

## Section 1: Television Series Information

### Title:

- Amelia Mae.
- I have chosen this title because the series will go through the ebb and flow of high schoolers as they approach graduation with Amelia Mae at the center of the universe. At least through her own lens, it's hard for her to believe that anyone or anything could ever be in the center but her. She believes she is the main character and everyone else is just there to enhance her own story.

### Genre:

- Dark Comedy/Teen Drama
- This series is meant to be disturbing, heartbreaking, and educational. It will push main themes of mental health struggles, drug abuse, friendships, love, identity, and trauma.

### Synopsis:

- Amelia Mae (Mae for short), the protagonist, is a 17 soon to be 18-year-old girl from present-day London England. On the surface, she has everything she could ever want in life, nice clothes, a big friend group, a perfect boyfriend, the perfect family but none of that matters. She feels deeply dissatisfied with her life and will do and say anything to spark emotion and cause chaos out of pure boredom and selfishness. She acts as if her words and actions do not affect other people because she has isolated herself from others and feels emotionally empty. Amelia Mae however is not a bad person. Growing up, Mae has always struggled with various mental health disorders like anxiety, depression, and BPD, ultimately leading to drug addiction through out her high school years. She comes from a wealthy family that likes to sweep these issues under the rug to uphold their reputation in their small affluent town. This series will focus on Amelia Mae and the people who have the gift of crossing paths with her. Because knowing her really is a gift. She will make you feel so intensely and force you to confront your issues and emotions while simultaneously running farther and farther away from her own. She has captivating and enticing energy. It's her ethereal manic-pixie-dream-girl presence that people become entranced with. Although Amelia Mae is intense and a thrill to be around, her actions are almost always a call for help that falls on deaf ears.

## Section 2: Character Biography

### Character Name:

- Amelia Mae

### Physical:

- Amelia Mae is a 17-year-old, white girl with an average build and height. She is beautiful with disheveled long blonde hair, pale skin, blue eyes, and big lips. Her signature look is a bold red lip and smudged eyeliner and glitter hinting at the manic events that likely occurred the nights before. All other characters in the series change outfits each episode however, Amelie Mae is like a cartoon character that has one outfit that never changes. This is intentional because it emphasizes that she is the main character and everyone else is just living in her world. Having a signature look that never changes also indicates that she feels her life is a mundane loop that she must live out over and over, where she can cause chaos to spice it up.

### Personality:

- Amelia Mae is the oldest of three girls in her family. She is very passionate, stubborn, independent, and has isolated herself from the rest of her family. She is unabashedly herself and speaks her mind. She doesn't bullshit people and can come off as aggressive and unhinged. She has care-free energy that people are drawn to. Everyone is equally scared and entranced by her. She tends to keep personal thoughts and emotions to herself. Even those closest to her like her boyfriend and best friends think she's a mystery.

### Life Experiences:

- **Event 1:** Amelia Mae has struggled with her mental health from as young as she can remember. She honestly can't remember a time where happiness lasted longer than a fleeting second. Being diagnosed with severe depression, anxiety, and BPD in middle school felt like she was dealt a shitty hand in the game of life. Her mentally ill brain finds comfort on planes because she knows that if there's a disaster and the plane goes down, there's nothing she can do but fasten her seatbelt and smile. She also likes to envision the end of the world where a comet comes hurtling down to earth or the temperature becomes too hot for humans to live, wiping everyone out just so she doesn't have FOMO (fear of missing out) about dying. She often says things to her parents like "I didn't ask to be born" when they are upset with her or refuse to acknowledge that she needs help. Her parent's unwillingness to listen and help her only makes the depression and outbursts worse.
- **Event 2:** When Amelia Mae was 16 her younger sister, Elizabeth, was dating a boy in Mae's grade. This boy didn't have his license yet but snuck out at night to pick Elizabeth up in his dad's car. While on their date the two got into a car accident where the boy survived but Elizabeth, unfortunately, passed away. This sent Amelia Mae into a spiral. She resents the boy and does whatever she can to make his life a living hell. Her Mother hoped that this tragic event would bring their family closer together, but it just drove Amelia Mae further from them.

- **Event 3:** Following the passing of her sister and the diagnosis of depression, anxiety, and BPD, Amelia Mae found happiness and excitement in drugs and alcohol. Mae and her friend group are big in the London rave scene and are often taking a wide array of drugs. Her friends take small amounts of drugs on the weekends at raves or parties, but Amelia Mae can't seem to enjoy herself with some enhancements. A turning point for her was her junior year of high school at a back-to-school party. That night she was on top of the world. She felt amazing and was actually having fun. She was the life of the party until she overdosed on a mixture of drugs and alcohol. She laid on the ground pulseless for minutes with what felt like the entire school looking over her body. Her best friend saved her life with Narcan.

**Current Situation:**

- Amelia Mae is finishing up her last year in high school and trying to make the most of it. Even though she overdosed a year ago she's had no plans to get clean. She recognizes that she will never have the chance to be a senior in high school again or have the privilege of being a kid financially supported by her parents with no real responsibilities. She is thinking she wants to take a gap year because she doesn't know who she is or what she wants to do with her life. All she knows is that she needs to get the hell out of London and away from everyone who thinks they know her. In the meantime, she spends her days getting into trouble at school, stealing from stores, sneaking around with her boyfriend, and picking up new useless hobbies.

## Section 3: Character Inspiration

### Character Inspiration 1

- Lucy Ricardo: I Love Lucy
- I chose Lucy Ricardo as character inspiration for Amelia Mae because Lucy is a strong-willed and independent woman. Amelia Mae has always been loud, strong, and independent stemming from coping with the loss of her sister and untreated mental illness. Much like Amelia Mae, Lucy has an infectious personality that people become entranced with. Both characters are witty with their humor and keep everyone in their life on their toes. While Lucy is not as self-destructive as Mae, they are both constantly causing trouble and getting into shenanigans, dragging their friends and family in on their messy fun.

### Character Inspiration 2

- Piper Chapman: Orange Is the New Black
- I choose Piper as my second inspiration for Amelia Mae because they are both privileged white girls who are bored with their lives and get into trouble to spark excitement. They are both very smart, mischievous, and isolated from the ones they love. Piper is isolated from her friends and family when she's in prison and Amelia Mae feels like her life in London is a prison and pushes everyone away. Piper faces many challenges in prison that she has to overcome and as a privileged wealthy white woman, she is technically an outcast in prison. Mae believes she is also an outcast in her small town because they all know her complicated relationship with drugs and traumatic home life but feels no one knows the real her.

### Character Inspiration 3

- Don Draper: Mad Men
- Lastly, I choose Don Draper as inspiration for Amelia Mae because of his charm and internal struggles and how he chooses to cope. Don is constantly running away from his problems and turns to outlets like alcohol and other women. They both act out and escape with self-sabotage. Both characters struggle with their identity and choose to keep their guard up around most people. Mae and Don don't know who they are or who they want to be and operate with a fake-it-till-you-make-it attitude. Don Draper's co-workers make comments about him like "Draper? Who knows anything about that guy?" and "Nobody's ever lifted that rock. He could be Batman for all we know." Much like Don, no one in Amelia Mae's life has fully chipped away at her hard shell. She is a mystery to many. Ultimately, it's Don Draper's charm, escapism/coping mechanisms, and mystery that's inspired, Amelia Mae.

## **Section 4: Filming Techniques and Explanation**

### **Technique 1: Extreme Close Up – 11-15 seconds**

- I choose to do an extreme close-up and, two standard close ups when Amelia Mae is biting her fingernails down to nubs. Amelia Mae obsessively biting her nails highlights her extreme anxiety. I felt an extreme close-up for this shot was fitting because it depicts the intensity of her emotions and makes the viewer also feel anxious. These back-to-back quick close-up shots make the viewer feel like they are invading the personal space of the character. I wanted the audience to feel the anxious, unhinged, and chaotic energy Amelia Mae gives off with these shots. Extreme close-ups often reveal traits and emotions that can otherwise go unnoticed in wider frames.

### **Technique 2: Deliberate Choice of Music – 0-43 seconds**

- I choose the song Wipe Out by The Surfaris to put behind the entirety of my video. I wanted an upbeat and intense instrumental song to go behind the voice-over. This is because it adds to the mood and tone of the chaotic and fast-paced nature of the series. I wanted a song that had distinct beats that I could edit short clips too. I like to edit videos to the beat of a song to have a unique flow and pacing. To me, the song sound like someone is getting into trouble or running away from something, which is exactly what Amelia Mae is doing.

### **Technique 3: Color as a Symbol– 7-9 seconds, 14-18 seconds, and 34-36 seconds**

- In many scenes I have Amelia Mae lit in blue lighting. These scenes include her at a party, texting, and playing with matches. I choose this color because blue represents depression, sadness, and isolation. Amelia Mae is never seen with anyone in the trailer, and she's known to isolate herself psychically and emotionally from the people in her life. Overall, the series has consistent moody lighting because it is about the dramatics of moody teenagers with volatile emotions. Blue is the perfect color to light Amelia Mae in because it contrasts her fiery personality and bold red lipstick and gives insights into her deepest emotions.