

Acacia Hernandez

### **Interview #1: Lexi**

**A: "What was the overall (rushing) experience like?"**

L: "I had never really felt like more than a girl. All of our gamma khis, which are the people that bring us around and show us the first couple days and they're like our mentors, they dropped their chapters to help us. And they were like, 'Prepare for the first open house. It's going to be really crazy. You're going to be really freaked out because you walk in, you sit down, and they start screaming and clapping and dancing- and it's just a lot. I was freaked out. It was overall a fun process because you got to meet different people and talk and make friends. Then you saw them around the quad and you were like, 'Oh hey!'"

**A: "So it was the Panhellenic council that showed you around?"**

L: "Yes there were 19 chapters so we had to rush 19 different houses."

**A: "What was something you didn't expect from the process or maybe something you weren't prepared for?"**

L: "Like the whole thing. It was just very long and very time consuming. It was a lot."

**A: "What was your favorite part?"**

L: "Probably just meeting the people and being able to walk around and say hi to everyone that I met. Seeing all the dances and how each chapter interpreted their- because the PHCPNC they have their certain things that you have to do and they're like really weird rules, but how each chapter interpreted it was interesting."

**A: "What rules were there?"**

L: "They're not allowed to touch you so they have to keep their hands behind their backs. They're not allowed to be with you in a room alone."

**A: "Girls or guys?"**

L: "The girls. There are no guys. When they talk to you you're not allowed to be in a room by yourselves because it might make you uncomfortable."

**A: "That's interesting. Was there ever a time you felt like you shouldn't be there or you felt like you couldn't relate to the girls? Or do you think everyone felt like that?"**

L: "I think everyone really felt like that. Like depending on the chapter, because I'm not a makeup fanatic or anything like that, so when I was at more intense chapters I felt a little out of place. But that's just it, I knew where I belonged."

**A: "What about bid day? How was that?"**

L: "It was awesome. Everyone opened their envelopes at the same time. And like we sprinted to our chapters and all of the girls were already in there and we had like the letters. It was an awesome feeling just turning the corner because I'm an AZD. Turning the corner I just saw most of the girls in the house."

There was a DJ, they had glitter guns and everyone's out in the middle of the street. You can hear the music, like the ground is vibrating. It was awesome. You just ran and there was a girl holding your name, and you ran up to them and hugged them. Even though you didn't know who they were."

**A: "With each house that you went to, what were the girls like? Do you think they were being real with you guys or creating a certain persona?"**

L: "They were trying to. I could get fake vibes at a lot of houses. Not bad them for them, but that's just not where I belong. I'm not fake. So I picked the house I felt most genuine at."

**A: "That's really important. Especially if you're going to have to live with them. What about initiation?"**

L: "I haven't gotten initiated yet. It's in November, so I'm technically a pledge until then."

**A: "Oh okay. Have they talked about what initiation is like?"**

L: "Nope."

**A: "Are they allowed to?"**

L: "I think they are, but it's just a fun day that they plan and I think they make it secret and a surprise."

**A: "What about after you joined the sorority-- did they have any expectations of you? What are their expectations?"**

L: "The expectations they have of themselves is not to haze, not to do anything crazy like that. But the expectations that they had of me were mostly social media related. Like I can't post a picture and tag a fraternity that I'm at. I can't wear my letters if I'm out and doing bad things because they don't want that rep. They don't have that many expectations, they just want you to be yourself. I'm not sure if that's the same for most sororities."

**A: "Yeah, I've heard a lot of stories about hazing, but mostly in fraternities."**

L: "Yeah, girls hazing is a lot more—you don't do hazing. You can't even yell at the pledges. Like one sorority was on probation last year because they yelled at their pledges."

**A: "Wow. So do you guys hang out a lot or what do you guys do together?"**

L: "We have a lot of events. Right now there's derby days going where we're competing against all the different sororities. Sigma Ki guys are our coaches. We go over there to study, we have dinners."

**A: "I don't know if your sorority does, but I've heard other sororities that have to go out during the week. Is that true?"**

L: "In my sorority we don't *have* to. Like I have an exam tonight and tomorrow, so I could tell them that. Or I could say I have a lot of homework and I'm not going out. But there are events every day."

**A: "Every day? During the week?"**

L: "Every single day. There's always something going on. Which is nice but a little overwhelming."

**A: "Do you think there's a lot of pressure to go to those things?"**

L: "Yeah they expect you to. But if you have stuff going on, they understand. A lot of us are engineers and business majors."

**A: "Do you think other sororities are as lenient?"**

L: "No. You have the more stereotypical party sororities, or you have the studious sororities. Mines more in the middle."

**A: "Is one of them Tri Delta?"**

L: "Yeah they're one of the top houses."