



IMTA ALUM BRIANNA HILDEBRAND IS *PLAYING WITH FIRE*

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Playing with Fire opens nationwide Friday, November 8

“The underlying message of the film is that, whether or not you have a perfect family, which a lot of people don’t, you can always choose to make your own from the people you love in your life.”

— Brianna Hildebrand

In the new family comedy *Playing with Fire*, professional wrestler turned actor John Cena plays Jake, an uptight fire superintendent who must face his hardest task yet — babysitting three kids he and his crew rescued until they can locate their parents. The children are saved from an encroaching wildfire only to discover their parents are nowhere to be found. Cena's straight-laced character then struggles to both take care of the kids and do his job effectively. What results is a series of silly disasters with Cena and his fellow tough-guy firefighters, played by Keegan-Michael Key and John Leguizamo, seemingly developing soft spots for the children amid various slapstick incidents.

Alum Brianna Hildebrand play the oldest of the rescued children, Brynn, alongside scene-stealing Finley Rose Slater as Zoey and Christian Convery as Will. The film also stars Judy Greer and another wrestler turned actor, Tyler Mane.

“When I first read the script, I fell in love with the siblings, and I also fell in love with Jake’s character,” said Hildebrand. “It’s really sweet to see him kind of soften up throughout the film.”

Hildebrand said that her character is definitely unlike anything she has played before. “I think I loved Brynn so much because she’s very wise and mature for her age. For the most part she’s been looking after her siblings for the past two years. I think she’s a special kind of kid that grows up with a lot of responsibility like that.”

“*Playing with Fire* is just a feel-good movie,” Hildebrand added. “It deals with kind of tragic circumstances sometimes, but there’s always a funny joke, a perfectly timed joke, to bring you up right when you need it. The characters kind of support each other in that way too, like when they’re going through things, they’re always there for each other, ready to crack a joke and lift their spirits.”

Hildebrand, who was IMTA LA14’s Most Sought Female Talent as well as Female Commercial Model and Female Junior Actor of the Year, currently stars in Netflix’s “*Trinkets*.” The drama follows three teenage girls who form an unexpected friendship after meeting in *Shoplifters Anonymous*. The second and final season of “*Trinkets*” will be available in 2020.

She recently filmed the Sci-Fi drama *The Time Capsule*, with Todd Grinnell and KaDee Strickland. The plot details for the film have not been released. Also recently completed is the thriller *Runt* which follows a group of neglected and unsupervised high school seniors who are pulled into a downward cycle of violence. Hildebrand stars in the film opposite Cameron Boyce in his final acting role before dying from a seizure in his sleep in July 2019. The film has no scheduled release date.

