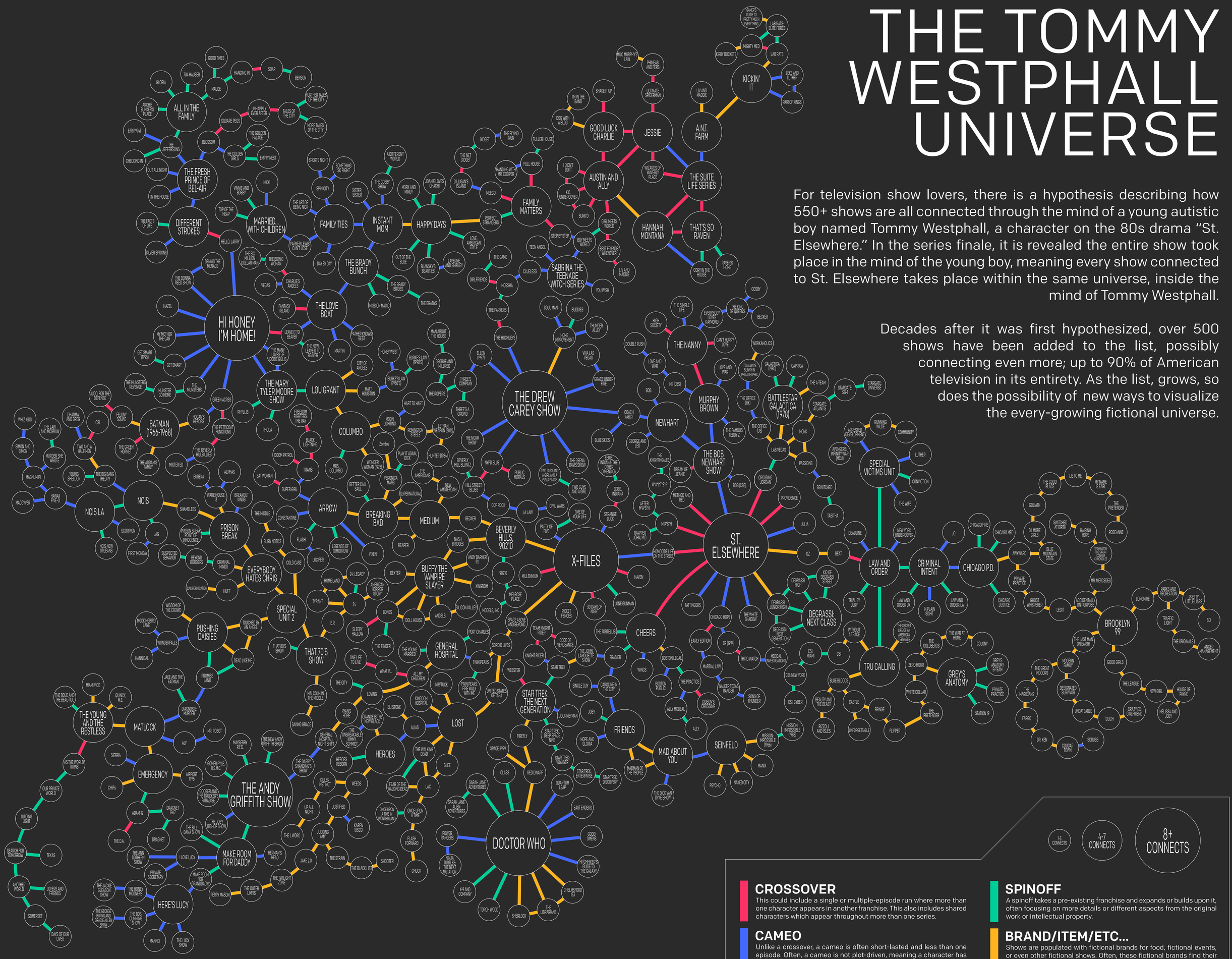
THE TOMMY WESTPHALL UNIVERSE

For television show lovers, there is a hypothesis describing how 550+ shows are all connected through the mind of a young autistic boy named Tommy Westphall, a character on the 80s drama "St. Elsewhere." In the series finale, it is revealed the entire show took place in the mind of the young boy, meaning every show connected to St. Elsewhere takes place within the same universe, inside the mind of Tommy Westphall.

Decades after it was first hypothesized, over 500 shows have been added to the list, possibly connecting even more; up to 90% of American television in its entirety. As the list, grows, so does the possibility of new ways to visualize the every-growing fictional universe.



CROSSOVER
This could include a single or multiple-episode run where more than one character appears in another franchise. This also includes shared characters which appear throughout more than one series.

CAMEO
Unlike a crossover, a cameo is often short-lasted and less than one episode. Often, a cameo is not plot-driven, meaning a character has no stake and does not create change in the visiting franchise.

SPINOFF
A spinoff takes a pre-existing franchise and expands or builds upon it, often focusing on more details or different aspects from the original work or intellectual property.

BRAND/ITEM/ETC...
Shows are populated with fictional brands for food, fictional events, or even other fictional shows. Often, these fictional brands find their way into more than one franchise.