

AUDITION

5.04 | COMIC SANS

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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

SPECIAL GUEST CAST

FREYA MALIK FREIDA PINTO

GUEST CAST

MIA EDWARDS GAGE GOLIGHTLY
WYATT KI HONG LEE
MEI SULLIVAN YUNJIM KIM
SHANNON SULLIVAN SANDRA OH

FADE IN:

INT. SULLIVAN APARTMENT - DAVID'S ROOM - DAY

ON an ALARM CLOCK as it violently -- *BEEP! BEEP! BEEP! BEEP!*

A hand SLAMS on it. Silence, until a groaning DAVID sits upright in his bed. His hair is a mess, and his Batman shirt is extremely faded.

He raises his arm up and sniffs his underarm, but quickly recoils from the smell.

DAVID

Oh. God.

After he rubs his eyes, David THROWS his blankets off --

INT. SULLIVAN APARTMENT - DAVID'S BATHROOM - DAY

The shower runs, creating a thin layer of STEAM that overlays across the entire red and blue bathroom.

INSIDE THE SHOWER, David stands with water running down his body, rapping 'MONSTER' BY KANYE WEST, specifically Nicki Minaj's verse.

DAVID

*"Yeah I'm in the tonka, color of
Willy Wonka. You can be the king
but watch the queen conquer!"*

(beat)

*"First things first, I'll eat your
brains, then I'mma start rocking
gold teeth and fangs --"*

INT. SULLIVAN APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

David sits at his kitchen island, drinking a steaming cup of coffee from his Wonder Woman mug. He reads in his hand a single issue COMIC BOOK - obviously, it's Batman.

As his eyes scan the colored pages, he almost spits his coffee out, JOLTING.

DAVID

What?!

Setting his mug down, he continues to read intently.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Oh *my God*.

He flips to the next page as SHANNON and MEI enter.

SHANNON
(as if she's used to it)
Everything okay, David?

DAVID
(not paying attention)
Ten.

Mei and Shannon eye one another with confusion, then a smile creeps up on both of them.

MEI
What time do you go in today?

DAVID
Yeah, everything's fine.

The wives giggle to one another while David continues to be enthralled with the latest issue of Batman.

INT. COMIC BOOK SHOP - DAY

David stands behind a counter with the register on top as CUSTOMERS browse the shelves of trade paperbacks, single issues, and collector's editions. A smile is plastered on his face - he's at HOME.

The door opens, a bell sounds, and MIA enters the shop wearing a large hat and sunglasses. She immediately walks to David once they make eye contact.

MIA
Hello, hello.

DAVID
Fancy seeing you here with an...
interesting style choice.

MIA
Not to sound conceded, but I'm
trying not to be noticed.

Mia leans over the counter, kicks her leg back, and KISSES David. Soft and sensual.

DAVID
 (playful)
 You can't be doing that, you know.
 I could get fired.

MIA
 Oh, please. They practically begged
 you to work here.

David smiles with a sense of accomplishment.

DAVID
 So, finished your outfit for
 tomorrow?

MIA
 Yeah, I just still don't know who
 it really *is* though.

DAVID
 Which is why I gave you some
 research to read.

MIA
 Which I will read tonight. Promise.

DAVID
 (chuckling)
 Okay.

The door opens again and a GIRL pokes her head inside.

GIRL
 Mia! Let's go!

Mia rolls her eyes. Looks back at David.

MIA
 I gotta go. See you tomorrow.

DAVID
 Peace out.

Before she goes, Mia quickly looks around her. Sees no one,
 and KISSES David one more time.

MIA
 Gotcha.

David blushes as she runs off, and as she exits:

MIA (CONT'D)
 (outside)
 Guys, guys!
 (MORE)

MIA (CONT'D)

Everyone just shut it, okay? We're gonna go get mani-pedis and then we're gonna watch Star Wars Episode Six, because... I don't know, for some reason we didn't go One, Two, Three...

Continuing to look around the shop, David's smile still glows just as bright.

INT. SULLIVAN APARTMENT - DAVID'S ROOM - DAY

BEEP! BEEP! BEEP! BEEP!

A hand SLAMS on the violent alarm clock, and David SHOOTs out of bed with much more energy than the day before.

He quickly THROWS his blankets off of his legs --

INT. SULLIVAN APARTMENT - DAVID'S BATHROOM - DAY

Steam. The shower is running.

INSIDE THE SHOWER, David rocks back and forth dancing, excitement filling him to the brim.

He places his head underneath the running water, lets it soak, and then FLINGS his head back, his hair going back with graceful fluidity as he uses his hand to mimic a microphone. He sings ***FLAWLESS (REMIX) by BEYONCÉ ft NICKI MINAJ.

INT. SULLIVAN APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

David runs in wearing a Green Lantern shirt and gym shorts, quickly picks up a Flash mug, and runs off.

INT. SULLIVAN APARTMENT - DAVID'S ROOM - DAY

He walks up to his closet, grabs the door handle, and SWINGS it open. An immediate smile bursts up onto his face. Proud.

CUE MUSIC: No Twerk - *Apashe ft. Panther X Odalisk*

DAVID

Let's go.

EXT. CONVENTION CENTER - DAY

SLOW MOTION: A crowd of COS PLAYERS mingle throughout the crowd, dressed as various superheroes and fantasy characters.

Out from around them, two figures emerge, walking side-by-side. DAVID and MIA, their costumes designed to perfection.

David dressed in a gray body suit with black and yellow accents, most notably a BAT SYMBOL, a black cape, and a cowl. Mia dressed in a black leather suit with the zipper pulled right below her breasts and a mask with red goggles and cat ears.

BATMAN and CATWOMAN.

They look at one another, smiling. Confident and gleeful. END SLOW MOTION.

MIA
We look hot.

DAVID
(grinning)
Definitely.

EXT. RESTAURANT - SEATING AREA - DAY

ALISHA and ROSE sit across from one another at a black table, eating a tray of FRENCH FRIES and a small bowl of ICE CREAM.

ROSE
I love fries. And ice cream. Two of the best things on this planet. Right behind ribs. Ribs are incredible.

ALISHA
I'll be sure to scope out the best barbecue spot for next time.

ROSE
True friendship at its finest.

The ladies giggle, then a silence falls between them. Alisha awkwardly goes back to picking at a few fries and ice cream.

ROSE (CONT'D)
(noticing)
Everything okay?

ALISHA
 (caught off guard)
 Huh? Oh, um, yeah.

ROSE
 You're lying.

ALISHA
 (flustered)
 What? Huh? No?

ROSE
 (genuine)
 I mean, it's fine. You don't have
 to talk about anything you don't
 want to. Seriously.
 (beat)
 But know that I am here.

Alisha musters up a small smile, then nods. They both return
 to their fries and frozen treat.

ROSE (CONT'D)
 So I saw this hilarious cooking
 video last night and --

ALISHA
 I'm bisexual.

Eyes bulging, almost as if she can't believe she said it,
 Alisha looks up at Rose, who matches her stare with a
 startled expression.

ROSE
 Uh...

ALISHA
 (panicked)
 I'm sorry. Oh my God, I'm so, so,
 so sorry.

ROSE
 What? No, no! I didn't --

ALISHA
 I didn't mean to --

ROSE
 Alisha!

Alisha stops freaking out, looks back up at her friend.

ROSE (CONT'D)

I didn't mean it like that. I just... wasn't... expecting it.

ALISHA

It's just... really scary, you know? I've only told you and Alex, but... but it's always stressful not knowing how someone's going to react.

ROSE

I understand.

ALISHA

I mean, I'm so new to this whole thing, but I've quickly learned that... people don't stop coming out. You don't just wear a sign that says "I'm bi" for the rest of your life and be done with it.

(beat)

It's going to be new information for every single person I meet... ever.

(suddenly anxious)

Am I... am I ready for that? Am I okay with that?

ROSE

Well, you don't owe anyone that information unless you want them to know it. Just like I don't have to tell anyone besides you that I once peed myself when I met Ben Affleck in passing.

Alisha snorts, attempting to hold her laughter back.

ALISHA

I'm sorry. Oh my God. Not funny.

ROSE

(laughing)

It's extremely funny.

Rose grabs Alisha's hands, comforts her.

ROSE (CONT'D)

Thank you for telling me. I'm honored you trust me enough.

(beat)

I don't know what else to say, but just know that... that I love you.

Alisha now beams a full, relieved smile.

ALISHA

Thank you. That's all I needed to hear.

ROSE

I'll always be here, Alisha. Ice cream melts. Friendships don't.

The ladies hug one another across the table, then each pick up a fry, dip it in ice cream, and tap them together. A CHEERS.

INT. CRAZY LAZY CAFÉ - DAY

MICHAEL, PAULA, and ALEX stand in the extremely long line to order their caffeine-induced beverages.

ALEX

Look, I love you both. Truly, truly, I do. You know this, right?

Paula's eyes widen in confusion and a slight sense of panic.

PAULA

Right.
(pause)
I think.

Michael knits his brow, confused.

MICHAEL

No, I had no idea my son loved me.

ALEX

Great.
(beat)
Anyway, you guys know you don't have to... third wheel me on your first date.

Michael and Paula explode internally, eyes bulge out, jaws drop to the floor.

MICHAEL

What?!

PAULA

Uh, uh, uh, *no?!*

MICHAEL

Why would you --

PAULA
Even *think* that?! Oh my *GOD!*

ALEX
(stunned)
Oh.

MICHAEL
Did you really think this was a date?!

ALEX
I'm...

PAULA
Never! I would *never* date Michael!

MICHAEL
(hurt)
Ouch.

PAULA
(recovering)
Be -- because you're my bestie!
Duh! Besties don't date! And we
already *went* on a date anyway
remember. Our double date with Rose
and Alex!

ALEX
(sarcastic)
Oh, yeah. That incredible night.

Michael stands confused at Paula's freakout. Paula looks around, attempting to change the topic.

PAULA
It's time to move! Step forward!

WYATT (O.S.)
Yeah, man, I need coffee. Stop
holding up the line.

Alex TURNS AROUND to find WYATT sporting a hoodie, sunglasses, and sweats. Obviously hungover.

ALEX
Chill, man. We're going.

Wyatt takes off his glasses to reveal his exhausted, high-as-a-kite eyes as he slowly remembers...

WYATT
Hey, hey, wait. You're Mia's
friend!

ALEX
Friend is an incredibly loose term.

WYATT
(chuckling)
Yeah, whatever, dude. Anyway, how
is she? Haven't heard from her
since that *wild* party a few weeks
ago.

MICHAEL
(overhearing)
Wild party?

ALEX
(quick; frantic)
Where we definitely read bible
verses and sung praise to our Lord.

Alex pulls Wyatt out to the side.

ALEX (CONT'D)
Maybe don't out me in front of my
dad, yeah?

WYATT
Oh, sorry, man. Thought you were
twenty-one.

ALEX
Trust me, if I was twenty-one I
wouldn't be using fakes.

WYATT
You need a hookup?

ALEX
(confused)
What?

WYATT
I can you hook you up man. That
twenty-three year old life grants
me the privilege.

ALEX
You'll be my plug?

WYATT

For sure! Can't just have fun at the bars that don't card.

Wyatt pulls out his cellphone and hands it to Alex.

WYATT (CONT'D)

Just punch that number in and hit me up when you need some stuff to loosen that mind, man.

Alex takes the phones, stares at it. Contemplates. Then chuckles and begins to type. Gives it back to Wyatt.

WYATT (CONT'D)

Awesome!

ALEX

Thanks. Just... don't tell anyone, okay?

WYATT

My lips are *sealed*.

Wyatt mimics a zipper on his lips. Alex turns and goes back to Michael and Paula, a happy smirk on his face.

INT. CONVENTION CENTER - CONVENTION FLOOR - DAY

David and Mia, in their Batman and Catwoman garb, explore through the various booths and displays.

MIA

I have to say, I've never been to any place like this before.

DAVID

Isn't it incredible?! I've never felt more at home. These are my people.

Mia rubs David's arm.

MIA

I'm glad. You deserve some happiness.

DAVID

(smiling)

Where should we go first? The Wonder Woman photo booth? The Birds of Prey panel? No! *Autographs with the DC Cast?!*

MIA

All of those are at separate times.
You made a schedule, remember?

DAVID

Oh yeah. Sorry. Got a bit
overwhelmed.

FREYA (O.S.)

Excuse me?

SWISH PAN to reveal FREYA MALIK, a gorgeous Indian woman with curled hair, dressed in a layered blue skirt and a red metal corset that forms a 'W' at the top. She also sports knee high, matching boots, and a 'W' shaped tiara.

FREYA (CONT'D)

Did you just say there was a Wonder
Woman photo booth?

MIA

(eyes wide)
Whoa.

FREYA

I'm sorry?

MIA

Oh, nothing. You're just... *whoa.*

FREYA

(blushing)
Thank you. So, about that photo
booth?

DAVID

Yeah! It starts at 3!

FREYA

Awesome. Are you going to go?

DAVID

Definitely.

FREYA

That just made me so excited. I
love Diana so much!
(off her outfit)
Obviously.

DAVID

Dude! Isn't she incredible?!

FREYA

The way she commands herself and the Amazons is *inspirational!*

DAVID

Right?! So, are you going to the Birds of Prey panel?

FREYA

I wouldn't miss it for the world!

DAVID

All the ladies!

FREYA

All of ladies are so incredible!
Dinah, Babs, Helena!

Mia simply watches on, not even bothering to contain her chuckle and smile at David and Freya's freakout.

DAVID

Don't forget Zinda!

FREYA

Never!

They share a laugh.

FREYA (CONT'D)

Anyway, I'm sorry for bothering you. I just needed to know more.

DAVID

What? No bother at all!

David extends his hand out to her.

DAVID (CONT'D)

I'm David.

FREYA

(shaking)

Freya.

Mia waves from behind David.

MIA

Mia.

FREYA

Nice to meet both of you. Your costumes are amazing.

MIA
Girl, same to you. You look so hot.

FREYA
(smiling)
Thank you so much.

DAVID
So, who are you here with?

FREYA
Oh, um it's just me. Couldn't really find another person to come with me on such short notice.

DAVID
Not a problem! You can hang with us!

FREYA
Oh, no. I don't want to intrude.

MIA
You're not!

DAVID
Seriously, no intruding at all. We can hop over to the Birds panel, then catch the Wondy booth, even snag some DC autographs!

FREYA
Well, only if you're positive.

David and Mia nod, and Freya joins them as they continue to walk around.

FREYA (CONT'D)
So, what do you both do?

MIA
I'm an actress.

FREYA
That's cool! Two of my really close friends are screenwriters. You should meet them.

MIA
Awesome!

FREYA
What about you, David?

DAVID

(semi flustered)

I, uh... I don't really know. I guess I'm an actor? At least, I'd like to be? I think? I work at a comic shop currently, so... *that*.

Mia looks at David with a slightly confused expression.

DAVID (CONT'D)

(diverting)

What about you, Freya?

FREYA

Oh, I'm trying to model. I kind of like to sketch too.

MIA

Well, you're definitely model material.

DAVID

That's seriously awesome.

FREYA

Yeah. I don't know, I think picking one dream was never the path for me to take, you know? I never fit into just one thing.

DAVID

(thinking)

Uh-huh.

FREYA

Kind of like Wonder Woman. I mean, she was destined to fit into this Amazonian mold that her people set for her, but she turned into a savior for all mankind. She did both.

(beat; laughing)

I won't save the world, obviously. But I like to think of myself being able to pull a Diana. Be two things at once and be pretty good at them.

DAVID

(to himself)

Or pick the one you wouldn't expect...

FREYA

Yes, or that. I think that's the beautiful thing about dreams. None of them are set in stone.

David suddenly STOPS. Looks at the ground, the wheels in his head turning. Mia and Freya walk a few steps before they notice, then TURN AROUND.

MIA

Everything okay, David?

DAVID

I don't... think I want to be an actor anymore...

Stunned silence, until --

MIA

What?

FREYA

Oh my...

DAVID

(realization)

Yeah... Yeah, I don't wanna do that anymore. And that's okay.

(beat)

I love comic books. I love *this!*

He stretches his arms out, signaling the space around him.

DAVID (CONT'D)

This is what I want to do. I've always thought that since acting was the first thing I wanted to do that... I couldn't change it. But I can! I can!

MIA

(still shocked)

Uh...

FREYA

That's great, David!

MIA

(snapping out of it)

Yeah! I mean... A bit out of nowhere, but yeah. Great!

DAVID
Having the comic shop job, being
here, surrounded by things I
love... it makes sense.
(beat)
Thank you so much, Freya.

FREYA
Me? Oh, um... happy to help.

DAVID
(beaming)
Come on! We're gonna miss the
panel!

CUE MUSIC: Echoes - *The Rapture*

David, a grin so wide, runs off with excitement for the new
step in his life.

FREYA
(to Mia)
Is he always like this?

MIA
(proud)
Yep.

FREYA
(smiling)
Good.

The women share a laugh, then head off to catch up with the
newly-inspired comic book fanboy, David Sullivan.

BLACKOUT.

END OF EPISODE