



GO ASK ALICE

**... Welcome to the Guinea Pig
Underground**

A one-hour drama
Created & Written by JoAnn Hess

LOGLINE

A down-on-her-luck waitress becomes a Human Lab Rat to find the cure that will save her daughter's life and starts a revolution that threatens to topple the entire pharmaceutical industry... if it doesn't kill her first.

A

THE WORLD

The show explores the underworld of clinical trials and life as a human guinea pig (aka Lab Rat), where rich rewards are achieved at the risk of their own health from not only the drugs and side effects themselves, but also from those hired to ensure victory at all costs in the high stakes “warfare” between pharmaceutical rivalries.



SHOW CROSS



MEETS



MEETS



PILOT SUMMARY

Down-on-her-luck waitress Alice Delaney spends her days eking out a living that barely pays the rent. Until she serves the strangest tea party of her life.

Macen and his companions celebrate finishing their latest lucrative clinical trial as Human Guinea Pigs. Their happiness is short-lived, however, when one of them collapses. In exchange for saving his life, Alice finds herself fired and now vulnerable to her sleazy landlord.

Worse, her young daughter Lilith is rushed to the hospital where she's diagnosed with a rare blood disorder that requires experimental and expensive treatment. Without options, she seeks out Macen, who uses his wiles to get Alice accepted into the Lab Rat system and ready for her first major trial.

Dr. Gussano, a researcher with dubious morals, intends to have a successful trial for his latest drug known as PAR 573 – regardless of what the drugs do to the Lab Rats.

PILOT SUMMARY (CONT'D)

When his drugs go missing, however, Gussano assumes the newbie, Alice, is a mole for a competing clinic and orders his thugs to take care of her and retrieve the stolen supply. After being injected by the goons with an almost lethal dose of a psychiatric drug, Alice barely survives with the help of her new unlikely friends.

Weak and exhausted, Alice returns home to find a mysterious man from her past seated at her kitchen table before collapsing into unconsciousness.

Over the course of the series, Alice and her friends will lie, cheat and steal as they chart a dangerous course into the underground world of morally-dubious clinicians, life-threatening drug trials, and a community of desperate lab rats. During her journey to find that one elusive drug that will help save her daughter's life, she will start a revolution that threatens the entire Pharmaceutical Industry.

Alice Delaney

TALENT TYPE: Amy Adams

Alice is a down-on-her-luck waitress trying to eke out a simple living for her family. Seemingly simple and unassuming, she uses avoidance to fend off those who try to control her, including her own mother. When her daughter succumbs to a deadly illness that requires expensive experimental treatment, Alice is willing to dive into the underbelly of clinical trials as a human guinea pig.

Alice struggles to help her new-found friends navigate a world where both the other lab rats and clinical doctors can be as deadly as the drugs they are hired to take. However, Alice spent years on the streets and the full force of Alice's savvy, cunning and savagery is waiting to be unleashed against a morally corrupt global pharma giant. With her daughter's life held in the balance, she intends to win the war at any cost.





Macen Follette

TALENT TYPE: Jon-Michael Ecker

Macen is a displaced soldier with PTSD trying to make a living on the streets. As a professional lab rat, he uses any means at his disposal to keep him off the grid and eligible for the next drug test. This lifestyle pushes his body and mind to the very edge until some days he can't keep himself from mentally slipping and worries he may never be whole again. His only solace is in the arms of a competing clinical doctor.

Macen quickly bonds with Alice and brings her into his lab rat community but their relationship is a slow burn continuously tested as conflicts between the lab rats and the needs of Macen's lover (DR. HIRSCH) pressure Macen into more precarious and dangerous situations – making the drug trials the least of his problems. Can love save Macen or in the end be the cause of his destruction?

Dr. Seth Gussano

TALENT TYPE: Demian Bichir

Dr. Gussano left a path of destruction climbing the pharma ladder and he's not about to let anyone stand in the way of his goals. Morally ambiguous to the point of being psychopathic, Gussano allows dangerous testing, alters data and conspires with criminals in order to succeed. He demands respect wherever he can get it but will take fear in its place.

Seeking nothing less than the CEO of his global pharmaceutical company, it's not enough that he wins, but his enemies must lose as he plays a dangerous game with his peers, competition, and the lab rats. As Gussano tightens his web of conspiracies and lies, his greatest challenge comes from an unexpected nemesis – a poor, gutsy waitress-turned-lab rat, named Alice.





Rose Delaney

TALENT TYPE: Margo Martindale

Alice's disabled and dysfunctional mother who constantly tries to manipulate and control Alice. Rose becomes entangled in her own secrets as she's dying and owes a huge gambling debt.

Meanwhile, as Alice becomes more financially independent, she influences Alice's ex, Kyle, to discover what Alice is up to, preying upon his own fears.

Rose's manipulation comes from fear that Alice will leave her to die alone, as Alice left her years ago when she became pregnant with Lilith and married Kyle.

Gwen Coelho

TALENT TYPE: Kiki Layne

Rebellious college student and raiser of rabbits. She has a frenemy relationship with Macen and dislikes Alice's naiveté. She moves like she's always fifteen minutes late for something important. Ashen white hair and dark eye makeup who always dresses in black and white, and loves to play word games.

She continuously strives to organize the guinea pigs to give them power against the corrupt clinical system that treats them like mere test animals. She's gone so far as to call PETA to stage a guinea pig rescue, feeling their wrath when it's discovered the pigs were human. Unfortunately, her curiosity and tenacity eventually get her killed.





Dr. Ethan Hirsch

TALENT TYPE: Dustin Mulligan

A prodigy, Ethan's fast track through medical school earned him the title of "Doogie Howser" of clinical research. Pressured to be perfect and expedient, Ethan succumbs to spying on his competition and he's found the man to help him – Macen.

More than a partner in crime, their relationship evolves into a co-dependence, although Macen's need is greater as the PTSD and excessive barrage of drugs on his body take their toll. Unable to withstand Macen's ills over time, Ethan abandons him when he's most needed. Only as Macen approaches the end, does Ethan realize his true feelings.

Ethan strives to outdo Dr. Gussano in every way, and comes at him from an outside angle. Unfortunately, his oath of "do no harm" will be his own undoing.

Dr. Daniel Cheung

TALENT TYPE: Daniel Wu

Personable and charming, a doctor caught between the needs of his patients and a hierarchical system based on an “ability to pay.” Against the rules and colleague advice, he takes Alice and Lilith under his wing, giving Lilith a fighting chance while Alice desperately gathers the money for her treatment.

He allows personal feelings to get in the way of pragmatism and develops deeper feelings for Alice than he cares to admit or act upon. Additionally, Daniels feud with Gussano runs deep. Both were overworked and exhausted interns. But nothing can excuse a dead patient or worse -- the cover-up.

This years-old secret is about to come out.





Kyle Blackmon

TALENT TYPE: Martin Sensmeier

Alice's ex and Lilith's absent father, Kyle's a desperate man living on the dark edges of society, yet always believing he's on the cusp of something big. Delusion and drugs made him controlling and violent, causing him to lose the one precious thing he ever had, Alice.

A course and tough exterior that only hides the deep insecurity and vulnerability within. Deep down he's a good man doing all the wrong things for the right reasons. Yet, as he discovers his own hopes and desires, Kyle will find the strength within himself to be the man and father he wishes to be. Kyle's arrival from nowhere places a considerable strain on Alice who's unsure of her feelings for the man who saved her from her poor and dire past against her growing independence and a dark secret she's hiding from him.

EPISODE CONCEPTS - Season 1

EPISODE 1: "DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE"

Alice loses her job the very day her daughter is diagnosed with a life threatening illness. Desperate to pay for treatment, Alice becomes a clinical "lab rat" and nearly loses her life.

EPISODE 2: "AFTER THE FALL"

Alice, unable to hold down a normal job, joins a trial with Gwen. Gussano's search for his drugs puts Gwen in the crosshairs. Rose drains Alice's bank account to pay a loan shark.

EPISODE 3: "THE KNAVE OF HEARTS"

Lilith's hospital bills continue to climb. Alice and Macen use fake personas to get into Gussano's next trial phase, hoping it'll lead to a cure for Lilith. Kyle confronts Alice.

EPISODE 4: "WE'RE ALL MAD HERE"

As Alice takes on another trial, Kyle questions Lilith's treatment but resists a bone marrow test. When the lab rats succumb to side-effects, Alice leads a revolt that threatens Gussano's trial.

EPISODE 5: "OUR DARKEST HOUR"

Kyle sues for custody. Gwen attempts to unionize the lab rats and McGregor's investigation of Alice threatens Lilith's treatment. Rose tries to hire a hitman while Alice makes a dangerous agreement with Dutch.

EPISODE 6: "NO GOING BACK TO YESTERDAY"

Time slips into the past to reveal why Alice left Kyle and Rose's downward spiral. Macen's experience in combat reveals his PTSD and family dysfunction. Cheung and Gussano's past reveal a dark secret.

EPISODE 7: "A DIFFERENT REALITY"

Macen goes to his family to get money for Alice. Gwen and Alice break into hospital records and discover Kyle's test results. Rose hires a hitman to take care of Kyle -- it's Dutch!

EPISODE 8: "A POOL OF TEARS"

Alice mistakes Cheung's attention to Lilith's case as an attraction. Rose tries to call off Dutch. Cheung threatens Gussano to get research data. Dutch kidnaps Alice.

EPISODE 9: "BEWARE THE JABBERWOCK"

Macen beats Kyle to find Alice. Hirsch's approval for his trial expires and in a fury he releases the lab rats. Dutch booby-traps Cheung's brakes. Alice has seconds to send a text for help.

EPISODE 10: "OF CABBAGES AND KINGS"

Unable to reach Macen, Kyle attempts to rescue Alice alone. Rose is worked over and is given 24 hrs to pay her debts. Macen gathers the lab rats into an army to save Alice. Cheung's car crashes into a ditch. Dutch is killed but his brother is coming!

FUTURE SEASONS

SEASON 2: OFF WITH HER HEAD

The second season focuses on Alice and Macen traveling statewide to find high paying trials. An agent investigating Phalanx is found dead. Rose's gambling scheme backfires. Macen goes one-on-one with Leon over Gwen's murder.

SEASON 3: A MAD TEA PARTY

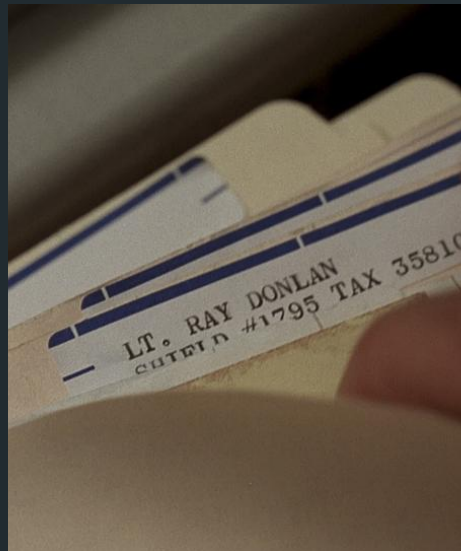
Lilith's disease goes into remission. Alice and Macen join a trial that may be a cure. Alice is approached by a union organizer and has an affair. As McGregor puts more pressure on Gussano, he plots to overthrow him at Phalanx.

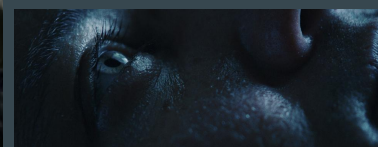
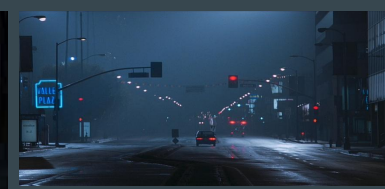
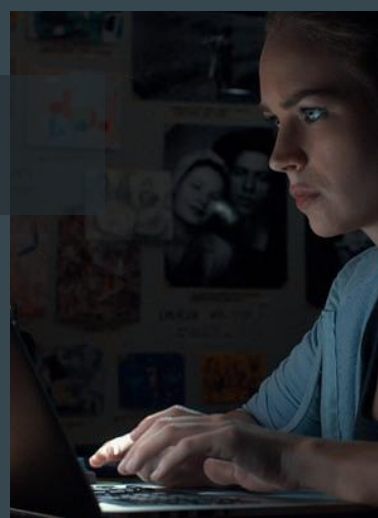
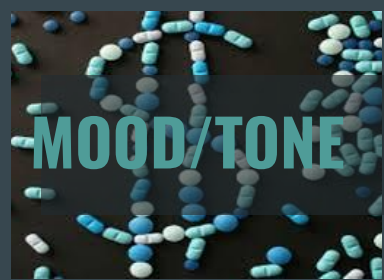
SEASON 4: HOUSE OF CARDS

As Alice's secret is exposed, she retreats, unable to face Cheung. Under intense government scrutiny, McGregor and Gussano form a pact, but both men have plans of their own. Alice runs for Congress and rejects Cheung's advances.

SEASON 5: THE WHITE QUEEN TRIUMPHS

In the final season Alice engages in an all-out war against the Phalanx-backed Gussano. Kyle makes a fateful choice and goes on the run. McGregor offers Alice a cure for Lilith but it comes with a huge price.





Script Highlights

RECOMMEND Coverage from Val McLeroy at Epigram Entertainment

RECOMMEND Coverage from Danny Manus at NoBullscript Consulting

PAGE Awards - SEMI FINALIST

Austin Revolution Film Festival - **WINNER** - Best TV Drama

Jumpstart Roadmap Warriors - TV - TOP 50

Contact:

puremoxieproductions@gmail.com

1 (234) 380-0705

www.joannhess.com