

Photography CARA FREIDMAN

Fashion ABBY QI

Words SANDY AZIZ

BAILEE MADISON

BAILEE MADISON ON SECRETS, SURPRISES AND HER
ROLE AS AS IMOGEN IN *PRETTY LITTLE LIARS*:
ORIGINAL SIN.

MAKEUP QUINN YOUNG; HAIR SEBASTIAN SCOLARISCI; PRODUCTION DIRECTOR MORGANE MILLOT; PHOTOGRAPHY ASSISTANT JOSH ALDECOA

DRESS PRIVATE POLICY; SHOES
DUBIE; JEWELRY MONSECRET.
OPPOSITE: BLAZER TECHIN; RINGS
(RIGHT HAND) MONSECRET; RINGS
(LEFT HAND) LADY GREY; EARRINGS
JOANNA LAURA COSTANTINE.

"I'm not good at keeping secrets, and I'm a terrible liar!" Off to a great start with American actor Bailee Madison, who stars as Imogen Adams in the long-awaited HBO Max mystery thriller, *Pretty Little Liars: Original Sin*. In case you are new to the PLL pack, the series is fuelled by endless plot twists, secrets and shadowy surprises. Yet, despite being terrible at secrets and lies, Madison has a fantastic acting record that she began at just six years old. Starring as Maxine Russo in Disney's *Wizards of Waverly Place*, a young Snow White in *Once Upon a Time* and then featuring as Grace Russell in Hallmark's *Good Witch* - a running theme prevails of magic and secrets. And so the plot thickens...

"This has been my life," says the Florida native. Madison dives into the conversation confirming that her home is her suitcase and wherever she is filming. While she is a veteran of the unconventional, she confidently shares, "this is thankfully my normal and what I know more than anything." Despite this being her normal, the young actor shares the surprise of landing the role of Imogen. Setting the scene, she tells us she was about to leave for her first ever vacation when the project landed in her lap. "I remember being super nervous about the fact that I was taking time off to go on a vacation, and then this show was sent to me." It was after her vacation, and two Zoom calls, that the waiting game began. She spent the next two weeks just "torturing" herself via no sleep and obsessively rewatching the original PLL. "Because that is the thing to do when you want to actually get through something - really just make it cut deep," she says sarcastically while laughing.

Of course, it is no secret the actor is a fan of *Pretty Little Liars*, but we find out quickly she is more than just a fan. "I am a die-hard, OG PLL fan," declares Madison, enthusiastically. Not that we were expecting anything different, but she elaborates, proudly: "If you do a deep dive on my Insta, I was A for Halloween one year," she laughs. "It's all super funny now, but it all came from the heart. And I am glad that my 15-year-old self decided to document it for the internet to see now."

For Madison, playing Imogen Adams is a delicate equation of joy and - literally - also a pain in the back. "I was Imogen 19 hours of each day for nine months. That is 19 hours of a pregnancy suit daily, and my back would hurt from the suit when I would get into bed," explains Madison. She captures Imogen's other pain points that she endured gladly all in the name of love for her craft. Main takeaways include: dying her hair blonde and stranger danger. "This is the first character that I genuinely feel is such a stranger to me, which I have never experienced before as an actor." Yet, Madison explains though she couldn't see herself in Imogen and what she goes through, the character is incredibly loyal, and Madison can identify with that.

Overall, it seems that viewers aren't the only ones in the dark in regards to the show's twists and turns. "We had no idea what was going to happen and we found out as the scripts came in to start filming," Madison assures us. The conversation naturally shifts to the messages that lie beyond the show's plot twists and secrets. "There's a lot of really important conversations," says Madison. "It gets super dark and honest, and I think that's what we try to do - create entertainment but still allow people to feel."

And after all of the secrets and magic in her acting roster, Madison is unsurprisingly "dying for a comedy" next. "I mean comedy can be scary in its own way," she begins explaining and continues laughing. "Now, at 23, I feel like I am old enough to tell those stories - and I think it'd be really fun." Say what you like, but this very conversation proves Madison has main character rom-com energy - so stay tuned.