

Description: Transcript of four video segments MTV.com has posted from their interview with AK.

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*Fans know that AK often punctuates her interview speech with "and-," "um-," "uh--" "kind of--," and other interjections. The "and"s and "um"s are edited out below, but not the "kind of"s or "whatever"s. They help capture her charm..*

MTV: Anna, just to start out, can you just tell us a little bit about how you got going in the business, where you started out, and how you got to where you are today?

AK: Well, I grew up in Maine, so it was kind of an unlikely place to start. But my parents were really, really cool about kind of supporting what I wanted to do at a really young age. I think I was about 10 when I kind of got the bug, or whatever. And, they would drive me down to New York if there were auditions. And when I was 12, I did this show on Broadway called *High Society*, and so sort of moved to New York for the run of that. And that was kind of how I got started.

MTV: Ok. And *Rocket Science*? Did somebody just spot you and see you and--

AK: Well, actually, I mean I just auditioned for *Rocket Science*. And I did this film called *Camp* before that. I don't know if that was part of the casting director's decision to bring me in for *Rocket Science* or not but *Rocket Science* was just a pretty cut and dry kind of audition situation.

MTV: And I was up at Sundance when *Rocket Science* kind of exploded and everyone loved it and they kept talking about you and-- People love to talk about how fast you talked-- in that movie, I've never seen anything like that before.

AK: Yeah, that was pretty crazy. That was really nerve-wracking and difficult. Everybody would kind of ask me how I learned to do it. And I never really had a clear answer. It was just a matter of kind of just trying it again and again. And you know, spitting it out. And just sweating buckets during every take.

MTV: Yeah, I would think so, because your character needs to be so self-assured.

AK: Yeah--

MTV: She can't say one word inappropriate-- you know, incorrectly. If you stumbled just once--. And plus that was in indie film, so it's not like they had tons of film to burn.

AK: Yeah, and so I would really, really try-- I would really try to-- to get it right. Cause I knew that, you know, we had a tight schedule. And so when I would mess up, the cursing that would follow was really severe, cause I would be so disappointed and mess up. I was just trying so hard to-- kind of, just get it together and power through it.

NEXT PIECE:

MTV: So was Catherine a fan of *Rocket Science*? Or had she even seen it, do you know?

AK: Yeah, Catherine actually saw *Rocket Science* at Sundance. And--

MTV: She was on the jury that year, right?

AK: Yeah, yeah, yeah. She was actually the one who presented the award to the director, Jeff Blitz, at the closing kind of ceremonies, which was really cool.

MTV: That was pretty cool, that she was sitting in the audience, watching it as a juror, and looking at you and going, "Wow, I'd like to use that kid someday."

AK: Yeah.

MTV: And now here you are! So tell us a little bit...Believe it or not, there are some people out there that might not necessarily know who your character is. So tell us-- give us your breakdown.

AK: No, I mean, I always feel like, if you read the books a little while ago, maybe you wouldn't remember my character, so I think that's totally valid. Jessica is just-- she, well she's a friend of Bella's. But she's just human. So-- she is kind of a chatterbox, and really insecure, and she basically is kind of jealous of all the attention that Bella gets. But, I think she likes Bella, but at the same time is kind of-- feels a little threatened. But, you know, kind of wants to keep her, keep her as close as possible.

MTV: So is it safe to say that she's kind of like the character from *Rocket Science*, but with definitely lower self-esteem? Or what other differences do you see between the two?

AK: Oh, I mean, I think they're completely different. I don't think that-- Cause I think that a lot of people, when they think of Jessica just sort of remember her as the witch, let's say. And I don't really think it's as much-- like-- yeah, she's kind of catty, but she's just so kind of pathetic. And just hopelessly insecure, and-- you know-- pretends to be confident, but is just kind of a mess. So it was actually kind of really fun-- to just be a mess and embarrass myself and make situations as awkward and uncomfortable as possible.

MTV: Like what kind of stuff did you do?

AK: Just like I mean, like the first time I see Bella and Mike talking, cause I like Mike in the movie. Just sort of trot over and, you know-- work my-- like weasel my way into the convo, and just make it really, really awkward, because it's so clear that I have this agenda of, like, 'I really like you and please don't talk to him because I like him.' It's just kind of sad.

NEXT PIECE:

MTV: So when we had Melissa in here, the screenwriter, she was saying that in the movie at least, Jessica has been tweaked a bit to be more of a combination between Jessica and Lauren.

AK: Yeah, yeah. I think certainly the cattiness is played up a little bit. And-- but-- and I think that some people actually tend to get Jessica and Lauren confused. But I don't know-- I just kind of felt like she was just so-- like everything about the character to me seemed just really awkward. And-- because she's just clearly not this-- you know-- ten foot tall blonde hot girl, so it's not like she really has the firepower to be the really catty-- you know-- mean girl. So the attempts come off really-- like, just awkward. And they're not really-- they don't really have that venom. Because she's just kind of-- pathetic. And she's just-- she just wants to be liked so much. She's just so desperate.

MTV: So she kind of thinks or wants to kind of be like the Angelina Jolie--...

AK: Yeah, I think that she would love to be like the alpha female and it's just not happening.

MTV: The crush on Edward--

AK: Oh yeah.

MTV: --is in the books a little bit too. So obviously, we know you and Mike have a thing going on throughout the movie too, but tell us about the scenes with Robert and developing your crush. Is that played down a bit or is it still pretty much the same in the movie?

AK: I think it's pretty much the same. You know, it would just basically be-- you know, if he would walk by. It's easy to get kind of googly-eyed at Rob. Because, you know, he's, you know, so "dreamy." And then the one scene-- actually the one scene where we really interact, and-- Angela and I are supposed to be "dazzled" by him-- that was the word in the script-- was really fun. And it was-- I think it was our last-- it was my last night of shooting. And it was kind of hard not to laugh the entire time. Just because to really play up that googly-eyed dazzled thing felt really funny. But--

MTV: What did you guys do to depict it, to manifest it.

AK: Well, Rob kept giving me this look that was his, like, charming smile, but I thought it was his 'I'm about to laugh' smile. Which would make me laugh. And--But it actually kind of ended up working. Because I-- you know, it was essentially uncomfortable laughter. And it really kind of made sense that I would be fighting this-- you know. Like almost like the church giggles, when you're so, like-- shocked, or-- I don't know. It's kind of-- I think it might look kind of cute. I don't know. Like, just that I-- like, the second he speaks to me. It's almost like I get the church giggles. You know.

NEXT PIECE:

MTV: You said you guys did a lot of improv and stuff like that. So what's one thing that maybe you guys added to the book a little bit? --that you're particularly proud of-- maybe something you came up with, or--

AK: Oh, I don't know.

MTV: Something that fans can watch for-- "Ooh, that's Anna...came up with that."

AK: I don't know. Well there is one thing-- it's so small, but-- just this, this line. I-- I don't-- I never know what I'm allowed to say. Just-- Kristen has this line about, you know, eating disorders. And it sort of, like-- cuts to me with a big chunk of food in my mouth. I don't--like-- and it's actually--I don't know why it's so funny, but I think it's really funny. It's just--like--this forkful of grapes or something. I don't know. Maybe it's not funny.

MTV: Like, what does she say? Like, most girls here are like so skinny they look like they have eating disorders and...or something?

AK: No, it's-- See, out of context it doesn't really make sense.

MTV: Oh, ok.

AK: I-- (ecchh)-- I wish I could come up with something better, cause it doesn't really make sense without the whole-- Let me think. Well, I mean, this isn't an intentional added improv, but I think I'm jumping a lot in all the outdoor scenes. Which doesn't-- Which just looks like I'm jumping around. But it's because it's so cold. So if you were there it would make perfect sense that I'm like jumping. But since you can't feel how cold it was that day, it looks like I'm just jumping around, which is really weird.

MTV: So when we see *Twilight* we should look in the background for you just leaping around like you're just so carefree.

AK: Just sort of like bouncing. I don't know-- very bizarre.