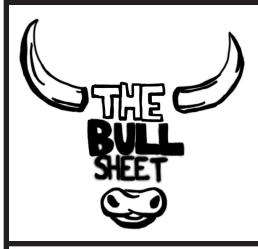
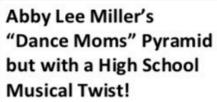
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## **KATIE'S DEFINITIVE RANKING OF THE "HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL" CHARACTERS**



This is my Dance Mom's style pyramid of high school musical characters. It is based purely on my own enjoyment of these characters. The ones at the bottom of the pyramid are down there because they are either b\*tches or because they are annoying







-Katie Kerrigan, Junior Editor

## JAX, RIPPING KATIE'S "HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL" CHARACTER ANALYSIS TO ABSOLUTE SHREDS

Katie. Oh, Katieeee, Katie, Katie.

We saw each other tonight. I looked over your little "pyramid chart". You know how I feel about it.

Can I just ask you: is this some kind of GAME TO YOU?

I don't even know where to start with this, so I'm going to follow the natural flow of the chart and break down exactly what is wrong with it and the FEW things you got right. Let's start at the top: TROY? TROY BOUL-TON, BASKETBALL-STAR TURNED THEATRE GEEK TURNED EMOTIONALLY UNFAITHFUL TURNED JULLIARD ACCEPTED DESPITE HAVING NEVER AUDITIONED IS YOUR PICK FOR THE *TOP SPOT*?

Don't get me wrong, I was a Troy Boulton stan. Zac Efron genuinely was my sexual awakening (early bloomer, whoops) and I think Troy was a kind, sensitive soul but deeply, deeply flawed. He wrestled with his own identity, his loyalties and frankly was a bit of a showboat. I would demote him to tier 2.

Tier 2, I will say however, is pretty strong. If I had to swap though, I would sub Zeke in for Troy. Zeke was the most lovely, unproblematic PRINCE of the entire franchise who stuck with his day ones and didn't get swept up in the clout unlike TROY. He just wanted to bake!!!!!! I would put him at top of the pyramid.

I think Martha Cox is a good fit for tier 2. Kind, unproblematic, great at dancing. I have nothing bad to say but she wasn't like a knockout star, either.

Now this is where shit gets real. Katie, the sheer gall it requires to place THE Sharpay Evans- triple threat, beauty extraordinaire, and admittedly a mega-bitch (because she CARES, damn it!) on the third tier is insulting. That girl was on her grind. She had it so good until gAbRieLLa had to weasel her way into Albuquerque and just SO coincidentally end up at the same school as Troy, her winter break romantic fling. One gal's "fate" is another's "painfully transparent act of STALKING" and I am not buying what she's selling. Sharpay deserved so much better at that is a hill I am willing and able to die on.

Kelsie is pretty annoying the and I would demote her. Chad sucked too. Honestly, now that I'm looking at it critically, a lot of these characters are trash.

I will acknowledge your wisdom in ranking Gabriella to a lower ranking but honestly, she deserves worse. Her sheer arrogance shrouded in "girl-next-door" humility. Why? Because she's a BRUNETTE? I will speak for all brunettes in asserting that we are just about as vapid as they come. She had this superficial self-righteousness that she was able to manipulate nearly everyone into reading as sincerity. Notice how I said "nearly" everyone? Oh, that's right, because not everyone fell for it. You know who read Gabriella Montez like the flimsy little young adult novel she is? SHARPAY EVANS.

I would honestly raise Taylor McKessie up a few ranks. Sure, a bit of a rule follower and kind of a narc but at least it was AUTHENTIC. She called Gabriella on her shit and had her back no matter what EVEN WHEN GA-BRIELLA DIDN'T DESERVE IT WHICH WAS ALWAYS.

And Ryan, okay yeah, was a bit pathetic. I always really wanted him to come out from Sharpay's shadow and shine, or just kiss Chad already, but beggars can't be choosers. I would promote him, albeit slightly.

The rest are fine.

-Jax Preyer, Managing Editor and possibly deranged



Jack "Cyndra" May, Sophomore Writer

