GLOW

SPEC Season One - Ep 05

INT. GLOW GYM - SAM'S OFFICE - DAY

Silence.

Sam sits behind his desk facing TWO MEN, BYRON and JIM wearing slick suits.

Sam's fingers twitch.

Byron jots something down on a swatch of PAPER.

Jim shifts his TOOTHPICK from one side of his mouth to the other.

BYRON The production company needs your answer, Sam.

SAM Ok, let me get this straight. You're asking *me* to direct a studio flick--

JIM (correcting) Film. Franchise.

SAM You somehow make that sound dirty.

Sam glances back and forth between them.

SAM (CONT'D) You know I make my *own* movies, right.

Byron smirks.

BYRON Been a while.

SAM It's called a hiatus. I'm launching a new project.

Jim glances around, sizing things up.

JIM Yeah, but we have a budget. Jim motions to Byron who slides the piece of paper in front of Sam.

SAM For real? You guys are doing the slide the paper move? There's nobody else in the room. Just tell me--

Byron nudges with a nod. Jim's smirk continues.

SAM (CONT'D)

Fine.

Sam grabs the paper, rubs his stubble, glances at the suits, looks back at the paper, and plunks it down on his desk.

SAM (CONT'D) Ok, why me, fellas?

BYRON The studio wants somebody they can work with.

JIM Somebody who gets the genre.

SAM It's comedy.

BYRON That's your genre.

SAM My movies aren't comedies.

JIM They're not?

Awkward pause.

Sam stands up and begins to pace.

INT. GLOW GYM - STAIRWAY TO SAMS OFFICE

Justine makes her way up the stairs, and cautiously approaches the office door. She hesitates and listens.

JIM The studio loves you. They think you're their guy. BYRON We're already in preproduction. It's a six month commitment. It starts now.

Jim spins a finger in the air.

JIM Pretty sure whatever little side project this is, it can wait.

BYRON This is a film offer you don't want to refuse, Sam.

Sam notices Justine and tosses his hands in the air.

SAM Do you mind? How do you do that? What are you, a Ninja? Pretend you respect doors and I'm slamming it.

The producers turn to look at Justine. Her eyes dart.

Flustered, she turns and scurries back down the stairs.

BYRON Sam, we need an answer. Are you in?

Sam looks out his office window just as the gym door opens and the GLOW floods in, lively and ready to work.

Ruth glances up at the office and spots Sam. She puffs up and offers him a perky salute.

Sam lingers on Ruth for an moment then turns back toward the suits with a sneer...or is it a smile?

CUT TO:

GLOW Opening Sequence

INT. GLOW GYM DAY - LATER

The ladies practice MOVES in and outside of the ring.

Bash enthusiastically bursts through the front door. Flor follows close behind carrying a LAWN CHAIR, FOLDING TABLE, and a LADDER.

Excited to see the ladies practicing, Bash jumps up onto the side of the ring.

BASH Oh good. You're all warmed up. This is great. I've got a surprise.

Sam barges out of his office.

SAM Hey, woah, woah, woah. Break's in 10. What's with the Sherpa?

Flor attempts to wave.

BASH Oh yeah, haha, no, I know. But you're gonna love this.

Bash urgently motions to Flor who precariously maneuvers the items into the ring.

Sam storms down the stairs from his office.

SAM Hang on. Ok. Let's move Bob the Builder outside. We're not breaking ground today.

BASH Sam, just check this out. You know how everybody has their costumes...which look amazing, btw.

The ladies pose and blush and flaunt. Bash applauds.

BASH (CONT'D) But these...(indicating the items) are going to take your match to a whole new level.

Flor unfolds the table inside the ring. He looks around and smiles.

FLOR Epic battle moves.

BASH

Yes! So good. Go get the rest.

Flor hurries off, doing as he's told.

Bash enters the ring and addresses the ladies like he's sharing the best secret.

BASH (CONT'D) Ok. There are costumes and then there are props. Big props...

He picks up the chair and holds it over his head.

BASH (CONT'D) You can hit with.

He smashes the chair toward the ground but kind of hesitates and it twists his wrist.

He winces and drops the chair, acting like no problem.

RUTH Wait, you want us to hit each other with chairs?

Bash flashes his boyish smile.

TAMME

Nuh-hun. I got enough bruising on my arms from lock holds. You can't see them cause I'm black but I'm also blue.

DEBBIE (steps forward) Nobody is throwing a ladder at me.

BASH No, no, no nobody's throwing a ladder at you. Your...you climb it--

CHERRY (confrontational) Where's the spotter?

Holding his ground.

BASH Well, you wouldn't have a sp--

Sam walks passed everyone towards the exit door.

SAM Listen up, if Bash says this is next level...then this is next level. Some of you need all the help you can get. So get to work. Break a leg.

He reaches the door and looks back.

He opens the door.

JUSTINE Wait, where are you going?

SAM Got a...lunch thing...or gonna go jerk off, I dunno, something that's...NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!

Ruth steps to the edge of the ring.

RUT But we need you.

Sam takes a step out the door but stops.

Ruth and the others wait.

Sam lets Flor through with more folding chairs then takes one last look back toward the ring and walks out.

They all look around at one another, unsure of what to do next.

Reggie comes forward, sizes up the table, takes a step back, plunges down into a deep squat and hurls herself at the table, landing flat and smashing it to the ground.

The ladies freeze and wait to see if she's ok.

Reggie's smile reveals that it's ON. Encouraged, Arthie slides over to Reggie.

ARTHIE How did you--

REGGIE

I don't know.

Reggie looks at the table on the ground.

REGGIE (CONT'D) But I like it.

Bash steps in.

BASH This is great. Quick. Set it up again. What else can we smash? Rhonda approaches Bash. She's unsure but into it.

RHONDA Uuuum, I can hit with my book.

BASH Of course you can. Show me how you do it.

Rhonda awkwardly hauls the book back over her head and taps Bash on the shoulder. Bash nods, knowing it needs work.

> BASH (CONT'D) Okay, ok. Let's put some more oomph behind it and make some doom with that tome.

Bash scans the ring.

BASH (CONT'D) Fortune Cookie! Over here. We're gonna throw the book at you. Haha.

Rhonda giggles. Jenny skips over.

On the floor beside the ring, Justine opens the lawn chair and pinches her finger.

JUSTINE

Ow! Shit.

In the ring above her, Ruth notices.

RUTH

Are you okay?

Justine ignores and scurries off to the dressing room.

Cherry watches Justine leave. Ruth and Cherry share a look. Ruth gives a nod to let Cherry know she's on it. She leaves the ring.

Cherry side-eyes the ladder and turns away. Backing off, she stands beside Debbie who's been tucked in the corner, unimpressed.

CHERRY What's up, Freedom?

DEBBIE Liberty Bell doesn't need props.

CHERRY Then don't use 'em. Melanie overhears and pipes in.

MELANIE Yeah, sure, don't use them.

She glances over her shoulder and lowers her voice.

MELANIE (CONT'D) But wouldn't it be better to have the option...like, just in case Homewrecker ever decides to turn the match in her favor. You know, fool you once, that's on you. Fool you twice...you're a fuckin idiot.

Debbie considers, then scans the ring.

DEBBIE Gimme that chair.

INT. CHANGE ROOM

Justine inspects her finger as Ruth walks in and positions herself at the sink and mirror beside her.

JUSTINE Just a blister.

RUTH Well, don't pop it, it's protecting the sensitive skin underneath.

JUSTINE Human bubble wrap.

RUTH Without the cool popping sound.

They share a smile.

RUTH (CONT'D)

Lemme see.

Ruth steps in to examine the blister.

Justine considers Ruth and decides to confide in her.

JUSTINE Sam had movie producers in his office this morning.

RUTH

Oh yeah?

JUSTINE I got here early and went to talk to Sam and ... Justine trails off. Ruth picks up on it, covering. RUTH And get a head start, probably. Sure. Get some game day advice. Justine appreciates the cover. RUTH (CONT'D) So, how do you know they were movie producers? JUSTINE Because it was Byron Donovan and Jim Martin. RUTH From all of the Camper High movies. Talk about a lot of bad acting. JUSTINE I think the acting's really good. Ruth scoffs. RUTH If that's good acting then I'll eat my bonnet. Justine looks at Ruth like, what? RUTH (CONT'D) The margarine commercial? The tiny sheep herder lady says, "I'll eat my bonnet." Justine has no idea. JUSTINE Anyway, I think it's good acting. RUTH Thank you. Ruth realizes she didn't mean her. RUTH (CONT'D) Oh. Right. The movie. Sure. Ruth turns on the tap.

RUTH (CONT'D) Here, run it under some cold water.

Justine complies. Ruth primps a bit in the mirror.

RUTH (CONT'D) So Camper High...

JUSTINE They're making a sequel.

RUTH Camp counsellors in distress. I could play that.

JUSTINE They offered Sam a picture deal.

Ruth laughs.

When Justine doesn't laugh along, Ruth quickly shifts.

RUTH Right. Why wouldn't they?

JUSTINE Do you think he'd leave us for a movie offer?

Ruth looks Justine straight in the eye.

RUTH He'd leave us for a Klondike bar.

Justine looks at her like, what?

RUTH (CONT'D) C'mon, what would you do for a Klondike...no?

Justine shrugs.

INT. CAR - LATER

Sam drives and smokes. The radio is on, playing "Come on Eileen".

Sam gets a whiff of something. He opens the window to see if it's coming from outside. The car starts to chug, and smoke appears from under the hood.

SAM

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Shit.

He takes a haul of his smoke.

EXT. AUTO GARAGE - CONTINUOUS

Sam's car labors into the driveway.

INT. SAM'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Sam jolts back and forth as the car jerks toward the garage.

SAM Come on, Eileen.

The car dies and emits a puff of black smoke from the hood.

Exasperated, Sam shakes his head and his eye catches the slip of paper from Jim and Byron. It's folded but we can definitely see ZEROES. Sam smirks.

> SAM (CONT'D) Hooray for Hollywood.

He gets out of the car and walks into the shop.

INT. GYM - LATER

Paired off, the ladies work on their big prop hits with chairs. It's timid and tragically awkward.

BASH (encouraging) Ok, ok, so let's move on to the ladder.

Bash stands at the base of the ladder and slowly ascends.

BASH (CONT'D) You climb it to grab something suspended above the ring. Something of value. Something your character really wants or everybody wants. Like money, or a belt.

MELANIE Better be Gucci?

BASH

(super excited) More like a championship belt. It's a tag team move. We'll show you. Flor takes hold of the ladder and Bash climbs to the top.

Bash pumps his guns and swipes high for an imaginary object, causing his foot to slip and he slides down the ladder and ricochets off his own chin.

The ladies rush to him. He masks the pain to remain positive.

BASH (CONT'D) Ow. Ok, Don't do as I do--

STACEY Honey, we've got this.

Dawn and Stacey move in.

STACEY (CONT'D) No problem.

Stacey holds the ladder, Dawn climbs, playing it up, and swipes for an imaginary item.

DAWN (from the top) I'm grabbing the keys to my new pink Cadillac.

Dawn grabs them triumphantly.

Everybody cheers.

She descends the ladder and she and Stacey aggressively bump bellies.

BASH (encouraged) Nice. Ok, Cherry. You're next.

CHERRY

No I'm not.

The ladies react, confused. Cherry's always game.

BASH What? No, seriously come on. Who do you want to hold the ladder?

CHERRY Nobody. I ain't climbing.

BASH

But--

I said no!

Cherry exits the ring. Debbie follows.

BASH

Ok. You know what. Hunger pains. Everybody take a break. Let's call it lunch!

Debbie follows Cherry out the gym door.

EXT GYM - PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Debbie finds Cherry leaning on a car.

DEBBIE I don't get it. You're the one always telling us to do the moves.

Cherry is turned away, holding back tears.