**AUDITION SIDE #4: RACHEL & DAVE**

RACHEL Dave Riley.

DAVE Welcome back.

RACHEL Thanks. Dave Riley. The politician who’s not good at politics.

DAVE Right.

RACHEL The guy that doesn’t mind me asking questions.

DAVE That’s me.

RACHEL In fact, something tells me you’re *hoping* I’ll ask questions today.

DAVE Oh…

RACHEL About Lulu Peakes, about the Governor, about a box of documents I found sitting on my desk two nights ago. Say, you wouldn’t know anything about that, would you?

DAVE I’m sorry, did you…. Did you say a box?

RACHEL Can I play poker with you sometime? How did you not know that I would know that was you? Who else has access to Ned Newley’s papers?; you’re the only person who works for the guy. I swear, I talk to politicians every day, begging them to drop the veneer and be straight with me for once in their lives, but you… It’s like I want to teach you how to lie.

DAVE Do you really play poker?

RACHEL Yes. Why did you ask me that?

DAVE I don’t know. So did you… did you look in the box?

RACHEL We’re not talking about the box, Dave. You don’t get to “anonymously” drop off a bunch of documents and then quiz me on my reaction to them. And you don’t get to steer me toward certain questions you want me to ask the Governor; that’s not how this works. Last time I was here, I let Arthur Vance tell me what I couldn’t ask. This time, maybe I’ll ask whatever I want to ask.

DAVE Okay. Great.

RACHEL I’m not saying that’s gonna make your guy look good.

DAVE No. I know.

RACHEL And you’re okay with that. You’re the one person in politics who wants reporters to ask damaging questions.

DAVE I’d have thought you’d like that.

RACHEL Who says I don’t like it?

DAVE Well, you sound kinda angry.

RACHEL Well, *you* sound kinda… *nice*.

DAVE And… that’s another thing you don’t like about me?

RACHEL No, it’s another thing I *do* like about you.

DAVE Why do you yell at me when there’s something you like about me?

RACHEL You’re an idealist, Dave. You want me to be the kind of reporter who… you want me to be the kind of reporter I want me to be. But if I defy my boss, and just ask the Governor and Lulu Peakes what I want to ask them- what I ought to ask them… I will lose my job. Or even worse, end up hosting the morning show, interviewing reality TV stars, and celebrity chefs; do you want that to happen?

DAVE No.

RACHEL Well, neither do I, so I’m not gonna… I just can’t… Why did you ask me if I played poker?

DAVE I honestly don’t know.

RACHEL Alright. How many reporters did you leak those papers to?

DAVE Just you. You were the only one.

RACHEL Okay, first of all, thank you. And second: You’re supposed to say, “What papers?”

DAVE Right. Sorry. “I, I don’t know what you’re talking about.”

RACHEL Oh my god. You’re the worst liar ever.

DAVE And you like that about me?

RACHEL Yes. (she exits)