

REBOUND

A Television Series Inspired By Manta's "Women's Soccer"

By Abby Gewanter





Women's Soccer

STORY: Honbi Kim, Gabi Nam ART: Gabi Nam

- *Girlpower and soccer for the win!*

The power of women playing soccer.

Eonam is unexpectedly invited to join the local women's soccer team. With bad group experiences in the past, she isn't sure if soccer is for her. But after that first kick of the ball and getting to know the other women on the team, Eonam's life begins to change for the better.

GENRE:
COMEDY

COMPLETED
COMIC

16
CHAPTERS

PERFECT FOR A:
**COMEDY
SERIES**

TONE:
INSPIRATIONAL

ADULTS
18-34

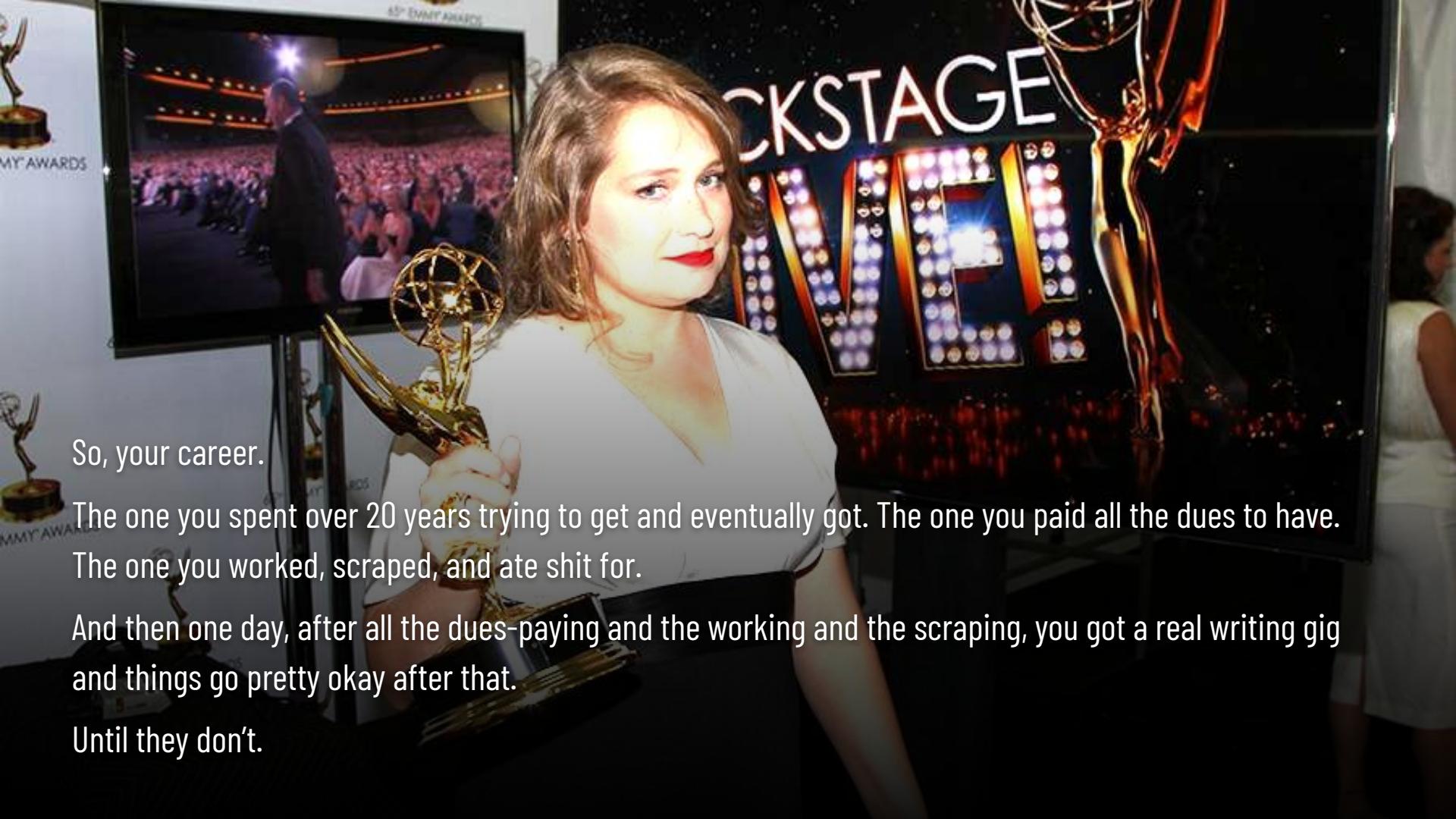
RIGHTS
MANTA/RIDI



CLICK TO
READ ON
Manta

STATS: ~1M Views

COMPS
Hacks, Harlem, Somebody Somewhere, Grace & Frankie

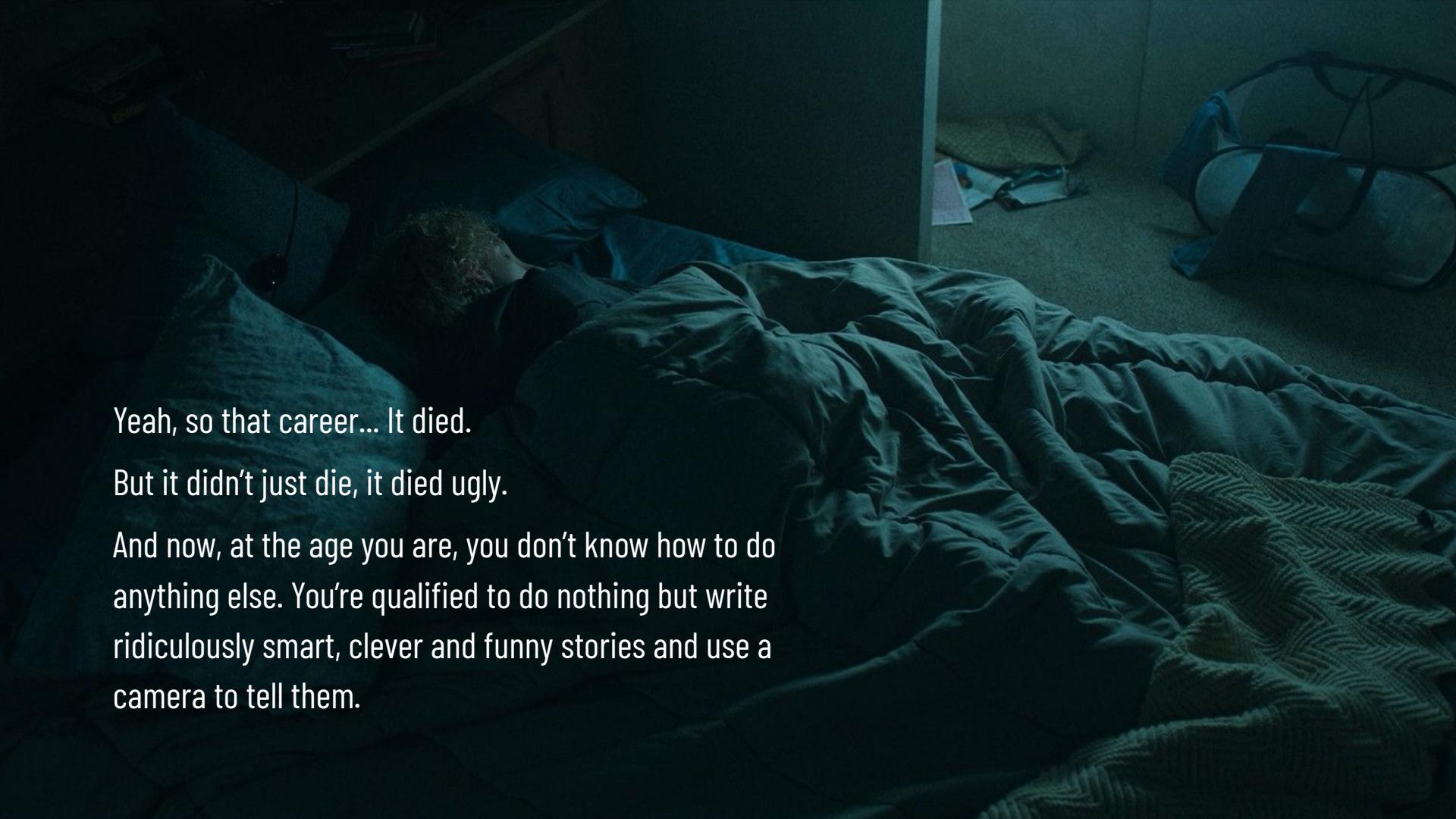


So, your career.

The one you spent over 20 years trying to get and eventually got. The one you paid all the dues to have. The one you worked, scraped, and ate shit for.

And then one day, after all the dues-paying and the working and the scraping, you got a real writing gig and things go pretty okay after that.

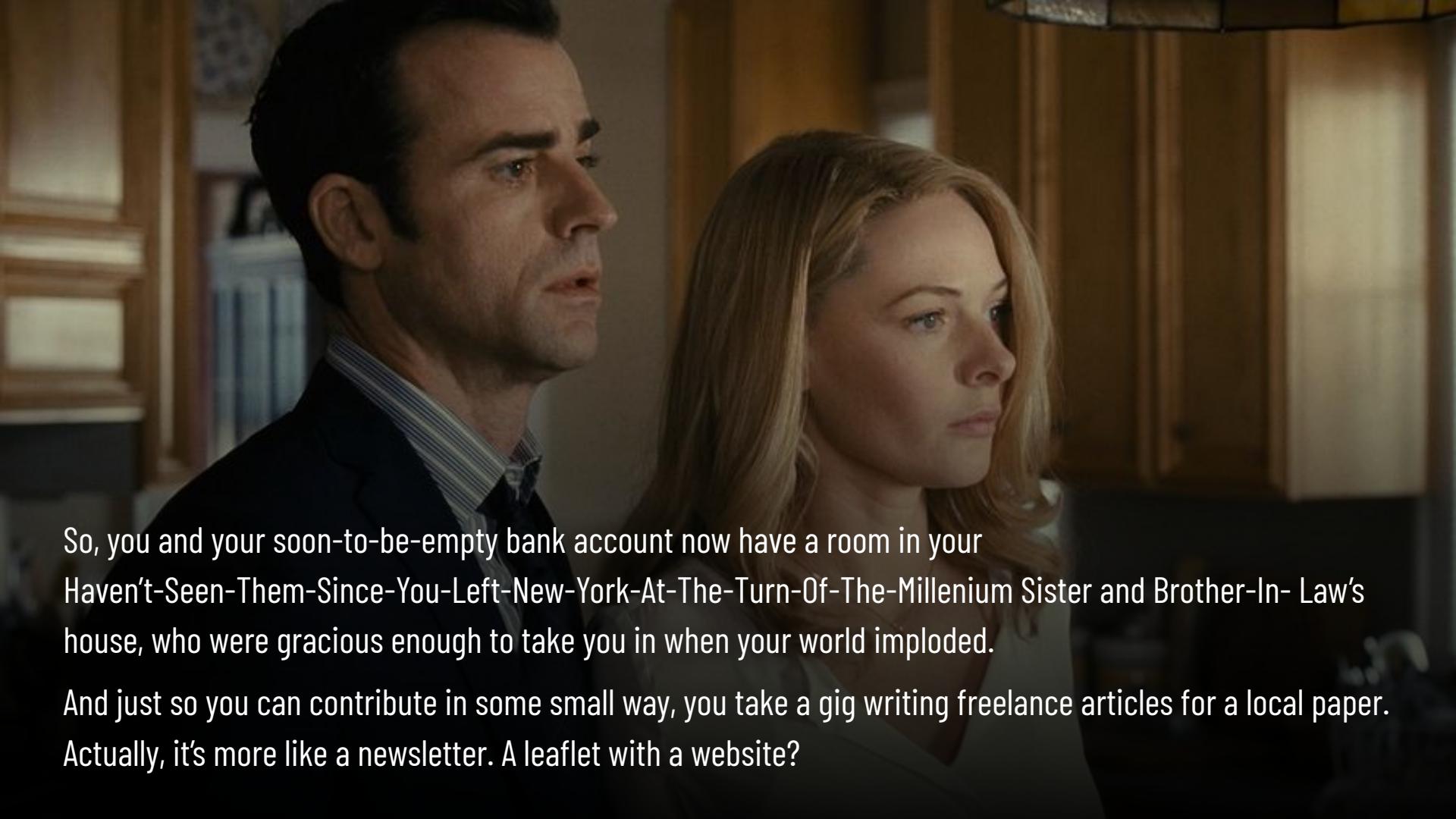
Until they don't.



Yeah, so that career... It died.

But it didn't just die, it died ugly.

And now, at the age you are, you don't know how to do anything else. You're qualified to do nothing but write ridiculously smart, clever and funny stories and use a camera to tell them.

A man and a woman are looking off to the side in a dimly lit room. The man is on the left, wearing a dark suit and striped shirt, with a serious expression. The woman is on the right, with blonde hair, also looking off to the side with a neutral expression. The background is dark and out of focus.

So, you and your soon-to-be-empty bank account now have a room in your
Haven't-Seen-Them-Since-You-Left-New-York-At-The-Turn-Of-The-Millenium Sister and Brother-In-Law's
house, who were gracious enough to take you in when your world imploded.
And just so you can contribute in some small way, you take a gig writing freelance articles for a local paper.
Actually, it's more like a newsletter. A leaflet with a website?

And now... You live on Long Island. On "the local beat" for the Massapequa Minute or some shit. And no, you didn't get the Gilgo Beach Serial Killer good, cool thing. You got Local Teeny-Bop Footie.



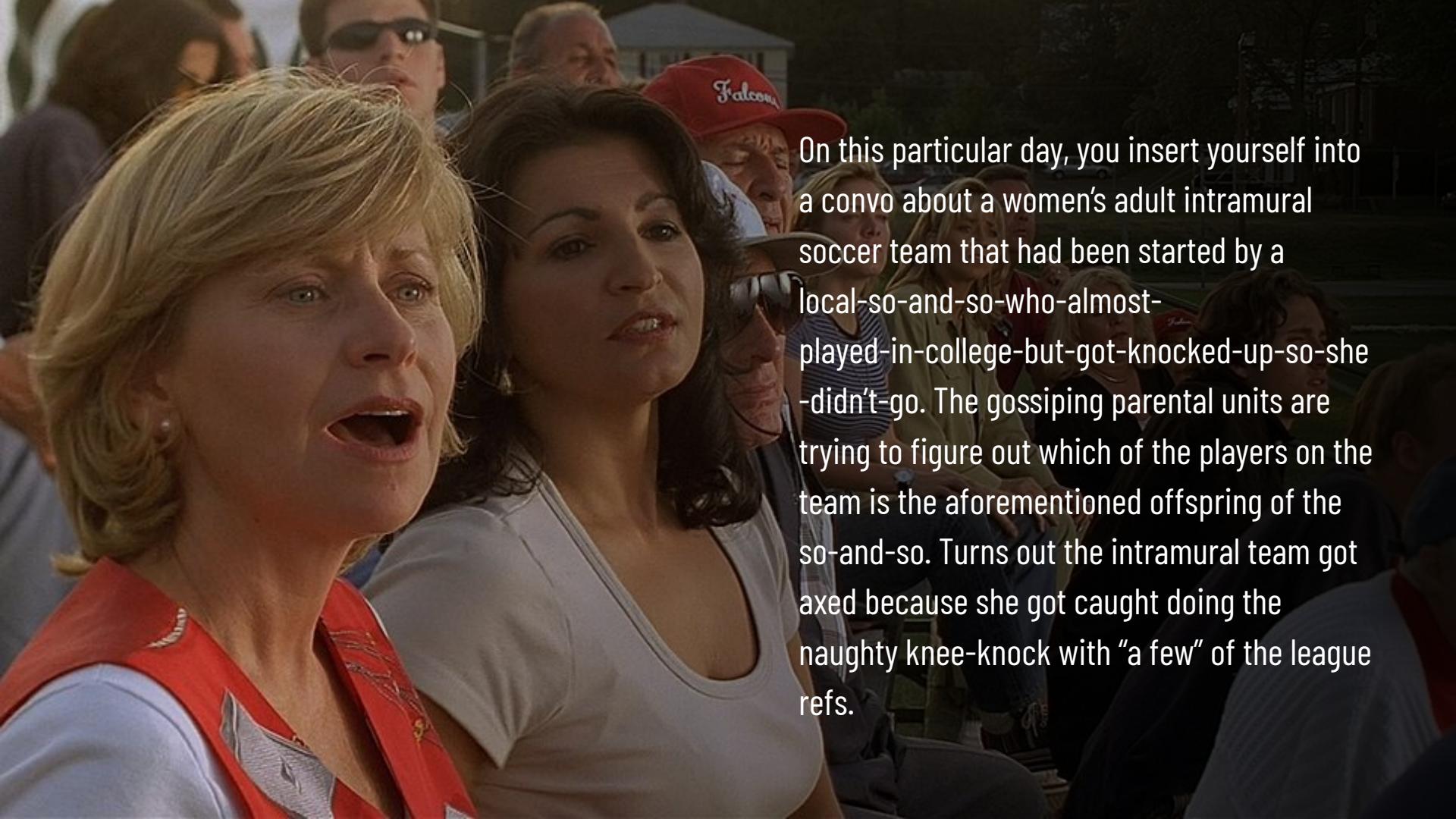


So, here's what goes down:

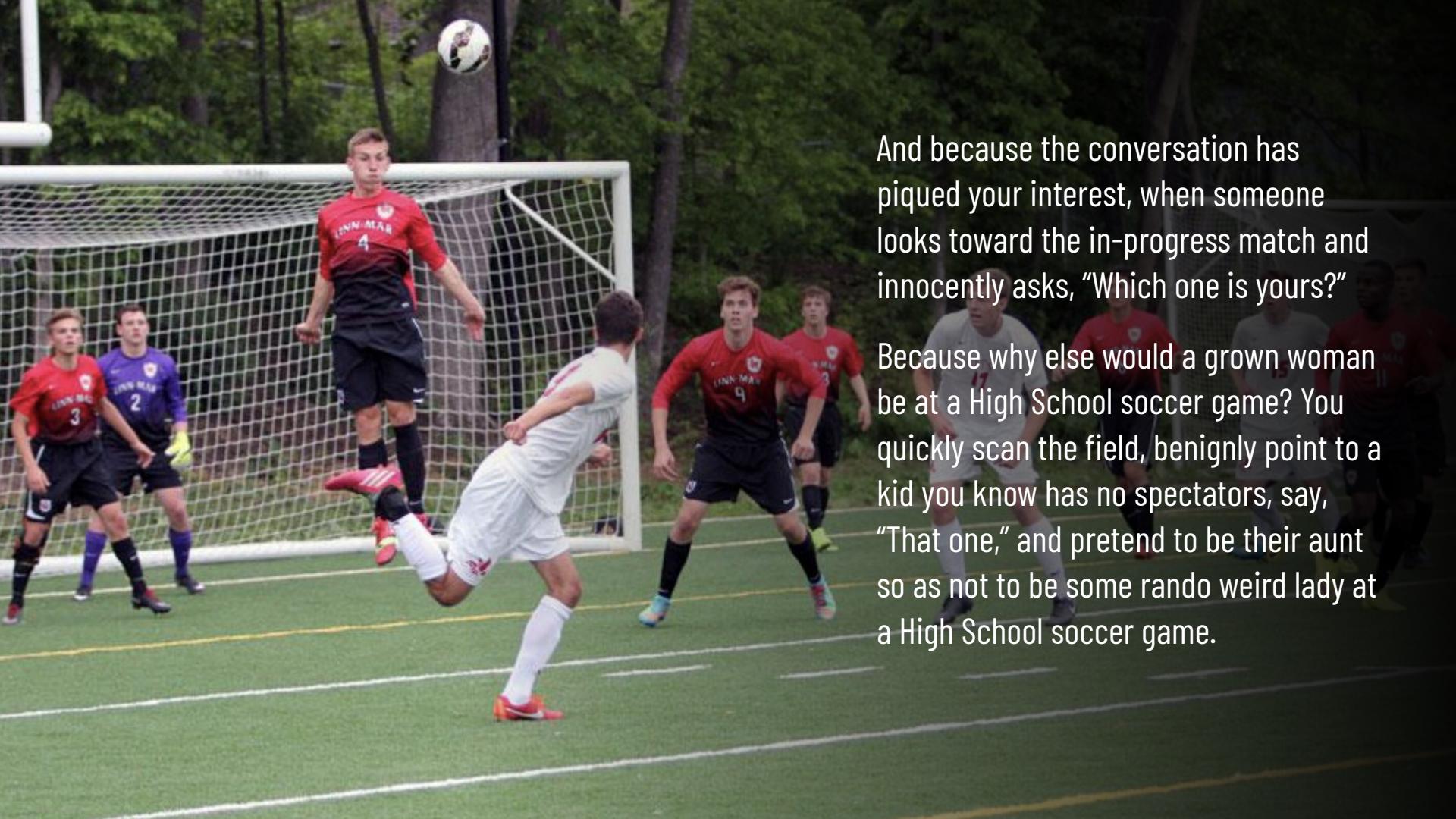
You're "reporting" on the local High School
soccer game.

Because \$100. And the some semblance
of dignity.

FML...

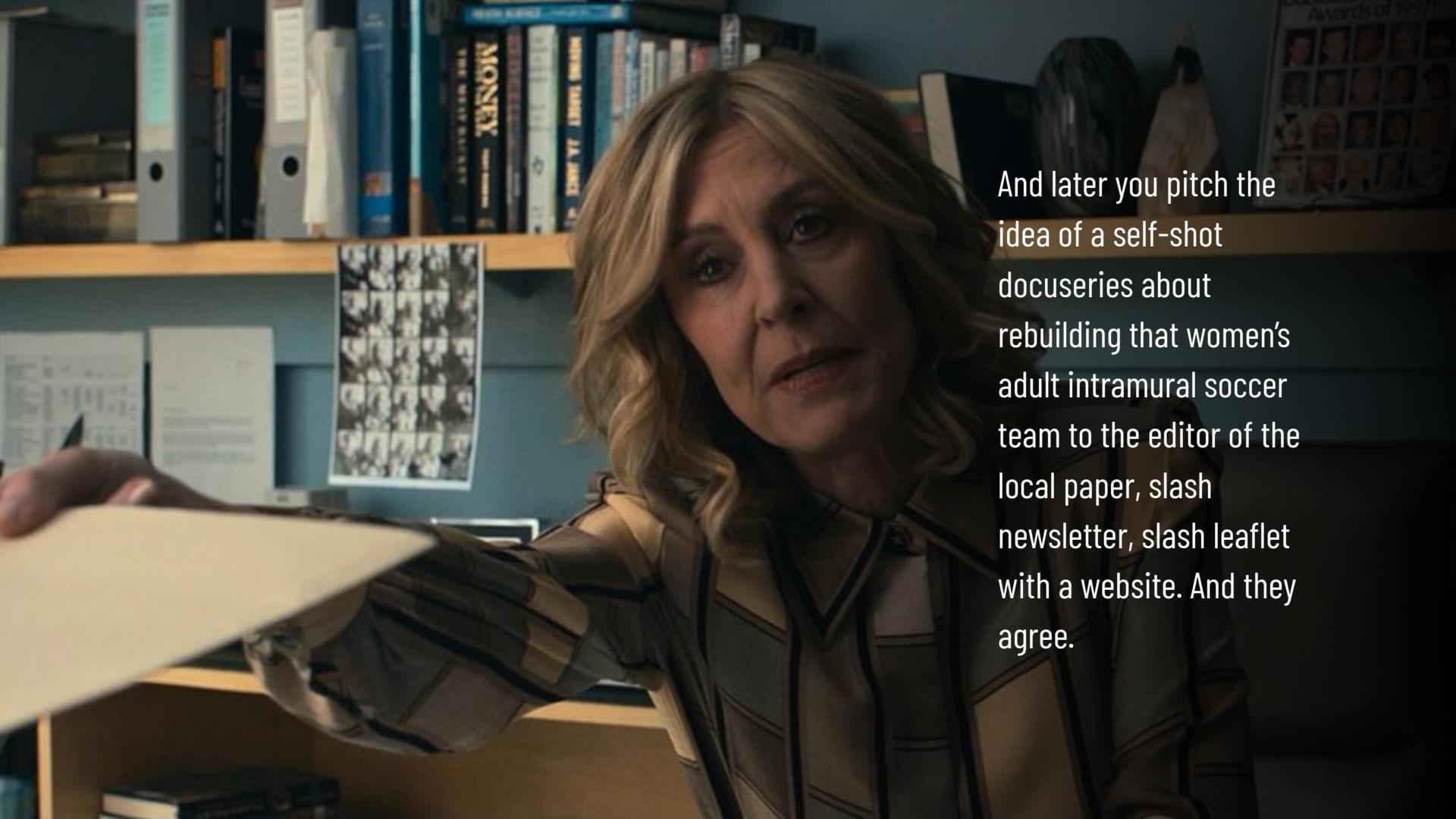
A woman with blonde hair, wearing a red safety vest over a grey shirt, is shouting with her mouth wide open. She is in a crowd of spectators at a soccer game. In the background, a woman with dark hair and a grey tank top is looking towards the camera. Other spectators, including a man in a red 'Falcons' baseball cap, are visible in the background. The scene is set outdoors at a sports event.

On this particular day, you insert yourself into a convo about a women's adult intramural soccer team that had been started by a local-so-and-so-who-almost-played-in-college-but-got-knocked-up-so-she-didn't-go. The gossiping parental units are trying to figure out which of the players on the team is the aforementioned offspring of the so-and-so. Turns out the intramural team got axed because she got caught doing the naughty knee-knock with "a few" of the league refs.

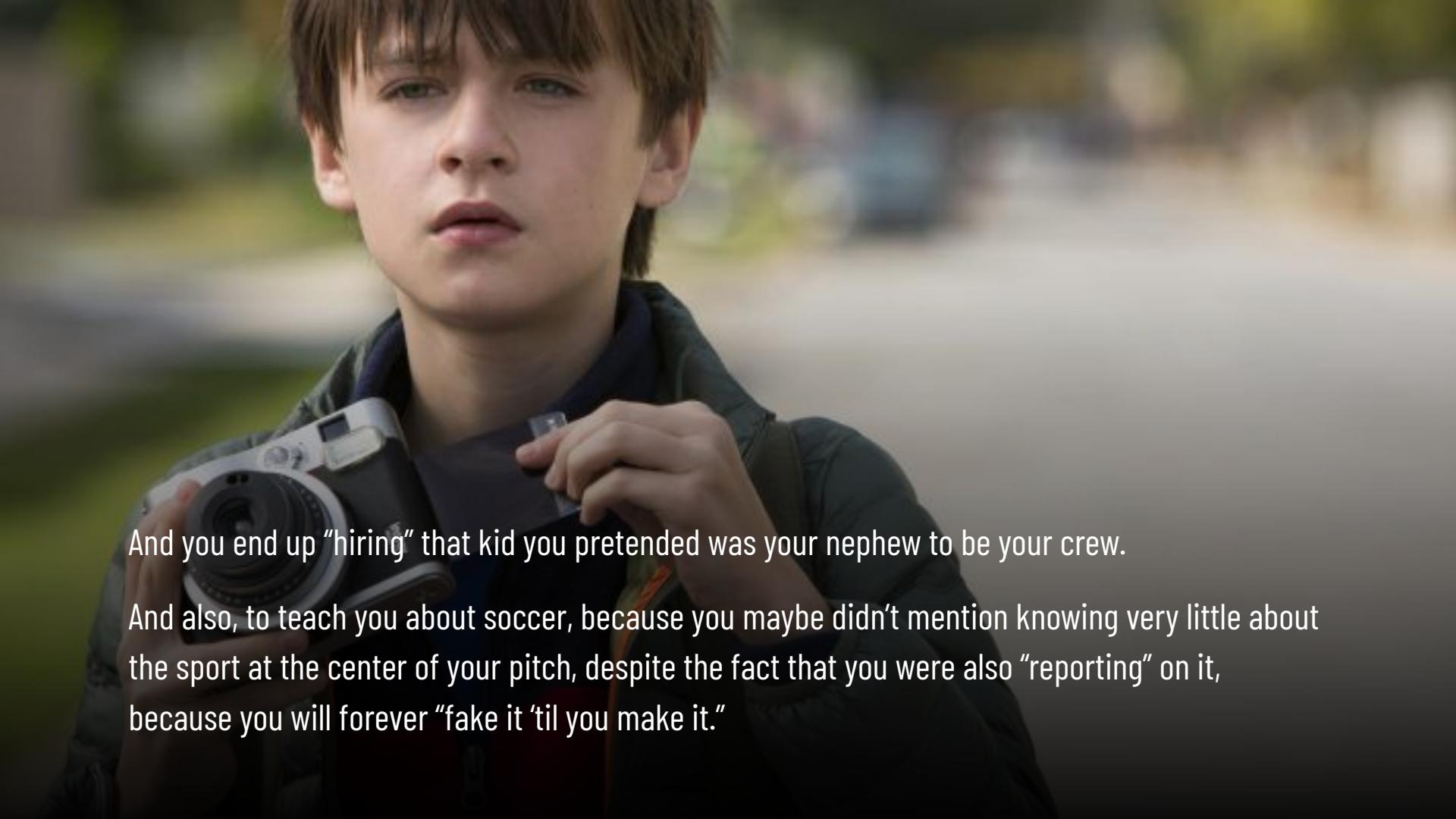


And because the conversation has piqued your interest, when someone looks toward the in-progress match and innocently asks, "Which one is yours?"

Because why else would a grown woman be at a High School soccer game? You quickly scan the field, benignly point to a kid you know has no spectators, say, "That one," and pretend to be their aunt so as not to be some rando weird lady at a High School soccer game.



And later you pitch the idea of a self-shot docuseries about rebuilding that women's adult intramural soccer team to the editor of the local paper, slash newsletter, slash leaflet with a website. And they agree.

A close-up photograph of a young boy with brown hair and green eyes. He is wearing a dark, possibly black, zip-up jacket. He is holding a silver digital camera in his left hand and a small, dark rectangular device, likely a smartphone, in his right hand. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a neutral to slightly curious expression. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a park or outdoor setting with greenery and a paved path.

And you end up “hiring” that kid you pretended was your nephew to be your crew.

And also, to teach you about soccer, because you maybe didn’t mention knowing very little about the sport at the center of your pitch, despite the fact that you were also “reporting” on it, because you will forever “fake it ‘til you make it.”

A close-up, profile shot of a woman with long, dark hair. She is resting her chin on her hand, looking thoughtfully to the right. She is wearing a light-colored, possibly denim, top. A red and black beaded bracelet is visible on her left wrist. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue.

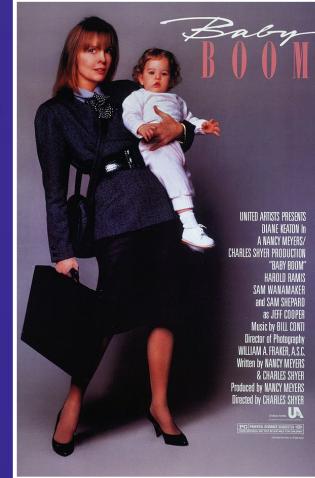
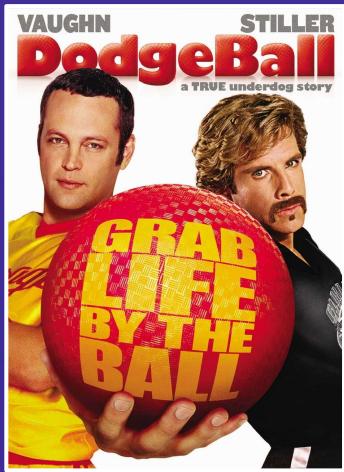
Now, for you, this whole thing is about one
thing and one thing only: fixing your shit.

Getting your life back.

Getting your career back.

Getting out of your sister's house.

Getting. The. Fuck. Out. Of. Long. Island.



Think Dodgeball, but with the heart of *A League Of Their Own*.

Think *Portlandia*, but following a story kinda like *Whip It*.

Think *Baby Boom*, but with the tone and comedy of *Bridesmaids*.

Think *State & Main*. Think *Schitt's Creek* if it took place in the birthplace of *Billy Joel*.

At its core and in every episode, this will be...

A series about connection.

A series about loneliness.

A series about family.

A series about trauma (and healing it).

A series about community and being a team.

A series about bringing women together.

A series about strangers who had no idea how badly they needed each other.





But REBOUND is not a show about sports.
Just like...

TED LASSO is not a show about soccer.

HACKS is not a show about stand-up comedy.

THE BEAR is not a show about a restaurant.

SCHITT'S CREEK is not a show about a small town.

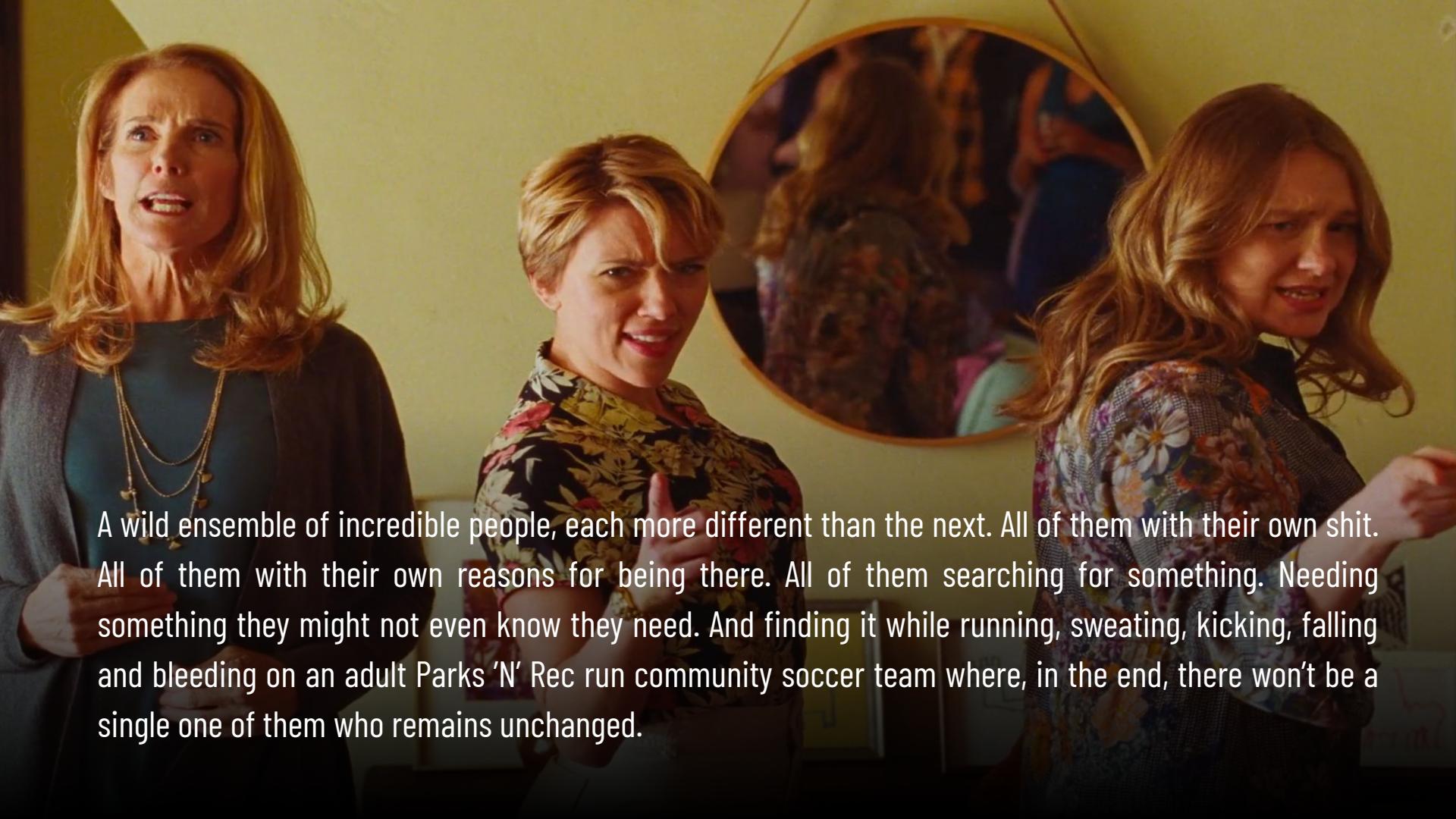
ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK is not a show about prison.

REBOUND is a show about LIFE. Where sometimes, when you're a grown-ass adult stuck in an all-encompassing, self-limiting narrative, what you need is a mirror. And sometimes that mirror comes in the form of a group of also-lost women who join an intramural soccer team.

Because why the fuck not?

- That chick from high school you hoped you'd never see again.
- That other chick from high school you also hoped you'd never see again who never spoke to anyone and holy shit if you weren't real wrong as to why.
- Your boss at the local newspaper.
- The pharmacist at your Walgreens who's kinda shitty to every customer who's sure she sets their co-pay.
- The sister you now live with who you wouldn't characterize so much as a friend, let alone a "joiner," forget a joiner friend of an intramural soccer team.
- And even a 17-year-old high-school kid, grown up way beyond his years, not because he wants to be, but because he has to be.





A wild ensemble of incredible people, each more different than the next. All of them with their own shit. All of them with their own reasons for being there. All of them searching for something. Needing something they might not even know they need. And finding it while running, sweating, kicking, falling and bleeding on an adult Parks 'N' Rec run community soccer team where, in the end, there won't be a single one of them who remains unchanged.



Sports changes lives.

And sometimes lives need changing.

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a black and white polka-dot top, is looking out of a window. The background shows a city skyline. A dark vertical bar covers the right side of the image, containing the text.

Especially when you didn't want them to.



ABBY GEWANTER

WGA Award Nominee/Showrunner/Producer

Abby Gewanter started her writing career co-authoring an episode of FOX's *Wonderfalls*, followed by working with David Milch for Seasons 2 and 3 of the acclaimed, award-winning HBO series *Deadwood*, as well as Milch's next HBO series *John From Cincinnati*.

She has also been a member of the writing staff for ABC's *Pushing Daisies* and TBS's *Glory Daze*. Before joining the team of EPIX's *Graves* starring Nick Nolte and Sela Ward where Abby was the #2 to the series creator/showrunner and acted as the lead on-set producer for both seasons shot in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Abby sold and developed the comedy pilot *Now What?* for ABC with Jane Fonda set to star as well as the drama pilot *Garden Spells* for NBC.

Most recently, Abby was a Writer/Co-Executive Producer on the *Mad About You* reboot for Spectrum Originals starring Helen Hunt and Paul Reiser.

After more than 20 years in Los Angeles, Abby recently relocated back to New York, which - even while away - is, was and will always be home.



STEPHANIE LAFFIN

Stephanie Laffin is an Emmy nominated Casting Director who now serves as the Executive Director of Creative Affairs for former NFL Player, Corporate Inclusion Advisor and Educator, Wade Davis, and as the Executive Director of Creative Affairs for journalist and photographer Amanda de Cadenet.

Stephanie began her career in New York City with theatrical casting directors Stuart Howard and Howard Meltzer. After working on the award winning Broadway revivals of *Grease!*, *Chicago* and *Annie*, Stephanie began working in television casting. Stephanie worked on the casting for *Law & Order: SVU*, *Monk*, and *Century City*, feature films, and numerous pilots.

For her work on the television series *House*, Stephanie was nominated for both an Emmy Award and an Artios Award. As a series, *House* was recognized for its excellence with Emmys, Golden Globes, People's Choice, and SAG Awards.

As a production executive, Stephanie was the Senior Executive Director of Creative Affairs for Hypomania Content. While at Hypomania Content, Stephanie oversaw content for two *It Got Better* MTV specials, worked on developing the original concept for *The Real O'Neals* on ABC, and was the Supervising Producer for the *Take Part* YouTube series, *American Savage*.

Stephanie served as the Secretary of the Board of Directors for the It Gets Better Project, as well as ran the day to day of the organization in its formative years. While at the It Gets Better Project, Stephanie worked on corporate and community relationships to support the organization, including as an original participant in the LGBTQ sports summits hosted by Nike, collaborations with Rudy's Barbershop, Choice Hotels, Macy's, Jonathan Adler, Adobe, and others. Additionally, as part of the launch of Archie Comics' first out LGBTQ character, Stephanie worked directly with the executive team and the character's original creator, Dan Parent, and produced a segment on the character's development and long-range story plans.

In an effort to ensure that young people could find the resources they would need in their communities, Stephanie worked with the It Gets Better Project team and collaborated with other LGBTQ non-profit organizations to develop a state-by-state database portal for LGBTQ youth serving organizations in the US. Stephanie also conceived and produced yearly concert fundraisers starring Andrew Rannells, Janina Gavankar, Rebecca Naomi Jones, Caissie Levy, Tituss Burgess and others. Additionally, as part of the organization's LGBTQ Pride efforts, Stephanie spearheaded all Pride related activities for the organization, including marching annually in the New York City and Los Angeles Pride celebrations with over 100 volunteers.

A graduate of Mount Holyoke College, Stephanie received the Genevieve Schmich Award as recognition for her contribution to the dramatic life of the college and is a member of both the Television Academy and the Casting Society of America.



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Women's **Soccer**

Stories worth the binge

Manta