

HIVE Audition Script

Character: VIVIAN

CONTEXT: VIVIAN has just survived her first performance on the show. Between scenes she meets her “co-stars” Dave and Grace and they discuss their shared predicament.

The sitcom theme music fades as the ‘show lights’ dim. **VIVIAN** puffs on a smoke, shaking her head in annoyed amusement - the “CHARACTERS” have frozen in their places once again.

VIVIAN

Aw, we’re done? Just when we were finding our chemistry. God, I hate theatre sports...

GRACE

Are you alright?

VIVIAN

Other than my head feeling like a bowling ball full of soup? Yeah I’m peachy.

GRACE

You handled that really well.

VIVIAN

Hm? Oh, the sitcom thing? Residuals from school theatre sports. Look, I’m coming down from a big night, and I don’t have the patience to do... whatever it is I agreed to do here. Could you just point me to the exits so I can be on my way?

DAVE

I don’t think we can. Leave, I mean.

VIVIAN

Sure we can.

DAVE

No we can’t. I’ve been looking and –

VIVIAN

-Oh, you’ve been looking? Well, now I’m looking, so.... Sorry, what was your name?

DAVE

Uh, Dave...

VIVIAN

- David; do you want to tell me what that creepy ghost audience laughter was about? Because I really... I did not like that.

An awkward silence falls as they consider. VIVIAN shakes it off first, moving towards the back to search for an exit -

VIVIAN

Y'know, whatever. I'm outta here.

DAVE

I already checked back there-

VIVIAN

-And now I'm checking back here. I'm sure your ego can handle it, lover.

VIVIAN fiddles with doors and windows looking for an exit. She notices something and lets out a cry of surprise-

GRACE

Viv! What happened?

VIVIAN

Viv? That's rather familiar, isn't...

VIVIAN realizes her attempts to distract aren't working. She changes course.

VIVIAN

That bitch from earlier - the 'Signorita'. She's in... I don't know. Look.

DAVE peeks around the door - it's dark inside but we can see SIGNORA PEDROLINA frozen and dead-eyed in the half darkness. VIVIAN continues -

VIVIAN

I crashed into her in the dark. It was like running into a pole, she didn't... Did you two know she was going to freeze like that?

DAVE and GRACE exchange a quick look. Not quick enough – VIVIAN catches it.

VIVIAN

Well thanks for the heads up on that, 'Gracey'...

DAVE

I'm sorry, weren't you the one dead-set on 'checking for yourself'? Something about "ego" in there too...

VIVIAN glares but swallows it. She glances back cautiously into the room. Her voice comes out wary -

DAVE

Maybe they're, like... mind controlled?

VIVIAN

Hm. Grace, check around the back for wires or a radio transmitter or something...

DAVE

What? No! Grace, come back out, we don't know if she's-

VIVIAN

Are you... oh, you're being serious right now? Oh, that's just adorable...

DAVE

What're you going on about...?

VIVIAN

This is a prank, genius. An elaborate escape room or something. They're actors.

(to the Heavens, with increasing vitriol)

Which also explains why they're a bunch of sick fucks who think it's funny to abduct people! You quivering cowards! Hey! Is this funny to you?

VIVIAN'S paces around the set in impotent fury, searching for an exit while occasionally muttering and kicking things.

END OF SCENE.