

SHY SINGER

Written by

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INT. HOME - SHOWER - MORNING

EMMA (18) is in the shower singing a song. This goes on for the first 30 seconds as we see the interior of the bathroom.

INT. HOME - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Emma enters the room continuing to sing. We see b-roll of her room as she gets ready to go to school.

Her roommate CLAIRE (18) knocks on her door.

CLAIRE O.S.

Come on Emma, we're going to be late for class.

EMMA

Ok, I'm almost ready.

INT. SCHOOL - HALLWAY - MORNING

Nicole and Claire are walking in the hallway.

CLAIRE

My art show is this weekend, would you want to come?

EMMA

When is it?

CLAIRE

Saturday at 5pm.

EMMA

Yeah, I should be free.

CLAIRE

Ah, I almost forgot the auditions for the musical is this Saturday. What time is that at?

EMMA

Noon.

CLAIRE

Well, are you going to audition?

EMMA

I can't. You know I'm terrified of stage performance.

CLAIRE  
Emma, you have to stop being so nervous. You have a talent.

EMMA  
It's not that easy.

Emma and Claire stop walking in the hallway and stand in front of a bulletin board with a bunch of flyers attached to it. Claire looks at a flyer.

CLAIRE  
Maybe the singing lessons can help you with your fear?

EMMA  
Yeah, sing in front of a group of people... what a great idea!

Emma rolls her eyes.

CLAIRE  
It will give you a chance to conquer your fear and audition for the play.

EMMA  
I already told you, I'm not auditioning. Sebastian William is one of the judges from the musical Underground. I would feel defeated if he didn't like my voice.

CLAIRE  
Oh my god, the Sebastian Williams.

EMMA  
Yes Claire.

CLAIRE  
This would be an amazing opportunity for you.

EMMA  
Yeah I'm sure it would, but this fear is holding me back.

CLAIRE  
Ok well here.

Claire rips off a number/slip from the singing lessons flyer and hands it to Emma.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)

Take this in case you change your  
mind.

Emma looks at the slip/number and walks away with the number.  
She throws out the number.

INT. SCHOOL - HALLWAY - NEXT MORNING

It is the next morning and Emma is in new clothes. Emma walks  
by the same bulletin board and rips off a new number/slip.  
She walks away from the bulletin board and throws out the  
number/slip.

Emma walks to into her class.

INT. SCHOOL - HALLWAY - NEXT MORNING

Emma repeats her actions from the morning before. We notice  
there are less number/slips attached to the flyer. She looks  
at this number/slip longer than the previous day and throws  
it out again.

INT. SCHOOL - HALLWAY - NEXT MORNING

Emma repeats the same actions. This time, she keeps the  
number/slip. A beat.

INT. SCHOOL - CLASSROOM - AFTERNOON

Emma walks into a classroom with people sitting in a circle.  
Emma sits down in one of the empty chairs.

The SINGING INSTRUCTOR (35) walks into the room.

SINGING INSTRUCTOR

Glad you guys could make it! I see  
a few new familiar faces.

Singing Instructor looks at Emma. Emma smiles then puts her  
head down.

SINGING INSTRUCTOR (CONT'D)

Today, we're each going to sing the  
song of your choice that you will  
be auditioning for the play and  
critiquing what we can work on  
after. Who would like to start out  
first?

Everyone looks around at one another.

SINGING INSTRUCTOR (CONT'D)  
Let's start off with a new person  
that we haven't heard before?  
Emma...?

She see's her crush AUSTIN (18) walk in the room. Austin is in the corner working on the technician. Emma is frozen.

EMMA  
I... I forgot I had to go feed my  
Austin!  
Emma pauses. The entire classes looks at her stunned. Austin looks confused.

EMMA (CONT'D)  
I mean my fish... named Austin!  
Emma laughs awkwardly as she's embarrassed.

EMMA (CONT'D)  
I have to go!  
Emma grabs her backpack and exits the room.

INT. SCHOOL - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Emma walks out of the classroom into the hallway. She goes against a wall breathing heavily. She exits the school.

INT. HOME BEDROOM - EVENING

Emma is on her phone stalking Austin's social media. She scrolls through his pictures. She stops and looks down at the audition flyer.

EMMA V.O.  
How can I do this?

Emma sits back at her desk with the flyer in her hand. She appears stumped.

Claire KNOCKS on Emma's door as it is already a crack open.

CLAIRE  
Hey, do you think you can help me  
out with...

Emma looks up from her desk with the flyer in her hand.

CLAIRE (CONT'D)

Are you still debating on auditioning? You need to do this, it would be so good for you!

EMMA

I choked at the lessons today, literally made a fool out of myself! I saw Austin and lost it. I had no idea he was apart of theater crew. How would I be able to perform in front of Sebastian Williams if I can't even perform in front of a small group?

CLAIRE

Okay... maybe the lessons didn't go so well but you can do this.

Emma rolls her eyes and breathes heavily.

CLAIRE CONTINUOUS

You just need to get over the fear. When you're performing, think of it as your alone. When I first started painting, I was nervous to display my artwork too. But when I was younger, my grandmother always used to tell me a head full of fear has no space for dream. I lived by this quote ever since.

EMMA

I really appreciate the love and support, I just don't know how I'm going to get over this fear.

CLAIRE

Why don't we go and watch the auditions before my art show? Maybe watching the auditions will help out your fear.

We see Emma think about this decision.

EMMA

Okay.

Emma gets a call from her mom. She takes the call.

EMMA (CONT'D)

Hey Mom, what's up?

Claire walks into her room and goes on her computer. She opens the computer to sign up Emma for the audition without Emma knowing.

INT. CAR - FRONT OF THEATER - MORNING

Emma and Claire pull up to the theater.

CLAIRE  
I'll go park the car.

EMMA  
Okay.

EXT. CAR - FRONT OF THEATER - CONTINUOUS

Emma gets out of the car and Claire pulls away to find a parking spot.

INT. THEATER - CONTINUOUS

She sits in the back and watches the performance. A boy finishes his song.

JUDGE #1  
Thank you...

Girl singer exits of the stage.

JUDGE #1 (CONT'D)  
Next up, Emma Jones.

Emma freezes. She looks around to see if anyone else is in the room. No one goes up to the stage.

EMMA  
Me?

The beginning of Emma's audition song begins.

JUDGE #2  
Well, are you Emma Jones?

EMMA  
Yes... but I didn't sign up?

JUDGE #2  
Well someone did for you... are you going to audition or not?

A beat.

EMMA

Claire.

Emma says under her breath.

JUDGE #1

Last call for Emma Jones.

Emma jumps up and walks to the front of the stage. Emma makes eye contact with Sebastian as she walks towards the stage.

Emma stands on the stage frozen. A beat.

Emma stares at the empty audience looking for Claire.

Emma turns around and closes her eyes. She begins to sing...

EMMA

\*singing lyrics\*

Emma begins to feel more comfortable and opens her eyes.

EMMA (CONT'D)

\*singing lyrics\*

Emma turns around to face the audience and judges. She looks into the crowd. Emma spots Claire. Claire gives her the thumbs up.

We see Austin watching Emma singing from a distance.

Emma finishes her song. She seems nervous but relieved as well. She waits for a reaction from the judges.

SEBASTIAN

Thank you.

Sebastian looks at his forms displeased.

SEBASTIAN (CONT'D)

Next up, Olivia Rich.

Emma walks off the stage in disappointment. Austin approaches Emma.

AUSTIN

Hey, Emma right?

Emma stops walking and looks startled.

EMMA

Yeah?



AUSTIN

Your performance was amazing! I think you have a great shot at getting a role in the play.

Emma has a smirk on her face and her cheeks begin to turn red.

EMMA

Thank you so much. That means a lot!

AUSTIN

Would you be interested in getting coffee sometime and maybe practicing together?

Emma looks at Claire. Claire is in shock.

EMMA

Yeah, that would be awesome!

CLAIRE

I'm going to go grab the car.

Claire exits the theater.

AUSTIN

Cool, what day would work best for you?

Emma and Austin begin to have side convo. They slowly exit the theater.

FADE TO BLACK.

Roll credits.