

AUDITION

3.03 | READING TIME

Written by

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CREATED 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
MICHAEL BERRETA PATRICK DEMPSEY
PAULA SMITH AMY ADAMS

GUEST CAST

JACE RIORDAN CHRIS O'DONNELL
MIA EDWARDS GAGE GOLIGHTLY
ROBBIE MEYERS JOE JONAS
TYLER COLIN DONNELL

FADE IN:

INT. RESTUARANT - AFTERNOON

PAULA SMITH stands by herself, waiting around as WAITERS come and lead couples to their designated tables.

She HUMS softly, bobbing her head to and fro. The tune becomes recognizable - *'Wrecking Ball' by Miley Cyrus.*

Her humming grows in volume, and finally:

PAULA
*'I came in like a wreeeeecking
baaaall!'*

She SWINGS her bag around and it HITS a passing WAITER. The tray he was holding flies up in the air, plates shattering once they come into contact with the floor.

PAULA (CONT'D)
(realizing)
Oh my gosh!! I'm so sorry!!

She bends down to help him.

JACE (O.S.)
Paula?

She looks up, and we SPIN AROUND to reveal JACE.

JACE (CONT'D)
Are you okay?

Paula hops up, brushing herself off.

PAULA
Oh, yeah. Totally fine.

She walks forward, but --

-- her foot SLIPS on the food splattered on the floor and she FALLS backwards.

THUMP!

PAULA (CONT'D)
Ow!

JACE
Paula!

Jace runs over to her aid and helps her back up.

PAULA
I'm good - I'm good.

JACE
Do you still want to get a table
here, or --

PAULA
Yeah, um, based on things that
happened, you know, twenty seconds
ago, I'm gonna go with *no*.

JACE
Before we go, though --

PAULA
Okay, make it fast, I see the
manager coming this way...
(beat)
Act natural!

JACE
(smiling)
But I've got news.

A smile forms upon Paula's lips.

PAULA
Oh! I *love* news!

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. BERRETA APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

ALEX and ALISHA sit on their couch, biting their nails and
staring off into space, respectively.

ALEX
You do realize that if we don't get
this it'll be entirely your fault,
right?

ALISHA
(sarcastic)
Love you too, Alex.

ALEX
I mean, I'm just saying.

Alisha rolls her eyes and answers her phone as it begins to
RING. MICHAEL walks in.

MICHAEL
Hey, guys.

ALEX

What are you doing?!

Michael stops at the entrance to the KITCHEN.

MICHAEL

Grabbing some... water?

ALEX

The doctor said you need to take it easy!

MICHAEL

Alex, I had a panic attack, my body is still in tact.

ALEX

I'm just trying to --

Alisha suddenly SCREAMS and begins to jump up and down. Alex and Michael cover their ears, checking their surroundings for a possible attack.

MICHAEL

What in God's name?!

The father and son TURN TO Alisha, who stares at them with excitement.

ALISHA

WE GOT THE PART!!

Alex's mouth drops open and he and Alisha begin to jump up and down again. Michael brings both of them in for a hug.

MICHAEL

I'm so proud of both of you!

They all break apart.

ALEX

Wait! When do we start?

ALISHA

(with all the same excitement)

Tomorrow!

Alex's eyes widen.

ALEX

Tomorrow?!

ALISHA
 (realizing)
 Oh no...

MICHAEL
 You two aren't ready, are you?

ALISHA
 No...

ALEX
 No, we are not.

Alex and Alisha lock eyes as --

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. READING ROOM

ACTORS, PRODUCERS, WRITERS, and the rest of the CREW all mingle and shuffle around the room. A long TABLE sits in the center of the room, chairs pulled up to its sides.

ALEX and ALISHA walk in, nervousness clear across their faces.

ALISHA
 We'll be fine. We just need to...
 be professional.

ALEX
 Alisha, I still think farts are
 funny, I'm everything *but*
 professional.

ALISHA
 Don't mention that to anybody.

A MAN approaches them and points.

MAN
 Alex and Alisha?

ALEX
 Yes?

The man offers his hand.

MAN
 I'm Tyler, the director of Warfare.
 Adjusted to the craziness yet?

Alex and Alisha chuckle.

ALEX
We'll get there.

TYLER
Well, we'll get to know each other
a lot better over the course of
filming. If you need anything, just
ask.

Tyler smiles and walks off.

ALISHA
Okay, meet-up number one: check.

Alex notices something off-screen.

ALEX
Holy crap.

SWISH PAN as a teenage girl with long blond hair and tight
clothes walks into the room. She looks around at the people,
apparently disgusted by their sight.

ALEX (CONT'D)
That's *Mia Edwards*.

ALISHA
She won *four* Young Artist Awards
last year.

Someone walks up to Alex and Alisha and hands them each a
script.

ALISHA (CONT'D)
Thank you.

Alisha flips the page, reads, and GASPS.

ALISHA (CONT'D)
I'm playing her sister.

She turns to Alex and grabs him by the shoulders.

ALISHA (CONT'D)
I'm playing her sister.

ALEX
And that's a bad thing, because...?

ALISHA
Have you not read the tabloids on
her?

Alex raises his eyebrows.

ALEX
You actually read that stuff?

ALISHA
I'm a girl, I have an excuse.
(beat)
Anyway, she's supposedly one of the
rudest people in the business.

ALEX
Just don't get on her bad side
then.

ALISHA
Easier said than done.

Alisha looks at Mia, who looks into her compact mirror,
reapplying her makeup.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. BERRETA APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

Michael sits on his couch, flipping through the channels on
his television.

KNOCK, KNOCK, KNOCK.

He gets up and walks over to the door, answers it.

Paula awaits him on the other side.

MICHAEL
Paula?

PAULA
Wassuuuuup! How are you?

MICHAEL
Fine, I guess. Come on in.

Michael sidesteps, allowing Paula to hop inside. He closes
the door.

PAULA
So how are things?

MICHAEL
Didn't you just ask this?

PAULA
(giggling)
Uh, noooo? I asked how you are.
(MORE)

PAULA (CONT'D)

Now I'm asking how *things* are. You see the difference?

She playfully SMACKS Michael on the side of the arm. Though, she uses more force than intended, and Michael winces and slightly bounces forward.

PAULA (CONT'D)

Oh gosh! Sorry!! I guess they need to call me Wonder Paula, huh?

Michael stares at her, confused.

Paula SNAPS, thinking of an idea.

PAULA (CONT'D)

Hey, that would look great on a T-shirt...

(beat; to Michael)

I could charge thirteen bucks for them, pocket six of the dollars --

MICHAEL

Things are fine, by the way!

Paula looks at Michael, confused.

PAULA

What?

MICHAEL

You asked how things were?

PAULA

Oh yes!

(composed)

I asked because, well, with the thing that happened to your wife and all... and then Alex.

A weak smile forms on Michael's face.

MICHAEL

I'm fine, Paula. Really, I am.

Paula begins to CLAP frantically.

PAULA

Yay! Gotta make sure my bestie is never down in the dumps!

She brings him in for a hug, continuing to hop up and down.

MICHAEL
Thanks, Paula.

They detach, and LOCK eyes. The smiles fade from their faces as they stare.

BEAT. BEAT. BEAT.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)
Well, um, thanks for stopping by.

PAULA
Oh... no problem! Anytime! I'll call later to see how the kids' first day went.

Both of them form awkward smiles as Michael opens the door for Paula to exit. After she leaves, he closes it, staring down at the floor.

INTERCUT: Paula does the same in the HALLWAY.

JUMP CUT TO:

INT. READING ROOM

Alex and Alisha still stand by one another, looking around.

ALEX
Remember just stay calm, and try not to get on anyone's bad side. This is our first gig, we can't screw it up.

TYLER (O.S.)
Okay, if everyone wants to sit around the table, we can get started!

SWISH PAN as Tyler flips his SCRIPT open.

TYLER (CONT'D)
If you can sit in the order of the cast list, that would make things a lot easier. Thanks!

Tyler smiles and takes a seat.

BACK ON Alex and Alisha. She pleads for help through her eyes, but they are both forced to part ways.

FOLLOW Alex as he sits between a MAN and a WOMAN. He introduces himself.

We're ON Alisha again. She sits by a BOY - dark hair, scruff, attractive.

ALISHA
Hey, I'm Alisha.

She offers her hand to him. He shakes it.

BOY
Robbie.

ROBBIE flips his script open.

ROBBIE
(smiling friendly)
Looks like we'll be each other's
love interests.

ALISHA
(smiling back)
I guess we'll get to know a lot
more of each other.

CUE MUSIC: Echoes - *The Rapture*

Mia walks up behind Alisha, flipping her hair to the side.

MIA
Are you going to sit down, or no?

ALISHA
Oh, sorry. I was just talking to --

MIA
That's great. Just put your
freakin' ass in the seat, please.
Thank you.

Mia mockingly smirks as Alisha slowly sinks down.

Alisha looks down the table to find Alex. They LOCK eyes,
each getting a glimpse of the darker side of Hollywood.

BLACKOUT.

END OF EPISODE