

# **SELF-TAPE/ AUDITION PACKAGE**

## **“GHOSTWRITER”**

*Re-imagined by J.J. Johnson*

### **NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR:**

Sinking Ship Entertainment and Sesame Workshop pride themselves on their authentic and relatable casts. We're eager to see performers who are differently abled and those with diverse body types.

Kids come in all shapes, colours and sizes, the Ghostwriter cast will reflect this. Thank you, J.J.

## **CHARACTER DESCRIPTION**

### **CURTIS**

**[CURTIS]** Male. Age 12. Open Ethnicity. *“I hate when my shirt gets caught in my abs.”*

Curtis was born great: great hair, great style, did we mention his hair? Older brother of Donna and reluctant helper to Ruben, Curtis brings an ability to the group that neither has, hall smarts. Curtis understands psychology, even if he's never heard the word before. He's life smart to Ruben's book smart. A guy who knows how to turn on the charm to get what he wants. He's a ready, aim, you fire type person, someone who's grown accustomed to other people doing things for him who's now suddenly going to have to fend for himself. SERIES LEAD.

**\*\*FOR THIS ROLE WE ARE LOOKING THROUGHOUT CANADA, THE UNITED STATES AND THE UK\*\***

**DEADLINE FOR SELF-TAPES: MONDAY, MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2018 @ 4:00 PM EST**

**SEND SELF-TAPES DIRECTLY TO: [ghostwritercasting@gmail.com](mailto:ghostwritercasting@gmail.com)**

Any questions can be sent to [ghostwritercasting@gmail.com](mailto:ghostwritercasting@gmail.com)

*(Self-tape Instructions are on the last page of this audition package)*

*Note: Please make sure to fill out the forms within this audition package and send them a long when sending in the self-tape*

**PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE WEBSITE CAREFULLY BEFORE EMAILING.**

**You do not need to email for permission to submit!**

*NO phone calls please*

## **Actor Information Form**

*We are committed to diverse, inclusive casting. For every role, please submit qualified performers, without regard to disability, race, age, color, national origin, ethnic origin or any other basis prohibited by law unless otherwise specifically indicated.*

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ (for talent under 18)

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ (talent under 18)

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Height: \_\_\_\_\_

Country, City and Province/State You Live In: \_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Have they ever acted before (school plays, classes, etc)? If so, please specify:

Special skills (Languages they can speak, anything extra special they can do):

**If they have an agent:**

Agent name: \_\_\_\_\_ Agent contact: \_\_\_\_\_

(If they have an agent, please allow them to submit your child's audition package)

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# Parental/Guardian Consent Form

(for talent under 18 years old)

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

I consent to have my son/daughter/ward \_\_\_\_\_  
send their electronic audition for the casting! I understand that this is  
not a promise of employment. I agree to accompany my  
son/daughter/ward to any requested additional casting sessions, as  
needed.

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Electronic Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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# TIPS FOR SELF TAPES

## PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!!!

1. Frame yourself (the talent) from head to toe. Start off with a brief introduction into camera: state your NAME, age (for talent under 18 years old), HEIGHT, and LOCATION.
2. Now, zoom in so that you're framed from the top of the head to the mid chest area ONLY and keep that frame for the entire scene. There should be little to no space over the top of your head. Be sure that the lighting is bright. Make sure that the sound quality is clear. It is very important that we can clearly see and hear you.
3. Now, do the scene(s)! (scene(s) are attached at the bottom of this audition package)
4. Feel free to tape the scene(s) as many times as you'd like, but only send us **one** take, the BEST take.
5. Remember to look natural, be energetic, have fun, and just be yourself!
6. Send everything in **ONE** email to [ghostwritercasting@gmail.com](mailto:ghostwritercasting@gmail.com)  
Audition videos should be sent via a link such as YouTube. **Please make sure to set the privacy settings so that the video is UNLISTED. Auditions must not be made public. Auditions must also NOT BE LISTED AS PRIVATE. If you send us a private link we will be e-mailing you to change it to unlisted.**

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# **SUBMISSION CHECK LIST**

This is everything you will need to send us in order for you to be considered!

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*NO phone calls please*

\_\_ Actor Information Form

\_\_ Parent/Guardian Consent form (for talent under 18 years old)

\_\_ An acting resume if you have one (if not the information sheet above will be fine!)

\_\_ A recent photo (we need to see your face and teeth clearly; it does not need to be a professional headshot. This could even be a candid photo – as long as it looks just like you and you’re the only one in the photo! No sun glasses)

\_\_ Your self taped audition (sides for self tape are on the last page) (This should be sent via a link such as YouTube, VIMEO etc. *Please set the privacy setting so that the video is UNLISTED. (Auditions MUST NOT be PUBLIC or PRIVATE).*)

NOTE: Your audition submissions will NOT be considered if any of the forms are missing. If you have an agent please allow them to submit you.

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ANGLE ON: **R-U-B-E-N**'s underwear label. **R**, **U** and **N** start to magically lift off the label. They rise right into his eye-line.

START Sc. 1 →

RUBEN  
 (shock)  
 R... U... N...  
 (putting it together)  
 Run. Run?

The letters drop out of frame just as Curtis and his friends enter the bathroom. They take note of Ruben's head over the bathroom stall.

Curtis looks down at the book on the floor. He grabs it.

CURTIS  
 Now this... is mine.

Curtis turns and leaves with Ruben now the one giving chase. It's clear that book means something to him.

RUBEN  
 Give that back!

← END Sc.1

5 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - DAY 5

Ruben <BURSTS> into the hallway and stops, immediately realizing his mistake.

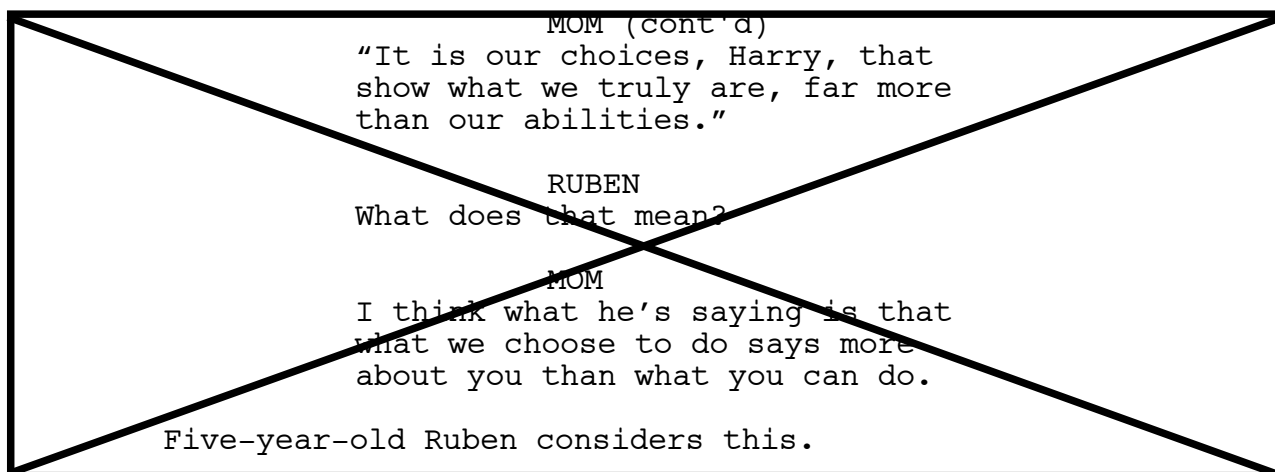
CUT WIDE, where a cleverly-staged **WATER FOUNTAIN** masks his naked lower half. Everyone in the hallway is looking at him.

RUBEN (V.O.)  
 You know what's worse than having your underwear try to talk to you? Being naked in front of your entire school. Yeah, that's worse. Way worse.

Ruben slowly backs up and races down another hallway. <LAUGHTER> follows him out.

6 INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY #2 - DAY 6

CLOSE ON TEXT: **LOST AND FOUND** written in **GLITTER PEN INK**. We PULL OUT from the text to reveal a **LOST AND FOUND BOX** brimming with **CLOTHES**. Ruben silently approaches and pulls out a **PAIR OF SWEATPANTS**. He quickly puts them on before sliding down the wall, completely drained.



31 INT. SCHOOL BASEMENT - DAY

31

The school basement is deserted save for a **YELLOW WET FLOOR PYLON** where the Custodian was mopping earlier. 'WET FLOOR' is spelt out in big block **RED LETTERS**.

Ruben appears in the distance, running down the stairs.

RUBEN (V.O.)  
 I *choose* to help Donna.

TIGHT ON Ruben. He picks up speed, this is the first moment where he seems actually confident.

Beat. It doesn't last long.

Ruben slips on the wet floor and crumples to the ground, <KNOCKING> over the pylon as he goes down.

BIRDS-EYE-VIEW as Ruben slides into view, coming to a stop.

RUBEN (V.O.)  
 (defeated)  
 Even though I can't...

RUBEN POV: LOW ANGLE looking up as Curtis enters frame, looming over him.

Curtis motions to his backpack, Ruben's book is still inside.

START Sc. 2 →

CURTIS  
 Hand it back.

Ruben holds it more tightly.

RUBEN  
 Your sister's in trouble.

CURTIS

She's always in trouble.

Curtis lunges for his backpack and the two struggle over it.

ANGLE ON: the wet floor sign. The **W, F, L,** and **O** start to **LIGHT UP** and lift off the pylon.

CURTIS

Give it back.

PROFILE SHOT of Ruben, behind him the four red letters rise through frame.

RUBEN

Not until you help me...

Behind Curtis, the red letters congregate on a **FLUORESCENT LIGHT: W... O...**

Curtis successfully <RIPS> the backpack away from Ruben and he stands up.

CURTIS

You're lucky I'm tired from gym class.

He starts to exit. Ruben lowers his head in defeat, notices the letters still forming above: **L... F...**

The letters are thin enough that the light is able to penetrate though, casting a **RED HUE** down onto Ruben.

RUBEN

Wolf?

The letters begin to rotate, drawing emphasis to the red light.

RUBEN

Red?  
(putting it together)  
Wolf Red.

Ruben shakes his head, that's not quite it.

ANGLE ON: Curtis exiting. Behind him Ruben stands up, RACK FOCUS to him as he yells over.

RUBEN

Red Wolf.

Curtis stops and turns to face Ruben.



CURTIS  
What did you say?

RUBEN  
Red Wolf. Donna said it to me.

CURTIS  
What kind of trouble is she in?

Curtis has suddenly become a different person, now concerned.

RUBEN  
It's a little hard to explain.

CURTIS  
Try me.

RUBEN  
Have you ever read...

CURTIS  
(Interrupting)  
I don't like books.

RUBEN  
(under his breath)  
Not surprising.

CURTIS  
What was that?

RUBEN  
Nothing...

Curtis goes quiet for a second.

CURTIS  
Did it have something to do with a  
giant three-headed dog?

RUBEN  
How did you...

←  
END Sc. 2

~~Before he can finish his sentence, Ruben hears a <LOW GROWL>  
behind him. He slowly turns until he's nose-to-snouts with  
the Three-Headed Dog.~~

~~RUBEN (V.O.)  
The thing they don't tell you about  
overcoming your fears is that it  
usually leads to newer, even bigger  
fears that need to be overcome.~~

~~One of the dogs lunges at Ruben, swallowing him whole.~~