

Audition Information

The Spotlight Theatrical Company
Proudly presents

The Universe Has Your Back

by Helen Maden

Basement Theatre
28 March - 12 April, 2025
www.spotlighttheatre.com.au

ABOUT THIS PRODUCTION

THE UNIVERSE HAS YOUR BACK – A HEARTFELT COMEDY IN TWO ACTS

Four best friends finding their place in life and letting the Universe work its magic

Synopsis

Jump on board with four best friends as they ride life's ebbs and flows. Quinn is witty but loveably flawed and grappling with the elusive concept of purpose. She's a tough cookie, but will she crumble or rise above adversity? Connie's life was all mapped out, but is she the bride-to-be or not-to-be, that is the question. Alex revels in uni life, but will a captivating new lecturer result in her flunking chemistry? And does new mum Rachel overcome her desire to flavour up her husband's dinner with a special mushroom sauce? In this poignant comedy, there's loss, discovery, friendship, but most of all love, as the women are steered by the unpredictable nature of the Universe.

As the author, these characters are very close to me. I envision their appearance, hear their voices, and understand their intentions and energy. They're all a little on the quirky side. It is suppose to be a light comedy. On audition day, if you have those qualities, that's what will appeal to me. Good luck.

Format: 2 Acts with Intermission: **Running Time:** Approximately 2 hours

CREATIVE TEAM:

Director: Helen Maden

Helen has been an active member of Spotlight Theatrical Company for 41 years, earning her a Life Membership in 2008. Starting in 2005, she has directed 13 Full Length plays and 3 One Acts. Helen has been nominated for *Best Director* 8 times at the Gold Palm Awards, winning *Best Director* for Social Climbers (GCLT 2015, which also won Best Overall Show and Best Set Design), The Psychic (Spotlight Theatre 2020, also taking out Best Set Design) and Calendar Girls 2022 (Spotlight Theatre). Helen has also won *Best Set Design* for A Street Car Named Desire – Javeenbah 2011.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

Cast: 6F, 1M

QUINN: 30 – 38	Single, going nowhere
CONNIE: 28 – 38	Engaged, Quinn's best friend
RACHEL: 30 – 40	Friend, married, new mum
ALEX: 35 – 50	Friend, divorced, uni student
MEADOW: 55 – 65	Quinn's mum, divorced
LYNN: 55 – 65	Connie's mum, widowed
TAJ: 30 – 40	Nice guy, single, Quinn's boss

QUINN: This is the featured character and is a large role: Sharp witted and cutting. Says it like it is. She's smart but just can't see anything through. Her 3-year uni degree stretched out to 7. Flawed? Absolutely, but she's no stranger to her own reflection. She knows every scar, every missed opportunity but wears them like battle scars, a testament to her authenticity. Quinn's not everyone's cup of Chamomile tea, but she's fiercely loyal to those who see past the surface – a friend who'll dissect your problems with surgical precision. She strives to find her purpose, if she could just get out of her own way.

CONNIE: For Connie, life is a balance between practicality and heartstrings. The girl next door. A+ Student. Engaged, however everyone but Connie can see her fiancé is not the right fit. Quinn and Connie are an odd a pair but somehow their differences compliment each other. They've been besties since high school. Con has no issue telling Quinn when she's gone too far, which happens often. And just maybe, Quinn's wild heart holds the answer Connie's been searching for all along.

RACHEL: Rachel's life is a delicate dance between secrets and survival. Her marriage to a controlling husband is a suffocating waltz, each step carefully measured. Her friends see a polished façade. They don't know about her bruised heart. She's too embarrassed, too ashamed to tell them. Every now and then, she takes a swig of an alcoholic drink to calm her nerves. Not an alcoholic, just a coping mechanism. Rach met Quinn working at a nightclub and clicked.

ALEX: is a vibrant and resilient woman. Single and doing life well. Navigating the next phase of life. Mature aged student who decided to study Psychology – a choice that emerged from the rubble of two failed marriages. Armed with her newfound knowledge, she enthusiastically experiments on her friends with her new vocabulary without finesse, but always with wide eyed enthusiasm. Alex grows in confidence and skill throughout the play. She was the head receptionist at the same nightclub where Rachel and Quinn once worked.

MEADOW: Real name, 'Melony' Brooke, but changed it when she discovered life shouldn't be taken too seriously, burnt her bras and let her hair grow – (in all places). Meadow was married to a decent man, - Quinn's Dad, who was just a bit too straight for her once she morphed into a tree hugging, kaftan wearing, earth mother. Meadow actually barracks for Quinn, so beneath her teasing and scepticism, she yearns to see her daughter succeed.

LYNN: Connie's Mum is the epitome of warmth and motherly love without being sappy. She's well-spoken, a testament to her refined upbringing, but don't mistake her elegance for fragility; Lynn has a backbone of steel. Loves to travel. Has hard-earned money but wealth has only fuelled her wanderlust. Has come back from a wonderful cruise to find out she's sick, but remains in denial determined to keep her sails set towards brighter shores. As she clings to dear life, her love for Connie is unwavering.

TAJ: Taj embodies kindness and empathy. He could be gay, but we're not sure. He's a smart dresser, casual but not sloppy. He's grounded and steady, playing a crucial role in helping Quinn to find her purpose. He could be an aged care nurse and patients would adore him. His purpose in life is to lift people out of their blues. He's very likeable.

Once your registration form has been submitted you'll be sent audition pieces and contacted regarding your individual audition time slot.

(Audition pieces for perusal can be requested prior to registering at:)
auditions@spotlighttheatre.com.au

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Audition Day: Sunday 15 December – **PLEASE BRING YOUR COMPLETED AUDITION FORM AND ANY RELEVANT AUDITION PIECES.** *This saves a lot of un-used, printed sheets going in the bin at the end of the day.*

You will be allocated a 15-minute time slot and perform a prepared monologue and some dialogue during your session.

Call Backs (if required): Tuesday 17 December – 6:30pm TBC

Call backs for those selected will be advised Sunday night. We will contact all individuals with results.

Video Auditions

Should you be unavailable on audition day, video submissions will be accepted. Please contact us for more details.