REDWOOD

ANNE

AUDITION SIDES

Character Overview + Three Audition Scenes

SECTOR 7 FILMS

ANNE

Age 42 | Cleveland's Wife | Mother

CHARACTER DESCRIPTION

Anne is Cleveland's wife - an educated, well-spoken and attractive woman with exquisite taste. The script describes her as someone who enjoys the finer things in life and has a strong interest in fashion, style and art. Her home reflects that eye for beauty, but Anne is much more than the polished life surrounding her.

At the center of Anne is family. She loves Cleveland deeply, shares a warm and comfortable marriage with him, and helps hold their household together while his father's dementia creates increasing pressure. Anne is practical enough to say what Cleveland may not want to hear, especially when safety is involved, but she is not cold. Even when she challenges him, the love underneath the disagreement should remain visible.

Anne also has a social, playful side. Around Coreen and her sister Deb, she is relaxed, funny and completely at home in the world she has built. That ease matters because it gives the audience a fuller picture of her - a woman who can enjoy beauty, friendship and luxury while still being emotionally grounded when life becomes difficult.

The actress should protect Anne's balance of elegance and strength. Her most powerful moments are not about dominating Cleveland; they are about standing beside him. When his anxiety becomes impossible to hide, Anne does not judge or retreat. She meets him with firmness, love and partnership. The key to the role is GRACE UNDER PRESSURE.

WHAT THE AUDITION SHOULD SHOW

- Emotional intelligence - Anne reads what is happening beneath the surface.
- Strength - she can challenge Cleveland without turning the marriage into a battle.
- Warmth - the love between Anne and Cleveland should feel lived-in and real.
- Social ease - with family and friends, Anne is stylish, playful and comfortable.
- Compassion - when Cleveland becomes vulnerable, she becomes a partner, not a judge.

DO NOT PLAY ANNE AS JUST THE WIFE. PLAY THE WOMAN HELPING HOLD THE FAMILY TOGETHER.

SIDE 1 - SOMETHING HAS TO GIVE

SCENE: After Cleveland's father, who suffers from dementia, gets access to a gun and accidentally fires it inside the house, Anne confronts Cleveland in their bedroom. She loves his father, but the danger has become impossible to ignore.

ACTOR OBJECTIVE: Make Cleveland understand that love is not enough if the situation is unsafe. Anne needs him to face reality without making him feel that she is attacking his father.

PERFORMANCE NOTE: Start with the fear left over from what just happened. Anne is angry because she was scared. As Cleveland explains his promise to his parents, let the argument soften into understanding - but do not abandon Anne's boundary about the guns.

CLEVELAND AND ANNE are sitting on the edge of their bed. Anne is grilling him about what happened.

ANNE

You told me you kept your guns in a locked case. It couldn't have been locked up. No way he would've gotten to it.

CLEVELAND

I took it out and cleaned it last week. I must of forgotten to lock the case when I put it back babe.

ANNE

Forgot to lock it! If something had happened to your father or Ms. Lopez they would've waltzed up with a fresh warrant and locked you ass up. You can't forget to lock it up when you have a father suffering from dementia.

(1 beat..)

I know we talked about this before, but maybe it's time we think about getting him into one of those high end places that can give him round the clock care. We got the money.

CLEVELAND

Money? It ain't about the money. I love that man more than life. He poured everything he had into us. I'd be nothing without him. I promised moms and I promised God that I would never put him in a nursing home. And I...am going... to keep that promise. When he leaves this house for good it will be inside a casket.

ANNE

Ok. I know how much you love him, But somethings gotta give. You know I never liked guns in this house. With his condition and the kids running around here, those guns gotta go.

(2 beats...)

CLEVELAND

Tomorrow. They'll be gone.

ANNE

Promise?

CLEVELAND slowly nods his head yes. Anne leans over and kisses him on the cheek.

ANNE

Get some rest.

ANNE gets up and walks off. CLEVELAND sits motionless in deep thought.

SIDE 2 - THE GIRLS

SCENE: Anne is at home with her older sister Deb and Coreen. Coreen has just returned from what was supposed to be a girls trip to Bali, and the conversation quickly turns into the kind of gossip and laughter shared by women who know each other well.

ACTOR OBJECTIVE: Relax. Enjoy the company. This scene is about Anne outside of crisis - funny, curious, stylish and comfortable with the women in her life.

PERFORMANCE NOTE: Do not make every line a joke. The humor comes from familiarity. Let interruptions, reactions and disbelief feel natural, like a real conversation in someone's living room.

COREEN, ANNE, AND DEB are sitting in the living room talking. The large house is decorated impeccably.

DEB
So, come on. Give up the scope. We weren't invited on this girls trip. We're you invited sis?

ANNE
I didn't get an invite. And I stay packed.

ANNE AND DEB chuckle.

COREEN
Excuse me. I was hangin' with my sorrors. I hadn't seen some of them in years. We-had-a-blast.

DEB
Tell me about Bali. Like, how was it?

COREEN
We never made it.

ANNE
What do mean you never made it.

COREEN
He's gonna kill me if he finds out. Swear right now you'll keep you lips sealed.

ANNE
We swear.

DEB
We swear.

COREEN
We detoured to Bangkok.

ANNE
What? Oh my god. You are crazy.

DEB

Girl. I ain't repeating nothin'. Give us the scope.

COREEN

We partied like rock stars. It was so insane. The people, the food, the nightlife. Oh my goodness.

ANNE

That's why you were posting all those boring pics. You wanted to throw us off.

COREEN shook her head smiling.

DEB

Oooh girl, that's diabolical.

COREEN grabs her cell phone and scrolls through pics. She finds one to show them.

COREEN

And look who one of my sorrors met.

She hands Anne the phone. Deb leans in to see it.

DEB

Damn!!! Hansome.

ANNE

Wow!!

COREEN

No wonder single black women can't find no decent men. Thailand was crawling with fine black men.

DEB

How much is a ticket? I'm not playin'.

They all laugh.

SIDE 3 - WE ARE IN IT TOGETHER

SCENE: Anne catches Cleveland taking more anxiety medication than prescribed. He tries to deflect at first, but she refuses to let him hide. Cleveland finally admits how severe his anxiety has become.

ACTOR OBJECTIVE: Get the truth, then make the man you love understand that he does not have to fight this alone.

PERFORMANCE NOTE: Anne begins firm because she is worried. Once Cleveland tells the truth, drop the confrontation. Listen. His vulnerability should change her immediately. The final speech is not a motivational speech - it is a wife speaking directly to her husband when he needs her most.

CLEVELAND is standing in front of a mirror. He reaches into his pocket and takes out a container of pills. He tosses a few into his mouth. He doesn't realize that Anne is standing behind him.

ANNE

How many have you taken today?

CLEVELAND looks up startled to see her and replies sarcastically.

CLEVELAND

Hey sweetheart, it's wonderful to see you too.

ANNE

Don't play with me.

She enters the bathroom and picks up the container of pills to inspect it.

ANNE

You had this filled last week and it's almost empty. What is going on baby?

CLEVELAND

I don't know. I asked them to up the dosage, but they wouldn't. I'm doin' everything I can. I swear. One minute I'm perfectly fine and the next minute it's like I'm locked in a dark closet tryin' to claw my way out. That's the anxiety I feel. I can't control it.

ANNE pulls him into her arms and holds him.

ANNE

Listen here black man. You are the best version of yourself right now and I love every once of you. You're a beautiful husband and phenomenal father. And we need you. I need you. So, you and me are gonna do whatever it takes to fix this. We're in it together. You hear me?

CLEVELAND stares at her for a moment and then kisses her.

CLEVELAND

I hear you.

AUDITION REMINDER

Across these three sides, Anne should feel like one complete woman: polished and social when life is easy, practical when the family is in danger, and deeply compassionate when Cleveland finally lets her see what he is carrying. Her strength is not about overpowering people. It is about being present, telling the truth and refusing to abandon the people she loves.

That's Anne. Now show us your version of her.