



SUNNY

A FREEZING-COLD ANTARCTICA SITCOM

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PREMISE

ALL ABOUT SUNNY

Sunny Parker, an average American teenager in an average American town, is about to move. Big-time. Her parents, research scientists with a passion for the Southern Lights, have spent most of their careers aiming to work in Antarctica, and after years of rejections, the Drs. Parker are ready to pack their bags for the White Continent. But with no one to watch Sunny, the sixteen-year-old is about to trade in high school, learning to drive, and a fun suburban existence for ice, snow, and cold in the most isolated place in the world. Welcome to Sunny, the story of a young woman attempting to find her way amidst the quirky scientists and support staff at Antarctica's biggest research base.

OUR HERO

SUNNY PARKER

Sunny, a sixteen-year-old high school junior, is as warm and caring as her name suggests. Despite being the daughter of two well-educated research scientists, Sunny never had much of a knack for school, instead preferring to be social and well-liked. Sunny is charming, boy-crazed, and ever so slightly snarky (but in an adorably angsty way).



THE FAMILY

DR. MARCY PARKER

Sunny's mother, a researcher whose lifelong mission has been to explore Auroras in Antarctica. Like her daughter, Marcy is a caring woman with a passion for others; unlike Sunny, however, Marcy places a high value on education and knowledge. Marcy struggles with sexism in the McMurdo labs and a daughter whose views are as remote as Antarctica is to the rest of the world.

DR. CHRIS PARKER

Sunny's scientist father. Like his daughter, he is outgoing and often speaks without thinking. He is the more free-spirited parent and appreciates Sunny's non-traditional views of education and life, but he still struggles as his wife outpaces him in the lab. Chris is a respected figure in the scientific community and just wants to fulfill his dream of performing great Antarctic research.



THE ANTARCTICANS

JACK

A twenty-something research assistant who applied to work with Sunny's parents because he'd read all of her father's research and wanted to emulate him. Sunny is in love with him. Ultimately, Jack is what Sunny sees as the "whole package": brilliant, good-looking, funny, and older.

LYDIA

Sunny's roommate who hates most people and most things. She works a night shift and expects total silence in the room all day. Even though she'd never admit it, she absolutely has Sunny's back and is an extremely loyal "nemesis."



LOUISE

Dr. Louise Brewer is the flighty, spacey head of McMurdo. Dr. Brewer is known for her quirks, including singing at the end of her sentences and forgetting to report important findings to the National Science Foundation. She's a genius but a mess, and even though she's scattered and kooky, it's impossible to stay mad at her, even when she makes big mistakes.

THE SCIENCE

**SUNNY HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BE MORE THAN
JUST A WITTY COMING-OF-AGE TALE.**

Were *Sunny* to air, it would be the first fictional TV series to take place in Antarctica. This provides major opportunities for education. Some potential topics include:

- A better understanding of Antarctica, including the climate issues that face the region and the unique flora and fauna of the continent
- The role of governments in creating a stable, peaceful research community for worldwide exploration
- Life in the laboratories, including issues of gender, race, and class amongst the residents and scholars of a research base
- Insights into the types of projects undertaken by US and foreign governments in Antarctica and the Southern Hemisphere at large

Rarely does a sitcom aimed at a non-youth demo have the ability to offer education with its entertainment. *Sunny* is the exception and would allow for both public- and private-sector involvement in creating a funny, enjoyable, and relatable educational experience for adults.

THE FUTURE

The series' first season takes place in the Antarctic summer (America's fall and winter), as Sunny adjusts to life on the base and takes a job assisting Dr. Brewer. Along the way, Sunny develops a friendship with Jack and an understanding with Lydia (who is ultimately loyal, if not the easiest roommate!). Most importantly, though, by the end of the summer, Sunny is a beloved member of the community who loves her new home.

However, things get more complicated when the summer crowd goes home and the remaining team faces the Antarctic winter (America's spring and summer). With unnaturally cold temperatures and limited entertainment, the natives get restless—and, throughout the chilly months, pass germs around—and struggle to maintain their happiness. Problems that seemed minor in the summer become major in the winter, but by the end, everyone pulls through and gladly welcomes the next season's summer guests.

The series can continue for an extended period of time in the summer/winter season mold, with the team continuing to face new challenges. Additionally, by the end of season three, Sunny has an opportunity to leave Antarctica and return home, only to realize that she'd rather stay on the base.



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