

Open Casting Call



i want a body **of my own**

A 240Films Production- non-union

An SMU Summer Feature Film

We are looking for one of our lead (unpaid):

CHANCE CARTER (Male, 18-25, caucasian/white) a college student grieving the loss of his sister. Familial issues have left him unable to express how he feels, but he learns to look outside himself and find the love of those around him when he switches bodies with Naomi. Must play both Chance and Naomi in Chance's body.

We will film in Dallas, Texas during May and June of 2022. Leads will need to be in Dallas for the entire shooting period.

We are accepting **virtual, video auditions** at this time, with expectations of holding callbacks and chemistry reads in person. Please email the following to 240filmscasting@gmail.com to officially audition for this film:

- A completed Casting Sheet (see attached) and an up-to-date headshot(s).
- A video audition complete with your slate and a performance of the attached sides.
- An optional resume or short (no longer than 3 minutes) reel of past acting experience.

Film Information:

I Want a Body of My Own is a coming-of-age, indie feature film about two characters, Naomi and Chance, who are forced out of their own situations when they switch bodies. This is a student film brought to life by students of the Southern Methodist University film department. Tentative shooting dates are May 16th- June 6th, but these are **subject to change**. Cast will not be paid, but all work will be available for reels when editing of the film is finished.

Shooting will take place in Dallas, Texas, specifically on and around SMU campus (Highland Park and University Park area). Cast housing will be the responsibility of cast members to determine (possible exemptions for students of SMU in the cast, more details will follow in later stages of casting). Leads will need to be available for the duration of the shooting process.

Preproduction requirements: if you are cast in this film, primarily as one of our 3 leads, there will be several expectations in the following months leading up to production. Starting in January 2022, there will be frequent rehearsals with the other leads and with the director, Piper (these rehearsals will most likely be held virtually to begin with, but in-person rehearsals will begin no later than late March to start understanding blocking). There will most likely be chemistry readings in February with actors auditioning for secondary roles of the film, such as the family members of Chance and Naomi. As production approaches, rehearsal frequency will increase, and there will be rehearsals on location to allow for actors to get a feel of the space, as well as for crew to understand the layout and plan accordingly. We will work with our cast to figure out availability, but know that there will be many required meetings and rehearsals, especially in April and May.

Film Synopsis:

When two strangers, Naomi and Chance, swap bodies, they must learn to accept their new circumstances while coping with the grief they've left behind.

NAOMI DELUNA doesn't know who she is anymore. Fresh off failing her citizenship test, she loses her usual passion and drive as she struggles to figure out her next steps before she loses out on her last remaining chance to become a US citizen.

CHANCE CARTER knows exactly who he is, but the recent death of his sister, MARISSA, leaves him seeking some sort of escape from his overbearing and old-fashioned family.

Both hoping for change or some sort of answer, the two strangers find themselves waking up in each other's bodies. Naomi, now as Chance, decides to take advantage of the odd situation and lives out her young adult fantasy, from partying in the nighttime to flirting with Chance's nice yet reserved roommate, MATEO.

Meanwhile, Chance finds himself grappling with his own grief as he's suddenly thrown into the high school that served as the place where his sister spent her final days. Naomi's best friend, JUNE, refuses to discuss the circumstances surrounding Marissa's death, leading Chance to assume the worst about Naomi.

As Naomi splurges in Chance's life, she also comes to meet his dysfunctional family: detached mother ELIZABETH and overruling father WILLIAM. For the first time, Naomi begins to think that Chance's life wasn't necessarily as easy as she first thought, especially when he discovers Chance and Marissa are related.

Upon returning to Chance and Mateo's apartment, Naomi is confronted for her actions. Chance accuses Naomi of bullying Marissa to the point of suicide. In retaliation, Naomi yells at Chance for wasting his life leading to a big blow out between them.

After calming down, the two venture to a diner where Naomi's faced with a racist waiter. She breaks down to Chance, admitting how ostracized she feels, and Chance begins to listen for the first time. He also speaks with Mateo, who admits to his own feelings of estrangement throughout their shared lives. Chance promises to change his own ways, but he's confronted by his father and ultimately fails Naomi's citizenship test.

Fate allows them to swap back, but Chance still feels like what he's done is wrong. Naomi must confront her own feelings, and the horrifying realization she won't ever achieve her dream of being a US citizen. After a heartfelt conversation with her father JOSUE, she realizes that the support system she's been seeking can't be found in the ideas of a nation, but rather comes from the love of her family. Similarly, Chance comes to understand that he is not, nor is his family, to blame for Marissa's death, and that ultimately the people he wants in his life are people that understand him, like Mateo and Naomi.

CASTING SHEET

Production Title: I Want A Body of My Own	Production Company: 240Films	Director: Piper Peña-Hadley	Producers: Kaytlyn Bunting, Anna Butcher, Grace Maddox
<p>Thank you for your interest in our film! Our first round of casting will be virtual through video auditions, but please fill out this sheet and email it along with your audition to 240filmscasting@gmail.com. Call back times will be determined at a later date. Kaytlyn Bunting will be the producer overseeing casting, and you will hear from her regarding call backs. Thank you again, we can't wait to see your audition!</p>			

—TALENT INFORMATION—

Name _____ D.O.B. _____ Phone _____

Email Address _____

Agent _____ SAG-AFTRA, or other? _____ Would you be an extra? Y / N

Height _____ Chest _____ Waist _____ Hips _____

Shoe _____ Weight _____ Eye Color _____ Hair Color _____

Role Auditioning For: _____

Sides

The following pages contain sides to be performed in the virtual auditions.

Important note on sides: If you are auditioning for Chance or, remember that this is a body-switching film, which means you will play both Chance and Naomi throughout the course of the film. Because of this, the sides for Chance contain 2 scenes each. The first scene sees Chance in his own body, while the second shows Naomi in Chance's body. We want to see how you differentiate these characters through your audition.

INT. FUNERAL HOME - DAY

Chance stands beside Mateo, rigid and stern as he faces his

mother.

ELIZABETH

Chance, please return as soon as possible. Your father is waiting.

CHANCE

Yes, ah, I'll be right there. Let me just see Mateo out.

Elizabeth nods, satisfies, and leaves.

As soon as she's gone, Mateo hits him on the arm. Chance's facade drops.

CHANCE

What was that for?

MATEO

Roommat

e? CHANCE

I told you--

MATEO

Chance, are you embarrassed of me or something?

CHANCE

You know that's not what this is about.

MATEO

Then tell me. Please.

CHANCE

You don't understand the shit they've put me through. Your parents were fine with everything, mine aren't. I'll tell them, I swear, but just...

MATEO CHANCE

Not now.

Chance nods.

It's been a rough day. I don't

want to talk about this anymore.

2.

2.

EXT. COLLEGE CAMPUS - DAY

Naomi rushes down the steps of the building as other students flock about. Mateo rushes to catch up with her, having difficulty keeping her brisk pace.

MATEO

Ce! No, I mean, Naomi, wait!

Mateo manages to catch up.

NAOMI

Go away. Please.

MATEO

What happened?

NAOMI

Do you think Chance will get upset if I drop out for him?

MATEO

It's that bad?

Naomi sends him a look, but Mateo manages to jog in front of her and cut off her path.

NAOMI

I feel like an idiot in there. They're using all these big words and talking about theories I've never even heard of. They're going to find out I'm a fraud.

MATEO

That's just because you're trying to live like Chance.

NAOMI

If I can't handle this though, what am I going to do when I actually get to college?

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

Naomi collapses onto the ground, Mateo coming to rest beside her.

MATEO

I didn't realize you were trying to become a citizen.

3.

3.

NAOMI

Doesn't matter anymore. I failed my test, and the new exam date is only two days away. Unless we swap back tomorrow then...

MATEO

Chance will have to take it.

Naomi nods, solemnly.

MATEO

I had no idea. I'm so sorry, Naomi.

NAOMI

I studied for months, you know. They say anyone with a middle school education should pass but...