

8 x 30 MINUTE COMEDY-DRAMA

CHASING CHARLIE

A warm, character-led series about reluctant guardians, messy families, and growing up late.

After directionless twin brothers find out they're now the legal guardians of a teenage sister they never knew existed, they must reluctantly grow up and prove they can be a family in three months, or risk being torn apart for good.

Overview

An irreverent comedy-drama about growing up late, finding family in unexpected places, and being forced into responsibility long before you're ready for it. After Life meets Colin From Accounts, with the family chaos of Shameless and Bump.

Why now: a timely story about blended families, loss, housing pressure, makeshift parenting and growing up late, told through a specific Australian lens.

Story Summary

When chaotic twin brothers Henry and Jack suddenly become responsible for Charlie, their sharp, grieving sixteen-year-old half-sister, they have three months to prove they can provide a stable home, or risk losing her to foster care.

Neither brother is remotely prepared. Henry tries to control the chaos by turning Charlie's life into another problem to solve, while Jack hides behind charm and bad decisions. Charlie is grieving, angry and unsure where she belongs, torn between trusting the brothers who've stumbled into her life and chasing answers from Tony, the father who abandoned them all.

As the court ruling nears, the fragile household is tested by school dramas, social worker visits, money problems and the daily fallout of three people trying to become a family before they properly know how. A reluctant arrangement slowly becomes something funnier, messier and more meaningful, forcing all three to confront whether family is something you're born into, or something you choose to fight for.

Tone & Style

Warm, messy and sharply funny, this is a premium comedy-drama that finds big emotion in everyday chaos: family fights, mouldy rentals, pub regulars, school trouble, and the terrifying reality of having to grow up.

Reference points: After Life · Shameless · Bump · Colin From Accounts

Characters

Charlie *Sixteen. Guarded. Sharp. Sees everything.*

Having spent years caring for her dying mother, Charlie loses her last parent and is forced to move in with two half-brothers she barely knows. Quick, funny and observant, she uses humour to keep people at a distance, while secretly chasing her absent father, Tony, not for answers, but for proof she wasn't abandoned because she was unwanted.

Henry *Thirty. Anxious. Trying his best.*

The self-appointed responsible twin, Henry believes enough planning can keep chaos at bay. His plans for the struggling local pub give him something he can finally control. But Charlie sees straight through his need for order as fear dressed up as responsibility.

Jack *Reckless. Charming. Somehow still alive.*

The family's disappointment, Jack avoids responsibility and throws himself into chaos instead. When Charlie arrives, and Pei, his hoped-for girlfriend, stops playing along with his behaviour, he's forced to reckon with the difference between the person he's pretending to be and the one he could become.

Supporting Cast

The people who make life harder, better and far more complicated.

Craig

The twins' stern German stepfather and a proud plastic surgeon, endlessly baffled by their refusal to grow up. Beneath the criticism is reluctant affection, and eventually, real support, even if he still thinks they're losers.

Molly

A frazzled but big-hearted child services worker and former foster kid, fuelled by caffeine and determination. Her bond with Henry and Charlie hints at hope, healing and a life beyond professional damage control.

Dillon

The twins' fiercely loyal and outrageously fun gay best friend, always chasing the next wild story. He often leads Jack into trouble, but his love for Charlie keeps him grounded and invested in the family.

Jude

Henry and Jack's posh, Prosecco-sipping mother, always one bad day from slipping back into her wild past. Charlie's arrival gives her sons a chance to grow up, and Jude pushes them toward the men she knows they can become.

Pei

Whip-smart and stuck working in her family's corner shop while secretly studying art. Her chemistry with Jack brings conflict at home as her traditional upbringing clashes with her dreams of something more.

Tony

A charming, self-centred conman, thief and liar. As the siblings' estranged father, he's a walking warning sign of what Jack could become, and his return sends shockwaves through the family.

World

Set in Sydney's Inner West, the series moves between a rundown rental, Charlie's school, Pei's corner shop and a struggling local pub. These spaces are ordinary, lived-in and imperfect, but they become the places where this makeshift family learns who they are. A spoiled pair of brothers forced out of comfort and into a mouldy rental, where every bill, broken appliance and burnt dinner becomes a lesson in adulthood. A household finding comedy in people trying to act like adults and navigate school life, while constantly revealing they have no idea what they're doing.

Season One & Beyond

Season One tracks the three months to Henry and Jack's custody hearing: as the household finally starts to feel like a family, their accumulated mistakes catch up with them, and Charlie's absent father Tony resurfaces at the worst possible moment.

Beyond Season One, the family is built, broken apart, and forced to fight its way back to each other: Charlie navigating foster care and an identity crisis triggered by Tony's return; Henry chasing professional ambition while fighting to bring her home; Jack trying to go straight enough to help win her back.

The Creators

"We may not have it all together, but together, we have it all."

Created by identical twins Oli and Jim Lance, Chasing Charlie is inspired by their own lives. They have been the twins kicked out of home, living in mould-infested share houses, working pub jobs and trying to navigate adulthood without a clear plan. Their experiences, along with the perspective of their sixteen-year-old half-sister, shaped the emotional heart of the series.

While the guardianship storyline is fictional, it is grounded in their own family dynamic, exploring absence, grief, stubborn love and the complicated ways siblings care for one another. Drawing on their relationship as twins and their own experiences of growing up, Oli and Jim create stories that balance humour with emotional honesty, celebrating imperfect families who are simply doing their best.
