



Crazy lady

Crazy Ex-Girlfriend is part sitcom, part drama, part musical but a whole lot of fun!

Crazy Ex Girlfriend

Season 1 Saturdays (from 2 July)
Vuzu AMP (*103) 20:00

In *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend* (2015-current), Rebecca Bunch (Rachel Bloom) is a successful, overworked attorney at a prestigious New York law firm who freaks out when she's offered a partnership and realises that she's utterly miserable and hates her life. So what does make her happy? Memories of her childhood boyfriend Josh Chan, whom she then bumps into. Josh (Vincent Rodriguez III) tells Rebecca that he's moving to quieter, sunny West Covina and she has an epiphany: she wants Josh back, so she quits her job, moves to West Covina and gets a job in a smaller law firm. But what Rebecca doesn't realise is that her behaviour is bordering on stalkerish and crazy. "I'd like to think that it's an emotional autobiography," says series creator and star Rachel. "The show is about one person's search for happiness and how she conflates obsessive love with that. And she's wrong."

MARVELLOUS MUSICAL

The quirky romcom has a musical element, so expect the characters to break out and perform two or three songs per episode, often with hilarious results. Like R&B-inspired *The Sexy Getting Ready Song* (in episode 1, 2 July) and hip-hop parody *Heavy Boobs* (episode 16, 15 October). "I always try to make sure that we're keeping in line with the genres we're doing," Rachel explains, "but that we're also deconstructing them. Because that's what the show's about. It's about deconstructing stereotypes and looking at grey areas."

MEET THE CAST

The Crazy-Ex Girlfriend is **Rebecca**, the show's main character. She's impulsive, often gets herself into awkward situations that she has to lie her way out of and, at the start of the show, she's suffering from depression.

The Nice-Guy Ex is **Josh Chan**, who's dating highly strung Valencia. Laid-back and sweet, Josh has no clue that Rebecca wants him back.

The Love Rival is **Valencia Perez**

(**Gabrielle Ruiz**), a gorgeous yoga instructor with the perfect body who has Josh wrapped around her little finger. She immediately suspects Rebecca has ulterior motives in befriending Josh.

The On/Off Lover is **Greg Serrano** (**Santino Fontana**), a bartender who falls for Rebecca. The two like each other, even though he knows that she's quite neurotic and suspects that she's into Josh. And to complicate matters more, he's Josh's best friend.

The New Boss is **Darryl Whitefeather** (**Pete Gardner**), who's a middle-aged divorced dad. Darryl's a bit of a clueless softie and later in the season he's going to go through an unexpected identity crisis, leading him to date one of Josh's friends.

The Co-Conspirator is **Paula Proctor** (**Donna Lynne Champlin**). She's Rebecca's colleague at the new law firm who helps her plot outrageous schemes to get closer to Josh. Paula's marriage is stuck in a rut and she lives vicariously through Rebecca's many love antics.

The New Neighbour is **Heather Davis** (**Vella Lovell**). She has feelings for Josh and thinks that Rebecca is so off-the-charts crazy that she's writing about her for her college psychology class.

CRAZY TRIVIA

- 1 Despite low ratings, *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend* is a smash-hit. In 2016, Rachel won a Golden Globe and Critics' Choice award for best sitcom actress.
- 2 Season 1 has 18 episodes – we don't yet know how many there will be in season 2.
- 3 Rachel and co-creator Aline Brosh McKenna are hoping that their show will run for four seasons.
- 4 It was originally planned as a raunchier 30-minute series but was sold to a different network as an hour-long, more family-friendly series.
- 5 Actor Michael McDonald from sketch show *MadTV* (1995-current) was originally going to play Rebecca's boss Darryl. **tv**

BY JARED ORLIN. PHOTO: TV.CW. SOURCES: IMDb.COM, NPR.ORG, RACHELDOESSTUFF.COM, SCPR.ORG, YOUTUBE.COM.