WOW Studio One & Destined 2 WOW Foundation presents

LOCKED IN: THE STORM

Written by Tangie Brickhouse Beaty

AUDITION SIDES

LOCKED IN: THE STORM — Audition Sides

WOW Studio One · Working audition packet · September 2026

These are original audition scenes inspired by the current character foundation. They are not final script pages. Each actor reads the role named in the heading; an off-camera or in-room reader plays the other role. Keep the scenes conversational. Pauses, movement, and changes of tactic matter more than volume. No props are required.

Preparation: Select the side for the role you are auditioning for. You may also prepare a second role if requested. For Jay, Brooklyn, and Journey, prepare 20–30 seconds of an unaccompanied song that shows your voice (R&B, soul, or gospel as appropriate). Tre should prepare 20–30 seconds of an original clean freestyle or rap. Music is separate from the dialogue side. Rell may bring a short original spoken-word piece if requested. Do not invent or disclose a character's private revelation during these scenes.

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1. Marcus “Deuce” Whitfield— Male, plays 16–18 | **Vocals: None**

Reader: *Tamala* · ***Place:*** *Outside the principal's office, before the storm.* ***Play:*** *Charm your way out of trouble, then try to be heard.*

TAMALA: Practice, huh? Funny. Coach says he hasn't seen you all day.

DEUCE: Maybe he needs glasses.

TAMALA: Marcus.

DEUCE: You only call me Marcus when you're about to give a speech.

TAMALA: And you only make jokes when you're about to lie. Why are you here?

DEUCE: I got detention. I was going to tell you.

TAMALA: When? After I showed up at the field looking for you?

DEUCE: I knew you'd walk in and everybody would start looking at me like I ruined the whole season.

TAMALA: One Saturday doesn't ruin a season. Keeping things from me might.

(He starts to answer, then loses his thread for a moment. He covers it with a smile.)

DEUCE: Can we just get through today without turning this into a press conference?

TAMALA: I can try. But you have to talk to me like your mother, not your publicist.

DEUCE: Everybody keeps telling me what I'm supposed to do next. You ever think maybe I need a minute to figure out what I want?

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2. Andrea “Ani” Grant— Female, plays 15–18 | **Vocals: None**

Reader: *Ms. Dee-Dee* · ***Place:*** *Commons, during showcase setup.* ***Play:*** *Keep everyone laughing while trying to leave for a phone call.*

DEE-DEE: Ani, where are the programs?

ANI: Under the table. Unless the table ate them. This school does have a lot of unexplained disappearances.

DEE-DEE: And the name cards?

ANI: Alphabetized. You're welcome, society.
(Ani's phone buzzes. She glances at it.)

DEE-DEE: You were about to tell me you couldn't help today, weren't you?

ANI: Never. I was about to tell you I am a valuable asset with an extremely demanding schedule.

DEE-DEE: What's going on?

ANI: Nothing that requires the teacher voice.

DEE-DEE: That wasn't my teacher voice.

ANI: Then please don't use it. I've got two calls to make and then I'm all yours.

DEE-DEE: You can make them. I'll finish the cards.

ANI: I can do both. I'm actually famous for doing both.

DEE-DEE: Ani.
(Her joke almost comes, but she lets it go.)

ANI: If I step outside for a minute, will you just tell everybody I'm helping with something? I don't need them asking questions.

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3. Jaylen “Jay” Brooks — Male, plays 17–19 | **Vocals: Required (R&B/soul lead)**

Reader: *Mr. J* · ***Place:*** *Band Room doorway.* ***Play:*** *Arrive confidently, then discover this conversation matters more than your cover story.*

MR. J: Band Room's closed to visitors.

JAY: That's a shame. Sounded good from the hall.

MR. J: You a visitor?

JAY: Prospective student. Depends how the tour goes.

MR. J: You don't have a tour badge.

JAY: And you don't look like the admissions office. We both working without the proper equipment.
(Mr. J almost smiles. Jay notices an old record sleeve.)
JAY: That's a real pressing? I know that song.

MR. J: Most people your age don't.

JAY: My mother played it when she wanted the house quiet. Which meant we weren't allowed to sing along.

MR. J: Sounds like she had good taste.

JAY: Yeah. She did.
(The easy charm slips. Jay recovers.)

MR. J: You got a name, prospective student?

JAY: Jay Brooks. I was hoping to ask someone here a question. Maybe you could point me in the right direction.

MR. J: Depends on the question.

JAY: Yeah. That's what I keep telling myself.

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4. Brooklyn Whitaker — Female, plays 16–17 | **Vocals: Required (gospel/soul lead)**

Reader: *Journey* · ***Place:*** *Band Room rehearsal.* ***Play:*** *Lead with kindness, then reveal how much control matters to you.*

BROOKLYN: If we take the last line together, the harmony will land. Try it once.

JOURNEY: I said I wasn't singing today.

BROOKLYN: Dee-Dee said we share the closing slot. I'm trying to make it easier.

JOURNEY: By giving me instructions every thirty seconds?

BROOKLYN: By making sure we don't stand there looking unprepared in front of the board.

JOURNEY: There it is. The board.

BROOKLYN: They're coming to decide whether this place is worth helping. That matters.

JOURNEY: It matters to you that they see you doing everything perfectly.

(Brooklyn takes that hit, then softens.)

BROOKLYN: I shouldn't have said it that way. You don't owe me a song. But if you want to try, I'll follow your lead for once.

JOURNEY: You know how to do that?

BROOKLYN: I'm willing to learn.
(Brooklyn's phone lights up. She turns it face down a little too quickly.)

JOURNEY: You okay?

BROOKLYN: I'm fine. Let's start with one line. Just one.

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5. Destiny Owens — Female, plays 15–18 | **Vocals: None**

Reader: *Deuce* · ***Place:*** *Commons after a tense rehearsal.* ***Play:*** *Protect your composure while someone who knows you well presses gently.*

DEUCE: I liked your robot.

DESTINY: It's a sensor-guided cart. The robot is at home because its wheel broke.

DEUCE: So your cart is the backup singer?

DESTINY: Something like that.

DEUCE: Don't let what they said get to you.

DESTINY: I didn't.

DEUCE: You put it away before your time was up.

DESTINY: Because when a room decides you're the joke, a demonstration won't change its mind. *(Destiny regrets how sharp that sounded.)*

DESTINY: Sorry. You were being nice.

DEUCE: You're allowed to be mad.

DESTINY: That's the thing. People only notice me when I get mad. They never notice why!

DEUCE: I notice.

DESTINY: I know you do. But knowing somebody's hurting doesn't tell you what they'll do with it.

DEUCE: What's that supposed to mean?

(She considers telling him more, then stops.)

DESTINY: It means I need to fix the wheel. Can you hold the cart steady?

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6. Terrell “Rell” Mack — Male, plays 15–18 | **Vocals: None; spoken-word poetry**

Reader: *Tre* · ***Place:*** *Commons, before his spoken-word slot.* ***Play:*** *Use jokes to dodge the moment, then choose one honest line.*

TRE: You got your poem?

RELL: I got seventeen. My publisher's reviewing the collection.

TRE: Dee-Dee says you go up next.

RELL: Tell Dee-Dee my publisher has concerns about the lighting.

TRE: It's a cafeteria with a banner, man. Nobody's got good lighting.

RELL: Exactly. My art deserves better than these fluorescent lights and a bucket catching rainwater.

TRE: You're funny. Now answer the question.

(Rell takes a folded page from his pocket but doesn't hand it over.)

RELL: If I do this and everybody laughs, I can handle that. I can laugh louder. If nobody laughs, I don't know what to do with the room.

TRE: Maybe they're listening.

RELL: People around here usually decide what I am before I open my mouth.

TRE: Then give them something they didn't expect.

(Rell looks at the page.)

RELL: All right. One line. If I hate your face after I say it, we're done.

TRE: Fair.

RELL: “They call me trouble so often, I almost answer to it.”

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7. Journey Lewis — Female, plays 15–18 | **Vocals: Required (R&B/soul lead)**

Reader: *Ms. Dee-Dee* · ***Place:*** *Band Room before the showcase.* ***Play:*** *Hold your boundary while leaving a small opening for trust.*

DEE-DEE: We can move your slot later.

JOURNEY: Later still means in front of people.

DEE-DEE: Your class requirement is to participate. It doesn't have to be the song.

JOURNEY: Everybody already expects me to fail at it. Why disappoint them?

DEE-DEE: Is that what you think I expect?

JOURNEY: I think you see a girl who's been absent and assume putting her on a stage will fix it.

(Dee-Dee lets that land.)

DEE-DEE: I shouldn't have made the stage feel like a condition for being here. I'm sorry.

JOURNEY: I used to love singing. Now the second somebody looks at me, all I can hear is what they might be saying.

DEE-DEE: You can help choose the music today. Or sit with me. We can decide about the rest later.

JOURNEY: If I sing one line, will you promise not to tell the whole room I'm “back”?

DEE-DEE: I promise.

JOURNEY: Okay. One line. And I get to stop whenever I want.

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8. Tre'von “Tre” Holloway — Male, plays 16–18 | **Vocals: Required (rap/freestyle)**

Reader: *Ani* · ***Place:*** *Commons during setup.* ***Play:*** *Win the room with rhythm, then ask for help without surrendering your pride.*

ANI: Dee-Dee left the setup instructions. Can you take the sound station?

TRE: I can turn on a speaker. Watch me revolutionize education.

ANI: It's more than a speaker. Page two has the order for the cables.

TRE: I don't need the paper. Red goes in red. Boom.

ANI: One of those red plugs goes into the wrong port.

TRE: Then why make it red? That's a design crime.

(Ani holds out the sheet. Tre keeps his hands busy with the cables.)

ANI: We can do it together. I'll call the steps; you connect them.

TRE: You giving everybody that kind of service today?

ANI: Only the people who don't electrocute me.

TRE: Fine. But don't announce that you're helping me.

ANI: I wasn't going to.

(He takes a breath and lets her read. Then he taps a beat on the table.)

TRE: See? Now we got the right cable and a soundtrack. That's teamwork.

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9. Principal Hendrix — Any gender, plays 40–55 | **Vocals: None**

Reader: *Ms. Dee-Dee* · ***Place:*** *Office as the weather worsens.* ***Play:*** *Maintain authority while admitting you need a second set of hands.*

HENDRIX: The guest list says twelve confirmed. If the road stays open, we can still begin on time.

DEE-DEE: The road may be the least of it. Mr. J found another leak.

HENDRIX: Add a bucket. Move the chairs. We've done worse.

DEE-DEE: We keep saying that as if doing worse is a school tradition.

(Hendrix straightens a damp program.)

HENDRIX: If these board members walk in and see a building falling apart, they won't look past it to the students.

DEE-DEE: The students are already here. They need a plan for the storm.

HENDRIX: I have one.

DEE-DEE: Good. Tell me my part.

(Hendrix sets down the program, trying to not be frustrated.)

HENDRIX: Please just make sure everyone stays away from the windows. Count them at least twice. I'll call for a weather update and check the office supplies.

DEE-DEE: Office supplies? That's the plan. And if that doesn't work and things change—

HENDRIX: Then I will tell them that there is a change. Unless you suggest that I pretend that I can hold up the roof by myself?

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10. Tamala Whitfield — Female, plays 38–50 | **Vocals: Optional**

Reader: *Deuce* · ***Place:*** *Commons, minutes after Tamala learns about detention.* ***Play:*** *Let the humor give way to concern.*

TAMALA: You had me outside that football field waving at a man who wasn't even your coach.

DEUCE: How was I supposed to know you'd go there?

TAMALA: Because I go where I say I'll go. Revolutionary concept.

DEUCE: Can you keep your voice down?

TAMALA: Oh, now we're worried about an audience? You gave me a whole imaginary practice schedule.

(She notices he is quieter than usual.)

TAMALA: Look at me. This isn't just about detention, is it?

DEUCE: I messed up. That's all.

TAMALA: I can handle a mistake. I can't help with something you won't name.

DEUCE: Every time I try to tell you something, you jump six steps ahead and solve it before I finish.

(Tamala wants to defend herself. She stops.)

TAMALA: You're right. I do that. I'm going to stand right here and listen. You can start wherever you want.

DEUCE: You promise you won't call Coach?

TAMALA: I promise to hear you first.

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11. Ms. Dee-Dee Walker — Female, plays 35–60 | **Vocals: Optional**

Reader: *Ani* · ***Place:*** *Commons after the emergency alert.* ***Play:*** *Care for a student, then allow a moment of care back.*

DEE-DEE: I need every chair away from the windows. Ani, can you count the students?

ANI: Seven from Finley. Eight if that new boy is still here.

DEE-DEE: He is. Stay together. Nobody goes looking for signal outside.

ANI: You're shaking.

DEE-DEE: I just carried three boxes and a folding table. My arms are filing a complaint.

ANI: That's a joke. I know a joke when somebody uses one to change the subject.

(Dee-Dee steadies herself against a chair.)

DEE-DEE: The wind caught me off guard. Give me one breath.

ANI: Take two. I can finish the count.

DEE-DEE: You don't have to run the whole room, Ani.

ANI: Neither do you.

(A beat. Dee-Dee lets Ani take the list.)

DEE-DEE: All right. You finish the count. Then come back to me, and we'll figure out the next thing together.

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12. Mr. J (Mr. Jacobs) — Male, plays 55–70 | **Vocals: None; keyboard ability a plus**

Reader: *Jay* · ***Place:*** *Band Room as rain begins to leak in.* ***Play:*** *Set a boundary, then let warmth show through.*

JAY: You keep a bucket under that leak all the time?

MR. J: Only when it rains. Which is why I call it a bucket and not a roommate.

JAY: Principal know?

MR. J: Principal knows every crack in this building. Knowing and paying for repairs are two different things.

(Jay notices the keyboard.)

JAY: Does that still work?

MR. J: When the power does.

JAY: You play?

MR. J: I fix the place. Doesn't mean I don't know what belongs in it.

JAY: Somebody taught me a tune when I was little. I can't remember the words, but I know the first few notes.

MR. J: Then start with the notes.

(Jay hums a few bars of his own choosing. Mr. J recognizes something but keeps his response small.)

MR. J: That's an old one.

JAY: You know it?

MR. J: I might. First, help me move this keyboard out of the rain. Then you can tell me the truth about where you really heard it.

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