

# Words On A Moving Page

Live in the Studio, Grand Opera House

*Written by Tom Moore      Directed by Matthew Mullan*

JACKSON ALLEN    SEÁN COOPER

*Saturday 17th*  
**O C T O B E R**    16+



**GRAND  
OPERA  
HOUSE**  
*Studio Series*

## Audition Pack

21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> February

# Audition Locations

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February: Queen's SU,  
Sunset Room (12am - 4pm)

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February: Queen's SU,  
Drawing Room (12am - 4pm)

Please confirm availability in sign-up form and book your slot via  
Calendly

# Trigger Warnings

Suicide

References to Self-Harm

Substance Abuse

Physical Violence

References to Domestic Abuse

Strong Language

Sexual References

If you are worried or would simply like further information on any of these feel free to email the director:

[matthewmullan199@gmail.com](mailto:matthewmullan199@gmail.com)



# Roles for Audition

## ALEX (MALE PRESENTING)

Alex is Connor's AA sponsor and deeply understands him as a person due to going through similar situations as him. Alex is older and more mature than all other characters in the play, yet he remains without judgement – offering comfort and support to anyone around him who needs it.

## BARRY (MALE PRESENTING) \*

Barry is Connor's best friend. He is an alcoholic and a drug addict, yet he brushes off his addiction and worsening homelife. He holds a deep-rooted resentment for everyone in his life who he secretly blames for all the wrongdoings he has experienced. He is short tempered often flying off the handle in small situations. Overall, a deeply flawed and complex individual.

\*Note: The casting for this character will be  
for an understudy

# Roles for Audition

## LAUREN (FEMALE PRESENTING)

Lauren is Barry's girlfriend. Stuck in an extremely toxic relationship, she holds somewhat of a resentment to Connor who she feels encourages Barry's addiction and behaviour. She is grounded and calculated, more emotionally intelligent than everyone in the play.

## MEL (FEMALE PRESENTING)

Mel is a friend of Lauren, who has had past history with Connor, who deeply hurt her. She is confident and sure of her feelings. A compassionate, smart and caring person.

# Audition Extracts

## ‘ALEX’ EXTRACT

**Connor** Hello?

**Alex** Connor?

**Connor** Yep, that's me.

*A pause.*

So are you a therapist or something, should I call you doctor?

**Alex** No, I'm just Alex. I'm Alex and I'm an alcoholic.

**Connor** Fuck, then you're like the least likely person to help me get sober.

*Alex chuckles.*

**Alex** It's basic AA, Connor. You say your name and you state your problem.

*Connor thinks.*

**Connor** Right. Where's everyone else then?

**Alex** Well, considering your tendency to lash out with violence. A sponsor, one on one session, was agreed on.

**Connor** Yeah makes sense.

**Alex** Have a seat.

*Connor sits.*

Would you like a drink or anything? A water? Coffee?

**Connor** No, I'm good.

*Alex smiles and sits. Connor looks at him.*

**Alex** You not going to get a notebook out or anything?

**Alex** Connor, I'm not your fucking therapist.

**Connor** You can swear?

**Alex** I can do anything I want. I just want to talk. Man to man. Person to person.

**Connor** Okay.

**Alex** When did you have your first drink?

**Connor** I was six.

**Alex** I was eight. Close enough.

**Connor** Beat you though.

*Alex chuckles.*

**Alex** How'd it happen?

**Connor** Through my family. Just gave me some, alcoholism runs in the family.

**Alex** Usually does. You're not alone on that. My dad drank like a fish and beat the shit out of me most days.

*Connor is shocked.*

**Connor** You're just going to open up to me like that?

**Alex** I can't expect you to if I don't.

**Connor** Right.

**Alex** What's your family like, Connor? If you don't mind me asking.

**Connor** Em. It's fine. Well, my dad. My dad's an alright guy; you know, he never really talked much. You know, 'Hi dad,' 'Hi son.' 'How are you?' 'Not too bad.'

**Alex** You love your dad?

**Connor** Yeah, of course. He's my hero you know.

*A beat.*

Never violent. Never mean. I don't know, I'm probably overreacting.

*He rubs his eyes.*

**Alex** You're not. How's your mum? I never had one. She left when I was a kid.

**Connor** My mum she, she made it more clear with her words and actions... that I was a fuck-up.

**Alex** I'm sorry to hear that. I can't really relate on that one personally. But, a lot of people in this group could. You're not alone on this issue Connor. Family life can be brutal and mostly the main cause of our problems. You close with any other family?

**Connor** I mean my whole family called me a twig and some slurs I don't want to repeat.

*He laughs.*

**Alex** I know exactly what you're talking about.

*Connor tutts.*

**Connor** I was an excited little kid you know. I was actually creative.

*A beat.*

**Alex** You know Connor. Don't beat yourself up for this. As I say I'm not a therapist mate but I see a lot of new faces in and out of this door. Family, is nearly always what they talk about, you know. My case too. I've got a fucked up family. When you're older you just grow tired of the bullshit.

**Connor** Exactly yeah, no excuses anymore.

*Connor thinks.*

It still stings though, even now.

*Connor tears up a little.*

**Alex** Yeah.

**Connor** You know years pass and grandparents and uncles, and distant members of the family die and that's the only time I see them.

*He sighs.*

I just wanted to be their friend. But they all see me as just the family fuck-up.

*Alex pauses.*

**Alex** And that's why you drink.

*Connor looks up at Alex.*

**Connor** Well yeah. It numbs it all.

**Alex** I get you. Hurt them before they hurt you. That's why you lash out.

**Connor** Yep.

-END OF EXTRACT-

## ‘LAUREN’ EXTRACT

**Connor** You looking for Barry?

*Lauren sighs.*

**Lauren** Yeah. Have you seen him? He’s fucking wasted. Can’t control him when he’s wasted like this.

*Connor chuckles.*

**Connor** Yeah. He’s always been like that. Isn’t he on a court order to not drink?

*There’s a pause.*

**Lauren** Aren’t you?

**Connor** Ah, well fair point.

**Lauren** Why are you out here? It’s raining and there’s a pub full of people in there.

**Connor** I just. Needed a minute.

*She laughs.*

**Lauren** You’re avoiding him, aren’t you?

*Connor looks down. Lauren laughs at him.*

Well, the coast is clear; he isn’t in there. You’re free to do as you wish.

**Connor** God, it’s not like that Lauren.

*A beat.*

How's he been doing?

**Lauren** He's not good, Connor.

**Connor** Yeah.

**Lauren** I don't get why you two don't just talk to each other?

**Connor** I fucked up.

**Lauren** I know you fucked up, Connor. Royally fucked up. Just talk to your best friend. He's lost without you. He's drinking like a fish.

*Connor laughs.*

**Connor** He hasn't changed that much, then.

*A pause.*

**Lauren** So, are you going to talk to him? Maybe I can get my boyfriend back?

**Connor** Yeah, Lauren. I don't know. It's not as easy as that.

**Lauren** Well, why not?

**Connor** I can't just talk to him.

*Lauren stares at Connor*

**Lauren** Why the fuck not? You shy or something?

*Connor scoffs.*

**Connor** Fuck off.

**Lauren** He's in a bad way. It really freaked him out when he got arrested.

**Connor** What do you mean?

**Lauren** I know you're used to spending the night in a cell, but he isn't. You may think beating your best friend to a pulp and getting you both arrested is normal Connor. But here, in the real world. No one thinks that way.

**Connor** He's struggling with it?

**Lauren** He's paranoid, freaking out and thinking the police are always after him. That's why I worry when I lose sight of him and he's drunk.

*Connor stops. He thinks.*

**Connor** You have no idea where he is?

*Lauren sighs.*

**Lauren** No. He always does it. He disappears. He should be fine.

**Connor** What if he's not?

**Lauren** Well, that's a bit morbid Connor. You're no fucking help you know that.

*Connor laughs. Lauren continues to look about. Connor stands up.*

**Connor** Why do you fucking despise me Lauren? I've never done anything to you.

*Lauren laughs.*

**Lauren** What are you even talking about?

**Connor** You're friends with Mel. You took her side over mine.

**Lauren** So does that automatically make me hate you?

**Connor** Her other friends do. I didn't even do anything, and yet they all hate me.

*A beat.*

Does she say shit about me?

**Lauren** What do you mean?

**Connor** Does she talk shit about me. To you?

**Lauren** Me and Mel don't really talk much anymore.

*Connor is surprised.*

**Connor** Really?

**Lauren** We sort of fell out. She can be a real bitch sometimes. Really two-faced, I kind of just got fed up with it.

*Connor laughs.*

**Connor** Yeah, tell me about it.

**Lauren** But, yeah.

*Connor is confused.*

**Connor** Sorry?

**Lauren** She would talk shit about you. All the time.

**Connor** Lovely to hear.

-END OF EXTRACT-

Old Bull



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