

“AWOKEN” Casting Call (dir. Alexis Harris)

Basic Plot

AWOKEN is a 12-minute psychological-suspense film about the inner struggle of a mid-20s, middle class black woman’s desire to appease white society and her black heritage.

Aesthetically, the film will be inspired by Jordan Peele’s *Us & Get Out*, Alfred Hitchcock’s *Psycho*, Jennifer Kent’s *The Babadook*, & Issa Rae’s *Insecure*. The film will use natural lighting during the day, as well as strong shadows in the evening shots. The movie will have handheld shots throughout.

Characters & Approx. Time Commitment (not incl. Travel)

Imani

Female, black, mid 20s, independent, young-professional in the marketing field, hard-worker, insecure at beginning, gains confidence & embraces blackness as the story progresses. She becomes one with herself and becomes resolute. Dresses to blend into white society (straight hair, plain outfits), at the end of the film, she dresses to embrace how she is. (17 hrs)

Blackself

Female, black, mid 20s, similar build as Imani, authentically black, can be both ominous and compassionate, confident and comfortable with who she is, *must have the ability to play creepy* (8 hrs)

Tim - Male, white, mid 20s, tall & average build, astronomer, idealist, studious, caring, honest, non-confrontational, oblivious until end of Imani’s struggle. (9 hrs)

Bradley - Male, late 20s-40, frat boy business man type, cocky, attempts humor. (2 hrs)

Letrice - Female, black, late 20s/early 30s, passionate about her community and people’s struggles, caring, fully embraces her blackness, paranoid of white people abusing minorities, unwavering (2 hrs)

Police - Male, white, 30s-50s, aggressive, apologetic (2 hrs)

Dinesh - Male, West-Asian (Indian/Pakistani/etc.), mid 20s, cocky, goofy, hip-hop wannabe (1 hr)

Extras - Overweight white country male, white businessmen, inner-city black people

Timeframe & Location

Early October to Mid-November in the Catonsville/Frederick area. Hoping to film between 2 weekends (2-5 days, depending on schedule).

About Me

I'm a Media & Communications and Visual Arts student at the University of Maryland - Baltimore County. I am creating a film for my Senior Projects course to finish my Bachelors program.

During my free time, I enjoy taking portraits of people. Links to my work here:

www.instagram.com/lexinaninstax / <https://crayolasmarts2.wixsite.com/home>

Casting Call Details

If interested, please send a copy of your résumé and headshots to aharris4@umbc.edu. A link or attachment containing a video demo reel is appreciated, but not required.

We will schedule a 5-minute cold reading – conducted via Skype – comprising of excerpts from the film. All readings will be completed no later than Friday, October 11th, 2019.

If offered a role, you will be provided with a copy of the script and 2 days to read it, discuss the script and/or role, and ultimately determine if you choose to accept the role.