# And Just Like That... How Sex and the City got even queerer!



There has never been a shortage of gays in Sex and the City. Since its 1998 debut, the SATC universe has maintained a noble connection to LGBTQ+ stories, a thread that has only grown stronger with the 2021 reboot, And Just Like That..., now in its third season. While the original series introduced gay characters like Stanford and Anthony, and even featured Samantha Jones exploring a same-sex relationship, the current iteration places queer narratives at its centre. Key developments include Miranda’s coming out, Charlotte’s child Rock identifying as nonbinary, and a broader cast of queer characters. This evolution reflects both cultural shifts and the show's commitment to representing diverse identities in a nuanced, grounded way.

Cynthia Nixon, who has played Miranda for over two decades and came out publicly in the early 2000s, was instrumental in shaping Miranda’s queer storyline. In And Just Like That..., Miranda’s journey as a single queer woman navigating midlife dating is both a tender and candid exploration of identity. Highlights include her playful and unexpected one-night stand with a virgin nun, portrayed by Rosie O’Donnell, and her slowly deepening, complex relationship with Joy, a character played by Dolly Wells. Nixon describes this relationship as a meeting of equals, two confident women who mask insecurities beneath their poise, capturing the messiness and realness of late-life queer romance. Critics and fans alike have praised Nixon’s portrayal as bringing warmth and relatability that anchors the season’s most compelling arc.

Sarah Jessica Parker, long the face of the franchise as Carrie Bradshaw, reflects on the series’ deep-rooted affinity with the LGBTQ+ community. She acknowledges that from early on, Sex and the City found a natural connection with queer audiences, a bond that has only deepened. Parker highlights the vital role that media representation plays in affirming the reality and complexity of queer lives, particularly in a political climate marked by rising hostility and attempts to erase LGBTQ+ existence. She notes that portraying these characters as integral parts of everyday life counters narratives that marginalise or diminish their contributions, emphasizing the power of narrative visibility in fostering empathy and understanding.

Alongside Nixon and Parker, other cast members underscore how the series normalises queer and diverse stories as part of everyday life, rather than framing them as exceptional or "issue-driven." Nicole Ari Parker, who plays Lisa Todd Wexley, draws attention to the importance of reflecting underserved stories, such as Black queer families in spaces like the Upper East Side, in a manner that feels grounded and familiar. Meanwhile, Sarita Choudhury, portraying Carrie’s friend Seema Patel, praises the show for making the political act of centring queer narratives an organic part of the storytelling—something she sees as braver and more impactful than overt activism alone.

Season three also signifies a shift in tone and structure, with the series focusing intently on the evolving lives of Carrie, Miranda, and Charlotte as they grapple with midlife transformations. Carrie's storyline revisits her internal monologues, lending insight into her emotional growth and her rekindled relationship with Aidan. Meanwhile, Miranda's awakening to her queer identity and political engagement is depicted with honesty and complexity, reflecting not only the character’s development but also many real-life experiences of self-discovery later in life.

The show’s willingness to centre queer characters in expansive, multi-dimensional stories has not gone unnoticed. For example, characters like Che Diaz, a non-binary comedian introduced in earlier seasons, marked a significant moment for transgender and non-binary representation in mainstream media, though the character’s absence this season reflects ongoing cast and narrative shifts. The introduction of new queer characters, alongside a broader diversification of the cast, demonstrates the creators’ ongoing aim to reflect today’s society more authentically.

Fashion remains a staple feature, but in this season it serves more as a mode of personal expression rather than mere aspiration, mirroring the characters’ journeys toward embracing their authentic selves. Embedded within the glamour and wit is a mature, thoughtful meditation on identity, friendship, and the courage required to reinvent oneself in midlife.

As And Just Like That... continues to evolve, it remains a vital cultural text for LGBTQ+ audiences by asserting queer lives and stories not as additions but as integral to the fabric of contemporary life. The cast and creators appear committed to reflecting the vibrant diversity and complexity of real communities, making the show a significant platform for queer representation in today’s television landscape. Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.advocate.com/arts-entertainment/and-just-like-that-pride-month> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.cinemablend.com/streaming-news/cynthia-nixon-miranda-is-my-favorite-character-in-and-just-like-that-season-3> - In the third season of HBO Max's 'And Just Like That', Miranda, portrayed by Cynthia Nixon, emerges as the most compelling character. The season delves into Miranda's journey as a single queer woman post-divorce, exploring her mid-life dating experiences and evolving relationships. Highlights include her romantic adventures, such as a one-night stand with a virgin nun played by Rosie O'Donnell, and her deepening connection with Joy, portrayed by Dolly Wells. Nixon's performance brings warmth and relatability, making Miranda's storyline a standout of the season. New episodes release Thursdays on Max.
3. <https://apnews.com/article/939cea56b937952abe8f4e8e2b04da55> - Season 3 of HBO's 'And Just Like That...', the revival of 'Sex and the City', marks a significant evolution in both tone and narrative depth. The season reintroduces Carrie Bradshaw's iconic voiceovers, highlighting her emotional growth and rekindled relationship with Aidan. Miranda's storyline, reflecting Nixon's own queer awakening and activism, delves into late-in-life self-discovery and political engagement, showcasing LGBTQ+ characters in complex and imperfect lights. The show has streamlined its cast, focusing more intimately on Carrie, Miranda, and Charlotte as they confront dynamic, dramatic midlife changes supported by friendship. Fashion remains central but now symbolizes personal expression over aspirational style. With refreshed storytelling and character-driven arcs, 'And Just Like That...' embraces aging and reinvention, reinforcing that maturity brings richness and power. The series premiered its third season on HBO Max.
4. <https://www.marieclaire.com/culture/tv-shows/and-just-like-that-season-3/> - Season 3 of 'And Just Like That...', the 'Sex and the City' sequel, premiered on Max starting Thursday, May 29, 2025, with episodes releasing weekly until August 14. The season continues the story of Carrie, Charlotte, and Miranda as they navigate life, love, and friendship in their 50s. Key returns include Sarah Jessica Parker (Carrie), Kristin Davis (Charlotte), Cynthia Nixon (Miranda), and supporting characters like Anthony, Harry, Lisa, Seema, and Steve. John Corbett also returns as Aidan, with his and Carrie's long-distance relationship set to be a major storyline. Notably absent are Che Diaz (Sara Ramírez) and Nya Wallace (Karen Pittman) due to narrative and scheduling reasons, respectively. New additions include Rosie O'Donnell, Patti LuPone, Kristen Schaal, Logan Marshall-Green, Mehcad Brooks, and Jonathan Cake in undisclosed roles. The season promises evolving storylines, such as Miranda's single life, Charlotte's return to work, and Lisa coping with a miscarriage. The new trailer reveals summer flings, budding romances, and Carrie exploring fiction writing. Despite fan enthusiasm, Kim Cattrall's Samantha is not expected to return beyond her brief season 2 cameo, as the actress maintains her decision to step away from the role.
5. <https://www.gaytimes.com/television/and-just-like-that-sex-and-the-city-sarah-jessica-parker-carrie-gay-icon/> - Sarah Jessica Parker reflects on Carrie's enduring popularity within the LGBTQIA+ community. She recalls the season three finale of 'Sex and the City', which saw Samantha Jones clash with a group of trans women sex workers, leading to a celebratory rooftop party. Parker credits these 'steady characters' with paving the way for the show's increased queer visibility. She emphasizes the importance of including queer stories, stating that it's 'the way we all really live our lives'. The third season of 'And Just Like That' also sees the return of David Eigenberg as Steve Brady, Evan Handler as Harry Goldenblatt, Sarita Choudhury as Seema Patel, Nicole Ari Parker as Lisa Todd Wexley, Cathy Ang as Lily Goldenblatt, John Corbett as Aidan Shaw, Niall Cunningham as Brady Hobbes, Chris Jackson as Herbert Wexley, Sebastiano Pigazzi as Giuseppe, and Dolly Wells as Joy. New stars include Logan Marshall-Green, Mehcad Brooks, Jonathan Cake, and Rosie O'Donnell.
6. <https://www.the-independent.com/news/cynthia-nixon-kristin-davis-carrie-bradshaw-sarah-jessica-parker-paris-b2760693.html> - Season three of 'And Just Like That' marks the return of Carrie Bradshaw's iconic internal monologue, reflecting her emotional clarity and growth. Miranda's storyline, which includes a late-in-life queer awakening, is highlighted as the show's most radical contribution to television. Nixon emphasizes the importance of portraying queerness in a messy, real manner, stating that Miranda's journey at 55 is 'messy' but 'real'. The season focuses on the emotional cores of Carrie, Miranda, and Charlotte, with several side characters, including Che Diaz, being written out. The show aims to depict women in their 50s whose lives are dynamic and dramatic, challenging the narrative that midlife is a decline.