



Logline: Diana Perelli has a decision to make: fight for her job as a New England feminist literature professor, or reinvent her father's legacy, a gentlemen's club in a town just outside of Vegas filled with shady characters and damaged lost souls.

Dante's Cabaret is an hour-long, sexy, "darkly comedic" – ode to both Broadway musicals and burlesque troupes – drama about a unique, high-end gentlemen's club/cabaret in a "shit-hole" Nevada desert town run by DIANA PERELLI.

We follow Diana's journey as she attempts to honor the legacy of her father, VINCENT "VIN" PERELLI, and save his legacy – a gentlemen's club/cabaret just outside of Las Vegas in a town called "SHILOH" – from falling into the hands of: cholo gangbangers; an array of con-artists and "carpetbaggers"; a 1% biker gang: "THE DISCIPLES OF DEATH"; and a shady businessman named JIMMY "BLACK JACK" NEZ from a splintered Navajo tribe who runs "BLACK JACKS", a competing strip joint/brothel involved in illegal sex trafficking.

All the while, Diana has her hands full dealing with a jealous, manic depressive, psychotherapist girlfriend "FIONA CUTLER"; not to mention the day-to-day drama involving her stable of dancers (aka: "The Show Ponies") that work the stages and couches of her cabaret.

The series focuses on the conflicts and motivations that drive Diana – a feminist college professor, polyamorous bisexual, and "Burner" (aka: frequent participant at Burning Man). But mainly, this is an episodic drama series for adults about damaged, dysfunctional people yearning to reinvent themselves. The characters that inhabit Diana's world dwell in the shadows and dark places where emotions are fatal flaws and love is merely an exchange. Her dancers sell a fantasy. The question is: are they losing their souls in the process, or is it just simply a means to an end?

Each episode focuses on Diane's struggles to maintain ownership of her deceased father's club (who promised it to a whole host of shady characters when he fell into financial troubles while battling with cancer in the last days of his life) as she explores ways to make the club unique from the other clubs in the area – straddling the fence between straight up strip club and burlesque performance space – while also exploring the lives of each dancer by way of their current day-to-day, and (similar to the Netflix original series: "ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK") through flashbacks to their past revealing what led them to "the Pole".

To Diana's patrons, the sexy girl working the Pole on stage represents an object of desire, performing for their gratification. But to Diana and her dancers, they're exploring aspects of their subconscious completely separate from normal everyday life outside of the cabaret; they see themselves more akin to Broadway performers than lingered "show ponies", and their onstage personas become their "avatars" in a world that blends Broadway-esque musical numbers, "magical realism" and flights of fantasy with hardcore reality.

Over time, through following Diana's story (as well as those of her "Show Ponies") we grow to identify with her inner-struggles, shattered dreams, and lingering fears from her complicated past.

A meditation on a transitioning American culture in terms of gender roles, and women's issues, Dante's Cabaret is a commentary on fantasy versus gritty realism that explores sexuality, polyamory and feminism in a society where the moral, spiritual, and artistic landscape is forever evolving.

The style of the series is heavily centered on Broadway-style production values, the rising interest in pole dancing competitions, modern-day burlesque troupes, and the Burning Man lifestyle.

(Think: if Bob Fosse were alive today, this is the kind of cable series he'd showrun.)