

Episode 29- "Life After Sonic"

It was the day I was doing auditions. I was starting with a reading with Kevin Sorbo. He was reading with me for the potential part of my on screen husband, Jonathan Moore.

"Hi, I'm Michelle Morris. It is such a pleasure to meet you. I'm a huge fan of your work." I said shaking his hand, which was huge by the way.

"Likewise. I'm quite a fan of your work as well. I was really excited to get the call that you wanted to read with me." Kevin said.

"I was excited you agreed!" I said.

"I really like the part and I love family friendly shows." Kevin said.

I nodded, "Should we get started?"

"Absolutely." he said.

We went into a room with Stu and Janice.

"Thank you both for coming. Let's start at the top of page 3, scene 9." Janice said.

I nodded and we ran the lines. For ease of your reading I won't give you the script. I'll just give it to you in the first person as my character, Michelle Moore. I will set the scene. This takes place in the early 2000s, between the original show and revival. At this point Michelle and Jonathan weren't dating. They had only known each other a short time and Michelle was student teaching while Jonathan was her host teacher. It was a flashback meant to establish the chemistry between Michelle and Jonathan.

I looked around. The teacher's office was empty except for Jon and I. I could feel the tension in the room but worried it was all in my head. I tried to ignore it and focus on inputting grades into the grade book. That's what I was supposed to be working on...learning the software so I could run the classes by myself. I felt a presence over me and quickly realized Jonathan had come up behind me and was looking over my shoulder at my work.

"Need any help?" he asked.

I swallowed hard and shook my head, "No. Thankfully I'm pretty tech savvy."

"I've noticed. You've picked up everything very quickly." he said. I could feel his breath lightly on my neck and it sent a shiver down my spine.

"You're a great teacher. I've learned so much from you in the past 5 weeks. I can't believe I only have 9 more weeks with you." I said.

"Neither can I. I'm going to miss you...I mean...I'll miss teaching you." he said, awkwardly. Awkward was not something Jon did often. He was very confident. This was a side I hadn't seen before.

"Yeah...well...um...maybe we can still hang out?" I asked spinning my chair so I was facing him. He was still leaning over me.

"I'd like that." Jon said softly as he leaned in and kissed me.

I couldn't help myself I wrapped my arms around him and kissed him back. When the kiss broke he took a step

back. "I am so sorry." he said.

I shook my head, "Don't be...I wanted that more than I can tell you."

"I'm your host teacher...we could both be in so much trouble if we got romantic." he said.

I sighed, "I know...but you can't deny there is something here."

"There is...I felt it the first time I met you..." he acknowledged.

"Me too. So we wait. After I graduate in 9 weeks..." I trailed off.

Jon smiled, "I'd like that. It will be hard to wait, but we just have to remain professional until then."

I smiled and nodded.

That was the end of the scene.

"Wow, ok...I am going to say the chemistry test is a yes. Wow..." Janice said.

I nodded, "I agree. Kevin, if you want the role, it's yours."

Kevin smiled, "I would love the role."

After I finished up with Kevin I joined Stu and Janice to watch auditions. They had 5 call backs they wanted me to watch.

There were a couple that were good but the 1 that I liked most was a former soap actress named Dani Parker. She was perfect.

After all the auditions I turned the Janice.

"Dani. She's the one..." I said.

Janice nodded. "I liked her too."

"Are you sure?" Stu asked.

I nodded, "Absolutely. Do you not agree?" I asked.

"I just. I guess I'm looking for another you. She's not you." Stu said.

"Stu, I wasn't a teenager when you cast me. I was a little girl. You won't find what you're looking for." I said.

"She was good. If you feel strongly about it then cast Dani." Stu said.

I nodded, "I do. That's Lizzie."

Stu nodded, "Make it happen."

I was SO excited. I couldn't wait to start filming.

After my part of the casting was done I decided to make a quick call.

"Hello?" a familiar voice said.

"Jonny, hey...you still in LA?" I asked.

"Actually yes, just for the day. Tonight I'm flying to Nashville for a couple of days." Jon said.

"You busy? I know I've been out of touch the last few weeks. I'd love to meet if you're free." I said.

"Um, I can spare a couple of hours but I do have meetings. If you're down for a quickie I'm in." he said.

"I'll take what I can get. I miss you." I said.

"OK. Meet me at the apartment in an hour." he said.

"See you then. Love you." I said.

"Love you too." he said hanging up.

I went to grab some lunch then went to my apartment to wait for him. He was a few minutes late but I didn't care. I was so happy to see him. As soon as he'd closed the door behind him I ran into his arms. He enveloped me in a big hug. I loved being in his arms.

"I missed you so much." I whispered as I rested my head on his shoulder.

"I missed you baby." he said kissing my head before he tilted my head towards him and kissed me passionately.

"Mmm, I missed that." I said when the kiss broke.

"Me too." he said, "You've been busy?"

"Very. But Balassario is gone. I am retired again." I said.

Jon laughed, "For now. Just until the next team needs you."

I sighed, "Probably. But a girl can hope."

"I hope so too." he said.

"I just finished auditions for my TV husband and daughter. Both roles got cast." I said.

Jon made a face. "I guess that means you realized I bailed."

I nodded.

"I hope you're not too angry. I just couldn't risk Dot's wrath...or my kids' wrath honestly." Jon said.

"I get it. Rocky was pissed about the idea too so hopefully this will bring peace in both our homes." I said.

Jon nodded, "Who did you cast?"

"Well, for starters we went a different way with the character all together. He's a teacher named Jonathan Moore. And we cast Kevin Sorbo in the role." I said.

Jon nodded, "OK...I can see that. He is a good actor."

"Very good. I'm thrilled to have him on board." I said.

"And he's very religious and faithful which means no risk of you having another affair with a co star." Jon said.

I rolled my eyes, "True...but you act like I have no self control."

"Well, have you ever?" Jon teased.

I pursed my lips, "That's not the point."

"That's exactly the point." Jon smiled as he kissed my cheek.

I sighed, "Whatever...I believe a quickie was proposed here."

"Ms. Morris, are you trying to change the topic with sex?" he asked.

I smirked, "Maybe."

"Good girl." Jon smiled as he pulled me into his arms and kissed me. He picked me up and carried me to the bedroom. It was quick, but it was good. So good. Like make your whole body feel like jelly good.

After we finished we got dressed and kissed goodbye before we each went our own ways. I had to get home.

I walked into the dojo just as a class was finishing up. I waited in Rocky's office until he came in.

"How did casting go?" he asked.

"Great. I cast both Lizzie and Jonathan." I said.

"Did Kevin get the role?" Rocky asked. I knew he wanted Kevin to have the role for the same reasons Jon did.

I smiled, "He was brilliant. Yes, he got the role."

"Wonderful." Rocky said, relieved.

"Lizzie went to a young actress named Dani. She's a wonderful little actress. I'm stoked to have her on board." I said.

"Does that mean you're done with casting?" Rock asked.

I nodded. "I am. I am done until they email me scripts to approve. I talked to the writers about what Michelle has been doing since the end of the show so I don't expect to have to ask for many rewrites. I feel good about the direction they have with it."

"Good...so does that mean I get you at home more for a little bit?" Rocky asked.

"Yes and no. I mean, yes...but I still have to work on my album." I said.

"Right...but that's not as intense as filming a show." Rocky said.

"No, it's not. But once filming starts I'm going to be gone a lot." I said.

Rocky nodded, "I get it."

The next day I went to SPD for my speech. I didn't like the idea but I had promised.

"...and that's why being a Ranger requires you to make judgement calls that may go against regulations sometimes. If it's for the good of the Earth then sometimes you have to be willing to take a hit from SPD to do your job." I finished. "Any questions?"

A hand went up and I pointed at him. "Yes, Cadet..."

"Cadet Sky Tate ma'am. Aren't the SPD rules and regulations in place to help us save the Earth?" Sky asked.

"Cadet Tate, are you Landon's son?" I asked.

"Yes ma'am." Sky replied.

"I knew your father. He was a great man. I knew you as a little boy too, although I'm sure you don't remember. Anyway, yes, they are, but it is impossible for anyone to predict every possible situation you might be in and how rules may need to adjust to it. If one of those situations arises you have to be ready." I said. Another hand went up. "Yes? Cadet..."

"Bridge Carson. So, if there are infinite possibilities of situations wouldn't that mean there are an infinite number of possible rules as well which would in fact counter each other meaning there are actually no rules at all?" Bridge said.

I blinked. "Um, Cadet Carson...I...don't think that's what I'm saying. Just that you have to use your judgement."

"You'll have to excuse Bridge ma'am. He doesn't speak human." a girl said.

I smiled, "What's your name?"

"Sydney Drew." she said.

"Cadet Drew, did you have a question?" I asked.

"Actually yes. As a veteran Ranger of many years, how do you prevent helmet hair?" Sydney asked.

I took a breath, "Ponytails and a good brush." I sighed.

OK so talking to cadets wasn't SO bad. Maybe I could co-exist and even help SPD after all.