

Author's Note

I'd like to say this is a work of pure fiction. However, the phrase *imposter syndrome* entered my consciousness during freshman orientation, and somewhat foreshadowed what I would process that first semester. After being a top math student to this point, I was shocked to experience a new level of challenge. Self-doubt entered the picture. Overly self-reliant, I didn't initially know how to lean on others for help. Through relationships with newfound friends and an outstanding math professor at Pomona, I found my way that first year.

I wrote this show after an entire year of online school due to COVID. I was burnt out and devastated without live theatre, my favorite thing in the world. I started writing these songs and began to synthesize lessons from my music, math, and theatre classes. I found a new love in playwriting, got out of my COVID slump, and overcame imposter syndrome from freshman year. I also more deeply appreciated the support of those around me that first year. This is my first musical. I am so thankful you are here and hope you enjoy the show!

- Annika Hoseth (PO '23)

Director's Note

From our first readthrough to now, it has been such a treat watching this script transform as Annika spent countless hours furthering the world and magic of *You're the Shit*. After loving the script at the initial readthrough, I was honored to be brought onto the production team. Annika beautifully crafted a story that walks the line of relatable and hilariously magical, making it a truly touching and entertaining show. As I began working on this project I was brought face to face with my own experiences of imposter syndrome. The question of inadequacy and losing faith in oneself is all too familiar to many, if not all, college students. I couldn't pass up the opportunity to work on a show that brings this all to the stage, especially in hilarious, musical form! This show helped me confront my own fears of directing my peers at the colleges. I was new to the department, a recent transfer who had only directed in an educational theatre, so naturally I had my doubts. What better show to be the first I direct than one that explores the very nature of the fears I was experiencing. I was afraid that all my experience hadn't prepared me to work with my talented peers, that everyone would see that I didn't know what I was doing, and that the show wouldn't turn out well because of it. These nagging thoughts were trying to hold me back, just like our villain, Thomas, but those thoughts became meaningless with such an incredible creative team by my side!

The beauty of this show is that you don't have to be a math whiz to connect with Erica who struggles with imposter syndrome her freshman year of college. We've all been in her shoes with our own little voice whispering to us that we're not good enough. This is one of the most human experiences that exists which is why we're bringing this show to life here and now! I invite you to feel the pain those doubts bring and then marvel at how silly they really are. This is your opportunity to laugh at the ridiculous Thomas as he tries to bring Erica down, just as we all need to laugh in the face of that imposter syndrome trying to trick us! Because no, of course no one knows exactly what they're doing every moment of every day, but that doesn't make us imposters. It makes us human. Weird, goofy humans figuring it out together. So sit back and enjoy this wonderful show about some weird, goofy humans as they face the ups and down of freshman year by singing and dancing their way through it!

- Ellie Griffin (PZ '23)

Thank You!

Special thanks to: Janelle Asti, Bobby Gutierrez, Mary Rosier, Ecosets, Aydin Mallery, Christina Hurtado-Pierson, Howard Ho, Shahriar Shahriari, Matthew Brown, Thomas Flaherty, and Joti Rockwell.

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DIR. ELLIE GRIFFIN

WRITTEN BY ANNIKA HOSETH

YOU'RE THE SH*T!

High school was a breeze. Why should college be any different?

APRIL 28TH @ 8PM
APRIL 29TH @ 8PM
APRIL 30TH @ 2PM
APRIL 30TH @ 8PM
MAY 1ST @ 2PM

SPOTLIGHT
Musical
Theatre

The poster features two women standing in front of a green chalkboard filled with math equations and diagrams. The woman on the left is wearing a striped shirt and jeans, holding a notebook and pen. The woman on the right is wearing a black suit and has her arms crossed. The background is a light green chalkboard with various math problems and diagrams drawn on it. The title 'YOU'RE THE SH*T!' is written in large, red, hand-drawn letters. Above the title, the director's name 'DIR. ELLIE GRIFFIN' and the writer's name 'WRITTEN BY ANNIKA HOSETH' are written in a smaller, red, hand-drawn font. Below the title, the tagline 'High school was a breeze. Why should college be any different?' is written in a red, hand-drawn font. At the bottom of the poster, the show dates and times are listed in a red, hand-drawn font. In the bottom right corner, there is a yellow banner with the text 'SPOTLIGHT Musical Theatre' in a red, hand-drawn font.

The Seaver Theater Complex and this production are situated on the unceded ancestral homelands of the Gabrielino Tongva Peoples. We recognize and honor the past, present, and future Elders and stewards of these homelands, who are the rightful and *current* caretakers of this land. This acknowledgement serves to honor the myriad cultures, languages, and traditions of all Indigenous Peoples and First Nations--those that are still being practiced, and those that were forcefully taken and destroyed by colonization. This acknowledgement is the first step in carrying out our moral imperative to build relationships with, support, and amplify the voices and rights of all First Nations and Indigenous Peoples. We have much to learn from the rightful communities of these lands. We need to protect, honor, and celebrate the history and ongoing legacy of the Peoples of the land on which we stand. This has always been, and always will be, Indigenous land.

Cast List

Annika Hoseth (PO '23).....Erica Meyers
Kendall Packman (PO '22).....Thomas
Nisha Saboo (PO '25).....Ashley
Catie Cryan (SC '25).....Lexi
Kabir Kacholia (SC '25).....Marcus
Sean Perez (PO '23).....Ty
Dolores Fritzsche (PO '22).....Ms. Harrison/Prof. Robinson
Ava Pandey (SC '25).....Ensemble
Kate McArthur (SC '25).....Ensemble
Hayley Powers (SC '24).....Understudy/Swing



Scan this QR code to read the cast, production team, and band bios!

Song List

Act 1

You're the Shit
Point B to Point A
Imposter
Can't Get the Better of Me
C's Get Degrees
Knock It Out
Point B to Point A (Reprise)

INTERMISSION

Act 2

Thomas's Lament
All Night
Be Enough
Be Enough (Reprise)
I'm the Shit
Bows

Production Team

Ellie Griffin (PZ '23) - Director
Aviva Miller (SC '23) - Music Director
Hayley Powers (SC '24) - Asst. Director/Asst. Music Director
Rosie Corr (PO '23) - Choreographer
Evelyn TeSelle (PO '22) - Stage Manager
Teodelina Martelli (PO '24) - Arranger/Conductor
Kristin Walters (PO '23) - Sound Designer
GiGi Buddie (PO '23) - Lighting Designer
Pei Qin (PO '23) - Lighting Operator/Designer
Jazz Zhu (PO '24) - Lighting Operator
Emma Lemire (PO '23) - Props/Set Designer
Audrey Scott (SC '25) - Asst. Props/Set Designer and Crew
Emily Cummings (PO '22) - Costume Designer
Shanny Corcoran (SC '25) - Publicist
Sarah An (HM '25) - Usher/Crew
Chelsea Luo (CM '25) - Usher/Crew

Band

Millie Mince (PO '23) - Piano
Emily Radner (SC '23) - Drums
Max Buenviaje-Boyd (PO '23) - Bass
Christian Anastos (PO '23) - Guitar
Ethan Lee (PO '24) - Violin