

SCRIPT OPTION 1: PRIMAL FEAR

(for adult actors age 16+)

Role: Aaron / Erin

Note that the character is named Aaron in the original script, but feel free to change this to Erin if you wish.

Context

In Primal Fear, the shocking confession scene unfolds between defense attorney Martin Vail and his client Aaron Stampler after Aaron is acquitted of murder. Throughout the trial, Aaron has appeared as a meek, stuttering young man suffering from dissociative identity disorder, with a violent alter ego named Roy—a ruthless and aggressive personality that supposedly takes over in moments of extreme stress.

After securing Aaron's acquittal by convincing the jury that Roy committed the murder, Martin visits Aaron in his holding cell. As they talk, Aaron casually lets slip a chilling detail—he never had a multiple personality disorder. Roy was never real. It was all an act.

Realizing he has been completely deceived, Martin is left stunned, while Aaron—now fully in control—smirks, exposing the terrifying truth: he was the calculating murderer all along.

MARTY: You OK?

AARON/ERIN: My head hurts.

MARTY: You don't remember what just happened?

AARON/ERIN: No? I lo-lost time again.

MARTY: Well, I got some good news. They've agreed to stop the trial. They'll be sending you to a hospital... to get the help you need. There's a very good chance you can get out someday soon.

AARON/ERIN: I c-can't believe it. I d-don't know what to say, Mr Vail. I knew the minute you came into my cell that everthing would be OK. You s-saved my life.

MARTY: I got to go.

AARON/ERIN: When will I see you again?

MARTY: That's up to the courts now. I don't want you to worry. I'm gonna stay on top of this, OK?

AARON/ERIN: Thank you.

MARTY: Give me a call if you need to.

AARON/ERIN: I will... Mr Vail?

MARTY: Yeah.

AARON/ERIN: Will you t-tell Miss Venable I'm sorry? Tell her I hope her neck is OK.

MARTY: What did you just say?

AARON/ERIN: What?

MARTY: You told me you don't remember. You black out. So how do you know about her neck?

AARON/ERIN: Well, good for you, Marty. I was gonna let it go. You were looking so happy just now. I was thinking... To tell you the truth, I'm glad you figured it. 'Cause I have been dying to tell you. I just didn't know who you'd wanna hear it from. Aaron or Roy, Roy or Aaron. Well, I'll let you in on a client- attorney-privilege type of secret. It don't matter who you hear it from. It's the same story. I j-j-just...had to kill Linda, Mr Vail. That bitch just got what she deserved. But...cutting up that son of a bitch Rushman... that was just a fucking work of art.

MARTY: You're good. You are really good.

AARON/ERIN: Yeah, I did get caught, though, didn't I?

MARTY: So there never... there never was a Roy?

AARON/ERIN: Jesus Christ, Marty. If that's what you think, I'm disappointed in you. There never was an Aaron/Erin, counsellor.

SCRIPT OPTION 2: ENCANTO

(for young actors under 16)

Role: **Mirabel / Manuel**

Note that the character is named Mirabel in the original script, but feel free to change this to Manuel if you wish.

Context

Throughout the film, Mirabel/Manuel has desperately tried to prove their worth and save the family's magic. They discover that their uncle Bruno had a vision of them being the cause of the destruction, leading them to believe they must fix everything. Just before this scene, Mirabel/Manuel helps their sister find happiness in her powers again, something she hasn't felt in a long time.

Abuela, who is a strict grandmother and head of the family, blames Mirabel/Manuel trying to help as the cause of the problems. Mirabel/Manuel finally confronts Abuela and tells her the truth—the miracle isn't dying because of Mirabel/Manuel, but because of Abuela's impossible expectations and pressure on the family. Mirabel/Manuel, who has felt overlooked and unappreciated, releases years of frustration, calling out Abuela's role in the family's suffering.

MIRABEL/MANUEL: (excited): Abuela! It's okay, everything's -- we're gonna save the miracle - the magic -

ABUELA ALMA: What are you talking about? Look at our home. Look at your sister!

MIRABEL/MANUEL: Please, just - Isabela wasn't happy and -

ABUELA ALMA: Of course she isn't happy, you ruined her proposal --

MIRABEL/MANUEL: -- no, no she needed me to ruin her proposal and then we did all of this and the candle burned brighter and the cracks --

ABUELA ALMA: -- Mirabel/Manuel!

MIRABEL/MANUEL: That's why I'm in the vision, I'm saving the miracle!

ABUELA ALMA: You have to stop, Mirabel! The cracks started with you. Bruno left because of you. Luisa's losing her powers, Isabela's out of control, because of you. I don't know why you weren't given a gift, but it is not an excuse for you to hurt this family!

MIRABEL/MANUEL: I will never be good enough for you. Will I? No matter how hard I try.

[Then, a quiet realization as she looks at her family.]

MIRABEL/MANUEL *(continued)*: No matter how hard any of us tries. Luisa will never be strong enough. Isabela won't be perfect enough -- Bruno left our family because you only saw the worst in him--

ABUELA ALMA: Bruno didn't care about this family --

MIRABEL/MANUEL: He loves this family - I love this family! We all love this family! You're the one that doesn't care! You're the one breaking our home!

ABUELA ALMA: Don't you ever --!

MIRABEL/MANUEL: The miracle is dying, because of you!

SCRIPT OPTION 3: WONDER

(for young actors under 16)

Role: **Auggie** OR **Via**

Context

Auggie has just overheard their best friend, Jack Will, saying something cruel about Auggie to other kids at school. Even though Jack was supposed to be Auggie's friend, he claimed he was only hanging out with Auggie because the teachers forced him to. Heartbroken, Auggie withdraws from school and refuses to talk to anyone about it.

Later, when Via finds Auggie upset, she gently asks what's wrong. After some hesitation, Auggie finally confesses what Jack said, feeling deeply betrayed. Via, who has always been protective of her little sibling, listens intently and tries to comfort Auggie.

VIA: It's almost time for the Halloween parade.

AUGGIE: You're supposed to knock! Go away!

VIA: Mom says you won't say what happened. Did someone say something?

AUGGIE: Someone always says something!

VIA: Well tell me what happened.

AUGGIE: It's none of your business!

VIA: You took my day with Mom, so it is my business.

AUGGIE: I heard Jack Will talking about me behind my back. He said he'd hate it if he looked like me.

VIA: Jack Will? Isn't he the nice one?

AUGGIE: There are no nice ones! I wish I'd never gone to school in the first place!

VIA: But you were liking school. I know you were.

AUGGIE: I hate it, okay? I hate it.

VIA: Auggie, I'm sorry, but you're not the only one who has bad days.

AUGGIE: Bad days? Do people avoid touching you? When a person accidentally touches you, do they call it "the plague"? No. So just don't compare your bad days at school to mine, okay?

VIA: Okay. Did you notice that Miranda doesn't come around any more? You didn't. Shocker. Yeah she went away to camp this summer and now she doesn't like me anymore.

AUGGIE: Why?

VIA: Because school sucks. And people change. So if you wanna be a normal kid, Auggie, then those are the rules. So let's go trick-or-treating. Okay? Because right now we're each other's best friends.

AUGGIE: Really?

VIA: Yes. So come on. I'll let you have all my Halloween candy.