

CORA AUDITION MATERIAL

CORA: (she/her, late 30s), The founder of a new fandom based start up that Kat works for. Cora is constantly projecting a cool, calm demeanor; an elder millennial might even use the term "Girl Boss," though Cora would cringe at the title. Cora has a background in film production, and has left the industry to start an app that caters to fans around the world. She's unlearning the shame of being a fan, and leaning into the cringe factor of being loudly nerdy. Overall, she's incredibly passionate about her work, and making the next generation of fans feel safe and seen, a feeling she never had growing up.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - MORNING

A small start up all-hands meeting is getting started. A group of twenty-somethings are gathered around a conference table, and their CEO and founder, CORA (late 30s, undeniably cool and comfortable in front of a crowd) takes the reigns at the front of the room.

CORA

Thank you guys for setting the keyboards down for this quick all-hands. Since we're welcoming a few new members to the team, I wanted to take a moment to welcome them -- everyone, a quick round of applause for Justin and Adalaine, who are joining our design and UGC teams, respectively.

The room claps, as well as a small chorus of welcomes. We get the idea that the company is small, but everyone is pretty happy to be here. Cora gears up for a speech.

CORA (CONT'D)

I know you've all heard this before, but when we bring fresh blood into the room, it's always a perfect moment to remind us all why we're here. When I started this company, it was a long time coming. I'd been working in TV for ages, doing anything to be near a set. I won't date myself, but I PA'd on some of your favorite shows, and some you probably haven't even heard of. I worked my way up the ladder through grueling hours and bad bosses and not less than three mental breakdowns.

(MORE)

CORA (CONT'D)

But I did it because I had convinced myself that it was what I wanted. I wanted to make TV and be a part of the magic that could take people away from their problems for thirty minutes or an hour every week. I thought that was what had gotten me through rough times and kept me sane. But I finally realized it was more complicated than that. I loved the TV shows I was obsessed with, I really did. But the thing that kept me going was everything that happened *after* the show finished airing. I spent countless hours searching for message boards, using my dial up internet -- I know I said I wouldn't date myself, but here we are -- just looking for someone to talk to about my favorite show. I spent hours and hours talking to strangers on the internet about theories and role playing out new scenarios. I met some of my best friends to this day there. My maid of honor at my wedding? We met on a message board when we were fifteen. And when I was on those sets, trying to find that feeling, I realized that feeling wasn't my individual experience with that show. It was fandom. Fandom was that life blood. The thing that could make you watch fifteen seasons of a television show because you read a devastating fan fiction for a fandom you weren't even in. It was the thing that made you suffer through bad seasons and hope to get through the final slump. It helped you reimagine better endings and learn how to think critically. I didn't want a career in TV. I wanted a career in fandom.