

Transcript for The Who's Dat Phat Girl Podcast - With Brooke Hoover
EPISODE #18- Other Phat Actresses

Hey y'all, I'm Brooke Hoover. A Louisiana native, actor, writer and comedian. I've lost 100 pounds through diet and exercise or shall I say "lifestyle changes". My twenty year and counting health journey has taught me that just like taking a diet pill for weight loss, body positivity doesn't magically happen overnight. I'm working on re-gaining my self esteem and re-kindling my love affair with Cajun and Southern comfort food in a healthier way all the while juggling eating as clean as I can, re-establishing myself in the entertainment industry which, as we know, is historically fat phobic all the while showing my inner phat girl some love - that's phat with a PH - pretty hot and tempting. Let me tell y'all a tale or two.

Oh my God. Do you know who you remind me of?

And, I'm like, "Um...yeah. Kristen Johnson."

And, the person's like "No. No. It's the girl from Third Rock from the Sun."

And, again, I'm like, "Yeah Kristen Johnson. She has a name."

"Yeah, that's her."

So much so I get that all the time that on that Facebook Doppelganger day several years ago where you were supposed to switch out your picture with your Doppelganger, your Celebrity Doppelganger, I put Kristen Johnson up there and a kind of clueless somewhat tactless acquaintance of mine writes, "Oh my gosh, Brooke. That picture of you is so good. This is the best you've ever looked."

And, I wrote back, "Yeah. Cause it's not me. It's Kristen Johnson."

I get it. I get it. I get why I'm compared to her. We're tall and kind of like blondish. We've got this loud deep voice and our cheek to eye ratio is very similar. We're bigger boned if you will. So, I get compared to Kristen Johnson all the time but then "Bridesmaids" Comes out and everyone's a genius. Because, everyone's like, "Oh my God. Do you know who you remind me of? Melissa McCarthy." And, I'm like yeah if I had a nickel for that, then I could produce Bridesmaids 2. Wouldn't that be great. I think I did hear somewhere they were doing Bridesmaids 2.

Then, a casting director compares me to Bridget Everett. Then a plethora of people start comparing me to Amer. Amer. To - what if that was her nickname? Amer? Amy Schumer. AKA Amer Just kidding, Ames. So, So much so that I get compared to Amy Schumer I'm assigned one of her scenes from her show Inside Amy Schumer. I think it was like from season one where I am portraying Amy Schumer. And, I'm just like can I stop getting compared to these women who are sandy-ish colored hair, women

in their 40's who we're all larger. We're all larger. Yes. We're larger than life. But, yes, our bodies are larger.

And, I've even been compared to Chris Farley, God rest his soul when I was at my heaviest and my funniest.

But, it's nothing against any of these actors or celebrities, y'all. I just want people to stop comparing me to someone else. And, it's like am I only getting compared to large people because that's the only way we are seen?

And, I'm getting like this not agida what's the word y'all? This hang-up about it. This um...I can't think of the word right now. I wish I could. This kind of complex. There it is. Ah ha. I'm getting this complex about it like why am I getting compared to Bridget Everett, Amy Schumer, Melissa McCarthy like Kristen Johnson I get. I've gotten that for my whole life. Chris Farley, that's a stretch. But, then I start watching Bridget Everett's show "Somewhere. Someday..." Oh my Gosh. What's the name of the show? HBO Max. I binged it in like three nights. My two best friends Brian and Nick told me to watch it and I watched it like a crazy person. And, then my friend Trudy told me to watch "Life and Beth" which Amy Schumer wrote and acts in and I already know Melissa McCarthy's work and I'm not that much under a rock. I'm already a fan of her. And, I'm thinking oh wow. Bridget Everett? You're awesome. Amy Schumer. You're awesome. I never really gave them enough of a shot, I guess.

And, now I'm like, I want to be compared to them.

I'll take it. I'll more than take it because they're creating their own work. They're doing their thing. They are who they are. And, they don't apologize for being who they are. So, I will get over the fact that I'll never be compared to Penelope Cruz or Julia Roberts or Sofia Vergara. Actually and I want to let y'all know if y'all ever meet a cop in Jersey City named Officer Vergara, do not compare her, do not say, "Oh Officer Vergara like Sofia Vergara." The officer does not like it. Don't ask me how I know this but long story, I know it.

Y'all, it wasn't other people comparing me to these actresses or Chris Farley, actors, that was the problem. It was my perception that was the problem.

Because, the people comparing me perhaps they really just liked these people. I didn't think of it that way. I didn't think of they really like Amy Schumer's work, Amer's work. They really like Bridgett Everett's work. They really like Melissa McCarthy. They're not just comparing us because we're all large. They're not just picking oh you're big let me compare you to another big person I might know.

It's like why didn't I just let myself think: they're comparing you because they like these people and I immediately went to the negative. So, immediately put that complex on myself. I was being complex about being complex. Or being complex

about being complex. Or being complex about being complex. Regardless, I think when people compare you to someone, it's because comparison creates a familiarity and that familiarity creates kind of a unity. I never quite minded when people would compare me to a family member like oh you remind me of my cousin. Cause that means I'm relatable. That means I am like okay she can be any woman USA so we're going to cast her as any woman USA in said film. No. Regardless, I like making connections with people.

I just don't like it when I feel like other people have control over how they perceive me. But you know what? That's something I can't change. Right? That's something that none of us can change. Other people's perceptions about ourselves. It's how we take it in and how we receive it and how we put it back in there. Because, actually, I tend to compare people a lot to other people but usually I'm comparing people with people who I know not necessarily with celebrities. I tend to ask people for their zodiac sign a lot and sometimes that can offend people. So, just word to the wise, y'all, tread lightly with asking people their zodiac signs. But, I'll even compare people with animals.

And, people who know me know that is the highest compliment you can ever have.

I am obsessed with animalllls. I'm especially obsessed with my animalllls. And, there was this guy in my middle school and high school and his name wath, his name wath. (Singing with lisp like Winthrop from "The Music Man") "Oh the Wells Fargo wagon is a comin' down the street" anyways. His name was Matthew and I had a dog growing up named Matthew. Beautiful black fuzzy Pomeranian Peek a Poo Mix. And, I would always say to Matthew the person, "Matthew I have a dog named Matthew." And, I was genuinely excited. Like I love my dog Matthew.

And, Matthew the person would get ticked off at me and he would be like, "I have a three toed sloth named Brooke" and the way he said it made me think, "Oh he's being mean to me." But the animalllll lover in me thought "Oh Wow. Sloths are pretty cool." And, little did Matthew know sloths would become like the thing several years later.

But, now that I have lost weight and I tend to wear my hair curly more and I've aged a little bit, I now get compared pretty much all the time to Lolita Davidovich and Rebecca Wisocky. Wisocky. That reminds me of sake like some wine. Oh hot sake would be good right about now. Actually no it wouldn't. It's gonna be like 90 degrees tomorrow. Anyways, Lolita Davidovich and Rebecca Wisocky, they both kind of look similar. They probably had the peak of their career in the 90s. I basically right now I think I look like I'm stuck in the 90s. Clearly I am. And, that's okay.

But, the casting director who compared me to Rebecca Wisocky, you could tell like the casting director he didn't really love me that much. He is, was, is, was? Is. an LA based casting director and New York based casting directors tend to prefer me. I guess I'm not the cup of tea or the cup of match or the cup of green juice for many

LA people because when he compares me to Webecca - Webecca Wisocky. Rebecca Wisocky, he's like, "Yeah. Yeah. You know, she was in "Devious Maids". Yeah....her. Yeah. She's had a good career." Kind of like he was almost apologizing. And, I'm thinking, "Hey. You're not comparing me to somebody who's you know a heavier set person. I'll take it as a compliment." And, then again, I kicked my own self in the butt. I mean not in front of anybody but in my own head saying, "Brooke, you are here to speak about being comfortable with your size, being comfortable with your looks, being comfortable with whoever you are, whatever you are, right now in this moment. How dare you take a compliment - when he's kind of giving you a backhanded compliment and you're just taking the compliment because he's not comparing you to somebody who's bigger?"

Regardless, compare me to who you want to compare me to. I mean even if it's Jabba the Hutt. I've been compared to Jabba the Hutt before. Jabba the Hutt. Pretty funny. Even though I'm not a Star Wars - or is it Star Trek. Star Trek. Uh, Jabba the Hutt. Star Wars. I'll take it. Because, again, Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Comparison is the form of connection and it's all about our own perception. I think one day, the goal is that I will just be compared to myself.

Thanks so much for listening, y'all. It is my hope to inspire, uplift and entertain you with this Who's Dat Phat Girl podcast. So, if you're HUNGRY for more, you can book me to speak or perform my solo show that inspired this podcast Phat Girl Costumes written by yours truly and directed by my best bud Brian Lady at your virtual or in person event. Please visit BrookeHoover.com/fluffybuttproductions or email me at contactbrookehoover@gmail.com for more information. And, let's follow each other on instagram - I'm @Br00keH00ver and those O's are not the letter O but they're ZEROS. Not because I want to be a size 0 but because I guess I'm just so clever with my late 90s Yahoo! self

And, if you like this podcast, please give me a five star rating and write a review on Apple Podcasts and, please, most importantly, share with your friends, family and other people you may know who are as phat as we are - that's phat with a PH.

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