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Playscript

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EDUC 8730

Playscript of the moment after the two-part chorus singalong where Nate tells us what to make of it, what it all means (starting at 0:40 in my short clip to the end at 1:20). I chose this clip because it is a moment of explanation and interpretation (Nate is giving the audience his “expert” summation), and I was curious what techniques are used to convey that authority, but also to make this something the audience can feel like they are interpreting for themselves, along with him.

Transcript notation adapted (and simplified) from [Ochs, Schlegoff & Thomson](#)

Black text is speech

((Text in double parentheses are actions))

((Blue text in double parentheses is gaze))

((Orange text in double parentheses are hand gestures, which are described by the transcriber))

. period indicates a falling, or final, intonation contour, not necessarily at end of a sentence

? question mark indicates rising intonation, not necessarily a question

↓ downward arrow indicates sharply falling intonation

↑ upward arrow indicates sharply rising intonation, sometimes in the middle of a word

:: colons indicate the stretching of the preceding sound, proportional to number of colons

] bracket indicates onset of overlap in talk

word underline indicates some form of stress

Word upper case indicates loudness

>< indicates segments inside are rushed

<> indicates segments inside are slower/stretched out

= indicates no break or delay

(xxx) indicates something is being said, but transcriber could not discern its contents

Line	Speaker	Speech
1 2	Nate	<i>((eyes looking down))</i> <SO at the end? of this song: > <i>((looks up at audience))</i> <i>((both hands spread/splayed, moving from center of body toward edges))</i> it raises <i>((hands turn back into fists, clash again at center))</i> a question. <i>((picking/grabbing pinky finger with opposite thumb and index))</i> = >who IS? <i>((hands again spread away from body))</i> < Britney Spears <i>((hands back together))</i> =we still <u>do:n't</u> >have an answer↓ <i>((hands spread to sides of body again, clasp arms of chair, forward lean))</i> <]<She is> <i>((raises just left hand to shoulder height, makes bird-head shape))</i>
3 4	Audience member](xxx) <i>((chuckles))</i>
5	Nate	>multiple things at once <i>((opens hand into kind of a flower, lowers it back to waist height))</i> < she is <perfo:rm↑ing <i>((now using both hands, at shoulder height, opening and closing, flicks wrists several times))</i> different. identities. <i>((lowers both hands to outer sides of legs))</i> >
6 7	Nate	And this was? >again< very=uh::: <i>((audible inhale))</i> <i>((raises just left hand to shoulder height, kind of opens and closes as if grasping))</i> vex↑ing to: >a lot of critics< when this so:ng came out? <i>((moves left hand up and down, then lowers to chair arm))</i>
8 9	Nate	=but now maybe wi:th >the benefit of hindsight <i>((moves both hands, open, palms toward audience, in large circles near chest height))</i> < we can step back and see how <u>ma::↑sterfully</u> <i>((moves hands down, rotating palms toward legs, almost like he is banging on a piano))</i> this is done↓
10	Nate	=she <ne:ver tru:ly reveals> <i>((hands back up, moving forward))</i> <i>((slight look to his right toward Charlie))</i> herself=she keeps us guessing and.
11	Nate	in perfo:rmng. multiple↓ AS↑pects <i>((hands move back up, spread even wider than shoulder width, fingers up, popcorning/juggling motion))</i> of her >identity she does

		something that< <i>((moves hands closer to body and close together, palms now facing body, like holding something close))</i>
12	Nate	we a::ll↑ do↓ <none of us are> jU:st one thing.=we are <i>((keeps hands in that close to body position, but moving in small circles))</i> <all compo::sed of multitudes↓> <i>((hands go back apart, wider than body, in large circles, with palms facing audience))</i>
13	Nate	>and I think that's< <i>((looks over at Charlie))</i> what this so:ng rea↑lly captures <i>((hands in thumb to index finger "ok" position, very wide, and moving forward and back a couple of times))</i>
14	Charlie	mmmm↓