

SHE KILLS MONSTERS

TIME PERIOD: mid-1990s

LOCATION/SETTING: Athens Ohio & the imaginary land of New Landia

Short SYNOPSIS: *She Kills Monsters* tells the story of Agnes Evans, a young woman grieving for her deceased sister. The Evans sisters never were especially close, but after Tilly's death Agnes discovers a notebook containing a game scenario created by her sister. She discovers that Tilly was a well-known Dungeons and Dragons player, and that she was passionate about online fantasy gaming. In order to unlock more secrets about her mysterious young sibling, Agnes recruits a "dungeon master" named Chuck to help her understand and grieve Tilly. Chock-full of supermodel elves, dominatrix warrior women, and nasty ogres, *She Kills Monsters* is a surprisingly sweet tale of friendship, loss, and acceptance.

Before you audition for this show, please note:

- There is extensive stage combat throughout the show involving every character. Every character will threaten others or be threatened by a range of weapons including swords, knives, axes, and magical powers. As part of the combat, there may be extensive physical contact between characters. All actors must be able to get up and down from the floor quickly and without assistance.
- There is staged intimacy (hugging and a kiss) between Tilly and Lilith and between Agnes and Miles. There are also discussions about sexuality and the use of derogatory/homophobic language.
- There are conversations in the text about the Lilith and Kaliope wearing revealing clothing.
- There is mild swearing.
- Kelly (the real-world inspiration for Kaliope) has Cerebral Palsy and walks using canes.

If you have concerns or questions about any of the above, please contact the director before you audition for the show.

Agnes Evans: F, 25, Agnes is described as striving to live an absolutely average life. She is of average height, size, and build and grew up in the average town of Athens, Ohio with average parents. Agnes is an early-career English teacher at her and Tilly's former high school. After Tilly's death, Agnes decides to go on a *D&D* adventure in order to feel closer to Tilly, as they never had a close relationship.

Tilly Evans/Tillius the Paladin: F, 16, Agnes's sister who dies in a car crash. Tilly has a love for *D&D* adventures, and anything classified as nerdy or geeky. Through the *D&D* module Agnes plays, it is learned that Tilly was facing her own challenges with her sexuality and bullying while she was still alive. In the game, her girlfriend is Lilith, which is later learned to be based on one of her friends named Lilly (or Elizabeth).

Miles: M, 25, Agnes's boyfriend of five years. Miles and Agnes are in the process of moving in together. Agnes doesn't tell him that she is playing D&D, so he doesn't understand why she isn't spending her time with him. He appears in the game as a shapeshifting "gelatinous blob" one of the three big bosses Agnes must kill to complete her quest.

Orcus/Ronnie: M, ageless/16, Orcus is a recently-retired demon of the underworld that holds onto lost souls or knows where to find them. Ronnie is the real-world high school friend of Tilly who Orcus is based upon.

Vera/Beholder/Evil Gabbi/Gabbi/: F, teens-early 20s, Agnes's best friend and the school's guidance counselor. She is opinionated and direct, (and not a very good school counselor.) She is supportive of Agnes, but is critical of both Miles and D&D. Vera appears in the game as a Beholder, one of the big bosses Agnes must defeat. Evil Gabbi is one of the cheerleader succubi that taunts and attacks the adventurers, and Gabbi is her real-life high school inspiration.

Chuck: M, 16, A member of Tilly's friend group and the Dungeon Master for the game. He helps Agnes throughout the module and introduces her to Tilly's other real life friends.

Lilith Morningstar/Lilly: F, ageless/16, Lilith is a demon queen that resembles a leather-clad dominatrix and is Tilly's girlfriend in the game. She is one of the adventurers. Lilith is based on Tilly's high school friend Lilly.

Kaliope Darkwater/Kelly: F, ageless/16, Kaliope is a beautiful and incredibly strong dark elf. She is one of the adventurers. She is based on Tilly's high school friend Kelly, who is Ronny's sister.

Narrator/Evil Tina/Tina: F, ageless/16, The Narrator lives outside the action of the story and advances the plot. She sounds like Kate Blanchett in *Lord of the Rings*. Evil Tina is one of the cheerleader succubi that taunts and attacks the adventurers, and Tina is her real-life high school inspiration.

Steve: M, 17, In real life he is one of Tilly's classmates. In the game he is a mage that usually is on the receiving end of bosses showing how powerful they are, resulting in his death multiple times over.

Puppeteer 1, 2, 3/Farah: any gender, the puppeteers will be the majority of the monsters in the production including kobolds, bug bears, orcs, stone monsters, liches, and mind flayers. One of the puppeteers will also be Farrah, a fairy who is one of the big bosses the adventurers must defeat. The puppeteer who handles Farrah will be her voice as well.