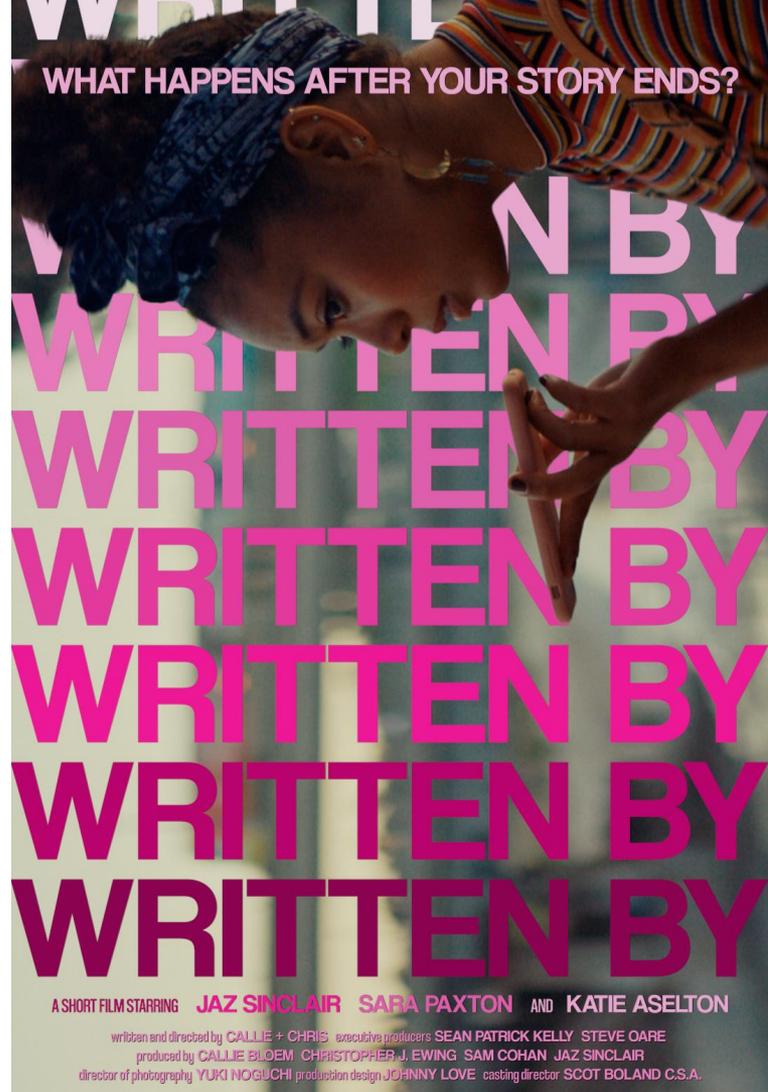


electronic press kit for

# WRITTEN BY

a short film written and directed by

# CALLIE + CHRIS



A SHORT FILM STARRING **JAZ SINCLAIR** **SABA PAXTON** AND **KATIE ASELTON**

written and directed by **CALLIE + CHRIS** executive producers **SEAN PATRICK KELLY** **STEVE OARE**

produced by **CALLIE BLOEM** **CHRISTOPHER J. EWING** **SAM COHAN** **JAZ SINCLAIR**

director of photography **YUKI NOGUCHI** production design **JOHNNY LOVE** casting director **SCOT BOLAND** C.S.A.

# SYNOPSIS



During her annual check up KENZIE learns that her cholesterol is looking good, she needs more vitamin D and also that she is fictional. Turns out she was written by a guy named Zack P. Eisenwald that at one point minored in creative writing during undergrad before becoming a real estate agent.



As this new “Authorship Test” is quietly but seismically freaking out the entire world around her (with CNN reporting that up to thirty percent of the U.S. population may be fictional), Kenzie has been feeling more and more like a walking cliché – and now she has someone to blame for her aimless quote-unquote “writing” career and endless string of sensitive-guy, go-nowhere boyfriends. If you’re written by a shitty writer you’re gonna get stuck living a shitty life, right? Cue complete mental breakdown.



But just as Kenzie starts to spiral out, Jane – Kenzie’s best friend and Authorship activist (on Facebook at least) – brings her to a support group for Fictional Women Written by Men, under the false pretense of it being a party. It is not a party. Not even close.

Meeting these women who are dealing way better with this stuff than she is and discovering that Jane is not exactly who she thought pushes Kenzie over the edge. She runs away and calls Zack P. Eisenwald, the dude that created her, for some answers. The phone call doesn’t go as planned, to say the least, but somehow Kenzie winds up getting exactly what she needs.

# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Back before the pandemic began, we both quit our long-term stable jobs to work together as a writing/directing team and the very first thing we did was lock ourselves in our garage and write a short film called WRITTEN BY. We then spent the next year avoiding coughing strangers and trying to get that film made despite shifting COVID safety measures, sporadic lockdowns and general existential dread.

WRITTEN BY is our attempt at processing the events of last few years by way of a magical-realist high concept that lends itself to all the things we think about at 3AM when we should be sleeping, damnit. We created the ideas of the Authorship Test and Fictional Citizens as a catch-all metaphor that felt like it covered all the various and simultaneous existential crises happening right now. Our personal mantra as writer-directors is to tell timely stories in an innovative way through a pop culture lens and WRITTEN BY very solidly hits all three of those goals.

We wrote WRITTEN BY because the world was feeling extremely weird to us and since then things have only gotten, well... more so. Within the context of a global pandemic, mass protests, growing inequity, rampant misinformation and new attacks on basic human rights seemingly every day, our story about a few women in Los Angeles dealing with a unique existential crisis suddenly feels even more universal and relevant than when we first wrote it at the beginning of 2020.



# CAST BIOS

## JAZ SINCLAIR as KENZIE

Jaz Sinclair is a vibrant actress and musician who has starred in PAPER TOWNS, WHEN THE BOUGH BREAKS, SLENDER MAN, and season 2 of Netflix's EASY. She is perhaps most well known for her role as Rosalind Walker in the Netflix series CHILLING ADVENTURES OF SABRINA and will star in Amazon's upcoming spinoff series of THE BOYS.

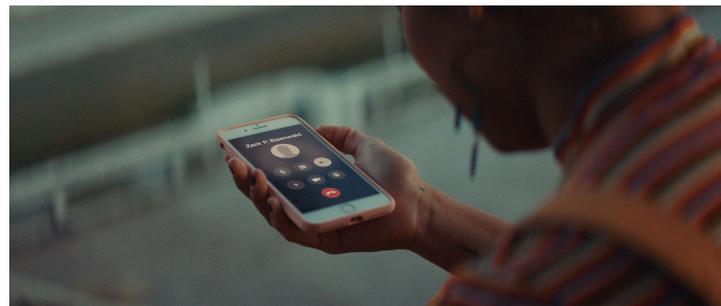


## KATIE ASELTON as the voice of CATHY EISENWALD

Katie Aselton made her feature acting debut in THE PUFFY CHAIR and starred in THE LEAGUE on FX for seven seasons. She can also be seen in TV series like TOGETHERNESS, THE MORNING SHOW and CASUAL as well as feature films including BOMBSHELL, SHE DIES TOMORROW and BOOK CLUB. Katie is also an accomplished director and her third feature MACK & RITA starring Diane Keaton will premiere later this year.

## SARA PAXTON as JANE

Sara Paxton has been acting since she was a child. Some of her most notable roles include AQUAMARINE, THE INNKEEPERS, LAST HOUSE ON THE LEFT, CHEAP THRILLS and THE FRONT RUNNER. She can be seen next in the upcoming Netflix film BLONDE.



# CALLIE + CHRIS

## director bio



Callie Bloem and Christopher J. Ewing are a husband and wife writing/directing team from Los Angeles. WRITTEN BY is their first narrative short film as a team.

As a former senior producer and creative director at Hulu, Chris produced video campaigns and directed award-winning promos for shows like CASTLE ROCK, VERONICA MARS, THE HANDMAID'S TALE, MARVEL'S RUNAWAYS, FUTURE MAN and 11.22.63 among many others, directing folks like Seth Rogen, Sissy Spacek, Kristen Bell, Isabella Rossellini and André Holland in the process. As a director he's worked with Hulu, Marvel, Bad Robot, Blumhouse, Hasbro, Nickelodeon and Sega and won a couple Clios and ProMax Awards along the way which someone once told him was like the "Oscars of content marketing" so that's kinda exciting. He still collects compact discs and yes he totally understands that it is 2022. He's made super bowl commercials, shot off Josh Hutcherson's arm with a laser gun and J.J. Abrams once complimented him on his sound design skills.

Since leaving the world of healthcare tech with exactly zero longing looks backward, she has worked as a producer, creative director and most recently a *director* director on promos, opening title sequences and commercials for the likes of Sega, Hasbro, Hulu, FOX and Nickelodeon. This year she earned a spot in the Women In Film mentorship program as well as being accepted into the Alliance of Women Directors.

# CREDITS

JAZ SINCLAIR as Kenzie

SARA PAXTON as Jane

with KATIE ASELTON as Cathy Eisenwald

ELIZABETH ROYA ARENDS as Dr. Rosicrucian

JAMILA ALLEN as Evelyn the Flit Driver

EMILY BERRY as Rosetta

TESS AUBERT as Dolores

AISHA LOMAX as Patty

REEM AMARA as Bettina

JEANNE TAYLOR as Rhonda

JULIA GRISWALD as Amy

# CREDITS

written and directed by CALLIE + CHRIS

executive producers SEAN PATRICK KELLY STEVE OARE

producers SAM COHAN JAZ SINCLAIR CALLIE BLOEM CHRISTOPHER J. EWING

casting director SCOT BOLAND C.S.A casting associate LARA BOUSHEHRI

director of photography YUKI NOGUCHI first assistant camera CAROL KIM second assistant camera JOSE MENDOZA

gaffer ARJUN PRAKASH key grip OLIVER YOUNG swing KASRA SHOKRAVI

editor CHRISTOPHER J. EWING post-production supervisor COLIN BROOKER

sound mixer IZUMI ROSAS boom operator ASHLEY ADAMS sound mixing JEFF SEELYE visual effects CHRIS PAMILAR

first assistant director LAUREN BATES second assistant director VANESSA PUGH production coordinator BIANCA DOVARRO

production design JOHNNY LOVE art director JESSICA HAMMOND set decorator MARTIN VIOLA pamphlet design BILL EWING

hair & make up stylist MAYRA GODOY hair & make up assistant NADINE SONDEJ-ROBINSON wardrobe CHRISTIANNE CRUZ CALLIE BLOEM

covid compliance officer JUDY NEW covid P.A. SYAHIRAH MANSOR key set P.A. BEN SOFFER P.A. STEVEN BURKE craft services CRAFTY TJ

original score CHRISTOPHER J. EWING

“あなたもスターになれる (You Can Be A Star Too)” written and performed by MIKAMI KAN

courtesy of SHINKO MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT CO., LTD

for more information about WRITTEN BY visit <http://calliepluschris.com>

or follow us on Instagram at @calliepluschris