



**'TAKING THE REINS'**  
**Cast Bios**

**NIKKI DELOACH (Sam)** – Born in a small town in South Georgia, Nikki DeLoach always knew she wanted to be an entertainer. She started dancing at the age of three, eventually adding singing, modeling and acting to her repertoire. All her hard work paid off when at age 12, DeLoach became a member of “The Mickey Mouse Club” alongside Justin Timberlake, Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera and Ryan Gosling. After “MMC,” DeLoach spent several years in Los Angeles pursuing acting and landed a starring role opposite Mark Wahlberg and Bill Paxton in the feature film *Traveller* and the TV series “Misery Loves Company.” She also played Anthony LaPaglia’s daughter in the television movie “Never Give Up: The Jimmy V Story.” In 1997, DeLoach put her acting career on hold to enter the world of pop music, signing with RCA and BMG Records to become part of the girl group Innosense. When the group disbanded in 2003, DeLoach returned to Hollywood and has gone on to enjoy a successful and diverse acting career.

DeLoach’s credits include her starring role on MTV’s critically acclaimed series “Awkward.,” where she was considered one of television’s “hottest moms” with her portrayal of Lacey Hamilton. Although she is perhaps best known for her roles on “Awkward” and the iconic “The Mickey Mouse Club,” DeLoach has also guest starred on some of television’s biggest hit shows including “NCIS,” “Criminal Minds,” “CSI,” “CSI: NY,” “Cold Case,” “Mad Men” and “Without a Trace,” among many others. She was also a series regular on the popular show “North Shore.” Her films include *Love & Other Drugs*, *Flying Lessons*, opposite Maggie Grace and Hal Holbrook, and the French comedy *Hollywoo*. Hallmark Channel viewers will also recognize DeLoach from her starring roles in the network’s original movies “The Perfect Catch,” “Christmas Land,” “A Dream of Christmas,” “Truly, Madly, Sweetly,” and “Love Takes Flight,” which premiered as a Hallmark Hall of Fame presentation. She also developed, executive produced and starred in “Reunited at Christmas.” In 2019, DeLoach starred in the Hallmark Movies & Mysteries original “Two Turtle Doves,” opposite Michael Rady.

Outside of acting, DeLoach is dedicated to sharing her passions and ideas with others. She co-founded What We Are, a community of women that celebrates their unfiltered selves. She is also a passionate supporter and spokesperson for Children’s Hospital Los Angeles and The Alzheimer’s Association. DeLoach also shares her love for acting by coaching at the renowned Warner Loughlin Studios. She currently resides in Los Angeles with her husband and two young sons, Hudson and Bennett.

# # #

**SCOTT PORTER (Luke)** – Scott Porter is best known for his critically acclaimed performance on the beloved Emmy-winning NBC drama series “Friday Night Lights,” on which he starred as the fallen quarterback, Jason Street. He also charmed audiences for four seasons starring as George Tucker, resident lawyer and southern gentleman, on The CW series “Hart of Dixie.”

He currently stars on the Netflix series "Ginny & Georgia" and previously recurred as Tim Armstrong in the popular CBS drama series "Scorpion." Porter also had recurring roles on the CBS hit drama series "The Good Wife," opposite Julianna Margulies, and on "Caprica," the prequel series to the SyFy smash hit "Battlestar Galactica." Porter can be heard as the voice of Luke in Telltale Games' "The Walking Dead: Season 2," as well as numerous other animated shows and video games.

On the big screen, Porter appeared in Maggie Carey's *The To Do List*, alongside Aubrey Plaza and Bill Hader. He also starred in Jamie Linden's romantic comedy *10 Years*, alongside Channing Tatum, Kate Mara and Rosario Dawson. Additional film credits include independent feature *Brampton's Own* opposite Rose McIver; *Dear John*, directed by Lasse Hallström, opposite Channing Tatum and Amanda Seyfried; *The Good Guy*, an independent drama starring Alexis Bledel, Bryan Greenberg and Aaron Yoo; *Bandslam*, directed by Todd Graff and also starring Lisa Kudrow and Vanessa Hudgens; Andy and Larry Wachowski's live-action *Speed Racer*; *Prom Night*, opposite Brittany Snow; and *Music and Lyrics*, starring Hugh Grant and Drew Barrymore.

After moving to New York City in 2005, Porter starred in two off-Broadway productions: *Altar Boyz* as Matthew (Drama League Ensemble Cast Nominee) and the award-winning *Toxic Audio* (Drama Desk Award, Most Unique Theatrical Experience).

Originally from Omaha, Nebraska, he considers that city, Austin and Orlando, as his homes.

# # #

**CORBIN BERNSEN (Preston)** – Corbin Bernsen comes from an entertainment family. His mother, Jeanne Cooper, was on the long running soap "The Young and The Restless" for 35 years. He is a graduate of UCLA where he earned a bachelor's degree in Theater and a Master of Playwriting. Bernsen was first catapulted to stardom during the 1980s by the hit NBC television series, "L.A. Law." He was nominated for both Emmy and Golden Globe awards for his performance as Arnie Becker on the show that virtually created the ensemble drama as we now know it today. Later, he starred as Henry Spencer on USA Network's hit original series "Psych." During his illustrious career he has hosted "Saturday Night Live" and guest starred on "Seinfeld" and "Star Trek," to name just a few of his many notable television appearances.

In the feature film arena, Bernsen starred in the comedy *Hello Again*, followed by other critically acclaimed roles in *Disorganized Crime*, Wolfgang Peterson's *Shattered*, *The Great White Hype*, and as the Cleveland Indians' third baseman-turned-owner Roger Dorn in the extremely popular *Major League* film franchise. Other film credits include *Lay the Favorite* with Bruce Willis and *The Big Year* with Steve Martin, Jack Black and Owen Wilson. He also appeared with Robert Downey Jr. and Val Kilmer in *Kiss Kiss Bang Bang*.

In 2006, Bernsen formed his own production company, Team Cherokee Productions, to exert more creative control over his projects and begin exploring material both as writer, director and producer. Today that company has taken root as Home Theater Films, an early player in the Faith and Family film genre. The company has explored a wide variety of themes beginning with the film *Rust* which was distributed by Sony Pictures. With five other films under their belt, including *25 Hill*, *Beyond the Heavens*, *Christin Mingle* (starring Lacey Chabert) and *Jess and Naomi*. Home Theater Films has firmly carved a niche and name in this lucrative genre. Projects

include the dramatic feature *Life with Dog*, the family comedy *Mary 4 Mayor* and the television series "Blind Eye."

In 2017, Bernsen delivered a powerhouse performance as Vulcan the Roman God of Fire, to great acclaim on the Starz hit "American Gods." "American Gods" is a blend of ancient and modern mythology, fantasy and Americana based on the best-selling novel by renowned author, Neil Gaiman.

Bernsen has been thrilled to reprise his role as Henry Spencer on USA Network's three "Psych" television movies. The "Psych" movie franchise is a continuation of the original series, which aired on USA Network from 2006 to 2014. The show had such a cult following that fans demanded it continue so the first installment, "Psych: The Movie," aired on USA in 2017. The gang reunited again in "Psych 2: Lassie Comes Home" in Spring 2020 and Bernsen will join The Psych gang for a third movie titled "Psych 3: This Is Gus" set to premiere on Peacock later this year.

Bernsen recurred on Sundance TV's dark comedy series, "Hap & Leonard" as the foul-mouthed and morally ambiguous head of police, Chief Cantuck. "Hap & Leonard" is based on the popular book series by Joe R. Lansdale. In 2019, Bernsen joined the second season of the comic book vigilante action drama "The Punisher" for Netflix playing Anderson Schultz, an extremely wealthy man who's grown accustomed to getting his way.

Bernsen continues to play recurring roles on some of network and cable television's hottest series such as, Showtime's "Billions" playing Bill McGann, CBS's "Magnum PI" playing Icepick and most notably, Fox's "The Resident" playing the role of Kyle Nevin for three seasons. He will next be seen in HBO's "The White House Plumbers."

Bernsen lives in New York with his wife, actress Amanda Pays, and their four sons.

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**JANINE TURNER (Bonnie)** – Janine Turner currently lives on her 100-acre Longhorn ranch in North Texas. She is an Emmy and three-time Golden Globe nominated actress.

Turner's illustrious career includes starring in television shows such as Lifetime's "Patsy & Loretta Forever" directed by Callie Khouri and NBC's "Friday Night Lights" as Katie McCoy in a recurring role. Turner won the role of spunky, crop-haired Alaskan air taxi pilot Maggie O'Connell opposite Rob Morrow on the eccentric prime-time series "Northern Exposure." It was role of her career, a meaty, delightfully quirky star turn that made her a household name. The show lasted six seasons. She then went on to a leading role in "Strong Medicine" that lasted two years.

Turner's feature film career has included portraying Anthony Hopkins' wife in the feature film *Solace*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Cliffhanger* with Sylvester Stallone, *Dr. T and the Women* with Richard Gere, *Night of the White Pants* with Tom Wilkinson and in Universal's *Leave it to Beaver* as June Cleaver.

As a producer and director, Turner won Best New Director at both the Deep Ellum and Beverly Hills Film Festivals for her short film, *Trip in a Summer Dress*.

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