

Audition for

**THE GUY
WHO DIDN'T LIKE**

MUSICALS

August 29-31 • The Saybrook Underbrook



The Guy Who Didn't Like Musicals

Originally Produced by StarKid Productions

Music and Lyrics by Jeff Blim

Book by Nick & Matt Lang

Directed by Roy Kohavi

Produced by Madeleine Loewen

Stage Managed by Nayel Nelson-Young

Graphic Design by Margalit Patry-Martin

Audition Dates: August 29-31, 2024

Audition Location: Saybrook Underbrook

SHOW DESCRIPTION

Everything in Hatchedfield seemed normal until people began singing...and dancing...and now, a musical pandemic is sweeping the entire city! It's up to Paul Matthews, an average guy who doesn't like musicals, to unite forces with his friends, stop this musical apocalypse, and fight for humanity's future.

The Guy Who Doesn't Like Musicals is a horror-comedy from StarKid Productions, the creators of *A Very Potter Musical*, *Twisted: The Untold Story of a Royal Vizier*, and *The Trail to Oregon!* It is both a parody of and a love letter to the musical theatre genre, balancing a comedic tone with an undeniably emotional and human core.

IMPORTANT DATES

August 29-September 1, 2024: First round of auditions

September 2-4, 2024: Callbacks / dance call

September 8, 2024: Casting day (please be on your phone starting at 12 pm!)

September 9, 2024: Rehearsals begin

November 3-6, 2024: TECH WEEK

November 7-9, 2024: PERFORMANCES

SIGNING UP FOR AUDITIONS

To sign up for an audition slot, you will need to create and be logged in to your Yale College Arts (YCA) account. Then, please click on this link to visit our audition page:

<https://collegearts.yale.edu/opportunities/auditions/audition-guy-who-didnt-musicals>

Open audition slots will be indicated with blue links that read "Sign up for this audition." Click any one of these links to secure your audition slot!

After you've registered, please make sure to fill out this Google form before your audition:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScJF2N2o_0fTomWyvT-r3lq77Y1qYD47AtWyX6fzYv3mSPTTrQ/viewform

Thank you so much, and we look forward to seeing you soon!

HOW TO PREPARE FOR AUDITIONS

The audition will be fifteen minutes and will consist of two parts: acting and singing. Please see below for detailed instructions on what you should prepare for each component.

Acting

Please prepare 1-2 of the sides posted on the audition page. We will ask you to read your favorite scene first. Afterward, we may give you some feedback and ask you to read it again. You will also have a chance to perform the second scene if there is time.

Sides DO NOT have to be memorized!! You may read from your phone or tablet. For those who prefer printed sides, we will provide paper copies in the audition room. Sides (both printed and digital) will be available in 12 pt font and 18 pt font. If you would like a larger or smaller font size, please email madeleine.loewen@yale.edu with your request. We will provide you with a digital copy in advance and a print version on the day of your audition.

While sides do not have to be memorized, we do recommend practicing your selected side(s) ahead of time. This will help you to feel more confident on the day of the audition, as you will already have a sense of the scene(s) and character(s).

You may read for 1-2 of the following characters. The page numbers listed below correspond to the 12 pt font sides packet.

- Paul Matthews (Option 1): pp. 1-2
- Emma Perkins (Option 2): p. 3
- Bill Woodward (Option 3): p. 4
- Charlotte Sweetly and/or Ted Spankoffski (Option 4): pp. 5-6
- Henry Higdens (Option 5): p. 7

Please prepare the side that corresponds to your chosen character. For instance, if you would like to read for both Paul and Emma, please prepare Paul's lines in Option 1 and Emma's lines in Option 2. This will maximize the time you have to show off your acting skills in each role!

Singing

Please prepare 16-32 bars of a modern musical theatre song. Like with the acting component, we may give feedback after your first performance and then you will have a chance to sing it again.

IMPORTANT: If you wish to use an accompanist, please email a scan of your sheet music to madeleine.loewen@yale.edu at least 12 hours in advance of your audition. You can use a free scanning app such as Scannable or Genius Scan. If this is not possible, please send madeleine.loewen@yale.edu the following information: the name of your song, the show or film in which it was featured, and the key in which you will be performing. You are also welcome to sing *a cappella* or to bring in a karaoke track. Thank you!

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

Lead and supporting characters are listed below. Most cast members (excluding Paul) will be double- or triple-cast in minor and ensemble roles, as well.

Paul Matthews (31): Just a guy who doesn't like musicals. Born and raised in Hatchetfield, he is perfectly content with his mundane office job and his mediocre Beanie's coffee. But when a meteor crashes into Hatchetfield, triggering a zombie apocalypse that forces people to sing and dance, Paul will have no choice but to become the reluctant hero Hatchetfield needs.

- Key relationships: Emma (love interest), Bill (best friend/coworker), Ted (frenemy/coworker), Charlotte (friend/coworker), Davidson (boss)
- Content: This role involves staged violence (including interactions with a prop gun) and staged intimacy with Emma.

Emma Perkins (31): A barista trying to work her way through community college. She has exactly two aspirations in life: to start a pot farm and to not die in Hatchetfield. She hates musical theatre just as much as Paul does.

- Key relationships: Paul (love interest), Hidgens (professor-turned-enemy), Zoey (enemy/coworker), Nora (boss)
- Content: This role involves staged violence (including interactions with a prop gun) and staged intimacy with Paul.

Bill Woodward (43): A kind-hearted, recently divorced man who just wants to connect with his teenage daughter, Alice.

- Key relationships: Paul (best friend/coworker), Ted (frenemy/coworker), Charlotte (friend/coworker), Alice (daughter), Deb (daughter's girlfriend)
- Content: This role involves staged violence (including interactions with a prop gun).

Ted Spankoffski (34): A self-described sleazeball who wants to sleep with as many women as possible. He is currently having an affair with Charlotte.

- Key relationships: Paul (frenemy/coworker), Bill (frenemy/coworker), Charlotte (affair partner/coworker)
- Content: This role involves staged violence (including interactions with a prop gun), staged intimacy with Charlotte, and strong sexual innuendo.

Charlotte Sweetly (34): An anxious woman desperate to repair her failing marriage with Sam...even as she cheats on him with Ted.

- Key relationships: Paul (friend/coworker), Bill (friend/coworker), Ted (affair partner/coworker), Sam (husband)
- Content: This role involves staged violence (including interactions with a prop gun) and staged intimacy with Ted and Sam.

Henry Hidgens (63): An eccentric, reclusive biology professor who (somehow) theorized this exact scenario 30 years ago. While he's been preparing for the apocalypse, he's also been writing his very own musical...

- Key relationships: Emma (student), Greg/Stu/Workin' Boys (old college chums)

- Content: This role involves staged violence (including interactions with a prop gun) and strong sexual innuendo.

Sam Sweetly (30s): Charlotte’s scummy cop husband who is cheating on her with Zoey.

- Key relationships: Charlotte (wife), Zoey (girlfriend)
- Content: This role involves staged violence (including interactions with a prop gun), staged intimacy with Charlotte and possibly Zoey, and strong sexual innuendo.

John McNamara (40s or 50s): A general of the United States army who tries to help Paul escape Hatchetfield. He works for PEIP, a secret organization that investigates paranormal, extraterrestrial, and inter-dimensional phenomena.

- Content: This role involves staged violence (including interactions with a prop gun).

Alice Woodward (17 or 18): *[This role has been precast]* Bill’s teenage daughter. She is very committed to her relationship with her girlfriend, Deb, but is struggling to come into her own following her parents’ divorce.

- Key relationships: Bill (father), Deb (girlfriend)
- Content: This role involves staged violence (including interactions with a prop gun) and possible mild staged intimacy with Deb.

Deb (17 or 18): A bad girl with a soft spot for her goodie-two-shoes girlfriend, Alice.

- Key relationships: Bill (girlfriend’s father), Alice (girlfriend)
- Content: This role involves possible mild staged intimacy with Alice.

Zoey Chambers (21): *[This role has been precast]* Catty and self-absorbed. Works at Beanie’s to pay the rent but is *really* an actress...or will be, anyway. She enjoys proximity to power and is having an affair with Sam.

- Key relationships: Emma (enemy/coworker), Sam (boyfriend), Nora (boss)
- Content: This role involves staged violence (including interactions with a prop gun), sexual innuendo, and possible staged intimacy with Sam.

Ken Davidson: Paul’s boss at Coven Communications Research and Power (CCRP). He is one of the first to be infected.

- Key relationships: Paul (employee)
- Content: This role involves strong sexual innuendo.

Nora Beanie: Owner of Hatchetfield’s local coffee shop, Beanie’s. She employs Emma and Zoey as baristas and introduces the “Tip for a song!” policy that Emma hates.

- Key relationships: Emma (employee), Zoey (employee)
- Content: This role involves mild sexual innuendo.

Greg/Stu/Workin’ Boys: Hidgens’ old college chums. The subjects of his musical.

- Key relationships: Hidgens (friend)
- Content: This role involves possible staged violence.

QUESTIONS?

We're here to help! Feel free to reach out to any member of the prod team if you have questions before (or after) the audition.

Roy Kohavi, director: roy.kohavi@yale.edu

Madeleine Loewen, producer: madeleine.loewen@yale.edu

Nayel Nelson-Young, stage manager: nayel.nelson-young@yale.edu

If you would like to learn more about the show and the characters, you may find the following links helpful.

- Watch the original production:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IrxKX44qBJ0&t=1s>
- Listen to the original cast album:
<https://open.spotify.com/album/5rX6SA03OuHh881E0DnTnS?si=3nAdTF7nSdmMYSc-IKXXZA>
- Check out the show's official page on the StarKid website:
<https://www.teamstarkid.com/the-guy-who-didnt-like-musicals>
- Check out our Yale College Arts page for TGWDLM:
<https://collegearts.yale.edu/events/shows-screenings/guy-who-didnt-musicals>
- Read a full synopsis of TGWDLM on the show's Wikipedia page:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Guy_Who_Didn%27t_Like_Musicals
- Learn more about individual Hatchetfield characters on the StarKid Wiki:
https://starkid.fandom.com/wiki/Category:Hatchetfield_Characters

Thank you so much for your interest in the show, and we look forward to seeing you at auditions!