

THE WHITE NOTE
An Original Audio Drama

Written
by
Marla Cukor-Camins

Based on a story
by
Damask Schantz

@2022 Marla Cukor-Camins and Damask
Lucky Girl Products and Damask Schantz

Contact:

DamaskSchantz@gmail.com,
Marla@LuckyGirlProductions.com

CAST:

MAGGIE - AKA "DJ BLIZZY" - 20's. Aspiring music producer/DJ

BRODY HAMMER - 30's. Claustrophobic reporter with questionable morale compass.

FATHER "JIM" KARRAS - 50's. World famous producer/nightclub owner

TENAJ "T" DAVIS- 20's. Maggie's best friend. Bartender-turned-drug-dealer

DJ GEMMA - 20's - Real name Christine Karen Baker. Hottest female DJ on the scene. Known for her dark shows and hypnotic music.

MOM - 50's. Maggie's mom. Equally devout and devoted.

DANNY aka DJ STEAMROLLER - 30's. Up-and-coming DJ in the global scene. Known for his strobe effects and fire shows.

The White Note

EPISODE ONE: "The Devil is in The Details"

INT. BRODY'S HOME - MORNING

BRODY HAMMER

Hello?

INT. BATHROOM - COOPER'S CLUBHOUSE - MORNING

EDITOR'S SFX NOTE: THE 'DISTORTED' VOICE WE HEAR IS DIGITALLY

ALTERED - THE RESULT IS MASCULINE, SEMI-DEMONIC SOUND

DISTORTED VOICE

Is this Brody Hammer?

BRODY HAMMER

Who's asking?

DISTORTED VOICE

You're the one writing the stories? Right? On the club deaths?

BRODY HAMMER

(Pauses) Hey, is this 60-minutes stuff necessary?

DISTORTED VOICE

(Insistent) Are you him?

BRODY HAMMER

Okay, Deep Throat. Yes. Guilty as charged. What can I do you for?

DISTORTED VOICE

I have info. Important info. But I can't talk long. They're watching me.

BRODY HAMMER

Sure. Got it. For the record. Would that be aliens, cops or Russians, the one's watching?

DISTORTED VOICE

This is no joke, bro!

BRODY HAMMER

Look. It's Sunday morning. I'm exhausted. (Pauses, confused)
How'd you get this number?

DISTORTED VOICE

Those kids. (pauses) The ones who died. The cops are lying. They're all lying.

BRODY HAMMER

Lying about what?

DISTORTED VOICE

The overdoses.

BRODY HAMMER

Let me get this straight. The cops, the DA, the medical examiners, they're all in on it? This is a trafficking-ring-in-a-pizza-shop thing?

DISTORTED VOICE

I know it sounds crazy. But you're being played.

BRODY HAMMER

Right, right. (an aha moment dawns...) I get it. Look, The Times doesn't pay for information.

DISTORTED VOICE

Did I ask for money?

SFX- WE HEAR A LOUD CRACKLING NOISE - THE SYNTHESIZER STARTS TO FLAKE OUT --

EDITOR'S SFX NOTE: THE DIGITALLY ALTERED VOICE IS NOW REPLACED WITH THE VOICE OF A WOMAN, 20'S - THIS IS MAGGIE

BRODY HAMMER

Hello? Hello? You still there?

MAGGIE

Stupid piece of junky shit.

BRODY HAMMER

Hello?

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

Yeah, I'm here. (softer, unenthusiastic) Ta-da.

SFX - SUDDENLY, A DOOR RATTLES

FATHER KARRAS

Hey, Blizzy, come on! Let me in!

MAGGIE

(Yells towards door) Go away! (Whispers) Look, I really have to go.

BRODY HAMMER

Wait! I didn't mean to be a jerk before. You caught me off guard. Can you at least tell me your name?

MAGGIE

Blow me.

BRODY HAMMER

Come on, I've been covering this story for weeks. If you have info about the dealer who's been poisoning these kids--

SFX- MORE INSISTENT RATTLING OF THE LOCKED DOOR

FATHER KARRAS

Don't do this to us, Blizzy! It won't end well!

MAGGIE

(Yells) Leave me alone!...(Into phone) This was a mistake. I don't know what I was thinking. I can't stop him. It's too late. I shouldn't have called you.

BRODY HAMMER

Look, whatever trouble you're in. I can help.

MAGGIE

You can't. Don't you see? This is bigger than me, then you, your paper. This is stuff for the ages.

BRODY HAMMER

Hey, I get it, you don't know me from a hole in the wall. But you called me, right? I know there's a reason. Maybe you want to do the right thing.

MAGGIE

(scoffs) The right thing? You consider yourself an enlightened man, Mr. Hammer?

BRODY HAMMER

Enlightened? I guess. I mean, I went through my 'Be Here Now' moment in college, same as anyone.

MAGGIE

That's not what I mean.

BRODY HAMMER

Well, I don't know what you mean. But when we meet, you can tell me.

SFX- FURIOUS POUNDING, BANGING ON THE DOOR.

FATHER KARRAS

I warned you. Times up!

SFX- KEY RATTLES IN A LOCK

MAGGIE

Shit! I gotta bounce.

BRODY HAMMER

Wait! Don't go! Look, overdoses or not, these kids deserve justice, don't you think? Don't you think? (pauses) Hello? Hello?

SFX- PHONE CLICKS OFF.

SFX- THEME MUSIC FADE UP

NARRATOR

Welcome to The White Note. ADD IN INTRO COPY HERE that ends in...Six months earlier....

INT. OLD ORGAN CHAMBER ROOM - COOPER'S - LATE AFTERNOON

SFX - DOOR CREAKS OPEN- MUFFLED CLUB MUSIC POURS IN

MUSIC - WE HEAR A FEW NOTES TAPPING OUT ON A DIGITAL KEYBOARD

- WE DON'T KNOW IT YET - BUT THIS IS GOING TO BE THE OPENING
TO 'THE WHITE NOTE'

TENAJ

Hey, Maggs. Knew I'd find you hiding out in here. Whenever you go missing, I just follow the music. This old organ room gives me the creeps, though.

MAGGIE

I like it. I mean the place is a church.

TENAJ

Was a church.

MAGGIE

Still feels like it, you know? In its bones.

TENAJ

You know they've got catacombs down in here?

MAGGIE

Tenaj, who do you think does the official welcome tour for the interns? And anyway, they're not catacombs, they're crypts.

TENAJ

(Sarcastic) And that's not creepy as fuck? So whatcha workin' on?

MAGGIE

Nothing (stammers)... Just a new beat. Something that might just change the world one day.

TENAJ

Right. (laughs) Okay, Miss Ghandi. Well, sounds dope so far. (pauses). Hey check out what I'm working on.

SFX- WE HEAR A RUMBLING

TENAJ (CONT'D)

Look who brought the party to the palace. Bumpity bump?

MAGGIE

Nah, I'm good.

TENAJ

Come on. (playful, little girl's voice) Can boring Maggie go home and fun Maggie come out to play?

MAGGIE

I said, I'm good.

TENAJ

Check that. But, just sayin', it's on the house. You know. All the feels. Get you through the rough patches.

MAGGIE

My whole life is rough patches. I said no thanks. Can't you respect that?

TENAJ

I respect you're lame.

MAGGIE

T, you were making good money at Tony's. This... You know this is a bad scene. God knows what he steps on that stuff with. Something goes tits up, you'll be an accessory to --

TENAJ

(Pretends to snore) Wake me when you're done.

MAGGIE

Not joking, T.

TENAJ

Look. No worries. My friend's cousin is a cop. She smuggled me out a kit. I test every batch. It's all fenty-free.

MAGGIE

Really? So why do I have to keep Narcan under the turntables?

TENAJ

Because the world is fucked, that's why. I can't help what other people do. Look, Before you say no...

MAGGIE

...No.

TENAJ

Maggie. This is a good paying gig. You make your own hours. Cash money. Low risk. Shit's pretty much legal in Oregon.

MAGGIE

Well this is Brooklyn. And T, even if this shit hustle of yours was legit, which it's not, I have a job. Remember? The whole reason I came to the city thing?

TENAJ

Let's recap. You're telling me, you came to the city to stand out in front of this club and hand out flyers? To haul generators and lug speakers? To manage interns and babysit a bunch of lame ass, overpaid DJ's, not to mention, stroke and wipe the sweaty ass of the Mistress of Misery.

MAGGIE

You make it sound so glamorous. It's called paying my dues. If I'm going to make it as a producer, I have to start somewhere.

TENAJ

Right.

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

You'll see. Look. I'll keep my head to the grindstone. I'll stay clean. I'll work on my music. And it'll just be a matter of time before I get my chance at the decks. T, I will slay it, I will headline, and you will bow down to my greatness.

TENAJ

Wow. Someone needs to check their ego at the door.

MAGGIE

Why you so negative?

TENAJ (CONT'D)

Why you so naive?

MAGGIE

Fuck you.

TENAJ

Maggie. I've been around a spell. Wheat doesn't exactly rise to the top here.

MAGGIE

What?

TENAJ

They're not ever gonna let you headline here. Not when you come to work looking like a car mechanic.

MAGGIE

Hey! These overalls are cool.

TENAJ

Maybe where you're from. What's that again? Michigan? Maryland?

MAGGIE

Minnesota.

TENAJ (CONT'D)

Figures. Maggs, how long we been friends? Five- six years, right?

MAGGIE

Don't remind me.

TENAJ

I know you're talented as fuck. But all I'm saying, is that this is New York. We're not talking about being local-famous for spinning at Piper Penny's hard-core sweet sixteen. This is the real deal. You want stage time here, you pay to play.

MAGGIE

I'm not breaking in that way.

TENAJ

Maggie, this is tale as old as time, shit. So what if you have to sit on a couple of laps. Let them feel you up, a quick slip inside your panties. You've got to pretend your thirsty, Maggs, that's how you get into the old boys' club.

SFX - TEXT MESSAGE BEEPS

MAGGIE

No way. That's not me.

SFX - TEXT MESSAGE BEEPS

TENAJ

Someone's phone is blowing up.

SFX - TEXT MESSAGE BEEPS

MAGGIE

It's nobody.

TENAJ

Nobody, eh? (suspicious) Can we be real here? This thing with Danny. Girl, you are classic self-sabotage.

MAGGIE

There's no 'thing' with Danny.

TENAJ

Right. Don't bullshit a bullshitter. Ok?

MAGGIE

He's with Gemma.

TENAJ

Exactly my point.

TENAJ (CONT'D)

That bitch is dark as hell. I wouldn't mess with that.

SFX: SOMEONE KNOCKS, DOOR CREAKS OPEN

GEMMA

Hi Maggie. Glad I found you. (sighs) Tenaj. Shouldn't you be like selling dime bags on a school bus or something?

TENAJ

Shouldn't you be like taking a blood oath and masturbating to old Marilyn Mansion videos?

GEMMA

Not for nothing. I heard you had half of Cooper's tripping the light last weekend. Why you gotta mess with my fans?

TENAJ

They weren't tripping. They were sleeping. I hear it makes your shows much more enjoyable.

MAGGIE

(Interrupts the sparring) Hey, Gemma. I was just getting ready to do a sound check. I know you need the mixers and generators packed up.

GEMMA

Well, hold off. Karras sent me to find you. Your bloody ginger intern was a no-show this morning.

MAGGIE

He's not *my* intern. And his name is Ian.

SFX- WE HEAR A CAT'S MEOW

TENAJ

Is that a cat?

SFX- SOMEONE KNOCKS, DOOR OPENS - SLIGHTLY MUFFLED CLUB MUSIC

FILLS THE ROOM

GEMMA

Found her in the alley. Isn't she a pisser? Gonna use her in a video. (icy) She won't be missed.

...There's an awkward moment of silence in the room

GEMMA (CONT'D)

Joking, losers. (pauses) Hey Maggs, do me a solid. I need to go get some botox shots and have a few extensions sewn in. Watch my pussy for a bit, will you?

TENAJ

You wish she would, Gemma.

MAGGIE

Um...does the cat have a name?

GEMMA

Beyond Alley Cat, you mean?

MAGGIE

Ok. Come here Alley Cat.

SFX - WE HEAR RUSTLING, A CAT MEOWING'S AGAIN

GEMMA

Oh, and for the show later. Don't forget to order a 12-pack of the raspberry Le Croix's for me, not strawberry like last time. Get some truffle fries for Dan, from that place around the corner.

MAGGIE

Got it.

GEMMA

And maybe your pal here can score us some of that new shit - you know, the red bits with the clover imprint on them? For the after-party.

TENAJ

I'm right here, Gemma. If you want something. Don't act like such a friggin' --

MAGGIE

(cuts her off) -- I'm on it, Gemma. Have fun Botoxing or whatever.

GEMMA (CONT'D)

Oh, and here's some VIP bracelets. No normos or randos in the front row, 'kay? Throws off my vibe.

MAGGIE

Sure.

GEMMA (CONT'D)

Last thing. I know it's a couple weeks out, but Tomorrowlands is coming. You know I'm headlining.

TENAJ

(half-coughing) Giving head.

GEMMA

Fuck-off.

TENAJ (CONT'D)

(continues)...As I was saying. Me and Dan were after-glowing it this morning, and I had this vision. An ultimate stage dive...right into the pit!

MAGGIE

(shocked) You and Dan?

GEMMA

No, just me. During my show. It gets better. I'm gonna do this sick backflip off the stage - naked - and when I land, I'll let the surge save me. Epic, right? Complete Jesus take the wheel moment.

MAGGIE

Naked?

GEMMA (CONT'D)

Well, almost. I'll have a couple of l-e-d lights strategically inserted. Won't be the first time I've been accused of having the most lit clit in the city.

TENAJ

Gross.

GEMMA (CONT'D)

(ignores her, continues...) So Mag pies, your job is finding me one of those bouncy springboard things - like what gymnasts use. We'll cover it in glitter and foam - and I want it to look like I'm flying. Oh, and while you're at it, can you find me someone to kill the decks while I'm riding the wave? We'll need to keep the crowd pumped while I'm out there, no chicks thou. I'm the baddest bitch in town. Right?

SFX - AWKWARD SILENCE

TENAJ
(whispers) Maggie? Say something!

MAGGIE
Sure, Gemma. (dejected) I'll keep my eyes open.

TENAJ
Cool. Later, losers. See ya.

SFX - DOOR SLAMS

TENAJ
Fucken bitch. Maggs, why didn't you say something? She thinks you're her servant! You should tell her to shove her Le Croix's, and her springboard, right up her bony, white --

MAGGIE
-- Hey it's all good. It's all good.

TENAJ
Maggie, you're better than this. You know it.

SFX - PHONE RINGS.

TENAJ
I'll catch you later.

SFX - ANSWERS PHONE.

MAGGIE
Hey, Mom.

SFX - WE HEAR A VOICE ON THE OTHER END, SLIGHTLY MUFFLED

MOM
Did you see it?

MAGGIE
See what?

MOM
The video I sent? I Facebook'd it.

MAGGIE
Yeah, I saw it.

MOM
(Dubious) What was it, then?

MAGGIE
A sermon.

MOM
Whose?

MAGGIE
Mom... come on. You send me stuff like this all the time. I don't remember. They all sound alike.

MOM
What was it about?

MAGGIE
I dunno. Do this or you'll go to hell. Don't do that or you'll go to hell.

SFX - DOOR OPENS/CLOSES - MUSIC POURS FOR A MOMENT - PHONE

CLICKS

MOM
This isn't a joke, Margaret.

MAGGIE
Maggie, mom.

MOM
Fine. Maggie. It's only your soul I'm fighting for.

MAGGIE
Mom. Please chill. I'm being good. I'm not using. I have friends, a life here. Plus, I'm working on a song that could be really...well...important.

MOM
Important? (scoffs) What's important is your faith.

SFX- ANOTHER KNOCK AT THE DOOR -

MAGGIE
Mom, I gotta go. I'm at work.

MOM
Ok. Just - I want you to know. I'll be praying for you.

SFX - PHONE CLICKS OPEN - DOOR OPENS - HEAVY FOOTSTEPS -

SOUNDS LIKE SOMEONE IS WALKING WITH A CANE

MAGGIE

Hey, Father Karras. I was just heading out to set up...

FATHER KARRAS

Actually, I'm glad I caught you.

MAGGIE

You are?

FATHER KARRAS

Yes, the intern, the carrot top.

MAGGIE

Ian.

FATHER KARRAS (CONT'D)

He didn't show.

SFX- WE HEAR A CAT'S MEOW

MAGGIE

I heard.

FATHER KARRAS

Is that a cat?

MAGGIE

It's Gemma's. I'm babysitting.

FATHER KARRAS

I've been calling Ian all morning, he hasn't picked up.

MAGGIE

Look, he's a good kid. Maybe he had a rough night. I can hand out the flyers today.

FATHER KARRAS

It's not that. This kid, Ian, I saw his work on YouTube. That's partially why I gave him the job here. Maggie, not gonna lie, I'm gonna have to crew-up eventually, you know, plan for the next wave. DJ attrition is a thing.

MAGGIE

I didn't know he wanted to be a DJ.

FATHER KARRAS

Of course he did. Why else would anyone intern here? Anyway, so this is a little awkward.

MAGGIE

What is?

FATHER KARRAS

I'd asked him to do me a favor. A buddy of mine is having a party on his boat tonight. He needs someone to spin on the top decks.

MAGGIE

Oh.

FATHER KARRAS (CONT'D)

It's a three hour set. I know this is short notice and all. But, I thought I'd take a chance and ask.

MAGGIE

(hopeful) Yes?

FATHER KARRAS (CONT'D)

Do you know anybody who can do it?

MAGGIE

What?

FATHER KARRAS (CONT'D)

He doesn't have to have a big following, it's a private gig. Just a guy who can smash it. Heavy base - big drops -- rile up the crowd. The pay's decent, too.

MAGGIE

(meek, shyly) I... I could do it.

FATHER KARRAS

Maggie. Be real, ok? I need a pro.

MAGGIE

(defensive) Ian isn't a 'pro.' He's just a kid! I used to spin back home in Minnesota? You watched my videos when I started here. Don't you remember? You said I was talented. That's why you hired me!

FATHER KARRAS

Sorry, wasn't that was like, five years ago?

MAGGIE

I'm still talented. And I have my own equipment, decks. Lasers. Smoke. Whatever you want.

FATHER KARRAS

I don't think so, Maggie.

MAGGIE

(rambling) I have a studio at home. It's pretty basic. But, there's this set I'm working on. It's special.

FATHER KARRAS

Maybe next time, okay. (Cutting her off) Hey - do me a favor - take out the garbage from the green room, it's starting to reek.

MAGGIE

Okay (dejected). Sure.

SFX - DOOR OPENS/CLOSES.

MAGGIE

(mocks herself) 'It's special.' Ugh. You are so lame.

SFX - DOOR CREAKS OPEN

FATHER KARRAS

Maggie?

MAGGIE

Yeah?

FATHER KARRAS

You got a stage name?

MAGGIE

Sure, it's DJ Blizzy? Why?... (Something dawns on her) Wait...

FATHER KARRAS

Actually, now that you reminded me, I do remember your clips.

MAGGIE

(Hopeful) Really?!

FATHER KARRAS

Look, everyone deserves a shot, right? (Pauses). You up for this gig?

MAGGIE

Totally!

FATHER KARRAS (CONT'D)

Ok, let's do it. I'll text you the details. And Maggie?

MAGGIE

I know, I know. Wear something hot, right?

FATHER KARRAS

No. I was gonna tell you not to forget the garbage. It stinks to high hell in here.

SFX - DOOR CLOSSES- PHONE DIALS

MAGGIE

Hey, T. What are you doing tonight?

TENAJ

Why?

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

I've got a gig! Paying! Told you! Told you it would work out!

TENAJ

Cool! Where's it at? I'll be there with bells on, baby!

SFX - PHONE CLICKS

MAGGIE

I'm getting a call.

TENAJ

Hit me later.

SFX- PHONE CLICKS

MAGGIE

Hello...

DANNY

Hey sexy? Why you ghosting me all of a sudden? I've been texting. Calling. Did you see that carrier pigeon out your window?

MAGGIE

(Her voice drops, levity-less)
Look, I've been thinking.

DANNY

Me too. About us, all the time.

MAGGIE

I can't do this anymore.

DANNY

What?

MAGGIE

Dan, it's over. So don't text me anymore. Don't call me.
Don't hit me up. We're not a thing.

DANNY

Maggie? What's gotten into you?

MAGGIE
I'm done.

DANNY
What? (Realizes *something*) Oh, come on. It's over between us.
I told you.

MAGGIE
Really?

DANNY (CONT'D)
Yeah, really?

MAGGIE
So when Gemma told us about how you two were after-glowing-it
this morning, that was like, a made-up tale?

DANNY
We're just friends, Maggs. You know Gemma likes drama. Come
on. Let's talk this out. How about tonight?

MAGGIE
I can't. I have a gig.

WILLS
Really? A gig?

MAGGIE
Yeah.

DANNY
Paid?

MAGGIE
Fuck off, yes paid.

DANNY
Cool. About time the world gets to see the kind of magic you
bring to the tables.

MAGGIE
What?

DANNY (CONT'D)
You know I'm your biggest fan, Maggs.

MAGGIE
(Touched) Thanks, Dan. But it's still over between us.

DANNY
Look, after the show, I'll be home. Me and the Roku. We'll be
waiting. Come by, okay?

MAGGIE

Not a chance. Listen, I gotta go. Still have the day job.

DANNY

Garbage in the green room?

MAGGIE

How'd you know?

DANNY

I started out where you are. Remember?

MAGGIE

Oh yeah, right. How long before you got on deck?

DANNY

It was about a year, I guess. Why you asking?

MAGGIE

A year. No reason. Catch you later, Dan.

SFX - PHONE CLICKS OFF - CAT MEOWS

MAGGIE

Come on kitty. Let's get you out of here before Gemma gets her claws into you.

MAGGIE HUMS THE WICKED WITCH OF THE WEST SONG

SFX - DOOR OPENS/CLOSES

MAGGIE

(talks to herself). Trash duty today. Table turning goddess tomorrow... Okay dumpster. Let's do this.

SFX - A LOUD CREAKING, FOLLOWED BY A BOOM AS THE DUMPSTER LID FLIPS OPEN

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

This is DJ Blizzy coming to you from Cooper's Clubhouse..Oh my lord that smells horrible...(she gags, retches)...

SFX - GARBAGE BAG RUSTLES

MAGGIE

Live From New York, spinning the dopest dance beats... (more gags). What is that?

SFX - WE HEAR BOTTLES AND TRASH FALLING IN THE BIND

MAGGIE

Ugh, gross. Is that a...aperson? Ian? Oh My God! IAN!!!

SHE SCREAMS

MUSIC - FADE UP THEME MUSIC

NARRATOR

Thank you for listening. This has been The White
Note...(insert extro copy)