

T H E M E N T A L I S T P R I M E R

PATRICK JANE

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Background, etc. on Jane.



The Mentalist—Patrick Jane

Patrick Jane is, of course, the focus of the show, *The Mentalist*.

There's not a lot of information available about Jane's background—just that he was a psychic who performed on TV, had a private consulting business, and was helping the police catch Red John (they had asked him to 'get a psychic fix' on RJ). He also conned a lot of people out of a lot of money and in a couple cases, indirectly caused their deaths. In payment for his 'slander,' Red John murders his wife and daughter.

The basic premise of the show is about revenge and redemption. The twin themes are brought up several times—it's clear that Jane is out for revenge—he says it over and over. But in the meantime, he's changed from his former self. He's paying for his misdeeds by trying to help others along the way. Karma, in other words.



The Mentalist—Patrick Jane

Jane an interesting mix: Intelligent, hyper-observant, irreverent, wry—he's also childlike and loves to laugh. His style of clothes is unusual—he always wears a suit and vest along with a truly ugly pair of shoes.

He's hyper-focused when he's on the trail of a suspect, and he stops at nothing to get the truth. Which doesn't always sit well with Lisbon and they clash many times as a result. He has a problem with authority and gets into trouble because of it. (I'm thinking of *Crimson Casanova*.)

Other than a women he cared for (*Red Brick and Ivy*), and a man he hurt indirectly, (*Bloodshot*), we've met no one from his past life. He has no friends outside of the CBI. We see his house only a few times—he spend most of his time at the office (on the couch as he doesn't sleep well). All in all, his life seems to center on his quest for revenge and his work with the CBI.



The Mentalist—Patrick Jane

Jane, doing his thing.



The Mentalist—Patrick Jane

And again.



The Mentalist—Patrick Jane

From *Red Sauce*. Because it makes me laugh.



The Mentalist—Patrick Jane

From *Scarlett Fever*, a scene which illustrates how well Jane understands and gets along with children. He's telling the boy, Oscar, that his mom is truly dead, but that doesn't mean he can't talk to her. And then he admits that he still talks to his wife, even though she's dead, too.

There are several other similar scenes throughout the series. One of my favorite is in *Red Hair and Silver Tape* when Jane talks to a young boy who's sister was killed.



The Mentalist—Patrick Jane

Just because.