

Tia Mowry

Contributed by Chris Yandek
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Tia Mowry as Melanie Barnett star in THE GAME on The CW. Photo: Matthias Clamer/The CW© 2006 The CW Network LLC. All Rights Reserved.

Actress Tia Mowry has a lot on her plate in 2008. She's in numerous projects and is getting married in April. The writer's strike has had an affect on shows across the board and the CW Network's The Game is no different. This coming Monday February 4th will be the last new episode of The Game until the writer's strike is resolved. After that, there is no information on the future of the show, but Tia is staying positive and hoping the second season won't be its last.

Listen to an interview with Tia Mowry
 {audio}http://thesportsinterview.com/mp3/TiaMowry.mp3{/audio}

Chris Yandek: Is it for sure after the writer's strike ends that the viewers will get all the episodes signed on for this second season?

Tia Mowry: "Oh no. Actually no. It's really difficult because it's really hard to say. There is only one new episode that will air that was filmed before January, because then it goes straight to reruns because technically the show is on strike. We haven't shot any new episodes, so that's why I am excited to tell the fans out there that there is a new episode and this is the last one. There are a lot of rumors going out there, but I would like all the fans to watch it and it's going to be a good one. I really can't answer the question on whether or not we're going to be shooting new ones. We don't know."

CY: So we really don't know what the status of the show will be at this time regarding the rest of this season and even a possible renewal of course?

TM: "Yeah. What's very disappointing is that everything is really up in the air. The show had such great momentum going into the new season. It kinda breaks my heart. I have a lot of fans asking me questions and it hurts when I can't even give them an answer to what's going on."

CY: You've really shown a lot of fire on screen this season. What do you think has been the main reason compared to the first season?

TM: "I think the difference this season is you're really getting to see Melanie go through many different emotions. Number one, I met with Mara [Brock Ali] before the season. She said get ready Tia, you're gonna go through a lot. When an executive producer tells me that you really need to get ready she really means it. You're seeing Melanie go through a break up and the realistic emotions that come along with that. There are different levels. One minute you're very angry and upset and once that subsides you're really sad when you heard about the situation. Then after that you start to become really confused about what is going on and where you need to go. So I think Mara has realistically allowed Melanie to go through those emotions you would in a relationship and real life. It's not like everything is perfect."

CY: So you've learned how hard it is to be the wife or girlfriend of a professional athlete for example?

TM: "Oh yeah. It's definitely hard. A lot of people don't know that it is difficult to date somebody of such great status whether it's the President of the United States or a preacher. Maybe you're dating somebody with such great leadership that it's difficult because there are always people throwing themselves at them. A lot of people glorify athletes and they're making a lot of money, have the big rings on their fingers, but they really don't know what goes on behind closed doors. It's difficult dating a football player. You have a lot to deal with and your man being out on the road all the time and all that kind of stuff."

CY: Growing up in an interracial family with an Italian father and African American mother must've been quite an experience, so do you feel you can relate to somebody like Barack Obama who was born to an interracial family and people are asking is he really black enough, is he not black enough?

TM: "It hurts me that race always has to be an issue. Why do we always have to play the race card? It's your character that defines who you are. Not the color of your skin. I definitely can relate. I am mixed and my mom is African American and my dad is Caucasian. You grow up with a lot of prejudices. I have to say that sometimes you get it from both worlds. When I was in high school I technically would hang out with the mixed kids sometimes because we weren't considered black enough to hang with the quote on quote black kids. We weren't white enough to hang out with the white kids. That's why it is really important to define who you are as a person, not based on your race, your hair color, and that kind of stuff. It was difficult. You know what I mean? But what I love about being mixed is you have the best of both worlds. I am not gonna sugar coat it. It is difficult because you really don't know where you're placed in this world."

CY: We have two candidates in Hilary Clinton and Barack Obama, you share things in common with both of them. Where do you feel you are in this picture with these two candidates and how you relate to them?

TM: "I have had a chance to sit back and listen to Hilary Clinton and I really like what she had to say, but then also I've heard a lot of Obama's views. To be honest with you, I am pretty much torn because I can say I have a lot in common with both candidates. I am a woman and I would love to see a woman be president. That would just be awesome. But also I would love Obama to be president of the United States. Here is a black man being a leader of our country. I really don't play the race card, but it is what these people have to offer. The color of your skin in my opinion does not define who you are. It's your character, your integrity, and what you stand for. That's the most important thing I look at in a candidate."

CY: I think the nation needs to look at these candidates not necessarily that there are a woman and a black man because they're not looking at the full picture right now.

TM: "No. It is saddening to hear that. You know what I mean? It's unfortunate and I think that lack of knowledge is ignorance. If you don't learn about both views and what they stand for and just get past all the color and that kind of stuff. In my opinion that's a sign of ignorance."

CY: I know Tamara has done some things over the years on her own as well, but what's going on with her?

TM: "My sister and I just finished shooting Twitches Too this past October and it did extremely well for the network. So we wouldn't be surprised if they asked to do another for the Disney Channel. She booked a pilot for ABC Family called Roomies, so hopefully we find out in a few days if that gets picked up. I just think that it will be amazing to have me on a show and my sister on a show. You know our fans can watch us both on different television shows. She's doing a lot and she's actually in Arizona right now getting ready for Super Bowl weekend."

CY: You got engaged last year to your boyfriend of six years. Was it just different for you guys before deciding what you wanted and have you set a wedding date yet?

TM: "Actually, Corey who is my fiancé, we really view marriage as something that is sacred and that we only want to do once. We had great examples in our lives, my mom, my dad, his dad. Were very mature about the topic. We met at 21 and we just thought we were too young to take on the responsibilities. We see marriage as taking on a lot of responsibilities. You're not just two individuals. You actually become one. You have to be ready mentally, spiritually, and physically. You're not gonna be completely ready. I know a lot of people tell us you're never gonna be completely ready for a child or completely ready for marriage, but at least you can be ready as much as possible. That's basically what we did. We wanted to continue to grow into who we are, grow together, and that it was the perfect time for us to get married. We do have a date. It's April 20th. It's right down the road and we're getting married in Santa Barbara. We're just really excited. We just picked cakes the other day and going with a company called Cake Divas and all that good stuff."

CY: I am not your wedding planner, but thanks for the information. TM: "(Laughs)"

CY: Finally, this coming week will be the last new episode of The Game and you're not sure about the future after that.

TM: "Yeah, but I also want the fans to know because it can be really confusing, that The Game is moving to Sundays starting February 10th. Now these shows will be reruns, but it's very important that the fans continue to watch the episodes so we can let the network know we want a pick up. I want the fans to know that February 4th is the last new episode of The Game as it stands for right now. It's a great episode. Melanie starts dating this new guy who has nothing to do with football, but what ends up happening is Melanie is actually taken to a Sabers football game and she really doesn't want this new guy to know about her past and Derwin. It's a funny episode. It's pretty hilarious. At the end of the episode, Derwin will see Melanie with this new guy and I think the fans will be looking forward to his reaction and what he'll think about that."

I have been told that new episodes of The Game will return in mid March 2008.

You can

catch Tia Mowry in a new episode of The

Game Monday night February 4th at 9:30 PM EST. Episodes of The Game will be moving to Sunday nights starting February 10th.

You can find more

about The Game and all the other CW

shows at www.cwtv.com