

THE GAME OF PROPS
"A New Player Joined"

by
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ACT ONE

INT. - LAB - DAY

LAUREN NOLAN(17) blonde, dressed in a hospital gown lays on an examination table. A SCIENTIST talks to a MAN(40) with slightly grey hair, dressed in a suit.

SCIENTIST

She's looking like a great candidate so far. I hear the captain says she's at the top of her class.

MAN

When can she start?

SCIENTIST

I have just a few more tests to run. I'll be finished before the next game begins, sir.

MAN

Fantastic! I'll let the hosts know to add her name to the list. Uh, what is her name?

SCIENTIST

Lauren Nolan, sir.

MAN

Nolan, got it. Send her down when you're finished.

SCIENTIST

I will, sir.

The scientist finishes the tests and wakes up Lauren.

LAUREN'S POV:

Lauren slowly blinks her eyes open, seeing the Scientist above her.

SCIENTIST

(distorted)
Miss Nolan? Can you hear me?

LAUREN

(waking from
anesthesia)
Ugh...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The Scientist snaps in Lauren's ear.

SCIENTIST
(slightly less
distorted)
C'mon, it's time to wake up now.

LAUREN
I...ugh...I hear you.

INT. - LAB - DAY

SCIENTIST
(normal)
Good morning. Glad to see you
up. Could you stand up for me Miss
Nolan?

Lauren tries to stand up, but almost falls.

SCIENTIST
Alright Miss Nolan, just another
minute or two and you can go.

LAUREN
Go? Go where?

SCIENTIST
To the game Miss Nolan. I've been
told you've finished training, so
it's time to put you to the test.

LAUREN
Ah, THAT game. I was told that I
still needed some more
training.

SCIENTIST
Ah yes, the hosts don't like it
when the players are over
confident. Not fun for the
viewers.

LAUREN
Right. Well I think I'm good to go
now. Am I free to go?

SCIENTIST
Could you stand up for me again
Miss Nolan?

Lauren stands, this time not falling.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SCIENTIST

Alright Miss Nolan, looks like you're good to go. Leave through that door and the elevator is on the left. Oh, and good luck, you'll need it.

INT. - ELEVATOR - DAY

The man in a suit is waiting outside the elevator for Lauren, who is walking down the hallway.

MAN

Ah, you must be the lovely Lauren. The names Shane, Shane Day, Pleasure to meet you.

LAUREN

Uh, same here Mr. Day. You know, you're kind of a celebrity back at the training camp, with all the training videos and all.

SHANE

Ah yes, those old training videos. Those were the good old days back when I got interesting assignments, now I'm basically just an escort.

LAUREN

You're taking me to the game?

SHANE

Yes ma'am I am. It is my job after all, someone's gotta pump you up for the game. Are you ready?

LAUREN

What kind of question is that? The trainers tell us from day one that we are meant for these games. I've always dreamed of completing my training and finally getting to play in the games. Anything to leave that awful training center.

SHANE

Well, it definitely sounds like you're ready to go. Follow me to the lobby.

INT. - LOBBY - DAY

Shane leads Lauren to a waiting area in the lobby. Lauren is dressed in her training wear, grey sweats, while everyone else in the lobby is dressed in business suits. The lobby resembles doctors office. On the opposite end of the room, there is a bar for refreshments.

SHANE

Alrighty, you hang tight here, I'm gonna make sure you're all set with the hosts. Be right back.

Lauren walks over to the bar and talks to the BARTENDER.

LAUREN

Um, can I just get some water please.

BARTENDER

Of course, would you like bottled, tap, iced, room temperature? What would you like in particular, Miss?

LAUREN

Bottled is okay, thank you.

The Bartender reaches under the counter, grabs a bottle of water and hands it to Lauren.

LAUREN

Thanks.

Lauren sits back down in the chair. Another GIRL(14) short brown hair, dressed in grey sweats sits down next to her.

GIRL

Is this your first game?

LAUREN

Um, yeah. I think I should be going in soon.

GIRL

This will be my first game too. I'm not sure I'm ready to play, but they say I'm good to go, so we'll see what happens. Hey, do you know anything about this game?

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LAUREN

Well, they haven't told me anything, but we were trained for stealth, so I guess it is something we'll need to be stealthy with.

GIRL

Yeah that makes sense. Hey I'm Grace by the way. What's your name?

LAUREN

Lauren. You seem a little young to be playing the game already, how'd you get through training so quickly.

GRACE

The trainers made me stay late a lot of the time to get extra training. They told me it was because I was falling behind, but I'm the only one that's here playing so...

LAUREN

Yeah that checks out. The trainers did the same thing a few years back when I was still new. One of the girls my age left to play the game way earlier than everyone else. I wonder what happened to her? I never saw her come back.

GRACE

I've heard that once you leave the training center you don't have to go back. That's probably why you never saw her again.

LAUREN

You mean I'll never have to see that god awful place again? Sweet! I hated that place. And it seemed like there was always something watching or standing near me. Especially in the dark, it was creepy.

GRACE

Yeah I'm glad to be out of there too.

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Shane walks by with some kind of uniform in his hand.

SHANE

Hey Miss Nolan, I'm back. You're
all checked in ready to go, I'm
just gonna need you to put this
on. The bathroom is that-a-way.

INT. - BATHROOM - DAY

Lauren walks into a stall and undresses. She comes out wearing camo cargo pants, black combat boots, and a black sweatshirt. On Lauren's wrist is some kind of bracelet. She checks in the mirror before heading back to Shane.

INT. - LOBBY - DAY

Shane is sitting, talking with Grace. He stops when he sees Lauren.

SHANE

Alrighty, looks like you're
finally ready for your first game
Miss Nolan.