

Lola

AFI CONSERVATORY PRESENTS LOLA STARRING REN HANAMI JOVIE LEIGH EVA NOBLEZADA
MUSIC BY JOHAN MACARAEG EDITED BY JENNA SCHAELLING PRODUCTION DESIGN BY JISOO JEONG
CINEMATOGRAPHY BY SARAH MEGYESY PRODUCED BY ULOAKU ANYIAM-OSIGWE
WRITTEN BY GRACE HANNA DUKE YANG DIRECTED BY GRACE HANNA



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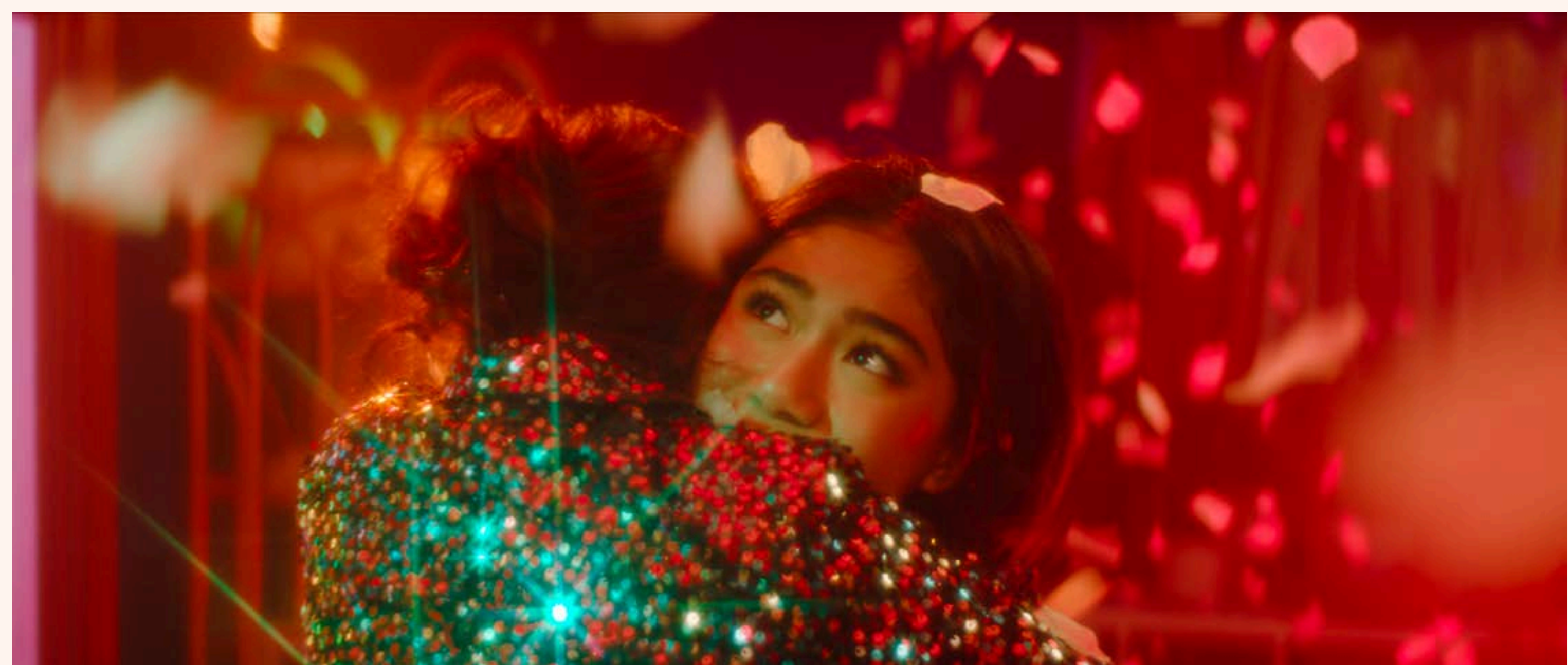
S Y N O P S I S

A thirteen-year-old science prodigy is on a mission to cure her grandmother's dementia by traveling inside her grandma's mind to save one precious memory they have together.

B A C K G R O U N D

Growing up, my grandmother practically raised me. She was a teacher, who taught me how to read and write long before I started school. More importantly, she was a storyteller, and she instilled in me a love of story. When my grandmother first started developing Alzheimer's, it felt like I was living with a ghost of the person I knew. It was an odd limbo, a longing for connection with a lost version of someone I loved.

LOLA captures this feeling: our time on earth is way too short — all we can do is enjoy every moment we have left. The emotional core of the story is believing the loved ones we've lost are still out there — and learning how to let go. I hope this film brings comfort to people who are grieving the slow loss of their loved ones to dementia. I want them to know that their loved ones live on in us, and the stories we tell about them.



DIRECTOR / CO-WRITER

Grace Hanna is a first-generation Filipino-American writer/director from Newark, New Jersey. They have been a director's assistant and shadowed on AQUARIUS (NBC) and CHANCE (Hulu). Grace's next short film, *Halcyon Days*, is a part of Film Independent's Artist Development program. Their thesis film, *Lola*, was featured at UTA / Gold House for Filipino-American History Month. Their work has been shortlisted for competitions at Sundance Sloan, Disney, and Sony. In 2022, Grace was a runner-up for Sony Talent League, and in 2017 was a finalist for Ava DuVernay's A Wrinkle in Time Contest. A graduate of AFI and NYU, they received the Alan J. Pakula and Henry Hathaway awards. Grace loves exploring different genres in their work-- finding beauty in tragedy and magic in the mundane is at the heart of the stories they tell.



CO-WRITER

Derek Manansala is a Filipino-American comedy writer and filmmaker based in LA. He earned a BS in Civil Engineering from Rutgers University and is pursuing his MFA in Film & TV Production at USC's School of Cinematic Arts. Derek completed the improv and sketch writing programs at the Upright Citizens Brigade NY, also training at the Magnet Theater, People's Improv Theater, and Annoyance Brooklyn. Since moving to LA, Derek has trained in clowning at the Elysian Theater, improv at The Groundlings, and sketch at the Pack Theater, where he wrote on house team, "Speakeasy," directed by Jesse Esparza (Mixed-ish, Maggie).



CO-WRITER

Duke Yang is a Hmong American writer based in Los Angeles. Duke began his entertainment career working as a development intern for Blumhouse, Appian Way, and Groundswell. His writing has been showcased at Second City Hollywood and the Upright Citizens Brigade where he was a UCB Diversity scholarship recipient. He is currently a Screenwriting Fellow at the AFI Conservatory. Beyond writing, Duke is a travel junkie, foodie, and sports enthusiast.





C A S T

REN HANAMI (top left)

Selected Credits:

Unseen (2023), Star Trek: Picard (2022),
Super Giant Robot Brothers (2022),
This Is Us (2021)

JOVIE LEIGH (bottom right)

Selected Credits:

Free Lunch (2024), I Can't Cut It Out! (2023)

EVA NOBLEZADA (music and voice acting)

Selected Credits:

Hadestown (2019-2023), Easter Sunday (2022),
Luck (2022), Yellow Rose (2019),
Miss Saigon (2016)



PRODUCERS / EPS

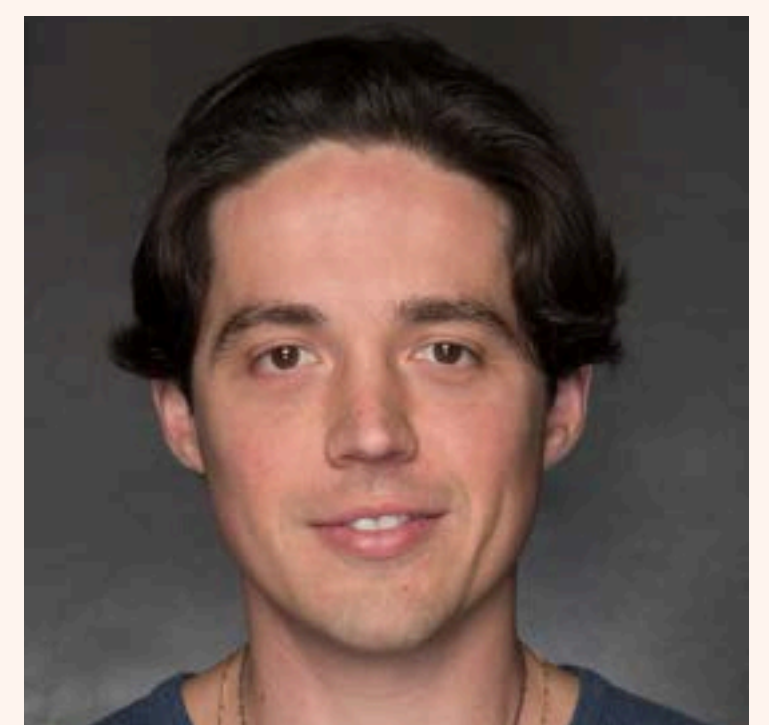
Marie Jamora was born and raised in Manila and joined the DGA in 2021. In her first year, she directed episodes for Ava DuVernay's award-winning QUEEN SUGAR (OWN), FIRE COUNTRY (CBS), THE RESIDENT (FOX), ALL RISE (OWN), FANTASY ISLAND (FOX), GOOD SAM (CBS), GREASE: RISE OF THE PINK LADIES (PARAMOUNT+), and both seasons of THE CLEANING LADY (FOX). Prior to that, the musician-director was named one of "Five Visionary Asian-American Female Filmmakers" in Kore Magazine's 'New Hollywood' issue.

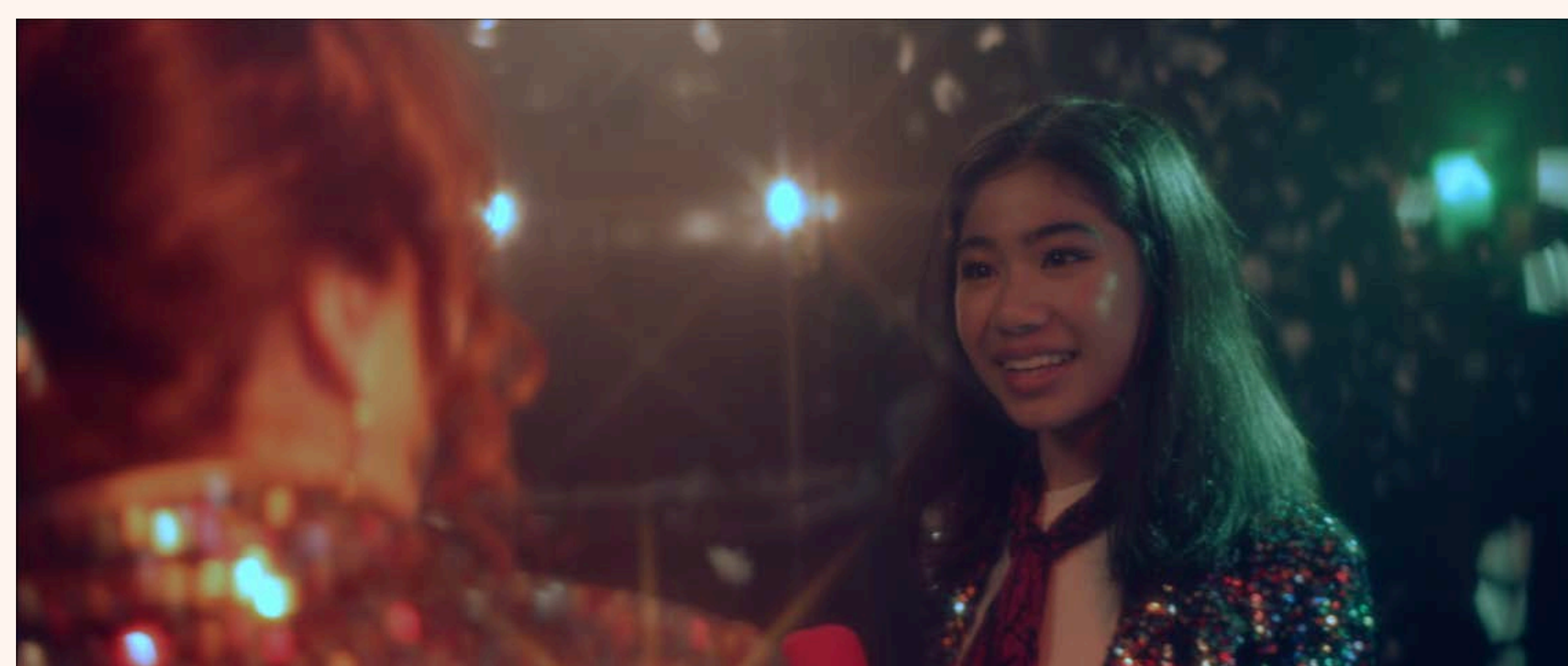


Uloaku Anyiam-Osigwe is a producer and a recent graduate of the AFI Conservatory. She is from Nigeria, and a graduate of the University of St Andrews, Scotland with an MA in International Relations and Management. Following her degree she returned home, where she worked at a television station and as the Head of Production for a marketing company producing branded video content. She set up a production company, Next Tomorrow Productions where she produced short films and branded commercial content. She is interested in placing African stories center stage.



Eduardo Maia was born and raised in Brazil, and is currently pursuing an MFA in Film & TV Production at USC, where he is focusing on producing and directing both documentary and scripted films. He originally came to America to study Computer Engineering, and had a long tech career, building products and leading Engineering teams at Facebook and Microsoft. He is interested in stories about queer integration into the mainstream, as well as stories told by - and about - historically underrepresented groups."





FULL CREDITS

Directed by: Grace Hanna

Written by: Grace Hanna, Derek Manansala, Duke Yang

Produced by: Uloaku Anyiam-Osigwe

Executive Produced by: Marie Jamora, Eduardo Maia

Editor: Jenna Schaelling

Principal Cast: Ren Hanami, Jovie Leigh, Eva Noblezada

Associate Producers: Duke Yang, Jisoo Jeong

Line Producer: Molvatu Sue-ue

Unit Production Manager: Eduardo Maia

First Assistant Director: Jessica Dho

Second Assistant Director: Derek Manansala

Cinematographer: Sarah Megyesy

Camera Operator: Jenny Leavitt

Steadicam Operator: Charlie Reetz

First Assistant Camera: Pascale Williams

Second Assistant Cameras: Quinnolyn Benson-Yates,
Beatriz Cadenasleon

Line Producer: Molvatu Sae-Ue

Script Supervisors: Melissa Moore, Candace Williamson

Production Coordinator: Nellie Luna

Gaffer: Leo Behrens

Best Boy Electrician: Jordan Biagomala

Electricians: Liz Mealy, Nevo Shirazi, Sam Zhang

Key Grip: Natalie Jones

Best Boy Grip: Vadim Gorbaty

Dolly Grips: Christian Chico, Mads Fridolin Vejilby

Company Grips: Jessie Garcia, Matt Kleppner, Jackson
Richardson, Brandon Walsh

Production Sound Mixers: Patrick Kennedy, Christian Lainez

Boom Operators: Mason Brown Creighton Yanchar

Production Designer: Jisoo Jeong

Art Directors: Emily Li, Lexi Randolph

Set Decorator: Maggie Rodriguez

Property Master: Evan Hamilton

Art Production Assistants: Christina Alarcon, Molly Dunphy,
Sebastian Mullen, Shirley You, Muyang Zhang

Costumer: Nathan Quimpo

Hair and Make-up: Lynx Black

Assistant Editor: Ji Ye Won

Recording Mixer: Shubhi Sahni

Sound Designer: Alisina Sae-Nazari

Dialogue Editor: Mike Xu

Supervising Sound Editor: Brandyn Johnson

Visual Effects Supervisors: JohnPaul Morris, Jenna Schaelling

Visual Effects Artists: JohnPaul Morris

Animator: Reid Hildebrand

Animation Directors: Grace Hanna, Jisoo Jeong

Colorist: Evan Okada

Supervising Colorist: Ethan Schwartz

Production Assistants: Peter Rocca, Arion Csihar, Colin
Galeste Zoe Katzen

Studio Teacher: Angel Harper

Craft Service: Olga Silutoni