

THE PILL  
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**Logline:** A ground-breaking top-secret drug that promises to “take the gay away” is vigorously debated over a birthday Seder dinner among friends.

**Genre:** Drama, Sci-Fi

**Audience:** Adults, 20s-60s, LGBTQ

**Themes:** Self-identity, self-worth, the moral high ground versus real life

**Synopsis:** It is the present time, and we have a President who does little to hide his distaste for minority groups. Ava Baumann is a wealthy owner of a pharmaceutical company that, having received large donations from highly placed sources, recently developed a top-secret designer drug that targets the “gay gene.” The drug makes it possible to not only suppress the homosexual impulse, but also promote heterosexual desire. Ava is conflicted about whether to release the drug, but she knows it will make billions. Her shareholders are expecting a status report and, given the failure of her last launch, some are threatening mutiny. It is under this heavy cloud that she is holding a birthday Seder dinner for her husband, Michael. Their guests include Ava’s pot smoking brother Pete, the liberal-thinking neighbors Alec and Debbie, church going friends Chris and Tara, and Ava’s best friend, Raina, an openly gay doctor who can be counted on for strong opinions. Conversation with this group is always lively, but no one expects the sharp turn things take when Michael gets a little drunk and spills the news about Ava’s new drug. Tension quickly heats up as the dinner guests react with unique and widely ranging views. How does it work? What gives them the right? Would society actually benefit from such a drug? What about the people the drug targets? Would anyone ever want to change who they really are? And what about the even darker ramifications? Could this drug eventually be *forced* on people? Or given to them surreptitiously? Ava must consider all sides because once the drug is out, there can be no taking it back. In the end the strongest rebuke comes from Raina. A series of flashbacks shows us her long history with Ava, and we learn Raina is in a unique position to know what scares Ava most of all. Can Raina do everything in her power to stop this drug, even if it means giving up Ava’s most precious secrets?

#### **Unique Marketing Potential:**

In a world where scientific possibilities seem endless and Big Pharma continues to create expensive drugs for every possible condition, the debate is raging all across America – do we really need these drugs? Who is pulling the strings? And at what cost? This would make an excellent arthouse and/or film festival film. Given the primary location of a friendly dinner gathering, the movie could be made at a relatively low budget.

#### **About the Writer:**

Kelsey Tucker is an attorney, writer, producer and actor. She recently wrote and produced her first feature film, *THE COMPETITION*, which had a limited theatrical release in 2018. She is currently working on several new screenplays, including *RUSH THE MOON*, about a boy and his grandfather and how none of us ever truly grows old, and *THE MAGIC PAINTBRUSH & THE DOORWAY THROUGH THE NORTHERN LIGHTS*, about a 12-year old girl who must summon enough magic to paint a doorway for Santa and his sleigh to come through in time to save Christmas.