**Spellcheck For Bias: *The Inspector***

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**Overview**

The purpose of this report is to identify opportunities for content creators to diversify character representations. This report measures representations of six identities in the script *The Inspector* for LEGO Titan:

* [Gender](#7rdsrmby8a10)
* [Race/Ethnicity](#km0uzj1c47vm)
* [LGBTQ+](#l5fofjr5yyu7)
* [Disability](#phoxthamc9m4)
* [Age (50+)](#w6ssfbo3nmng)
* [Body Size](#ua15q4ot3gj6)

**Methodology**

Spellcheck for Bias is based on inventions and software developed at the USC Viterbi School of Engineering. For this report, we analyze characters who spoke 1 line of text or more. In *The Inspector*, 13 characters met this criterion:

| **CHARACTER NAME** | **LINE COUNT** |
| --- | --- |
| MR OZ | 62 |
| MATEO | 56 |
| COOPER | 51 |
| IZZIE | 32 |
| STRICK | 32 |
| LOGAN | 30 |
| ZOEY | 26 |
| RADIO | 12 |
| MRS CASTILLO | 10 |
| COOPER'S MOM | 8 |
| OLD MAN HOLOGRAM | 5 |
| SPEAKER SYSTEM | 3 |
| COOPERS BROTHER | 2 |

Automated coding is combined with expert human coding to generate the quantitative and qualitative analysis below.

**Gender Analysis**

***For comparison, women constitute 51% of the U.S. population.***

* 38% characters are specified as female.
* The leading character is male (“Mateo”).
* The script contains 2 character opportunities to increase gender diversity.

Characters by Gender

| **FEMALE CHARACTER** | **MALE CHARACTER** | **GENDER UNSPECIFIED** |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | MR OZ |  |
|  | MATEO |  |
|  | COOPER |  |
| IZZIE | IZZIE |  |
| STRICK | STRICK |  |
|  | LOGAN |  |
| ZOEY | ZOEY |  |
|  | RADIO | RADIO |
| MRS CASTILLO | MRS CASTILLO |  |
| COOPER'S MOM | COOPER'S MOM |  |
|  | OLD MAN HOLOGRAM |  |
|  | SPEAKER SYSTEM | SPEAKER SYSTEM |
|  | COOPERS BROTHER |  |

The See Jane Test

| **In order to pass the See Jane test, a script/manuscript must have:** | |
| --- | --- |
| **YES** | At least one prominent character (leading, co-leading, supporting character) who is a woman who; |
| **YES** | Is not depicted with gender stereotypes or tropes. |

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**Race/Ethnicity Analysis**

***For comparison, people of color constitute 38% of the U.S. population.***

* 38% characters are specified as characters of color.
* The leading character is a character of color (“Mateo”).
* The script contains 4 character opportunities to increase racial/ethnic diversity.

Characters by Race/Ethnicity

| **CHARACTER OF COLOR** | **WHITE CHARACTER** | **RACE/ETHNICITY UNSPECIFIED** |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | MR OZ | MR OZ |
| MATEO |  | MATEO |
|  | COOPER | COOPER |
| IZZIE |  | IZZIE |
|  |  | STRICK |
| LOGAN |  | LOGAN |
| ZOEY |  | ZOEY |
|  |  | RADIO |
| MRS CASTILLO |  | MRS CASTILLO |
|  | COOPER'S MOM | COOPER'S MOM |
|  |  | OLD MAN HOLOGRAM |
|  |  | SPEAKER SYSTEM |
|  | COOPERS BROTHER | COOPERS BROTHER |

The Shonda Rhimes Test

| **In order to pass the Shonda Rhimes test, a script/manuscript must have:** | |
| --- | --- |
| **YES** | At least one prominent character (leading, co-leading, supporting character) who is a character of color who; |
| **YES** | Is not depicted with race/ethnicity stereotypes or tropes. |

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**LGBTQ+ Analysis**

***For comparison, LGBTQ+ people comprise 4.5% of the U.S. population.***

* 0 characters are specified as LGBTQ+.
* The leading character is specified as heterosexual (“Mateo”).
* The script contains 11 character opportunities to increase LGBTQ+ diversity.

Characters by LGBTQ+ Status

| **LGBTQ+ CHARACTER** | **HETEROSEXUAL CHARACTER** | **SEXUALITY UNSPECIFIED** |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | MR OZ |
|  | MATEO | MATEO |
|  |  | COOPER |
|  |  | IZZIE |
|  |  | STRICK |
|  | LOGAN | LOGAN |
|  |  | ZOEY |
|  |  | RADIO |
|  |  | MRS CASTILLO |
|  |  | COOPER'S MOM |
|  |  | OLD MAN HOLOGRAM |
|  |  | SPEAKER SYSTEM |
|  |  | COOPERS BROTHER |

The Vito-Russo Test

| **In order to pass the Vito-Russo test, a script/manuscript must:** | |
| --- | --- |
| **NO** | Contain a character that is identifiably lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and/or queer. |
|  | That character must not be solely or predominantly defined by their sexual orientation or gender identity (i.e. they are comprised of the same sort of unique character traits commonly used to differentiate straight/non-transgender characters from one another). |
|  | The LGBTQ character must be tied into the plot in such a way that their removal would have a significant effect, meaning they are not there to simply provide colorful commentary, paint urban authenticity, or (perhaps most commonly) set up a punchline. |



**Disability Analysis**

***For comparison, people with disabilities constitute 19% of the U.S. population.***

* 8% characters are specified as having a physical, cognitive, or communication disability.
* The leading character is not specified as having a disability (“Mateo”).
* The script contains 12 character opportunities to increase disability diversity.

Characters by Disability Status

| **CHARACTER WITH DISABILITY** | **CHARACTER WITHOUT DISABILITY** | **DISABILITY STATUS UNSPECIFIED** |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | MR OZ |
|  |  | MATEO |
|  |  | COOPER |
|  |  | IZZIE |
|  |  | STRICK |
|  |  | LOGAN |
|  |  | ZOEY |
|  |  | RADIO |
| MRS CASTILLO |  | MRS CASTILLO |
|  |  | COOPER'S MOM |
|  |  | OLD MAN HOLOGRAM |
|  |  | SPEAKER SYSTEM |
|  |  | COOPERS BROTHER |

The Marlee Matlin Test

| **In order to pass the Marlee Matlin test, a script/manuscript must have:** | |
| --- | --- |
| **YES** | At least one prominent character (leading, co-leading, supporting character) with a physical, cognitive, or communication disability who; |
| **YES** | Is not depicted with disability stereotypes or tropes. |



**Age (50+) Analysis**

***For comparison, people ages 50+ constitute 34% of the U.S. population.***

* 22% characters are specified as ages 50+.
* The leading character is under 50 (“Mateo”).
* The script contains 4 character opportunities to increase age diversity.

Characters by Age

| **CHARACTER 50+** | **CHARACTER UNDER 50** | **AGE UNSPECIFIED** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| MR OZ |  | MR OZ |
|  | MATEO | MATEO |
|  | COOPER | COOPER |
|  | IZZIE | IZZIE |
|  | STRICK | STRICK |
|  | LOGAN | LOGAN |
|  | ZOEY | ZOEY |
|  |  | RADIO |
| MRS CASTILLO |  | MRS CASTILLO |
|  |  | COOPER'S MOM |
| OLD MAN HOLOGRAM |  | OLD MAN HOLOGRAM |
|  |  | SPEAKER SYSTEM |
|  | COOPERS BROTHER | COOPERS BROTHER |

The Betty White Test

| **In order to pass the Betty White test, a script/manuscript must have:** | |
| --- | --- |
| **YES** | At least one prominent character (leading, co-leading, supporting character) who is 50+ who; |
| **YES** | Is not depicted with age stereotypes or tropes. |



**Body Size Analysis**

***For comparison, people with large body types constitute 39% of the U.S. population.***

* 0 characters are specified as having a large body type.
* The leading character is not specified as having a large body type (“Mateo”).
* The script contains 13 character opportunities to increase body type diversity.

Characters by Body Size

| **CHARACTER WITH LARGE BODY TYPE** | **CHARACTER WITH SMALL/MEDIUM BODY TYPE** | **BODY SIZE UNSPECIFIED** |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | MR OZ |
|  |  | MATEO |
|  |  | COOPER |
|  |  | IZZIE |
|  |  | STRICK |
|  |  | LOGAN |
|  |  | ZOEY |
|  |  | RADIO |
|  |  | MRS CASTILLO |
|  |  | COOPER'S MOM |
|  |  | OLD MAN HOLOGRAM |
|  |  | SPEAKER SYSTEM |
|  |  | COOPERS BROTHER |

The Lizzo Test

| **In order to pass the Lizzo test, a script/manuscript must have:** | |
| --- | --- |
| **NO** | At least one prominent character (leading, co-leading, supporting character) with a large body type who; |
|  | Is not depicted with size stereotypes or tropes. |



**Intersectional Analysis**

|  | **Female Character** | **Character of Color** | **LGBTQ+ Character** | **Character with a Disability** | **Character 50+** | **Character with Large Body Type** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Female Character** |  | **YES** | **NO** | **YES** | **YES** | **NO** |
| **Character of Color** | **YES** |  | **NO** | **YES** | **YES** | **NO** |
| **LGBTQ+ Character** | **NO** | **NO** |  | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |
| **Character with a Disability** | **YES** | **YES** | **NO** |  | **YES** | **NO** |
| **Character 50+** | **YES** | **YES** | **NO** | **YES** |  | **NO** |
| **Character with Large Body Type** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** | **NO** |  |

**Positive Aspects**

* Features 50+ character (Oz) dating in a modern way (“I was trying something new for adapting app”).
* Zooey is knowledgeable about shells and learned this skill from her mother.
* Zooey helps Oz engage in STEM activities, and assists Logan when he attempts to put the Rememberatoy (piece of technology) back together.
* Izzie’s “acrobatic” anime moves defy gender-stereotypes related to physical activity.
* Logan is excellent at sports, defying race-based stereotypes for Asian men.
* Features diverse group of friends, none of whom embody race-based tropes or stereotypes.

**Potential Pitfalls**

* Potential Sexism:
  + The two female characters (Izzie and Zoey) are tasked with babysitting Strick (an adult turned “baby”) while the male characters hide contraband (13). This reinforces the gender-based stereotype that women are “care-takers” and men are better-suited for child-care responsibilities than male characters. In addition this shows normalizes the idea that women ought to be assigned child-care responsibilities when working with a team as the default. Having the male characters take-on the babysitting task would defy this gender stereotype and promote a healthy vision of masculinity.
  + While Zoey helps with some STEM activities, the primary STEM characters are male (Oz, Cooper).
  + The real-world STEM characters mentioned (and given tribute to) in the script are all white men (Edison; Einstein). These scenes could serve as a powerful introduction to real-world female STEM characters (e.g., Mae C. Jemison, Katherine Johnson), whose contributions to science have often been overlooked because of their race and/or gender.
  + Associates sports with hyper-masculinity: The tryouts for sports are called “sheep week”, presumably because those that are cut are ‘slaughtered’ by the teams ‘wolves’ (the team name).
* Potential Racism:
  + Mrs. Castillo is written with the race-based stereotype (for Latinx) “service worker”.
  + If Zoey is cast as Black, she will fit the race-based “broken household” and “bad parents” stereotype.
* Exclusive language: Characters often say “you guys” to address groups that include women. Using other terms such as “y’all”, “everyone” are more inclusive of non-male characters and teach children non-gendered alternative ways to address groups.
* Potential Sizeism: If Mrs. Castillo is written as a larger-bodied character, she will fit the “Mama Hen” trope.