

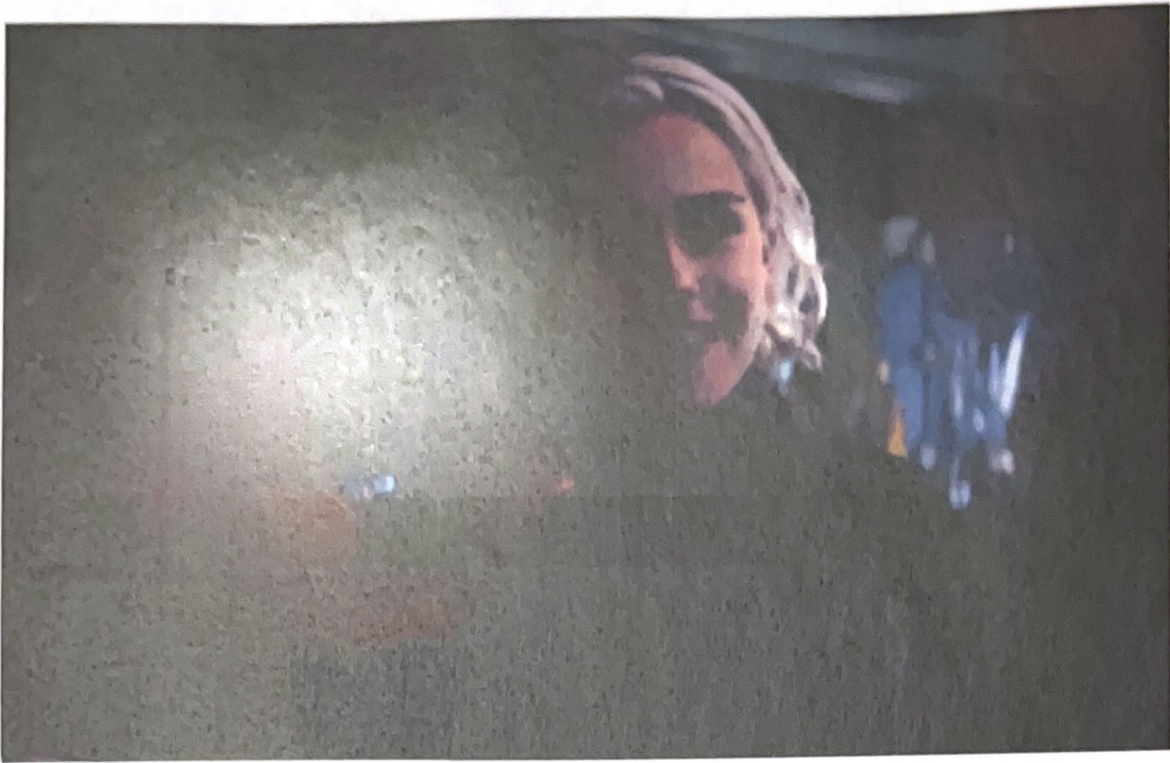
40 Greatest Pop Culture Witches Who Make Us Want To Join A Coven

thewhisp.mommyish.com/entertainment/pop-culture-witches/33/

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Netflix

The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina has become one of the most popular shows on Netflix in a short amount of time. Everyone is obsessed with the young witch and her dark tale, full of Satan worshipping, downright creepy demons and the occasional cannibalistic witch. However, witches have been present in pop culture for much longer than *CAOS* actress **Kiernan Shipka** has even been alive, and their stories range from dark to comical, with everything in between. Some witches want to do good for the world, some are evil, and some just want to use their magic to help make their own lives a little better.

Regardless of their intentions, witches tend to embody everything we strive to be. They are strong, powerful, and capable of taking care of themselves while also achieving all of their desires. In some cultures, witch means wise woman, and witches were who people would go to for help in any situation. Witches are a beacon of hope for feminists, so it's no wonder that they've continued to thrive in pop culture while many tropes have started to feel played out. There's also the simple fact that magic is cool, and we'll never get tired of it. Here are 40 of the greatest witches we've seen in pop culture and still love today.

Sabrina Spellman (*Sabrina the Teenage Witch*)



ABC

The original Sabrina Spellman was a complete 180 from the Sabrina we know and love today. The '90s sitcom *Sabrina the Teenage Witch*, starring **Melissa Joan Hart**, was a lighthearted, goofy comedy about a young witch getting into mishaps while learning to control her magic. High school is hard enough without having to worry about accidentally creating an indoor blizzard, turning life into a soap opera, or explaining the magical troll stalking you to your boyfriend. Oh yeah, and her cat Salem talks, and he is sassy af.

Hermione Granger (*Harry Potter*)



Warner Bros.

We can't have a list of fabulous witches without the queen of the wizarding world, Hermione Granger. (If Weasley is our King, Hermione has definitely earned the title of Queen.) She's both brilliant (and actually enjoys learning) and fearless, and she never backs down from fighting for what she believes in. Whether that means punching jerks like Draco Malfoy in the face, protesting for the rights of indentured house elves, or literally standing against the Dark Lord and his army, Hermione has never shied away from a worthy battle. Not to mention she's an extremely talented witch who likely mastered every wizarding subject imaginable before she could buy a beer.

Marnie Piper (*Halloweentown*)



Disney

Marnie was 13-years-old when her Grandma Aggie Cromwell visited from her home in Halloweentown to tell her that she's a witch and it's time to begin her training. Marnie might not have been quite as natural at magic as her younger sister Sophie — who somehow memorized a complicated spell with almost no effort at only seven years old? — but she threw herself into her new life as a witch with full force and helped to save Halloweentown from an evil warlock, and then she did it again a second time.

Rowena MacLeod (*Supernatural*)



The CW/Warner Bros.

Rowena is a centuries-old witch from Scotland still killing the game and looking fabulous doing it, thanks to an immortality spell, natch. Like a couple of witches on this list, Rowena is the definition of looking-out-for-herself. She's sometimes the villain and sometimes an ally because protecting herself always comes first. However, unlike many witches in the *Supernatural* universe, she was born with her powers and didn't have to learn magic or harness it from demons. Therefore she's incredibly powerful, and in her own words, "flawed, petty, [and] evil."

Melisandre (*Game of Thrones*)



HBO

Speaking of centuries-old witches, how old even is Melisandre? We don't know a lot about the *Game of Thrones* witch's background, but we do know that she's a lot older than she looks. Melisandre can predict the future to a certain extent — she knew Arya's importance in the fight against the White Walkers but was wrong in initially choosing to follow Stannis Baratheon, resurrecting the dead, and birthing murderous shadow demons. Win some, lose some?

Piper and Phoebe Halliwell, and Paige Matthews (*Charmed*)



Warner Bros.

You shouldn't speak ill of the dead, but Prue had some major stuff to figure out for herself and unfortunately couldn't before a demon sadly murdered her. The sisters she left behind were then blessed with Paige. The Charmed Ones are good witches given the responsibility of protecting the mortal world from demons and other evil creatures. Piper can freeze people in time, Phoebe has premonitions, and when we meet Paige on season four, she has telekinesis and the ability to teleport, or "orb," objects through space. They can use their powers to alleviate some stress from their daily lives, but for the most part, it's battling demons for the three sisters.

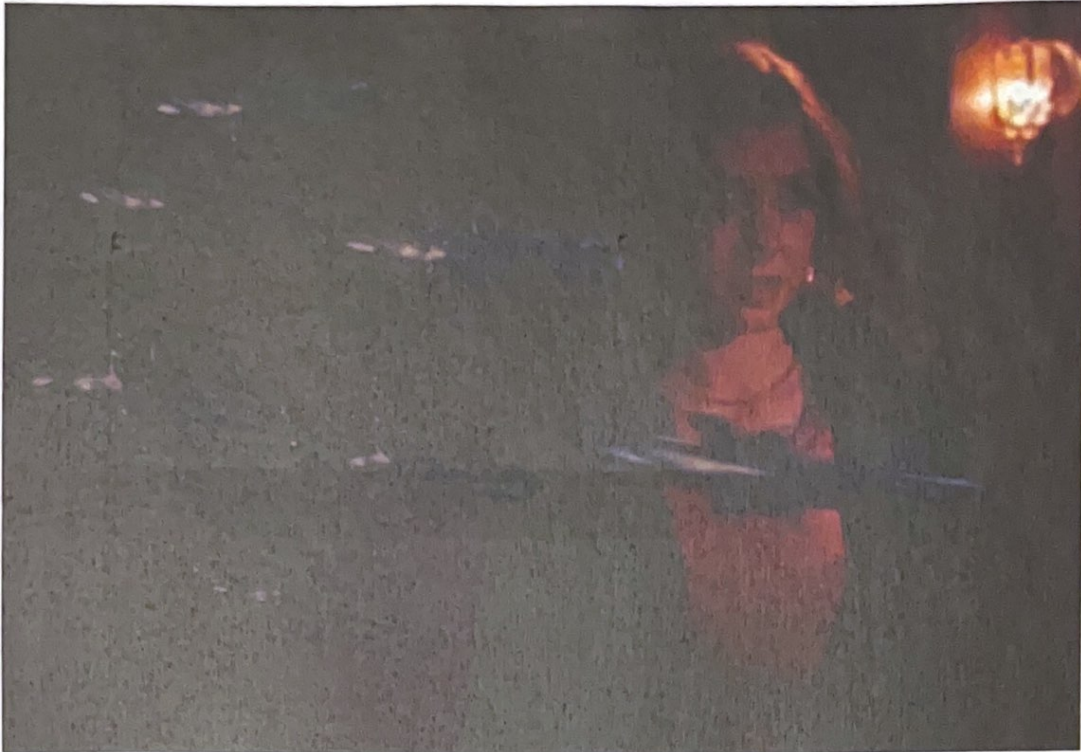
Bonnie Bennett (*The Vampire Diaries*)



The CW

Bonnie Bennett is the best friend of once-human protagonist of *The Vampire Diaries*, Elena Gilbert, but more importantly, she is Mystic Falls' resident witch. Bonnie always believed she was psychic until she realized her powers go beyond just that, and she can perform powerful magic. While Bonnie is already one of the most powerful beings in her small town, what makes her incredible is her love for her friends, which seems to be her downfall again and again. She's selfless to a fault and literally sacrifices herself over and over in order to save the people she loves. That's some real magic.

Willow Rosenberg (*Buffy the Vampire Slayer*)



Warner Bros.

Another witch in a world of vampires, Willow Rosenberg is the best friend of teenage vampire slayer Buffy Summers. Over the course of *Buffy*, we see Willow go from being shy and self-conscious to more confident and sure of herself after studying witchcraft and embracing her natural gifts. Of course, she falls victim to the allure of magic almost like an addict, which causes a lot of issues for her and the people she loves, but that doesn't prevent Buffy from entrusting her to help save the world.

Winnie, Mary, and Sarah Sanderson (*Hocus Pocus*)



Disney

The Sanderson sisters from Disney's 1993 classic *Hocus Pocus* are the first truly evil witches worth mentioning. The film takes place in Salem, Massachusetts, best known for being where witches were hanged or burned at the stake hundreds of years ago. Winnie, Mary, and Sarah Sanderson devoured the soul of a young girl to regain their own youth in the 1600s, and before being hanged for their crimes, their spellbook bound them to their house until a teenage boy summons them in the present day. These witches don't just eat children's souls. They also sing.

The Wicked Witch of the West (*The Wizard of Oz*)



MGM

There are a few different sides to this green witch's story. In the 1939 film *The Wizard of Oz*, we see her as the Wicked Witch of the West, plotting to kill Dorothy in order to remove the ruby slippers she took from the Wicked Witch of the East, who was killed when Dorothy's house fell on her. However, we see another side to her character as Elphaba in **Gregory Maguire's *Wicked***. Elphaba is misunderstood. Maybe she's not truly a wicked witch, but a rightfully angry revolutionary.

Maleficent



Disney

Maleficent was also misunderstood. In the 2014 Disney film, we see the *Sleeping Beauty* antagonist's side of the story. Yes, she did use her magic to curse the princess in order to get revenge on the girl's father, but she was also the one who ultimately saved her. Aurora's father is the real villain of this story. Just because a witch is a powerful woman doesn't mean she's evil.

Kiki (*Kiki's Delivery Service*)



Studio Ghibli

Kiki's Delivery Service is a cartoon from Studio Ghibli about a 13-year-old witch sent off to live on her own for a year to complete her training. Like the '90s version of Sabrina Spellman, Kiki has her own talking black cat named Jiji. But Jiji is more helpful than mouthy, unlike Salem. Kiki's story is a little different from most witches on this list, as her story is more about coming-of-age and overcoming what is essentially an artist's block when she loses her ability to fly on her broom until she can find a purpose in life.

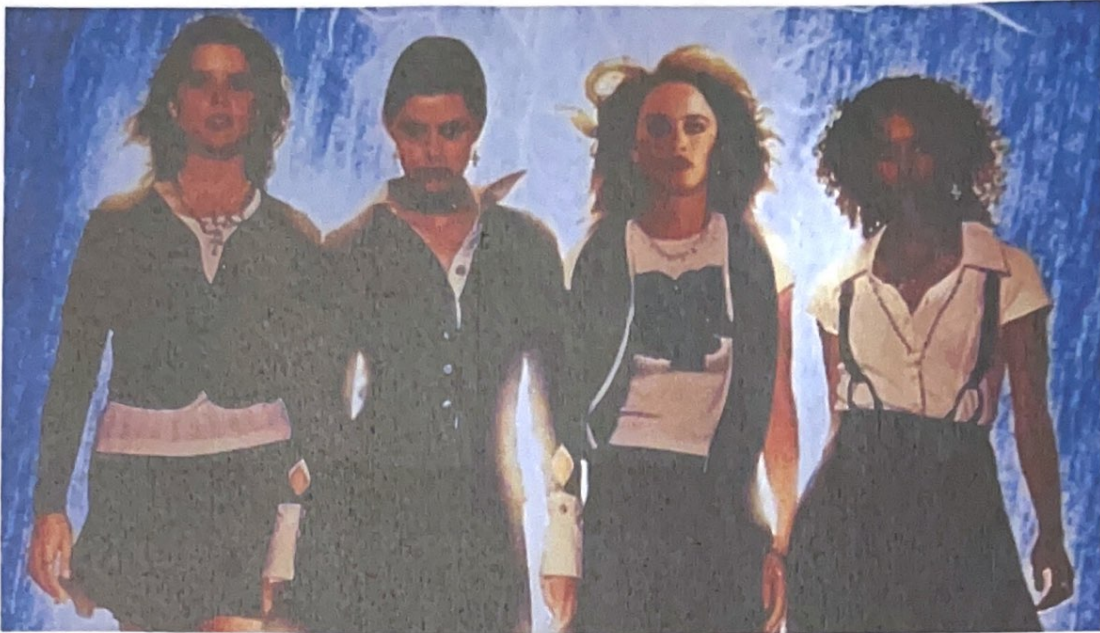
The White Witch (*The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*)



Disney

The White Witch, or Queen Jadis, from **C.S. Lewis's *The Chronicles of Narnia***, is a powerful sorceress who practices dark magic, and is known to be purely evil in her pursuits. She destroyed her homeland, killing everyone in it, rather than give up her crown, before moving on to Narnia, which she then turned into a winter wasteland. But not before making a pit stop on Earth, where she attacked and robbed innocent people in London. She's a powerful witch, but she has no redeeming qualities, except for maybe her good looks.

Nancy Downs (*The Craft*)



Columbia Pictures

Nancy Downs was painted as the villain in the 1996 cult classic *The Craft*, but she was actually the best. Sure, she becomes a little power hungry after gaining her magic, and maybe she was somewhat unstable when she killed those guys but is it so wrong to say that they deserved it and she deserved better? She was a rebellious teenager suffering from a terrible upbringing, so she used her newfound magical abilities to her advantage just to make her life bearable. She was strong and powerful and defended herself and the other women she loved from truly awful men. Nancy's a good witch with some issues, but she's not evil.

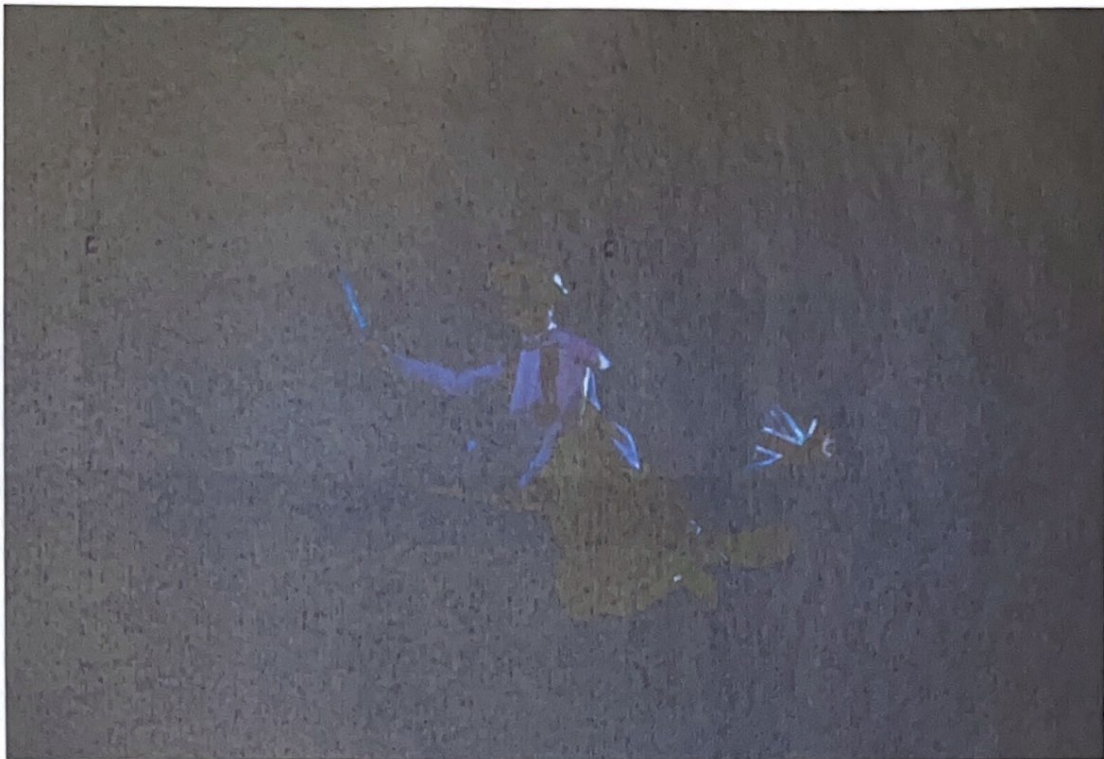
Mildred Hubble (*The Worst Witch*)



CBBC/Netflix

The Worst Witch is a children's book series by **Jill Murphy** that was made into a very cheesy film starring **Tim Curry** in 1986. Yes, he obviously sings in it. More recently, the British and German television stations CBBC and ZDF (respectively) partnered with Netflix to create a tv series based on the books in 2017. **Bella Ramsey**, better known as ***Game of Thrones*** Lyanna Mormont, plays protagonist Mildred Hubble (who is not particularly great at being a witch, but has a good heart) in the new series. Mildred's witchy boarding school may remind you of Hogwarts, but *The Worst Witch* came before Harry Potter, and the themes are much more kid-friendly.

Miss Eglantine Price (*Bedknobs and Broomsticks*)



Disney

What better reason could there be to learn witchcraft than to defeat the Nazis? In Disney's 1971 film *Bedknobs and Broomsticks*, Miss Eglantine Price does just that. She's just a sweet middle-aged lady who can't fight in the war herself, but wants to aid in the war effort in any way she can. She does this by learning witchcraft through a correspondence school. She also takes care of children displaced from their home by the war, making her a truly a good witch.

Sally and Gillian Owens (*Practical Magic*)



Warner Bros.

Sally and Gillian are sisters who are reluctant to use their gifts, but since they come from a long line of witches, they ultimately have no choice but to accept their magical abilities, especially because the women in their family are cursed and they need to figure out a way to break it. Sally is the witchier of the two women, with powers ranging from telekinesis and pyrokinesis to telepathy, and she's also got a knack for creating witches brew.

Minerva McGonagall (*Harry Potter*)



Warner Bros.

Hermione might be Queen of the Potterverse, but she couldn't have gotten there without great role models like Professor (and eventually Headmistress) McGonagall. McGonagall was one of the few professors at Hogwarts who loved her students and had no ulterior motives when it came to her role at the school. She planted all the knowledge she could on her students about witchcraft and wizardry, helped to mold her Gryffindors into strong and capable witches and wizards, and did her best to protect them at all costs. McGonagall deserves more credit for being everyone's mom away from home at Hogwarts.

Sabrina Spellman (*Chilling Adventures of Sabrina*)



Netflix

We all knew *CAOS's* Sabrina Spellman would be somewhere on this list. The show might not be nearly as light-hearted as *Sabrina the Teenage Witch*, but Kiernan Shipka's Sabrina has a good heart despite the evil and darkness that always surrounds her. As a half-mortal and half-witch (and spoiler alert: the daughter of Satan), she's one of the most powerful entities in her universe, and she has all intentions of using her magic to change the world for good in whatever ways she can..

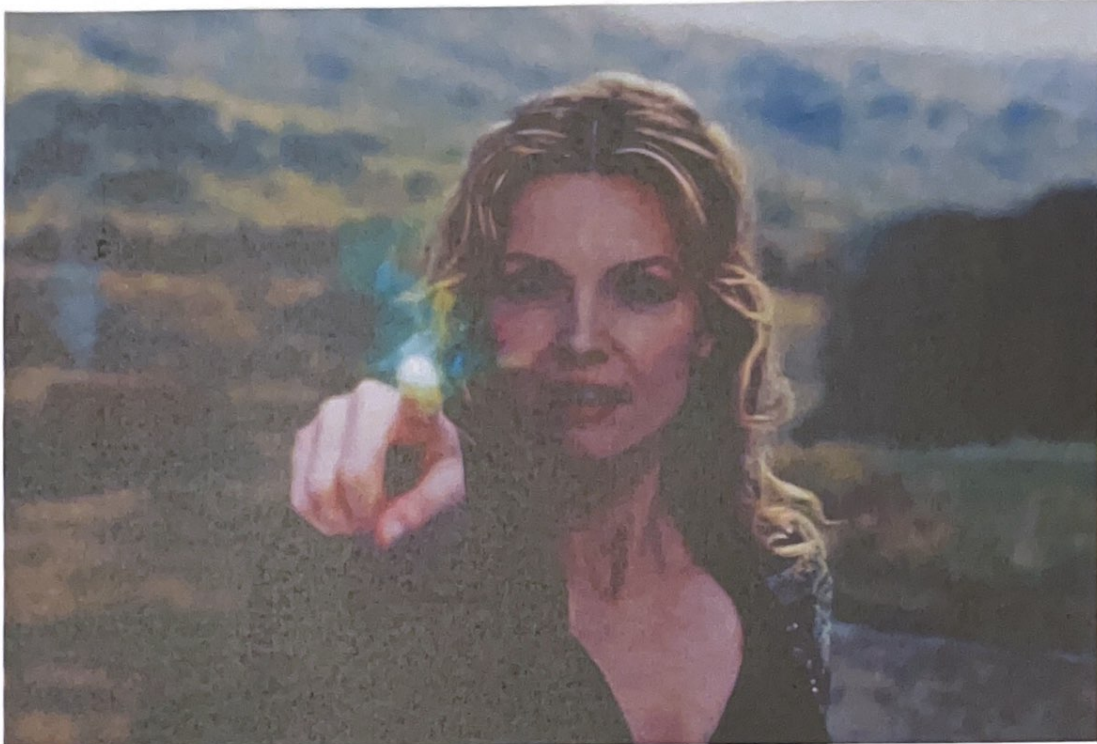
Samantha Stephens (*Bewitched*)



ABC

Bewitched was the original light-hearted witchy sitcom. Samantha Stephens is a witch, and her husband Darrin Stephens is a mortal. Darrin wants them to live a normal, mortal life, but unfortunately for him, that's not in the cards since wacky hijinks abound when Samantha or members of her family use their magic. Some witches use wands, some point their fingers, but on *Bewitched*, Samantha wiggled her nose while the audience gets a little "there's magic happening" jingle. Oh, the special effects from the '60s were really something, weren't they?

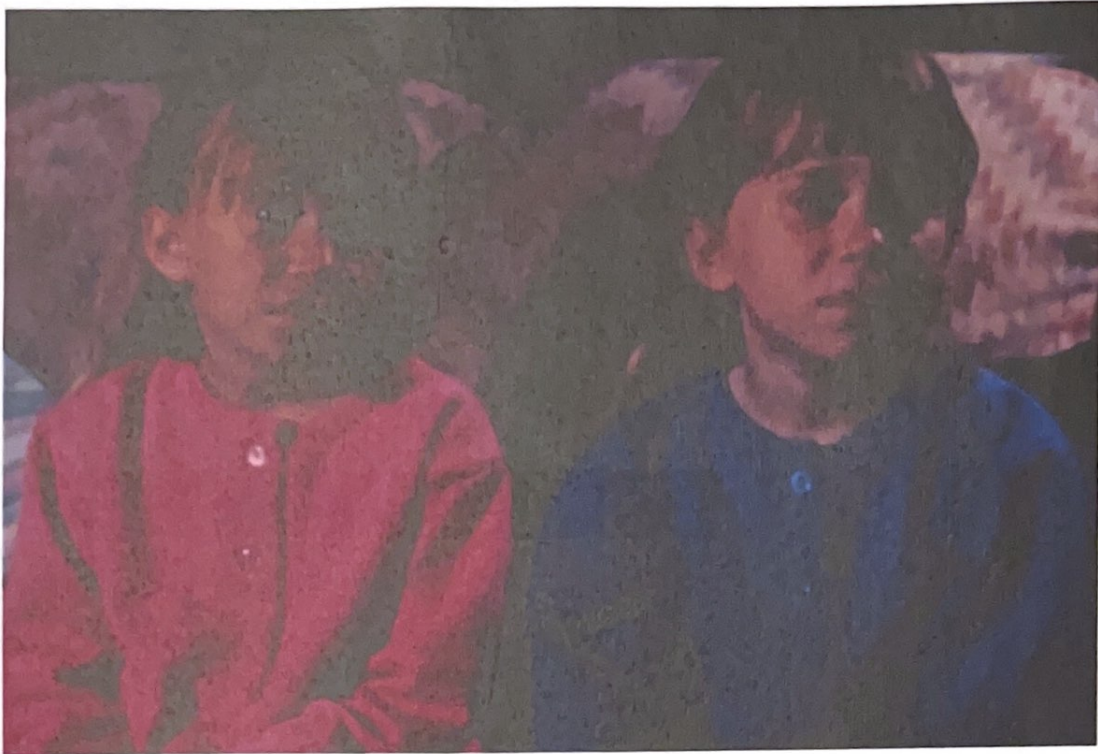
Lamia (*Stardust*)



Paramount Pictures

Lamia might've been a bit evil. Like the Sanderson sisters from *Hocus Pocus*, she was happy to murder if it meant she could stay young and beautiful. Lamia is the main villain and most powerful of the witches from the Lillim coven in **Neil Gaiman's *Stardust***. Her only goal is to cut out the heart of fallen star Yvaine and eat it to steal her youth and beauty. She had already eaten the heart of Yvaine's sister Ingrid long before she fell to Earth herself, so what's one more?

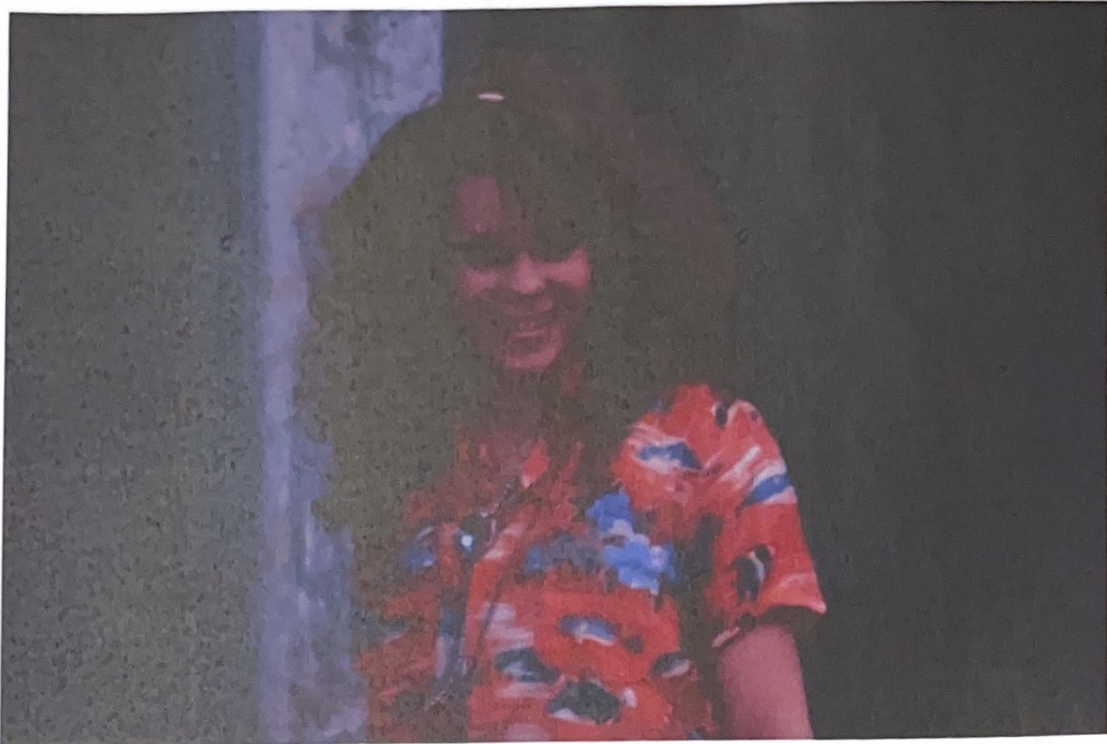
Lynn and Kelly Farmer (*Double, Double, Toil and Trouble*)



ABC

Remember when **Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen** were little and had a movie for every occasion? ***Double, Double, Toil and Trouble*** was their Halloween movie, and in it, they played tiny witches Lynn and Kelly Farmer on a quest to free their Great Aunt Sophia from the evil witch, her own twin sister, Great Aunt Agatha. There's a magic mirror and a moonstone, but the real magic comes from the sisters' love for each other. How cute.

Louise Miller (*Teen Witch*)



MGM

Louise Miller gains magical powers on her 16th birthday after finding an amulet she apparently lost in a past life, if you're inclined to believe what seer Madame Serena tells her after they randomly meet by chance. This is your typical girl-becomes-witch, girl-casts-spell-to-become-popular, girl-realizes-magic-isn't-the-answer teenage comedy. It's cute and fun, and it's very '80s.

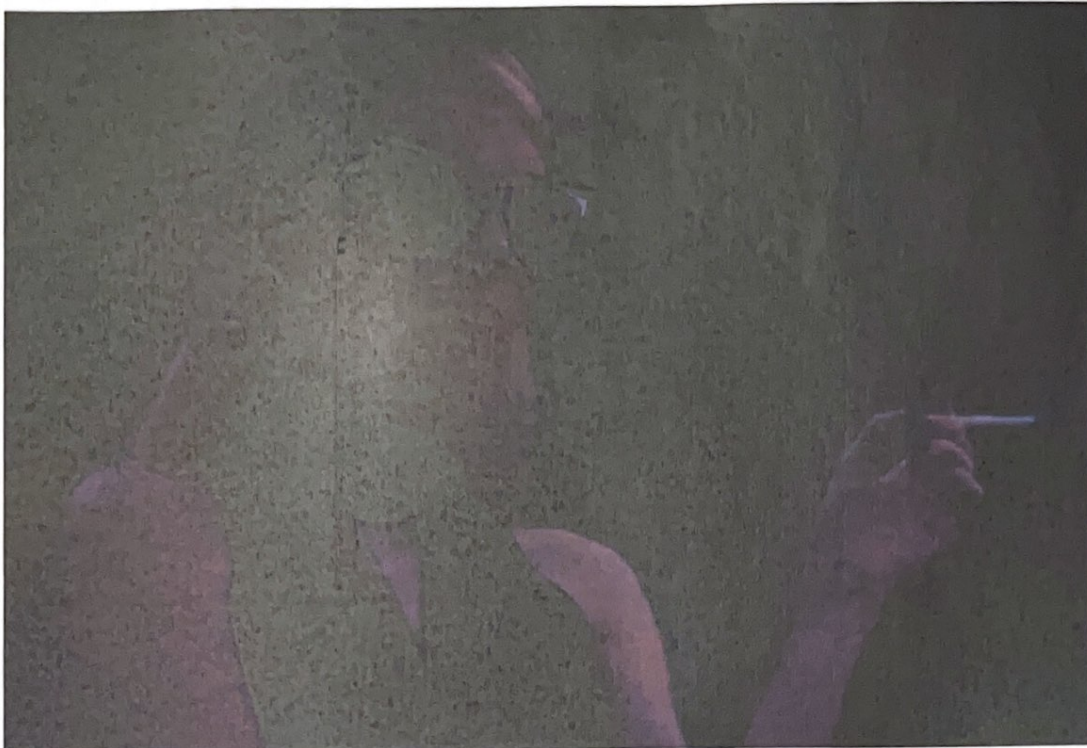
Cordelia Foxx (*American Horror Story: Coven*)



FX

Cordelia Foxx, also known as Cordelia Goode, goes from being the Headmistress of a New Orleans-based witch school, Miss Robichaux's Academy for Exceptional Young Ladies, to Supreme Witch of her coven of witches descended from Salem. That's pretty badass. What was even more badass was when she was successful in resurrecting someone. I'd say she's a pretty good witch.

Madison Montgomery (*American Horror Story: Coven*)



FX

Madison Montgomery was the glam b*tch witch of **AHS: Coven** and her backstory was pretty cool. Before she realized she has extraordinary powers, Madison was a successful actress and constantly has paparazzi following her around. One of her strongest powers was her telekinesis, which she used at one point to tip an entire bus over, killing everyone inside. Although she's extremely narcissistic and egotistical, Madison was one of the most badass witches on *Coven* and we can't help but wish we were in her girl squad.

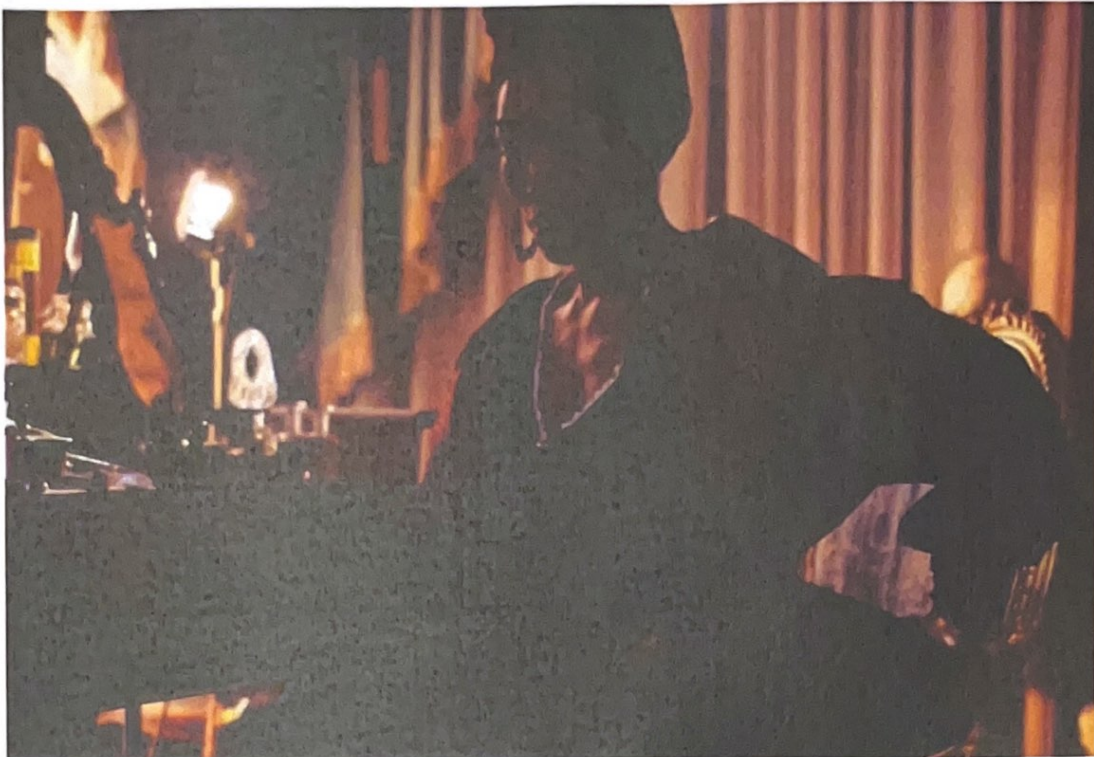
Grand High Witch (*The Witches*)



Warner Brothers

The Grand High Witch from Roald Dahl's *The Witches* was one terrifying lady, but we loved her for it. The High Witch was the leader of a secret society of witches who captured and tortured children. All the other witches in her coven were terrified of her, as she would often punish them by murdering one of their own — y'know, just to keep them on their toes! She dies at the end of the movie when her own powers are used against her and she's turned into a mouse before being killed by the hotel manager. Still, she knew how to keep her team in check!

Marie Laveau (*American Horror Story: Coven*)



FX

Marie Laveau is one of the most interesting witches on this list because she's based on a real witch. **Angela Bassett** portrays the New Orleans legend in *AHS: Coven* and really does her justice. Marie was a voodoo practitioner in New Orleans, but she kept a front as a hairstylist by day. Marie had a daughter who she named after herself who also was believed to have extraordinary powers. After she died, members of the community believed her daughter to be the real Marie, dubbing her as immortal.

Aggie (*Halloweentown*)



Walt Disney Pictures

Aggie Cromwell is Marnie's grandmother in *Halloweentown* and the person Marnie credits everything she's learned as a witch to. Aggie is the most powerful witch in *Halloweentown* and thankfully, she was a good one. The Cromwells were not just any ordinary witches, they were known to have unique powers, so that and the fact that she was a descendant of Merlin, made Aggie a particularly strong witch. Still, Aggie only used her strong powers when they were absolutely needed, making her just a cute grandma 90% of the time.

The *Twitches* Sisters



Walt Disney Pictures

Remember these ladies? Camryn and Alex were two very gifted twins in the Disney Channel movie ***Twitches*** who were played by **Tia and Tamera Mowry**. Camryn and Alex were separated at birth, but find each other just after their 21st birthday when they realize that they both possess magical powers. Stronger together, the twins join forces to banish an evil being from Coventry, their mystical homeland. These gals were strong and sassy and the only negative thing about them is that they're twins, so we can't get in on that coven.

Hilda & Zelda Spellman (*Sabrina the Teenage Witch*)



ABC

We couldn't mention Sabrina on this list without mentioning the two women who made her who she is! Hilda and Zelda Spellman are sisters who raised Sabrina after her mother was turned into a ball of wax. They mentored her as a young witch and taught her everything she needed to know about the world of magic. With Hilda and Zelda both being completely different witches (Hilda more fun, Zelda more serious), they helped Sabrina appreciate her powers while also showing her how to use them responsibly. These ladies were just two good witches.

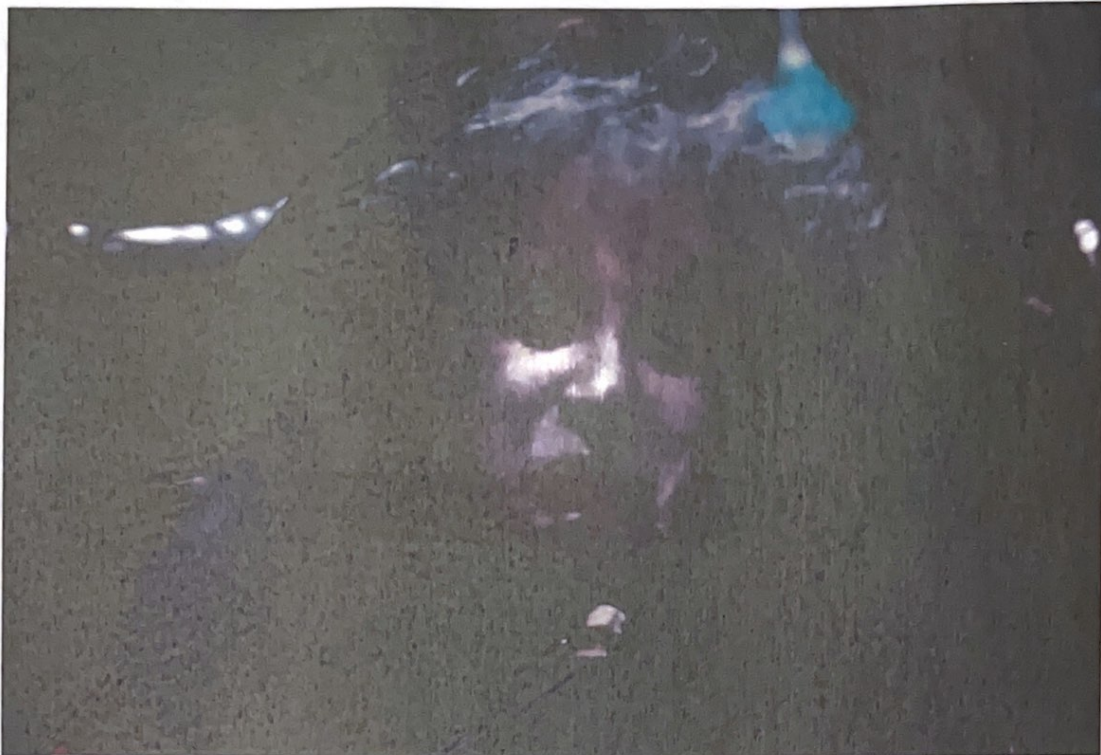
Katrina Crane (*Sleepy Hollow*)



Fox

Katrina Crane was one of the strongest witches on *Sleepy Hollow*. She was a pure-blood witch and leader of the Sisterhood of the Radiant Heart coven. Not only was Katrina a powerful witch, but she was also talented in the medical field having posed as a nurse for much of her life. Her main purpose in life was to prevent an Apocalypse in Sleepy Hollow, and in doing so, she was unfortunately trapped in purgatory to spend the rest of her days. Although we'd love to be part of Katrina's coven, that part is one we don't think we'd be able to get on board with.

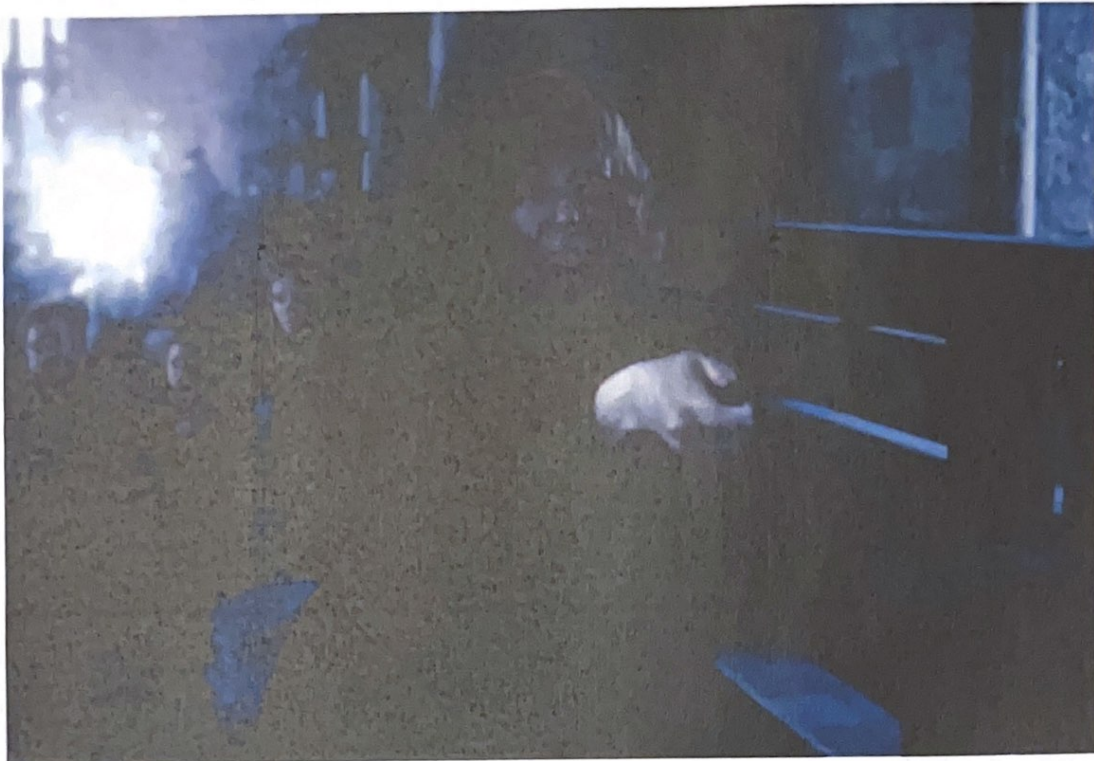
Grandmama (*The Addams Family*)



MGM

Grandmama is one of the oldest witches on this list, but that doesn't make her any less iconic. ***The Addams Family*** character has been around since the 1960s and has been portrayed a ton of different times. The witch is known for her seriously morbid sense of humor and her fascination with the occult. Her specialty is potion-making and whipping up some spooky spells and hexes, but she also dabbles in some fortune-telling. Although Grandmama has a host of different nicknames, nobody actually knows her real name, making her all the more mysterious.

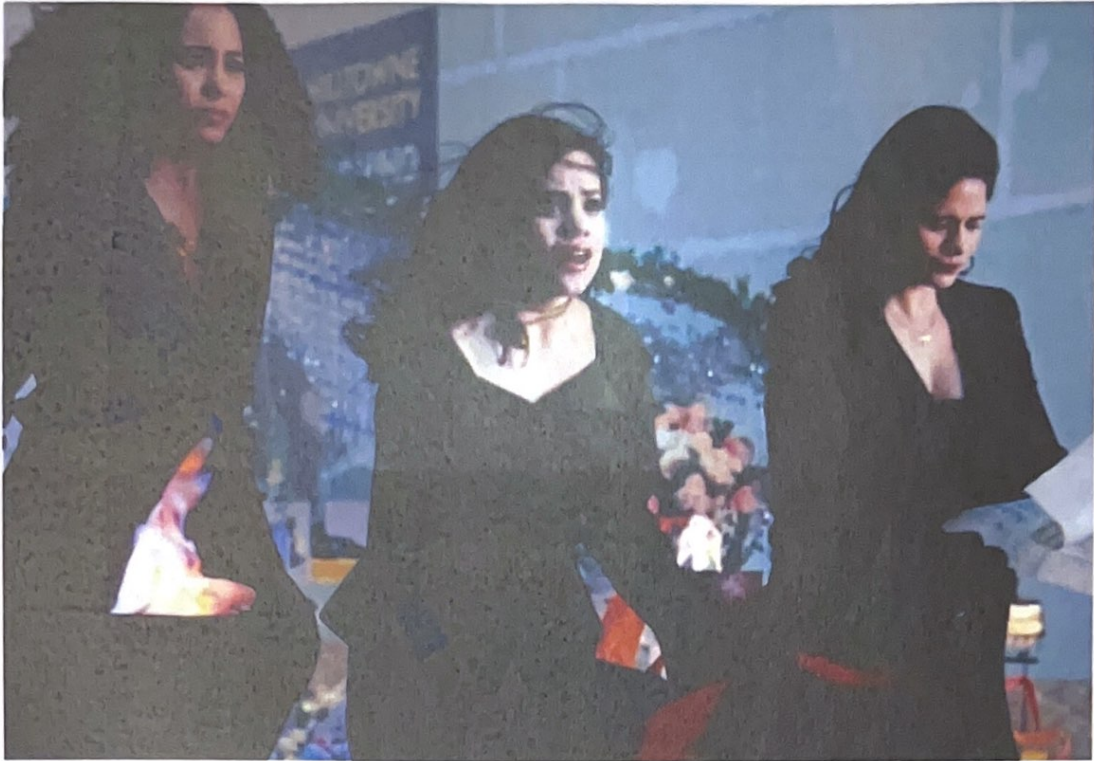
Molly Weasley (*Harry Potter*)



Warner Brothers

How could we mention Hermione on this list and not the queen herself, Molly Weasley? Molly was up there in the wizarding world for a whole host of reasons. She's a pure-blood witch and became a matriarch of the Weasley family after she married Arthur. Aside from this, she was born into the Prewett family and her siblings were OG members of the Order of the Phoenix. Molly wasn't just a loving mother to her seven kids as well as Harry, but she also became known as the talented witch who killed the notorious Death Eater, Bellatrix Lestrange.

The *Charmed* Reboot Ladies



The CW

The ladies of The CW *Charmed* reboot are three gals we want to hang out with. Mel, Maggie, and Macy Vera are three good witches, each with different powers, making them the perfect coven. Macy's power is telekinesis, Mel can freeze time, and Maggie has the gift of empathy, meaning she can hear the thoughts and feel the emotions of others with a touch. The girls are known as The Charmed Ones, aka the most powerful trio of good witches who must protect the innocent people of Hilltowne from demons and dark forces.