

Heard > Herd

The zine for readers who want to be heard

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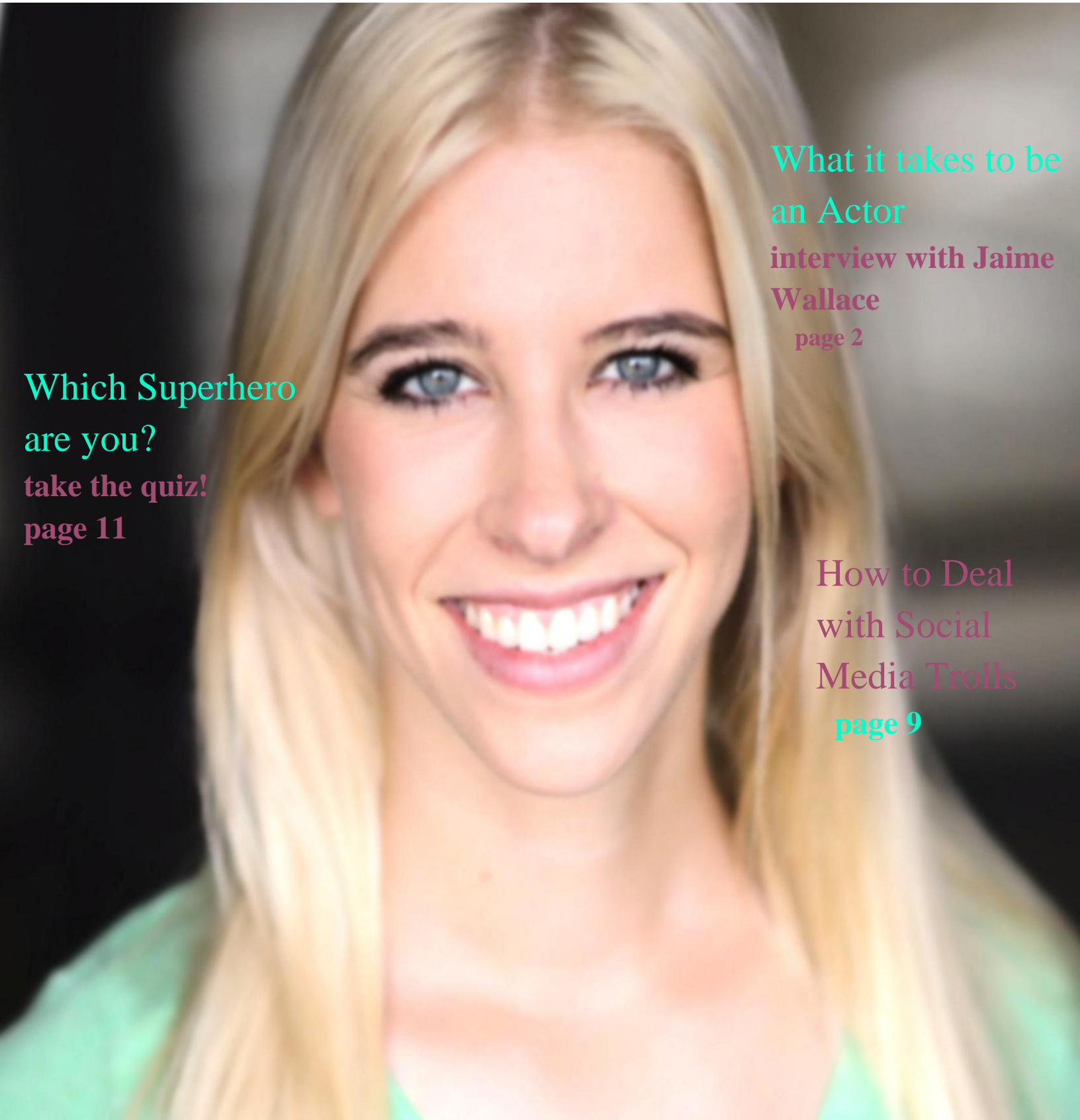
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What we're about

HEARD ZINE IS A FREE ONLINE PERIODICAL AND PLATFORM FOR YOUNG ARTISTS WHO'D RATHER BE HEARD THAN A PART OF THE HERD ;)

THIS LITTLE ZINE FEATURES OPINION PIECES, INTERVIEWS WITH ARTISTS, AND EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE YOU'LL FIND A FASHION AND/OR COMEDY ARTICLE.

IF YOU'RE A WRITER, ACTOR, MUSICIAN, OR CREATIVE ENTREPRENEUR WE'D LOVE TO INTERVIEW YOU ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCE AND YOU'RE MORE THAN WELCOMED TO CONTACT US USING ONE OF THE THREE LINKS BELOW.

IN ANY CASE, HAPPY READING!

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Jaime Wallace

An interview

By: P.L. Jones



Jaime on set.

What's it *really* like to be an actor? And how does that happen? Do most actors grow up knowing that's what they want to do?

Jaime Wallace, an actress from New Orleans, Louisiana and a recent LSU graduate spoke to [Heard](#) about making acting her career choice:

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO PURSUE ACTING?

Jaime: When I transferred to LSU I started the mass communication program and started working for the Tiger TV program at school. I was a news reporter and sports segment anchor and I really enjoyed it. One day, one of my friends told me she wouldn't be at school the next couple of days because she was going to be an extra in the movie Pitch Perfect. I thought that was really cool and got the number to call and ask if they needed anyone else. They called back and said they wanted to feature me for the next couple of days, so of course I was super excited!

*“In this business you have to be dedicated and not give up.” –
Jaime Wallace*

I worked on Pitch Perfect and had an awesome time. I met a lot of great people and instantly fell in love with the industry. After that, I worked on a lot of different movies and TV shows from then until December of 2011. But then, I wanted more! So, at the beginning of January 2012, I had my first speaking role audition. And since then that's all I've done. I've gone to turns of auditions, worked on student films, and indie films. I was Melanie Laurent's stand in for the movie Now You See Me, which gave me great experience and exposure as an actor. Shortly after that, I signed with my agent, Heyman Talent.

HAVE YOU EVER HAD AN AUDITION THAT DIDN'T GO SO WELL? IF SO, HOW DID YOU HANDLE IT?

Jaime: Yes, I just went on and made the most of it. I learned from it and knew I didn't want it to happen again.

HOW IMPORTANT IS PERSEVERENCE TO AN ACTOR?

Jaime: Very important. In this business you have to be dedicated and not give up. You will go through sooo many auditions in your career and only book a couple. You never know what they're looking for. I learned a lot when I worked on the movie Search Party as the Casting Assistant, I watched so many auditions and there might not be anything wrong with them, but only a select few stick in your mind at the end of the day. There's only one that fits the part the best. You just keep going to them (auditions) and giving them your all and on will stick and you get the job.

WHO INSPIRES YOU TO PURSUE YOUR GOALS?

Jaime: My own desire pushes me. When I see something that I want to accomplish, I put my all in and don't stop until I get it. I'm most happy when I'm on set, so that's what I'm going for and I'm going to make it happen.

Jaime is not only a talented actor, but an incredible person. Her tenacity and perseverance as an artist are inspiring and we look forward to watching her career continue to grow!

What it takes to be an Actor

By: P.L. Jones

Do you love theater and/or film? If you do, then you know that it's a weird, needy sort of love, the kind that never really goes away, but becomes stronger over time.

Maybe at first it developed slowly. Every time you'd watch a movie, you'd overanalyze the acting and think to yourself, "I wonder if I could do that." Eventually, you'd begin to think to yourself, "I *want to* do that." And then, before you knew what was happening you were watching the Academy Awards, not because you wanted to see who wore what, but because you actually cared about who won. And as your favorite actress rattled off a teary-eyed acceptance speech, you were surprised to find *yourself* just as teary-eyed.

So...yeah, you basically just need to become an actor.

But, how?

Well, the seven steps below list the basics of how to become an actor. Please keep in mind that the road to success isn't solitary, many parallel streets and back roads can lead to the very same goal.

So, the steps below are simply suggestions:

1. **Define your goal.**

Go get a pen and some paper. That's right, walk away from the screen and go get a pen and piece of paper, this article will still be here when you get back!

Back?

Perseverance: Steadfastness in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success.

Good. Now, use your pen and paper to answer these questions:

- a. Why do I want to be an actor?
- b. What kinds of productions do I want to be in?
- c. What is my personal definition of the word “perseverance”?

Done?

Great, now fold up your note and tape it to your closet door. You’re not going to read it again until after the fourth audition you’ve ever been on.

What?!

Yep, *fourth* audition.

You’ve done this because acting isn’t easy. Every actor, at some point in their career, is going to do their absolute best and despite this, be rejected. And the rejection isn’t because they didn’t do a good job, it’s simply because they didn’t fulfill one particular person’s vision for the role.

So, if you become an actor this will most likely happen to you and that’s why you’ll need every ounce of perseverance you can muster.

After your fourth audition, you’re going to read your note to remind yourself why acting *and* perseverance are important to you.

Yay, you’ve got the first step done, that’s really good :) Let’s move on.

2. **Take an acting class.**

If you’re in high school or college, this part is fairly easy- just add a Drama/Theater class to your schedule. This will teach you the basics of acting and theater, which are very important. If you’re not in a school that offers drama classes, then look around for theater classes/camps you can attend. Check with local universities and community colleges. They often offer “leisure classes” to the general public and this list of classes usually include at least one “Theater/Drama” course. So just give them a call, ask about classes, and sign up for one!

3. Watch in depth interviews of your favorite actors.

Even though Late Night with Jimmy Fallon and The Conan O'Brien show are funny, they're not the kinds of interviews we're talking about. We're talking *serious* interviews in which actors discuss their craft.

For example, Bravo's "[Inside the Actors Studio](#)" and YouTube's "[Actors Roundtable Discussion](#)" are both great sources of these kinds of interviews. Really listen to what these experienced actors have to say about their craft, because their tips will be invaluable.

4. Audition for Community Theater.

Most cities have a community theater where local actors perform. Go to their website, look for notices about open auditions and contact them to let them know you'd like to audition. Use the [American Association of Community Theater's online index](#) to find out what Community Theater programs are in your area.

5. Take time to gain more acting experience.

Take time to become an experienced performer by:

- Auditioning for more community theater roles
- Auditioning for local commercials
- Auditioning for roles in indie films by local filmmakers
- Becoming a background actor for big-budget films (this may involve a bit of traveling if you live in a small town where big-budget movies are not produced, but it's worth it for you to experience what it's like to be on the set of a large production).

6. Look for a franchised and licensed agent.

Once you've gotten a good bit of performing experience under your belt, consider hiring an agent as an agent can do some of the legwork in finding roles for you.

Go to the [SAG AFTRA website](#), peruse their list of agents, and make arrangements to [attend a workshop](#) that offers you the opportunity to meet with some of these very same agents.

7. **Keep auditioning, learning, and acting** in the kinds of performances and films that YOU LOVE! Stay true to your reason for pursuing acting in the first place. Don't audition for a role just because you think you should, audition for the roles that you WANT.

Those are seven basic steps to put you on the road to becoming an actor and each step takes time, so don't rush through it. Be patient and try to enjoy the process as much as you can, after all it is kind of an adventure :)

So, if you love acting, arm yourself with perseverance, and go for it!

How to Deal With Social Media Trolls

By: P.L. Jones

Most of us grew up on superhero movies (hence the [“Which Superhero Are You” quiz](#) on our site), right?

And Man of Steel, Spiderman, and X-Men would’ve been much less interesting had the Supers been like, “Whatever”, and proceeded to simply ignore General Zod, The Green Goblin, and Magneto.

The climax of these movies were the fights between the supers and the villain, the showdown in which good versus evil.

But in real life, does there always need to be a fight?

When a big-mouthed troll creeps into the comments section of your YouTube video and verbally attacks you, what should you do?

Try this:

1. **Instead of responding by insulting them, pause and consider their state of Loserdom.**

I mean, really, just stop and think about it for a second.

There’s “Normal-land” where people have friends online *and* offline (like in actual real life) who they can chat, joke, and hang out with. Then there’s this dark place called Loserdom, a sad and gray land inhabited by trolls who don’t have friends to hang out with and who aren’t inspired enough to come up with their own YouTube videos, interesting tweets, and blog posts.

These trolls spend large amounts of time concocting irritating messages to send to people they’ve never met before. Why?

Because deep down, they’re unhappy with themselves and horribly lonely. Their insults are a distorted way of saying, “Hey, I’m stuck

in Loserdom and I feel completely alone. Will someone please pay attention to me?” So, if you can, allow yourself to feel a smidgen of empathy for them.

2. **Block them.** Most social media sites have a way for you to stop trolls from viewing/commenting on your posts and videos. Here are some that I’ve found.

- [How to Block Trolls on YouTube](#)
- [How to Block Trolls on Twitter](#)
- [How to Block Trolls on Instagram](#)
- [How to Block Trolls on Google+](#)

3. **Move on with your life,** grateful for the fact that, unlike this annoying troll, you actually have one.

What if you want to teach them a lesson or get revenge on them for being such a giant butt?

Well, engaging a troll isn’t a good idea because *that’s what they want you to do.*

Trolls want your attention and the only way they know how to get it is to verbally attack you.

Responding to them with your own verbal attack only makes things worse. Why? Because if they get you angry, this means you’re now focusing your attention on them and that’s exactly what they want- your attention.

Basically, the best action to take against a troll is to ignore them and then block them.

That’s my opinion. What’s yours?

[Click here to tell us what you think!](#)

Superhero Quiz!

**If life were more like a comic book, which
super would you be?**

Take the quiz now!