



Please do not impersonate the actor's representation of the below character in the film or television version.

Stranger Than Fiction

Written By Zach Helm

Ana

I went to Harvard Law. I didn't finish. ...I was... I was barely accepted. I mean barely. The only reason they let me come was because of my essay. How I was going to make the world a better place with my degree. And I went there thinking ... well, I went thinking that I might make a difference and uh...well... Harvard Law has the smartest people in the world, people who will one day shape the earth, and it's competitive and vicious and exhausting... And I'd have to participate in these study sessions, classmates and I, all night long. Sometimes for a couple of days straight. And so...And so I would bake – cookies usually – so no one would go hungry while we worked. I'd bake all afternoon in the kitchen in the dorm before a big study session and write down what I was doing in one of those black Mead journals they sell by the gross in the Campus Bookstore. And I'd bring my little treats to the study groups...and people loved them. Oatmeal Cookies. Peanut Butter Bars. Chocolate Chip and Macadamia Nut Wedges. And everyone would eat and stay happy and study harder and do better on the tests and more people would come to the study groups and the study groups got better and I would make more snacks and try to find better recipes and the results would always get better and better and soon it was Cheese and Apricot Croissants and Mocha Bars with Almond Glaze and Lemon Chiffon Cakes with Zesty Peach icing and our study groups were famous around all of Cambridge: not because we had the most copious notes, or the smartest people, but because we had the best snacks.....And at the end of the spring term...I had 27 study partners, eight black Mead journals filled with recipes...and a D average. *(Pause)* So I dropped out. Simply without alarm, and without any regrets. *(Pause)* I just figured, if I was gonna make the world a better place... I'd do it with cookies.