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# Don Cheadle and Ayo Edebiri Debut on Broadway

## Description

In the Broadway revival of "Proof," Don Cheadle portrays a mathematical genius grappling with mental health difficulties, while Ayo Edebiri plays his daughter, who faces her own challenges. This marks their first collaboration in theatre, and Edebiri expressed her excitement at the opportunity to work alongside an actor she admires.

Cheadle and Edebiri have developed a father-daughter dynamic outside the performance. Cheadle often checks in with Edebiri, concerned about her late-night texts as they prepare for their nightly shows. The plot of "Proof" revolves around Catherine, a young woman who sacrifices her aspirations to care for her father, Robert, an academic.

The themes of the play explore familial relationships and the exchanges of care between parents and children. Edebiri noted how participating in "Proof" has prompted her to reassess her own relationship with her parents, reflecting on the inevitable roles people assume as they age.

Edebiri has gained recognition through her performance in the acclaimed series "The Bear," which earned her an Emmy Award. Cheadle, a veteran of over 50 films, has portrayed a diverse array of characters, from a serious lawyer to a hero in "Hotel Rwanda," which gained him an Oscar nomination.

Both actors are making their Broadway debuts with "Proof," alongside producers Barack and Michelle Obama. Cheadle articulated the exhilarating yet nerve-wracking experience of taking to the stage, likening it to the thrill of a roller coaster just before the ride begins.

While Cheadle and Edebiri share a strong rapport, their responses to the prospect of future collaborations suggest they may not pursue another project together soon, indicating a humorous but firm boundary in their budding relationship.

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## Vocabulary List:

1. **revival** //rɪ'vaɪvəl// (noun): a new production of an old play
2. **portrays** //pɔr'treɪz// (verb): shows a character or person in performance
3. **grappling** //ˈgræpəlɪŋ// (verb): trying to deal with a difficult problem
4. **collaboration** //kə,læbə'reɪʃən// (noun): work between people to achieve something together
5. **dynamic** //daɪ'næmɪk// (noun): the way people act together in a group
6. **reassess** //,ri:ə'ses// (verb): think again about something and change opinion



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## Comprehension Questions

### Multiple Choice

1. In the Broadway revival of 'Proof,' who portrays the mathematical genius?

- Option: Ayo Edebiri
- Option: Don Cheadle
- Option: Barack Obama
- Option: Michelle Obama

2. What character does Ayo Edebiri play in 'Proof'?

- Option: Catherine
- Option: Robert
- Option: Margaret
- Option: Helena

3. What has Edebiri gained recognition for besides her role in 'Proof'?

- Option: Winning a Grammy
- Option: Her performance in 'The Bear'
- Option: Directing a film
- Option: Writing a novel

4. How many films has Don Cheadle been a veteran of?

- Option: 20
- Option: 30
- Option: 50
- Option: 80

5. What Oscar-nominated role did Cheadle play in 'Hotel Rwanda'?

- Option: Hero
- Option: Villain
- Option: Lawyer
- Option: Father

6. Who are the producers of 'Proof'?

- Option: Barack and Michelle Obama



- Option: Bill and Hillary Clinton
- Option: George and Laura Bush
- Option: Ronald and Nancy Reagan

### True-False

7. Don Cheadle and Ayo Edebiri have previously collaborated in theatre before 'Proof'.
8. The character Robert in 'Proof' is an academic.
9. Edebiri expressed disappointment about working with Cheadle.
10. 'Proof' focuses on the relationship between a daughter and her mother.
11. Both actors are making their Broadway debuts with 'Proof'.
12. Cheadle finds performing on stage to be a relaxing experience.

### Gap-Fill

13. In 'Proof,' Don Cheadle plays a mathematical genius grappling with mental health difficulties, while Ayo Edebiri plays his daughter, who faces her own \_\_\_\_\_.
14. Edebiri expressed her \_\_\_\_\_ at the opportunity to work alongside an actor she admires.
15. The plot of 'Proof' centers around Catherine, a young woman who sacrifices her aspirations to care for her \_\_\_\_\_.
16. Edebiri noted that participating in 'Proof' prompted her to reassess her own relationship with her \_\_\_\_\_.
17. Cheadle described taking to the stage as exhilarating yet \_\_\_\_\_.



18. The themes of the play 'Proof' explore familial relationships and the exchanges of care between \_\_\_\_\_ and children.

## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Don Cheadle 2. Catherine 3. Her performance in 'The Bear' 4. 50 5. Hero 6. Barack and Michelle Obama

**True-False:** 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. False 11. True 12. False

**Gap-Fill:** 13. challenges 14. excitement 15. father 16. parents 17. nerve-wracking

## CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL6

## POST TAG

1. Ayo Edebiri
2. Broadway
3. Don Cheadle
4. ESL learning
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