



Bonus Ep. - Alena-the-Hustler took Olympic gold when she quit showcases and landed the reps of her wildest dreams! - Transcript

FYI: Timestamps listed here are not correct, but know that all of the content from the interview is here.

15

00:11:56.850 --> 00:12:03.690

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): And so Alena, Thank you so much for doing this and having this conversation, and my intention with this conversation is that anyone listening.

16

00:12:04.080 --> 00:12:11.790

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Just who is thinking about representation or has wrestled with getting representation in the past, because we know it's kind of a thankless search, at times, it can be.

17

00:12:12.930 --> 00:12:22.440

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): can see a different way or different approach, or some possibility in your story, and I just really appreciate you volunteering, to be a part of sharing your journey with us, so thank you and.

18

00:12:22.770 --> 00:12:23.730

Alena Acker: happy to do it.

19

00:12:23.850 --> 00:12:25.740

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): yay Okay, thank you, thank you.

20

00:12:26.040 --> 00:12:31.110

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): And i'm going to push hard on some of my questions here, because you got some great results, and so I really want to make sure people can get it okay.

21

00:12:31.800 --> 00:12:44.910

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): So before we get into like how what tell us a little before so we did this together inside of the agent goals program so before you know you'd even heard about agent goals or anything, can you paint a little bit of the picture of.



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00:12:45.270 --> 00:12:52.860

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): what it was like to look for REPS in the past, or what your experience has been like or were you even a word with REPS even on your radar can you share that with us.

23

00:12:53.550 --> 00:13:04.950

Alena Acker: Sure, so I had worked with an agent for about five years and then that kind of ran its course and ended and I had been without representation for another five years after that.

24

00:13:05.730 --> 00:13:13.080

Alena Acker: And I think part of it was like i'm trying to do this on my own and like let me see what I can do you know, without any help.

25

00:13:14.280 --> 00:13:27.390

Alena Acker: and part of that time I spent going to those like sort of meet and greet workshop type situations and I had met some people and gotten some nice feedback, but it just never really lead anywhere and.

26

00:13:27.900 --> 00:13:42.150

Alena Acker: I had gotten to a place in my career, where I felt like I had done just about as much as I could do, on my own like I had booked a ton of non Union TV and was just sort of like I really want to you know take that next step and get.

27

00:13:43.560 --> 00:13:46.410

Alena Acker: move things up, you know, a notch and.

28

00:13:47.790 --> 00:13:48.240

Alena Acker: yeah.



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00:13:48.300 --> 00:13:50.100

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): And that's why we're thinking about this.

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00:13:50.220 --> 00:13:56.100

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): I love what you're saying about this like i'd started to do it on my own like you were getting work on your own and there comes a point where I think.

31

00:13:56.490 --> 00:14:06.630

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): I think a lot of actors can relate to where you get just frustrated like i'm getting work on my own someone else should be on this journey at this point like I am at the top of what I can do by my own and.

32

00:14:07.020 --> 00:14:16.080

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): by myself and one of the things that I often talk to actors who don't have representation and they can it's such a slog to try to even get an audition.

33

00:14:16.440 --> 00:14:24.690

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): That they see their friends getting because they have representation and their friend might not even be as good of an actor, or whatever right but they're getting the audition because the REPS are just able to open the door and so.

34

00:14:25.140 --> 00:14:28.050

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): One of the things that I like to just at least say to everyone is like.

35

00:14:29.010 --> 00:14:36.570

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): be kind to yourself if you don't have REPS and you're trying to get the auditions on your own, because if you're right, it is a higher mountain for you to climb.



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36

00:14:36.780 --> 00:14:41.490

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): And we all just know that there are certain auditions you're just not going to get without representation so.

37

00:14:41.730 --> 00:14:51.000

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): To just kind of be really have a lot of self compassion when you're in that position, and if you're thinking about wraps hopefully some of what we talked about today will help eliminate eliminate that in a new way okay so.

38

00:14:51.420 --> 00:15:01.920

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): you're doing the pay to pay showcasing your meetings and people there, and you know what you said about that, so you would i'm sure you would go in there and do some great work, but you said you weren't hearing back with can you paint a little bit more of that story for us.

39

00:15:02.640 --> 00:15:14.550

Alena Acker: yeah I just you know, and I think part of that you know I take responsibility for was that I wasn't really like reaching out again or following up so that was something I hadn't given as much thought to.

40

00:15:15.870 --> 00:15:26.730

Alena Acker: And just yeah it was like I kind of didn't know what to do next, you know, I would like go and do the showcase and then just kind of didn't hear from anyone and was like Okay, I guess we'll do another one or.

41

00:15:27.180 --> 00:15:34.020

Alena Acker: You know focus more on my casting director contacts and try to get more stuff going that way so.



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00:15:34.320 --> 00:15:42.120

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): yeah and I think also and I don't know if this relates to a layman, but I think that sometimes doing the showcase at least lets us put relief in that feeling of.

43

00:15:42.510 --> 00:15:50.580

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Well, I need to do something towards representation so doing the showcase at least less that energy that's inside of me going like this get put somewhere for a while right.

44

00:15:51.000 --> 00:15:57.390

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): and your story is not unique in that their showcases aren't always paying off and that's, not to say that I don't think those people are looking.

45

00:15:58.410 --> 00:16:08.370

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): And it's, not to say that putting the they're not awesome managers and agents, but I think that sometimes doesn't set the actor up quite for the win that we were hoping for oftentimes that they kind of lead, you.

46

00:16:08.370 --> 00:16:09.570

Alena Acker: To actually right.

47

00:16:09.600 --> 00:16:09.960

yeah.

48

00:16:11.010 --> 00:16:11.910

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Okay, so.



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00:16:12.960 --> 00:16:22.620

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): i'm gonna let you share us your results tell us your results and how you ultimately landed your representation, could you walk us through that and i'll is okay, if I interrupt a little bit whenever I feel like.

50

00:16:22.620 --> 00:16:24.030

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Worse right okay.

51

00:16:24.180 --> 00:16:40.410

Alena Acker: yeah go ahead and interrupt so I ended up with six meetings and six offers of representation and I ended up with an awesome manager and an amazing agent so.

52

00:16:40.560 --> 00:16:43.230

Alena Acker: that's awesome all I could have hoped for, you know.

53

00:16:43.860 --> 00:16:47.280

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): So wait so tell it so first of all, you had to turn five people down.

54

00:16:48.120 --> 00:16:49.920

Alena Acker: For people on sounds like right yeah.

55

00:16:49.950 --> 00:16:55.680

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Tell us about that, because I think a lot of times you don't even picture that that's part of the journey and that can be kind of uncomfortable.



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00:16:55.740 --> 00:17:01.740

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Actually, we have to do that, can you tell us about what that was like for you, maybe it wasn't uncomfortable for you, I would love to just in your words what was that, like.

57

00:17:02.610 --> 00:17:11.970

Alena Acker: Well, I think one of the things that was great about the agent girls program is it helped prepare you for all kinds of different things that could happen and so.

58

00:17:12.270 --> 00:17:20.850

Alena Acker: When it came time to do that my mindset was already in a place where it didn't feel so difficult or so awful to have to do that, and I mean.

59

00:17:21.630 --> 00:17:30.570

Alena Acker: It was like a little sad just because i've met some great people, and I was like I wish I could work with everyone, but that would be super wild so.

60

00:17:31.590 --> 00:17:41.760

Alena Acker: You know just having to say like hey i've decided to go in a different direction, but it was really great meeting with you and I hope that our paths will cross again in the future and.

61

00:17:42.570 --> 00:17:49.560

Alena Acker: You know yeah most of them were like just like great thanks for letting me know you know take care of was good meeting you to.

62

00:17:51.120 --> 00:17:55.710

Alena Acker: Some of them were like a little or whatever was like a little disappointed, but.



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00:17:57.630 --> 00:17:58.740

Alena Acker: You do yeah.

64

00:17:58.920 --> 00:17:59.580

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Yes, kind of.

65

00:18:03.000 --> 00:18:05.040

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Can you tell me a little bit about.

66

00:18:06.330 --> 00:18:11.100

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): For you what helped you decide how did you make your decision, what helped you there.

67

00:18:13.170 --> 00:18:27.600

Alena Acker: um you know again it's built into the program I sound like a commercial or something but it's like really there you know there's a way that you can look at the people that you've met with in terms of how well you vibe with them and.

68

00:18:28.620 --> 00:18:35.340

Alena Acker: Just you know some other aspects of their business and all of that, that you can kind of put together into a.

69

00:18:36.960 --> 00:18:44.070

Alena Acker: An overall view of that particular REP and and how you feel about them and.

70

00:18:44.610 --> 00:18:53.220

Alena Acker: For me it wasn't too hard, because I just had like with the agent that i'm working with now I just had such an amazing meeting like I.



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00:18:53.670 --> 00:19:05.070

Alena Acker: it's that feeling of like when you're falling in love, I mean not like not like that, but it, but it was the feeling of just like I got off that zoom and I was like oh my God like oh wow so.

72

00:19:05.760 --> 00:19:15.270

Alena Acker: I really, really felt like we connected and got each other and to be honest, it was moving to have someone talk about my career in.

73

00:19:15.870 --> 00:19:30.540

Alena Acker: In terms of my wildest dreams coming true and in terms of that being a realistic thing to have happen, and you know meeting with someone who talked about Oh, I could see you on the show I get you on that show and those were the very shows that I had on my list and.

74

00:19:31.860 --> 00:19:47.250

Alena Acker: So it was really you know it had been a long time, I think, since I had talked to an industry professional, who was just like oh yeah like we're going to do great things like this is going to be awesome and so that I pretty much knew right away like I you know, this is my person.

75

00:19:48.420 --> 00:19:52.890

Alena Acker: And then my manager, we also had like a really wonderful conversation.

76

00:19:53.400 --> 00:19:59.970

Alena Acker: And he actually said, like will you freelance with me like starting today and I was like Oh, you know i'm meeting with some other people.



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00:20:00.390 --> 00:20:13.560

Alena Acker: And he was like I really want to submit you for something today like so can we just like it's fine if you sign with someone in two weeks, like there's just something I have you in mind for like right now, and I was like Okay, if you know if you're sure that, like it's okay if.

78

00:20:15.090 --> 00:20:21.000

Alena Acker: If I you know choose to go with someone else leader, then let's do this and then he got me that audition a couple days later, so.

79

00:20:21.570 --> 00:20:25.830

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): elaine that that's such a good Cinderella kind of story in this too that's so great and one of the things that.

80

00:20:26.070 --> 00:20:35.070

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): You kind of breezed by but i'm sure some other actors were like oh my gosh in your meeting you said to them i'm taking other meetings and I can't say with you, even though they offered representation in the room is like such a.

81

00:20:35.340 --> 00:20:46.470

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): moment where some people might not know that that isn't okay thing to say so, I just love the you really gave yourself permission to own to thing i've got so many things I want to make sure that we underline the other thing you said was that.

82

00:20:47.880 --> 00:20:56.790

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): To have someone say back to you what you your dreams of what they would imagine for your career and what a power in a gift that is.



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00:20:57.300 --> 00:21:10.020

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): And one of the things you know i'm interested to hear from you what do you think attracted that those so right people to you through this process, how do you think that you showed up, because this is about how you showed up.

84

00:21:10.350 --> 00:21:13.560

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): That that was who you're attracted to what can you, what can you tell us about that.

85

00:21:15.660 --> 00:21:22.140

Alena Acker: um I think part of it was the internal work that I did through the program so.

86

00:21:23.250 --> 00:21:32.190

Alena Acker: Before starting the program I think I had lost touch with like the Alena who graduated college and was like time to become a star, you know.

87

00:21:32.940 --> 00:21:39.000

Alena Acker: And, and so you get knocked around in the industry, a little bit, and you can get to a place where.

88

00:21:39.510 --> 00:21:46.590

Alena Acker: You know, maybe you have some beliefs in place about who you are and what you can and can't do they're not actually helping you so.

89

00:21:47.100 --> 00:21:57.960

Alena Acker: getting through some of those things and really coming to a place where I could believe again like oh yeah like these awesome shows that I love watching on TV like I would be great in those and I belong in them.



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90

00:21:59.190 --> 00:22:02.400

Alena Acker: And and spending the time to really think about.

91

00:22:03.510 --> 00:22:07.800

Alena Acker: Who I am and where I should be cast and.

92

00:22:08.970 --> 00:22:14.580

Alena Acker: coming up with materials that really showcase me and my best light for the roles that I really perfect for.

93

00:22:15.210 --> 00:22:28.620

Alena Acker: um so so that then when people saw those materials on the other end they could say like Oh, she she knows who she is, I know who she is like you know this is someone that I need to work with.

94

00:22:29.370 --> 00:22:37.170

Alena Acker: And also just practicing those meetings you know that's that's an important part and it's, something that would not have occurred to me before but.

95

00:22:38.400 --> 00:22:42.330

Alena Acker: practicing the meetings like doing a little bit of work beforehand.

96

00:22:43.440 --> 00:22:50.280

Alena Acker: You know, maybe it sounds a little bit whoo whoo but some some visualization and things like that we did so that.



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00:22:51.690 --> 00:23:09.270

Alena Acker: I could show up and really just be me and feel confidence in what I bring to the table, which is so important, you know so to have really a clear sense of like what's so great about me or where do I excel as an actress and.

98

00:23:10.950 --> 00:23:25.020

Alena Acker: You know what can I do that's uniquely mine and and to be able to bring that to the table and just feel really myself and be able to just like show up and be like hey you know i'm a person you're a person let's get to know each other.

99

00:23:26.220 --> 00:23:33.060

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): What I love that you said about this Alena is like someone might be listening to be like well yeah I can just be myself in a meeting, but the truth is.

100

00:23:33.330 --> 00:23:46.500

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): there's so much on the line in that meeting, it is so easy for us to kind of like disappear or go on autopilot or they asked that one question you were just hoping, they would never ask and you suddenly are like.

101

00:23:47.370 --> 00:23:59.070

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): You left the room you're, not even in the room anymore, and so those practice meetings, it sounds like if you at least I see them give actors, a place to ground themselves so that they can whatever happens here i'm going to be in the room i'm not going to leave and.

102

00:23:59.340 --> 00:24:03.660

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): And the other thing that I think that I want to make sure we kind of underlying is.



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00:24:04.110 --> 00:24:11.910

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): You didn't have to puff yourself up when you were talking about what was great about you, it was the honest to goodness authentic truth about what was greatest to you.

104

00:24:12.090 --> 00:24:20.640

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Because I think you know we all dread that question like, how do you see yourself or tell me a little bit about you, or what have you been up to and those questions can be like you just.

105

00:24:21.180 --> 00:24:31.950

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): opened my veins and i'm having to try to talk about myself at the same time, because can't you see nothing good has been happening look at my resume I want more to be happening oh my God, like all that can come forward right and you just see it and that's when.

106

00:24:32.580 --> 00:24:36.060

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): This person who's just met you, for the first time I think doesn't trust you.

107

00:24:36.390 --> 00:24:46.110

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): doesn't feel like you can trust yourself and that's so know who you are just because you're in this dang meeting and it's throwing things off right, and so I just love that you identified how it affected you.

108

00:24:46.440 --> 00:24:59.490

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): To be able to go into those meetings and then I also wanted to draw back, as some of the data that you shared with us is that you had someone offer you representation before you even had a meeting because they loved your can you share what that sounded like or what that looks like.



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00:25:00.210 --> 00:25:10.050

Alena Acker: The you know they wrote back and just said, like wonderful adorable i'd love to REP you across the board, and I was like what.

110

00:25:11.190 --> 00:25:15.270

Alena Acker: Do you know that was not something I had expected like it really.

111

00:25:15.780 --> 00:25:28.800

Alena Acker: It almost felt like to meet like that you know that I responded and said, like could we meet you know, can we talk on the phone or something like i'd love to just get to know you and i'm again, you know meeting with some other people so um.

112

00:25:30.180 --> 00:25:41.430

Alena Acker: yeah so I mean that was, but that was pretty wild to just have someone look at the materials and say like yes i'm sold and i'm like you, you know you don't even want to like talk to me.

113

00:25:43.350 --> 00:25:44.010

Alena Acker: Just like that.

114

00:25:44.490 --> 00:25:48.840

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): You are so right I think it's such a testament Alena to your.

115

00:25:49.500 --> 00:25:52.950

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): The way you showed up in your materials and the way that you showed up in your email.



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00:25:53.070 --> 00:26:00.060

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): For someone to feel like they know you enough to be able to take that bet on someone they've never talked to and i'm not saying that you should definitely go with someone doesn't want to meet with you, I think it's.

117

00:26:00.330 --> 00:26:07.380

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): boring you to meet with them, but I want to make sure that you hear that I think it's such a testament of your well deserved attention that you attracted.

118

00:26:07.770 --> 00:26:15.900

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Through this process, so if you were to point to like one thing that helped you out the most through this the agent goes process, what would you say that that was and why.

119

00:26:17.070 --> 00:26:30.240

Alena Acker: Alright, so I hate picking favorites i'm like such a top three top five girls, so I would love to give you my top three, but if I must give you just one thing I will conform to your strict parameters.

120

00:26:30.810 --> 00:26:38.370

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): You can give top three you can give top three I can look at the top, we can make a list of go okay all right all right, it is a list of cool.

121

00:26:39.300 --> 00:26:53.580

Alena Acker: i'll try to i'll try to keep it brief and concise like I learned to be in a program so um I would say, the first thing is the actor story, because that I don't think anything else would have been possible for me, without that.



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00:26:55.860 --> 00:27:04.110

Alena Acker: And it was a an assignment where when I first saw it, I my immediate thought was how do I get out of doing this, like, I was just like I want to run away.

123

00:27:04.560 --> 00:27:15.540

Alena Acker: I have to hide like and so, then of course I knew, like, I have to do this, obviously, if my you know if all I want to do is like hide under a blanket from this assignment, I know I have to do it and so.

124

00:27:16.500 --> 00:27:29.160

Alena Acker: It was you know it was transformative it was a relief and it really, really helped me for the rest of the program because, basically, what you do is kind of.

125

00:27:29.190 --> 00:27:29.580

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): About.

126

00:27:29.670 --> 00:27:31.710

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): And I also don't want to anybody get too confused in this.

127

00:27:31.710 --> 00:27:37.650

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Price to deep dive here, but before I go into our say I would have been you, if I were in the program to.

128

00:27:37.980 --> 00:27:46.800

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): I would have been like okay i'm going to skip this part because no i've done enough work on myself I don't need to go there and like when I was creating the program I was, I was thinking about like.



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00:27:47.040 --> 00:27:54.720

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): No, but we have to have this is the most important thing, Brian even though you'd be the bad students so like I just love that your willingness to say yes to that.

130

00:27:55.050 --> 00:28:03.840

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): and fighting with your own ability that wants to say no, is, I think such a testament to your to I don't I don't mean to cut you off so i'm gonna let you keep going where you're going now yeah.

131

00:28:04.620 --> 00:28:14.340

Alena Acker: um yeah just that it really it helped me with my mindset involved, you know some inner work that really helped me when things got you know difficult.

132

00:28:14.610 --> 00:28:30.090

Alena Acker: At other points in the program because things are always going to get a little difficult when you're putting yourself out there, you know um it really helped me through that having completed that assignment, so the second thing in my list of three is the Community so.

133

00:28:31.410 --> 00:28:36.060

Alena Acker: I definitely was someone before this program who kind of did things on my own.

134

00:28:37.200 --> 00:28:48.360

Alena Acker: And I don't know if it's just kind of you know, part of our industry or the competition that we sometimes feel we need to like take part in as actors, which we don't but.

135

00:28:49.260 --> 00:28:59.550

Alena Acker: It felt very siloed and I didn't have like you know, a group of other actors who i'd be like Oh, what do you think of this self tape or like this thing happened like what would you do in that situation.



Bonus Ep. - Alena-the-Hustler took Olympic gold when she quit showcases and landed the reps of her wildest dreams! - Transcript

136

00:29:00.120 --> 00:29:10.020

Alena Acker: And in agent goals there's just such a wonderful community of people were whether it's like hey Can someone look at my resume and tell me if you think I should do it this way or that way.

137

00:29:11.070 --> 00:29:16.080

Alena Acker: Or if you're just like i'm having a rough day and I just need someone to tell me it's going to be okay.

138

00:29:16.590 --> 00:29:30.060

Alena Acker: Like there is going to be someone there who will reach out and help you with whatever it is that you need and so it's just you know it was so lovely to have people to rely on like as someone who.

139

00:29:30.810 --> 00:29:38.610

Alena Acker: has had trouble asking for help in the past is really wonderful to be able to ask for help, whenever I needed it and get help and.

140

00:29:38.670 --> 00:29:44.040

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Wait and Alena Can we just please for one second can I please just offer some praise you are like the one of the most.

141

00:29:44.370 --> 00:29:49.020

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): You contribute so much inside of that group to and I and the way you described yourself as.

142

00:29:49.260 --> 00:29:54.780

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): You didn't see yourself as a person who is going to contribute a lot, because you said I kind of see myself as a person is working independently and then.



Bonus Ep. - Alena-the-Hustler took Olympic gold when she quit showcases and landed the reps of her wildest dreams! - Transcript

143

00:29:55.110 --> 00:30:04.320

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): It sounds like part of what the what the Community did for you, was it gave you a role, both as a student and as a contributor, as a person, as a member of the Community and one who gets to share their.

144

00:30:04.530 --> 00:30:10.470

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): In that what I love about, that is, I think, when you become someone who's contributing in a Community that's open in that way right.

145

00:30:10.800 --> 00:30:19.020

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Is your leadership starts to emerge and how you can truly be a leader and I just want to just compliment you and thank you for being so willing to.

146

00:30:19.290 --> 00:30:25.650

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): throw up answers into that group to like say here's what I think right and one of the i'll just here's the secret about the Community.

147

00:30:26.610 --> 00:30:36.480

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): The reason why I engage some of the actors so much inside of that community is because I want your opinions to be okay, so that by the time you get to the space where you're choosing a manager and agent.

148

00:30:36.690 --> 00:30:42.900

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): You feel like having an opinion is enough you don't have to have the right or wrong answer your opinion is what gets to help you.



Bonus Ep. - Alena-the-Hustler took Olympic gold when she quit showcases and landed the reps of her wildest dreams! - Transcript

149

00:30:43.170 --> 00:30:52.380

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): And I think that so often it's like just take what you can get from scraps of the table don't say yes and it's not good or bad is just what you get, and this is all you get this is you're going to just get scraps from the table as an actor as an artist.

150

00:30:52.650 --> 00:31:02.580

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): In this way, you're starting to be able to say oh I don't know the right answer for which resume you should use, but for some reason I like the first one, because xyz like that is what we're trying to get that that.

151

00:31:03.120 --> 00:31:07.350

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): That that kind of cycle inside of US built that our opinions are worthwhile.

152

00:31:07.920 --> 00:31:11.640

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): I remember that I read this once That said, you never have to apologize for your opinions.

153

00:31:11.940 --> 00:31:22.860

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Or that like smart business owners or people that you don't apologize for your opinions, and so I just love that you found that space to take up to take up space so okay to have three i'm scared what's number three.

154

00:31:23.880 --> 00:31:32.910

Alena Acker: And number three is the the unit on unforgettable meetings so just all of the prep for the actual meeting itself, because I think.

155

00:31:33.570 --> 00:31:42.900

Alena Acker: You know, you could do a bunch of work to reach out to REPS and then you get there, and like you said before you kind of freeze or there's a question, but like push.



Bonus Ep. - Alena-the-Hustler took Olympic gold when she quit showcases and landed the reps of her wildest dreams! - Transcript

156

00:31:44.730 --> 00:31:46.500

Alena Acker: The button or something like that so just.

157

00:31:47.850 --> 00:31:54.120

Alena Acker: You know practicing the meetings thinking about some of the questions that might be asked there and just.

158

00:31:55.530 --> 00:32:08.940

Alena Acker: Having you know yeah having that prep so, then you can go in there, and yes, you can be yourself but also you don't feel like I just have to like recite my resume to this person and hope that you know my credits, or what they want to hear right um.

159

00:32:09.510 --> 00:32:13.680

Alena Acker: You know you've already proven yourself, when you get into that meeting to so.

160

00:32:14.100 --> 00:32:20.580

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): yeah and that Atlanta, I would just say that's where I saw you really put some things on the line and put some skin in the game where you were willing to be seen.

161

00:32:21.000 --> 00:32:26.040

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): To by strangers before you got in front of them on a call before you got them on the zoom call your.

162

00:32:26.340 --> 00:32:35.220

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): You were in the email you sent you were in your electronic press kit we knew who you were if we decided to me with you and that's just a testament to how willing, you are to commit.



Bonus Ep. - Alena-the-Hustler took Olympic gold when she quit showcases and landed the reps of her wildest dreams! - Transcript

163

00:32:35.640 --> 00:32:43.590

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): And that can be you know you know you got a 55% open rate, but that means a lot of people have never wrote you anything or didn't ask you for because six people asked for meeting right.

164

00:32:43.740 --> 00:32:54.420

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): So there's people who didn't say anything where you really put yourself out there and I think it's so important that we acknowledge and just clock that that is why this is such a great success for you.

165

00:32:55.770 --> 00:33:03.720

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): I love those three so unforgettable meetings, the Community and the actor story Those are two great yeah you got it we got it we got a triple whammy here people, but this was.

166

00:33:03.750 --> 00:33:09.840

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Great um What did you learn about yourself in this process.

167

00:33:11.730 --> 00:33:18.390

Alena Acker: So much Oh, my goodness, so I learned that I can keep promises to myself, which was a big one.

168

00:33:18.960 --> 00:33:29.730

Alena Acker: i've definitely been like the obliged your type where I do a better job of keeping promises to other people and so part, like, I had the intention through this process that like i'm going to promise myself to like.



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169

00:33:30.270 --> 00:33:36.330

Alena Acker: Finish things along the way, and i'm going to do it and I did so that was really amazing.

170

00:33:36.870 --> 00:33:51.180

Alena Acker: I also learned, you know some I really got real with myself about some things that maybe I could have been doing better in my acting career and not in a way of like Oh, I need to like think about how i'm such a bad person or a bad actor because i'm not doing this like.

171

00:33:51.660 --> 00:33:54.960

Alena Acker: I you know could let go of those types of feelings, but say you know.

172

00:33:55.620 --> 00:34:02.490

Alena Acker: There are, I could I could really be doing a better job with sound on myself tapes so let me invest in some equipment there.

173

00:34:02.820 --> 00:34:09.510

Alena Acker: I could really be doing a better job of staying in touch with my network, so let me make a plan for how i'm going to do that or.

174

00:34:09.930 --> 00:34:13.620

Alena Acker: You know, going to need some new headshots soon, so let me get that in motion.

175

00:34:14.160 --> 00:34:25.890

Alena Acker: um and and that was really helpful, you know to be able to look at what i'm doing very honestly and see what am I doing well and where are there some places where there's room for growth.



Bonus Ep. - Alena-the-Hustler took Olympic gold when she quit showcases and landed the reps of her wildest dreams! - Transcript

176

00:34:26.760 --> 00:34:36.450

Alena Acker: But not in a way that was judgmental of myself just in a way of like okay so um here's some things on my list you know to tackle one, at a time.

177

00:34:37.530 --> 00:34:43.500

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): What I what i'm what i'm hearing and silas elaine and I want other people to tap into this is in the search for REPS.

178

00:34:43.530 --> 00:34:45.570

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): At times, you might feel like you need to be.

179

00:34:46.020 --> 00:34:54.420

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): bulletproof Armor in what the opposite is what you're saying, which is actually in the journey of getting ready for these meetings and doing this process.

180

00:34:54.660 --> 00:35:07.350

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): I saw some places in my career, I could do a little bit better and a rather than pulling away from them say oh I can't look at that right now I just kind of embraced oh that's part of what's maybe next after I finished doing this thing and that I just love the way that it was a.

181

00:35:08.610 --> 00:35:20.400

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): authentic acknowledgement of where you are as opposed to i'm going to hide that and not think about it, because then you would have become delusional in your meetings and you wouldn't have been able to do you wouldn't have been able to show up.

182

00:35:22.170 --> 00:35:24.330

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): And I just i'm curious, I have a question for you so.



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183

00:35:25.290 --> 00:35:32.730

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): i've asked a lot of questions, but have a very specific question for you so inside of the program if you notice, I am a big advocate for this happens on your own timeline.

184

00:35:33.120 --> 00:35:38.190

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Right like i've created the course to happen in a certain timeline but actually I believe that, like if this is a week, you need often.

185

00:35:38.400 --> 00:35:45.840

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Take care of your mental health or take care of yourself and self care because I don't need you to get a bunch of meetings and then suck in your meetings right so that would be the wrong way for this process to go.

186

00:35:46.710 --> 00:35:54.090

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): And i've noticed the how different people's journeys are something where like I can get i'm just into it i'm moving to something like.

187

00:35:54.270 --> 00:36:02.850

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): This is taking me a little more time, I want to go a little bit deeper is there anything about that if there's an actor listening, right now, who might be I don't know uh.

188

00:36:04.080 --> 00:36:12.660

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): You know slapping them on the back for not having their manager agent already or being hard on themselves, that you would want them to hear that you learned through this process in terms of timing.



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189

00:36:14.760 --> 00:36:23.730

Alena Acker: i'm just that it is really helpful to lean into the idea that your timeline is as it's meant to be.

190

00:36:24.420 --> 00:36:32.490

Alena Acker: And so i'm someone who brings a little bit of skepticism to the table, sometimes and so it's like not always easy for me to embrace the like.

191

00:36:32.940 --> 00:36:39.630

Alena Acker: You are exactly where you need to be and, like this is, but it really is a helpful mindset.

192

00:36:40.110 --> 00:36:46.380

Alena Acker: um you know that there's a scarcity mindset helps no one, you know, and this is something that I think.

193

00:36:46.830 --> 00:36:53.880

Alena Acker: we've been conditioned to believe in our society in our industry like in just so many ways, and then so many places in our lives.

194

00:36:54.510 --> 00:37:05.190

Alena Acker: And the truth is that there is enough for everyone and that you know what is yours is coming to you, and there were some things you know that happened, I was all set to send my emails.

195

00:37:06.840 --> 00:37:15.090

Alena Acker: A week earlier than I ended up doing it, and like something stressful happened in my life, and I was like you know what this is the universe telling me like just chill for a second and.



Bonus Ep. - Alena-the-Hustler took Olympic gold when she quit showcases and landed the reps of her wildest dreams! - Transcript

196

00:37:15.900 --> 00:37:24.660

Alena Acker: um you know there were a few other things like that that happened where there it just I was like the timing isn't right, I need to take a step back here, I need to take a moment.

197

00:37:25.110 --> 00:37:48.720

Alena Acker: And I really, really feel like my timeline is unfolding just the way that it needs to, and so I would just say like let go of scarcity mindset let go of thinking that you're too late or that you're behind you know they're there is time and it is worth you know, putting in your time.

198

00:37:50.610 --> 00:37:56.850

Alena Acker: On on a timeline that works for you and you don't need to rush you can't rush personal growth.

199

00:37:58.290 --> 00:38:04.860

Alena Acker: And you'll get there and it just you know, has felt like amazing things have just kept happening so.

200

00:38:05.220 --> 00:38:09.390

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): It makes me so happy, so I want to just I want to ask you something about.

201

00:38:10.470 --> 00:38:14.850

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): The love what you just said, though, I just want to make sure you hear that I love, how you have said that inside of this.



Bonus Ep. - Alena-the-Hustler took Olympic gold when she quit showcases and landed the reps of her wildest dreams! - Transcript

202

00:38:16.080 --> 00:38:23.610

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): You you became more comfortable with the idea that things are happening on the time and that they're supposed to do, I just love that that's one great lesson that you took away from it.

203

00:38:23.880 --> 00:38:32.700

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): The other thing that I wanted to ask you is in your journey, did you, you know inside of agent goals we do like there's a there's an email one and there's some follow up emails did you end up doing follow up emails or what did you.

204

00:38:32.880 --> 00:38:36.390

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Can you just tell us what you do around one and around and around three or how did yours work out.

205

00:38:37.080 --> 00:38:45.030

Alena Acker: yeah I did, almost all of the follow ups, so I did the round one and things were like a little bit quiet.

206

00:38:46.200 --> 00:39:01.920

Alena Acker: yep round one, so I was a little bit little what's happening, but then round two came along and that's what everything super heated up for me and then I did round three with some of the people, but not all of them, and by that time I.

207

00:39:01.920 --> 00:39:03.600

Alena Acker: was like it was ready to.

208

00:39:03.900 --> 00:39:04.860

Alena Acker: make my decision.



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209

00:39:06.660 --> 00:39:09.990

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Great I love that what the reason why I asked that question is a lot of times.

210

00:39:10.290 --> 00:39:15.420

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): You know i'll see actors who really work themselves into a slather and they're breaking a sweat they're going to do their first reach out to managers and agents.

211

00:39:15.600 --> 00:39:20.700

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): And then they don't get any response and they back off and like Okay, maybe i'll look again in six months or a year because that hurt.

212

00:39:20.940 --> 00:39:26.310

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Because I put so much energy into it and nothing happened, and if there's a lesson I can pass on to everyone, it is that.

213

00:39:27.090 --> 00:39:30.360

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): seasonally I just see like sometimes people are.

214

00:39:30.630 --> 00:39:37.890

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Answering people on their first email, and sometimes they're answering them on their third email, and it kind of just happened seasonally there's no rhyme or reason to it.

215

00:39:38.100 --> 00:39:47.340

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): It could be Oh, people are busy with the holidays or what I could try to describe reason to you, but I just choose to make no meaning of it and just say that's just the way it is, which is why I think it's so integral.



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216

00:39:47.790 --> 00:39:59.970

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Necessary that you have a around one and around and around do you have a way to kind of manipulate their plan for that, so I just appreciate you sharing that it wasn't always like wasn't the first one out of the gate that like made it end up being six meetings, but so helpful.

217

00:40:01.140 --> 00:40:06.390

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): So I don't want to keep your friend much more time, but I wanted to ask you this question, there are probably some actors right now.

218

00:40:06.660 --> 00:40:20.820

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): who are listening, who were where you were before agent goals, maybe doing showcases with that healthy dose of skepticism which I just love that you brought throughout the program Actually, I want to just compliment Alena for dancing with your own skepticism inside of.

219

00:40:21.990 --> 00:40:26.640

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Inside of something she just being asked to trust you know, sometimes I talk about like you don't have to believe.

220

00:40:26.880 --> 00:40:32.880

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): That this recipe is going to make a chocolate cake, but I promise you, if you follow the steps, there will be a chocolate cake at the end.

221

00:40:33.180 --> 00:40:36.690

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): And so, sometimes you know that skepticism I think just is one of the ways that we're smart.



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222

00:40:37.110 --> 00:40:41.790

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): I think we sometimes may feel we're being skeptical what's one of the ways that we're using our intelligence, so I just want to honor.

223

00:40:42.030 --> 00:40:46.770

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): How beautifully you navigated that through each step because, like you said you did take.

224

00:40:47.040 --> 00:40:55.110

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Each step so before before I leave you with this question of that person who's out there who might be thinking of themselves the way you were at the beginning, and what would you want them.

225

00:40:55.620 --> 00:41:01.740

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): To hear just like outside of the timing is is is divine it's going to be divine is there anything else you would want them to hear today.

226

00:41:02.970 --> 00:41:12.840

Alena Acker: And I mean, I would just say give it a shot, I was also skeptical at first, in fact, I found out about the program and then decided not to do it and then decided to do it later.

227

00:41:13.650 --> 00:41:29.190

Alena Acker: um and I would just say like this was truly life changing for me, and I do not say that lightly i'm definitely someone who gets disappointed, often because I like buy into the hype about something and i'm like okay it wasn't like life changing but.



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228

00:41:29.580 --> 00:41:46.320

Alena Acker: For me, this really was it just helped me get so clear on myself as an actor on my career and my trajectory and just help me get back to that place where I really could believe in myself and my town.

229

00:41:48.690 --> 00:42:08.460

Alena Acker: And you know yeah I really believe that I that I belong on the shows where I belong, you know and it's just yeah give it a shot, because it it worked amazingly well for me and, if nothing else, you know you will learn so much about yourself and.

230

00:42:09.510 --> 00:42:14.250

Alena Acker: You know, become a better actor and maybe even a better human being.

231

00:42:14.310 --> 00:42:14.670

If.

232

00:42:16.470 --> 00:42:17.970

Alena Acker: You know a lot, you know.

233

00:42:20.040 --> 00:42:25.410

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): that's, the aim of the program that's the secret of the broken needs to make us better citizens of the world, and I believe.

234

00:42:25.680 --> 00:42:30.660

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): That when actors are working, they are making the maximum impact i'm making this the world we want to see, and so that is the whole.



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235

00:42:31.350 --> 00:42:37.830

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): that's the whole name of the game here, so thank you so much for spending, this time with me, Alena I want to thank everyone.

236

00:42:38.220 --> 00:42:42.840

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): for listening and I want to just make sure if you take anything away from this today, it is that.

237

00:42:43.290 --> 00:42:52.320

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): This is possible for you, and that there is the the perfect match I don't like the word perfect match, but there is a ideal manager agent out there for you and that.

238

00:42:52.680 --> 00:43:02.790

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): It is simply about believing into that the right thing is going to happen at the right time that you are enough and then finding a steps to follow to put yourself out there because resistance is going to rise up.

239

00:43:03.030 --> 00:43:09.360

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): that's just part of what it means to be an artist, so thank you so much for spending the time with us today, Alena, we wish you so much success.

240

00:43:09.720 --> 00:43:16.500

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): With your new fabulous representation that anybody wants to follow you on your Instagram or social media is there anything you'd be willing to share with us today.

241

00:43:17.310 --> 00:43:26.880

Alena Acker: Oh yeah I'm @miss_aleneous.



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242

00:43:27.000 --> 00:43:30.150

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Right right, we will make sure we tagged to that in.

243

00:43:30.930 --> 00:43:33.210

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): In the post here in in our in our show notes so.

244

00:43:33.450 --> 00:43:38.010

Rev. Brian Patacca (he/him): Thank you so much, Alena and i'll see you all soon, bye-bye.