

HOTWIRED in *Suburbia*

Johnson Production Group Press Kit

One-Liner

A widowed mother must help her teenage daughter escape a life of crime after she becomes embroiled in a dangerous scheme to steal luxury cars for her high school teacher.

Synopsis

Emily Wheeler and her best friend Maxine “Max” Song hotwire a Porsche 911 Turbo and take it for a joyride. When they blow through a speed trap, a cop gives chase, forcing them to evade him and abandon the car. Max gets off on the adrenaline rush, but Emily is freaked out by the near miss. She doesn’t even have her driver’s license yet because her mom is paranoid she’ll die in a crash just like her racecar driver father.

At home, Emily is restoring her dad’s vintage car, something dad always promised her they would do together. But it’s a slow process, as her barista job doesn’t provide enough money for the parts she needs.

Shop is the only course at school that Emily actually likes, although she doesn’t get along all that well with her teacher, Lincoln Curnow, who resents the fact that she’s a better mechanic than him. Emily has a crush on Dylan Felt, a longhaired rebel who recently got out of juvie for auto theft. When Curnow leaves the room, they have a competition to see who can hotwire a car the fastest. Emily wins and a classmate captures the whole thing on video. Dylan congratulates her and sparks fly between them.

After school, Emily gets Max to drive her to an auto repair garage looking for parts for her dad’s car. Emily finds a part she needs and sees that the VIN number has been removed, indicating the part was stolen. She realizes Nestor’s garage must be a chop shop. This sounds like a golden opportunity to Max, who suggests they go back and make a deal with him to bring him stolen cars. Emily isn’t so sure, but Max argues what’s the worst that can happen? We’re underage; if they catch us, we’ll just have to spend a bit of time in juvie like Dylan – big deal. After proving Emily’s hotwiring skills to Nestor, Emily and Max embark on their new venture. The money starts flowing in as Max buys clothes and Emily buys car parts. At the same time, Emily and Dylan grow closer, and the two start dating but he warns her to get out of the car theft game as it will ruin her life.

When shop teacher Curnow, discovers their secret, he wants in and to kick it up to a new level. He introduces them to a car theft tactic called the “relay station attack” that uses radio-frequency identification to bypass the security system in new cars. The girls start using this method to steal the latest luxury rides, taking turns wearing disguises so that they can get close to their marks without being identified. Emily is nervous, but this is right up Max’s alley, Soon the girls are pulling in twice as much money as they were before... but Curnow takes the lion’s share of the profit for himself.

One morning, the police pull Dylan out of class as they are investigating a sophisticated stolen car ring in the area. That's using high school girls as decoys, and she thinks former thief Dylan might know something about it. Dylan feigns ignorance but reiterates to the girls that they need to get out before it's too late, and this time Emily is forced to agree.

Meanwhile as Emily's mom, Gail starts investigating for herself, Curnow captures her and plans to kill both her and the girls to cover his tracks.

A police roadblock forces Emily and Max to abandon their last stolen Lamborghini but Nestor isn't so lucky and is taken into custody. Emily and Max sneak through a suburban neighborhood on foot, evading the searching police. Just as they are about to be caught, Dylan shows up and creates a distraction that gives Emily and Max time to hotwire Tally's police car and escape.

Curnow sees a news report about the police chase, and recognizes the now-impounded Lamborghini. Gail manages to get to a phone and call Emily, urging her to tell the police everything. But Curnow gets the drop on her and ends the call.

Emily and Max race back to Curnow's farm just in time to see him and Gail leaving in Curnow's car. In an echo of the opening scene, Emily and Max pretend to be cops, turning on their stolen police cruiser's lights and siren to get him to pull over. The deception works, and Curnow stops at the side of the road, warning Gail that if she gives him away, she'll die. He quickly realizes it's Emily and Max, and pulls a gun to deal with them, but before he can, Gail manages to disarm him. Brandishing the gun, she tells him to leave her family alone. Curnow tries to flee the scene, but Detective Tally arrives and arrests him.

Three months later, Emily and Gail put the finishing touches on her dad's car. We learn that Emily and Max were able to make a deal with the police in exchange for testifying against Curnow and Nestor, who are now both doing time. Emily and Dylan are still dating, and Emily wants to take him for a spin in her car now that she finally has her license. Gail warns her daughter to take it slow, but Emily's got too much of her dad in her. She puts the pedal to the metal and peels out.

Producers

Executive Producer
TIMOTHY O. JOHNSON

Executive Producer
ANDREW C. ERIN

Producer
HAYDEN BAPTISTE

Key Cast

<u>CHARACTER</u>	<u>ACTOR</u>
Emily	ZOË BELKIN
Max	SAMANTHA HELT
Curnow	TYLER HYNES
Gail	TANYA CLARKE
Dylan	JAKE MANLEY

Key Cast Biographies

ZOË BELKIN



Zoë Belkin (born May 3, 1993 in Toronto, Ontario) is a Canadian actress . She is best known for her role as the reporter Rebecca Harper in the Canadian teen comer teen buzz TV series *The Latest Buzz* (2007) . This was followed by guest appearances in *Flashpoint* (2008) , *Rookie Blue* (2010) and *Breakout Kings* (2011). During Zoë Belkin's first two years at Toronto's Forest Hill Collegiate Institute, she was also in the series *The Latest Buzz* (2007). Often away from classes for up to five weeks at a time, she worked with a tutor between takes. She credits her high school drama teacher for helping her juggle her passion for acting and her studies. After graduating high school she flew to Winnipeg to shoot the movie *Perfect Sisters* (2014) then completed her education at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario.

SAMANTHA HELT



Samantha Helt is an actress, known for *Life in a Year* (2018), *Hotwired in Suburbia* (2019) and *Boys vs. Girls*.

TYLER HYNES



Tyler Hynes was born on May 6, 1986 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. He is an actor and director, known for *UnREAL* (2015), *The Girlfriend Experience* (2016) and *Flatliners* (2017). Tyler is also a musician.

TANYA CLARKE



Tanya Clarke was born in Chicago, Illinois and was raised in Ottawa, Canada. She spent many years in New York City performing on Broadway, Off-Broadway and regional stages.

Her film credits include 'A Beautiful Mind', 'Tenderness', 'Repo Men', 'Driver X' & 'Blackbird'. She received a Best Actress Nomination (Method Fest Independent Film Festival) for her performance in 'Delivery Method'.

Her television roles include the character of Emily Lotus on HBO's 'Banshee'. Other: 'Grey's Anatomy', 'American Horror Story', 'Glee', 'Hawaii Five-0', 'CSI Miami' & 'Supernatural'.

She made her Broadway debut in 'I'm Not Rappaport' opposite Judd Hirsch & Ben Vereen, directed by Daniel Sullivan.

JAKE MANLEY



Jake Manley is an actor and producer, known for Love, Rosie (2014), Heroes Reborn (2015) and American Gods (2017).

Production Credits

Full Cast

Actors	Role
Tyler Hynes	Curnow
Tanya Clarke	Gail
Jake Manley	Dylan
Zoë Belkin	Emily
Samantha Helt	Max
Michael Dickson	Male Detective
Cory Lee	Detective Torres
Rj Copan	Staxx
Eddie G.	Nestor
Stephane Garneau-Monten	Maitre D'

Produced by

TIMOTHY O. JOHNSON	executive producer
ANDREW C. ERIN	executive producer
HAYDEN BAPTISTE	producer

Directed by

JASON BOURQUE

Written by

PAUL A. BIRKETT

Director of Photography

JONATHAN KISCHEL

Film Editing by

JASON NIELSEN

Casting By

RON LEACH C.D.C.

Production Design by

MEGAN TOOMPUU

Costume Designer

SARAH CARROLL

Producer Biographies

TIM JOHNSON – Executive Producer

Tim Johnson is among the most active and reliable producers in the business thanks to top rate productions and an 'on time, on budget' reputation. Previously, he managed the production of ABC's THE DAYS (MINDSHARE/TOUCHTONE.) Prior to forming Johnson Production Group and Ignite Entertainment, Tim served as Head of West Coast Programming Executive and launched the successful series DOC (88 episodes,) SUE THOMAS, FBI, MYSTERIOUS WAYS, JUST CAUSE, PONDEROSA, CHRISTY, ITS A MIRACLE AND MIRACLE PETS.

Johnson is also responsible for producing the international hit series, DR. QUINN, MEDICINE WOMAN for CBS PRODS/SULLIVAN COMPANY for over 5 seasons. During his 100-episode tenure, he also launched LIVE FROM THE RANCH with Orson Bean - a nationally syndicated talk show focusing on family values in America. He also developed and produced the original docu-drama COLD CASE for CBS network, which was the very first program to integrate television with the Internet.

Recent Projects:

Eat, Play, Love – Executive Producer
Sleepwalking in Suburbia – Executive Producer
The Stalker Club – Executive Producer
Infidelity in Suburbia – Executive Producer
Hunter's Cove – Executive Producer
Double Mommy – Executive Producer
Hearts of Christmas – Executive Producer
The Rooftop Christmas Tree – Executive Producer
A Snow Capped Christmas – Executive Producer
A December Bride – Executive Producer
The Mistletoe Promise – Executive Producer
Stalked by My Mother – Executive Producer
Stalked by My Doctor: The Return – Executive Producer
Backstabbed – Executive Producer
The Convenient Groom – Executive Producer
Killer Coach – Executive Producer
Tulips in Spring – Executive Producer
Hearts of Spring – Executive Producer
Stalked by My Doctor – Executive Producer
Becoming Santa – Executive Producer
Magic Stocking – Executive Producer
Just in Time for Christmas – Executive Producer
A Gift Wrapped Christmas – Executive Producer
A Mother's Instinct – Executive Producer

Ice Sculpture Christmas – Executive Producer
The Reckoning – Executive Producer
Bad Sister – Executive Producer
Family for Christmas – Executive Producer
Double Daddy – Executive Producer
Her Infidelity – Executive Producer
Stalked by My Neighbor – Executive Producer
Babysitter's Black Book – Executive Producer
A Gift of Miracles – Executive Producer
Strange Empire – Executive Producer
Sugar Daddies – Executive Producer
Paper Angels – Executive Producer
A Cookie Cutter Christmas – Executive Producer
Stranded in Paradise For Better or For Worse – Executive Producer
Baby Bootcamp – Executive Producer
Ring By Spring – Executive Producer
Sole Custody – Executive Producer
The Cheating Pact – Executive Producer
Deadly Spa – Executive Producer
Walking the Halls – Executive Producer
June In January – Executive Producer
Christmas in the City – Executive Producer
Snow Bride – Executive Producer
Dirty Teacher – Executive Producer
The Surrogate – Executive Producer
Merry In-Laws – Executive Producer
A Bride for Christmas – Executive Producer
Naughty or Nice – Executive Producer
Christmas Crush – Executive Producer
Teenage Bank Heist – Executive Producer
How to Fall in Love – Executive Producer
Home Invasion – Executive Producer
Final Sale – Executive Producer
Confined – Executive Producer
Tornado Valley – Executive Producer
The Wedding Dance – Executive Producer
Trust – executive producer
Toxic Skies – executive producer
Storm seekers – executive producer
Making Mr. Right – executive producer
Love Sick – executive producer
Just Breathe – executive producer

Devils Diary – executive producer

Swarm – executive producer

JOHNSON PRODUCTION GROUP

The Johnson Production Group contracts globally to produce television and motion picture content for international networks, studios and distributors. Based in Los Angeles and Vancouver, British Columbia, the company manages production, facilitates development and financing, procures distribution and guarantees quality and timely execution of its programs. While costs have gone up, so has the demand for quality. No longer is good enough, good enough. Johnson Production Group serves that segment when a show needs to be "A" quality, but produced efficiently enough to meet a locked budget. JPG specializes in value, protection of creative elements, and delivery of a quality finished product.

ANDREW C. ERIN – Executive Producer

Andrew Erin is a Canadian Writer/Director making a big splash in the US, and has produced, written and directed numerous commercially successful films.

His directorial debut, SAM'S LAKE, was an official selection at the Tribeca Film Festival and did an excellent theatrical run in select theaters around the country; distributed by Lionsgate Films. Andrew also wrote the script for the film.

Andrew's directorial credits include, SIMPLE THINGS, produced for Screen Media Ventures and Universal Studios. Besides winning The Bob Clark Award for Best Director at the California Independent Film Festival, the film was commercially received.

Andrew has worked continuously as a writer/director, building a strong library of films in the Thriller/Horror genres with: Embrace of The Vampire, The Clinic, Final Sale, Confined and Toxic Skies.

His most recent project, HAVENHURST was recently acquired by Lionsgate, set for release 2016. It was written, directed and produced under his own banner, along with Twisted Pictures.

HAYDEN BAPTISTE - Producer

Hayden Baptiste is a Producer and Development Executive with The Mob Entertainment, an LA Based production company with a Canadian office in Ontario. After spending nearly 15 years working as an Associate Producer for The Johnson Production Group and working as an Independent Producer in Toronto and Vancouver, Hayden has evolved into a well rounded producer who understands all aspects of production from development to delivery.

Hayden has produced films for various networks including CBC, Bravo, The Hallmark Network, UP TV and Lifetime Network. His films have been selected for film festivals around the world including the Montreal World Film Festival, Atlantic Film Festival, Screamfest, Catalina Film Festival, National Screen

Institute and Chicago International. In addition to his extensive production experience, Hayden is a screenwriter and composer.

Hayden has studied at the Canadian Screen Training Centre, and completed the summer intensive screenwriting program at UBC.

Selected Credits

2017 Sweetheart (Producer)

2017 Christmas Festival Of Ice (Producer) Hallmark Network

2017 Precious Things (Co-Executive Producer)

2016 Eyewitness (TV Movie) (Co-Executive Producer)

2016 The Rooftop Christmas Tree (TV Movie) (Co-executive Producer) UP TV

2013 Leave Us Alone (Short) (Executive Producer) / (Producer) *Winner Catalina Film Festival

2011 From Darkness (Short) (Executive Producer)

2011 Three Weeks, Three Kids (TV Movie) (Associate Producer) Hallmark Network

2010 Confined (Associate Producer) The Movie Network

2009 Kick Me Down (Producer)

Billing Block

Johnson Production Group Presents "Hotwired In Suburbia"
ZOE BELKIN SAMANTHA HELT TYLER HYNES TANYA CLARKE JAKE MANLEY
Casting by RON LEACH C.D.C. Production Designer MEGAN TOOMPUU
Costume Designer SARAH CARROLL Director of Photography JONATHAN KISCHEL
Editor JASON NIELSEN Producer HAYDEN BAPTISTE
Executive Producers TIMOTHY O. JOHNSON ANDREW C. ERIN
Written by PAUL A. BIRKETT Directed by JASON BOURQUE

With the participation of the Province of British Columbia
Film Incentive BC

The Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit

Canada 

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Meta Data

LONG (max 540 characters) synopsis

High school friends Emily and Max discover how easy it is to make extra cash by hot wiring cars and delivering them to a chop shop. Soon Emily has money for car parts to fix up her vintage car and Max has money for clothes. When their shop teacher discovers what they're up to and shows them how to amp it up to a more sophisticated and profitable level using the 'relay station attack', things get a lot more dangerous. When Emily's boyfriend, Dylan, is questioned by police, the girls decide it's time to get stop...but is it too late? (538)

MEDIUM (max 180) synopsis

High school friends Emily and Max make extra cash by hot wiring cars but when their shop teacher discovers what they're up to and gets involved, things get a lot more dangerous (177)

SHORT (max 54 characters) synopsis

Teen girls hotwire cars and things get deadly (47)

5 KEY WORDS

cars, stealing, teenagers, danger, school