

HOW DO YOU PUT TERRORIST VIDEO ON AN ACTOR'S RESUME?

Written by Spencer McCarty

1 INT. AUDITION ROOM - DAY

1

We open on an audition room where a young actor, CARTER, 20s, is finishing up his audition with the CASTING DIRECTOR.

CARTER
And... scene.

CASTING DIRECTOR (O.S.)
Great job kid. Thanks so much for
your time, we'll be in touch.

CARTER smiled and leaves the room

CARTER
(to himself)
Nailed it!

2 EXT. CITY STREET - A FEW DAYS LATER

2

CARTER is walking down the street, talking on his cell phone to his mother

CARTER
No it went great mom, they totally
loved me. They kept me in the room
like three times as long as any of
the other guys waiting before me.
And they had me read it a bunch of
different ways. That's a good
thing! The longer you're in the
room the better.

CARTER stops at a window and checks himself out, fixes his hair, while only half paying attention to his mother on the other end of the phone call.

CARTER (CONT'D)
Um, no it was for a feature, I
think. Maybe some sort of viral
video or marketing thing, I don't
know. All I know is that it's an
acting job, and one that pays,
which I could very much use.

CARTER makes his way back to an apartment building and heads inside.

3 INT. CARTER'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

3

CARTER, still on the phone with his mom, enters into his apartment, plops down on the couch, puts his feet up on the coffee table and turns on the television. We see that the news is airing when suddenly, the screen turns to black and next

CARTER appears on the screen, it's his taped audition from the other day!

CARTER
Uh, mom? I'm going to have to call you back.

A MONTAGE of CARTER'S video playing on various screens all over the United States is shown. We see the message from different vantage points. In Coffee Shops, Times Square, Gyms, Sports Bars, a Police Car, People's homes across the country, etc.

CARTER (Video Recording)
 People of America, no longer can we sit idly by and watch as you destroy the home we all share. Corruption, pollution, environmental destruction, economic inequality and class warfare, to name a few, are tearing this country down by the day.

CARTER sits dumfounded on the couch. He notices that this message is also playing on his phone and tablet.

CARTER (Video Recording)
 Not to worry though, we have come to learn through our network of compatriots that there are certain individuals, corporations and politicians who are by and far the worst of the worst in these areas. They may not have started these problems, but they sure as hell are making them worse, and profiting from them in the meantime.

CARTER looks out his window at the apartment across from him. He realizes that it isn't just him who is getting this video, it's streaming on the televisions in all of his neighbors apartments as well.

CARTER (Video Recording) (Cont)
 That is why we are announcing our plan to cleanse the nation of these monsters, and not so silently or subtly changing the course of this country's future for the better. In the coming weeks we will be removing these variables one by one until we can be certain that we are giving our country's future it's best chance, not just for survival, but for prosperity and peace. And... scene.

The final line we hear and see as the video ends is the same as at the start of the script. CARTER, stunned, remains still and silent for a moment as the video ends, until..

CARTER
Fucking.... Awesome!!

4 INT. POLICE STATION QUESTIONING ROOM - FOLLOWING DAY 4

CARTER sits handcuffed at a table across from a middle aged DETECTIVE in a suit, with two POLICE OFFICERS standing behind him.

DETECTIVE
...This is bad kid. If you don't tell us more, the D.A.'s office is going to put you away for a long time. The madness your little video caused has been catastrophic across the country.

CARTER
You're telling me! I mean, that was my audition tape! Well, granted it was the callback tape so I wasn't as rusty as the original, but still!

CARTER is distressed but in an eye-rolling way to the POLICE OFFICERS and the DETECTIVE.

CARTER (CONT'D)
No one's supposed to see that until 20 years from now when I'm a huge success and some talk show host wants to show the world a lil sneak peak at my time coming up in Hollywood! I mean, it's horrible! I was barely off book and the lighting, don't even get me started on the lighting!

DETECTIVE
(getting upset)
You think this is a joke!? This is not a game, kid. This is serious! Fourteen people died when this video was wide streamed on every device in the country, and dozens more are in the hospital with injuries. Whoever is responsible for this needs to be taken down now!

CARTER

I know man! They didn't even pay me! For an organization that can hack every screen in the country they can't even get their accounting department to cut me a check?! You think that they'd be legit on all levels and not skimp out on paying their talking puppet by just using the poor quality audition tape! SAG is going to tear them a new asshole! Actors have rights!

DETECTIVE

You know, for someone who is supposedly a victim here, you seem to be pretty happy with that shit-eating grin on your face.

CARTER

I mean, can you blame me? Everyone in the country saw that! Not getting paid aside, this'll totally get me into some high profile meetings out here! I mean, who gives a shit about a little 5-&-Under day player spot on C.S.I. that maybe, *maybe* five million people will see. Everyone saw this!

DETECTIVE

You're unbelievable.

CARTER

(In his own world, ignoring the DETECTIVE's comment)

That video didn't even credit me, and you all found me in what? 12 hours? Before you hauled me in and took my phone, I had half my contact list hitting me up saying they saw me, including a few girls I tried to sleep with, unsuccessfully at the time, that sure seemed to be wanting it now!

DETECTIVE

Carter. Carter..

CARTER

(interrupting, eager)

Have you seen the news by chance? Has the media named me yet? What're they saying?

(MORE)

CARTER (CONT'D)
 How am I coming across? I bet I've gotten like, thousands of more followers by now.

DETECTIVE
 You're wondering about how many followers you've gotten? Are you kidding me?!

CARTER
 Hey, social media following is crucial to making it big, chief.

DETECTIVE
 I really couldn't care less, and I'm not the chief.

CARTER
 It's just a nickname, relax Detective. And you totally should care! I'm sure if you stepped up your social media game a bit maybe you would be promoted to Chief!

DETECTIVE
 (Losing his patience)
 Carter...

CARTER
 (Oblivious to the DETECTIVE's growing frustration)
 I wonder how I'm going to put this on my resume. Like how do I even categorize it? Television? Spokesman? New Media?

The DETECTIVE remains silent because he refuses to indulge CARTER. CARTER doesn't seem to notice.

CARTER (CONT'D)
 What should I title it? What were those people calling themselves again? Have you detected that yet? Or should I just call it "that terrorist video threat thing you all saw"? Nah, too wordy. I'll just see what the media is calling it and title it that in order for congruency. Regardless, at least I get to add another 'lead' credit to my resume. Those go a long way in the 'biz.

DETECTIVE

(Rubs his brow, despondent)
Ugh, Kid. Just, just walk us through everything that happened from the beginning.

CARTER

Well, like I said when I was brought in here, it all started with a breakdown. Found it on LA Casting, submitted for it like I do for practically every project that comes up, it's a numbers game you know. Got the alert for the audition the following day, was sent the script, memorized that shit in like an hour by the way...

DETECTIVE

Tell me about the audition, did you get a good look at the people there?

CARTER

Look, when I'm in audition mode I don't really pay attention to anything else but the *character*. Sure, I smile and say hello to the casting director, but I didn't get chummy with the dude or anything. I was in and out quick enough to not have to pay the three-dollar-an-hour meter on Sunset.

DETECTIVE

So that was it?

CARTER

Well, for that day, yeah. Then I got an email the next day saying I got a callback, which I knew I would because I straight killed it in there. The audition I mean, not the casting director!

DETECTIVE

Yes, I gathered that much.

CARTER

Right, well, good! Anyway, so I went back, read for it again, that's the video everyone saw, then nothing. Well, until it aired everywhere and all that.

The DETECTIVE, unsatisfied with the limited information CARTER

was able to provide, and fed up with the kid's ramblings, decides he's had enough.

DETECTIVE

Well kid, I haven't learned much from this, other than the fact that you are way too self-centered to be involved in a group that claims to care about the well-being of everyone in this country..

CATER

(Interrupting)

Hey! You've gotta put yourself first to make it in entertainment, man! Eyes on the prize and all that..

DETECTIVE

(Cutting CARTER off)

...so I have nothing to charge you with. For now. You're free to go, but don't go too far, we'll be in touch... (quietly to himself) unfortunately.

CARTER

Finally! Can I have my phone back now?!

DETECTIVE

Only if you promise to stop talking.

CARTER nods. The DETECTIVE motions to the POLICE OFFICER standing behind him who removes CARTER's phone from a sealed plastic bag and hands it to CARTER. CARTER turns the phone on.

DETECTIVE (CONT'D)

Now get out of here.

The POLICE OFFICER knocks on the door and it opens. He gestures for CARTER to leave. CARTER stands and begins to leave, but hesitates for a moment and turns back to the DETECTIVE.

CARTER

Can I get a selfie with you before I go? It'll be the perfect thing to post right now. I'll caption it, "free at last, ain't never going back!" Hashtag no charges. Hashtag actors life, hashtag street cred.

The DETECTIVE makes a face at CARTER that screams "are you kidding me?" Then starts collecting his papers and prepares to leave. CARTER frowns, but decides to take one anyway. He

quickly goes over to the DETECTIVE, wraps his arm around the DETECTIVE's shoulders and snaps a selfie. The DETECTIVE is pissed. CARTER doesn't wait around for his reaction though and rushes out of the room.

5 EXT. OUTSIDE OF POLICE STATION

5

As CARTER leaves the police station he finally gets a moment to look at his phone and sees that he has a ton of notifications from various apps. As he's looking through them, his phone rings, it's an unknown number. He answers it. Maybe it's an agent from WME/CAA wanting to sign him or someone even more famous like Tarantino or Scorsese saying they have just the part for him. We don't know as we don't hear that side of the conversation. CARTER then silently does a celebratory cheer/dance and composes himself before putting on a coy smirk and opening his mouth to respond to the person on the other line. Close out on that.

THE END.