



Up to expectations

“There is no measurement of time, a year doesn’t count and then years are nothing, being an artist means no counting and calculating, it means growing like a tree that doesn’t hurry its life juices and confidently stand storms of spring without the fear of the possibility summer is not to follow. It does come. But it only comes to the patient who are there like eternity lies before them, quietly, carefree and wide. I live and learn daily, with pain, that I should thank: *Patience* is everything”!

Rainer Maria Rilke, German author, ‘Letters to a young poet’

I still hear it like it happened yesterday: in kindergarten my teacher bent down to look the picture I painted and said it was quite nice, but I could do better for sure. In school the teacher glanced critically over his glasses and pointed out it was fairly good but I could do better than what I had created here. And just today my boss praised me for a job well done but somehow there has to be more than that.

Expectations and living up to them.

Competition and self-realization, success and social acceptance and there is always one person who thinks they can judge what the other is able to and how the skills should be developed to improve.

And then there are people who actually can judge and whose opinion can motivate and doesn’t give you the feeling of being untalented but at least the fact you’re trying isn’t bad. Very friendly!

If Lauren looked into various newspapers lately, she’d hear or read things she knows deep within already. There has to be more to it!

For an artist (and actors belong in that category) talent is their most precious property and at the same time the most difficult to evaluate. Even more: with age experience is gained, life presents situations which can be helpful in acting other characters. The ideal Hollywood-breeding, 14 years old, young, sexy body and the ability to express themselves like a 60-year-old is just an imagination.

Actors have to develop, have to draw conclusions of projects, have to analyze and have to start from scratch with every new job.

If there wouldn’t be this pressure of expectations! Especially if you’ve been noticed by the public in a very positive way. And this situation is definitely the one Lauren finds herself in at the moment.

She can’t be graded ‘newcomer of the year’ anymore. 7 years she made it perfectly clear: she has the power, charisma and stamina to lead and dominate a TV series successfully. She was the head of the game and she passed the ball accurately.



But according to critics, who attested her great talent without hesitating, there has to be more now. Because times when an actor shot one movie, was successful with it and then retired and rested on a cloud of popularity are over, definitely.

The one who doesn't stay on the minds of the entertainment-junkies will be forgotten within a blink of an eye. Talent yes or no. The train is leaving on time and when it's gone, it's gone.

And fans always have expectations, too! After all you didn't decide on an actress with lots of thinking and energy just to wait for the star to rise.

Didn't we offer ourselves as hosts of the orchid, so the beautiful flower could thrive and prosper well? But the jungle is huge.

Expectations! The pressure of them, it isn't a nice feeling. We don't know if Lauren realizes or feels this pressure, but we believe to rate her well enough to say it's on her mind. I'm sure she is aware of what is expected of her.

Until now she seemed ambitious and I can only speculate on how she chooses her roles because I don't know the process and also have no clue what else she's offered.

Who knows, maybe her roles were the best out of a wide range of the same stereotypes, like: we know she's funny and can talk fast, why don't we give her the character of, say, a single mom, for example in New York, who seats guests in a restaurant and raises a teenage girl. Later she could have her own restaurant and of course, there also has to be the guy from the hot dog stand around the corner. And she can do 35 pages of text per day... We hadn't had that before, had we? Yawn, yawn...

I think Lauren herself considers these feelings of insecurity in her head. What comes afterwards? Was there only spring or will there be summer, too? Or did I fast forward summer and the leaves are already falling off the branches and this whole thing is withering?

Rilke reminds to be patient and actually he's right. The thing is: patience is a matter of time and the entertainment industry doesn't have time. Time is money and every minute is precious. Talents are being searched, not built but casted, shoved on a stage and upon falling nobody is there to catch them.

Eternity is so long, just like the ratings have digits after the comma, or just like the cash register rings in a movie theater.



So, what to do? Accept playing characters that basically have no substance but being present? Or hope for offers which pull the juices of life through your bones, which challenge you, which let you prove not only your 'never ending talent'?

If only there wouldn't be a mass of youngsters waiting from behind. All the other actresses who keep their heads above water by doing voice-overs of movies and commercials, read audio books and call their agent once a week to ask if there aren't any interesting offers by now.

Bless the patient, they will be humanly rich but forgotten.

It could happen, let's face it. If 'Birds of America' will find a distributor is still in question. What happened to the NBC deal; apparently called off. And theatre just doesn't seem like an option for Lauren right now.

Well, then we will have to be patient as the orchid host. Make sure our occupant is provided with nutrition, water and sun and if she prospers one day we can say: we also take credit for that. A real comfort: it can blossom more than once!

Translated by Copop, edited by Ed

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