

## **Sing Out, America!**

### Synopsis

#### **Setting:**

Onstage/Live Stream at the finale of *Sing Out, America!*, a reality television competition.

**Time:** The Present

**Place:** Your High School

The curtain rises on the stage of *Sing Out, America!*, a reality television competition which picks one high school each year to host a singing competition. It's the final half hour of the show prior to announcing the winner. Our host, Eric Idoll, introduces the ten finalists. Each has a brief moment to remind America of their journey and celebrate their achievements up to this point (LISTEN TO OUR SONG). At the end of the number, Eric Idoll introduces the three judges (who are not speaking after 8 weeks of contentious competition). After a brief exchange between the judges the top 3 finalists are announced.

Eric tells the audience the 3 finalists have all been best friends since childhood. He speaks briefly to the finalists about the competition thus far, discussing some of their personal trials, and the toll this moment might take on their friendship. Eric then reminds the audience they will be voting on the fan favorite this evening, but first it's time for Final Confessional-a moment in the show where each judge goes one-on-one with one of the three finalists to see who is psychologically ready to be catapulted into stardom.

Scott Wells begins by interviewing Johnny Knox. Johnny is super confident on the surface but struggles with being pushed in different directions by his mom, dad, coach, etc. Johnny explains that while he's good at a lot of things, there's even more he'd like to try. The pressure from people around him, though, can be overwhelming. Scott asks him what it is he really wants for himself. (LET ME BE)

We return to Eric Idol who tells the audience now is the chance to vote for their fan favorite. They can choose from the seven candidates that were eliminated earlier in the evening. The winner will be announced after the Confessionals and be brought out to sing their own rendition of *America the Beautiful*. He then sends us to Amelia and Madison Winters.

Amelia's interview with Madison Winters begins. There are concerns Madison is too timid and not fully engaged despite her beautiful voice. It's also revealed she's never left her hometown except when she participated in all-state choir. Amelia, in an unexpectedly vulnerable moment, shares it was difficult for her to leave her hometown as a child as well and shows compassion and encouragement as Madison responds. (THE FURTHEST I HAVE BEEN- Duet).

Eric Idoll then sends us to the final Confessional.

Carlotta Amoura, a judge, speaks with Stacy Swell. Carlotta asks Stacy why she always takes a back seat to both Johnny and Madison and praises them before herself. Carlotta asks if the rumors are true that Stacy's never won a competition before. (SECOND PLACE)

We return to Eric Idoll who announces the judges will now cast their final votes. He explains the scoring system: the judges' votes, America's votes and the students' votes each count for one third of the contestants total. In the event of a tie, the three finalists must cast a vote, but they cannot vote for themselves. While votes are being calculated, Eric introduces the high school drama teacher, Mrs. Goldstone. She was integral in bringing the show to the school but faltered under the pressure of seeing her students thrust into the spotlight, pitted against one another. (possible song if time permits: TOO MUCH DRAMA)

Before the winner is revealed, Eric announces the Fan Favorite Award. It goes to \_\_\_\_\_ (if no live voting by the school performing the show a permanent winner is written in). The winner is invited out to sing *America the Beautiful*, to be recorded and released as a single.

The Fan Favorite winner begins by doing riffs and runs that barely sound like a song. The judges have had enough, cut off the singer and are finally reunited in strong opinion. (THE RIFFING SONG)

Finally the results are in. Eric Idoll opens the envelope...for the first time in Sing Out America's history, it's a three-way tie. Since there can only be one winner the tie-breaker must be made by the three finalists who are prohibited from voting for themselves. The contestants cast their votes.

The winner is announced. It's Stacy Swell. Eric asks her how she feels and invites her to sing the finale. She exclaims how happy she is but she can't sing the final song alone. While she is proud to have finally captured a title she admits she wouldn't be the winner without the support and encouragement of everyone here tonight. The other two finalists- and eventually all the contestants, judges, Mrs. Goldstone and Eric Idoll- join her to finish out the song. (DREAMS COME TRUE/THE BEST IN ME).

(Bows to LISTEN TO OUR SONG REPRISE)