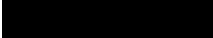


## Section 1: Television Series Information

### Group Members:



### Title:

- *If I Was a Blonde*
- The title of this series directly references one of the most emphasized ideas within the series. And that is the clear race difference that our society faces today, where the cliché “white girl next door” possesses certain characteristics that are superior over one’s of a POC’s. In this series, there’s one main character, who’s Asian and has grown up with the idea that blonde, white women have this sort of privilege that excels them in society. Cleverly using this mindset and knowledge to his advantage on the internet. This satire idea will be the overall message of this series.

### Genre:

- Drama
- This series is meant to play on the satirical idea that white blonde women have an upper hand in today’s society. The intention of this series is to be comedic and to be taken seriously. We focus on the main character’s conflicts and observe how he uses race in absurd ways to either adapt or resolve the conflicts.

### Synopsis:

- Kevin, the main protagonist, an 18-year-old college student, living by himself with his fast and clever wits on the internet. This story takes place in the present day in the United States, where Kevin has been faced with racial discrimination throughout his life, being thrown racist slurs and has always been envious of the blonde white women in his life, because he believes that they have this privilege that excels them over any persons of color. One day, Kevin had enough of the constant race and gender disadvantage of today’s society and comes to a sudden epiphany that he’s been going at everything wrong, that he too should become a white blonde woman to indulge in the same special accommodations that come with a privilege race classification. Kevin uses his extensive internet knowledge and adaptive wits to creatively create himself a new identity on the internet, using this newfound power to his advantage to solve everyday problems.

## Section 2: Character Biography

### Character Name:

- Kevin Nguyen

### Physical:

- Kevin Nguyen is an 18-year-old, Asian teen with a below-average Asian male height. Despite his parents being born in Vietnam, he has been raised in the United States his whole life. He has short black hair, tan skin, and dark eyes, with a face that many mistakenly believes that he's just your average quiet everyday Asian boy. He often dresses up casually and usually sticks with things simple such as plain khakis and a normal non-graphic tee-shirt, making sure his clothing colors aren't too flashy, consequently, attracting less attention.

### Personality:

- Kevin was raised in a traditional Asian family, everything was going well until he was admitted into a public high school where he would soon develop an envious feeling of blonde white girls and introduced to firsthand racial discrimination. Kevin is a smart, quick, and adaptive person when put up against difficult and near-impossible circumstances. Kevin is great at blending in the crowd, for nobody will suspect anything from a sweet, calm, and quiet Asian boy.

### Life Experiences:

- **Event 1:** As a child, Kevin has had a fascination with the internet, knowing no other kids in his neighborhood, spending the rest of his days indoors and on Reddit. As Kevin surfed the internet, he stumbles upon Time Magazine with stories on how identity theft became a problem in today's society. Foreshadowing of what he'll become in his young adult years.
- **Event 2:** At the beginning of high school, Kevin meets someone named Courtney Rae, a girl who's blonde, white, skinny, and very arrogant. He observes her in class and realizes how she gets everything she wants from the teacher and even from her own peers. He realizes it's not only her popularity for it's her physical characteristics is what's responsible for her being so high in status in school. He becomes envious, for this alone, starts a rivalry that will last throughout high school, believing that he has worked harder for the same things Courtney Rae has been given so willingly.
- **Event 3:** In the present day, in college, Kevin finally mentally breaks from the racial discrimination he faces in real life and so he takes to the internet searching for answers, watching countless Youtube videos, refreshing his Twitter, and browsing Tiktok. He has a sudden memory of the magazines he would read about identity theft when he was younger. Coming to the realization that he should embark on this illegal activity of

identity theft, that he too, should become the “new internet Courtney Rae” and enjoy the advantages of becoming women over the internet.

**Current Situation:**

- As the series begins, Kevin has just begun college and is living in a traditional dorm. Despite blending in with the crowd, Kevin feels oppressed as someone who’s Asian, consistently being called racial slurs and conforming to society’s standards of what a typical Asian supposed to be. Currently facing financial issues, Kevin can’t pay all expenses such as student loans and in the worst circumstances, can’t even sit down in a restaurant with his friends. Other than his only true friend where he can talk to, being his dorm roommate, he only has himself, his fast witts, and the internet to depend on. Finally mentally breaking from the racial discrimination he’s facing in the outside world, he comes to a conclusion that he too needs to become a “blonde”. Taking on multiple new identities over the internet, disguising himself as a white and blonde hair woman over the internet, he uses this newfound power to solve everyday problems POCs normally face.

### Section 3: Character Inspiration

#### Character Inspiration 1:

- Piper Chapman: *Orange Is the New Black*
- I have ironically selected Piper Chapman as inspiration for my character for a couple of reasons. For one, Piper can be described as your “average white blonde girl” and that’s what makes her so powerful in the television series. She’s very smart and adaptive with the given circumstances she’s been placed in. She always finding new ways to resolve a situation with the limited resources restricted by the prison environment, while keeping to herself to avoid being the center of attention and getting into trouble. Her personality is what really defines her within the show, she’s someone who’s sneaky and full of perseverance, and that’s what makes her the ideal independent strong woman. Despite her being completely the opposite physical character traits as Kevin, I ironically chose Piper because of her personality and smarts within her show. She serves as a great starting point in where I want my character Kevin to resolve the difficult circumstances he’s placed in. Kevin is someone who’s sneaky, independent, just like Piper, and only relies on his knowledge to progress the story to its resolution. Piper’s physical traits also have a big role in Kevin’s internet identity’s physical traits, being a woman that’s blonde and white, using these traits to his advantage in the online world.

#### Character Inspiration 2:

- Eddie Huang: *Fresh Off the Boat*
- I have selected Eddie Huang as inspiration for my character for a couple of reasons. One important reason is that Eddie is someone of the same nationality as Kevin. He’s someone, similar to Kevin, facing the same racial slurs and other forms of discrimination that Kevin has to deal with on an everyday basis. Just like Kevin, Eddie strives to blend in with the group and even tries to become someone who’s more aligned to the “white-washed” mentality. Since Eddie is identified as Asian, he has the same physical characteristics as Kevin, who’s short, black-haired, and male. Additionally, because of their race, both characters attempt to manipulate their own original way of life, to conform to the standards of the western culture, consequently, both strive for the same goal, to take advantage of the perks that the average POC can’t enjoy compare to their white counterparts. Essentially, it’s the physical traits and the conflicts both characters share is why Eddie Huang is a great inspiration for Kevin.

#### Character Inspiration 3:

- Charlie Kelly: *It’s Always Sunny In Philadelphia*
- I have chosen Charlie Kelly as inspiration for Kevin simply because of the comedic aspects Charlie possesses. Charlie always brings something “funny” and “out of the ordinary” to the cast of the show and to the viewers, Kevin being in a show that’s supposed to be completely satire, paves a great personality trait in which Kevin is

developed to have within the series. Charlie, like many other characters from other tv shows, strives for a resolution within the story's conflict. The only difference between Charlie and other characters previously observed in class is that Charlie resolves his problems in a comedic and absurd way. To elaborate, Charlie tends to overexaggerates the conflict and proceeds to come up with a silly way to go about it. This is perfect for inspiration of how Kevin is going to present his solutions to the viewer, where Kevin is quite literally disguising himself as a white-blonde girl on the internet to resolve his conflicts and gain exclusive perks. Essentially, it's the presentation of Charlie is what, for the most part, inspired Kevin as a character. Purposely placing an interesting and funny twist to a message that's supposed to be taken seriously.

## Section 4: Filming Techniques and Explanation

### Technique 1: Establishing Shot - 0-3 seconds

- When introducing the setting, the establishing shot is most effective at completing this task. In which a wide shot was used at the beginning to demonstrate the setting and introduced the viewers to where Kevin currently resides within the story world. I specifically chose this shot and placed it at the beginning to purposely give the viewer an idea of where the story would take place, and the current state of the story world. I also wanted the viewer to get a sense of what Kevin was feeling in the scene. The establishing shot was not “super-wide” but wide enough to be identified as a wide shot but closed in enough to have a feeling of suffocation, representing how someone who spends their days only in a dorm room

### Technique 2: Deliberate Choice of Music - 0-45 seconds

- I chose to use the song, In the Hall of the Mountain King by Edvard Grieg, because of how it starts off slow and as time goes on becomes more intense. To elaborate, the beats become faster and faster, intentionally giving the viewer a sense of suspension. This fast-paced classical piece essentially kept the viewer on his or her feet throughout the whole trailer. This song also played a big role in how the video was edited, depending on how short the beats were, which determined how fast the cuts were in sequence. I chose a classical piece to purposely give the trailer a sort of comedic spin to it.
- **Technique 3: A series of quick cuts**
- When trying to convey a specific feeling to the audience, I found quick cutting to be effective at doing so. This trailer being edited purposely like a montage that’s synced to a high-beat song only further benefitted my goal in making the audience feel suspenseful and making the viewers be on his or her’s feet at all times. Along with going hand to hand with the music, this editing style alone gives the viewer a sense of anxiety and urgency. I also chose this sort of editing style to help demonstrate what was going on in Kevin’s mind. The whole time, being someone who’s quick-witted, essentially symbolizes Kevin’s personality within the series.

