

WAITING FOR A BREAK

(If you can't wait tables you'd better act like you can.)

WGA Registration 1231829

Format:

Reality / 1 hour

Concept:

Aspiring actors compete for a shot at the big time by waiting tables at trendy Los Angeles eateries.

Hosts:

Conor O'Farrell, a successful and highly regarded actor, who once actually got a big break while waiting tables.

Frank Ferro, a former actor turned critically and commercially successful restaurateur.

Waiting for a Break spins the timeless Hollywood cliché on its head when one of these actors actually will get his or her shot at the big time by waiting tables.

Each week, five struggling actors will be selected for the competition. Careful casting will ensure audience appeal and dynamic interaction between competing participants. For three days, they will be observed as they train for their big night. We'll hear their stories, see where they live, and witness first hand the trials, tribulations and frustrations of aspiring actors in Hollywood as they prepare for one big night in which their dreams will be realized beyond their wildest expectations...or are smashed to smithereens.

After their training - meticulously overseen by our hosts - the contestants will be set loose on a chaotic Saturday night in the "featured restaurant of the week" where they will run the gauntlet. Aside from the normal stresses they will face, it will be announced just prior to the shift that one of this night's patrons will be a powerful producer, agent or casting director who will help to pick that night's winner. The catch? They won't know at which table the influential patron will be dining. Throughout the evening the hosts will also covertly concoct devious diversions, debacles and distractions to throw the contestants off their game.

Contestants will be judged on service, personal appeal, tips, coolness under pressure, handling unexpected emergencies and skill at sabotaging fellow players. Simply put...do they have what it takes to make it to the top?

Each week, the winner chosen will qualify for the semi-final round. The eleventh and twelfth weeks will pit these semi-finalists against one another under even greater pressures and obstacles leading to the season finale that will decide the winner. The winning actor will receive agency representation, their SAG card, a free apartment for one year, meetings with five major casting directors and \$50,000 in prize money so that they won't have to wait tables while pursuing their dream. The losers will receive one month's free acting lessons and 250 copies of their *Waiting for a Break* headshots.

With approximately half of America's food dollars being spent dining out and the amazing popularity of restaurant-related reality TV shows such as *Top Chef*, *2 Dudes Catering*, *The Next Iron Chef*, *The Restaurant* and *Hell's Kitchen*, the concept of *Waiting For a Break* will be widely accepted into American pop culture as the first "front of the house" look at the food service industry.

Waiting for a Break takes *Hell's Kitchen* to the dining room with the dreams of a lifetime at stake. If they can take the heat, then maybe they will have what it takes to handle the pressures of a high profile acting career in Hollywood.

*This reality show concept was created and developed in the dining room of a restaurant.