

Hollywood Wannabes

Reality Show Treatment
By
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CONCEPT: *What does it take to make it in Hollywood? What price would you pay to become a star?* Throughout history, people all over America have had a fascination with the eccentric lifestyle of the celebrity, and a deep curiosity about what it takes to make it to the top. *Hollywood Wannabes* combines the candid intrigue of *Joe Millionaire* with the eccentric humor of *Ozzie* and the talent competition aspect of *American Idol*. It's a humorous, behind-the-scenes reality show in which struggling unknown artists expose their private lives in a quest for fame and fortune.

THE PLAYERS: *What is a wannabe?* Look in the mirror. If you're not a star, you "want-to-be." If your face isn't plastered all over billboards, you (at least secretly) wish it were. **But what are Hollywood wannabes?** These are that rare and special breed, the dreamers that actually pack-up their bags and tackle tinsel town, in search of that impossible, one-in-a-million, pipe dreaming, head-in-the-clouds reality that the rest of us can only wonder about. These are self-motivated, self-funded, performing artists who will starve, struggle, plot, plan, fight and claw or sleep their way in, who will do absolutely anything to succeed in show business. *Hollywood Wannabes* will discover real talent, but it will also poke fun at the egocentric nut-cases that will never, ever make it. Our wannabes (young and green, old and desperate, fat, thin, sexy, beautiful or bald) are singers, standup comedians, actors, models, dancers, and magicians, even stunt men and daredevils. The only rule is they must be living in the Los Angeles area, and be pursuing a specific performing art as a career but not yet making a living at it. The more eccentric the personality, the more this show works. Because it's up to each wannabe to generate momentum, essentially, they'll produce the meat of the show. We'll experience their successes ... the country singer booking a cereal commercial, the young model winning a bikini contest, the trained actor signing with his first agent. And we'll witness their embarrassments ... the aging comedian flopping at open mike night, the bimbo actress bombing at an cattle-call audition, the desperate actor spilling drinks at his day job, the poor magician being evicted from his apartment. It's all part of the wannabe life. Think of a struggling Madonna, an unknown M & M, Brad Pitt before he made it, or an up and coming Chris Rock. The wannabes must win the hearts of the viewers, not only with their talent but also with their charm, personality and drive. ...whatever it takes. Each week, the competing wannabe's lives are showcased in their updated highlights documentary reel. Next we meet them on stage and in person, there's a quick recap on who's who, and the viewing audience calls in and votes for their favorites. By a process of elimination—the wannabe group becomes smaller each week, with the "survivors" getting more airplay and the audience getting to know them better. The final remaining wannabe wins a contract with a top Hollywood agent, 150 thousand dollars toward their career.

OVERVIEW: Thousands of Hollywood Wannabes send in their homemade videos, which contain a one-minute pitch (shot from inside their home) on why they deserve stardom. In the first episode, our host introduces the first twenty-three wannabes (handpicked and pre-screened by the producers) to appear on the show. After our host airs their videos, he introduces each wannabe in person and the home audience calls in their votes. Ten wannabes are eliminated and thirteen remain.

In the second episode, thirteen camera crews follow the wannabes around for five days, providing each with a four-minute documentary containing highlights from that week. So the more the wannabe hustles, (with auditions, gigs, PR, even street performances), the more points he/she gets.

The home viewers will be voting in all of the following categories.

- **Star Quality** (*This means overall charm. How well would this individual do on a talk show? Is he/she unforgettable in some way? Whether it be beauty, talent, wit, or plain sex appeal...does he or she have star quality?*)
- **Ambition & drive** (*Did he/she sit around all week and talk about what he/she wants to do ...or did they hustle? Did they book anything?*)
- **Talent in their chosen field.** (*If she's a model does she have the poise and beauty, if he's a punk singer is he shocking enough, if she's standup comedian, does she make you laugh?*)

After the host has completed the viewing portion of the show, the wannabes pop out on stage for a quick recap. At this point, they're allowed to comment on the other wannabe's and give their closing argument on why they have what it takes to win. The home audience calls in and votes, and one wannabe is eliminated.

And so it continues until the thirteenth episode, when only two wannabes remain. Each competitor now gets a full 20-minutes of broadcasted airtime (with their highlights documentary reel) to prove to America why he/she should be a star.

At the end of the final episode, the wannabe with the most home votes wins a contract with a major Hollywood agent, and one hundred and fifty thousand dollars toward his or her career.

If the series goes on for additional seasons, we'll check in on the progress of the previous winners and see if they've turned their money and fame into true success.