

HSM 2 SHARPAY/RYAN

SHARPAY and RYAN rehearse the choreography for their callback; the boom box plays their accompaniment. They are working their butts off. Suddenly, RYAN throws in his signature "jazz square." SHARPAY turns off the boom box.

SHARPAY

Ryan! What did I tell you about those stupid jazz squares?

RYAN

Everybody loves a good jazz square -- it's an American classic. And why do we always have to do what you say?

SHARPAY

Maybe because I know what I'm doing? Just do what I tell you. I'm not taking any chances, understand? That role is mine! I was born to play it!

RYAN

Somebody in this room ought to chill out, and sister...

(snaps with attitude)

... it ain't me.

(beat)

We'll get the roles we want, we always do.

RYAN starts the music again, but after a couple of seconds, SHARPAY shuts it off.

SHARPAY

I'm not just talking about my role in the play, Ryan. I'm talking about my role in like... the school. I'm not a Jock, I'm not a Brainiac... but you know what, I'm the Star -- that's my role. And if they take it away from me, who am I?

RYAN

Well... you could just be Sharpay. That's not so bad, is it?

SHARPAY

Are you brain-dead? No one's going to like me if I'm just Sharpay! But on stage, I can be Juliet, I can be Annie Oakley, I can be anyone I want to be, not just dumb old Sharpay. I need something to make me fabulous Ryan. I mean, come on, they named me after a flabby dog!

RYAN

Sharpay, we've had the leads every year since birth. If we get it again, great. If not, we'll still be fabulous. Besides, it could be worse. They could have named you Pug... or Ridgeback... or Shih Tzu...

SHARPAY

But Troy and that... that thing!

RYAN

Look, maybe Troy would like you more if you were just yourself, for once.

SHARPAY

Pardon me, Dr. Phil, but what do you know? You're just a kid.

RYAN

I'm only eight minutes younger than you.

SHARPAY

Yeah, well, those are eight important minutes! **[END]**