

SING-A-LONG SYNDROME

By

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CUT From Black:

INT. LEILA'S Home Kitchen/living area

GIRL (LEILA) leaving home for school. Finishes tying her shoe, stands up, pulls her backpack up onto her shoulder.

GIRL  
Bye Mom!

MOM  
(Without looking)  
Have a good day at school.

GIRL walks out of frame while the camera stays on mom and the news report she is watching -- a slow push to the TV screen where the reporter is talking about a strange syndrome that is sweeping the country causing involuntary movement and vocalization. There have been no known reports in our area yet...

FADE to black

GIRL meets up with some friends just outside of the school they all greet each other. When the bell rings, they all look and start heading for the front doors.

FADE IN:

EXT. AMERICAN FORK JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL- MORNING

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CROWDED HALL

**JORDAN, a tall dude swinging the hall pass is walking side by side with MASON, JORDAN'S friend, An athlete who has a hidden talent of singing, earbud always in ear. They are having a silent conversation**  
**SADIE, a very shy, quiet girl. Walking with SARAH- SADIE'S BFF, a loud, spastic outgoing girl. They pass JORDAN and MASON in the hall.**

JORDAN  
Hey Sarah

SARAH  
 (waving) Oh! Hi!

CUT TO:

INT. DANCE/WEIGHT ROOM  
 Class is doing spins across floor  
 (Close up)

**LEILA, An amazing dancer, more graceful than the others,  
 doing spins with class**

CUT TO:

INT. FULL CLASSROOM - MIDDAY  
**STEWART, your classic B student, music prodigy. He is  
 sitting in a practice room...**

STEWART'S DESK

And is looking over some sheet music, quietly humming to  
 himself.

FADE OUT: (Scene 2)

FADE IN:

EXT. American Fork Junior High School- MORNING

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. Crowded hall  
 JORDAN is Walking side by side with MASON, having a silent  
 conversation

SADIE, is walking with SARAH. They pass JORDAN and MASON in  
 the hall.

JORDAN

Hey Sarah

SARAH

(waving) Hey Jordan!

3 other girls turn around with jazz hands

3 GIRLS

(singing)

Hey Jordan!

3 GIRLS walk away

JORDAN, SADIE, & SARAH stand in awe of what just happened

JORDAN

(to SADIE & SARAH)

Did you see that?

SARAH

Um, yeah...(Pause) (shakes out of  
 it) We better get to class. See  
 ya!

INT. DANCE/WEIGHT ROOM

LEILA enters. "DANCE TO HIP-HOP CUT 3" Is playing loudly. Her jaw drops, Class is doing a different routine.

**In the night I hear them talk, coldest story ever  
told. Somewhere far along this road he lost his  
soul to a woman so heartless.  
Saka boom, saka boom, saka boom  
Saka boom, saka boom, saka boom  
Hey hey**

LEILA

(confused)

This isn't the routine we've been working on.

Class continues with routine, ignoring her comment. LEILA tries joining in, but the the routine is too complicated for her to catch up. She flops then the music stops, classical music plays, and class goes back to doing spins across floor while LEILA is on the floor.

INT. FULL CLASSROOM - MIDDAY

STEWART'S DESK-FRONT VIEW

STEWART is looking at his sheet music and "Sail" starts to play. STEWART looks around, confused.

**This is how I show my love  
I made it in my mind because  
I blame it on my ADD baby  
This is how an angel cries  
Blame it on my own sick pride  
Blame it on my ADD baby  
Blame it on my AD  
Sail!**

Classmates' heads pop up and join in on "**sail!**". Eventually, the class slows down and scoffs at STEWART because he isn't in sync with everyone else. They go back to their test  
BELL RINGS. STEWART walks to the lunchroom.

CUT TO: Scene 3

INT. LUNCHROOM - MIDDAY

STEWART enters. "Shake it Off" plays. Students in cafeteria start to dance.

(dialogue is during song)

**Cause players gonna play, play, play, play, play**

**And haters gonna hate, hate, hate, hate**

**Baby, I'm just gonna shake it off**

**Heartbreakers gonna break, break, break,**

**Break**

**And the fakers gonna fake, fake, fake, fake**

**Baby I'm just gonna shake, shake, shake,**

**Shake, shake**

**I shake it off, I shake it off**

STEWART

Not again!

LEILA enters, looks around

LEILA

(sarcastically)

Great! More choreography I don't know.

JORDAN & MASON enter, both astonished.

MASON

Oh my 'Lanta

SADIE & SARAH enter.

SARAH

I love this song!

SARAH starts to jam out. Students stare at her, music fades, SADIE taps her on the shoulder, SARAH realizes what's going on, and sheepishly backs out of the lunchroom.

LEILA is standing in the--

CORNER OF LUNCHROOM

Confused.

JORDAN & MASON walk up to LEILA.

MASON

Do you have any idea what that flash mob was for?

LEILA

(soft chuckle)

No idea. Let's see if anyone else isn't about to break into song and dance.

"Something Big" plays - MASON singing.

**1, 2, 3, 4**

**Whoa, oh oh oh oh whoa oh oh oh oh oh oh**

**Whoa oh oh oh oh whoa oh oh oh oh oh oh**

**Play the lotto you might win it.**

**It's like 25 for life so you bust out of prison.**

**Something's in the air, something's in the air**

**It's like that feeling when you're just about to kill it,**

**Take your last shot you know you're gonna hit it.**

**Some things in the air, something's in the air**

LEILA

What did I **just** say?!

MASON

Must be some kind of weird  
sing-a-long syndrome sweeping the  
school. Wow, it hasn't completely  
worn off yet. Let's get out of the  
lunchroom before someone else  
starts singing.

JORDAN, LEILA, & MASON all exit Lunchroom. Headed towards  
Dance/Weight room.

HALL

STEWART runs up to them.

STEWART

Do you guys happen to know where  
that music came from and why  
everyone knew the dance to it?

LEILA & MASON

No idea. *Jinx!*

"Can't Stop Singing" plays, MASON & LEILA sing part of it.

**What's going on?**

**This can't be happening**

**Don't tell me it's a song!**

**It's a song!**

**This wasn't how I planned it**

**Can't you see that this has gone too far?**

**Please just pause the DVR!**

**Someone won't you make it STOP!**

**I'm losin' my mind**

**I don't see your problem**

**Everything I say, it rhymes!**

Here comes another line'  
 Just close your eyes  
 If you don't wanna see  
 What's this choreography?  
 Someone won't you make it STOP!  
 Oh, I can't stop singing!  
 Make it stop, Make it stop!  
 Am I real or just a prop?  
 Oh, I can't stop singing  
 So let's just talk!  
 Talk, Talk!  
 It's just a song!  
 An inefficient way  
 To move the story along!  
 I'M DONE!

STEWART

(mimicking LEILA)

What did I **just** say?!

MASON & LEILA look at each other and laugh. STEWART follows them. They run into SARAH & SADIE. SARAH wildly strikes a self-defense pose.

SARAH

Hey! Watch it!

She realises that it's only JORDAN

SARAH

(calmly)

Oh, sorry. Hey Jordan.

SADIE

Hey guys, Where ya goin?

MASON

Yeah, where are we going?

LEILA

We're going to the weight room to figure out what's up with all this spastic dancing and singing.

FADE IN:Scene 4

INT. DANCE/WEIGHT ROOM - DAY

ALL enter slowly, watching out for potential dancers/singers

STEWART

Coast is clear  
 ALL enter one at a time, pull up a chair- MASON grabs a chair for LEILA, she smiles. Chairs are in a circle.

JORDAN

how are we supposed to keep the school, and now us from breaking out into song every 2 seconds?

SADIE

Um, I don't know what you guys are talking about. I haven't seen any peculiar singing or dancing in any of my classes.

SARAH

Sadie. You didn't think anything of the spontaneous dancing in the middle of lunch? Or the 2 songs that where

*just performed?*

SADIE

You saw me in the hall. I wasn't in the cafeteria. Have any of you guys seen anything like it during classes before now?

JORDAN

Well, when me and Mason were walking to 1st period this-morning, some girls turned around and sang me a (imitates the girls) "Hey Jordan!"

LEILA

My dance class was doing a super complicated routine that I promise you, was **not** rehearsed.

STEWART

Okay. The weirdest thing happened to me during 2nd period too! I was looking at my sheet music, then the song that was on my sheet music came out of nowhere and right in the middle of a test, everyone got up and sang to it, but the music faded and they all just stared at me like I was the weird one.

SADIE

Well, it was on the news has  
anyone found a cure.

STEWART  
(looking at his phone)  
Actually I may have just  
found something.

Cut to: Everyone gathers around STEWART's phone who is watching a youtube video about a syndrome caused flash mob singing occurrence. The group of people are dancing and singing in the background you can hear a boy calling for his dog - There is a sharp prolonged whistle and everyone stops dead and starts looking around confused about why they are there and what they are doing. The cameraman turns toward the boy who is still blowing a dog whistle (with all he has) but then stops when he notices everyone staring at him.  
Cut to: everyone looking up from the phone with a new shared understanding.

MASON  
We will need a distraction until  
we can hit the right pitch. It may  
take some time and nobody is going  
to just sit around while we ring  
their eardrums.

LEILA  
(jokingly)  
We could break out into song and  
dance.

SADIE  
(taking LEILA's comment  
seriously)  
How are we supposed to come up  
with whole dance numbers and  
performances in time for 4th  
period?

LEILA  
(still joking)  
Well, maybe we'll catch the funky  
fever and magically know it all by  
then.

JORDAN  
(confused)  
Are you serious? Not all of us are  
talented in the musical arts.  
"I Don't Dance" plays, MASON & JORDAN sing to it  
**You'll never know 0**  
**Oh, I know**

**If you never try  
There's just one little thing that stops me  
everytime, yeah**

**Come on!  
I don't dance  
I know you can  
Not a chance  
If I could do this, well, you could do that  
But I don't dance  
Hit it out of the park!  
I don't dance  
I say you can  
There's not a chance  
Slide home, you score, swingin' on the  
dance floor  
I don't dance, no**

LEILA

I was kidding.

MASON

Actually, it would work. If we hit  
the wrong pitch, they would blame  
it on the microphone.

SARAH

I'll be the backstage manager.

Everyone looks at her quizzically.

SARAH

I am not singing.

JORDAN

So...

SARAH

You'll figure something out, and  
if you don't, you can help me  
backstage.

STEWART

I think there is an oscilloscope  
in the science lab the we could  
hook up to a guitar amp from the  
band room to generate the pitch.  
When is this all going down? And,  
I need the songs you are planning  
on using. Write it down on this  
paper.

STEWART hands paper around circle, ALL write on it.

MASON

Ok, meet back here before 4th  
period to rehearse.

JORDAN

Mason!It's cavetime! Our  
basketball game!

MASON & JORDAN rush out of the room. MASON leaves behind  
his jacket on the chair.

LEILA

Mason! You left your....jacket.

MASON is long gone, so LEILA shrugs and puts on the jacket

SADIE

I've got a math test! Gotta run!

SADIE exits

FADE IN:

INT. GYM

MASON and JORDAN are playing basketball against other team in 4th quarter, and *losing*, Team member on opposite team scores--

Ease camera from game to SCOREBOARD 48-65

and scores

STEWART is on bleachers, unplugs music and plugs in "Get'cha Head in the Game".

**Let's make sure that we get the rebound**

**'Cause when we get it then the crowd will go wild**

**A second chance, gotta grab it and go**

**And maybe this time we'll hit the right notes**

**Wait a minute, get'cha head in the game**

**Wait a minute, get'cha head in the game**

**Wait a minute, get'cha head in the game**

**Oh!**

**Get'cha, get'cha head in the game**

**Gotta get'cha get'cha get'cha head in the game**

**Gotta get'cha, get'cha head in the game**

**Gotta get'cha get'cha get'cha head in the game**

Everyone on the home team is singing except for MASON & JORDAN. They are pulling ahead a little bit, but it isn't enough to win. MASON joins in, singing, blows team away and score enough so they are tied. ball goes to JORDAN who is getting into the groove as well and he scores a 3-pointer shot and wins the game. Crowd goes wild. Team celebrates and exits gym.

INT. MATH CLASSROOM

SADIE is engaged in the lesson. Teacher steps out, "Hallelujah" plays, all eyes go to SADIE. She freezes. Music keeps playing, then fades and restarts.

SADIE

Well, here goes nothin'

SADIE sings a little bit of song:

**Now I've heard there was a secret chord**

**That David played, and it pleased the Lord**  
**But you don't really care for music, do you?**  
**It goes like this the fourth, the fifth**  
**The minor fall and the major lift**  
**The baffled king composing "Hallelujah"**  
**Hallelujah, Hallelujah**  
**Hallelujah, Hallelujah**

then class goes back to normal like nothing happened.  
Teacher comes back and keeps teaching.

FADE OUT:Screen shows 4th period

FADE IN:Scene 6

INT. AUDITORIUM - STAGE

MAN ON STAGE

Remember, you have to have 3 math  
credits to graduate. Don't forget  
your science credits...

CUT TO:

INT. DANCE/WEIGHT ROOM

SARAH, SADIE, & STEWART already sitting down, chatting,  
LEILA is practicing dance with Mason's jacket on.  
MASON & JORDAN enter, laughing.

JORDAN

Dude! I had no idea you were that  
good!... (loud gasp) WE SHOULD DO  
THE PERFORMANCE TOGETHER FOR THE  
ASSEMBLY!

MASON

(walking towards LEILA)  
Actually Bro, I had something else  
in mind

LEILA

Thank goodness you came! I was  
starting to worry that I was gonna  
end up doing a one-man show!

MASON sees LEILA wearing jacket, smiles

LEILA

(handing MASON his jacket)

Oh, you left this

MASON pushes it back to her

MASON

You can keep it. Hey, I was  
thinking, maybe we could do a  
music number together. Don't  
worry, I'll do the singing.

LEILA hands him music

LEILA

Already ahead of ya.  
They all group up and start practicing.

STEWART

Ok guys, it's go time!

CUT TO:

INT. AUDITORIUM

SADIE, LEILA, & MASON are sitting in the first row of auditorium while JORDAN is on the stage talking.

SARAH & STEWART are in the--  
BOOTH

--Getting everything ready

STEWART

Do you think they're gonna be able to pull this off?

SARAH

Nope! But we can only hope this doesn't go down in flames.

BOTH put two thumbs up

SARAH

The show must go on!

STEWART

But the show hasn't even started yet.

SARAH

You think I've done this before?

CUT TO:

INT. AUDITORIUM - STAGE

JORDAN enters stage, grabs microphone.

JORDAN

(talking over audience)

I've got a special treat for you guys today. We're gonna have 2 performances from 3 of my dear friends. First up we have Leila Olsen and Mason Stanford with a song/dance number!!!!

"Life of the Party" plays. MASON is singing, LEILA is in the background, dancing.

Audience sits back down and is quiet.

**I love it when you just don't care**

**I love it when you dance like there's nobody there**

**So when it gets hard, don't be afraid**

**We don't care what them people say**

**I love it when you don't take no**

**I love it when you do what you want cause you just said so**

**Let them all go home, we out late**  
**We don't care what them people say**  
**We don't have to be ordinary**  
**Make your best mistakes**  
**'Cause we don't have the time to be sorry**  
**So baby be the life of the party**  
**I'm telling you to take your shot it might be scary**  
**Hearts are gonna break**  
**'Cause we don't have the time to be sorry**  
**So baby be the life of the party**

Song ends and crowd boos and throws papers at them.  
 JORDAN enters stage.

JORDAN

The second act we have for this  
 afternoon will be Sadie Allen  
 singing a solo!!!

Crowd is silent-SADIE doesn't enter the stage  
 More silence.

JORDAN runs back on stage

JORDAN

Umm, we seem to be having (clear  
 throat) technical difficulties,  
 we'll be back with you in a  
 moment.

CUT TO:

INT. BACKSTAGE

SADIE is hyperventilating and can't move. JORDAN comes up  
 to her

JORDAN

Come on, Sadie! We don't have time  
 for this! You can do it, just  
 breathe.

SADIE

(stuttering)

O-okay

SADIE shuffles onstage, crowd is silent, SADIE regains her  
 confidence. "Can't Blame A Girl For Trying" plays, SADIE  
 sings,

**Here I am again, the same old situation**

**Why does the guy thing have to be so complicated**

**I should've played it cool, instead I made a fool**

Oh, the things I do

'Cause I'm young and I'm dumb

I do stupid things when it comes to love

And even if I always end up crying

Well, you can't blame a girl for trying, oh oh

No, you can't blame a girl for trying, oh

I should've shut my mouth, I could've kept it quiet

I might have freaked him out 'cause I was so excited

But I just couldn't wait, I took a leap of faith

Oh, the things I say

'Cause I'm young and I'm dumb

I do stupid things when it comes to love

And even if I always end up crying

Well, you can't blame a girl for trying, oh oh

No, you can't blame a girl for trying

Crowd is silent for a few seconds

SADIE turns to JORDAN who has walked up to stand next to her.

SADIE

(solemnly)

It didn't work did it

Audience suddenly erupts in clapping and cheers-standing ovation.

CROWD

(chanting)

Encore! encore! encore!

JORDAN, STEWART, LEILA, SARAH, & MASON run on stage for a group hug. "We're All in this together" plays. Audience jumps onstage and joins in.

**We're all in this together**

**Once we know, that we are**

**We're all stars**

**And we see that**

**We're all in this together**

**And it shows, when we stand**

**Hand in hand**

**Make our dreams come true**

**(Everybody now)**

**Together, together, together everyone  
Together, together, come on, let's have some fun  
Together, we're there for each other every time  
Together, together, come on, let's do this right**

FADE OUT: