropped 4 episodes of the new season of their acclaimed series *True Detective*. The third season, almost a carbon copy of the first in premise, is probably the best yet. Oscar winner Mahershala Ali delivers a stellar performance as Detective Hays, as does Stephen Dorff, who plays his partner, West. Like all of *True Detective*, this show is incredibly well shot. The first two episodes are masterfully directed by Jeremy Saulnier, who did one of my favorite movies in recent memory, *Green Room* (2016).

## Also This Week on TV

### *I am the Night* (9pm on TNT)

I have been seeing previews for this show for what feels like over a year now, and tonight TNT will finally premier the first episode. The mini-series, executive produced and directed by Patty Jenkins (*Monster*, *Wonder Woman*) is about a young orphan (India Eisley) who in searching for the mysteries of her past finds herself in Los Angeles intertwined with a ruined reporter (Chris Pine), haunted by the infamous Black Dahlia murder case.

## Director Spotlight: Spike Lee



**Birth:** 3/20/1957, Atlanta, GA (Raised in Brooklyn, NY)  
**Notable Works:** *Do the Right Thing*, *She's Gotta Have It*, *Malcolm X*, *He Got Game*, *Inside Man*, *Crooklyn*, *Jungle Fever*, *When the Levees Broke*  
**Miracle at St. Anna**, *BlackKkKlansman*  
**Fun Fact:** Finally received Oscar nominations for Directing and Producing for *BlackKkKlansman*. He had previously only nominated for Screenwriting (*Do the Right Thing*)

## My Wife Prudence & I Binged All of GAME OF THRONES in a Fortnight

The Sickness came two Sabbaths last. My wife Prudence and I both caught the wretched plague. What it was exactly, we are still not sure, but it took hold of every fiber of our being, leaving us hopeless to eat, work or survive. All we had left to our own devices was a story. A story of legends. A story told to us from our fellow lords and ladies. But for many winters, Prudence and I rebuked our peers. Much to our chagrin...

What we came to find when we finally sat down to hear the tale they call *Game of Thrones*, we were pleasantly surprised with the endeavor. While a story like *Game Of Thrones* still pails in comparison to the tales of Walter White, the corrupt Lord from Albuquerque, as some have alluded it might, the cinematic nature of *Thrones* stands in a far higher ground than most. While I do believe celluloid cinematography would have aided the period look, *Game of Thrones* actually benefits by the delving into the digital realm in the seamless transition with the black magic they call computer generated imagery. And oh, aye, is that imagery top notch, and never done with hubris. Nay, a focus on the practical of effects appears to be a priority for The House of The Home Box Office Channel.

That said, *Game of Thrones* is one of the finest achievements from The Kingdom of The House of The Home Box Office Channel, a network whose integrity I previously questioned after they canceled *Vinyl* after only one season. *Game of Thrones* creates character arcs that rival most anything told by the one the call Television, with an emphasis on masterful villains, whose ignominy and wickedness reign supreme. While certainly some chapters stand out above the rest (III, IV, VI), even the slower of seasons, like a long, troubled winter, still provide many a moment of excitement. For me, several moments stand out from the story. "The Battle of the Bastards" is to me, perhaps one of the greatest fight sequences ever put on television. It certainly is not alone in its grandiose scale. Many episodes live up to such caliber. The fight choreography and direction of such sequences is unparalleled not only for TV, but rivals many of the best battles of today's silver screen.

Now, we look to the future, to the great battle on the horizon. The battle of waiting three more months to actually finish the saga. Perhaps it would have been wise for Prudence and I to wait to venture on such a journey, but aye, The Sickness would not let us my friends. So now Prudence and I are resorted to watching many a theory on the one they call Youtube, supposing what may happen to our heroes in the future. Prudence and I are quite convinced of one particular notion, causing much contention among the Houses, that Lord Brandon Stark of Winterfell is actually The Night King. While it may seem preposterous, there is actually a great deal of evidence that may bolster such claims. I suppose we will all just have to wait until this Winter is over to see.

In case you had inquired, Prudence and I did overcome The Sickness. The once vile plague tempered itself with the aid of NyQuil and bountiful feasts of Tom Yum Soup. Yet there is, of course, always next Winter...