

Painted Fern Productions presents  
A New Queer Canadian Pop/Rock Musical!



# The Girl Next Door

PREMIERING MAY 6-21

Book by Sara Mayfield  
Music & Lyrics by Ava Maria Safai & Sara Mayfield



Painted Fern  
productions



Canada Council  
for the Arts



In association with



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 **Ava Music**  
& Art Centre Ltd.

# Painted Fern Productions Presents

## The Girl Next Door

May 6 -21, 2022

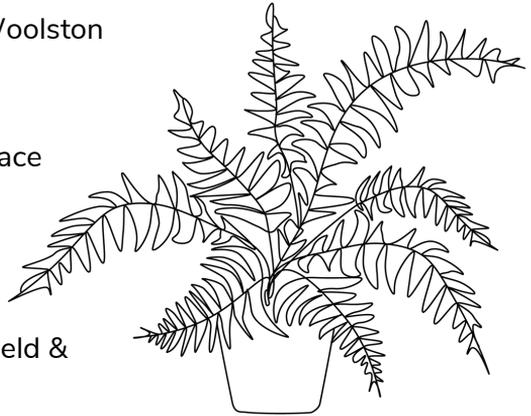
Book by SARA MAYFIELD      Music & Lyrics by AVA MARIA SAFAI & SARA MAYFIELD

Director/Co-Producer: Sara Mayfield  
Music Supervisor/Sound Designer: Ava Maria Safai  
Musical Director: Sean Bayntun  
Co-Producer: Emily Matchette  
Stage Manager: Maiyah Johnson  
Technical Director/Lighting Designer: Adrien Hodgson

**Content Warning:** mentions of homophobia, queer slurs, non-supportive parents, alcohol, drugs, gaslighting, partial nudity, & toxic relationships.

## Show Production

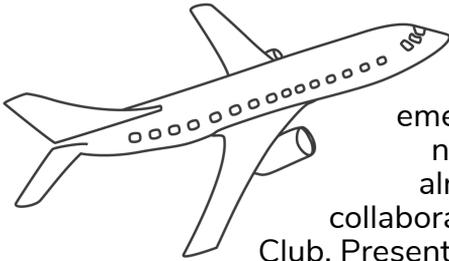
Assistant Stage Manager: Isabella Woolston  
Stage Runner: Vicki Santos  
Carpentry: Adrien Hodgson  
Red Gate Review TD: Chantele Fry  
Red Gate Review Tech: Alistair Wallace  
Set Design: Sara Mayfield  
Costume Design: Sara Mayfield  
Official Patch Sewer: Vinny Keats  
Props: Sara Mayfield  
Marketing & Publicity: Sara Mayfield  
Sponsorship/Advertising: Sara Mayfield & Emily Matchette  
Social Media: Sara Mayfield & Katrina Teitz  
Music Rehearsal SM: Ava Maria Safai  
Rehearsal Pianist: Sean Bayntun  
Intimacy Direction: Phay Moores & Principal Intimacy  
Website: Sara Mayfield  
Logo Design: Anna Yurkovitch  
Program Design: Emily Matchette



The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited.

**PLEASE TURN OFF  
YOUR CELLPHONE.**

# About Painted Fern



We are a new theatre company in Vancouver dedicated to promoting emerging and marginalized talent through new work. Our high quality shows have already led to two sold out Cabarets and collaborations with professionals from the Arts Club, Presentation House Theatre, and Geekenders. Painted Fern Productions' aim is to engage their audience with quality musical theatre, new perspectives, and a great time!

## Special Thanks

The Lindbjerg Academy ~ Rehearsal Space  
Ava Music & Art Centre Ltd. ~ Audition Space  
Red Gate Review Stage ~ Hosting  
Canada Arts Council ~ Funding  
City of Vancouver ~ Bus Shelter Advertising  
Royal Canadian Theatre Company ~ Door Rental  
Beverly Field, Elliot Banner at The Kay Meek Arts Centre, & Theatre  
West Van ~ Trellis Wood Donations  
Fairlith Harvey & Kathy Duborg ~ Dramaturgy  
All performers (Kailley Roesler, Colton Avery Fyfe, Miki Brodtkin, Ross Foster, Emily Matchette, Katrina Teitz, Drew Ogle, Chelsea MacEwan, Blake Sartin, Mariela Shuley, Skye Harding, Ashley Pater, Cole Smuland, Sarah Cantuba, Jenaya Barker, Jeremy Truong, and Syd Castle) and crew (Sarah Prato, Adrien Hodgson, and Alistair Cook) involved in our many read throughs and workshops!

Painted Fern Productions humbly acknowledges the land on which we have the privilege to live and work on is the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm (Musqueam), Sk̓w̓x̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and Sel̓ílw̓itlh (Tseil-Waututh) nations.

## RESOURCES





## Writer's Message

This musical started four years ago while on contract, and here it finally sees the light of day in my hometown of Vancouver, BC. Through workshops, table reads, the decision to do a draft 1.1 rather than 2 (because no one should know the real number of drafts you have), and rehearsals, the show and characters have grown into more than I could have imagined. So enjoy the journey through these characters' experiences with each other, how they fit together, and how time changes things. Them being queer is just a bonus.

I would like to thank Ava for jumping on board when all she heard was a song in a coffee shop. The Canada Council for believing in emerging artists and the city of Vancouver for fulfilling my dream of having my name on a bus stop. The entire cast and crew who have brought these words and melodies to life. Everyone who has participated in script reads and workshops. You brought a bit of yourself into this script and thank you for that. My mom and dad, whose love, support and acceptance made me the person I am today. I am thankful to live and work on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Selilwiltulh (Tsilil-Waututh) nations. And all the Queer artists and ground breakers who have fought and continue to fight when all they should have to do is exist. #SayGay

Everybody's gotta start somewhere so get started.

## Composer-Lyricist's Message



In December 2019, I went for coffee with a young writer named Sara Mayfield, who was seeking a composer-lyricist to collaborate with on a new musical. Nearly 30 original songs, 200 something pages of sheet music and thousands of 3 AM demos later, it's exciting to see *The Girl Next Door* finally come to fruition.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Sara for trusting me with her story and for the many hours we spent over Zoom, in workshops, having dinner, singing, writing grants, watching auditions and debating on whether or not we should change an "and" to a "but." To the Canada Council and City of Vancouver for their belief in my music, this work and emerging artists (and yes, seeing my name on a bus stop was a literal dream come true). The cast, crew, dramaturgs, workshop participants, venue managers, and of course, our premiere band led by Sean Bayntun, all of whom have played a massive role in bringing my vision for the show's music, lyrics and soundscape to life. My family, friends, teachers, partner and yorkshire terrier, who have shown me undying support despite an all-nighter too many spent with Logic Pro instead of them. A few more shout-outs to our audiences, the Red Gate Revue Stage and all the mezzos of the world, without whom none of this would have been possible.

Most importantly, I would like to recognize and send my love to all Queer and underrepresented artists, whose voices I sincerely hope to amplify with music. There is much work left to be done!

# A Timeline for the creation of "The Girl Next Door" ...

The Girl Next Door started in the summer of 2018. Sara first wrote the song "Star-Crossed Lovers" while working in Rossland for the summer. The story then progressed to plot points written on cue cards arranged and rearranged on the floor. As the writing progressed over the next year, she approached Ava Maria Safai in December of 2019.

Little did they know what the world had in store. They initially intended to do this project in the Vancouver Fringe Festival September of 2020, but the show was postponed... for obvious reasons.

- May 2, 2021 ~ First Workshop
- July 11, 2021 ~ Cabaret Fundraiser
- September 10, 2021 ~ Canada Council Grant Approved!
- September 25-27, 2021 ~ 3 Day Workshop
- December 15, 2021 ~ Holiday Cabaret Fundraiser
- March 7, 2022 ~ Rehearsals Began for the Premiere
- March 21-26, 2022 ~ Cast Album Recorded
- March 6, 2022 ~ Cast Album Released and OPENING NIGHT!

## ORIGINAL CAST RECORDING AVAILABLE NOW!

- [STREAM OR DOWNLOAD ONLINE](#)
- [BUY A LIMITED EDITION CD IN OUR LOBBY](#)



Producer/Mix Engineer  
AVA MARIA SAFAI



Mastering Engineer  
MATTY HARRIS

## The Girl Next Door

Book by  
SARA MAYFIELD

Music & Lyrics by  
AVA MARIA SAFAI & SARA MAYFIELD

Featuring Bonus Tracks: "Stationary (Cut Song)," "Star-Crossed Lovers (Sara's Version)" and "Ice Cream & Vodka (Ava's Version)"

# The Girl Next Door Cast & Band

Katrina Teitz	Violet	Sean Bayntun	Keys
Jenaya Barker	Jade	Mark Richardson	Guitar
Cole Smuland	Greyson	Tahnee Juryn	Bass
Meesh QX	Ash	Chris Pallot	Drums
Vinny Keats	Greyson	Standby	
Emily Matchette	Violet/Jade/Ash	Swing	

## Musical Numbers

### ACT ONE

Overture	Band
Moving Up	Violet, Greyson
Perfect	Violet, Greyson
Generic College Music	Ash
Out of My Mind	Jade, Violet
Generic Closing Music	Ash
You Again	Jade
Away	Jade, Violet
Expectations	Greyson
Generic Quad Music	Ash
I Care	Violet
In Too Deep	Jade, Violet, Greyson

### ACT TWO

Entr'acte	Band
Perfect (Reprise)	Greyson
Star-Crossed Lovers	Jade, Violet
Ice Cream & Vodka	Violet
Dreams Don't Stay The Same	Jade
Brunch with Mom	Violet
Moving On (Reprise)	Violet, Greyson
Generic Transition Music	Ash
Star-Crossed Lovers (Reprise)	Jade
Generic Background Music	Ash
Saying Goodbye	Jade, Violet, Greyson, Ash
6 Out of Our Minds (Curtain Call)	All

# The Team



JENAYA BARKER (she/her)

Jade

Jenaya Barker (she/her) is a Vancouver based musician, songwriter, actor, lipstick enthusiast, and graduate of the Capilano University Musical Theatre program. This story of love, compassion, and identity sits close to her heart; she is so grateful to bring the premiere of this musical and character to life, and extends an incredible amount of gratitude to the wonderful creative team. She is enthralled with stories of make-believe, and can be found wherever there are fairytales to be told. Stay humble, stay hydrated. Credits include: Nonsense (First Impressions Theatre), American Idiot (URP, Ovation Award Nominee), 9-5 (CapU Theatre) and The Drowsy Chaperone (Theatre Under the Stars), as well as three self written/self produced albums out on all streaming platforms.

SEAN BAYNTUN (he/him)

Musical Director/Keys

A descendent of Ukrainian, Austrian, and British immigrants, Sean grew up, and currently resides, on the ancestral and unceded lands of the hən̓q̓əmi̓n̓əm̓ and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples (Burnaby). Having grown up steeped in classical music,



Sean made his orchestral debut at 16 with the White Rock Symphony, and at 18 performed as a soloist with the VSO. He graduated from UBC with a BMus before attending Rice University (Houston) on full scholarship studying with Dr. Jon Kimura Parker. With Dr. Parker's encouragement to explore genres and performance beyond classical piano, Sean played Otto in Design for Living and music directed Bat Boy: the Musical. Returning to Vancouver in 2006, Sean joined a pop/rock band as a keyboardist/writer and began freelancing as a session and performance musician (including a tour with the Canadian Tenors). He currently is an active member of Leisure Club and DAñSE. In 2009, he music directed Songs for a New World (Not Another Musical Co-op), and the following year was the MD for PSP's production of Bat Boy. As an MD, his many nominations and awards include The Wild Party (Pint-Size Tall), The Light in the Piazza and Herringbone (PSP). Music is expression and expression is for everyone.



ADRIEN HODGSON (he/him)

Technical Director/Lighting Design

Adrien is a North Vancouver based Theatre Technician and graduate from Capilano University's Technical Theatre program. Since graduating in 2018, he has worked for many companies such as URP, the Museum Of Anthropology at UBC, and BC Bike Race, and is currently an in-house technician at the Kay Meek Arts Centre and Presentation House Theatre. Adrien has been a part of Painted Fern Productions since its inception in 2019. While working on The Girl Next Door is his first time working as Technical Director, he jumped at the chance of filling other roles as well, such as Lighting Design.

Adrien is incredibly excited to help bring the original queer musical to life and to share it with all of you. He is deeply thankful to the rest of the team for trusting him with the role of Technical Director and has thoroughly enjoyed developing his skills further.

KODAK PORTA 400



KODAK PORTA 400





Photos by: Rachel Spencer

# The Team

MAIYAH JOHNSON (she/her)  
Stage Manager

Maiyah Johnson (she/her) is a local stage manager from Burnaby, BC- the traditional, ancestral and unceded land of the hə́h ǵ əmiḥ ərn and Skwxwú7mesh speaking peoples. She graduated with a diploma in Stagecraft & Event Technology from Douglas College in 2021, where she focused her studies on the stage

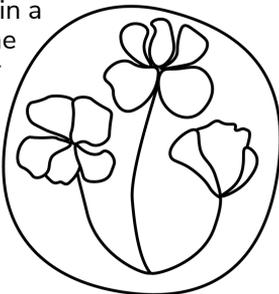


management of theatre productions. On top of SMing, Maiyah also works as a member of the Front of House staff team at Vancouver Civic Theatres. She is thrilled to be working with Painted Fern Productions as the Stage Manager for The Girl Next Door. Past credits include: Zastrozzi (Stage Manager, Douglas College Theatre), Julius Caesar (Stage Manager, Douglas College Theatre) and Macbeth (Assistant Stage Manager, Douglas College Theatre).



TAHNEE JURYN (she/her)  
Bass

Tahnee Juryn is a multi-talented musician, vocalist, vocal coach, and performer residing in the ancestral unceded territory of the Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh, and Musqueam Nations. Growing up in what is referred to as North Vancouver, and now based in the City of Vancouver, she has established, and is continuing to foster, a diverse and exciting career in the local music scene. In 2017, Tahnee graduated with distinction from Capilano University, holding a BA in Jazz Studies as a vocal major. She has performed with acts ranging from jazz trios to jazz choir and big bands. Most notably, she has performed as the singer and keyboardist for the last six years with the Vancouver-based Rush tribute band The Modern Day Warriors. In 2018, she co-formed a pop/rock group as a bassist and singer, Hot Soup, who are releasing their first EP later this year. This is her first time being involved in a musical, and she couldn't ask for a better crew to work with on such a relevant and thoughtful production.



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[www.phrshthreads.com](http://www.phrshthreads.com)

# The Team



**VINNY KEATS (he/him)**

**Greyson Standby/Official Patch Sewer**

Keats is a classically trained actor and vocalist. Most recently he has focused on writing and producing for the screen. He's starred in independent films, as well as appearing in a few National Commercials. He has also entertained live audiences as Charlie in *Eat Your Heart Out*, Sky in *Mamma Mia*, Beast in *Beauty and the Beast* and Iago/Romeo in *Goodnight Desdemona*, *Goodmorning Juliet* to name a few. Vinny is also a gymnast; you may have caught him flipping his way across the stage in Disney's *Newsies*. "Scenery is fine - but human nature is finer." -John Keats

**EMILY MATCHETTE (she/her)**

**Co-Producer/Swing (Violet/Jade/Ash)**

Emily is a queer theatre artist residing on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the kwikwəłəm (Kwikwetlem First Nation) and could not be more excited to be involved as a producer with *Painted Fern*. A graduate of the Musical Theatre program at Capilano University, and the Bachelor of Performing Arts Program at Douglas College, Emily teaches dance and musical theatre at the



Lindbjerg Academy of Performing Arts in Coquitlam to students of all ages.

Select performing credits include: Gertrude McFuzz in *Seussical the Musical* (Align Entertainment - postponed due to COVID), Ensemble in *Mamma Mia* (Arts Club), and Millie Dillmount in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Exit 22).

Choreographer/director credits include: Elf Jr (Lindbjerg Academy), Peter Pan Jr (CTORA), American Idiot (URP - Ovation Nomination for Best Choreography), Cinderella (CTORA), *Draining the Swamp* (Curious Creations), and *Ten Blocks on the Camino Real* (Arbutus Studios).



**SARA MAYFIELD (she/her)**

**Director/Co-Producer/Writer**

Sara Mayfield (She/Her) is a queer French-Canadian artist residing on the unceded territories of the xʷməθkwəyəm (Mysqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) territory. She is a graduate of Capilano University's musical theatre acting program, a podcaster, a playwright, and a classically trained singer. Upon graduating university, she got contracted to perform in the original musical *Skis and Skates* in Rossland BC, playing the lead "Cap" in this show about Canada's first women's hockey tournament. Further professional credits include playing various roles in Shakespeare Canada's touring production of *The Tempest*, as well as previous credits with the Vancouver Opera and UK based dance company, *Sirencrossings*. More recently during lockdown, she began co-producing and acting on *Tabletop Tiddies*, a queer and feminist dungeons and dragons podcast run entirely by marginalised genders, entering it's third season. Related achievements include level 8 RCM Voice, level 3 RCM Piano, not to mention this project! Through working on this musical, Sara acted as Set Designer, Prop Designer, Costume Designer, Co-Social Media Manager, Advertising Coordinator, as well as what is listed above! She is delighted to work on *The Girl Next Door* with Ava Maria Safai, and enjoy the show! [Linktr.ee/mccupcakes](http://Linktr.ee/mccupcakes)

# The Team

CHRIS PALLOT (he/him)  
Drums

Chris Pallot has been playing drums for as long as he can remember; playing jazz, rock, classical, and metal all through high school. He continued his profession through some years at Douglas College studying classical and jazz. Chris is also an active member of the Vancouver Symphonic Metal Band, Ophelia Falling. Despite having some high school experience, this is Chris' first Professional Theatre Production and is very excited to be a part of it.



MEESH QX (they/them)  
Ash

Meesh QX (they/them) is an interdisciplinary artist currently based in Vancouver. Meesh is a graduate of North Island College's Fine Arts Diploma program and has an additional background in health science. As such, they drawing on the perspectives of both disciplines to inform their creativity. Meesh's creative work includes music, acting, visual arts, film and animation. They have enjoyed sharing their work through communities including the Unit/Pitt Society for Art and Critical Awareness, Musical Stage Co., Arts Club Theatres's LEAP Playwriting Festival, Vancouver Queer Film Festival, and the Comox Valley Art Gallery.

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# The Team

MARK RICHARDSON (he/him)  
Guitar



An active guitarist, composer, and music educator, Mark's most recent theatre productions include The Rocky Horror Show (Studio 58), We Will Rock You (Burnsview Secondary School), Rock of Ages (Magee High School), and 9 to 5; the Musical (Exit 22). With almost fifty theatre productions under his belt, personal

favorites include Rock of Ages (Arts Club), Pink Floyd's; The Wall (Livestage), Thoroughly Modern Millie (Theatre Under the Stars), and RENT (FCP). A graduate of the music programs at both Brandon University and the Vancouver Academy of Music, Mark is very active with the Vancouver symphonic metal band Ophelia Falling, continues to write for the indie rock band Drive By Poets, and regularly plays both live and studio sessions in an alarming number of styles. When not performing, Mark can be found teaching at the Mozart School of Music and his home studio in Burnaby



AVA MARIA SAFAI (she/her)

Composer-Lyricist/Music Supervisor/Sound Designer  
Ava Maria Safai (She/Her) is a multidisciplinary artist living on the unceded territories of the x̱w̱məθkʷəy̱əm, Sḵwx̱wú7mesh and səliłwətaʔ Nations. She is an accomplished singer-songwriter with over forty original songs in her published catalogue, the first of which was featured on Lifetime's Dance Moms. She composed

music for projects such as Unmasked, which received its debut at the Cannes Film Festival, and Gruesome Playground Injuries. Her work as a musician has earned her numerous awards, including the City of North Vancouver's Rise Up award and the gold medal for the Vancouver Kiwanis Festival's Provincial Musical Theatre competition in 2021. She is also an active director and actor in the theatre community, her most recent work including the sold-out original production INHUMAN/E with her non-profit The Harlequin Theatre Society and the role of Regan in Promethean Theatre's King Lear. Ava Maria holds her BFA in Acting from UBC and is currently completing her ARCT in multiple disciplines. Composer-lyricist, music producer, and music supervisor are just a few of the hats she has worn throughout the development of this project, which is also her first full-length original musical. Ava Maria couldn't be more excited to share the work she has done with Sara Mayfield on The Girl Next Door with the world! [www.AvaMariaSafai.com](http://www.AvaMariaSafai.com)

COLE SMULAND (he/him)  
Greyson



Cole has a diploma in Musical Theatre from Capilano University. He's spent the last year training in acting for film and television at various studios in Vancouver, and The Girl Next Door marks his return to the stage after the onset of the pandemic. Some of his favourite credits include Crutchie - Newsies (Theatre Under the Stars), for which he received the 2020 Ovation Award for Outstanding Supporting Performance, and Robert Mohr - The Price of Freedom (Arbutus Studio). He loves working on anything original, and he's honoured to have the chance to help bring such an amazing show to life. When he's not acting, Cole can be found assisting theatre classes at Arts Umbrella, expanding his knowledge of Star Wars lore, and avoiding his homework.

# The Team



KATRINA TEITZ (she/her/they)  
Violet

Katrina Teitz is an actor/singer/dancer based in Vancouver, BC. She has been in several shows around town after receiving her Diploma in Musical Theatre from Capilano University (2017). Her favourite credits include Next to Normal (West Moon Theatre), Crybaby the Musical (Awkward Stage Productions), Bare: A Pop Pop Opera (Eternal Theatre Collective). She is an aspiring stunt performer with training in flips, tricks, Wushu and a black belt in Karate. Katrina is a proud cat mama of two and wants to thank her cats, family and friends for their support! Upcoming projects include Kill the Ripper (Geekenders/Affair of Honor Productions) June/July 2022, The Five Vengeances (Affair of Honor) September 2022. You can find her on all socials at @Katrinateitz

ISABELLA WOOLSTON (she/her)  
Assistant Stage Manager

Isabella Woolston (she/her) is a Vancouver based stage manager living on the traditional unceded territory of the Skwxwú7mesh- ulh Temíxw (Squamish), šxʷməθkʷəy̓əməʔt̚ təməxʷ (Musqueam), and səliłwətaʔt̚ təməxʷ (Tsleil-Waututh) First Nations. She is a graduate of Douglas College's Stagecraft and Event Technology program (2022) and will be attending UBC's Theatre Design & Production program in the fall. Past credits include Performance Lab (Assistant Stage Manager, Douglas College), Light the Way (Stage Manager, Douglas College), and Blue Window (Alternate Stage Manager, Douglas College).



## Pre-Show/Intermission Music

Thank you so much to our amazing team members who have allowed us to use their music for pre-show and intermission!

- Ava Maria Safai
- DAñSE - Sean Bayntun
- Jenaya Barker
- Leisure Club - Sean Bayntun
- Ophelia Falling - Mark Richardson & Chris Pallot
- Other PPL - Sean Bayntun

Check out their music here!



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Presents

# SEUSSICAL

THE MUSICAL



JANUARY 27 TO  
FEBRUARY 11. 2023



MICHAEL J FOX THEATRE



# The Girl Next Door Timeline

## 3 Years Ago

OCTOBER

Scene 4: Violet + Jade meet

NOVEMBER

Violet + Jade's first date

DECEMBER

Scene 4: Violet + Jade go Christmas shopping

## 2 Years Ago

FEBRUARY

Scene 4: Violet + Jade's first Valentine's

JULY

Scene 4: Violet + Jade at Pride

AUGUST

Scene 7: Jade moves to London

OCTOBER

Scene 10: Violet sends Jade a care package

NOVEMBER

Scene 13: Violet + Jade's 1 year anniversary

## 1 Year Ago

Violet starts going on dates

## This Year

APRIL

Scene 15: Violet + Greyson meet, Jade moves back to Vancouver

AUGUST

Violet's apartment floods

SEPTEMBER

Scenes 1/2/3: Violet + Greyson move in together

MID-SEPTEMBER

Violet starts her job in gallery

NOVEMBER

Scenes 5/6/8/9/11/12: Violet runs into Jade

NOVEMBER - The Next Day

Scenes 8/9/11/12: The hang-out

NOVEMBER - The Following Day

Scenes 14/16/17