

PLANET LULIN



A coming-of-age sci-fi comedy
that's out of this world!



Lulin wasn't expecting to develop alien powers or have intergalactic invaders crash the school science comp, but hey, growing up always has a few surprises!

Twelve-year-old Lulin has a human dad and an Astoradian extra-terrestrial mother – and she's just learnt how to blast energy waves out of her fingers! Sweet!

Unfortunately, her astrawaves have been tracked by Megaheads; intergalactic invaders in the form of little girls, who are hunting down Astoradians and banishing them to the Void! Less sweet!

Not that Lulin has any idea. She's too busy trying to win SCI-BOG (the school science comp) with her pals Henri and Spider, all the while dealing with her other extra-terrestrial growing changes. Scorch marks! Wonky astrawaves! Magnetism! Slime!

Lulin's dad, Ken, and her extra-terrestrial grandma, Ezme, want to help, but as Lulin's the first human-Astoradian, no one knows what to expect. Not even the super intelligent (and super grumpy) retired Megahead invader, Bestro, who lives in the attic.

It's not long before Lulin's strange behaviour catches the attention of seemingly perfect Verjonica, rival SCI-BOGGER. Verjonica vows to discover Lulin's secret, whatever it takes. Looks like Lulin will need to master her growing powers, protect her extra-terrestrial truth, win SCI-BOG and escape the Megaheads all at once. No pressure!

HD 10 x 30'
Moody Street Kids & Princess Pictures
FORMAT AVAILABLE



MEDIA

'A fun, intergalactic adventure'

— **Memorable TV**

'Has a zany, colourful sci-fi premise, along with a wonderful cast including magnetic newcomer Nina Gallas'

— **CQ Today**

'Cameos by the likes of Lisa McCune and Aunty Donna's Zachary Ruane are marvellous'

— **Sydney Morning Herald**



EPISODE SYNOPSES

EPISODE 1: Sucked In

Lulin's astrawave power arrives and blows up her team's entry for SCI-BOG, the school science comp. Using extra-terrestrial soil to fix the project, Lulin gets her friend, Spider, swallowed by a giant alien plant!

EPISODE 2: Countdown

Lulin uses an Astoradian life hack to gain super speed. She makes an outrageous wager with Alpha Squad, forgetting it's Astoradian New Year. Can she do both?

EPISODE 3: It Came From the Bog

Lulin starts to suddenly slime midway through the SCI-BOG bush scavenger hunt. Henri and Verjonica spot her slime and think it's the fabled Boggy Beast. The hunt is on!

EPISODE 4: The Truth is Really Out There

Alpha Squad's diorama is destroyed and Lulin is found at the scene! In the role of detective, Lulin must question friends, enemies, and even herself, to find the real culprit.

EPISODE 5: Take Over

SCI-BOG teams are tasked with creating an AI device. Jealous of Alpha Squad's AI Mirror, Lulin tinkers with The Ctrl Zed's AI Bin, creating an AI overlord that can zborg things to another dimension!



EPISODE SYNOPSSES

EPISODE 6: Double Trouble

Lulin tests the limits of her powers and accidentally clones herself. To re-merge with the clone, she must get a bracelet from Verjonica that her clone gave away. Looks like Lulin's joining Alpha Squad!

EPISODE 7: Hair Raiser

Lulin draws an imaginary garden for SCI-BOG then reads about the same garden in one of her mum's old poems! A shocked Lulin gets electrified rainbow hair. How to fix it? Find the garden!

EPISODE 8: Space Zits

Lulin breaks out in scorch marks, the Astoradian version of zits. Bestro loans her an ego charm that makes them disappear – and makes her ego balloon out of control!

EPISODE 9: Zborked!

During the last SCI-BOG challenge, Lulin accidentally merges her finger with a red waveoid and zborks her friends and family to another dimension! Panicked, Lulin asks Bestro for help, not realising Primo has taken her place!

EPISODE 10: The Void

After she quits SCI-BOG, Lulin spots the Megahead sistership looming over Bogger's Marsh Primary. Lulin rushes to SCI-BOG finals and encounters Primo and the Void. Is this the end?



**“AN EXTRA SPECIAL, EXTRA SPARKY,
EXTRA FUNNY TAKE ON GROWING UP AND
LEARNING TO EMBRACE YOUR UNIQUENESS”**

**LIBBIE DOHERTY
ABC HEAD OF CHILDREN'S & FAMILY**

VISUAL STYLE



Planet Lulin combines a distinctly suburban setting with cartoonish sci-fi imagery and a retro-digital 90s aesthetic.

The series uses a range of repeated visual conventions throughout, including analogue glitch transitions and VCR tracking lines to bring texture, colour and energy. A 'blue moon fantasy-scape' is used to visually represent Lulin's inner world. This fantasy-scape is initially covered in static and becomes clearer as Lulin learns to quieten her mind.

Special effects take a mixed-media approach, with a focus on vibrancy and fun. There's an extra-terrestrial flower puppet, rotoscope-style astrawaves, green-screen levitation and real-life neon green slime used across the series.

MAIN CHARACTERS



LULIN O'HARA

Lulin's a cheeky optimist who's full of wild ideas – anything that gets her closer to winning SCI-BOG. Her mother won in '98 and Lulin wants to be just like her! Thing is, Lulin's not so great with details—and now that she has Astoradian powers, her impulsive brainwaves often lead to mind-bending calamities! Not that it brings Lulin down. Everything inspires her. House plants! A nonsensical poem! Dirt! If only Lulin knew how to quiet her mind and look inside, she might find the greatest inspiration comes from deep within.

HENRI HENDERSON

Henri is a blunt straight-shooter with a deep knowledge of conspiracies. The teacher? Definitely a shape-shifter. Strange lights at night? Top secret UAPs. And as for aliens, they walk among us. She knows that for a fact! Henri is always up for missions and is perpetually prepared thanks to a vest she wears filled with all kinds of survival gadgets. Henri used to be BFFs with classmate Verjonica until they had a falling out. She's sick of Verjonica flaunting her wins and is determined to beat her in SCI-BOG. But is this really the noblest of missions?





SPIDER MILLS

The equivalent of a Christmas jumper, Spider is warm, sentimental and slightly daggy. He's unconditionally faithful, even if he's a little slow to catch on to certain things. Spider sees the good in everyone around him and lends his sweet, earnest point of view to whatever adventure he's on with his best friends, Lulin and Henri. While Spider loves to make the people around him happy, he does have his own special want. A trophy of his own! And SCI-BOG is his best chance to win one.



EZME ST

Nanna Ezme is a live-wire. Literally! She's an extra-terrestrial who can blast energy waves from her fingers. Ezme is brassy and bold, doing and saying exactly what she wants when she wants – while wearing a wonderfully eccentric outfit! Ezme has been through a lot in her life, but she doesn't let that bring her down, providing her family with endless wisdom and positivity. She's often seen placing garden gnomes around town and is viewed by the locals as a visionary artist. Yet her relentless gnoming has a far more vital purpose than prettying up their hometown of Bogger's Marsh – and soon enough, all will be revealed...

KEN O'HARA

Lulin's father, Ken, is quiet, warm and earthy. His world exploded with energy when he fell in love with Lulin's mum – an extra-terrestrial from planet Astorad – and though she was taken from him, he holds her memory dear to his heart. Ken is a nurturing soul who cares for the world around him, as reflected in his successful local potting soil company 'U DIG IT'. Ken is highly protective of Lulin and while he's filled with wonder at her burgeoning powers, he's also filled with anxiety, desperate to keep her (and his extra-terrestrial mother-in-law) safe.





BESTRO

Bestro is a retired Megahead invader who has zero patience for human concerns. They are all inferior. Bestro possesses superintelligence and telekinesis. She is incredibly bad-tempered and delivers insults drier than plain toast. Despite being nearly 8,000 years old, Bestro looks like a 9-year-old girl. All Megaheads do. They're a doppelganger species who have eliminated puberty. Bestro lives in Lulin's attic, but she is slowly stepping out into the world through a new love of football.

KEY CAST



NINA GALLAS LULIN O'HARA

Nina Gallas is a 11-year-old actress most notable for appearing opposite Owen Teague and Freya Allan in Wes Ball's *Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes* (due for release in 2024). Nina has also taken centre stage in a major Australian production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* and is an accomplished dancer and singer.

UMA DUMAIS HENRI HENDERSON

With an effervescent personality and a can-do spirit, 12-year-old Uma brings vibrance to any room. She has recently appeared in television commercials for renowned brands such as Oreos, Nintendo, Jetstar and Coles. Uma's role in *Planet Lulin* marks her television debut.



MAX TURNER SPIDER MILLS

Max is a 10-year-old actor who started out performing in school plays then performed as a magician's assistant at multiple comedy festivals. Max starred in *Disco Drama*, a short film for the Acting Performance Studio, and will appear in the Stan original film *Windcatcher*.



CASSIE ROBB BESTRO

Cassie is an 11-year-old actress most notable for appearing alongside Miranda Otto and Guy Pearce in *The Clearing* (Disney+) where she played the role of Angela. She is also a talented dancer and singer.



KEY CAST



LISA MCCUNE EZME ST

Lisa McCune is one of Australia's most popular, successful and decorated screen and theatre actors, earning an impressive collection of awards celebrating her performances, including four Gold Logies for Most Popular Personality on Australian television, alongside multiple theatre honours.

Lisa's recent television credits include the comedy series *How to Stay Married* (Network Ten), *The Ex-PM* (ABC), *The Warriors* (ABC), *It's A Date* (ABC) for which she received an AACTA Award nomination, the much loved drama *Reef Doctors* (Network Ten) which she co-produced, the internationally successful drama *Rake* (ABC), *Sea Patrol* (Nine Network) for which she received a Silver Logie Award nomination for Most Popular Actress, and many others.

Her film credits include *The Inner Sanctuary*, *Body Melt*, *The Little Death* and *Little Fish*.



KEVIN HOFBAUER KEN O'HARA

Kevin is a TV and theatre actor known for roles in programs including *Rush*, *Spreadsheet* (Paramount), *Clickbait* (Netflix), *Rush* (Network Ten), *Playing For Keeps* (Network Ten) and *Offspring* (Network Ten).



ZACHARY RUANE MR SHANTELL

Zachary Ruane is a comedian and creative best known for his work with Aunty Donna. Over the last 10 years, Aunty Donna has built a diehard fan base across the world with their unique brand of absurd comedy.

They continue to engage those fans with their award-winning live shows, their varied online presence (with over 3 million monthly views) and most recently with two original series – *Aunty Donna's Big Ol' House of Fun* (Netflix) and *Aunty Donna's Coffee Cafe* (ABC).

KEY CREATIVE

MELANIE SANO

CREATOR

Melanie Sano is a scriptwriter/script editor with a passion for comedy, sci-fi fantasy and children's content. She has written and edited over 50 hours of produced national and international television.

Melanie is an ongoing writer for Amazon Freevee serial drama *Neighbours* (Fremantle Media) and her children's television work includes 7Plus series *Larry the Wonderup* and ABC animated preschool series *Big Words, Small Stories*. Melanie is also an international touring electronic musician.



What inspired you to create the show?

MELANIE: When I was a kid, I loved watching live-action kids shows that were Australian and I've pretty much always wanted to make one. I feel like they have their own particular flavour. Small contained suburb or town with its own personality. Wacky adult characters. Kids running the show and having fantastical hijinks which the town shrugs off. And there's a distinct Aussie humour filtered through everything.

When my son hit pre-teen years it felt like the perfect time to get writing as my house was suddenly filled with pre-teen emotions. Watching my son make his mark in the world is very inspiring. He is both Japanese and Australian and sees himself as double. More is more! Get amongst it! I love his confidence and wanted to make an optimistic show to reflect that kind of mindset.

Why a sci-fi comedy show?

MELANIE: I love sci-fi. It's exciting (and sometimes scary haha) to be immersed in something so fantastic that could actually one day be real. Tablet computers were first seen in *Star Trek*. VR headsets in the story 'Pygmalion's Spectacles'! But beyond that, sci-fi shows let us step back and see the world around us with fresh perspective. This is great for coming-of-age stories. And as for the comedy, it's just a way for kids to laugh at the absurdity of growing up – and hopefully feel less alone on their weird and wonderful journeys.

What do you want children to take away from the show?

MELANIE: Hopefully after watching, kids will see that all kinds of people and personalities can belong. Everyone has their own unique journeys. You don't need to feel embarrassed. You got this!

PRODUCTION COMPANIES



MOODY STREET KIDS

Moody Street Kids was established in 2002 by Gillian Carr, formerly of GMTV (UK), and has become an award-winning producer of children's television. Focused on supporting emerging talent, Moody Street Kids has produced hundreds of hours of television and had TV series broadcast around the world.

Their productions include *Big Words*, *Small Stories*, *Kuu Kuu Harajuku*, *SheZow* and *Transformers: Rescue Bots* and they create quality children's content with international appeal.

PRINCESS PICTURES

Princess Pictures is one of Australia's leading independent production companies with a reputation for delivering original and high quality projects to local and international markets. Their content is characterised by a sense of humour, a fresh perspective and a desire to reach new audiences.

Their award-winning slate includes programming across genres including children's (*My Year 7 Life*, *My Year 12 Life*, *The Formal*) and scripted (multiple shows with iconic creator Chris Lilley, *How To Stay Married*, *It's A Date*).

