

PRE-SHOW IN-THE-KNOW

TITLE

Black Is The New White by Nakkiah Lui
Directed by Paige Rattray

CURRICULUM LINKS

Stage 6 English and Drama:
Contemporary Australian Theatre
New Indigenous Writing
Romantic Comedy

PLOT SYNOPSIS

This is a story of two Australian families – the Gibsons and the Smiths – brought together by love and money.

Charlotte Gibson is an Aboriginal lawyer with a growing media profile. Her father, Ray, was a prominent activist turned politician who has now retired, together with his wife Joan, to a comfortably upper middle class life. Their other daughter, Rose, is a successful fashion designer with her own brand and is married to former footballer, now banker, Sonny Jones.

Francis Smith is Charlotte Gibson's fiancé and is an experimental classical composer. His father, Dennison, was a prominent conservative politician who has now retired, together with his wife Marie, to a comfortably upper middle class life.

It's Christmas and the two families are about to meet at the Gibson family's holiday home. Nothing goes smoothly.

CAST AND CHARACTERS

James Bell - Francis Smith
Kylie Bracknell (Kaarljilba Kaardn) - Rose Jones
Tony Briggs - Ray Gibson
Luke Carroll - Narrator
Vanessa Downing - Marie Smith
Geoff Morrell - Dennison Smith
Melodie Reynolds-Diarra - Joan Gibson
Shari Sebbens - Charlotte Gibson
Anthony Taufua - Sonny Jones

STYLE

Contemporary Australian Theatre
Black Comedy
Jokes About Race
Narrator

RUNNING TIME

2 hours and 40 minutes, including interval

THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

How mood and atmosphere are created
Symbolism in the set design
Role of the Narrator