

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
OCTOBER 16+



**GRAND
OPERA
HOUSE**
Studio Series

Audition Pack

21st - 22nd February

Audition Locations

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

Sunday 22nd 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

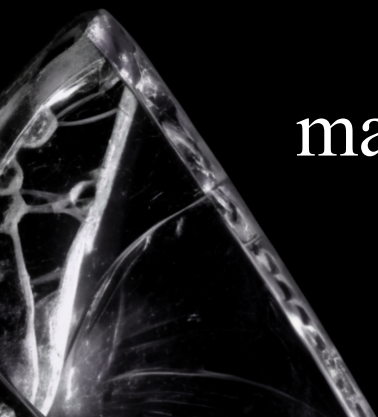
References to Domestic Abuse

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



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.

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 tuts.

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



Theatre Company