

AUDITION

4.16 | INMATE #230529

Written by

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MAIN CAST

ALEX BERRETA	JOSH HUTCHERSON
ALISHA HALL	ALYSON STONER
DAVID SULLIVAN	ANSEL ELGORT
ROSE BRAUN	BRIDGIT MENDLER
MICHAEL BERRETA	PATRICK DEMPSEY
PAULA SMITH	AMY ADAMS

GUEST CAST

JUDY SMITH	POPPY MONTGOMERY
KELSEY MARKS	KEKE PALMER
ROBBIE MEYERS	JOE JONAS
TABBI	ABBI JACOBSON
YANA	ILANA GLAZER
JACE RIORDAN	CHRIS O'DONNELL

FADE IN:

INT. SMITH APARTMENT - KITCHEN

JUDY lugs a large suitcase by the door, huffing and puffing with exhaustion as she sets it down.

PAULA comes in behind her, carrying an equally heavy bag, then sets it down by the other one.

PAULA

Do you have to go *today*, Judy?

JUDY

Yes, I do. I've been here long enough, Paula.

(beat)

Plus, my boss threatened to fire me if I don't show up to work tomorrow...

PAULA

(disappointed)

Oh...

JUDY

But I'm not leaving until tonight, so you have *all day* to look at me.

Paula's gaze drops, but she quickly recovers and directs her attention back at Judy.

PAULA

(forced enthusiasm)

Great!

JUDY

(noticing)

Wow, I never thought I'd see the day where my sis hated me... again.

(beat)

That's so 20th century, Paula.

PAULA

No, it's not that! I... It's nothing to worry about, promise.

Judy raises her eyebrow and purses her lips, unconvinced.

JUDY

Paula Arleen Sm --

PAULA

Don't call me that! It's just Paula. You can add "Amazing" or "Spectacular" in front of it, but that's it!

JUDY

Okay, so if it's not a blast into the past from our Jr. High days, then what is it?

Paula sighs.

PAULA

I was gonna go and... see Jace today...

JUDY

(stern)
Paula.

PAULA

(matching)
Judy...?

Paula smiles, hoping Judy found that funny. But she didn't.

JUDY

I don't... understand...

PAULA

I know the trial wasn't that long ago, but it's *everywhere* Judy. I can't get away from it. I've been labeled the "Warfare Shooters Girlfriend".

(beat)

I don't like that. Not one bit.

JUDY

Paula --

PAULA

And I'm not going because I still like him and want to stare at his face all google-y eyed. I mean, I've seen the shows, Judy. I know to expect some woman there rubbing her...

Paula hesitantly motions towards her breasts, making a face of disgust as she does.

PAULA (CONT'D)
Up on the glass window, but...
that's not me. I'm just going to
shove all of that horribleness away
from me.

Judy takes a deep breath, then exhales.

JUDY
Okay, okay. I won't hold it against
you.

PAULA
(relieved)
Thank you.

JUDY
What does Magic Mike have to say
about this?

PAULA
(confused)
Who?

JUDY
Michael!

PAULA
(giggling)
Oh my God... That nickname is
amazing.

JUDY
Paula! Focus!

PAULA
Oh! Sorry.
(beat)
Well, I haven't exactly... told
him... He's busy enough as it is!

JUDY
Fine. Okay.
(beat)
Well, do you know what you're gonna
say to him?

PAULA
Not really, no.

A smirk slowly grows on Judy's face, while Paula firms her
brow with a look of confusion.

INT. TABBI & YANA'S APARTMENT

MICHAEL sits on the air mattress, while TABBI and YANA walk in holding bowls of french fries topped with an assortment of unique ingredients. They take a seat in front of him.

MICHAEL
(notices)
Um...

YANA
Don't worry, it's absolutely
delish.

MICHAEL
Okay...

TABBI
Want some?

Michael quickly shakes his head.

MICHAEL
Oh... no, you guys... enjoy.

Tabbi and Yana smile and each pick up one fry, then taps them together as if they're making a toast.

YANA
So, how far are we?

MICHAEL
I've been coming up with some
outlines. What about you guys?

Tabbi pulls a folded piece of paper out of her back pocket, hands it to Michael. He opens it up.

TABBI
How about that?

He begins to read, letting out small chuckles here and there.

MICHAEL
This is actually pretty funny.

YANA
(excited)
Yaaaasss!

TABBI
Oh yeah, baby!

Tabbi holds her hand up for a high five, which Michael reciprocates. They all three share a laugh.

YANA

Let's see what you got.

Michael passes them a notepad, and they begin to read. They suddenly erupt in a burst of laughter.

TABBI

Okay, I don't know if it's just because I'm high, but this is *hilarious*.

YANA

More like *high-larious*, amirite?

TABBI

Yes!

They high five.

MICHAEL

(smiling)

You really think so? I'm not... that familiar with comedy.

TABBI

It's awesome.

MICHAEL

Great! I think we've got some really good ideas. I'll come up with a couple of different drafts, and let you guys pick which one you like best?

YANA

Hell *yes*, dude!

TABBI

Then, all we gotta do is find some actors.

MICHAEL

Oh! I've got a son who's an actor. He could totally nail this lead.

TABBI

Only if he's okay doing full frontal nudity!

Tabbi raises her hand for a high five, which Michael just stares at. Blankly.

MICHAEL
No... maybe not him then...

Tabbi nods and lowers her arm, going back to her mysterious bowl of french fries.

INT. MARKS APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

KELSEY sits on her couch, rubbing her hands on her pants legs with anxiousness.

KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK.

She runs over to the door and swings it open to reveal ALISHA.

ALISHA
Hey.

KELSEY
(smiling)
Hey.

They stand their awkwardly.

ALISHA
Can I --

KELSEY
(realizing)
Oh! Yes, yes. Come on in.

She steps aside to allow Alisha entrance, then closes the door behind them. They sit down on the couch.

KELSEY (CONT'D)
So, I take it everything went okay with that one girl and her trial?

ALISHA
Yeah... She's fine now, I think.

KESLEY
Cool, cool.

Silence.

ALISHA
I'm sorry --

KELSEY
Look, I'm sorry --

They laugh at their interruptions.

KELSEY

I'm really sorry. I... I didn't mean to push you or anything.

ALISHA

You didn't push me! I'm just... weird and dumb sometimes.

KELSEY

No you're not. Oh my God, you're totally not.

Alisha blushes.

ALISHA

I just really want to apologize. I shut you out for the stupidest reasons, and you didn't deserve any of that.

(beat)

And, if you'd be up to it, I'd still love to be friends with you, Kelsey.

KELSEY

(suddenly serious)

I don't know... You really cut me deep...

ALISHA

(disappointed)

Oh...

KELSEY

(laughing)

I'm messin' with you! Hell yes I still want to be friends! And it's totally not because you're one of the few I do have.

Alisha smiles, and the ladies hug. Maybe for just a moment too long before pulling apart, then laughing to break the subtle awkwardness.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

So, there's this awesome party that's happening this weekend, and we should totally go.

ALISHA

Oh, cool! Sounds like fun.

VZZZ. VZZZ. Alisha pulls out her phone...

INT. BERRETA APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

ALEX sits by ROSE, a bowl of popcorn between them. Alex is on his phone, typing a message.

ALEX
(whispering)
Alisha's at her friend Kelsey's.

ROSE
Oh, okay.

DAVID (O.S.)
(calling)
Do you guys not have any butter?!

ALEX
(to Rose)
Do we not have any butter?

ROSE
Alex, I don't live here.

ALEX
Oh... that's right.

David comes walking in, holding another bowl of popcorn.

DAVID
I guess I have to eat unflavored
popped kernels of corn. So thank
you.

ALEX
What movie are we watching?

DAVID
Man of --

VZZZ. VZZZ. VZZZ. Rose pulls her phone out. David sighs.

DAVID (CONT'D)
No respect.

ROSE
Sorry! It'll just be a minute.

She walks down the hallway, answers the call.

ROSE (CONT'D)
Hey, Robbie.

INTERCUT: ROBBIE sits in his car, a somewhat disappointed expression on his face.

ROBBIE
Bad news, Rose.

ROSE
(concerned)
About...?

ROBBIE
We kinda... can't play at our gig
tomorrow night.

ROSE
What?! Why not?!

ROBBIE
I sort of... asked if we could get
a small payment from the bar, and
the owner didn't like that too
much, so he... won't let us play
there anymore.

Rose's eyes widen in anger.

ROSE
Robbie, that was our *only gig*.

ROBBIE
I know, I know! I'm sorry!

She runs her hand through her hair, letting out a huge sigh.

ROSE
I can't talk about this right now.

ROBBIE
Rose --

ROSE
We had something, not even for a
month, and now it's gone. I thought
we agreed we'd only take tips,
Robbie?

ROBBIE
We did! I just wanted some more
money, Rose, that's all. We *deserve*
more.

ROSE
Well, if you're in this for the
money, then you're not in it for
the right reasons.

Robbie halts, stung by the comment. Rose realizes her harshness.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Look, I'm sorry. That came out wrong. I just... I can't talk about this right now.

(beat)

I'll talk to you later, Robbie.

She ends the call, leaving Robbie closing his eyes and sighing with nothing but defeat, then SLAMMING his fist down onto the steering wheel.

INT. PENITENTIARY - VISITING ROOM

PRISONERS sit on one side of their respected glass walls, while VISITORS are on the others.

ON the entrance as Paula walks in, wearing a visitor's badge.

She sits down at an empty seat. Beat. Beat.

JACE sits down on the other side, sporting an orange jumpsuit and shackled wrists. He face is hopeful, almost happy.

Paula swallows, her jaw tenses, and she picks up the phone link beside her. Jace does the same.

JACE

Hello, Paula.

(beat)

I've got to say, I was wondering how long it would take you to come and see me.

PAULA

(long pause;
uncomfortable)

How are you?

JACE

How are *you*? Doing out there?
Without me?

PAULA

I'm managing.

JACE

Staying away from...

(snarling)

Michael?

Paula closes her eyes, sighs. Annoyed.

PAULA

I don't think I'm going to stay long. I just wanted to come and see you.

JACE

(smiling)

I'm happy you did.

PAULA

Why did you do it, Jace? Why?

JACE

(serious)

Because nothing was going to come between us, Paula. *Nothing*.

PAULA

(louder than expected)

Nothing *was* coming between us!

She looks back to see if anyone is staring at her.

PAULA (CONT'D)

We were fine.

(beat)

Until you snapped like a three year old crayon.

JACE

Paula...

PAULA

You *shot* an innocent person, Jace. Like, with a gun, and a real bullet.

JACE

It was an accident --

PAULA

Falling down the stairs is an accident, this right here is cuckoo.

JACE

I didn't want anyone to have you, Paula. You're mine, and I love you.

Paula simply stares at him, showing absolutely no emotion.

PAULA

No. I'm not *yours*. I'm not anyone's. I am my own person who is not going to let someone like you define me. Because what you are... is a mistake.

Jace's eyes widen with surprise, then anger.

PAULA (CONT'D)

I know you thought me walking in here was a way to try and let you know that our bond is still tighter than bark on a tree, but that's not what's happening. I'm here to tell you one thing.

(beat)

Goodbye, Jace. Have fun in prison.

Paula's eyes widen at what she's just said, but not as wide as Jace's.

JACE

Paula!

She places the phone back down, gets up, and walks away. Not even bothering to look back at the angered Jace.

JACE (CONT'D)

Paula!!

EXT. PENITENTIARY - PARKING LOT (CONTINUOUS)

Judy stands by her vehicle, leaning against it with her arms crossed. She sees something, quickly walks forward as...

SWISH PAN. Paula rushes outside. Runs to her sister.

JUDY

Well, how did it go?

PAULA

Good! I think. I said everything you told me to say.

JUDY

Please. It was what you wanted to say. I just sassed it up for you.

PAULA

I think I'm gonna throw up.

(beat)

Like, projectile.

Judy makes a face of disgust and takes a step back.

PAULA (CONT'D)

Wait...

Paula steadies her breath, closes her eyes.

PAULA (CONT'D)

Okay, I think I'm good.

Judy smiles.

PAULA (CONT'D)

Thanks, Judy.

JUDY

I had to go out on a high note.

PAULA

(long pause)

I'll miss you.

JUDY

Paula, I don't live that far away.
And you have a phone.

PAULA

Yeah, but still. That doesn't sound
as sugary sweet.

JUDY

I'll be back. Plus, I can't let
Michael go too long without me.

Paula chuckles as Judy brings her in for a hug.

PULL AWAY from the sisters as they stand there, expressing
their love through an EMBRACE. Off that, we...

BLACKOUT.

END OF EPISODE