

happily ever after on those shows you watch, but those are not shows that represent our community completely. We are the representation. Myself, Claire, Diana, Disarray. We are pillars of the community. Do you understand how important this gig is tonight? The club is going to close. The only thing that can stop that is getting those promoters and sponsors to invest in the club. That's why we were asked to do this gig. We are the best of the best and the community is depending on us. They look to us like lighthouses when times are tough. What words of encouragement can you offer? Can you fuel the fire of revolution? Can you calm the waters of a hurting community? No. How can you? You don't know. You don't try to learn. You only wish to learn things that benefit you. So I guess to answer your question:

*START* No. I don't like you. I don't trust you. You are not ready to be in the spotlight because you do not know what standing in that spotlight means. I refuse to leave the fate of all this to the dreams of a baby queen. We can't. I can't. This place is our home. My home. I refuse to lose another home.

*A song begins to play. LADY OLIVIA MONROE lipsyncs along. Its a song not unlike "I Have Nothing" (Whitney Houston). The lights fade and LADY OLIVIA MONROE stands in a spotlight. She somehow appears now in a gorgeous, sparking evening gown. The kind of gown that takes your breath away. Her performance is moving, tragic, heartbreaking. When the song is completed. We remain in a room of silence. The group is speechless. BRANDI NEUX speaks.*

BRANDI NEUX

I'm sorry. I'm sorry to all of you. I guess I just got too wrapped up in all the excitement that I might be a drag queen that I wasn't really thinking about what an imposition I was being.

CLAIRE VIEW

You're not an imposition.

BRANDI NEUX

Yes, I am.

CLAIRE VIEW

No. I saw how you were living your best life on that dance floor. I knew from that moment that you have it in you to be a great drag queen.

BRANDI NEUX

What I was doing on that dance floor is exactly the type of thing my parents kicked me out for.

(beat)

They cut ties with me a couple months ago so I've been staying with a friend. He introduced me to Drag Race and I just became obsessed. I wanted to be like those people on the show. I wanted to be like the queens I see online. I wanted to feel like I belonged to something - anything. So when you asked me to fill in, it felt like the universe was actually sending some good luck my way for once and that I might have a chance at having a family again. So I know a thing about losing a home.

(beat)

Thank you all for the incredible chance to do this. I'll never forget it.

~~BRANDI NEUX starts to collect her things.~~

END

CLAIRE VIEW

(to LADY OLIVIA MONROE)

Well don't you feel stupid.

LADY OLIVIA MONROE

Wait!

(beat)

The thing about being queer is... being able to... choose your family.

(beat)

Are you absolutely sure this is what you want to do?

BRANDI NEUX

It is.

LADY OLIVIA MONROE

Then... I guess you can stay. But you better put your money where your mouth is. When shit gets real, you're not going to disappear. You're in this through thick and thin. We don't need anymore fairweather queens.

BRANDI NEUX

I promise! Thank you! Okay! This is great! I'm going to make my drag debut tonight!

LADY OLIVIA MONROE

Did you pick a song?