

AUDITION

4.11 | Weedy Comfort

Written by

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PRODUCED BY:

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

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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

GUEST CAST

MIA EDWARDS GAGE GOLIGHTLY
ROBBIE MEYERS JOE JONAS
KELSEY MARKS KEKE PALMER

FADE IN:

EXT. HOLLYWOOD HILLS - AFTERNOON

Establishing shot of the grassy hills, and the prominent, white HOLLYWOOD SIGN.

EXT. HOLLYWOOD HILLS (CLOSER)

DAVID walks, MIA close behind him.

MIA
(out of breath)
Would you... please... tell me...
what we're doing...

DAVID
It's just like what --
(stopping himself;
realizing)
Oh, that's right, you have zero
comic book knowledge.

MIA
Hey! I know... like... Wonder
Woman... and people.

David squints his eyes.

DAVID
What's her real name?

Mia cocks her hip, crosses her arms, and bits her cheek, accepting the challenge.

MIA
(long pause)
Wonder... Woman.
(beat)
Duh.

David chuckles, keeps walking. Mia follows.

DAVID
Your attempt was very cute.

MIA
(playful)
Cute, huh?

David's eyes flash, but he regains composure.

DAVID

Like in a dog running into a mirror
cute.

He turns around to face her, but keeps walking, and raises
his eyebrows. Smirks.

MIA

At least I understand that
comparison.

David turns back around.

DAVID

Don't worry. I'll teach you all
things comic book in due time.

MIA

Can you tell I'm absolutely
thrilled?

David stops, looks at something off-screen, and slowly
smiles. Mia walks up behind him.

DAVID'S POV: The city of LOS ANGELES. The tops of buildings,
the busy streets, the bundles of trees. The rush.

DAVID

Look at that.
(beat)
Amazing.

MIA

Next time, I'll probably just image
search it.

DAVID

And after that, you can look up
dogs running into mirrors.
(beat)
Come on. We're not done yet!

He turns to go, grabs her by her hand. He quickly faces her,
both of them realizing and looking down at their hands.

MIA

(smirking)
Don't tell me you never held a
girl's hand.

David quickly lets go, his gaze dropping.

MIA (CONT'D)

Oh, I didn't mean it like that. I'm sorry!

(beat)

I thought it would've been dog-and-mirror cute.

DAVID

Nah, it's fine.

He quickly grabs her hand again, smiles.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Let's go.

He walks off, and she goes with him.

INT. BOOKSTORE

KELSEY browses the shelves, picking up books, flipping through them, then immediately putting them back.

She walks to the next aisle, where ALISHA stands.

KELSEY

You know what I've noticed?

ALISHA

What?

KELSEY

I've flipped through seven books, and in five of them I saw the phrase "I'm not like other insert-gender-here."

ALISHA

(chuckles)

That seems to pop up a lot.

KELSEY

So... if they're not like other insert-genders-here, does that mean they're like the other insert-genders-here that aren't like other insert-genders-here?

Alisha stares at her, knitting her brow.

ALISHA

Did you solely ask me that question to confuse me?

Kelsey winks.

KELSEY

Maybe.

Alisha lets out a small laugh. Kelsey walks to her, then picks up a book. Stares, confused.

KELSEY (CONT'D)

Voice: How to Properly Articulate Phrases and Enunciate Vowels and Consonants.

(beat)

I'm gonna be real with you, this sounds atrocious.

Alisha smiles.

ALISHA

To be fair, a lot of roles demand such constraints.

Kelsey playfully rolls her eyes.

KELSEY

I'm gonna go look around some more.

ALISHA

(smiling)

Okay.

Kelsey walks off, leaving Alisha still browsing.

Alisha looks up, then slowly moves down to the next aisle, which is labeled "LGBTQIA+".

She walks down to the middle of the aisle, looks around. Picks up a book - "THE BISEXUAL'S GUIDE TO THE UNIVERSE".

Alisha stares at it, her breath slowing.

KELSEY (O.S.)

(calling)

Alisha?

She quickly throws the book back on the shelf and races back to the aisle she was just on. Kelsey pokes her head around the corner.

ALISHA

Yeah?

KELSEY
Four more books had the phrase.
This place is toxic.

Alisha forces a smile onto her face as Kelsey disappears back around the corner.

INT. CRAZY LAZY CAFE

ROSE lays a pot of coffee on one of the tables, smiling at the customers sitting beside it.

ROSE
Enjoy.

She turns on her heel and walks back to the cashier area. Pulls her phone out of her back pocket. A TEXT appears.

"ALEX: When do you think our sixth kiss will happen? Not that I'm keeping count or anything..."

Rose bites her lip and types a reply.

ROBBIE (O.S.)
Rose!

She quickly turns to see ROBBIE.

ROSE
(confused)
Robbie? What... what are you doing here?

ROBBIE
I've got news.

ROSE
That couldn't be told over a text?

ROBBIE
Nope!

Rose knits her brow.

ROSE
What is it?

ROBBIE
Singing.

ROSE
What about... singing?

ROBBIE
At bars, events, cafes.

ROSE
I'm not... I'm not following,
Robbie.

ROBBIE
To get noticed. We sing anywhere
people will let us. Bars, cafes.
Literally *anywhere*.

ROSE
Whoa, whoa, calm down, Robbie.

ROBBIE
(worried)
Don't tell me you don't want to do
this anymore.

ROSE
What? No! It's just... your
throwing info at me like a semi-
truck here.

ROBBIE
(chuckling)
Sooooooooooooo?

A small, soft smile creeps up on Rose's face.

ROSE
Do you really think those places
will pay for two unknown singers?

ROBBIE
Tips. We'll get paid in those.

Rose chuckles in disbelief.

ROSE
That sounds...

ROBBIE
Crazy, I know. But when has sane
ever gotten someone noticed?

Rose looks at him, contemplating.

ROSE
Are you sure we can do this,
Robbie?

ROBBIE

Of course! It's not glitz and glamour, but it's a start. Plus, we get to sing. That's what you want to do, right?

ROSE

(nodding)

Yeah.

(beat)

Okay. Okay! I'll text you after my shift, and we can talk about it.

Robbie grins.

ROBBIE

Awesome.

(beat)

We're gonna do big things, Rose, starting in the local bar.

He turns and goes, leaving Rose smiling. Still in shock.

INT. BERRETA APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

ALEX sits by MICHAEL, who quickly types away on his LAPTOP.

ALEX

You know, if you go any faster, you might break Alisha's record for words-per-minute.

Michael keeps typing.

ALEX (CONT'D)

Dad?

Keeps typing.

Alex pokes him with his foot, snapping Michael out of his trance.

MICHAEL

Hey! What was that for?

ALEX

Are you ever gonna tell me what you're working on?

Michael exhales.

MICHAEL

I didn't want to say anything in case... you know, it was a massive train wreck and nothing came of it.

Alex grows confused.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

I've been writing a script.

(beat)

Well, rewriting, editing, deleting, mostly.

ALEX

Like... for a movie?

Michael nods.

MICHAEL

Yeah.

ALEX

That's...

(beat)

Dad, that's *awesome!*

Michael is taken by surprise.

MICHAEL

Wait... really?

ALEX

Yeah! I had no idea you were interested in writing.

MICHAEL

Well... neither did I, but here we are, I guess.

(beat)

I mean, I wrote for my college newspaper back in the Prehistoric Age, but I never thought it'd turn into... this.

ALEX

What made you want to write a script?

MICHAEL

I guess... I guess I just...

(beat)

You know how your dream was to be an actor, right?

Alex nods.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

Well, I guess my dream is wanting to write. I don't know, it's hard to explain a dream, but... I love it. That's all I can say, really.

(beat)

It makes me happy when the words flow across the screen, and I can't even remember what's going on in my everyday life because I've just lost all since of reality.

(beat)

I write, and I'm lost. And I think that's what a dream is supposed to do you.

ALEX

(smiling)

You pretty much just described every single thing I love about acting, Dad.

MICHAEL

Tell you what, let's make a promise.

(beat)

I know you weren't too happy about not getting the part for your last audition --

ALEX

Yes, thank you.

MICHAEL

Sorry!

(beat)

And I wasn't really happy with how my first encounter with an agent went. So, here's a deal.

(beat)

You don't give up, I don't give up. We're both extremely stubborn men who need things to happen instantly, so let's just promise to see everything through.

ALEX

I wasn't ever gonna give up in the first place.

MICHAEL

Good.

Michael smiles at his son, and vice versa.

ALEX

We're gonna be the best father-son
team Hollywood has ever seen.

MICHAEL

You read my mind.

They hug, their smiles still radiating.

EXT. HOLLYWOOD HILLS

Mia sits on a large rock. David stands in front of her.

DAVID

Don't tell me your tired again.

MIA

Look, hiking Hollywood Hills was
never on my bucket list.

DAVID

But it's so beautiful!

MIA

So is Viola Davis. I'd rather look
up pictures of her.

DAVID

Touché, Mia. Touché.

They share a chuckle. Mia pulls a small bag out of her
pocket. The inside is green and grassy. MARIJUANA.

DAVID (CONT'D)

(shocked)

Whoa.

MIA

What?

DAVID

Is that...?

MIA

(confused)

Pot? Yeah.

DAVID

Oh...

MIA
Is there... a problem?

DAVID
No, I've just... never --

MIA
Smoked? It's cool.

Mia places the marijuana on a small piece of paper, and rolls it. A BLUNT. She pulls her lighter out, and sees David still watching her.

MIA (CONT'D)
(chuckling)
Do you want a hit?

DAVID
I... I don't know, really...

MIA
Look, I'm not gonna pressure you
into this. I find it relaxing,
which is why I do it.
(beat; chuckling)
I'm not a pothead, promise.

DAVID
How... relaxing?

MIA
Like I don't have a care in the
world.

Mia lights her blunt, then sticks the end of it in her mouth. Breaths in, blows the smoke out.

She closes her eyes, allowing herself to calm. David continues to watch her.

DAVID
(fast)
Can I try?

Mia looks at him.

MIA
Are you sure? It's really fine if
you don't want to, David.

DAVID
No, I do.
(beat)
Just to see.

A smile forms on Mia's face, then she chuckles.

MIA
Alright. Here.

She passes him the blunt. He mimics what Mia did with it, but begins to COUGH vigorously from the smoke.

Mia can't help but laugh.

MIA (CONT'D)
Oh yeah, it's not a pretty sight
the first time.

DAVID
(huffing)
Thanks for... the warning.

He passes the blunt back to Mia.

MIA
And you probably won't feel the
entire thing the first time.

DAVID
Lovely...

Mia takes a hit. Passes it back to David, who stares at it with intimidation. But he smokes it, and even though he still coughs, he maintains.

DAVID (CONT'D)
Better.

He passes it back to Mia.

MIA
What are we doing, David?

DAVID
What do you mean?

MIA
This. Hiking Hollywood Hills, you
sticking half of your body out of
my car on the freeway.

DAVID
I told you, I'm doing what I want
to do.

MIA

Yeah, I get that, and I know it's because you were in the hospital, but... is that all?

She takes a hit, passes. David holds the blunt, his gaze dropping.

DAVID

I don't know.

(beat; sighing)

Okay, no. It's not just because I got shot. It's because of everything that's happened to me recently.

(beat)

As soon as I saw those pictures of Alisha and Robbie, I felt so... so weak, and so helpless.

(beat)

And to top it all off, I was *shot* by a man I've maybe met once in my entire existence.

(beat)

That didn't just make me sad, that made me *mad*. What did I do, who did I piss off, to have all of these things happen to me?

MIA

(sympathetic)

Nothing, David. The world just sucks.

DAVID

That's why I'm doing all of these things that *I* want to do.

(beat)

I don't have a girlfriend anymore because she cheated on me. I almost died.

(beat)

I'm done sitting in the background of everyone else's lives, making witty comments for people to laugh at.

(beat)

It's time for *me*.

Mia looks at him, forming a small smile.

MIA

Then we're gonna keep doing this
weird crap that you like to do. I'm
fine with that.

CUE MUSIC: Echoes - *The Rapture*

David now smiles, then slowly takes another puff of the
blunt. Coughs.

DAVID

Still gotta get used to that.

He passes it back to Mia, who simply chuckles.

BLACKOUT.

END OF EPISODE