

The background features a network diagram with white nodes and lines on a purple-to-pink gradient. The nodes are connected by thin white lines, forming a complex web. Some nodes are larger than others, and the overall structure is somewhat irregular and organic. The gradient transitions from a deep purple at the top to a bright pink at the bottom.

# Going Off Script

Written by Jen Wilde

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Published by griefconvention

# Table of Contents

Going Off Script Meaning .....	1
Going Off Script Word .....	2
Going Off Script During Filming .....	3
Going Off Script Crossword .....	4
Going Off Script Nyt Crossword .....	5
Going Off Script Rex Parker .....	6
Going Off Script Serhant .....	7
Going Off Script Nyt .....	8
Going Off Script Giuliana .....	9

# Going Off Script

By Jen Wilde

## Going Off Script Meaning

A TV writer's room intern must join forces with her crush to keep her boss from ruining a lesbian character in this diverse contemporary YA romance from the author of Queens of Geek.

## Going Off Script Word

Seventeen-year-old Bex is thrilled when she gets an internship on her favorite tv show, Silver Falls. Unfortunately, the internship isn't quite what she expected... instead of sitting in a crowded writer's room volleying ideas back and forth, Production Interns are stuck picking up the coffee.

## Going Off Script During Filming

Determined to prove her worth as a writer, Bex drafts her own script and shares it with the head writer—who promptly reworks it and passes it off as his own! Bex is understandably furious, yet...maybe this is just how the industry works? But when they rewrite her proudly lesbian character as straight, that's the last straw! It's time for Bex and her crush to fight back.

Going Off Script

## Going Off Script Crossword

Jen Wilde's newest novel is both a fun, diverse love story and a very relevant, modern take on the portrayal of LGBT characters in media.

Fighting straight washing AND f/f? SIGN ME UP

## Going Off Script Nyt Crossword

Hate to judge a book by its cover but...

"Sometimes you need to fight to be heard, especially when you're the only woman in a room full of men."

Going Off Script by Jen Wilde is a young-adult contemporary novel that follows the story of Bex Phillips, a lesbian 18-year-old who travels down to LA after she is given an internship on her favorite TV show, Silver Falls, where she hopes to catch a glimpse of her dream world where she wants to be a writer. Along the way, she happens to meet a fellow lesbian in the industry, Shrupty Padwal, and "Sometimes you need to fight to be heard, especially when you're the only woman in a room full of men."

Going Off Script by Jen Wilde is a young-adult contemporary novel that follows the story of Bex Phillips, a lesbian 18-year-old who travels down to LA after she is given an internship on her favorite TV show, Silver Falls, where she hopes to catch a glimpse of her dream world where she wants to be a writer. Along the way, she happens to meet a fellow lesbian in the industry, Shrupty Padwal, and sparks just happen to fly. Unfortunately, though Bex is exploring first love and in the land of dreams, she has to learn to navigate the politics of this industry and deal with straight-washing from cis straight white men in power.

Y'all...I don't even know where to begin with this novel. It means everything and more to me. (If you're over 21, take a shot every time I say that in a review.)

Regardless, it is true.

Jen Wilde is one of my favorite authors of all-time, and she continues to wow me with every novel she releases, and Going Off Script is no exception.

First of all, this novel is just a damn good novel. It is well-written, intriguing, and a very quick read (in the best way possible).

Wilde has this tendency of including these very media-centric themes in her work, and I just love that. First, she explores YouTube and movies with Queens of Geek, then, music and bands with The Brightsiders, and now, television and YouTube once more with Going Off Script.

These plotlines just interest me so much - maybe because of my interest in media and entertainment (hi I have a youtube channel lol) - but I just think that they're so fitting with the world we live in today and they're such unique explorations that I rarely get to read about in the majority of the books I read.

I also really love Wilde's habit of allowing her previous characters to make cameos in her books, though

## Going Off Script

a few characters make a bit more than a cameo in this one - Charlie and Alyssa from QOG and Will and Ryan (and Emmy and Chloe) from TB. Whereas these books aren't connected plot-wise and they can be read on their own, for those of us who do reads all of them, it's just a nice addition that enhances the reading experience. (Also, I highly recommend that you do read all of them.)

But now...as we all know is a necessity in my reviews, let's get into the ~ deep ~ stuff.

Going Off Script features a lesbian main character who falls for an Indian lesbian character, and the two fight against homophobes and people in power which is just...so meaningful y'all.

There are so many things this novel got right, and that just made my lil' queer brown heart so happy.

First, I want to talk about Shrupty Padwal, the love interest. Shrupty is a badass Indian lesbian YouTuber who makes beauty-related videos until she finds her talent for acting after meeting Bex, and she decides to explore that for a bit.

"I guess I'm just nervous. I feel a lot of responsibility to get this character right, you know? It's not every day that a gay Indian girl gets to play a gay Indian girl...I want to make sure I do it justice."

"Do you know how many times this town has tried to change me? When I started my YouTube channel, people said I should focus more on my beauty tutorials and tone down my political talk. I said no. When my videos started going viral, people said I should change my name to something that makes white people more comfortable. I said no...I'm so tired of people trying to erase who I am."

I legitimately cannot tell you if I want to be Shrupty or if I want to date Shrupty, but I can tell you that I love her with my whole entire heart. I don't know if there are words to fully express how I feel about her character, but let's just say...it means a whole fucking lot.

Then, there's Bex, our leading woman\*.

\* "...I'm still firmly in the questioning category when it comes to my gender identity. And, ugh, that whole scenario is exhausting to think about."

(relatable content Bex)

Bex is a character who really comes into her own over the course of this novel. She goes from a closeted lil' queer girl to an out-and-proud badass (not that being closeted makes you less badass, but being out-and-proud gave Bex the confidence to be herself) who fights back against bigots with too much power.

I really loved seeing the progression of her bond with her cousin, Parker, as the two are literal icons, and I loved seeing her relationship with her best friend, Gabby, and her bond with her mom. I loved how all

Going Off Script

these important and vital relationships weren't kicked to the back burner in the process of exploring her relationship with Shrupty, rather, all of the relationships - familial, platonic, and romantic - flourished throughout the course of the novel.

But...I also did love the relationship between Bex and Shrupty.

The moment I see her smile, I light up like Times Square on New Year's Eve.

I would die,,,for my two lesbian moms,,,whose chemistry makes the queer world go-round.

No, but, seriously, the relationship is just SO GOOD, but it truly is something you have explore for yourself by reading this novel.

I also want to give a shout-out to a few other parts of this novel:

First of all, the use of the word lesbian.

Damn these cryptic lesbian linguistics.

"Remember why we did all this - to give queer teens the badass lesbian werewolf romance they've never seen."

Oftentimes, I feel like the word 'lesbian' is avoided in exchange of 'gay' or 'queer' - and for some people, those other labels are right and that's valid - but so is lesbian as a label. And it is often not used because idk sexism and fetishization and whatnot, so to see it on the page just...meant so much to me. To know that these two characters are lesbians, that it isn't something that's not explicitly stated on the page, just makes me very, very happy.

I also want to acknowledge the seamless inclusion of using meds.

"You're still on Ritalin, yeah?"

I nod. "And Lexapro now, too."

He raises his hand to the air. "Same, girl, same."

Whereas this isn't fully delved into throughout the novel, Bex's reasons for using Ritalin are discussed, her dealings with anxiety are mentioned, and the meds are brought up casually throughout the novel, which is just so important in fighting to destigmatize medication.

And finally, I want to discuss one last aspect of this novel - Bex coming from a poor family and feeling ashamed. This truly was an exquisitely explored arc of the novel, and it was handled in the most

Going Off Script

beautiful manner possible.

"I was embarrassed. I was ashamed of who I am and where I come from, but not anymore."

This novel is just beautiful in every which way, and I am thankful and so grateful to have it in life. I highly, highly recommend you pick it up.

disclaimer: i received an arc in exchange for an honest review, this in no way impacted my opinion.  
...more

## Going Off Script Rex Parker

releases: 21 May 2019

okay, okay, I'm going to need y'all to read this blurb. It is about a teen writer. Her boss rewrites her lesbian character as straight. And then she and the actress launch a #DontHideYourGays campaign against the studio and fall in love along the way. GOD BLESS. This book will be about media representation and dating in the public eye and all that good shit.

If you I've ever needed a book as badly as I need this, think again

## Going Off Script Serhant

#donthideyourgays AND f/f?! I'm so in love can i have this book already?

Bex is psyched that she's finally getting out of her dead-end Washington state hometown and moving to LA as an intern for her favorite show Silver Falls. But instead of sitting in the writer's room and helping to pitch ideas, she's picking up coffees and is basically shunted aside. Bex stays silent when the misogynistic showrunner steals her idea, but when he tries to straight-wash her queer character in order to mitigate another actor's homophobic rant, Bex can't stay silent.

What an exciting re Bex is psyched that she's finally getting out of her dead-end Washington state hometown and moving to LA as an intern for her favorite show Silver Falls. But instead of sitting in the writer's room and helping to pitch ideas, she's picking up coffees and is basically shunted aside. Bex stays silent when the misogynistic showrunner steals her idea, but when he tries to straight-wash her queer character in order to mitigate another actor's homophobic rant, Bex can't stay silent.

What an exciting read!

It's a story that's about the straight-washing of media culture and how that shit just isn't going to fly in 2019â€”people want queer storylines, and they need representation. Mixed into #DontKillYourGays are themes of sexism, inequality and double standards within the Hollywood industry.

I also liked that Bex's background played a key part in her insecurities, as she slowly begins to realize that there is nothing to be ashamed of for how you grew up, and there's no need to reinvent yourself to make shit happen. Be you and shine like the star you are.

Additionally, we've got some ADHD and anxiety rep and a character who is gay but not entirely sure exactly what her labels are, but she's figuring them out as she goes. Bex grew really quickly, from shy and insecure intern into someone who began to realize that you have to fight for what you needâ€”and that some fights mean risking your entire future employment possibilities in order to what what is right.

I felt like her relationship with Shrupty went from zero to sixty really quickly, and aside from one mention from Shrupty when she accused Bex (who is literally the lowest of lowest interns) about hiring her onto the show to get into her pants, the fact that Bex was fighting for her girlfriend (who played a character she created) to stay in the show, was a little weird and probably should have been mentioned a bit more in the story? Bex and Shrupty had chemistry, but their relationship seemed superficial, and I felt like it was Shrupty using Bex to get her big break on the show (that wasn't the case but I kept waiting for the other shoe to drop).

Anywho, there are some not-so-subtle jabs at popular paranormal TV shows that feature two prominent male characters and a revolving door of women who serve only to boost the male characters'

Going Off Script

development and plotlines. If you're thinking, wow, what a supernaturally odd thing to say, then perhaps you need to read this bookâ€”because aside from these criticisms, it's clear that much love is shown back to the show and its fans.

So, reasons to read this:

1. Sapphic relationship between a girl with ADHD and anxiety and an Indian-American girl
2. #DontKillYourGays
3. Kickass queer secondary characters
4. The funniest dad in the planet
5. Commentary on sexism, double standards and homophobia in Hollywood
6. The impact of social media
7. The importance of diversity in all aspects of mediaâ€”from the board room, to the writing room, to the camera crew and to the talent
8. The poverty roller coaster

Reasons not to read this:

Honestly I can't think of any unless you're homophobic?

I received this ARC from NetGalley for an honest review. ...more

## Going Off Script Nyt

â™! Video Review â™!

3.5 stars. Jen Wilde is slowly but surely becoming my favourite Contemporary author. I can count on her books to be super inclusive and talk about issues of marginalized people with a good sprinkle of fame, fandom and pop culture. And Going Off Script is no exception.

âœlf you don't want me when I was an insecure, closeted nerd girl, you don't get me at my badass, out-and-proud nerd girl.â€•

While I know that many will find the novel too fast moving, I have kinda come to expect â™! Video Review â™!

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âœlf you don't want me when I was an insecure, closeted nerd girl, you don't get me at my badass, out-and-proud nerd girl.â€•

While I know that many will find the novel too fast moving, I have kinda come to expect that from Wilde's novels and so it was not an issue for me at all. Time just works different in Jen Wilde's novels and you have to suspend your disbelief sometimes. But if you can overlook that flaw, this novel gets a lot more enjoyable.

We have a super diverse cast of characters. The main character, Bex, is gay, grew up poor and her family still struggles financially. She mentions that she is questioning her gender identity briefly and she also takes different meds and while I think it's never specified, based on those I think she has ADHD. Her love interest, Shrupty, is Indian and gay. There are several other queer side-characters and characters of colour!

Bex's struggles to come out even though she is so sure of her sexuality and has people around her that would absolutely support her were so realistic and relatable and something I haven't read like that before. Coming out always feels scary, even when you are in a safe environment!

âœBecause I am Lyla! And Shrupty is Lyla. Alyssa is Lyla and thousands of Silver Falls fans are Lyla. By doing this, you are telling them that they don't matter. That they can be erased and no one will care. Well, I care.â€•

All the characters are absolutely wonderful and lovable and have great relationships between them. Bex had a lot of really amazing people around her, from Jane, one of the writers of Silver Falls, who is the one who really takes care of her and basically her confidant, to her cousin Parker, who she lives with while in LA and really reminds her of her roots.

The romance between Bex and Shrupty was probably my favourite part and also probably my favourite

romance in any of the three novels I have read by Jen Wilde. They are always really swoonworthy but this one was particularly beautifully written. The chemistry between Shrupty and Bex and how much positive energy they both had was so wonderful to see. Even though, as mentioned before, they fall for each other quite fast, I believed every second of it. Their physical chemistry is absolutely fantastic too and they had some pretty amazing make-out scenes.

“This place isn't sunshine and palm trees. It's a mirage that looks like paradise from a distance, but when you get here it's just a dirty, shallow lake with a painted backdrop. Clever lighting and counterfeit smiles draw you in and then chew you up and leave you on the cutting room floor like you're nothing.”

One of my issues was that the drama was caused by the character being conveniently stupid, which is one of my biggest pet peeves in books. I didn't know at all what the main conflict was going to be because I hadn't read the synopsis (I was sold as soon as I knew this book was Jen Wilde and queer) but when Bex did the most stupid thing I could imagine, I immediately knew where the story was gonna go.

Now I think that while I didn't like the cause for the drama, I thought that the conflict itself was handled well. It caused a whole uproar of things and opened a very important discussion of being a marginalized person in Hollywood.

In general this book had so many important messages packed into it. It talked about homophobia, racism, misogyny and all of that through the lens of working in Hollywood in today's times. It showed that there's people who act like they're allies but are not at all behind the scenes or don't understand what it actually means to be an ally.

Sometimes those messages were very in your face but I personally don't mind that at all. And as a self-proclaimed SJW, I would've handled a lot of the things in a very similar way, so if some things might seem exaggerated to certain readers, it is a life that a lot of people live.

“In a world with no consequences, I'd let my fury flip the whole damn table. But the only people who get to live in a world without consequences are men like those sitting in this room. That stops now.”

Another thing I loved was Bex really appreciating where she came from and how much her mother has done for her to be where she is at now. Bex looks at LA like the perfect city, where dreams come true and everyone is accepted but she quickly realizes that that is not how things work.

She tries to hide her upbringing but talking to Parker, who she shared a room with growing up and who is super proud of his roots, and seeing LA as it really is, makes her understand that it is so important to not be ashamed of how you grew up and that you don't need to hide that part from people. If they don't accept you and where you come from, they're not your people!

Overall I really enjoyed this book. It is probably my least favourite Jen Wilde but that means nothing considering how much I loved both *Queens of Geek* and *The Brightsiders*. And it was so fun to see some of the characters from her two previous books show up in this one. Jen Wilde has created this amazing universe of famous queer people and I really hope she continues to write stories set in this universe. I'd highly recommend this for fans of Jen Wilde's other novels, *GEEKERELLA*/*THE PRINCESS AND THE*

Going Off Script

FANGIRL by Ashley Poston and EVERYTHING LEADS TO YOU by Nina LaCour and generally everyone that loves queer Contemporaries with a good portion of social justice warriors!

â™! Booktube Channel â™! Twitter â™! Instagram â™!

I received an ARC through Edelweiss in exchange for an honest review! ...more

Going Off Script was one of the contemporary books I was most looking forward to this year.â I read The Brightsiders last year and loved it.â Going Off Script was just as good and Jen Wilde is now an auto buy author for me.â (And there are little bits of The Brightsiders in this book.)â

The book starts with Bex arriving in LA and seeing it for the first time.â She was bullied and didn't have many friends back home in Washington.â Her cousin, Parker, moved to LA to do make-up.â Bex just got an int Going Off Script was one of the contemporary books I was most looking forward to this year.â I read The Brightsiders last year and loved it.â Going Off Script was just as good and Jen Wilde is now an auto buy author for me.â (And there are little bits of The Brightsiders in this book.)â

The book starts with Bex arriving in LA and seeing it for the first time.â She was bullied and didn't have many friends back home in Washington.â Her cousin, Parker, moved to LA to do make-up.â Bex just got an internship at a studio and is going to stay with Parker.â I loved "seeing" LA through Bex's eyes.â Parker is gay and is out.â Bex is gay, too, but she hasn't told anyone.â She struggles a lot with how to tell Parker, and then everyone else around her.

Bex shows up for her internship and her boss, Malcolm, is rude and intense.â But Bex gets to help Jane and she's really nice.â Malcolm is behind schedule on writing the next episode of Silver Falls, but he lies and says it's almost done.â Bex decides to write an episode bringing in a gay character and gives it to Malcolm.â She just wants to show him that she can write.â But Malcolm shows up with her script with tiny changes and takes the credit for it.â Bex is heartbroken, but she doesn't want to lose her job.â So she stays quiet.

Because of Parker, Bex gets to spend more time around some of the Hollywood elite.â She meets Shrupty at a party and feels a connection to her.â Shrupty is a youtube star and Bex pictures her right away as Lyla and tells her about the role.â Shrupty auditions and gets the part.â She and Bex start spending a lot of time together.â Bex finally starts to come out to some of the people she is around,

Going Off Script

including Parker and her best friend, Gabby. But Bex is still lying about her life. Shrupty grew up rich. Bex was poor. Her mom didn't make much money and she lived with her mom, Parker, and Parker's mom.

Something bad happens at a party with one of the show's stars. After that, they find out that the script was rewritten. Lyla is now going to have a relationship with the male star instead. Shrumpty is pissed and thinks Bex did it. Bex was pissed and had to find a way to make the story happen the way she wrote it.

What I really love about Jen Wilde's writing is that it feels so natural. Nothing ever feels forced to me. She showed Bex's struggles with her sexuality and gender very well. And also about her insecurities. Bex is on ritalin and lexapro. Those medicines are just mentioned in a normal way without any real focus on it. Everything just flowed and I found myself so immersed in this story. I read it in a 24 hour period.

One more thing before I end this review. I loved Parker so much. I would honestly love a book about his life. He was so much fun and so caring. Parker was a standout to me. Also, I loved the relationships in the book.

Thank you to Swoon Reads for sending me a copy for review. I gave this book 5 stars and will be ordering it asap.

...more

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Going Off Script

## Going Off Script Giuliana

Real rating: 4,5 stars.

Jen Wilde's books make me happy, smile, want to stand up and fight. I adore the characters with all my heart, how diverse and amazing the cast is, the romance had me melting and the tv setting and ahhhhh.

I loved this so much okay.

Full review coming soon :)

Thank you to MacMillan International/Swoon Reads for sending me an ARC of this book. This did not, in any way, influenced my thoughts and rating.

My Blog - Drizzle & Hurricane Books - Twitter - Bloglovin'

I received a copy from the publisher for the blog tour, this in no way affects my opinion

Actual rating: 3.5 stars

Eventhough i had a few qualms with this book (that i'll be going more into in the review) i had such a fun time reading it and i loved the topics it tackled and how it tackled them head on!

RTC