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Interview with Min Perples

INTERVIEWED BY LILLY BABINEAU



Pinkblitz Magazine Editor in Chief Lilly Babineau had the opportunity to chat with Nia Peeples. Aside from being a world renowned musical talent, Nia is a brilliant actress seen on many things. Most recently, she plays the role of "Pam Fields" on Pretty Little Liars.

PB: You've been in a variety of different types of television shows. General Hospital, Fame, the Young & the Restless, to Walker, Texas Ranger, Courthouse, Crisis Center and more recently, Pretty Little Liars. Was it a difficult transition to go from playing one part to another?

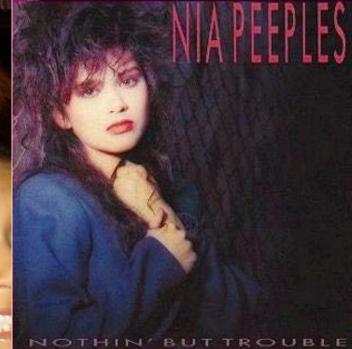
NP: No, that's the fun of it, it takes a lot of work but I've been doing it for 30 years, and spent a lot of time in acting class. It's what we love to do.

PB: You clearly have a passion for singing and acting, is there anything else you feel very passionate about that perhaps your fans don't know about you?

NP: I'm a martial artist. Other than that, it depends on the generation of fans. I'm big into wellness. This business is very image conscious, and people tend to make it impressive to be healthy. People look at you like you have some kind of secret. [In regards to other things I'm passionate about] I don't think there's only one answer, it's in each person. Each person is so unique that every answer is unique.







PB: What has been your favorite role thus far? What makes it stand out to you?

NP: That's a tough question! I'd have to say the most impactful one was the role I had on Fame. I say that because of where I was in my life. You're experiencing things through your character that is really about you. In terms of overall impact, it was Fame. It was set in NYC, and it was like Glee, only edgier.

PB: Let's talk for a bit about Pretty Little Liars. You play Pam Fields, a military wife and mother to Shay's character Emily. Was there anything you found particularly challenging about that role?

NP: There were a few things. One, Pam and Nia are very different. I'm old fashioned but also liberal. Old fashioned in a romantic way. I don't have an issue with the gay community like Pam did. The challenge was to find a truth in there that Pam and Nia shared. I found that, the truth IS that there are things I believe





now that I didn't before. There have been times where I clung to things that I believed in and then stepped back and thought it out. The way Pam felt about Emily's coming out, it was really out of her deep love for her daughter. She really believed it was wrong, a bad influence and not natural. Those feeling came natural to me because of the love of her daughter. The pain she felt to see Emily going in that direction, I could get.

Pam isn't a regular character on the show. My storyline doesn't always make the most sense, but I just need to let it go and not always have the answer. Things come and go and I can't sometimes make sense of it. Why things would happen and Pam wouldn't be there. It's a huge undertaking what they're doing, there's so many recurring characters. So I get it, but it's tough as an actor.

PB: Playing a mom whose daughter is the target to an anonymous psychopath, if you were in a similar situation in real life, would you react the same as Pam did or different?





NP: Differently. I would be much more hands on. I would have moved my daughter out of town, and this really goes against what the PLL fans want to hear. But, if a psycho was after my daughter, yea. Period. I do care about her friends, but her life in danger, yea. Her friendships may not last that long. We like to think all the PLL's will be friends forever, but as a parent it's my job to keep her physically safe first. I would certainly know more about what's going on.

PB: What can we expect to see from you in the next year?

NP: It's been an interesting journey. I'm 52, and I'm at a stage in my life where I feel like I've outgrown the things I'm doing. The challenges aren't there and I feel like I have a lot more to offer up. I've been working to develop my website, I have a 12 part video serious. Guest starring on other shows, looking for interesting roles to keep that alive. Biggest thing is wellness, and the Elements of Life.

