



Frances O'Brien, devout Catholic and panic disorder sufferer, runs (very badly) an outer suburban library. Despite the chronic vandalism, the dysfunctional staff and her own particular challenges with the ever-growing Muslim Community, Frances wears her Head Librarian's badge with relish. But Frances' life unravels when she is forced to employ her ex-best friend from childhood. Christine Grimwood is everything Frances is not. Wild, sexy... and out on bail. Christine must prove to a Judge that she's a morally sound and upstanding citizen, and blackmailing Frances into making her the Children's Librarian seems a perfect solution. Devastated that the mistakes of her past have come back to haunt her, Frances does all she can to contain her demons and concentrate on the biggest event of the Library calendar year – Book Week.

Having been unceremoniously dumped as Head Librarian, in Series Two Frances claws her way back to the top of the Middleton Interactive Learning Centre. But she's still not happy. Her daughters are out of control, her marriage is on its last legs and Nada, her Muslim colleague, has enjoyed a rapid ascendancy to power. Most surprisingly, it is the return of her nemesis Christine to the library that unexpectedly provides some joy for Frances. If only Christine felt the same way. Single and seven months pregnant, she's not feeling any joy at all.

Frances continues to have a hellish time of it in Series Three but, for once, it's not all of her making. Frances' mother, suffering from both dementia and a really horrible personality, lands on the O'Brien doorstep. Frances wants her husband, Terry, to look after her mother but he's too distracted getting his high school band back together. Adding to Frances' woes, morale at the Middleton Interactive Learning Centre is at a new all time low. In order to stay open, the library is forced to run as a business and return an annual profit. As the staff has a hard enough time enforcing the return of a book, this latest initiative could spell the end of life at the library.

"The best sitcom in years appeared just last year:
The Librarians, on the ABC.
It was smart,
it took risks, it was about something, and it had characters rather than caricatures. Result?
It was funny."
The Sunday Age

"a darkly hilarious comedy"

Sydney Morning Herald



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