



**Ringling College  
of Art + Design**

## **THE YELLOW CANARY**

Written & Directed by Andrew Murillo

6 minutes. Character Drama.

Shooting Dates: September 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, 2014

### **SYNOPSIS:**

Andrea finds herself at a crossroad in her life. She's recently had a piece of writing accepted into a prestigious writing blog, which could potentially turn into something more. On the other hand, her clingy mother and extremely wealthy and well-to-do fiancé want her to put her writing on hold and focus more on creating a family and being a more traditional housewife.

Her Grandpa has recently passed away and she finds herself with her mother and fiancé at her Grandma's house. In her mind, and in the minds of those around her, there is only one path. There can only be one and not the other. Cupid, the family's beautiful yellow canary, has also recently passed away. But all may not be as it seems. Andrea will discuss her different paths with her family and loved ones.

What path will Andrea choose? And what really happened to **THE YELLOW CANARY**?

### **CHARACTER BREAKDOWNS:**

ANDREA WAITHINGER, early 20s, is a writer whose only happiness comes from writing and any surrounding aspects. She feels trapped due to her recent engagement to Greg and the fact that he wants her to take a step back from writing and be a more traditional housewife. Andrea thinks she is the next great female American writer. She genuinely loves Greg but loves writing even more.

DONNA WAITHINGER, early 40s, is Andrea's clingy mother. She is a lonely person who thinks talking to her daughter once a day isn't enough. She's the type of mother whose first response to every problem their child might face is, "Well, there's always your old room at my place." She wants Andrea to quit writing and settle down with Greg, partly because Greg would bring money into the family.

GREG CAPTCHA, mid to late 20s, is the well-mannered, well-manicured, and well-dressed fiancé of Andrea. His beliefs stem from a very traditional family in which the man makes the money and the woman makes the food. It's important to understand that these beliefs aren't from a place of anger, but rather a place of nurture. This is all he knows because this is what he grew up around. His mother and father have been married for 34 years.

GRANDMA, early 60s, is Andrea's recently widowed Grandma. She holds a strong resentment towards her recently deceased husband due to the little-known fact that she quit her blossoming career as a writer, at a very young age, to marry and create a family with her husband. The most she's dealt with, in terms of her husband dying, is that she now sleeps in a Twin bed instead of a Queen. She reads books constantly and writes reviews of the books that only she reads.

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