## THE WEB OPERA - EPISODE 4

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 -

VIn98 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 VIn98 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?

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."

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

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 ... ... a shadow

Sometimes things happen and we don't know ... Housing

I don't know, I don't know

Vln98 (responding): No ... no

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?

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

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 -

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 ...

Did he commit a crime

Did he commit a crime

Violinist98 Prison -

It might have been a joke

Endure, endure

Did you ask him about it?

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 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 I don't know what he saw -

I don't want to - to make it a big deal

**Voices** Take a stand against people False life leave me Who think nothing of it See what I endure

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

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 Anything

Did vou ask him about it?

Violinist98 Who?

Voices Your roommate about it -?

Violinist98 No - no

> He's into tweets and - what? - joking -See the pain But quiet, never says a thing to me -That afflicts me - -But he laughs like everything's a joke IDK-LOL-

I don't know -

But not like he left the cam on or recorded -

Recorded anything -I don't want him to know - 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
Who think nothing of it
Who think nothing ever happens

False life leave me
See what I endure
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 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 It's not going to get better It's not going to get better

Violinist98 After this cuz I mean someone reports you Reports Have

Then you might have -

Have to spend the rest of the -

Spend the rest of the semester living with him anyway 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

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 - it 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 -

## \*\*FOLLOWING SECTION/CONCLUSION OF EP4, IS SKETCHED OUT MUSICALLY, **MORE INFO COMING SOON**

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

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

I've been thinking about you too.

It's OK, it's OK --

Yeah, last night was

Last night was great,

We don't want to wake him We don't want to wake - you look you look great too you do - - too -

yeah I've been online Online for a while I've been - - -

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

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

Do you have to work tomorrow? Do you have - -

Okay - okay -

The next night is good. It's good. I can see you.

I can do that ---

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

He's asleep, asleep -I'll text to say I need the room -

Yeah - I know he'll see it in the morning - -

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

## It's better this way -

Great, I can't I can't wait to – To see you.

Okay, Okay - -Tomorrow night - -

Sleep --Sleep well -Sleep -

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

(call ends)

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
Didn't want to wake you
I need the room day after tomorrow Another private meeting
Seven to eleven Let me know 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)