

AUDITION

2.12 | **SAFE**

Written by

Brady Brown

CREATED BY:

Brady Brown

PRODUCED BY:

TheVPN (<http://www.vpn-tv.proboards.com>)

AUDITION

2.12 | **SAFE**

MAIN CAST

ALEX BERRETA JOSH HUTCHERSON

ALISHA HALL ALYSON STONER

DAVID SULLIVAN ANGUS T. JONES

MICHAEL BERRETA PATRICK DEMPSEY

PAULA SMITH AMY ADAMS

JORDAN LANGSTON NATHAN KRESS

ANGELA DAVIS ELIZABETH GILLIES

GUEST CAST

ROSE BRAUN BRIDGIT MENDLER

JACE RIORDAN CHRIS O'DONNELL

FADE IN:

INT. LA'S TEEN TALENT - AFTERNOON

ALISHA stands in front of ANGELA, curiosity clear across her face, while Angela's is shielded by her black glasses.

ALISHA
Can we what?

ANGELA
Talk. Can we talk?

ALISHA
You want to talk... to me?

ANGELA
You're right. Sorry for bothering
you.

She turns and begins to walk away, but --

ALISHA
Angela, wait. What did you want to
talk about?

Angela slowly walks back to her.

ANGELA
What if... what if you had
something, and you thought it was
all great at first, but then... but
then it suddenly goes...

ALISHA
Not the way you want it to?

Angela nods.

ALISHA (CONT'D)
Well, if I had something like that
I'd just... try and get it back to
the way it was.

ANGELA
(to herself)
Back to the way it was...

Angela suddenly realizes something

ANGELA (CONT'D)
Thanks, Alisha, I -- I have to go.

She begins to walk but STUMBLES. Her sunglasses fall to the floor, and she quickly covers her bruise with her hand.

ALISHA
Here, let me get them.

ANGELA
No, no!

But Alisha picks them up and hands them to Angela.

ALISHA
Sorry?

ANGELA
It -- it's fine.

Angela quickly snatches the glasses and begins to put them over her face as --

ALISHA'S POV: SLOW MOTION. Angela moves her hand from her eyes, revealing a bruise, but quickly covers it back up with her glasses.

RETURN.

ANGELA (CONT'D)
Bye, Alisha.

Angela suddenly begins to walk away, and we STAY ON Alisha as she watches, her curiosity growing by the second.

ON: ANGELA. She pulls out her CELLPHONE and begins to type.

ANGLE ON: CELLPHONE. A text message, addressed to JORDAN. It reads: *MEET ME AT YOUR PLACE.*

She sends the message and continues to walk.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. BERRETA APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

MICHAEL and PAULA sit by one another on the couch. Paula's eye glimmer from her tears, and Michael watches, comforting.

MICHAEL
Paula, what's wrong with you?

PAULA
My, uh...

She takes a deep breath and slowly exhales.

PAULA (CONT'D)

When I was little, me and my family weren't very... well off, I guess. We lived in a very small town, and, uh...

She begins to struggle:

PAULA (CONT'D)

My dad left when I was... when I was six, and... my mom, she... she had to get a second job just to support us...

FLASH TO:

INT. HOME - LIVING ROOM - FLASBACK

A YOUNG PAULA pokes her head around the doorway to see a woman, her MOTHER, sitting in the kitchen, her head in her hands, defeated.

PAULA (V.O.)

We could tell she was struggling, and... And me, being the youngest... I didn't understand all what was going on, but I could tell she was sad.

Paula drops her head as she watches her mother let out several, saddening sobs.

FLASH TO:

INT. BERRETA APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - RETURN

Paula's gaze drops.

PAULA

So I decided to... to try and cheer everybody and be... be happy, and peppy, and... and positive.

Michael slightly gasps.

MICHAEL

And it stuck with you?

She nods.

PAULA

But that's not... that's not what
makes me so... so sad about it.

FLASH TO:

EXT. HOME - FLASHBACK

A TEENAGE PAULA exits a car, waving bye to the person driving it. She walks forward and notices a rusty car parked in front of the house.

PAULA (V.O.)

I was... I was fourteen, and...
(chuckling; but still sad)
And I just got back from my first
date, and... and I spilt soda on my
skirt, and...
(serious again)
And I saw my mom's car outside, so
I went inside, and...

FLASH TO:

INT. HOME - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS - FLASHBACK

Paula walks in and begins to look around.

PAULA (V.O.)

And I couldn't find her. So I went
into the laundry room to put my
skirt in, and...

She makes her way to a door and opens it and SCREAMS.

FLASH TO:

INT. BERRETA APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - RETURN

Paula begins to SOB again.

PAULA

And... and... and I saw my mom
with...
(beat; breaking down)
With a gun to her head.

Michael gapes in shock and pulls Paula in for a hug.

MICHAEL

Oh my God, Paula...

They slowly detach.

PAULA

I screamed, and... and she saw me
and tried to act like... act like
nothing happened.

(long pause)

After I moved out, she... she was
diagnose with depression, so... so
me and my sister decided to move
her... to... a mental health
institute.

(beat)

I call her everyone morning when I
wake up, and... and every night
before I go to sleep. Just to make
sure she's... alright.

(beat)

I try to forget that night, and...
and when someone brings it up, I...
it just comes flooding back.

MICHAEL

Paula, it's okay to feel sad. It's
a part of being... a person.

(beat)

And nobody thinks any less of you
for being... you.

Paula faintly smiles. Michael pulls her in for a hug. They
detach.

PAULA

Thanks, Michael.

She quickly remembers something:

PAULA (CONT'D)

Oh my gosh, I -- I have to get to
Jace.

MICHAEL

Are you sure you're okay to go,
Paula?

PAULA

(sniffing)

Yeah, yeah, I'm gonna be okay.

(beat; smiling)

Thanks again, Michael.

Paula walks to the door and exit, leaving Michael watching
her go.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. MOCHA LOCA CAFE - SUNSET

ROSE wipes the counter. She hears the door open and looks up.

ROSE'S POV: ALEX, ALISHA, and DAVID walk in.

ROSE
Hey. You didn't have to walk here.

ALEX
Nah, no biggie. Only a couple blocks.

ROSE
Okay, well I get off in, like, two minutes, just let me finish cleaning the counter.

She returns to her task.

David notices Alisha thinking deep in thought.

DAVID
You okay, Alisha?

Alisha snaps out of her daze.

ALISHA
Huh? Oh. Yeah.

SLOWLY PUSH IN on Alisha. She continues to think.

FLASH BETWEEN IMAGES:

- JORDAN storms through LA's Teen Talent.
- Angela stands in front of Alisha in the cafe bathroom.

ANGELA
You don't know *half* of what I go through.

- Angela puts her sunglasses on her face, but not before we notice the bruise beside her eye.

Alisha suddenly grabs David by the forearm, GASPING.

ALISHA
Oh my God.

DAVID
Alisha, what is it? What's wrong?

Alex notices as well.

ALEX
Everything okay?

Alisha, ignoring, turns around to Rose.

ALISHA
Rose.

ROSE
Yeah?

ALISHA
Do you have a phone book?

ROSE
Yeah, why?

ALISHA
Can you figure out Jordan's
address?

ALEX
Jordan? As in Langston?

She nods.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Why?

ALISHA
I think he abused Angela.

Alex, David, and Rose stare back at her, GAPING.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - HALLWAY

Angela stands against the hallway wall, twiddling her thumbs with anxiousness.

FLASH TO:

INT. LANGSTON APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - FLASHBACK

Angela sits on the couch, looking off down the hallway.

ONE YEAR AND FOUR MONTHS AGO fades across.

Jordan, fury in his eye, comes storming in.

ANGELA
Everything okay?

JORDAN
No, Angela! It's not okay.

ANGELA
Jordan, what's wrong?

JORDAN
That's the *fourth* audition were I
didn't get the part! *Fourth!!*

Angela rises and walks over to him.

ANGELA
Jordan, it's going to be fine.
There's always other auditions.

JORDAN
Just shut up. Please.

ANGELA
You'll get the next one, I know it.

JORDAN
Shut up!

Jordan PUSHES Angela down. She screams, but Jordan just
stares. He quickly runs off back down the hallway, Angela
watching him go.

FLASH TO:

INT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - HALLWAY - RETURN

Angela returns from her daze and checks her phone.

4:43 PM.

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - SEATING AREA

Paula sits across from JACE. She seems unfocused. Jace
notices.

JACE
Everything okay, Paula?

PAULA
Huh? Oh. Yeah, Everything's fine.

JACE
Look, if I said anything wrong the
other night, I'm sorry.

Paula puts her hand on top of his.

PAULA

No, no, no, you didn't do anything wrong. I'm having a great time.

Jace smiles.

VZZZ. VZZZ. Jace brings his phone out and reads, quickly sighing with frustration.

PAULA (CONT'D)

Everything okay?

JACE

Just... work. Getting really frustrated with it.

PAULA

Oh.

(beat)

What do you do anyway? You never told me.

JACE

Well, I'm a casting director.

Paula bulges her eyes as --

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. LANGSTON APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

The door opens to reveal Angela. She walks in and stops in front of Jordan, who just watches her.

JORDAN

Where have you been?

ANGELA

Away from you, Jordan.

JORDAN

What is *that* supposed to mean?

ANGELA

It means I don't like what you've become, Jordan! And I'm not leaving here until you're back to the guy I fell in love with.

Angela stares at her, and for once, she's not backing down.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. CAR - MOVING

Rose drives, Alex sits beside her, and Alisha and David sit in the back.

ALEX

Alisha, are you *sure* about this?

DAVID

Yeah, I mean, I know he's angry all the time, but... beating Angela?

ALISHA

Look, when I saw Angela today, she had a huge bruise by her eye, and Jordan was looking for her all furious. And then she talked to me.

ROSE

She told you about it?

ALISHA

No, but... I just put the pieces together.

ALEX

I really hope you're wrong about this, Alisha.

ALISHA

So do I.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. LANGSTON APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

Both of them stare at each other, neither one about to lose.

JORDAN

What the hell do you mean, *the way I used to be?*

ANGELA

I mean when I didn't have to worry about...

She yanks her glasses off and points at her bruise.

ANGELA (CONT'D)

This!

Jordan tightens his jaw.

JORDAN

Don't even act like it's not your fault.

Angela stares in disbelief.

ANGELA

What?

(beat)

My... my fault?! How is it *my* fault?

JORDAN

You're the reason I haven't gotten any freaking auditions, Angela! Because *you're* pulling me back!

ANGELA

(through her teeth)

Then why don't you just break up with me?

JORDAN

Because *I. Love. You.*

ANGELA

I love you too, Jordan. But when you do things that hurt me, it doesn't come across that way.

JORDAN

And when you *bug me*, and when you *push me* when I just want to be left alone, *I get mad*. Haven't you realized that by now?

ANGELA

I cannot believe you're trying to blame this on me.

JORDAN

You know how I am, Angela!!

ANGELA

I want you back, Jordan...

Jordan SCREAMS. A deep boom echoing.

JORDAN

TOO BAD!!

Angela takes a step back, fearful. They stare at one another.

A PREDATOR and his PREY.

Jordan breathes heavily. Angela glances towards the hallway, then back at Jordan.

She suddenly RUNS, Jordan quickly bolting behind her.

JORDAN (CONT'D)

ANGELA!!!

FOLLOW Angela down the hallway, but --

-- Jordan catches up to her and GRABS her by the hair. She screams.

ANGELA

Jordan! Jordan, please!!

She ELBOWS him in the stomach, causing his grip to loosen. She breaks free and continues to run --

-- she enters the BATHROOM and SLAMS the door behind her.

BAM!

TO BE CONTINUED

BLACKOUT.

END OF SEQUENCE