

AUDITION

5.08 | AROUND AND AROUND AND AROUND

Written by

Brady Brown

CREATED BY:
Brady Brown

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

AUDITION

5.08 | Around and Around and Around

MAIN CAST

ALEX BERRETA JOSH HUTCHERSON
ALISHA HALL ALYSON STONER
DAVID SULLIVAN ANSEL ELGORT
ROSE BRAUN BRIDGIT MENDLER

GUEST CAST

THIAGO PRECIADO DIEGO BONETA
LIVY GORDON JAMIE CLAYTON
DEV GARA ANOOP DESAI
GIN ANDO KIMIKO GLENN
CELINA YIP MALESE JOW
BRANDON SHARPE CARLOS VALDES
GABRIELLA PRECIADO MAIARA WALSH
QUINN WIKSTROM MING-NA WEN

FADE IN:

INT. WIKSTROM ACTORS - DAY

GIN and LIVY are in a heated argument from across the room:

GIN

Look, all I'm saying is that World War 3 *might* have happened seventeen years ago, and no one told us!

LIVY

Do you understand how absolutely *idiotic* that sounds, Gin?!

GIN

Which is exactly why it might be true!

LIVY

Gin, you psycho, I'm tired. Give me a break, girl.

GIN

Yeah well you're... stupid.

LIVY

(sarcastic)
Ouch. Ow. Help.

GIN

Shut up, Livy! Just because you buy into capitalistic nonsense doesn't mean you have to take your internalized aggression out on me!

LIVY

Gin --

GIN

Look, did you not try to come for me?

LIVY

When?!

GIN

I'm not saying you came for me, but it did *feel that way*.

LIVY

When?

Silence as Gin simply stares at Livy, who is completely dumfounded at this point. Blink, blink.

Livy turns to GABRIELLA, who sits beside her.

LIVY (CONT'D)

What is wrong with her? I can't.

GABRIELLA

Just let her do her thing. She usually collapses after about thirty minutes anyway.

PAN AROUND to find DEV and BRANDON deep into a video game battle on their SMART PHONES. ALISHA sits beside them, watching intently.

BRANDON

No, no, no! No quantum proton mechanic moves! We set limits!

DEV

I don't recall this.

BRANDON

For someone who won an acting award, you're kinda bad at lying.

ALISHA

This is so entertaining, and I have absolutely no idea what's happening.

Continuing to PAN AROUND, we find THIAGO and CELINA.

THIAGO

Look, Celina, all I'm asking is for one night.

CELINA

I would rather snort a line of glass.

THIAGO

What? Do I need to take guitar lessons and serenade you?

CELINA

No, you can just stop talking about it. Learn to be professional before you learn the guitar.

PAN LEFT to reveal ALEX, watching everything with bulging eyes and uncomfortable crossed arms.

ALEX
I wanna go home.

QUINN enters the room, her arms high up in the air.

QUINN
Hello, dears! How are we all doing today?

Groans and mumbles throughout the room meet her as a reply.

QUINN (CONT'D)
Lovely! Alright, well, I thought we would try something a little different this week. Your dear instructor has *jury duty* so I have an out-of-class assignment for you all.

The actors look at one another, confused and slightly worried.

QUINN (CONT'D)
I've managed to set up a time at the courthouse for you all to rehearse a *mock trial*!

Silence as everyone processes.

THIAGO
A *what*?

GIN
A *mock trial*. Weren't you listening?

QUINN
By the end of the week, hopefully when this jury duty is behind us, I will be witnessing your trial!
(beat)
Being thrown into a new environment is tricky and scary, my dears. I expect nothing but top quality work from you. *Don't* disappoint me!
(beat)
Now, off to jury duty I go!

Quinn quickly SPINS AROUND and prances out through the door, leaving her students in a state of utter confusion.

BRANDON
What...

INT. MALL - DAY

ROSE and DAVID walk through the scattered crowds of the California mall. They each hold a couple of shopping bags.

ROSE

I know we came here to find Alex a birthday present and everything, but...

DAVID

We've only bought ourself stuff.

ROSE

We've only bought ourself stuff. Exactly.

(beat)

Are we terrible?

DAVID

No? No.

(pause)

Maybe not?

ROSE

Okay, but, honestly, I have no idea what to get Alex.

DAVID

I promised him minimal comic book paraphernalia so I am also stumped.

As they continue to walk, something begins to eat at Rose. David notices.

DAVID (CONT'D)

You'll find something, Rose, it'll be fine.

ROSE

It's not the present thing, David, I'm just... I'm really worried about him.

DAVID

Why?

ROSE

I don't want to talk about him when he's not here. That feels... crappy.

DAVID

It's not like your talking bad about him, right?

ROSE

I just feel so weird. I mean, every time I try to talk to *him* about it he shuts down. I don't know what to do.

DAVID

Maybe first explain to me what exactly you're talking about?

ROSE

He just seems so sad. All of the time. And I feel like there's nothing I can do about it.

David sighs, knowing exactly what she's talking about.

ROSE (CONT'D)

I mean, you've seen it too, right?

DAVID

Yeah, I have.

ROSE

Well, then what do I do? What do we do? It makes me physically ill to see him so defeated all of the time but I have no idea what I can do to make him feel better.

DAVID

I don't think there's anything you can do, Rose.

ROSE

I don't believe that. There has to be something.

(beat)

Alex got me through a really dark time in my life, and... and I feel guilty that I can't do the same for him.

DAVID

That's what he does. Mr. Alex "Gets Everyone Through Hard Times" Berreta.

The friends share a laugh, but Rose is still distraught.

ROSE
I just wanna help him, David.

DAVID
I know you do, but sometimes it
just fixes itself and there's
nothing you can do.

Rose takes a deep breath.

ROSE
That just doesn't feel right to me.
If he could just get another part
then I think he'd be so much
happier.

DAVID
Well, he can't get a part if he
doesn't try.

ROSE
Yeah.

A light bulb goes off in Rose's head.

ROSE (CONT'D)
Duh!

DAVID
Duh?

ROSE
Duh! He just needs to go to the
perfect audition!

DAVID
That's a lot easier said than done,
Rose. They didn't just go and blow
up the Death Star.
(beat)
Well... I mean, they did, but...

ROSE
He can definitely book a small
role, at least. Just that feeling
of accomplishment. Everyone loves
that.

DAVID
I don't know, Rose. I think Alex
will audition for more things on
his own time.

ROSE
But maybe a little push might be
all he needs.

DAVID
(still uncertain)
True.

ROSE
Look, if he doesn't want to go, he
doesn't want to go. I'm not gonna
force him to do anything.
(beat)
Now, come on, we gotta get this
shopping done!

Rose runs off, much more up beat, and David follows her, the
idea still not sitting well with him.

INT. COURTROOM - DAY

Alisha and Dev sit at the defense attorney table, while Livy
and Thiago are on the prosecution side.

Gin is at the witness stand; Brandon is in the judge's seat;
Alex stands beside him as the court bailiff; and Celina sits
behind Dev and Alisha, while Gabriella sits behind Livy.

GIN
Ugh, it's so hot in here. I feel
like a rotisserie chicken.

THIAGO
(rising)
Objection!

BRANDON
On... what grounds?

THIAGO
For being rude! *Ay dios mio*. We are
here to find the defendant guilty
of doing the crime.

LIVY
What are you doing?

GIN
(southern accent)
I did nothing! I'm innocent,
darlin'!

DEV
We would like to, um...

Alisha points down to his lines.

DEV (CONT'D)
Raise the roof off this joint and
have a smackdown brawl?
(to Alisha)
Who wrote this?

Gabriella starts CRYING. SCREAMING. Making a scene.

GABRIELLA
I miss Roberta! Bring my Roberta
back!

CELINA
She was mine!

Celina quickly runs over and TACKLES Gabriella to the ground.
They roll out into the aisle.

BRANDON
Bailiff!

ALEX
Huh? Oh!

Alex runs over and attempts to separate the two ladies.

GIN
(Russian accent)
Fine. It was me. I did crime. Now
where is vodka?

LIVY
Gin, that's not the line.

GIN
Ugh! It's called *improv*, Livy,
haven't you ever heard of it?!

LIVY
Everyone! Let's try and regroup
because Gin is insane. Thanks.

FOCUS ON Alisha and Dev.

ALISHA
Do these people ever act like they
haven't taken seventeen xanax?

DEV

Um... no.

ALISHA

How long have you been with Quinn anyway?

DEV

Going on seven months now, I think.

ALISHA

Wow. Long time, huh?

DEV

Not really, no. Gin and Livy have been in this class for over a year.

SWISH PAN.

GIN

Livy, are you an undercover operative?

LIVY

What is wrong with you, Gin?!

BACK TO Alisha.

ALISHA

That explains so much.

DEV

Yeah. They didn't use to be so crazy. They could actually hold a conversation. I'm sure drugs were involved.

(beat)

Gabriella and Thiago have been here longer than I have, too.

ALISHA

Speaking of Thiago...

(beat)

Oh my God... I feel like a gossiping Real Housewife right now. Anyway.

(beat)

Are he and Celina...?

CELINA

(interrupting)

God no!

Alisha SNAPS her head back to see Celina staring in disgust. Dev sinks down into his seat.

ALISHA

Oh my God...

CELINA

No, it's fine. I don't care. I love gossip. Let's do it sometime.

(beat)

But no. I'm not *with Thiago*. Ew.

ALISHA

Okay --

CELINA

I mean, I was. I'm definitely not ashamed that I tapped that, but he's one of the most annoying people I've ever come into contact with.

(beat)

Plus, being a cheater isn't the greatest quality to have.

Alisha's stomach drops. She can't make eye contact with anyone.

ALISHA

Yeah, totally.

PAN OVER TO Alex, who still stands by Brandon, while Livy, Gin, and Thiago continue to argue.

BRANDON

I wanna go home.

ALEX

I need a drink.

BRANDON

Dude! We should have a party!

ALEX

What?

BRANDON

A Wikstrom's Actors party!

ALEX

Uh... okay?

BRANDON
Dev and I can decorate. Are you
cool with neon theme?

ALEX
Maybe...?

Gabriella approaches them, bored out of her mind.

GABRIELLA
Are you guys talking about a party?

BRANDON
Yes!

ALEX
How... how did you know that?

GABRIELLA
I can read lips.

BRANDON
Well, can you read *these two lips*?

Brandon begins to make kissy faces at Gabriella, who watches him with immense neutrality.

BRANDON (CONT'D)
That was... that was a joke. I'm
sorry. I respect you.

GABRIELLA
I'm so over this stupid exercise.

ALEX
Why?

GABRIELLA
Are you kidding me? I'm a witness.
I have the least amount of lines.
We've been sitting here for an hour
listening to the Crazyes yell at
one another?

ALEX
The Crazyes?

BRANDON
Livy, Gin, and Thiago.

Gin THROWS her head over into their conversation.

GIN
Excuse me? Are you planning my
abduction?

BRANDON
What? No!

GIN
(eyeing them)
Mmmhmm...

She slowly scurries back to the witness stand.

GABRIELLA
Exhibit A.

ALEX
Wait, isn't Thiago your... brother?

GABRIELLA
Which is exactly how I know that
he's freakin' crazy.
(beat)
I've been forcefully attached at
his hip for the past seven years.

ALEX
Why...?

GABRIELLA
Are you joking?

ALEX
(concerned)
No...?

GABRIELLA
Sorry, I don't mean that as like...
cocky. But you've never seen the
ice cream shop episode of "Living
Truly"?

ALEX
(shocked)
*You're the ice cream twins from
"Living Truly"?!*

GABRIELLA
Yeah, we are. Unfortunately.

BRANDON
At least you're known for something
like that.

(MORE)

BRANDON (CONT'D)
I have to explain how I had a
thirty second cameo in season four,
episode seven of "*The Michael's*".

GABRIELLA
(to Alex)
What about you? You been in
anything yet?

ALEX
I was in a clothing commercial. And
I'm in *Warfare*, you know that sci-
fi movie coming up.

GABRIELLA
Oh yeah, I think I saw the trailer
for it. Nice gig.

BRANDON
Wait... that's the movie set where
that guy got shot!

GABRIELLA
Oh, that was *your* movie?

ALEX
Yeah...

BRANDON
Good luck, man.

ALEX
With what?

GABRIELLA
No offense, but... not the greatest
looking blemish on a resumé.

Alex's eyes drop as we...

PAN OVER TO Livy and Thiago's table.

THIAGO
I'm so confused. When do we... act?

LIVY
You've been acting this entire
time. Please, stop.

THIAGO
But I'm an actor! You do not tell
an actor to *stop*!

LIVY

I just did.

(beat)

Look, we'll act soon, okay? Right now we just need to figure out what the hell we're doing here.

Thiago looks over to Celina, longing. His lip quivers. It's straight out of a soap opera.

LIVY (CONT'D)

(noticing)

Jesus Christ.

A SCREECHING SCREAM!

Everyone drops down in pain, immediately covering their ears as Gin stands in the witness stand YELLING. She stops.

LIVY (CONT'D)

What the actual hell, Gin?!

GIN

Now that I have all of your attention. Who wants to grab dinner?

Livy snarls and RUNS at Gin, fully intent on ripping her head off. Gabriella steps in to stop her. Dev, Thiago, and Celina run over. Brandon watches in horror.

Off to the side, Alex and Alisha reconvene.

CUE MUSIC: Echoes - *The Rapture*

ALEX

I've got a lot to catch you up on.

ALISHA

Ditto.

The chaos continues as OFFICERS run in, weapons raised. Everyone STOPS and looks at them.

BRANDON

We're good!

The officers eye one another as we --

BLACKOUT.END OF EPISODE