

Good Help

EVEN IF THEIR HOUSEKEEPING ABILITIES ARE SUSPECT, THESE CHARACTERS ALWAYS KEEP THE LAUGHTER IN ORDER

Is Fun to Find



Florence Johnston
(Marla Gibbs)



Esther Valentine
(Kate Linder)



Stephanie Vanderkellen
(Julia Duffy)

SHOW →
YEARS OF EXPERIENCE →

THE JEFFERSONS

THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS

NEWHART

1975–1985

1982–Present

1983–1990

JOB DESCRIPTION →

Live-in maid, complete with uniform

Live-in maid/ alcohol abuse counselor

Housekeeper at quaint, historic inn

I'D RATHER BE ... →

Singing the Gospels

Nowhere but here. It's rough out there in Genoa City.

Back in Daddy's will

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BOSS →



Sparring

Nosy



Petulant

I MANAGE TO KEEP MY JOB BECAUSE ... →

The black couple I work for already feels too guilty for having a maid, never mind firing one.

The one time I did briefly leave, my replacements ended up kidnapping my boss, Katherine Chancellor, and replacing her with an evil look-alike.

I'm no crazier than anyone else in Stratford, Vt.

PET PEEVE →

The doorbell

Jill Abbott

Housework

PROUDEST MOMENT →

Once landed a job at a fancy hotel—until my spinoff failed and I high-tailed it back to that dee-luxe apartment in the sky.

Being reunited with Kate, my beautiful, strong daughter from my one-night stand with a plumber named Tiny.

Giving birth to my baby, Stephanie. Now I'll never have to do anything for anyone else again.



TWO AND A HALF MEN AIRS MONDAYS AT 9 P.M. ET/PT, AND **THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS** AIRS WEEKDAYS ON CBS. **GOSSIP GIRL** AIRS MONDAYS AT 8 P.M. ET/PT ON THE CW.

Way back in the spring of 1953, *I Love Lucy*'s titular redhead hired a housekeeper so overbearing that no one in the Ricardo household had the nerve to let her go. And TV's household help has been getting away with moxie ever since. In a bit of early preparation for National Housekeeper's Day—yes, that's really a designated holiday, on Sept. 5—*Watch!* surveyed seven of the small screen's all-time sassiest and most devoted servants. — *By Jim Colucci*



Eldin Bernecky
(Robert Pastorelli)

MURPHY BROWN

1988–1994

Housepainter turned nanny (although I prefer "Juvenile Mentor.")

Recognized for my artistic genius

Dominant

A perfectionist's work is never done.

Blank walls

Painted my masterpiece over little Avery's crib: a mural of world leaders as nursery rhyme characters.



Fran Fine
(Fran Drescher)

THE NANNY

1993–1999

The Nanny Named Fran

Talking to my mother—long distance.

Romantic

My boss is a horny British widower who likes my Yiddishisms—and my skintight *shmattes* that practically show my *pupik*.

Bad hair days

Finally married the guy; delivered healthy twins at age (ahem) 35.



Berta
(Conchata Ferrell)

TWO AND A HALF MEN

2003–Present

Part-time cleaning lady

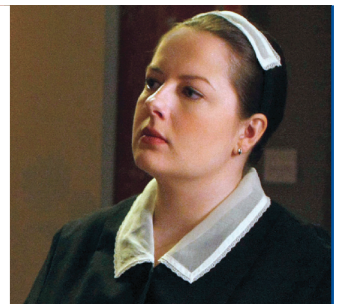
Following the Grateful Dead

Sarcastic

I'm the one woman on Earth Charlie doesn't want to sleep with.

Skid marks

Collected my own full set of flatware—piece by piece, from boxes in Charlie's garage.



Dorota
(Zuzanna Szadkowska)

GOSSIP GIRL

2007–Present

Live-in nanny and maid, complete with uniform

Looking my age ("frumpy" is too kind for this uniform)

Slavish

My boss secretly loves me more than she openly hates me—and I know too much about her for her to risk losing me to Page Six.

None (not allowed)

Smuggled cell phones into private school after Blair and her friends' phones were confiscated.

Gossip Girl: Giovanni Rufo; Drescher: Cliff Lipsort; The Nanny: Spike Naranjo; Ferrell: Steven; Greg Gayne; Szadkowska: Giovanni Rufo; Others: CBS Archives