





FIVE QUESTIONS



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Log line: Jill is asked five questions – how was she respond?

Written and directed by David Arrow, **Five Questions** stars Amber Paul (*Harry Styles: Music for a Sushi Restaurant*) and features a diverse supporting cast that includes: Donna Lynne Champlin (*Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*), Kiera Allen (*Run*), Joyia D. Bradley, Tom Alan Robbins, Eliza Simone, Andrew Arrow, and Elijah Guo. The film was produced by Leon Derriey. Executive Producers: David Arrow and Libby Spears. Director of Photography: Mark Raker. Editor: Joseph Huba. Production Designer: Celina Arslanian. *Music*: David Robbins. Costume Designer: Leon Dobkowski. Sound Designer: Colin Barry-Jester.

Technical specs.

Runtime: 11.11

Aspect ratio: 1.85 Sound: Stereo.

DCP in 2K and 4K

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IMDb: https://www.imdb.com/title/tt22876758/?ref_=nm_knf_t_3

Brief Synopsis:

In **Five Questions**, Jill comes to terms with an early trauma in her life. In each of the film's five scenes, a question is asked that propels Jill forward and toward an answer that opens a path to resolution.



Extended Synopsis:

In **Five Questions**, we follow Jill (Amber Paul) through five different scenes. At the end of each scene, she is asked a question which either forces her to consider her actions or propels her into the next scene. In the first scene, we see her on a date with Hank (David Arrow), a potential boyfriend.

In the second scene, their romantic fun is interrupted when Jill receives a mysterious phone call.

In the third scene, she's trapped in the confines of an elevator platform and facing the ire of an impatient young man (Elijah Gou), who is waiting for the elevator. Jill is so distracted that she barely connects with her friend (Kiera Allen), who passes Jill in her wheelchair. In the fourth scene, Jill is in a park grappling with something that, as of now, only she knows. Jill sees a mother and daughter (Joyia D Bradley and Eliza Simone) engaging in a silly game and envies the loving bond between them.

In the fifth and final scene, Jill is forced to come to terms with an past trauma in her life. She is confronted by someone who was part of her past, her sister Gena (Donna Lynne Champlin). In this final scene, the question she is asked and the answer that Jill gives unlocks a door to understanding and reveals a path to resolution.

Director's Note:

The idea behind the creation of **Five Questions** was to challenge myself to tell a story using questions to propel that storyline forward. It struck me how many questions are asked of us on a daily basis, and how few we actually answer. Often an answer is not really necessary, as the question itself implies what the answer might be - or at least what the questioner expects it to be. For example: *Are you nuts*? Sometimes, an answer can surprise us. For example: *Yes*. Or: *No, I'm not nuts, I'm George*. My task then was to embrace this imposed challenge and create a dialogue and visual story in five succinct and compact scenes.



Production/Creative Team

David Arrow (Writer/Director, Hank) wrote the screenplay for the award-winning short film Rules of Love, which he starred in opposite Judy Greer. Rules of Love won "Best Short" at the Cotswold Film Festival, Washington, D.C. Independent Film Festival, Int'l Festival Algarve, Kinofilm - Manchester Film Festival, Panhandle Picture Show; and a "Highly Commended" certificate in the Turner Classic Movies competition at the London Film Festival. He wrote and starred in the Off-Broadway play Kennedy: Bobby's Last Crusade, which was filmed and distributed by Broadway on Demand. David has appeared in several feature films, including; Joseph's Gift, Igby Goes Down, Hostage, Moon Creek Cemetery, the starring role in The Dot Man directed by Bruno Coppola and in the upcoming *Deadly Secrets of a Cam Girl*. His television credits include: Jon Benjamin Has a Van, Days of Our Lives, Growing Pains, Passions, the HBO series 12 Miles of Bad Road, Comedy Central's Broad City and as Captain Andrew Sutherland on TURN for AMC. David trained as a actor at the prestigious Bristol Old Vic Theatre School. Five Ouestions is David's first film as Director.

Leon Derriey (Producer) is a New York and London-based producer of branded content, music videos, and short films. Leon produced award-winning content for *Skater's Vote*, Converse *Cons Campaign*, Cautious Clay's *Wildfire*, and Nowness' *MB dance series*. He went to Bard College and majored in Film and History. His passion for film came at an early age when noticing matching scenes between *Battleship Potemkin* and *The Untouchables*. He met David Arrow in 2022 and was captivated by his script.



Libby Spears (Executive Producer) Libby is the founder of Blueprint Films, an independent film company which produced *Rules of Love* starring David Arrow and Judy Greer. Blueprint Films believes that engaging media has the power to bridge gaps, illuminate the unseen, and bring people and ideas together that may otherwise never converge.

Mark Raker (Director of Photography) is a cinematographer who has been creating award-winning film and television programs and national television spots since the 1980's, including Peabody Award winning *A Letter to Elia* directed by Martin Scorsese and Kent Jones, Netflix's *An Unreasonable Man*, Emmy Award winning *Moment of Impact*, and Rose d'Or winning *Michael Moore's The Awful Truth*. Mark currently has films exhibited in museums in New York, Chicago, Minnesota, and Seattle. Since 1986, Mark has been the professor of cinematography at the New York University School of Professional Studies, where he received the NYU Award for Teaching Excellence and the NYU Award for Outstanding Service.

Joseph Huba (Editor) is editor with over a decade of experience in the industry. He loves working on a wide range of projects, from beauty and fashion to branded content, documentaries, and short films. Joseph is known for his keen eye for detail and his ability to tell compelling stories through his editing. His work has been featured in various film festivals and industry events, earning him recognition for his technical expertise and creative vision. With a passion for filmmaking and a commitment to excellence, Joseph is a dedicated professional who is always eager to take on new challenges and push the boundaries of his craft.

David Robbins (Composer) David has been immersed in music all his life. The son of Gil Robbins, member of the folk group "The Highwaymen," David was introduced at a young age to a wide variety

FIVE QUESTIONS



of folk, classical, jazz, rock and ethnic music, and to this day never passes up an opportunity to discover and learn something new from this vast musical world. These experiences have contributed to his ample reservoir of musical styles which he evocatively weaves into his film scores and compositions. David composed the scores for more then 30 films, including: *Bob Roberts, King of California*, and *Dead Man Walking*.

Celina Arslanian (Production Designer) is a Production Designer and Director originally from Brazil. Celina pursued her Bachelors Degree in Art and Design before working as an art director and animator in broadcasting for 5 years and receiving 5 Promax Latin America Awards. Celina has worked on a range of projects as a production designer, art director and set decorator for feature films, TV shows, shorts, art films, theater and more. Her work had been featured at festivals such as SXSW, Tribeca Film Festival, Berlinale and New Fest as well as publications including ART forum and Brooklyn Rail Art Magazine.

Leon Dobkowski (Costume Designer) Design credits include The Muny (St. Louis Theater Circle Award, Seussical, The Wiz; Judy Award, Tarzan), Paper Mill Playhouse, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, Theatre Under the Stars, Weston Playhouse, Feld Entertainment's Disney Live, George Street Playhouse, Irish Repertory Theatre, Yale Repertory Theater, Pittsburgh CLO, Music Theater of Wichita, Engeman Theater, Blumenthal Performing Arts Center, Asolo Repertory Theatre, Penguin Rep, NYMF (Outstanding Costume Design, Claudio Quest), Cape May Stage, TheatreWorks Hartford (CT Critics Choice Award nomination, The Legend of Georgia McBride). MFA Yale School of Drama. www.LeonDobkowski.com



Principal Cast

Amber Paul (Jill) has a B.A. in Psychology and studied acting and improv with a number of prestigious teachers in New York City, including noted coach Harold Guskin. One of Amber's first screen roles was in the Oscar-nominated film *Kinsey*. Since then, Amber has gone on to play opposite Adam Sandler in *That's My Boy*, Harry Styles in *Music for a Sushi Restaurant*, and in leading roles in a host of indie films. Amber has performed on stage in New York City and in regional theaters across the country. She's also appeared on a number of television shows, including *Nurse Jackie*, *Delocated*, and *Lipstick Jungle*. Amber stars as Jessica Darby in the comedy podcast *Jessica Darby*, *Zombie Lawyer*. Her most recent film credits are The *Woman from Hamberg* and T-Street's *The Snack Shack* with Gabriel LaBelle. imdb.me/amberpaul

Donna Lynne Champlin (Gena) is an OBIE, Drama Desk and Gracie Award winning actress best known as "Paula Proctor" on The CW's Emmy award winning *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend* and "Barb" in NETFLIX's *Feel The Beat*. Other Film/TV: *The First Lady, The Good Doctor, Blacklist, The Good Wife, The Good Fight, Birdman, Downsizing* and *Yes, God, Yes*. Broadway: *James Joyce's The Dead, By Jeeves, Hollywood Arms, Sweeney Todd,* and *Billy Elliot*. Off Broadway: *First Lady Suite, Almost Maine, The Dark at the Top of the Stairs, Working, The Qualms* and Shakespeare in the Park. Training: Carnegie Mellon and Oxford Universities. Upcoming: *The Perfect Couple* on Netflix.

Kiera Allen (The Young Woman) is an actor and writer. She stars opposite Sarah Paulson in Hulu's psychological thriller, *Run*, directed by Aneesh Chaganty. With her leading role as Chloe in *Run*, Kiera became the first real life wheelchair user to star in a major thriller in 73 years. Kiera also costars in the upcoming *Littlemouth* opposite Dennis Quaid

FIVE QUESTIONS



and Josh Hutcherson, and she is currently co-writing the upcoming dance drama *Grace* for Walt Disney Pictures.

Elijah Guo (The Young Man) is a NY/LA based actor and writer. TV credits include recurring roles on *High Maintenance* (HBO) and opposite Adam Brody on *StartUp* (Netflix/Crackle), as well as appearances on *Law & Order: SVU* (NBC), *The Blacklist* (NBC), and *Power* (Starz). Film credits include *Patriots Day* (Lionsgate/CBS Films) and *Fit Model* (New York Film Festival, Criterion Collection). His original pilot, *My Friend Will*, premiered at Tribeca and was released on The Roku Channel. His original series, *Stand-Ins*, premiered at the Emmyssponsored Catalyst Story Institute. Elijah received his MFA in Acting from the American Repertory Theater Institute at Harvard University. www.elijahguo.com

Joyia D. Bradley (The Mother) has been seen on both the screen and stage and is also a writer, director, and producer. She is gearing up for her first feature film directorial debut. Besides being in the arts, she is busy raising her daughter in NYC, running after Skylar (their Chiweenie), boxing and running her production company. She is repped by Vie Agency, Innovative Artists, KMR Talent and Bohemia Group. IG, Twitter, FB, TikTok @joyiadbradley.

Eliza Simone (The Girl) Eliza, aka Baby Chef, has been performing since she was six months when she landed her first gig as the Similac Formula Baby. And she has been gaining steam with performances on both the stage and screen. Besides performing, she loves to sing, do math and her favorite passion of all-cooking and baking. She even started her own cooking show where she shares easy recipes for children to do with their families.



Andrew Arrow (Ben) has been acting professionally on stage and screen for over 30 years. He has performed all over the US and Europe in such roles as Tateh in *Ragtime*, Dan in *Next To Normal*, Javert in *Les Miserables* and Archie in *The Secret Garden*. On TV, he appeared as Hank, the leader of the West Brovinas barbershop quartet, on the CW's *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*. He is married to actress Donna Lynne Champlin. They have one amazing son, Charlie.

Tom Alan Robbins (The Man) has performed in nine Broadway shows, including *The Lion King* in which he created the role of Pumbaa. Off-Broadway productions include *Little Shop of Horrors, Brooklynite, On the Verge, Isn't It Romantic,* and *The Cradle Will Rock,* among many others. Tom also appeared in regional productions of *The Whale* (Charlie, World Premiere), *A Midsummer Nights Dream* (Bottom), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Tevye) and *My Name is Asher Lev.* Tom has appeared on television in episodes of *The Good Wife, Seinfeld, NYPD Blue, Law and Order* and *Baby Talk* (as series regular Dr. Elliot Fleisher).

Five Questions has so far been honored with over 40 IMDb qualified awards. Including: Best Short Film, Best Director, Best Leading Actress, Best Ensemble Cast, Best Cinematography, Best Editing, Best Production Design, Best Sound and Best Score.

