

# AUDITION

1X12 | DEPART

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# AUDITION

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MAIN CAST

JOSH HUTCHERSON.....ALEX BERRETA

ALYSON STONER.....ALISHA HALL

PATRICK DEMPSEY.....MICHAEL BERRETA

AMY ADAMS.....PAULA SMITH

REOCCURRING CAST

ANGUS T. JONES.....DAVID SULLIVAN

AMANDA PEET.....ALYSSA HALL

**FADE IN:**

**INT. BERRETA APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MORNING**

DAVID and ALISHA sit on the couch, intertwining their fingers with one another. They both giggle, and slowly lean in for a passionate kiss. They break apart and giggle again.

DAVID  
I'm so stoked I worked up the  
'Superman courage' to kiss you the  
other night.

ALISHA  
Me too.

They kiss again. And once they detach, the tone suddenly shifts into seriousness.

DAVID  
So, have you talked Alex yet?

ALISHA  
No, I've been waiting until last  
minute and... And my mom is coming  
tomorrow to pick me up... And I  
still don't know what I'm going to  
do.

David begins to stroke her hair.

DAVID  
Hey, you're going to do what they  
blood-pumping organ in your chest  
wants you to do. And I'll support  
you.

ALISHA  
That's what everyone's been telling  
me, but... But I still don't know  
what to do.

Her head slightly tilts down, but David puts his hand under her chin, and lifts her head up, meeting her gaze. He smiles at her, and she does the same.

Suddenly, the front door opens, revealing ALEX, who stares at Alisha, angrily, and begins to walk to the hallway, but:

ALISHA (cont'd)  
Hey, Alex?

ALEX

Yeah?

ALISHA

Can I talk to you for a second?

ALEX

Sure.

Alisha follows Alex into the hallway.

CUT TO:

**INT. BERRETA APARTMENT - ALEX'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Alex opens the door and leads them both inside. They both sit on his bed, and it's obvious Alex isn't interested in what Alisha has to say.

ALISHA

So, you know how my mom made a surprise visit a few weeks ago?

ALEX

Yeah, I know.

ALISHA

Well, I wanted to talk you about --

Alex lunges off the bed, anger fuming from his entire body.

ALEX

About what, Alisha?! About how you're just now telling me that you're deciding to skip out on *our* dream?!

ALISHA

Alex, no, I just --

ALEX

Am I the last you're telling?!

Alisha steps up from the bed, and her voice begins to rise.

ALISHA

Alex, I haven't told anybody anything!

ALEX

I don't want to hear it, Alisha.

ALISHA  
Alex, what is this all about?

ALEX  
About you not trusting me! I'm  
*supposed* to be your best friend.  
You know, the one you tell  
*everything* to?!

ALISHA  
I came to you for help!

ALEX  
So I'd throw a little pity party  
for you, maybe even shed a few  
tears.  
(beat)  
Have fun back in freaking Georgia.

Alisha just stands there, shocked by her best friend's reaction. Tears begin to swell up in her eyes and she runs out the door.

Alex lets out a huge breath, and plops back onto his bed.

CUT TO:

**INT. BERRETA APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Alisha runs into the living room, startling David, who was watching something on the TELEVISION. She falls onto the couch, burying her face into his chest. He grabs the back of her head and begins to stroke her hair.

DAVID  
Whoa, whoa, whoa, what's wrong?

ALISHA  
He hates me! He doesn't even want  
me hear anymore!

DAVID  
What are you talking about?

ALISHA  
Alex! He hates me!

She buries her face back into his chest as he stares off into the direction of Alex's room, confused.

SMASH CUT TO:

**INT. BERRETA APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER**

Alisha, who sits by David, holding each others' hands, sit in front of PAULA and MICHAEL, both looking strikingly confused.

MICHAEL

Wait, so what did he say?

ALISHA

He was just yelling at me for lying to him. I... I don't know what I did. Maybe I just waited too long to talk to him, or --

DAVID

You didn't do anything! You're like Sweden!

PAULA

Sweden! Omg, they have some *fine* men.

She notices everybody staring at her for going off topic.

PAULA (CONT'D)

Anyways, he's probably just having a bad day. I mean, did you try and talk to him again?

DAVID

He locked himself in his room, and won't open it for anyone.

MICHAEL

Look, just wait until he calms down, and you can talk to him again, Alisha.

ALISHA

No... No, I think... I think I knew what my decision was before I even stepped foot into his room.

She heaves in as much oxygen as she can and lets it all escape her body. What's she about to say will change everything, and she knows it.

ALISHA (CONT'D)

I'm going back to Georgia with my mom.

Everyone's faces turn to shock, and we can see tears beginning to form in everyone's eyes.

CUT TO several shots of --

PAULA -- she puts one of her hands on her head, and turns around, obviously holding back tears.

MICHAEL -- he just stares at the floor.

DAVID -- he looks at Alisha, comforting but also sad.

SMASH CUT TO:

**INT. BERRETA APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - LATER**

Alisha stands by the door, her SUITCASES beside her. Paula, Michael and David stand in front of her. Paula is balling her eyes out; David has tiny streams falling from his eyes; and Michael holds it together, but it's obvious he's struggling holding back the tears.

MICHAEL

I tried to get Alex to come out of his room, but...

ALISHA

It's... It's fine. I left him something.

Paula suddenly jumps towards Alisha, and wraps her arms around her, crying profusely.

ALISHA (cont'd)

Paula, you still have to drive me to the airport to meet my mom.

Paula quickly detaches.

PAULA

Yay! I mean, no... I mean... I'm gonna miss you, Alisha.

ALISHA

I'm going to miss you, too. All of you.

Alisha lets out a laugh, attempting to contain the tears that are forming in her already glassy eyes.

Everyone begins to grab a suitcase, and head out the door. Alisha is last...

She turns around and looks around the room, taking it in. She rubs her hand against the wall, obviously remembering the memories she's made. She lets out a deep breath and shuts the door, exiting the apartment...

FLASH TO:

**INT. LAX AIRPORT - LATER**

Paula, Michael and David, stand in front of Alisha, who has a bag slung over her shoulder, and the rest beside her. Tears now stream out of her eyes, and her voice is weak.

ALISHA

Well... Well, I guess this it it, huh?

PAULA

I guess so.

Alisha walks towards Paula. They embrace in a powerful hug. A loving hug. A family hug.

ALISHA

Thank you, Paula. For everything. You're the best agent *anyone* could ask for. You don't know how much it means to me that you've stuck by us.

PAULA

I was just about to say the same thing to you.

They both let out a laugh, but it's very weak, due to both their tears.

Alisha turns to Michael, who is now full on crying. Yes, he has a soul. They hug they way a father and daughter would, because they are father and daughter.

ALISHA

Thank you so much, Michael. Thank you for taking me in, for helping my dream come true. You're like... Like my dad.

MICHAEL

And you're like my daughter.

They detach and smile at one another.

Alisha turns towards David, who stares at her. She wraps her arms around him, David doing the same, and they connect their lips in a way that radiates the room, sending a surge of energy through everyone within a 5 mile radius. They detach, and:

ALISHA  
Thank you for being...you.

DAVID  
Ditto.

They laugh and kiss again, but they break apart once --

ALYSSA (O.S)  
Alisha!

PAN LEFT to reveal ALYSSA HALL, waving from down the terminal, suitcase by her side.

ALYSSA (CONT'D)  
Our flights about to load!

Alisha turns to three of the most important people in her life, and pulls them all in for a hug. All of them cry, shaking the hug they have formed.

They detach, and Alisha grabs all of her suitcases, and turns to her mother.

**CUE MUSIC:** I Won't Give Up - Jason Mraz

This sad song begins to play as SLOW MOTION kicks in. Alisha begins to walk towards her mother, wiping the tears from her face.

As she exits our frame, Paula, Michael and David wave goodbye to one of the sweetest people to make their acquaintance.

INTERCUT WITH:

**INT. BERRETA APARTMENT - ALEX'S BEDROOM**

Alex rises from his bed and wipes his face. He scuffs his feet over towards his door where he finds a LETTER, lying just in front of the bottom of the door.

He bends down and retrieves it. He unfolds it and begins to read it silently to himself.

ALISHA (V.O)  
(reading from note)  
Alex, I never got the chance to tell you this in person, or maybe it's just because I couldn't work up the nerve to tell you, because I knew I would start crying. And I have a feeling I'm going to be  
(MORE)

ALISHA (V.O) (cont'd)  
 doing a lot of that lately. But I  
 just wanted to thank you.

(beat)

You've been my best friend. My  
 partner. My brother. You've always  
 been there for me, ever since I  
 agreed to tutor you. You don't know  
 how much you've done for me. How  
 much you've helped me. Without you,  
 I don't know where I'd be. And I'm  
 sure you'd say the same thing about  
 me, but I would have to disagree.  
 Because I know you're going to  
 continue following your dream, even  
 if I'm halfway across the  
 country...

INTERCUT WITH:

**INT. AIRPLANE - FIRST CLASS**

Alisha stares out her airplane windows. And one by one, we  
 watch the tears drip down her cheek.

ALISHA (V.O) (CONT'D)  
 (reading from note)  
 I don't blame you for my leaving. I  
 understand why you're so angry, and  
 I'm sorry for not coming to you  
 sooner. But honestly, even if I  
 had, I'm almost certain I'd still  
 be on a plane to Georgia...

INTERCUT WITH:

**INT. BERRETA APARTMENT - ALEX'S BEDROOM**

Alex continues to read from the note, and, faintly, we see a  
 tear drip onto the paper.

ALISHA (V.O) (CONT'D)  
 Alex, you're my best friend, and  
 always will be. It doesn't matter  
 if I'm halfway across the country,  
 or even the world. We will *always*  
 be there for each other. I can't  
 remember how many times I've asked  
 you for advice. You were my rock,  
 and with out you... There would be  
 no me.

(long pause)

Love, Alisha.

Alex drops the letter and drops himself back onto his bed, crying as loud as he can. He realizes his mistake has just cost him the person that means most...

CUT TO:

**INT. AIRPLANE - FIRST CLASS**

Alisha continues to stare out the window, but her gaze soon travels to the floor of the airplane. And as our song begins to play it's last few notes, Alisha places her hand onto the window of the airplane and mutters these final words...

ALISHA  
(whispering)  
Goodbye, Alex.

The plane begins to take off as we PULL AWAY...

OUTSIDE. We watch the plane take off, carrying someone who meant the world to someone else, who happened to be told a lie. A lie which would send his best friend onto the plane we watch fly away.

And as the song comes to a close, our theme is unable to play, because this moment is, ultimately, too sad...

**BLACKOUT.**

**END OF SEQUENCE ONE**