

## **NERVOUS The Musical**

written by

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**Faith Based Student Musicals**

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**BECKY**(F) Responsible, thoughtful, leadership qualities.

**JAMEY**(M/F) Mature, loyal, keeps Pinky in line.

**PINKY**(F) Fun loving, spirited, keeps it light, stays on the surface.

**INTERVIEWER**(M/F) Serious, adult-ish, businesslike. Non-singing role.

## **TRACK CUE #1 NERVOUS OVERTURE**

### **SCENE ONE**

*Becky, Jamey and Pinky in school hallway before or between classes.*

*Becky scrolling phone.*

**PINKY**

(to Becky)

Hey! You're scrolling more than me today. Expecting to hear from Zac Efron?

*Change star name to keep relevant with your community.*

**BECKY**

I keep hoping I'll hear from **America's Next Top Superstar Student**. I applied to be on their show and if I get it, it means an all expense paid trip to Los Angeles next summer.

**PINKY**

Los Angeles! Wow! Maybe you will hear from Zac Efron.

**JAMEY**

Hope you get it, Becky!

**BECKY**

Me too, cause if I don't, I'll have to watch my little brothers all summer.

**ALL**

UGGGHHH!

**JAMEY**

I remember when you applied before. Didn't you make it through 3 rounds last year?

**BECKY**

Yeah, I did, actually.

**PINKY**

Ohh! So exciting!

**BECKY**

Don't get too excited. I got this far last year, and the year before. Then everything fell apart like it always does - on the terrifying **Interview** portion.

*PINKY does drama sound.*

**JAMEY**

Pinky!

*Becky sees screen notification, stops scrolling.*

**BECKY**

Here it is! Here it is!

(reading)

An Official Notification from **America's Next Top Superstar Student.**

**PINKY**

Open it!! I'll help you fix your face if you cry.

*BECKY reads phone. Looks up with joy!*

**BECKY**

I'm going on to round 3!

*BECKY looks worried.*

Wait! That means I'll have to pass the **interview.**

*ALL do dreaded, fearful reaction.*

**TRACK CUE #2 WHEN I GET NERVOUS PART 1**

*BECKY does big inhale on intro.*

**BECKY (CONT'D)**

(reading)

I'M IN THE THIRD ROUND, IT'S DOWN TO THE FINAL TWO.

AND ALL I HAVE DO IS PASS THE INTERVIEW.  
 I'M THE WORST! I GET SO NERVOUS  
 I WON'T MAKE IT THROUGH.  
 WITHOUT THAT AWFUL THING I DO.  
 WHEN I AM IN AN INTERVIEW.

**JAMEY AND PINKY**

What? What do you do?

**BECKY**

I CAN TELL YOU CAUSE YOU'RE BOTH SUCH GOOD FRIENDS.  
 IF I SAY IT HERE, MAYBE HERE'S WHERE IT ENDS.  
 IT STARTS OUT ALRIGHT,  
 THEN THINGS DON'T GO AS PLANNED.  
 SOMETIMES I..

**PINKY**

-laugh at their joke that you don't understand!

**JAMEY**

Pinky!

**BECKY**

What!?! What are you talking about?

**PINKY**

You know how people just laugh when they really aren't sure what's funny...

*JAMEY clears throat to cut PINKY off.*

**BECKY**

I don't do that, do I?

*JAMEY gives PINKY obvious "behave" look.*

**PINKY**

Uhh...no...I guess not.

**BECKY**

OK good.

**TRACK CUE #3 WHEN I GET NERVOUS PART 2**

I'LL TRY AGAIN, CAUSE I NEED YOU TO PRAY  
THAT I DON'T DO THIS THING ON THAT INTERVIEW DAY.  
IT FEELS SO SCARY AND OUT OF CONTROL.  
SOMETIMES I...

**PINKY**

...run the other way when you're embarrassed to see somebody you know!?!

**BECKY**

No! I don't do that! Do I do that?

*PINKY looks to JAMEY who's shaking head "No."*

**PINKY**

No! Actually I've **never** seen you do that. Or anyone! No one has **ever** done that. **Ever.**

**BECKY**

OK, thank you. May I please finish?

*PINKY holds out her ears.*

**PINKY**

All ears. Put your troubles on PINKY.

**TRACK CUE #4 WHEN I GET NERVOUS PART 3**

PLEASE HOLD YOUR GUESS AND JUST LISTEN THIS TIME.  
IN STRESSED CONVERSATION THINGS RARELY GO FINE.  
WHEN I GET NERVOUS, MY THINKING'S NOT CLEAR.  
SOMETIMES I -

**PINKY (CONT'D)**

- start twirling you hair? Biting your nails? Digging at the wax in your ear-

**JAMEY**

Would you stop it!!!!

**PINKY**

I'm sorry, I'm sorry. I just know the answer so bad!

**JAMEY**

Well you don't know this one 'cause you keep interrupting.

**PINKY**

That's it! You interrupt them!

*JAMEY puts hand over PINKY's mouth.*

**JAMEY**

No, that's YOU!

*Calming beat.*

Please tell us, Becky. We're **both** listening.

**BECKY**

(accelerating pace and vocal pitch)

Thank you, Jamey. OK, when I get nervous in a conversation, I always talk too much! It's like I can't stop talking.

**TRACK CUE #5 SXF RISING TREMOLO 1**

I give WAY too much information! Like I talk about how before I was born, how my grandparents worked in a chicken factory and how their parents before that - my GREAT grandparents - ran a rodeo and...well it wasn't really a rodeo, more like a circus-

**JAMEY AND PINKY**

STOP!!!! OVERSHARE! TMI!

**PINKY (CONT'D)**

I thought everybody did that.

**JAMEY**

("of course")

That tracks.

**BECKY**

No, some people clam up and don't know what to say. But me...I tell my whole life's story.

I don't think I can put myself through an interview again. I'm not gonna do it. It's so nerve wracking and embarrassing.

**PINKY**

Wait! Did I just hear you say you're not gonna do it? As in, "Give up?" as in, "I quit," as in, "Let it Go?"

*PINKY becomes ELSA singing "Let the storm rage on..."*

*JAMEY puts hand over PINKY's mouth mid-phrase.*

**PINKY (CONT'D)**

Hey!

**JAMEY**

Becky, you're not gonna walk away from this are you?

**BECKY**

Yes, I'm gonna walk away because I don't want to walk out crying again.

**PINKY**

But you can't.

**BECKY**

Look, you're not the ones sitting in the hot seat, face on fire, with a Big Wig staring at you. Not to mention letting everybody down.

**JAMEY**

You won't let us down no matter what happens in the interview. You will let us down if you don't go in and try.

**BECKY**

What? Why are you guiltting me!?! You been talking to my Mother?

**JAMEY**

(confessional)

Look, I know how easy it is to not try things that take courage. I'm an expert at it. I find all kinds of reasons not to try things when I'm scared.

*Beat.*

But you're strong.

**BECKY**

Wow, Jamey. I...I never knew you felt that way.

But you have to understand...I **am** like you. I'm scared too! I don't do hard things because I **am** strong.

I do hard things...because they make me stronger.

**PINKY**

(melodramatic)

That was deep.

*Beat for Becky to ponder.*

**BECKY**

OK! I'll do it...for you. And for my own good. But will you guys help me practice?

**PINKY**

Will we help you practice!?! Of course! I took public speaking!?!?

**JAMEY**

Didn't you get a D?

**PINKY**

Uhh...cue the music!

**TRACK CUE #6 WHEN I GET NERVOUS PART 4**

**JAMEY AND PINKY (CONT'D)**

SHE'S IN THE THIRD ROUND,  
SHE'S DOWN TO THE FINAL TWO.  
AND ALL SHE HAS TO DO IS PASS THE INTERVIEW.



WE ARE HERE TO CALM YOUR FEAR  
AND HELP YOU MAKE IT THROUGH.  
AND BE THE SHINING STAR THAT'S YOU.  
WHEN YOU ARE IN THAT INTERVIEW.

*On button, PINKY sits across desk as INTERVIEWER, BECKY sits as INTERVIEWEE.*

## **SCENE 2 - INTERVIEW PRACTICE**

**PINKY**

(adult voice)

Ok, Ms. Richards...If it was your last day on earth, would you choose:  
Coke,

Pepsi,

or a Venti Cappuccino with vanilla cold foam, and a shot of hazelnut? I'm  
obsessed with those things!

**JAMEY**

PINKY!!! They're not gonna ask anything like that!

**PINKY**

OK, OK lemme try again.

You're on a plane that's about to crash over the Atlantic. There's only one  
oxygen mask left between you and an elderly lady beside you. Do you:

A) Put the mask on her?

B) Put the mask on yourself? After all, you have your whole life ahead of  
you. Or,

C) Put the mask on her and post a picture to Instagram, to make sure  
everybody remembers you're a good person?

**JAMEY**

Move, I'll handle this.

*JAMEY replaces PINKY in Interviewer's seat.*

(to BECKY)

Ms. Richards, can you tell us your full name?

**BECKY**

Rebecca Annette Richards.

**TRACK CUE #7 SFX RISING TREMOLO 2****BECKY (CONT'D)**

Well, it was gonna be Rebecca Nicole Richards, but my Dad thought, "Yikes, that makes her initials RNR - the same as my old Uncle Reno - Renaldo Newton Richards. What a scumbag! That loser ran off with my grandmother's life savings, and his dry cleaner's cousin's niece. Then there was that mysterious jewel heist the night he said he was home baking cookies...

**JAMEY**

STOP!!!!

Focus, focus. Let's try again.

Ms. Richards, how long has your family lived in Atlanta.

*Fill in your area name.*

**BECKY**

Let me think...we moved here when I was in Preschool...

**TRACK CUE #8 SFX RISING TREMOLO 3****BECKY (CONT'D)**

...not my first year of preschool, actually my second...not that I flunked preschool...that would be tough to do...I've never flunked anything...well there was that unfortunate incident with the play dough and the EZ Bake Oven...

**JAMEY AND PINKY**

STOP!!!!

**JAMEY**

Less is more, less is more. Repeat after me: I'll just say what I mean.

**BECKY**

I'll just say what I mean.

**JAMEY**

And I'll mean what I say.

**BECKY**

And I'll mean what I say.

**JAMEY**

Let's start there.

**TRACK CUE #9 SAY WHAT I MEAN**

*CHORUS - BECKY*

I HAVE TO SAY WHAT I MEAN, MEAN WHAT I SAY.  
DON'T LET MY NERVES HIJACK MY  
TONGUE ON INTERVIEW DAY.  
TMI, NOT OK! GOTTA PRACTICE AND PRAY  
THAT MY MOUTH DOESN'T GALLOP AWAY  
ON INTERVIEW DAY.

*VERSE 1 - PINKY AND JAMEY*

I HOPE YOU KEEP IT FOCUSED.  
I HOPE YOU KEEP CONTROL.  
I HOPE YOU WON'T GO CHASING  
DOWN A RANDOM RABBIT HOLE.  
IF YA WANNA SAY IT SIMPLY,  
THEN FORREST GUMP'S YOUR MAN.  
"LIFE IS LIKE A BOX OF CHOCOLATES."  
Y'ALL UNDERSTAND?

*CHORUS - PINKY AND JAMEY ADD BACK UP*

I HAVE TO SAY WHAT I MEAN, MEAN WHAT I SAY.  
DON'T LET MY NERVES HIJACK MY  
TONGUE ON INTERVIEW DAY.  
TMI, NOT OK. GOTTA PRACTICE AND PRAY  
THAT MY MOUTH DOESN'T GALLOP  
AWAY ON INTERVIEW DAY.

*VERSE 2 - PINKY AND JAMEY*

TRY NOT TO RUN YOUR YAPPER  
 IN CIRCLES ROUND AND ROUND.  
 THEY SAY IT'S TRUE THAT SOMETIMES  
 FEWER WORDS CAN BE PROFOUND.  
 BRANDO MADE IT CLEARER  
 THAN IT'S EVER BEEN BEFORE.  
 "MAKE HIM AN OFFER HE CAN'T REFUSE."  
 NEED I SAY MORE?

*VERSE 3 - PINKY AND JAMEY*  
 I HOPE YOU'RE NOT SO BORING  
 THEY'RE FALLING OFF THEIR CHAIR.  
 I HOPE YOU CAN RESIST THE URGE  
 TO BLAB INTO THE AIR.  
 THE LUNAR MISSION ASTRONAUTS  
 PICKED UP THE RADIO,  
 "HOUSTON, WE HAVE A PROBLEM."  
 THAT'S ALL YA NEED TO KNOW.

*CHORUS - SUPER CAMPY DANCING ON TOP OF DESKS, ECT.*  
 I HAVE TO SAY WHAT I MEAN, MEAN WHAT I SAY.  
 DON'T LET MY NERVES HIJACK MY  
 TONGUE ON INTERVIEW DAY.  
 TMI, NOT OK. GOTTA PRACTICE AND PRAY  
 THAT MY MOUTH DOESN'T GALLOP AWAY  
 ON INTERVIEW DAY.

*VERSE 4 - PINKY AND JAMEY*  
 JUST PONDER EVERY QUESTION  
 AND ANSWER AS YOU OUGHT.  
 AND DON'T GO ON A TANGENT  
 WITH A CRAZY RANDOM THOUGHT.  
 FEWER WORDS WILL SERVE YOU,  
 IT'S THE LESSON FOR THE DAY.

*TAG - ALL*  
 WHEN MY MOUTH STARTS TO ROAM, "ET PHONE HOME."  
 IT'S EASY TO SEE. "YOU TALKING TO ME?"  
 I KNOW THAT IT'S TRUE. "THE FORCE BE WITH YOU."  
 WHEN YOU FEEL ALONE, "THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME."  
 "I'LL BE BACK!"  
 WHAT MORE CAN WE SAY?  
 I'LL SAY WHAT I MEAN.

### **SCENE THREE - THE INTERVIEW**

*PINKY positions herself to "spy" by peeking/putting her ear through an opening or around a flat or partition to observe the interview. The INTERVIEWER's back is to PINKY so they are unaware PINKY is watching. PINKY is facing BECKY.*

*PINKY could be on JAMEY'S back, or shoulders, or standing chair/furniture, etc.*

*PINKY gives JAMEY blow by blow commentary in gestures and stage whispers.*

**INTERVIEWER**

Welcome! And congratulations on making it all the way to round 3 for this year's **America's Next Top Superstar Student - So You Think You Can Study.**

OK, first question: Please tell us your full name.

*JAMEY and PINKY cross fingers, "You got this!" gesture.*

*PINKY returns to listen.*

**BECKY**

Rebecca Annette Richards.

*PINKY and JAMEY do a "stop there" gesture.*

**INTERVIEWER**

Thank you. And how long have you lived here in the Atlanta area?

*Change Atlanta to your area.*

*Nervous freeze.*

**BECKY**

My father's job brought us here when I was in Preschool.

*JAMEY and PINKY do a brow wipe of relief when Interview resumes.*

**INTERVIEWER**

Thank you. And actually, this is our only question for today...

**PINKY**

(stage whisper)

It's gonna be about the coffee. I bet it's about the coffee..You shoulda let me prep her for the coffee ques-

*JAMEY cuts her off.*

**INTERVIEWER**

If we asked your friends and family to write down 5 words that describe you, what would you like those 5 words to be?

*JAMEY AND PINKY freeze in comic praying position, counting down each word.*

**BECKY**

Let me think...five words...let's see...

loving,

**TRACK #10 SFX CHORDS BETWEEN WORDS**

loving,

**INTERVIEWER**

grateful,

**BECKY**

grateful,

**INTERVIEWER**

respectful,

**BECKY**

respectful,

**INTERVIEWER**

encouraging,

**BECKY**

encouraging. Great.

**INTERVIEWER**

And one more word.

*PINKY and JAMEY gesture "only one."*

**BECKY**

Courageous!

*JAMEY and PINKY do giant celebration gestures.*

**TRACK CUE #11 SFX "TA DA" INTO RISING TREMOLO INTO CRASH**

*Until...Throughout following speech, JAMEY and PINKY increasingly panic, doing "Oh no" takes. They scramble with "Cut," "Enough," gestures.*

...well, I wish I was more courageous is what I should say...but I've always been intimidated by people who seem powerful. It all started when I was in Second Grade. Ms. Cutright called on me and I knew the answer was North Dakota, but I got so nervous I said New Dakota and everyone laughed at me and after that I was so scared...

*PINKY grows desperate throughout Becky's rant until she fakes an obnoxious sneeze, falls off chair, drops her shoe, etc.*

*INTERVIEWER is distracted.*

**INTERVIEWER**

Oh...I'm sorry Ms. Richards. I hear some commotion in the hall.

I think we best conclude it there.

Your interview is complete.

*PINKY and JAMEY scramble to exit.*

*INTERVIEWER scans the room, sees nothing, shrugs, exits.*

**SCENE FOUR - WRAP UP**

*JAMEY and PINKY are congratulating BECKY as all reenter following the scramble.*

**JAMEY**

I know that wasn't easy, Becky. I'm so proud of you for making yourself go through with it, really. Makes me want to face some fears.

**BECKY**

Thanks, Jamey. I don't know if I'll get it, but I'm glad I went through with it.

**PINKY**

You slayed it Becky! You were smooth as silk. Good thing we helped you practice, huh? You weren't scared at all!

**BECKY**

Right. I wasn't scared.

*Beat.*

I was petrified!

But every time I go through with something that scares me, it makes my faith stronger, and brings me closer to the Lord.

I think the scary times, and the hard times...

**TRACK CUE #12 LOOK AT WHAT IT BRINGS**

...are the times I've felt the Lord's presence the most.

**VERSE 1**

IF YOU THINK I WASN'T SCARED,  
I NEED TO MAKE IT CLEAR,  
I'VE LOST MY PHONE, I'VE LOST MY VOICE,  
BUT I'VE NEVER LOST MY FEAR.  
SAFE INSIDE MY COMFORT ZONE,  
I'D RATHER FADE AWAY,  
AND EVERYTHING INSIDE ME WANTS TO SAY,

**CHORUS**

HEY THAT'S OK, LORD, CALL ME A BORE.  
I'LL STAY, LORD, HERE ON THE SHORE.  
AND PRAY LORD, THAT WASN'T YOUR HEART  
TELLING ME TO  
STAND UP, FEET TO THE FLOOR.  
WITH COURAGE, WALK THROUGH THE DOOR.  
WHERE I'M LESS, YOU'LL MAKE ME MORE,  
CAUSE YOU ARE WITH ME.  
YOU'RE ALWAYS THERE TO HELP ME DO HARD THINGS,  
AND LOOK AT WHAT IT BRINGS!

**VERSE 2**

WHEN I FACE A CHALLENGE,  
FEELING SCARED AND SO ALONE.  
I THINK OF THOSE WHO'VE GONE BEFORE,  
AND THE COURAGE THAT THEY'VE SHOWN.  
WHAT IF ALL THE HEROES  
GAVE IT UP AND BACKED AWAY?  
WHAT IF ALL THE HEROES CHOSE TO SAY

**CHORUS**

HEY THAT'S OK, LORD, CALL ME A BORE.  
I'LL STAY, LORD, HERE ON THE SHORE.  
AND PRAY LORD, THAT WASN'T YOUR HEART  
TELLING ME TO  
STAND UP, FEET TO THE FLOOR.



WITH COURAGE, WALK THROUGH THE DOOR.  
 WHERE I'M LESS, YOU'LL MAKE ME MORE  
 CAUSE YOU ARE WITH ME.  
 YOU'RE ALWAYS THERE TO HELP ME DO HARD THINGS,  
 AND LOOK AT WHAT IT BRINGS!

**BRIDGE -OPTIONAL SOLOS**

DANIEL MUST HAVE FEARED THE DEN,  
 BUT GOD SHOWED UP WHEN HE STEPPED IN.  
 IF PETER HADN'T LEFT THE BOAT,  
 HE'D NEVER KNOW HIS FEET WOULD FLOAT.  
 WOULD PHAROAH'VE SET THE PEOPLE FREE  
 IF MOSES STUCK WITH,

**PINKY**

(whining, as Moses)

No, not me, Lord. Pleeassee. Don't make me. No!  
 Don't make me..

*PINKY makes "Moses" looking Biblical headpiece out of a scarf,  
 costume piece, fabric out of backpack, etc.*

**CHORUS (PINKY WHINING, AS MOSES)**

HEY THAT'S OK, LORD, CALL ME A BORE.  
 I'LL STAY, LORD, HERE ON THE SHORE.  
 AND PRAY LORD, THAT WASN'T YOUR HEART

**ALL**

TELLING ME TO...  
 STAND UP, FEET TO THE FLOOR.  
 WITH COURAGE, WALK THROUGH THE DOOR.  
 WHERE I'M LESS, YOU'LL MAKE ME MORE.  
 CAUSE YOU ARE WITH ME.  
 YOU'RE ALWAYS THERE TO HELP ME DO HARD THINGS,  
 AND LOOK AT WHAT IT BRINGS!

**TAG**

LOOK AT WHAT IT BRINGS, WHEN YOU DO HARD THINGS.  
 LOOK AT WHAT IT BRINGS, WHEN YOU DO HARD THINGS.

*PINKY takes off with this cadence, singing, clapping, with  
 increasing abandon.*

*BECKY, JAMEY and track fade out as PINKY carries on,  
 oblivious.*

*PINKY*

LOOK AT WHAT IT BRINGS, WHEN YOU DO HARD THINGS.  
LOOK AT WHAT IT BRINGS, WHEN YOU DO HARD THINGS.

**BECKY**

Oh, oh, I forgot to mention...on the form, it said they need an interview two character witnesses who know me well.

*Beat.*

I put you two.

They'll be calling tomorrow to schedule you.

*PINKY freezes dead in her tracks.*

**TRACK CUE #13 SFX PINKY INTERVIEW RESPONSE**

**PINKY**

Huh?

**TRACK CUE #14 LOOK AT WHAT IT BRINGS FINALE**

**BECKY AND JAMEY**

HE'S ALWAYS THERE TO HELP US DO HARD THINGS,  
AND LOOK AT WHAT IT BRINGS!

THE END

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