

A DIFFERENT KIND OF VAMPIRE STORY



PRESS KIT **amc**

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# SYNOPSIS

The supernatural horror series “NOS4A2,” based on Joe Hill’s bestselling 2013 novel of the same name, tells the story of Charlie Manx, a seductive immortal who feeds off the souls of children and then deposits what remains of them into Christmasland – an icy, twisted Christmas village of Manx’s imagination where every day is Christmas Day and unhappiness is against the law. But Manx finds his whole world threatened when Vic McQueen, a young woman in New England, discovers she has a dangerous supernatural ability. Vic sets out to defeat Manx and rescue his victims – without losing her mind or falling victim to him herself.



# A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

## A Warning to the Curious:

Lon Chaney once said, "There's nothing funny about a clown at midnight." I'd add that there's nothing heart-warming about Christmas music playing in a graveyard. Nightmares - and good horror fiction - take the things we love and infect them with the uncanny.

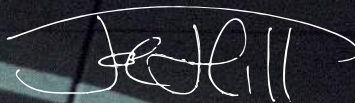
I didn't have big ambitions for NOS4A2... I just wanted to scare the hell out of people for a few hundred pages and give them a good little escape from the humdrum. I had this idea for a story about a car that runs on human souls instead of gasoline. The driver, Charlie Manx, has cruised the American backroads for almost a century, collecting children, harvesting their spirits, and abandoning the hollowed out monsters that remain in a terrifying otherworld called Christmasland. In Christmasland, every day is Christmas Day, unhappiness is against the law... and the cheerful flocks of soulless kids entertain themselves with lively games of scissors-for-the-drifter and bite-the-smallest.

My Dracula of the Interstates has had it easy for almost a hundred years. But all that changes when he runs afoul of a young woman named Vic McQueen. Vic has an impossible gift and a wicked ride of her own. When she's on her battered old dirtbike, she can find her way to whatever she's looking for - a lost bracelet, a missing woman, a friend in need. Charlie Manx is every parent's worst nightmare - but Vic McQueen is his. They clash and clash again, in a series of reality-bending confrontations that turn the roads into red highways.

NOS4A2 is Vic's story: that of a young woman, born and raised in hardscrabble Haverhill, Massachusetts, with all the grit that comes of an upbringing by a loving yet violent father and a hard but caring mother. Her imagination opens her to the dizzying possibilities of the occult; her ability to see the best in others makes her an invaluable friend; and her raw courage makes her a foe to reckon with. She was a good travelling companion for me, over the years I was writing the book.

Now it's your turn to take a ride with Vic... and with Charlie. I'm delighted (and dazzled) by the work Ashleigh Cummings, Jami O'Brien, Zachery Quinto and the entire AMC crew have done across the ten episodes of season one. Together, they've peeled the characters off the page and brought them to full, frightening life, for a heart-rending conflict that's like no other horror show. What a thrill. I hope you love it. I know I do. For me, every single episode has been like a slice of Christmas come early.

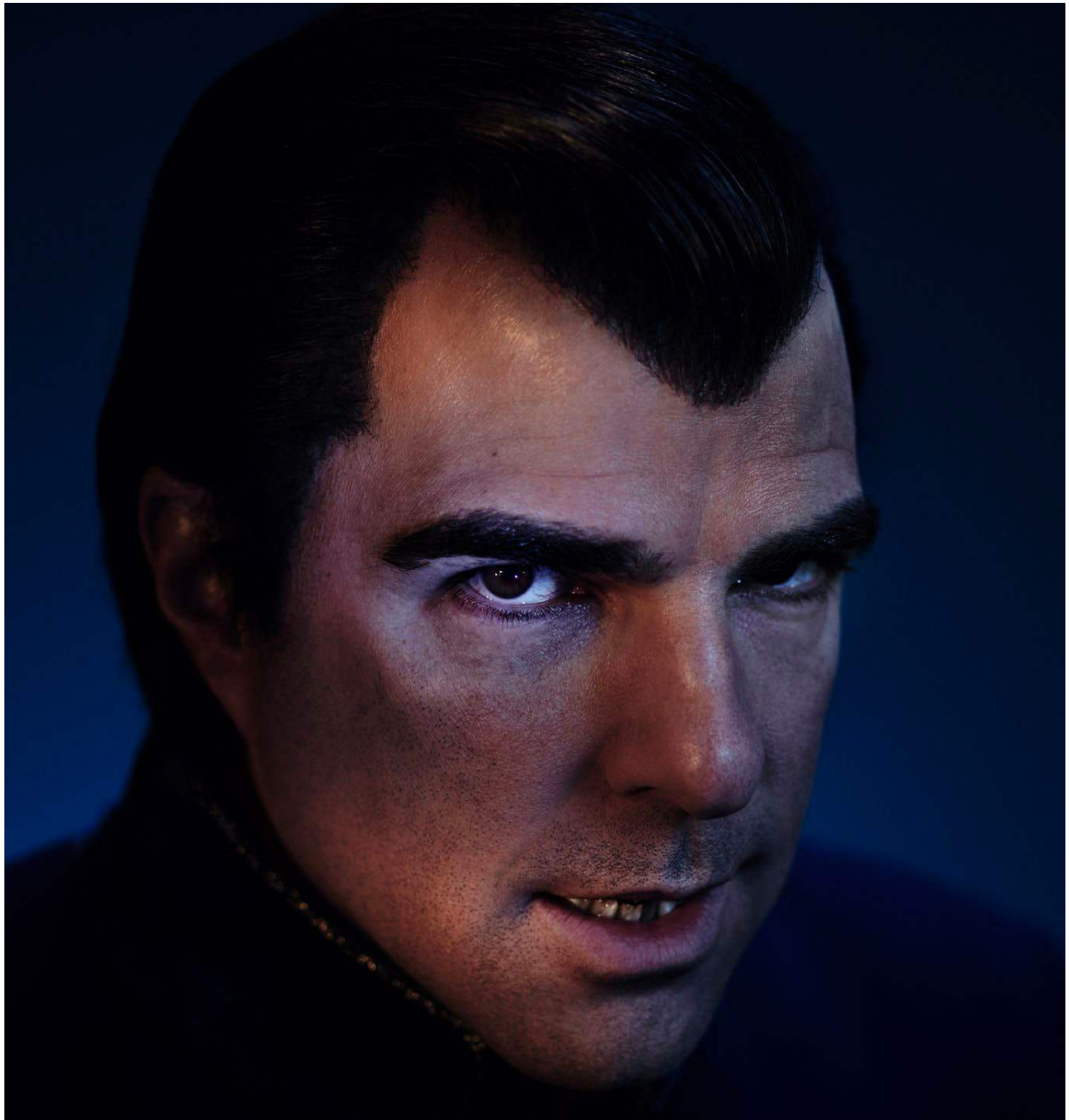
Best,



Joe Hill  
March 2019

# CHARACTERS AND CAST





## CHARLIE MANX

Zachary Quinto

An intelligent and seductive immortal, who claims to rescue children from bad or neglectful parents, Manx lures his victims into his special car with promises of Christmas every day. He feeds on their souls as he whisks them off to Christmasland – an icy, twisted Christmas village of Manx’s imagination where unhappiness is against the law. Manx finds his whole world threatened when Vic discovers she has a dangerous gift.



## ZACHARY QUINTO

Charlie Manx

Zachary Quinto was born and raised in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania where he began performing as a teenager. He attended Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama and received a BFA in Acting. After graduation, he moved to Los Angeles and began to build a career in television with guest starring roles on numerous series, including “CSI” and “Six Feet Under.” He appeared as Adam Kaufman on the third season of “24” and in the only season of the critically acclaimed series “So NoTORious.”

In 2007 he was cast as the psychopathic super-powered serial killer Sylar on the hit NBC series “Heroes” and in the same year was cast as Spock in the JJ Abrams directed reboot of the *Star Trek* franchise. Subsequently he has reprised his role of Spock in both sequels to that film: 2013’s *Star Trek Into Darkness* and 2016’s *Star Trek Beyond*. He played Chad Warwick on the first season of “American Horror Story” and won a Critic’s Choice Award and Emmy Award nomination for his portrayal of Dr. Oliver Thredson on “American Horror Story: Asylum.”

In 2008, Quinto began his production company Before the Door Pictures and produced and starred in *Margin Call* alongside Stanley Tucci and Jeremy Irons. His company has gone on to produce such films as *All Is Lost*, *Banshee Chapter*, *Breakup At a Wedding*, *A Most Violent Year*, and the upcoming film *Aardvark* in which Quinto also stars alongside Jenny Slate and Jon Hamm. That film premiered at the 2017 Tribeca Film Festival. Currently, Quinto is filming the unscripted series, “In Search Of” which will premiere on the History Channel. He hosts and executive produces the show which, inspired by the iconic 1970s series of the same name, examines unexplained phenomena from all over the world.

In theatre, Quinto appeared as Louis Ironson in the 2010 Signature revival of Tony Kushner’s *Angels in America*, for which he won a Theater World Award and a Drama Desk Award nomination. He made his Broadway debut to universal praise in the 2013 Tony Award winning production of the *Glass Menagerie*; and appeared in the 2017 MCC production of Noah Haidle’s *Smokefall*. Last year, he starred in the Joe Mantello directed revival of *The Boys in the Band*, alongside Jim Parsons, Matt Bomer and Andrew Rannells at The Booth Theater, running from May 31st through August 11th.

Quinto appears in Steven Soderbergh’s Netflix film, *High Flying Bird*, which follows a sports agent, played by André Holland, who pitches a rookie basketball client on an intriguing and controversial business opportunity during a lockout. Over the last few years, Quinto has starred opposite James Franco in *I Am Michael* in 2015, and as journalist Glenn Greenwald in Oliver Stone’s film *Snowden* in 2016. In 2017, he starred opposite Julianne Nicholson and Emma Roberts in *Who We Are Now*, which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival. He also appeared in Drew Pearce’s *Hotel Artemis* opposite Jodie Foster, Jenny Slate and Jeff Goldblum. Global Road Films released the film.

Quinto currently resides in New York.

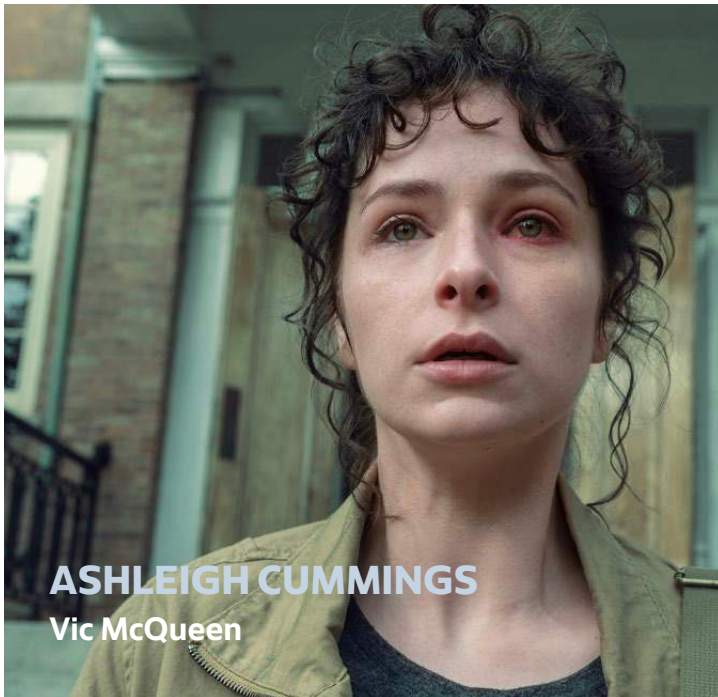


## VIC McQUEEN

Ashleigh Cummings

A working-class kid with a difficult home life, she has a creativity and a need to hold her family together that awakens a supernatural ability to find lost things. Vic's gift, which is potentially dangerous for Charlie Manx, puts her on his radar and sets their collision course. Over the course of Vic's coming of age, she must grapple with the truth about her parents and her circumstances as she strives to defeat Manx and rescue his victims without losing her mind.





**ASHLEIGH CUMMINGS**  
Vic McQueen

Australian actress Ashleigh Cummings has already established herself as an impressive young actress with a wide array of critically acclaimed and award-winning performances for film, television, and the stage.

After a very competitive casting process, Ashleigh landed the coveted role of “Pippa” in the upcoming Warner Brothers and Amazon Studios adaptation of *The Goldfinch* opposite Ansel Elgort and Nicole Kidman. The film is directed by award winning director John Crowley and the all-star cast also includes Sarah Paulson and Jeffrey Wright. Based on Donna Tartt’s Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *The Goldfinch* follows a young man named “Theodore Decker” (Elgort) who survives a terrorist bombing at an art museum that kills his mother. From there, he tumbles through a series of adventures that find him living in Las Vegas with his deadbeat father and, later on, involved in art forgeries. “Pippa” is “Theo’s” one true love who was also in the museum the day of the bombing and is traumatized from the event. Due to this shared experience, they have similar outlooks and develop feelings for one another.

Ashleigh burst onto the international cinema scene when she starred in the multi-award-winning Australian feature film *Tomorrow When the War Began* directed by Stuart Beattie in 2010. Her performance earned her an AFI nomination for Best Young Actor that year.

Ashleigh won the Fedora Award for Best Actress at the 2016 Venice International Film Festival for her performance as “Vicki Maloney” in Ben Young’s *Hounds of Love*. *Variety* hailed Ashleigh’s performance as “fearless.” The film made its North American debut at the 2017 South by Southwest Film Festival in Austin and also premiered at the 2017 Tribeca Film Festival in New York.

In 2016, Ashleigh was the recipient of the very competitive and prestigious Heath Ledger Scholarship awarded by Australians in Film. Established in 2008 in memory of Australian actor Heath Ledger, who served as an ambassador for the organisation, the Scholarship is open to all young and emerging Australian actors to help winners with career and educational opportunities in the US.

On stage, Ashleigh received outstanding reviews for her performance as “Iris Hocking” in the Sydney Theatre Company’s 2016 production of *The Hanging* directed by Sarah Goodes. Ashleigh can also be seen in Matt Murphy’s remake of the New Zealand cult classic *Pork Pie* opposite Dean O’Gorman and James Rolleston. She also starred in the Australian Independent film *Galore*, which premiered at the 2013 Berlin International Film Festival.

Ashleigh’s work in television includes several series regular roles in standout programs such as the smash hit “Miss Fisher’s Murder Mysteries” which airs in the United States on PBS; the television mini-series “Gallipoli”; and the Australian dramatic series “Puberty Blues” for which she garnered both Logie & AACTA Nominations for her performance as “Debbie Vickers.”

Born in Saudi Arabia, Ashleigh Cummings moved to Australia with her family at the age of twelve and enrolled in a performing arts school in Sydney. At the age of fourteen, Ashleigh made her film debut in the feature *Razzle Dazzle: A Journey into Dance* (2007). Soon after, she acquired numerous credits in Australian film and television productions including the film *Green Fire Envy* (2008), the television movie *Dream Life* (2008) and the long running Australia soap opera “Home & Away.”

Now based in both in Los Angeles and Australia, Ashleigh is continuing on her path as one of Australia’s newest and most unique acting talents.



## BING PARTRIDGE

Ólafur Darri Ólafsson

Partridge is a hard worker with a mysterious past and an impressionable mind who finds himself seduced by Charlie Manx.

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**ÓLAFUR DARRI ÓLAFSSON**  
Bing Partridge

Ólafur Darri Ólafsson has worked internationally, non-stop, for years and as a result, the future is full of projects on both the large and small screen. Last spring, Ólafsson completed the second season of the hit Icelandic series “Trapped” in which he stars as a local police detective, while simultaneously shooting “The Widow,” a limited series for Amazon starring Kate Beckinsale.

In 2018, Ólafsson appeared in several feature films including David Yates’ and Warner Bros’ *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald* opposite Eddie Redmayne, Jude Law, and Zoe Kravitz, Jon Turteltaub’s and Warner Bros’ *The Meg* opposite Rainn Wilson and Jason Statham, and Imagine Entertainment’s *The Spy Who Dumped Me* with Mila Kunis and Justin Theroux.

Previously, Ólafsson was seen in Steven Spielberg’s film adaptation of *The BFG* for Dreamworks. His other credits include “Stefan Andersen” in the Golden Globe nominated series event “The Missing” from UK producer Company Pictures and Starz, a four-episode character arc on John Hilcoat’s series “Quarry” for Cinemax, a “Munchkin” on NBC’s “Emerald City,” the role of “Belial” opposite Vin Diesel in Lions Gate Films *The Last Witch Hunter* directed by Breck Eisner, and the HBO mini-series “True Detective” directed by Cary Fukunaga, starring Matthew McConaughey and Woody Harrelson.



**LINDA McQUEEN**

Virginia Krull

Vic's tough, hardworking mom is determined to keep her family together and protect her daughter. Sometimes she holds on too tight to those she loves.



## VIRGINIA KRULL

Linda McQueen

Virginia Krull was a series regular on the Hulu series “Looming Tower” starring Jeff Daniels, Bill Camp, Peter Sarsgaard and Michael Stuhlbarg. She also was a series regular on Fox’s “Gracepoint” opposite Anna Gunn and David Tennant.

Virginia had a major arc on season two of “Mr Mercedes” opposite Brendan Gleeson and Harry Treadaway as well as a recurring role on HBO’s critically acclaimed miniseries, “Big Little Lies.” Virginia also recurred on Amazon’s “Sneaky Pete” opposite Giovanni Ribisi. In film Virginia worked on the Twentieth Century Fox Film, *The Empty Man* opposite James Badge Dale and directed by David Prior.

Virginia has also worked extensively in the theatre, appearing on Broadway in *The Heiress* with Jessica Chastain and David Strathairn, *Man and Boy* opposite Adam Driver and Frank Langella, and the Tony nominated *Dividing the Estate*. Some of Virginia’s many Off-Broadway credits include Gina Gionfriddo’s *Rapture Blister Burn*, Leslye Headland’s *Assistance*, and Horton Foote’s epic *Orphans’ Home Cycle* for which she was named a 2010 Drama Desk award recipient. She made her television debut as a recurring guest star on “Boardwalk Empire.”

Virginia resides in Los Angeles with her husband.



## CHRIS McQUEEN

Ebon Moss-Bachrach

Vic's charming, working-class Dad has a weakness for drink but a deep love and understanding for his daughter. A flawed and complicated man, Chris strives to do what's right for Vic, but often comes up short.



## EBON MOSS-BACHRACH

Chris McQueen

Ebon Moss-Bachrach has acted in a wide range of film, television and theatre productions. His film credits include *We'll Never Have Paris*, *Douglas Brown*, *Lola VS*, *Come Out And Play*, *Higher Ground*, the short film *The Grey Matter*, *Breaking Upward*, *Evening*, *Out There*, *The Marc Pease Experience*, *Stealth*, *Live Free or Die*, *The Royal Tenenbaums*, *The Believer*, *American Splendor*, *Winter Solstice* and *Mona Lisa Smile*.

For his work in *Road*, Ebon received the acting award from the 2004 Los Angeles Film Festival. Ebon starred in Vicky Wight's *The Volunteer* and starred opposite Alicia Silverstone in Marc Turteltaub's *Gods Behaving Badly* (BIG BEACH). Ebon co-starred with Elisabeth Moss in Richard Shepard's Short Film *Tokyo Project* which premiered at The Tribeca Film Festival in April 2017, and aired on HBO in October 2017. Ebon recently shot three indies: *Lying & Stealing*, *Blow The Man Down*, and *Dolly Well's Good Posture*.

Ebon starred as "Micro/Lieberman" in season one of the new hit Netflix/Marvel series "Punisher". Ebon was a series regular as "Desi" in the final four seasons of HBO's "Girls". His other television roles included an arc on TNT's "The Last Ship", and on "Believe", the J.J. Abrams drama on NBC. Ebon also appeared as Nick Salinger on season three of FX's "Damages". He portrayed John Quincy Adams in the Emmy-winning HBO miniseries "John Adams". Ebon appeared in numerous other television shows.

Moss-Bachrach starred in *Lost Girls* at MCC Theater directed by Jo Bonney, in *Verite* at LCT3, and in Austin Pendleton's acclaimed production of *Three Sisters* (CSC). He played opposite Amy Irving in the Guild Hall production of *The Glass Menagerie* (directed by Harris Yulin). Other stage work includes Christopher Shinn's *On the Mountain* (Playwright's Horizons), Lanford Wilson's *Fifth of July* (Signature Theater), Naomi Iizuka's *36 Views* (Public Theater) and Daisy Foote's *When They Speak of Rita* (directed by Horton Foote, Primary Stages).

Born in Amherst, Massachusetts, Ebon is a graduate of Columbia University. He resides in New York with his wife and two daughters.

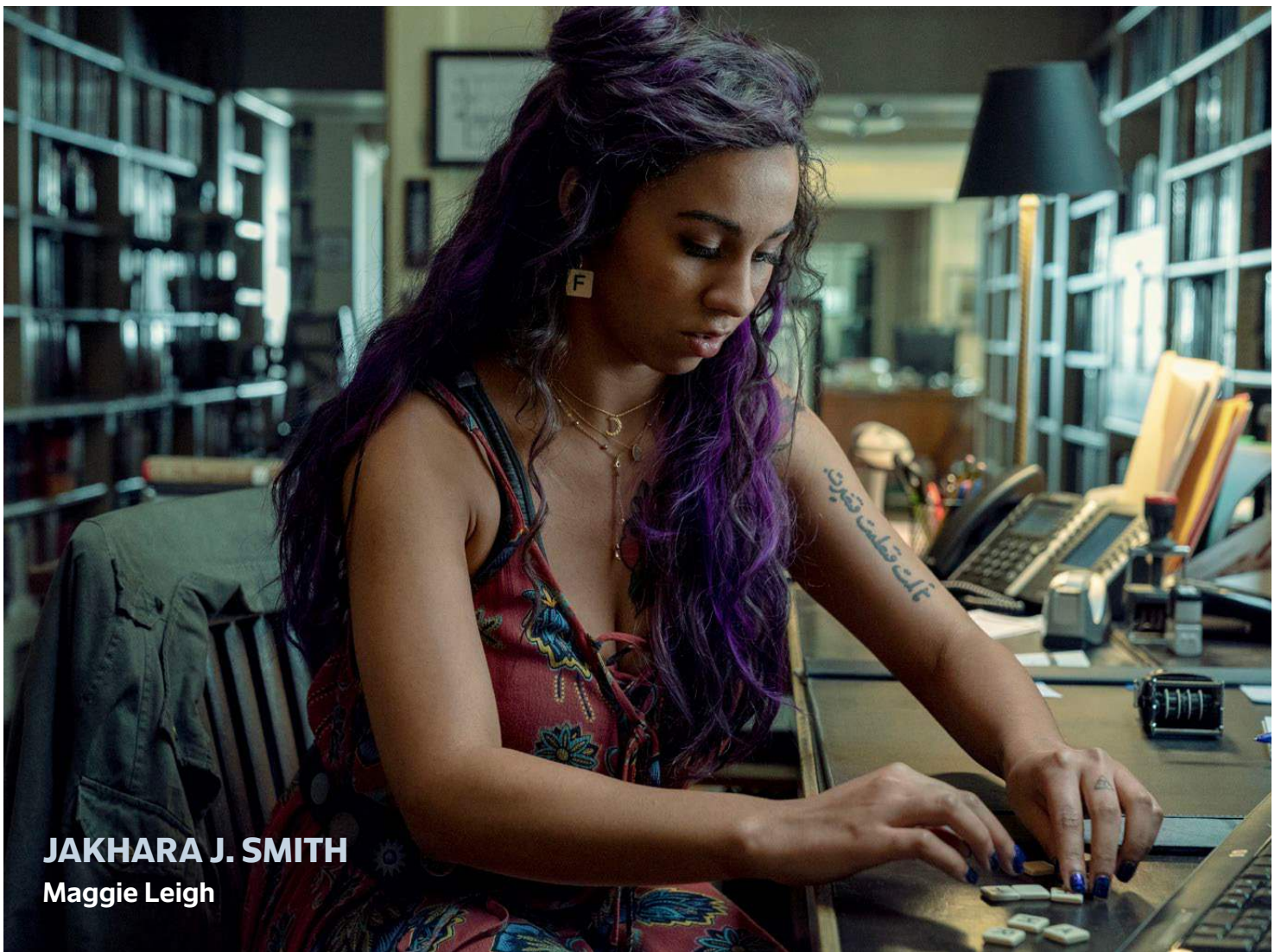


## MAGGIE LEIGH

Jakhara J. Smith

Iowa's bubbly, purple-haired librarian with a Scrabble bag portal to the universe finds herself on the hunt for Charlie Manx when a boy she knows goes missing. She quickly learns her only hope of finding Manx lies with Vic McQueen and her gift.





**JAKHARA J. SMITH**  
Maggie Leigh

Jakhara J. Smith burst on the scene as YouTube sensation SAILOR J whose mixture of social commentary, DIY makeup tutorials and HOW TO videos took YouTube by storm. Besides being former member of the US Armed Services, a raging Anime fan, a budding feminist and an avid wrestler, Jakhara is also currently writing her first novel. She was cast as Maggie in “NOS4A2” with her first audition ever.

Jakhara has 309K YouTube subscribers and her most popular videos receive over 1 million views.

# EPISODES

## 101: The Shorter Way

Vic McQueen, a young, blue-collar, New Englander discovers her supernatural abilities, as the immortal Charlie Manx uses his own to lure a child into his mysterious 1938 Rolls Royce Wraith.

## 102: The Graveyard of What Might Be

Vic meets Maggie, a medium with more questions than answers. Charlie Manx visits Haverhill to seek *The Shorter Way* and finds Vic's school Janitor, Bing, is more than eager to help.



# PRODUCTION BIOGRAPHIES





## **JAMI O'BRIEN**

### **Showrunner/Executive Producer/Writer**

Jami O'Brien executive produces "NOS4A2," based on the novel by Joe Hill, which she created for Television. Previously, she's written for "Fear the Walking Dead," "Hell on Wheels," "Big Love" and "Flesh and Bone," which was nominated for a Writer's Guild Award. Jami has an MFA in Playwriting from the Yale School of Drama.



## LAUREN CORRAO

### Executive Producer

Lauren Corrao was most recently co-president of Tornante TV (“Bojack Horseman,” “Undone,” “Tuca and Bertie,” “NOS4A2”), an independent studio owned by former Disney CEO Michael Eisner. Corrao developed and sold to AMC Networks the one-hour horror fantasy series “NOS4A2,” based on the acclaimed and bestselling novel by Joe Hill. “NOS4A2” was recently featured on a shortlist of the most anticipated series for 2019. Corrao is Executive Producing.

From 2010-2012, Lauren partnered with Ellen DeGeneres and served as President of their production company, A Very Good Production, with a deal at Warner Brothers Studio developing network television shows.

Before that, Corrao spent eight years at Comedy Central (2002-2010) rising to the role of President, Original Programming and Development. During her tenure, Corrao raised the bar by attracting A-list talent to the network, providing a platform for them to succeed by offering creative freedom and guidance to help find their true voice and perfect format. Under her purview the network saw the highest ratings in its history with shows like “The Daily Show with Jon Stewart,” “The Colbert Report,” “Chappelle’s Show,” “RENO 911!,” “The Sarah Silverman Programme,” “Tosh.0” and “Workaholics.” Animated series she developed were “Drawn Together,” “Kid Notorious,” Lil Bush” and “Ugly Americans.” She also managed the network’s talent and events staff, who were responsible for identifying and developing the next generation of comedy stars and producing the channel’s special event programming such as the Emmy®-nominated “Comedy Central Roast” franchise, the star-studded

“Night of Too Many Stars” autism benefit and the network’s one-hour stand-up specials.

Prior to Comedy Central in July 2002, Corrao and her partner Peter Tolan secured a production deal at Touchstone Television where she served as executive producer on several projects, including the critically acclaimed series “The Job” starring Denis Leary.

Previously, Corrao spent an illustrious four years at Fox Broadcasting Co. serving as vice president of comedy development and vice president of alternative and late night development, where she established such hits as “That 70’s Show,” “MAD TV” and “King of the Hill.”

Corrao began her television career at MTV where she rose to the rank of vice president and executive producer and began the network’s first non-music program development department. She oversaw the development and production of such shows as the groundbreaking reality series “The Real World,” “The State,” “The Ben Stiller Show” and “The Jon Stewart Show.”

Lauren graduated from Brown University with a BA in Semiotics. She has been a Women’s Leadership Program mentor since 2008. She served on the Steering Committee for Brown’s Women’s Leadership Council’s “125 Years of Women at Brown” Conference in May of 2017 (with esteemed alumnae speakers Janet Yellen, Cecile Richards, Maggie Hasson, and Pulitzer Prize winner, Lynn Nottage), and served as Co-chair of the WLC’s programming committee.



## JOE HILL

**Executive Producer and Author of *NOS4A2***

Joe Hill is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Fireman*, *NOS4A2*, *Strange Weather*, and others. He won the Eisner Award for best writer for his long-running comic book series, *Locke & Key*, which will soon be a TV series on Netflix.

A film based on Hill's second novel, *HORNS*, starring Daniel Radcliffe, was released in 2014. Over a dozen films and TV shows based on his work are in active development, including "In The Tall Grass" and "Faun" on Netflix, *The Fireman* with Fox/Temple Hill, "All I Care About Is You," "The Cape," "The Black Phone," "Snapshot," "Loaded" and others.

His next book is a collection of stories, *Full Throttle*, expected in October of 2019.

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