Into the Frayed

Casting Call: Zinnia and Rother

This Casting Call is for two male voices, playing queer roles of any accent.

August 30th to September 16th; 11:00 PM GMT+2

Date was changed to accommodate a few actors and it seemed unfair to not give everyone the same chance!

About the Show and Creator

Into the Frayed is a Fantasy Audio Drama, told via letters. It follows Vaughn - a fleeing Jinx - on her journey through Valfern, a world in constant turmoil with itself. The tone of the story is somewhere between grim and hopeful, leaning more towards the latter.

Zinnia and Rother are support characters that follow along her journey.

The entire Show will be 7 Episodes between 15-30 minutes.

Recording starts in September and ends in October. No publication date besides "Early/Mid 2025" has been set. As it's told via letters (= monologues), recordings are very accommodating to your personal schedule.

This is a hobby project, and as such, it is unpaid.



TW: This show contains talk about death, about

othering, about various physical trauma and religious topics. The discussions don't include any gore or other excessive descriptions. The casting call will have content warnings.

About Recording

- As much as possible recordings will be done synchronously, rather than asynchronously.
 Letters are pretty much monologues and quite lengthy, so I can ensure that you and I
 make the best use of our times this way. If it's somehow impossible to schedule together,
 I'm sure we can still find a solution that values your time.
- 2. To ensure audio quality across the board, I ask that all who are auditioning have reliable access to either a **USB or XLR microphone**. Phones, gaming headsets, and built-in computer mics tend not to provide the necessary caliber of audio for a project like this
- 3. The **coordination** for recordings will be done via **Discord**.

About Auditioning

You have a lot of freedom in how you want to read any given Section. There are instructions || Like this

but they should only serve as touchstones and context. If you think it would work better with a different tone, please go for it!

The characters are reading their own letters with the emotions they had while writing them.

- Your audition will be submitted <u>via this Google Form</u>. It includes character information, audition lines, and a place to attach your auditions. It can also be found in the Characters Section, for ease of access.
- 2. You are encouraged to audition for both parts! You can **submit both in the same form!**
- 3. Select the character you are auditioning for, and attach the file of your audition for that character.
- 4. You can provide up to two takes of each section. Please put all takes of one section together (AABBCC) and don't mismatch them (No ABCABC). If you want to include two takes for one section, you do not need to provide two takes for the other sections (ABCC or similar is also fine).
- 5. Begin each recording with **your name** and the **character** you're auditioning for.
- Upload audition recordings as .wav, and name your files with your name & character name. (mp3 files will be accepted but are not preferred)
 Example: Cece Lazul_Vaughn.wav or Cece Lazul_Vaughn.mp3
- 7. Please use the setup you'd be recording on for the show to do your audition.
- 8. Please **don't alter your recordings.** You may cut your best sections together, but no form of mastering or pitch correction.

Questions? Message cece_lazul on Discord or write an E-Mail to cecelazul@proton.me

Characters

Both characters are side characters and have around 10-15 minutes of talking time in three episodes each. You may ignore the gray text. It serves as context.

- Zinnia (he/him)
- Rother (he/him)

Submit your auditions here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAlpQLSeGXmqCeGUw7fjnblY058sTrKkEzszYL7tDlwaY-Y -7u1ZOBg/viewform?usp=sf_link

Zinnia (he/him)

Zinnia is an outcast. He helped Jinxes escape, but when the priesthood found out, they busted the operation and tortured him. The priesthood broke his belief in the world enough that he couldn't return to his husband Rother and, ashamed as he was, instead left to collect himself. He is a morally gray man, not above killing people, stealing and doing other such things if its necessary.

Zinnia is a bright man, but not very outwardly expressive. The world has made him a little aggressive, but Rother kept him kind.

Section A

TW: Talk of murder, death and grief

|| Zinnia is talking about where he found Vaughn (a Jinx = a death sentence) and why he was in Hedgerow to begin with. There's anger at all of this. I've included the previous passage in gray to give You context.

She approached me as I was leaving, looked a little confused. I thought she would have a job for me, you know? Maybe some infestation, some jinxed cow she doesn't wanna touch. Or in need of some materials. You never know what a Ravensworth has on him, right. So we're standing there, a little outside the walls, and she asks me if she can tag along. Kept looking back to the gate, but there wasn't anyone there. That's when I recognised her as the Judges daughter, the rich fuck who paid me to kill that old Lady to begin with.

|| Zinnia clearly has his problems with the whole situation, but it's something he's done before (maybe too many times) and he's annoyed and exhausted by it.

Which, *might I add*, I didn't do. I'm not a monster, Rother. I told her what they had planned, she started bawling her eyes out about being "cursed" and "forsaken" and all that houlier than thou bullshit. I helped her find some herbs and she fell asleep and didn't wake up. Promised her that she would get a Pyre. Planted a flower in her name. Told her grandkids what happened. Made them be quiet.

Anyways. I had to take the girl with me. ... Right?

Section B

|| Exhaustion, some anxiety, some unsureness, pleading. Very soft, but it's clearly hard for him to plead like this.

Sentinel is a place.

Point is. I'm coming back to Sentinel, sooner or later. You don't have to interact with me. Just... take her in. Please.

|| Honesty.

She's a good kid. I like her. She deserves a life.

Thanks Zinnia

Section C

TW: Death, Grief

|| This happens about a year into their journey. Zinnia got hurt badly and should *really* rest. Vaughn is like a daughter to him now and he feels responsible for her. This has major Proud Dad vibes.

Sometimes, I want to hug her. When we were drunk at Spark, sitting on the walls, she leaned against me and fell asleep in my cloak. Carried her home and tugged her in. She actually smiled at all the festivities. And finally talked. So much. Has a waterfall for a mouth, that one.

|| The thought of her dying (because of him) makes him really upset. The Gardener is the Spirit of the Dead.

What if it hadn't been me. Vaughn might just have bled to death. What then? Do I carry her corpse to a grave and hope the Gardener will tug her in for me?

Rother (he/him)

Rother is an abbot of a monastery in Sentinel. He blames himself for what happened with Zinnia and fell into depression in the last two years. Besides this, he is still a learned man and a skilled cleric, even though he doesn't believe everything the priesthood preach. He has a big heart, a softer tone.

Zinnia and Vaughn make him hopeful for the future.

Section A

TW: Self-Hate

|| Ashamed, anxious, melancholic. He's being rather harsh to himself.
This is the first proper interaction they had since Zinnia left after being tortured.

I must shamefully admit that since you left, I haven't done the work. Instead, I have been hiding away behind sermons and busy work. And lowered my head when I passed by the tragedies. You would not be proud of me. Many nights I sat and wondered how much you despise me for sitting idle, how you are a man of action, and I remain a coward.

Section B

|| This is from a later letter. The two are on the mend.

|| They're clearly husbands. It's a little sarcastic, a little mocking as it goes on. Said in good humor.

Take every advantage you can get. *Including* using my money for new equipment. Especially your clothes. You should look presentable and if my two decades of knowing you mean anything, then that you are a horrid cheapskate afraid of ever spending so much as a *single* payment you have earned yourself, in case the Mother herself decides to weave a new world from the old fabric. Obviously, your coin would be worthless then, but at least you would have some.

So, please. Buy yourself a new cloak and good shoes.

Section C

TW: Religion

|| This is addressed to Vaughn. It's almost a sermon, a reassurance of a lost sheep. Think more said in quiet between two people and less in front of an audience.

He's essentially telling her that nothing is wrong with her and everything will be just fine.

Don't worry. The threads that hold the fabric of our world together don't fray. The Mother has made them to withstand the writhing of the old gods, so nothing that you have done – or nothing that you could do – could ever be beyond her. You are not outside this tapestry, outside this fabric. You are a part of it, safe under her watchful gaze and safer inside the wild still.