

Troubleshooting Audition Packet!

Welcome to your audition packet for Troubleshooting! Below you will find all of the audition cuts as well as any information you should know in order to feel prepared for your audition!

Expectations and requirements: *You are **not required** to have any of your audition scenes memorized, however memorization is always a plus (especially if you are looking at a larger role). The expectation is that you come into the audition having at least read and familiarize yourself with the audition scenes. Especially with our two primary characters (Ken and Barbie), the more familiar you are with the material the better.*

When you are picking your scenes, pick them based on what suits you as a performer. Keep in mind that any gender can read for any part. In regards to our two main characters , the part of Ken (on stage) will present as male and the part of Barbie (on stage) will present as female. However, the parts can be played by any gender. Please audition with whatever lines you feel shows off your talents.

What are we looking for:

- 1) *Acting technique/ fundamentals- Are you projecting? Can we understand all of your words? Are you cheating out?*
- 2) *Acting- Are you using good vocal inflections? Are you standing and reading the scene or are you moving around and using your space? Do you have strong facial expressions?*
- 3) *On stage- How do you interact with your scene partners? How comfortable are you being on stage and performing? Are you making strong choices?*
- 4) *Off stage- Are you quiet and respectful during other people's auditions? Have you come in with some familiarity of the scene?*

What we are **NOT** looking for:

- 1) *A specific interpretation- Before each scene, we will attach some character descriptions from the script as well as some focus points for what we are looking for in each scene. Play around with these! At the end of the day, we want to see what **YOU** can come up with and can bring to the table.*
- 2) *Perfection- Please do not stress over trying to make your scene "perfect"! We just want to see something that is authentically you!*

Additional Note: In our starting points section, there are suggestions on what scenes should be read if you are going for certain characters. Please keep in mind that we will have your top three choices, and just because you read a certain scene does not mean you will/won't be considered for parts. Again, pick what suits you best. There is a character description page at the end of this packet so you can get a better idea of what parts there are

BREAK LEGS! YOU GUYS GOT THIS!- Jin and Bella

SCENE ONE- KEN AND BARBIE (TWO PERSON SCENE)

Character Descriptions (as written in the script)

KEN: Cheesy, motivational speaker, any age

BARBIE: Cheesy, motivational speaker, any age

Starting points: *For this scene, try and keep it as high energy as possible! These are the two primary characters, so we want to see that your energy will be able to help drive the story forward. Play around with the infomercial, over the top, cheesiness of the script. We also would like to see the dynamics between the Ken and Barbie lines, and how well you work off of each other. If you are interested in the role of Ken or Barbie, please try and prepare this scene.*

CUT ON NEXT PAGE

AT RISE: The lights rise CS on KEN and BARBIE, two cheesy motivational speakers. THEY are overflowing with energy and have fake smiles permanently plastered on their faces.

audition cut #1

KEN: Hello, ladies!

BARBIE: Hello, gents!

BARBIE / KEN: And hello, everyone in between!

BARBIE: I'm Barbie!

KEN: And I'm Ken!

BARBIE: I know what you must be thinking.

KEN: Ken?

BARBIE: Barbie?

BARBIE / KEN: They're not dolls!

BARBIE: And you would be right.

KEN: Mostly right, Barbie.

BARBIE: Whatever do you mean, Ken?

KEN: You might not be made of vinyl, but you're still a doll.

BARBIE: Awww! So are you, Ken. So are you.

KEN: You really mean that?

BARBIE: I sure do. ~~you are anatomically correct.~~

~~KEN: No ifs about it, Barbie. My anatomy is 100% correct.~~

~~I'll just have to take your word for it!~~

KEN: So, Barbie.

BARBIE: Yes, Ken?

KEN: *(indicates the audience)* I bet the audience out there is wondering why we're here.

BARBIE: I bet they are. Otherwise, they're just a bunch of morons facing in one direction for no apparent reason.

KEN: So why are we here, Barbie?

BARBIE: Boy, am I glad you asked! We're here –

KEN: To help teenagers –

BARBIE: Get out of –

BARBIE / KEN: TROUBLE!

BARBIE: That's right. Teenagers are always getting into trouble.

KEN: Teenagers like... *(points into the audience)* ...YOU!

BARBIE: And YOU!

KEN: And YOU!

BARBIE: And YOU!

KEN: And YOU!

BARBIE: That's right, folks. We're talking to –

BARBIE / KEN: YOU! *end audition cut #1*

SCENE TWO- MIRANDA AND FAMILY (FOUR PERSON SCENE)

Character Descriptions (as written in the script)

MIRANDA: Teenager in trouble with family.

MOM: Miranda's bossy mother.

DAD: Miranda's cheapskate father.

SISTER: Miranda's whiny kid sister.

Starting Points: *This scene is much more ensemble based. For this we'd like to see how well you can work with a larger group of characters and how you can work off of each other's personalities. These characters should feel like a family. Play around with each character's quirk. If you're playing the dad, lean into the cheapskate aspect. Get creative and have fun with these characters.*

CUT ON NEXT PAGE

audition scene # 2

MIRANDA: Mom, Dad! I almost forgot. I brought home some cookies for dessert.

DAD: *(disapproving)* Cookies?

MOM: They better be a generic brand.

MIRANDA: Of course they are.

DAD / MOM: Yummmmmmmmm!

MIRANDA: *(rips open the bag)* Dig in!

(MOM, DAD, and SISTER grab some cookies and scarf them down.)

SISTER: Mmmmmmm, these are really good.

MIRANDA: I know! They're practically cookies.

MOM: What are they called?

MIRANDA: No, that's their name. "Practically Cookies." See.

(SHE holds up the bag, which looks like an Oreo bag, but reads "Practically Cookies" instead.)

DAD: Ya done good, honey.

MIRANDA: There's only one problem.

SISTER: What's that?

MIRANDA: If you turn the bag over and read the fine print, you'll see that... *(SHE reads the bag.)* "Practically Cookies may cause sudden drowsiness..."

(MOM suddenly falls asleep and does a face plant into her food.)

Uncontrollable twitching...

(DAD begins to twitch uncontrollably from head to toe.)

And complete loss of bladder control."

(SISTER leaps out of her chair, jumping up and down.)

SISTER: I have to go the bathroom!

MIRANDA: Too bad! You had your turn!

DAD: And you're not scheduled to go again until Thursday.

SISTER: Then I'll do it right here on the floor!

MIRANDA: Me too!

DAD: Oh, all right! You can go. Just don't tell your mother!

(HE continues to twitch as SISTER jumps up and down.)

MIRANDA: Thanks, Ken and Barbie. Now I gotta go. Literally!

SCENE THREE- AMBER (ONE PERSON SCENE)

Character Descriptions (as written in the script)

AMBER: Teenager in trouble with love

Starting points: This is a great scene for any actors who are looking at a small or non-speaking part. (Note: Just because you perform this scene does not mean you will only be considered for small parts! Again, we look at the top three choices you submit to us!) For this monologue, we really want to see your characterization. Play around with the idea of a stereotypical "girl in love".

CUT:

(The lights rise SR on AMBER. SHE's sitting in a movie theater with a giant bucket of popcorn in her lap.)

audition cut #3

AMBER: I love Paul. And I'm pretty sure he loves me. But he's older than I am, so whenever we go on a date, I have to buy tickets to

lame PG movies and then sneak into the R rated ones he wants to see. Unfortunately, this time we got caught, so now we're stuck watching "Return of the Care Bears." He left to get some Milk Duds, but that was... *(checks her watch)* ...a half an hour ago. I don't think he's coming back. *end audition cut #3*

BARBIE: Wait.

SCENE FOUR- COPS, THUG, DELINQUENT, AND KEN (FOUR PERSON SCENE)

Character Descriptions (as written in the script)

KEN: Cheesy motivational speaker, any age.

THUG: Teenager in trouble with the law.

DELINQUENT: Teenager in trouble with the law.

COP 1: Rent-a-cop, any age.

COP 2: Rent-a-cop, any age.

Starting point: *Rent-a-cop means that the cops are slightly incompetent and aren't as skilled as actual law enforcement. The cops are very comical characters that are played up for laughs. Think a mix of Paul Blart and Joe Swanson. They take their jobs seriously but kind of suck at it.*

We aren't too worried about Ken in this scene. For the thug and delinquent think of them as somewhat brainless. For this scene we're mostly focused on the cop characters and how big they can be played.

CUT ON NEXT PAGE

COP 1: Oh no!

COP 2: They're going to kill us!

(THUG and DELINQUENT tackle the COPS to the floor and start punching them. KEN really gets into it.)

KEN: That's right! Get 'em! Show those cops who's boss!

COP 1: Yo, wait! Hold it a second! Time out!

COP 2: What are you doing?

COP 1: How do I get them to stop beating up on us?

COP 2: Why?

COP 1: Just tell me!

COP 2: Use the safe word.

COP 1: Continue! Continue! Continue!

(THUG and DELINQUENT instantly go silent and stop hitting the COPS. As a matter of fact, THEY drop their characters all together.)

KEN: Hey! What are you doing? I was enjoying that.

COP 1: I said the safe word.

KEN: What safe word?

COP 2: "Continue."

THUG / DELINQUENT: So we stopped.

KEN: I thought I told you never to stop in the middle of a dramatization.

COP 1: *(shines his flashlight on KEN)* Is that who I think it is?

COP 2: *(does the same)* Who?

COP 1: I thought he looked familiar, but I couldn't quite put my finger on it. But when I heard him yelling, he sounded just like the guy on the news...

COP 2: *(realizes)* You know what? I think you're right!

THUG: What are you talking about?

DELINQUENT: Yeah. Who is he?

(The COPS stand up, knocking THUG and DELINQUENT to the floor.)

COP 1: Go on, kids. Take a hike.

COP 2: And take some acting lessons while you're at it.

(THUG and DELINQUENT angrily take off their ski masks.)

THUG: You heard the fuzz. Let's go.

DELINQUENT: Fuzz! There's another word that starts with –

THUG: You can drop the act, Bozo.

audition scene #4

SYNOPSIS

What's the best way to get out of trouble? Motivational speakers Ken and Barbie have just the answer in their latest lecture series, "Troubleshooting for Teens." What starts out as a few harmless tips for teenagers in trouble, including tap dancing as a way to avoid detention, quickly turns dangerous when Ken's advice grows increasingly delusional as the evening wears on. Barbie's own troubleshooting skills are put to the test when Ken loses his mind and starts encouraging the audience to take the law into their own hands. Barbie soon discovers that trying to get out of trouble might be more trouble than it's worth!

CHARACTERS

(Entirely gender flexible cast of 6–20)

KEN	Cheesy motivational speaker, any age
BARBIE	Cheerful motivational speaker, any age
BRYCE	Teenager in trouble with school
TEACHER	Strict math teacher
MIRANDA	Teenager in trouble with family
MOM	Miranda's bossy mother
DAD	Miranda's cheapskate father
SISTER	Miranda's whiny kid sister
AMBER	Teenager in trouble with love
PAUL	Amber's boyfriend, teenager
STACEY	Amber's nemesis, teenager
PARENT	Exasperated mother/father
TODDLER 1	Spoiled rotten brat, child

GRANDMA	Really old lady
SNAKE CHARMER	Exotic hypnotist, any age
THUG	Teenager in trouble with the law
DELINQUENT	Teenager in trouble with the law
COP 1	Rent-a-cop, any age
COP 2	Rent-a-cop, any age