



Transgender Actress Responds to Disney Role Reduction

Description

EXCLUSIVE: In 2020, Chanel Stewart stumbled upon a post on X detailing Pixar's quest for an authentic, 14-year-old transgender girl to lend her voice to a transgender teenager in an upcoming animated series.

Having already appeared in several commercials by the age of 14, Stewart recognized this opportunity as her quintessential role.

"I epitomized exactly what they were seeking, and that is why it resonated deeply with me. It felt so profoundly right," reflects Stewart, a transgender girl from Los Angeles. "I immediately consulted my mother, imploring her to allow me to audition, as I felt this was an opportunity too significant to forgo. Do you see what I mean?"

Ultimately, Stewart secured the voiceover role in *Win or Lose*, which centers around a co-ed middle school softball team known as the Pickles during the week leading up to their pivotal championship game. Stewart was eager to share her exciting news with friends.

"Oh my God, it was surreal," the now 18-year-old recalls. "I embraced the role with immense pride and honor, as it meant a great deal to me. The prospect of authentically representing a transgender teenage girl filled me with joy. I aimed to create a narrative for transgender children like myself."

However, when Disney informed her mother, Keisha, that *Win or Lose* would omit the transgender storyline, both Chanel and Keisha felt devastated. (Disney's statement indicated a preference for content that parents can discuss with their children on their own terms and timelines.)

"It was disheartening because my daughter is transgender, and this is her reality. It is crucial not to conceal that truth," Keisha remarked to Deadline. "While some parents may not be ready for such discussions, this is the world we inhabit, and representation is vital. Everyone deserves acknowledgment. It felt like another setback for the LGBTQ community, making it particularly challenging for transgender teenagers who are navigating their identities."

Chanel added, "I was deeply disheartened. From the moment I received the script, I was eager to share my journey and empower other transgender youth. Trans narratives hold significant importance and deserve amplification."

By removing the transgender storyline, Disney excised a few lines of dialogue referencing a character's gender identity. While Chanel was unable to disclose detailed information about her character, Disney assured her that she would remain an integral part of the show.

"Now, however, my character will be portrayed as a cisgender girl, specifically a straight cisgender girl," Stewart explained, representing KEY Talent Management and Innovative Artists. "That was the extent of the information they shared, but I've been reassured that I remain part of the cast."

Nonetheless, there is one aspect of this journey that remains with Stewart. "I take great pride in being one



of the first transgender girls to achieve this milestone!" she exclaimed regarding her voiceover role. "It is a true honor to contribute to queer history."

Win or Lose, featuring Will Forte as the voice of softball Coach Dan, is set to premiere on Disney+ starting February 19, 2025.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Authentic** /ɔ:'θentɪk/ (adjective): Of undisputed origin; genuine.
2. **Significant** /sɪg'nɪfɪkənt/ (adjective): Having meaning; important.
3. **Representation** /ˌrɛprɪzən'teɪʃən/ (noun): The action of speaking or acting on behalf of someone or something.
4. **Devastated** /'dɛvəsteɪtɪd/ (verb): Cause severe and overwhelming shock or grief.
5. **Eager** /'i:gər/ (adjective): Having or showing keen interest or intense desire.
6. **Narrative** /'nærətɪv/ (noun): A spoken or written account of connected events; a story.

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What is defined as unwanted and repeated behavior that may be perceived as offensive?
Option: A. Allegations
Option: B. Insidious
Option: C. Harassment
Option: D. Retaliation
2. Which word relates to the customs arts social institutions and achievements of a particular nation people or other social group?
Option: A. Indelible
Option: B. Enduring
Option: C. Cultural
Option: D. Transformation
3. What word describes someone who is keen or enthusiastic about something?
Option: A. Representation
Option: B. Devastated
Option: C. Eager
Option: D. Significant
4. To go beyond the limits of something is to _____.



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- Option: A. Scrutiny
Option: B. Resilience
Option: C. Transcend
Option: D. Anticipating
5. Which term refers to a famous person especially in entertainment or sports?
Option: A. Celebrity
Option: B. Authentic
Option: C. Dissolution
Option: D. Turmoil
6. What are the possibilities or likelihood for future success or advancement called?
Option: A. Prolific
Option: B. Devastated
Option: C. Anticipation
Option: D. Prospects
7. What word describes something so interesting or exciting that it holds one's attention?
Option: A. Substantial
Option: B. Compelling
Option: C. Aficionados
Option: D. Prolific
8. Which term is used to describe something of considerable importance size or worth?
Option: A. Transformation
Option: B. Cultural
Option: C. Substantial
Option: D. Anticipation
9. What word refers to the action of speaking or acting on behalf of someone or something?
Option: A. Representation
Option: B. Manipulation
Option: C. Celebrity
Option: D. Anticipating
10. Which term describes something that is genuine real or true?
Option: A. Dissolution
Option: B. Authentic
Option: C. Harassment
Option: D. Indelible



Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. When someone makes a claim or _____ against another person it is known as making allegations.
12. Responding to a harmful action with a similar harmful action is often seen as a form of _____.
13. The detailed and careful examination of something is known as _____.
14. A state of great disturbance confusion or uncertainty is often referred to as _____.
15. Someone who is _____ is producing abundant works or results.
16. Looking forward to or expecting something is the same as _____.
17. Feeling extreme sorrow or shock after a loss is to be _____.
18. Something that is impossible to remove forget or change can be described as _____.
19. The act or process of changing significantly in appearance form or nature is known as _____.
20. The feeling of excitement about something expected or hoped for is called _____.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The disease had an insidious onset making it difficult to detect in the early stages.
22. His behavior at the party was disgraceful causing embarrassment to everyone present.
23. The politician was accused of deceit and manipulation to gain power.
24. The dissolution of their partnership came as a shock to many in the industry.
25. Despite facing numerous challenges she showed great resilience and determination.



26. The discovery of a new species was a significant breakthrough in the field of biology.
27. The author crafted a compelling narrative that captivated readers until the last page.
28. The art exhibition attracted many aficionados who appreciated the intricate details of each piece.
29. Their enduring friendship stood the test of time and challenges.
30. The director's use of lighting and angles created a cinematic masterpiece.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. C. Harassment 2. C. Cultural 3. C. Eager 4. C. Transcend 5. A. Celebrity 6. D. Prospects 7. B. Compelling 8. C. Substantial 9. A. Representation 10. B. Authentic
Gap-Fill: 11. allegation 12. retaliation 13. scrutiny 14. turmoil 15. prolific 16. anticipating 17. devastated 18. indelible 19. transformation 20. anticipation
Matching sentence: 1. Insidious 2. Disgraceful 3. Manipulation 4. Dissolution 5. Resilience 6. Significant 7. Narrative 8. Aficionados 9. Enduring 10. Cinematic

CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL5

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