

ABC COMMERCIAL



WHITE FEVER

A CHEEKY NEW ROM-COM FROM RISING STAR RA CHAPMAN

Jane (Ra Chapman) is a cocky Korean-Australian adoptee with a love of hairy white guys. When her friends call her out for having 'white fever', she sets out on a journey to try and reprogram her libido – but instead instigates the process of finding out who she really is.

From hens' nights to country weddings, moon crystals, 'gotcha days' (an adoption celebration) and a boxing ring, *White Fever* is a K-pop infused, action-packed, wild ride filled with revelations, surprises and a large helping of Asian pop culture.

Full of laugh-out-loud moments, the real heart of the series lies in Jane's journey. *White Fever* is a provocative dating quest that takes some strange and surreal turns as it explores the deeper territory of family, adoption, and conditioning.

Starring alongside Ra is an incredible line-up of comedic talent, including Chris Pang (*Crazy Rich Asians, Joy Ride*), Roz Hammond (*Bay of Fires*), Greg Stone (*Jack Irish, Miss Fisher's Modern Murder Mysteries*), Katie Robertson (*Rosehaven, Five Bedrooms*), Cassandra Sorrell (*North Shore*), Harvey Zielinski (*Deadloch*) and Jillian Nguyen (*One Night, Barons*).

6 x 30'

**Black Sheep Films, Orange Entertainment Co.
& Unruly Productions**

FORMAT AVAILABLE



Media Highlights



‘Spotlights complex and likeable characters... it all makes for entertaining, engaging viewing’

– **ScreenHub**

‘Chapman is a commanding lead presence, with an entertaining air of incongruity and outrageousness’

– **The Guardian**

‘A buoyant deep dive into Asian pop culture and identity – and one very lovable woman’s hilarious journey of self-discovery’

– **Geelong Advertiser**

‘Bold and innovative... (a) fresh perspective on identity and attraction’

– **TV Blackbox**





Selected for
The Wit's MIPTV
2024 Fresh Fiction

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thewit.com

Synopses

EPISODE ONE

Wanna Be My Little Mandoo?

When Jane hooks up with Ross, a hairy white bartender – one in a long line of similar conquests – her best friend Edi decides it's time to call Jane out on having never dated an Asian man.

EPISODE TWO

Chillies Go Through Jane Like A Freight Train

At her best friend's wedding, Jane sets out to snag an Asian man, but her past catches up with her when her old school friend, Yu Chang, rejects her. While visiting her mum, Jane's confronted with a letter from her past.



Synopses

A man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a white textured sweater, is embracing a woman from behind. The woman has blonde, wavy hair with yellow bows, freckles, and is wearing a yellow and white checkered dress with white lace gloves. They are both looking towards the camera with soft expressions.

EPISODE THREE

So... Adoptees Don't Count As Asian?

At a special dinner for Korean adoptees hosted by adoptee advocate and influencer, Hera, Jane meets Kev, another Korean Australian adoptee with white fever. After striking out with him, she returns home and finally opens the letter from her birth father.

EPISODE FOUR

Here Comes The Asian Invasion

Jane takes the step of having the letters from her birth father translated. But her childhood doll Cindy has come to life, determined to stop Jane from digging up her Korean past.

Synopses

EPISODE FIVE

Yu Chang, I'm Gonna Do You

Jane purchases an Asian sex doll and manages to form a connection with it, giving her the courage to seek out Yu Chang one more time. In flashbacks we learn what happened between Jane and Yu Chang as teenagers.

EPISODE SIX

Happy Gotcha Day!


Jane pops her Asian guy cherry with Yu Chang. At her Gotcha Day family lunch, Jane announces her plan to connect with her birth father which leads to a farcical clash with her adoptive family about whether Jane is Asian or not.



**Creative
Team**

Creator, Writer, Actor

Ra Chapman

A portrait of Ra Chapman, a woman with long, wavy, light brown hair, wearing a blue and white patterned blazer. She is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a plain, light grey wall.

Ra is a Korean-Australian writer and actor. She has strong ties with the adoption community and works closely with Asian-Australian and diverse artists. Ra is an alumnus of the Besen Writers Group (Malthouse Theatre) and was awarded the 2018 Hot Desk Fellowship (Wheeler Centre). Her play, *K-BOX*, won the 2021 Patrick White Playwright Award and premiered at the Malthouse Theatre in 2022.

Recent writing credits include horror anthology *Nightbloomers* (SBS) and *Because The Night* (Malthouse Theatre). Ra was selected to take part in StoryLab, a VicScreen funded development program for diverse screenwriters. Ra attended the 2019 AFTRS State Talent Camp and subsequently earned herself a place in the highly competitive 2020 AFTRS National Talent Camp. Ra is currently under commission on various projects across television and theatre.

Creator's Statement

A photograph of two women at a party. The woman on the left is wearing a pink dress and a white sash that says "Bride to Be". She has her mouth open as if shouting or singing. The woman on the right is wearing a blue sequined dress and a tiara with two penis-shaped decorations. She also has her mouth open. The background is a dimly lit party with other people and colorful lights.

For a long time, my biological heritage was of little to no interest to me. It felt so far removed from my Aussie white world that it didn't seem real. I was adopted at the age of 4 from South Korea and it was almost like before I came to Australia, I didn't exist; as if the 4-year-old version of me arrived in Australia, took a good hard look around, and decided it was best to press the reset button.

And when as an adult I flippantly decided to try and undo that reset I found it to be much more complicated and fraught than expected. I had unwittingly opened Pandora's Box and released overwhelming questions about race, identity and belonging.

All those things that I had spent most of my life laughing off, but deep inside was desperately trying to avoid.

White Fever is about the messiness of life. About thinking everything's fine and dandy, only to have the rug ripped out from under you. It's about living in a world where everything seems to be moving so quickly and you're shit-scared of being left behind. It's about the unrelenting rollercoaster ride that you may find yourself on if you decide to throw caution to the wind and hit that reset button again.

— Ra Chapman

Director Aidee Walker

Aidee is a talented New Zealand actress and director. Aidee was lead director on BBC's family drama *Mystic* and the sole director on *Kid Sister* for Greenstone Pictures, distributed by Red Arrow. She has also directed *Stand Up Girl* for NZME, *Westside S4 & S5* for Three and *The Brokenwood Mysteries S6 & S7* for TVNZ. Aidee is currently in development on the feature film, *Rabbit Season*.

Aidee's acting credits include a guest role on NBC's *One Of Us Is Lying* (S1&2) screening on Peacock and Netflix, and she has appeared in the comedy crime series *My Life is Murder* (Acorn).

Producer Katherine Fry



Katherine has over 30 years' experience working with experienced and emerging creatives. She is passionate about supporting writers and directors to tell both personal and socially progressive stories. Katherine has held development positions at Every Cloud Productions, the New Zealand Film Commission (NZFC) and South Pacific Pictures.

Katherine is currently developing and script editing several feature films. Her recent credits include *Juniper*, starring Charlotte Rampling and George Ferrier. Katherine script managed *Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries*, is a regular assessor for the NZFC and the NZWG, and mentors writers through New Zealand's 'Script to Screen' programs.

Producer

Lisa Wang

Lisa has 30 years' experience in television and feature films, working regularly as a producer and line producer for Australia's leading independent production companies including Working Dog Productions, Guesswork Television, December Media, Easy Tiger, Mushroom Studios and Matchbox Pictures (an NBC Universal company).

She has worked with international co-producers and broadcasters in the UK, USA, Germany and Italy, and for all of Australia's broadcast networks. As line producer, co-producer and producer, her TV comedy credits include *Frayed* (ABC/Sky Vision/Sky Comedy), *The Family Law* (SBS) and the multi-award winning *Please Like Me* (ABC/Pivot/Hulu/Netflix). Drama credits as line producer include the feature film *Healing, Dangerous Remedy* (ABC), *The Doctor Blake Mysteries* (ABC) and *The Blake Mysteries* (7 Network).



Dan Lake

Executive Producer

Dan is an entertainment executive and content producer whose work in development, financing and production extends across feature film, broadcast drama and comedy as well as factual and reality programming.

Dan was co-producer of the feature documentary *The Frackman* and award-winning Australia-Canada co-production *Early Winter* (Dir: Michael Rowe), an indie feature that won the Venice International Film Festival's Venice Days Award.

Dan was Senior Vice President – Development & Production at Screen Queensland, playing an integral role in the agency's production and talent development initiatives with Stan, ABC and SBS in Australia, and CBS in the United States. With Orange Entertainment Co, Dan has produced ABC dramedy *Retrograde*, as well as executive produced the Network Ten/Fremantle series *Lindy Chamberlain – The True Story*.

