

THE WEB OPERA - EPISODE 4 - revised - 8/24

The next night – the screen comes to life – we see a face in the dark – Violinist98 peers into the computer – there are no other lights around him, he’s just a face in the dark staring at the computer screen - he’s in bed, the covers pulled around him - looking at his laptop - looking at various pages on his website - several forums, his twitter feed and Facebook page, any other way that various people can send messages to him - anyplace where he might be able to corresponding with anyone - strangers and friends, men and women - also looking at search pages, we see him scroll down the page -

Vln98 and the others online are looking for information about housing policy as relating to privacy at the school he is attending - all are looking for policy information to determine what Vln98 should do – we see words as they are being typed and posted by all as they sing them (in reality, all of this would be silent ...)

“Voices” throughout the following denotes a combination of solo singers and sometimes several singers singing contrapuntally what they are writing - a lot of counterpoint, see score for more details -

Voices **Housing, housing**

Opening credits fade as we see Violinist98 in the darkness, illuminated by his laptop - joining the voices, looking this info up online -

Violinist98 **Housing, housing, privacy, privacy –
Housing ...**

Voices **See anything? See anything?
Anything?**

(voices sing this quietly like a religious chant underscoring the sung dialogue etc ...)

Violinist98 **This:
(reading this online policy excerpt)
“A person accused of creation
of circumstances leading to
privacy violation
will be notified of the charge
And have an opportunity to respond.”**

Choral voices **I don’t need to see --
I don’t need to see --**

Gradually as we see texts of messages he is sending or he is receiving, we start to see abstractly faces of all those online with whom he’s corresponding - there are many of them, some recur, some don’t, all illuminated as needed in the darkness by the light of his laptop ...

Voices **Does that help? Does that help?
Does that help?**

Violinist98 **Yeah, fuck it, I don’t know
(typing *IDK* for “I don’t know”)
I don’t know - - - -**

Voices **I just logged on I just - just logged on I just
Just logged on I just - I just logged on I just**

**You can fix this thing, you’re not out of your depth
First things first - take a deep breath
take a deep breath**

Voices **Sometimes things happen and we don’t know ...
Sometimes things happen and we don’t know ...**

**... a shadow
Housing**

Violinist98 I don't ...

Voices What's clear
Are the rules here
And they're on your side

Violinist98 I don't know, I don't know

Voices *IDK - IDK*
It says, "If the college finds it prudent
To relocate the student
In question then it should."
Does that help, does that help?
Does that help?

I don't know, I don't know

Violinist98 Looking up
Crimes and Conduct Violation

Voices I just logged on I just -
Crimes and Conduct Violation
I just logged on I just - I wonder -

I just found this one:
Terry, she was 20 years old
Got an IM it was so fucking bold
Requesting webcam sex
Requesting webcam sex
Did you hear about that, did you
From a guy called *Mistathistime*

Vln98 (responding): No ... no

She refused, she refused

Violinist98 ... Time
She refused

Voices Was that a crime?

Violinist98 Was that a crime?

Voices She refused, did he commit a crime
Maybe so - maybe not this time
Then he sent her photos of her room
From her webcam photos of her in her room
Like yours -

*Did he commit a crime
Did he commit a crime*

Violinist98 Like mine

Voices *Mistathistime*

Violinist98 Time

Voices Hacked his way through two hundred thirty victims
And they sentenced him to six years in prison -
Prison - prison -

I don't need to see ...

Violinist98 Prison -
It might have been a joke

Voices Does that help, does that help

Violinist98 It might have been a joke -

Voices Maybe no need to report him LOL
 Joke -
 A joke - Look -

Take a stand against people
 Who think nothing of it
 Who think nothing ever happens
 So they do this sort of shit -
 You could take it to court
 Write the fucking report
 Take it to court
 Write the fucking report

*False life leave me
 See what I endure
 Endure, endure*

Violinist98 I don't know what he saw -
 I don't want to - to make it a big deal

Voices Take a stand against people
 Who think nothing of it
 Who think nothing ever happens
 So they do this sort of shit -
 You could take it to court
 Write the fucking report
 Take it to court
 Write the fucking report

*False life leave me
 See what I endure
 Endure, endure*

Voices *(sung with above)*
 Yeah maybe no need to report him
 It might stir up more drama - LOL
 It might stir up more drama - LOL
 What will you do?
 It might stir up more drama - LOL
 More drama - what will you do -

Violinist98 *(mirroring the chant-like singing)*
 See what I endure - endure - endure for you

For you - for you -

Voices See what tomorrow may bring
 Gotta run - Text me if you need anything
 Did you ask him about it?

*Anything
 Did you ask him about it?*

Violinist98 Who?

Voices Your roommate about it - ?

Violinist98 No - no
 He's into tweets and - what? - joking -
 But quiet, never says a thing to me -
 But he laughs like everything's a joke
 I don't know -
 But not like he left the cam on or recorded -
 Recorded anything -
 I don't want him to know -

*See the pain
 That afflicts me - -
 I D K -
 L O L -*

Voices Anything -

Violinist98 Don't want him to know -
That I'm on his twitter feed -

Voices IDK - IDK - IDK - IDK
I don't know -
Are you OK with that?

Violinist98 I don't know - I don't know -

Voices Not only did he peep
But he told the whole world about it
World about it

Violinist98 World about it

Voices I don't know -
Are you OK with that?

Violinist98 I could be more careful next time
Turn the webcam away - just turn it away
Turn the webcam

Voices Turn it away - turn it away

Violinist98 But I was hurt, embarrassed - I don't know
It would be nice to get him in trouble

Voices Get him in trouble, get him in trouble

Violinist98 I don't know if I have enough to
Get him in trouble
Trouble

Voices *(repeated a few times ... sung with the other texts below)*
Take a stand against people *False life leave me*
Who think nothing of it *See what I endure*
Who think nothing ever happens *Endure, endure*
So they do this sort of shit -
You could take it to court
Write the fucking report
Take it to court
Write the fucking report

Violinist98 He never saw anything pornographic
He never recorded anything

Voices Never recorded anything - so what
Never recorded anything - so what
It might stir up more drama - LOL
Report him
What he - what he's doing is completely inappropriate
What he's doing is completely -

Violinist98 I'm just not a great self ... what?
I'm afraid if I go to the wrong I ...

Voices You're afraid if you go to the wrong - so what
 It's not going to get better
 It's not going to get better

this line - "It's not going to get better" - is repeated - chanted - rhythmically - spoken & sung throughout to the conclusion of the choral section

Violinist98 I won't get the help I need
 I'm just worried about things becoming
 Becoming a huge mess

Voices Becoming a huge mess - so what
 Becoming a huge mess - so what

Take a stand against people
 Who think nothing of it
 Who think nothing ever happens
 So they do this sort of shit -
 You could take it to court
 Write the fucking report
 Take it to court
 Write the fucking report
 It's not going to get better
 It's not going to get better

*False life leave me
 See what I endure
 Endure, endure*

Violinist98 After this cuz I mean someone reports you
 Then you might have -
 Have to spend the rest of the -
 Spend the rest of the semester living with him anyway

*Reports
 Have*

Spend with him anyway

Voices It's not going to get better
 It's not going to get better

Violinist98 While the stupid administration
 Administration, administration - -

Voices You're afraid if you go to the wrong - so what -
 To the wrong - so what -
 To the wrong - so what

these last lines and all the lines are repeated - canonically, all getting distorted, taken apart as sound elements etc - via granular synthesis, max etc, as all the sound grows, intensifies - the "so what's" especially - all evolves into the sound of an incoming phone/FaceTime call - all of the musical/vocal sounds disappear quickly as he clicks and answers the call - from Bookstore90, from a few nights ago, who of course nothing at all about the privacy violation -

****FOLLOWING SECTION/CONCLUSION OF EP4, IS SKETCHED OUT MUSICALLY,**

Violinist98 speaks quietly, whispering (not sung) -

Violinist98 Hi – hi – just a minute - - - Sorry, sorry - -
 Just a minute - - -

he grabs a set of ear buds, plugs them into the side of his keyboard - spoken very quietly

Sorry, sorry - - My roommate is sleeping
 I need to keep it down and wear these - - Just a minute -

very quietly he gets out of bed, walks quietly to the door, opens it, steps outside into the dark hallway, sits - and slowly begins to sing quietly - with minimal accompaniment as needed

throughout this last section, as opposed to everything earlier in the episode, he is not writing or typing any of the words he is saying - this is a sung (ie spoken) part of a conversation with Bookstore90

We don't want, we don't want
We don't want to wake him, wake him
Wake him, wake him - wake - -

I've been thinking about you too.

It's OK - -

Yeah, last night was - -
Last night was great,

We don't want, we don't want to - -
you look
you look great too -
Nothing, nothing - -

yeah I've been online
Online for a while

I really - I really wanted to hear your voice too
It's so - it's - it's - it's just so nice
Nice to hear -

Tomorrow?
Okay - okay -

The next day - that night is good.
It's good.
I can see you.
I can do that - -

We don't want to wake - -
No,
No, we don't want to wake -

He's asleep, he's asleep -
I'll text to say I need the room -
he'll see it in the morning - -

No - - -
He won't mind -
No, no - he won't mind- - -

It's better this way -

I can't wait to -
To see you too

Okay, Okay - -
Tomorrow night - -

Sleep - -
Sleep well –
Sleep –
(call ends)

We don't want to wake
We don't want to wake
To wake - - - - him

(still seated in the darkness in the hall, the FaceTime with Bookstore ended, he sends an e-mail or message to FG97 - singing quietly as he types)

Hey - sorry sorry -
 I'm leaving early in the morning *(these lines not included yet...)*
 Didn't want to wake you
I need the room day after tomorrow -
Another private meeting
Seven to eleven -
 Let me know - *(also not included yet....)*
Thanks -

(he sends the message it disappears - he stands up and is reaching for the door as he closes his laptop - all disappears in the dark)

END OF EPISODE 4