

Sunday 16 July to
Saturday 22 July 2017



Week 29 Highlights



#ourABC



Pulse
World Premiere Thursday 20 July 8.30pm



Growing Up Gracefully
Starts Wednesday 19 July 9.30pm



Utopia
Returns Wednesday 19 July 9.00pm



Bananas in Pyjamas Turn 25
A Week of Special Content



Pulse

It's eight years since high-flying financial analyst Frankie's failing kidneys landed her at death's door, and a transplant offered her a second chance.

Now a doctor in her second year, it's Frankie's (Claire van der Boom) first day in a Renal rotation, where she wants to earn a permanent spot working under Renal boss, Chad Berger (Owen Teale), the very doctor who saved her life.

But for Frankie especially, a hospital can be a dangerous world. Though uniquely qualified to understand her patients as a transplant recipient herself, she is also vulnerable to infection, and her compassion for others may very well endanger her own life.

Frankie's best friend, Lou Tannis (Andrea Demetriades), is training to be a surgeon, but is confronting the limitations in her own cutthroat field, and the boys' club of surgical training teams. Will her fling with hotshot surgeon Rowan Mitri (Blessing Mokgohloa) help or hinder her progress? Female surgeon, Maggie Cutter (Susie Porter), is Lou's hardest taskmaster. But will she become the mentor Lou needs?

Meanwhile, Frankie and Lou's housemate Tabb (Arka Das) is on his first day as an intern, terrified that he won't stand up to the pressures, particularly when faced with his prickly, wounded-warzone cardio registrar Eli Nader (Liam McIntyre).

Frankie correctly diagnoses the mystery behind patient Zoe's (Melissa Bonne) symptoms: Zoe needs a new heart, but is soon in strife after sending Shawn (Daniel Amalm) home without his life-saving dialysis. Finding her courage, she goes above and beyond to get Shawn back into dialysis in time to get him a transplant.

But Zoe's donor heart is allocated to someone else, leaving her close to death. Berger warns Frankie that she's identifying too closely with her patients and it's blinding her to the realities of medicine: she can't save them all. He feels conflicted by the need to treat her as a doctor, and also as his patient. But after her dramatic first days Frankie is more determined than ever to make it in renal, to pay back the second chance she was given.

#PulseTV

Short synopsis

Transplant patient and now doctor, Frankie starts her first day in Renal rotation; best friend Lou battles surgery's boys' club; and flatmate Tabb starts as an intern. CAST: Claire van der Boom, Andrea Demetriades, Arka Das.

Production details

A Clandestine Beyond Production with Screen Australia and in association with Screen NSW; Producers Kris Wylde, Antony I Ginnane; Created by Kris Wylde, Mel Hill and Michael Miller; Ep 1 written by Kris Wyld and Mel Hill; Ep 1 directed by Peter Andrikidis

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For preview, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).



Utopia

Set inside the offices of the “Nation Building Authority”, a federal government organisation responsible for overseeing major infrastructure projects, *Utopia* explores that moment when bureaucracy and grand dreams collide. It’s a tribute to those political leaders who have somehow managed to take a long-term vision and use it for short-term gain.

The award-winning series follows the working lives of a tight-knit team in charge of guiding big construction schemes from announcement to unveiling. Constant shifts in priorities are the order of the day as the staff are asked to come up with plans for everything from new roads and rail lines to airports and high rise urban developments. In short, *Utopia* examines the forces that go into creating a very well-designed white elephant.

The eight-part series features a stellar comic cast led by Rob Sitch, along with Celia Pacquola, Dave Lawson, Dilruk Jayasinha, Kitty Flanagan, Anthony Lehmann, Emma-Louise Wilson, Nina Oyama, Rebecca Massey, Jamie Robertson and Toby Truslove. *Utopia* is a comedy for anyone who has ever been crushed by the bureaucratic process – and lived to laugh at the memory.

Jim (Anthony Lehmann) and Rhonda (Kitty Flanagan) force Tony (Rob Sitch) to help step in and save a flawed government scheme. Nat (Celia Pacquola) is driven mad by a local council worried about a proposed development. And the entire office prepares for the NBA’s staff talent show.

#UtopiaABC

Short synopsis

Jim and Rhonda force Tony to help step in and save a flawed government scheme. Nat is driven mad by a local council worried about a proposed development. CAST: Rob Sitch, Celia Pacquola.

Production details

Utopia is written and produced by the award-winning team of Santo Cilauro, Tom Gleisner and Rob Sitch. Michael Hirsh is Executive Producer. Original Casting by Jane Kennedy. Series Casting by Kate Leonard. The series is directed by Rob Sitch. ABC TV Head of Comedy: Rick Kalowski. ABC TV Commissioning Editor: Brett Sleight. A Working Dog Production, in association with ABC TV

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**Program not yet available for preview.
For more information and images visit the [media portal](#).**



Growing Up Gracefully

In this six-part docu-comedy series, twenty-something sisters Hannah and Eliza Reilly set out to road-test advice for women from the past and the present.

After rediscovering the 1950s teen-advice book *Growing Up Gracefully*, the Reilly Girls take on the six key milestones of growing up: Looking Your Best, Courtship, Sex, Making Friends, Career, and Spirituality, navigating social rules of a bygone era with those of the present.

Hannah the reckless party girl, adopts the ladies' etiquette of the past, and in the process, is grilled by 'Deportment Queen' June Dally Watkins, reforms into a 1950s medicated housewife for a day and brings her mother along on a first date. While dorky home body Eliza, following the advice for women dished up by the internet, learns how to get the perfect 'booty shot' from an Instagram model, gets Botox to preserve her youth and aligns her chakras at a new age women's spirituality retreat.

It's the rules for women of the 1950's versus the rules of 2017, Donna Reed versus Lena Dunham. And as good musical theatre nerds Hannah and Eliza wrap up each show with a big musical finale.

As the creators / writers / directors / sisters, the Reillys offer a uniquely millennial perspective. They have surrounded themselves with a team of amazing ladies, including Marieke Hardy as script supervisor and Series Producer Nikita Agzarian. There are actually so many women in the team, their periods have all synced, and together they are now unstoppable.

*"We're following more advice than you can daintily poke a stick at," Hannah and Eliza said, "all to learn how to grow up gracefully, whatever the f*ck that means."*

While co-hosting their community FBi radio show 'Girls Gone Mild' one Saturday morning, they got a phone call from Julian Morrow of 'The Chaser', and have been writing and developing with production company Giant Dwarf ever since. Hannah also currently hosts triple j's sex and relationships program 'The Hook Up'.

#GrowingUpGracefully

Short synopsis

Sisters Hannah & Eliza Reilly are two misguided twentysomethings, who after rediscovering the 1950's teen-advice book 'Growing Up Gracefully', ask themselves, as young women in 2017, how do we learn to grow up?

Production details

Growing Up Gracefully is a Giant Dwarf production, developed and produced in association with the ABC. Created, written, and presented by Hannah Reilly and Eliza Reilly. Executive Producer Julian Morrow, Series Producer Nikita Agzarian, ABC Executive Producers; Richard Huddleston and Michael Badcock

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**Program not yet available for preview.
For more information and images visit the [media portal](#).**



Bananas in Pyjamas Turn 25

Australia's favourite twins, B1 and B2, are turning 25 and ABC KIDS is celebrating!

On 20 July 1992, the cheeky and mischievous ***Bananas in Pyjamas*** premiered on ABC Television in their own full length television series. Before that, they appeared on *Play School*.

They've been busy over the past 25 years. From chasing the Teddies around Cuddles Avenue, to visiting the President of the United States of America, the *Bananas in Pyjamas* have become as popular internationally as they are in Australia. *Bananas in Pyjamas* is currently shown in a number of different countries, including Hong Kong, the Philippines and Brazil!

Thousands of Australian children have watched the pair come down the stairs over the last 25 years, so to celebrate this milestone, Australian pre-schoolers are showing their love by creating drawings and birthday cards for the pair which will feature on special *Giggle and Hoot* Giggle Galleries airing throughout the birthday week.

On the Banana's birthday, Thursday 20 July, classic *Bananas in Pyjamas* special birthday episodes will screen on the day, along with party episodes of the new animated show. As well as more party themed episodes from some of pre-schoolers favourite programs, including *Hoot Hoot Go!*, *Peppa Pig*, *Dorothy*, *Hey Duggee*, *Sally and Possum*, and *Thomas and Friends*. Then at 4pm, put your pjs on and get ready to celebrate as the *Giggle and Hoot* family wish B1 and B2 a happy birthday during a fun pyjama party!

#Bananas25

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Prime Suspect 1973

The wait is over for the much-anticipated prequel to multi award-winning global hit *Prime Suspect*. Set in London in the 1970's the series follows the early career of the formidable DCI Jane Tennison, the role that established Oscar winner Dame Helen Mirren as a household name.

In this series, we meet Jane as an ambitious, single-minded 22-year-old probationary officer, starting out as a WPC in a world where chauvinism and rule-bending are the norm. Jane's dedicated, instinctive approach is evident from the start as she is thrown into a brutal murder enquiry, witnessing first-hand the devastating effects of violent crime, as well as experiencing tragic ramifications herself.

Immersed in the music, fashion and politics that defined a generation, we follow Jane Tennison as she establishes herself in a man's world, revealing the complexities of her ambition and personal life that shaped one of television's most iconic female characters.

In tonight's first episode, when the body of a teenage girl, Julie Ann Collins, is found in the underground car park of a Hackney housing estate, probationer WPC Jane Tennison (Stefanie Martini) becomes immersed in her first murder investigation. Jane's superior, the handsome DI Bradfield (Sam Reid), thinks the victim's drug-addict boyfriend, Eddie Phillips, is hiding something but can't get him to talk in interview.

Meanwhile in prison, Clifford Bentley (Alun Armstrong) is desperate to find a way out of an upcoming bank job he and his family are doing for gangland kingpin Clay Whitely. He is visited by his youngest son, David (Jay Taylor) who seems to be paying too much attention to Julie Ann Collins' murder.

Jane uncovers some vital information concerning Eddie Phillips and all is not what it seems.

Short synopsis

Set in London in the 1970's, this series is the prequel to the hit show *Prime Suspect*, following the early career of the formidable DCI Jane Tennison, the role that established Dame Helen Mirren as a household name.

Production details

Co-production between ITV Studios, Noho Film and TV and Masterpiece. Based on the book *Tennison* by Lynda La Plante. Executive Producers Rebecca Eaton, Camilla Campbell and Robert Wulff-Cochrane

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**Program not yet available for preview.
For more information and images visit the [media portal](#).**



Grand Designs New Zealand

Following the internationally successful *Grand Designs* format, this brand new second series explores the process of these incredible design projects, as well as the personal journeys of those building them – from the initial blueprints, through to the long and often arduous task of turning the plans into practical living spaces.

Using archaic or new-school building techniques and materials, and locations from the beach to the mountains and the hills in between, *Grand Designs New Zealand* features houses ranging from architectural designer mansions to DIY homes.

Short synopsis

Architect Chris Moller returns for a second season of *Grand Designs New Zealand*, following ambitious and innovative kiwi homeowners as they push the boundaries to build the house of their dreams.

Production details

Presenter: Chris Moller. An Imagination Television and FremantleMedia Australia Production.

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**Program not yet available for preview.
For more information and images visit the [media portal](#).**



Tickled

Sunday Best, the season of feature length documentaries, returns to Sunday evenings on ABC2 with the critically acclaimed New Zealand documentary – **Tickled**.

New Zealand journalist David Farrier discovers “Competitive Endurance Tickling” videos online. Immediately curious, he begins to investigate. Fit young men from all over the planet are being flown to Los Angeles to compete. Each is tied down to a bed, while the others take turns tickling them.

Farrier contacts the organisers to try to set up an interview about this bizarre sport, but his enquiries are met with a series of homophobic slurs about a previous gay relationship.

Farrier and his friend Dylan Reeve look into this mysterious company; meeting participants who have found themselves subject to online harassment when they refuse to be tickled. The more they investigate, the stranger it gets, discovering secret identities and criminal activity.

As they delve into this underground web of tickling, they find themselves facing private investigators and legal threats. Determined to understand the true nature of this tickling empire, their journey leads them across the United States. Through a series of twists and turns, the pair discover the shocking truth at the bottom of this tickling wormhole.

Short synopsis

A journalist stumbles upon a mysterious tickling competition online. As he delves deeper he comes up against fierce resistance, but that doesn't stop him getting to the bottom of a story stranger than fiction.

Production details

A Ticklish Tale Limited. Financed by New Zealand Film Commission, MPI Media Group and Kickstarter backers. Directors: David Farrier & Dylan Reeve, Producer: Carthew Neal, Executive Producer: Justin Pemberton and Associate Producers: Stephen Fry, Richard Ivey.

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For preview, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).



Ice Stars

Ice Stars is an exciting new series that unwraps the action-packed life, on and off the ice, of a group of determined young skaters based in Nottingham UK, at The National Ice Centre.

From high-octane ice hockey players to synchronized dancers and individual performers, *Ice Stars* follows the ups-and-downs, both on and off the ice, getting up-close, and capturing the emotions and dramas of their daily lives. The skaters may leave home at 5am to practice in the rink before school, but outside the rink they are normal young people, dealing with the same day-to-day challenges as their non-skating friends.

Whether it's Ice Hockey or Synchro, Figure or Speed, Dance, or Jumps, this is a competitive world and the cast live and breathe ice so nothing can get in the way.

Episode one: Monday July 17 at 4.00pm

The ice dancing girls are desperate for boy partners - there's only one in the squad, and he's already taken. But new boy Adriano is moving over from Italy to Nottingham to find himself a partner, and it's Ella and Chloe who are the two to choose from.

Nine-year old Charlie lives and breathes ice hockey, but has he got what it takes to impress the coach? And the synchro team is competing at the British Championships, but when one of the girls has a bad fall in practice, it's not looking good for the win they so desperately need.

Short synopsis

The ice dancing girls are desperate for boy partners. When a new boy arrives, Ella & Chloe are the two he could partner with. Meanwhile, Charlie lives & breathes ice hockey, but has he got what it takes to impress the coach?

Production details

Executive Producers: Tamsin Summers and Rachel Drummond-Hay. A Drummer TV production for BBC.

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For preview, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).



Sex in Strange Places

In this investigative series, presenter Stacey Dooley travels to Turkey, Russia, and Brazil to meet young people who are trading on their looks and sexuality for a living. The demand for sex is universal; the price paid by those who buy and sell is not. What do the attitudes of punters, police and the public towards the sex industry tell us about the places Stacey visits? From VIP call girls, flown first class and earning thousands of dollars a night, to street corners where every car that stops could carry a rapist or murderer, sex workers, brothel owners, and clients reveal the realities of working in this hidden and often dangerous world.

Stacey begins her journey in troubled Turkey. As the European gateway to the Middle East, it is a secular nation laced with conservative and religious attitudes to sex. Though the subject of sex is largely taboo here, surprisingly, on paper Turkey is the most liberal of the countries Stacey visits in this three-part investigative series. Prostitution is legal and there are even state-run brothels. Stacey meets sex workers who regard themselves as tutors to the uninitiated men of a sexually repressed society, preparing them for marriage. But even here Stacey discovers an overwhelming sense of terror pervades as she meets women who fear for their lives just for being seen talking to her. In a world where state registered prostitutes have 'sex worker' marked on their ID cards and will never be allowed to join the army, police or civil service, Stacey meets a brothel Madame and discovers that for many girls there's no way out.

For trans-sexuals the situation is worse. While Turkey is home to the biggest gay pride march in the Muslim world, according to the campaign group Transgender Europe, there are six trans-gender people killed in Turkey every year. Rejected by their families and with employers refusing to hire them, many are forced to live in an underworld of illegal brothels where armed gangs and corrupt police officers exploit each and every one. The war raging in neighbouring Syria has added an even darker, highly exploitative layer to this already stigma-rich business. Istanbul now has more Syrian refugees than the EU. War and sex-slavery go hand in hand, with many young Syrian girls and mothers forced to sell their bodies to make ends meet. Stacey braves the journey from Istanbul to Gaziantep close to the Syrian border where several hundred ISIS fighters are believed to live in hiding. Here she meets a young woman who was sold into sex slavery by ISIS fighters. Covered from head to toe in black she desperately wants to share her story but is so traumatised that she cannot stop crying. This is Turkey like you've never seen it before.

Short synopsis

Though the subject of sex is largely taboo here, surprisingly, on paper Turkey is the most liberal of the countries Stacey visits in this three-part investigative series on youth sex workers.

Production details

Presented by Stacey Dooley, Produced, Filmed and Directed by Joyce Trozzo – True Vision Productions.

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For preview, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).



Ask the Doctor: Cold & Flu

Ask the Doctor is an innovative, fun, and exploratory factual series that addresses the state of the nation's health, the latest in medical treatments and the future of healthcare as we know it. Our trio of accomplished Aussie doctors, Dr. Sandro Demai, Dr. Renee Lim, and Dr. Shalin Naik travel the country to tackle our big health questions, bust medical myths and uncover the wonders of the human body.

Here to answer Australians' health questions from how to treat the common cold to how much alcohol to drink, our medical experts deliver reliable, up-to-date medical advice to help people live healthy lives. Each episode features a different theme ranging from diet, to pain, to sexual health to allergies.

From the bedroom to the science laboratory, the dinner table to the operating table, we take a peek behind the medical curtain and explore both the most common and the most uncommon health concerns. We learn what the leading experts in their fields are discovering and witness firsthand the advances they're making in medical technology and treatments. Join the doctors each Tuesday at 8pm, as they answer the health questions of the Australian public and deliver the latest in medical advice in a relatable, entertaining, and factual way.

In this episode, we're helping you to fight off colds and flu. Dr Sandro reveals which home remedies work and which don't. Dr Renee investigates pandemic flu, and hears the life and death story of a Swine Flu survivor. Dr Shalin finds out what the difference is between colds and flu and what we can do to prevent them. He goes under the microscope to see how flu vaccines actually work and learns there's hope for a universal flu vaccine.

#AskTheDoctor

Short synopsis

In this episode, we're helping you to fight off colds & flu. Dr Sandro reveals which home remedies work and which don't. While Dr Shalin finds out what the difference is between colds and flu and what we can do to prevent them.

Production details

A WTFN production, developed and produced in association with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and produced with the assistance of Film Victoria. Executive Producer: Ariel White, Series Producer: Ged Wood. ABC Commissioning Editor: Julie Hanna, ABC Head of Factual: Steve Bibb

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**Program not yet available for preview.
For more information and images visit the [media portal](#).**



Cleverman

After escaping Waruu once again, Koen examines his neck; he should be fully healed by now and he's not. Something is not right.

When confronted by a furious Koen, Auntie Linda doesn't deny a thing about the death of Koen's parents – she's been waiting for this moment all of Koen's life. Fearing a diminution of his healing powers, Koen nevertheless takes Auntie Linda back to the place where she was hit by the blue blast. All he has to do is kill her, breathe her muya – 'essence' – back into her, and then revive her. Will it work?

Waruu takes the sap to Slade, to see if he can alter its composition and return it to liquid form. Slade is a wreck, the last sighting of Charlotte was with Jarli as they disappeared into bushland to the west. He orders McIntyre (Marcus Graham) to find her.

On Bindawu country, Jarli hides Charlotte away from the others, and brings Darana back to advise him. Darana is appalled at what he has done and orders Jarli to kill her.

On the run, Nerida, Alinta and Latani are caught by a CA unit, which includes Dolan & Hendricks. Dolan frees Nerida, but Hendricks arrests Alinta and puts her through the system. Latani escapes into the bush.

Ready to fight, Koen emerges from the abandoned warehouse, his face painted with ochre, a long jacket disguising his form, and the nulla nulla glowing a pale blue in his hand. A man who has brought someone back from the dead. A warrior, ready to bring an end to the division between peoples.

#Cleverman

Short synopsis

Does Koen have the courage to kill someone close to him in order to save her soul? While Charlotte finds herself in Bindawu country, with Slade desperate to find her. CAST: Rob Collins, Hunter Page-Lochard, Frances O'Connor

Production details

Produced by Goalpost Pictures and Pukeko Pictures for ABC TV Australia In Co-Production with SundanceTV and Red Arrow International in association with Head Gear Films and Metrol Technology with the assistance of Screen Australia and Screen NSW. Executive Producers: Sally Riley, Jan David Frouman, Amelie Kienlin, Irina Ignatiev, Phil Hunt, Compton Ross, Angela Littlejohn, Adam Fratto, Kylie Du Fresne, Ben Grant, Wayne Blair and Jude Troy. Producers: Rosemary Blight, Sharon Lark, Jane Allen, Ryan Griffen. Based on an Original Concept By Ryan Griffen.

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For previews, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).



You Can't Ask That: Homeless

Most of us walk past homeless people on a daily basis. But how many of us really take a moment to stop and ask who these people are, and what it's really like not to have a place to call home?

Vicky Vacondios from Melbourne became homeless after escaping domestic violence. She had 10 minutes to pack a bag and flee with her children. When asked, 'What do you bums do all day?' Vicky says *"Well I get up, get my children ready for school, take them to school, then I'd rush to a service to try to get some help and assistance ... trying to find a way out for my children and I. And then I'd pick up the kids and the first thing they'd ask me is 'Mum, have we got somewhere to sleep tonight?'"*

After her divorce, Erika from Melbourne invested all the money she had into a pyramid scheme. She lost it all, including the roof over her head. When asked, 'Why don't you get a job?' *"I'm 65. Retirement age."* she says. *"I was told by a 19-year-old when I went to a job interview that I was 'too experienced'. One lady was honest and said 'You're too old'."*

Asked how long have you gone without a shower, parents of three Amanda and Tony from Perth respond, *"My kids I try to shower every three days"* says Amanda. *"I've done a two-week stretch."* explains Tony. *"I don't keep track of insignificant things like that"* laughs 50-year-old Rob Fitter who has been living rough in Sydney for 20 years. *"I brush (my teeth) with food."* he says. *"I brush them with bong smoke"* adds his mate Ricki Sargent.

When asked if being homeless is the worst thing that can happen to you, Rob responds, *"Being homeless isn't that bad really. Not if you embrace the lifestyle."*

#YouCantAskThat

Short synopsis

Most of us walk past homeless people on a daily basis. But how many of us really take a moment to stop and ask who these people are, and what it's really like not to have a place to call home?

Production details

An ABC Original Series. Series Directors/Producers Kirk Docker and Aaron Smith. ABC Executive Producer Lou Porter. ABC Head of Entertainment Jon Casimir.

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For preview, more information and images visit the [media portal](#).



ABC ME Best Fest

Prevent boredom these July School holidays by feasting on ABC ME's new Best Fest on iView!

Featuring something for everyone, devour these popular shows anytime and anywhere between Saturday July 1 to Monday July 31

- **Detentionaire**, series one and two: An animated series following Lee Ping, a Year 10 student, who is framed for pulling off the biggest prank in High School history and received a full year of detention.
- **Total Drama All Stars**, series 5: Chris Mclean and Chef are back at Camp Wawanakwa for a very special season of Total Drama Island! Fourteen of the characters you loved to love and loved to hate return, each hoping to take home the million-dollar prize!
- **Total Drama Pahkitew Island**: Chris welcomes 13 new contestants to Pahkitew Island where they'll smash, crash and bash their way through the season with one goal in mind: winning that one-million-dollar prize.
- **Total Drama Presents: The Ridonculous Race**: This series is an action-filled, outrageous buddy comedy in which 18 pairs of unforgettable characters are put to the mental, physical and emotional test in a frantic race around the world.
- **Slugterra**, series one, three and four: Follow Eli and his crew as they explore a luminous, high-tech, underground world where every cavern holds a new adventure, new battles and weird little slugs are discovered!
- **So Awkward**, series one and two: Lily, Martha and Jas are three very academically bright, but socially awkward 13-year-old girls, trying to make sense of life, boys and fitting in.
- **Life With Boys**, series one and two: Follow the crazy life of Tess Foster as she struggles with being the only girl in an all-male household. Whether she's arguing with her brothers or getting their dating tips, testosterone rules the roost! CAST: Torri Webster.
- **Backstage**, series one: Backstage follows a group of outstandingly talented teenagers as they live through the highs and lows that come with attending the prestigious Keaton School of the Arts.
- **Little Lunch**, series one: Based on the successful books written by Danny Katz and illustrated by Mitch Vane, Little Lunch is a series of funny and touching adventures about fifteen highly significant minutes of a child's life.

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