

Love What You Do: Shy's Story

Combined Dialogue and **Audio Description** Transcript

[00:00:02]

It is daytime. The sun shines on a large red brick church. A man wearing a grey suit plays a grand piano inside the church.

[00:00:13]

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[00:00:17]

- I personally love classical music because it calms people down, and it's soothing. Even though it's crazy, but it's so good. I mean I can talk about classical music all day, if you asked me about classical music, hey, I'm able to give it to you. My name is Shailen, and I am a musician from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I was born with retinopathy prematurity. I am visually impaired, I also have a little bit of autism, but there's nothing wrong with having a disability. What I've learned is, you don't have to necessarily see, to know the keys. You have to feel it in your heart. You have to feel, with your fingers. That's the catch. I started playing the piano since I was 18 months old. I actually learned by ear. I listened to one song. Then, after all, I might listen to it again. Then, I get to the point where you get the chords down. Now just because you have the chords, you have to practice, practice, practice, practice, and once you get it. Hey, you got the piece. We are actually at my church. I am the minister of music here, and it is always a pleasure to lead worship.

[00:01:20]

Shy's hands move quickly across the piano. He Taps his foot on a damper pedal.

[00:01:55]

Shy fiercely strikes the piano keys. He has short black hair and a thin black beard.

[00:02:10]

- My name is Yvonne burns. I'm the pastor of the Pittsburgh Northside Church of God. And I have the honor of pastoring, Shailen Abrams. His role is to prepare the music, practice the singers, and also create an atmosphere to, ushering the people into an attitude of worship. Shailen is extremely passionate about music.

- {Shailen}

♪ *There's something bout your love* ♪

♪ *That makes me weak* ♪

♪ *And knocks me off my feet* ♪

[00:02:25]

Yvonne smiles.

[00:03:00]

- {Yvonne} If you listen to him, if you talk with him, you know that it's almost a miraculous, incomprehensible talent, gifted talent that he has. He does not allow his challenges to hinder him.

- {Shailen}

♪ *Knocks me off my feet* ♪

[00:03:18]

- {Yvonne} He helps us just as much as we help him. To know him is to love him.

[00:03:23]

The inside of the grand piano is depicted.

[00:03:27]

- {Julian} Can I play a key?

[00:03:30]

A man with a thick black beard sits next to Shy. Shy smiles.

[00:03:35]

- My name is Julian Turner, I'm the program specialist for new horizon care services. Who provide different services to individuals with intellectual disabilities.

- {Julian} Who's your favorite artist, composers, singers?

- {Shailen} Oh my gosh.

- {Julian} What are we thinking?

[00:03:49]

- {Shailen} I'm thinking when it comes to classical lives, I like Mozart, I like Beethoven. I like Haydn.

[00:03:56]

People exercise inside a gym. Shy walks with Julian.

[00:04:02]

- {Julian} Shailen was one of the very first individuals I got to meet and work with. Each individual is an individual person. Whether you know it's a behavioral issue, a physical issue, a mental issue, that stigma and that label, I wish it would go away a lot faster. It's hard to educate the world at one time. The more that these individuals get, the better supported and their independence gets elevated. And you know, they're also showing to the world that, hey, we're more than capable of doing what you do. It'll get better. People like Shailen, I think help make that change a lot faster.

[00:04:45]

Braddock, Pennsylvania. A green store sign reads Hollander's. Shy plays an upright piano in a small wooden gazebo. Julian sits on the gazebo floor and watches him

[00:05:02]

A large colorful painting of 2 women adorns the side of a building.

[00:05:08]

- {unknown lady} Okay, you can start.

- {Shailen}

♪ *You might been hurt, babe* ♪

♪ *That ain't no lie* ♪

♪ *You've seen them all come and go, oh* ♪

♪ *And remember you told me* ♪

♪ *That it made you believe in* ♪

♪ *No man no cry* ♪

♪ *Maybe that's why* ♪

♪ *Every little thing I do* ♪

♪ *Never seems enough for you* ♪

♪ *You don't wanna lose it again* ♪

♪ *I'm not like them* ♪

♪ *Even when you finally* ♪

♪ *Get to love somebody* ♪

♪ *Guess what* ♪

♪ *It's gonna be me* ♪

[00:05:57]

Julian smiles.

[00:05:59]

- {Julian} He is one of the most positive people I've ever met. Shy is like another member of my family now.

- {Shailen}

♪ *There's something bout your love yeah* ♪

♪ *That makes me weak and* ♪

♪ *Knocks me off* ♪

♪ *My feet* ♪

♪ *Blue a baby said you knock me off* ♪

♪ *My feet* ♪

[00:06:21]

- {Shailen} I've been a conductor all my life. But one of my goals is to start an orchestra company, made up of urban classical musicians. Electric violins, violas, cellos, basses, and it's all electric.

- {Shailen}

♪ *Isn't she lovely* ♪

♪ *Isn't she wonderful* ♪

♪ *Isn't she precious* ♪

[00:06:51]

- {Shailen} To all the people that have a disability, this is my advice. Go with what you know, use your brain, and imagine yourself greater. I believe music is serious. You got to know your craft. But at the end of the day, you gotta enjoy yourself, and you gotta love what you're doing. Love has to come from your heart. That's the key, but it's actually a secret.

[00:07:21]

Shy sits in a church pew, looking thoughtful.

[00:07:57]

Shy rests his hands on the piano keys.

[00:08:04]

Producer/videographer/editor Anne Casper.

[00:10:14]

Shy plays the piano.

[00:10:34]

Shy looks focused as he plays a weathered upright piano.

- {Shailen}

♪ *You are so beautiful* ♪

♪ *Lovely you are* ♪
♪ *Made from* ♪
♪ *Love* ♪
♪ *I'm doing this tonight* ♪
♪ *You're probably gonna start a fight* ♪
♪ *I know this can't be right* ♪
♪ *Hey baby come on* ♪
♪ *I loved you endlessly* ♪
♪ *When you weren't there for me* ♪
♪ *So now it's time to leave and make it alone* ♪
♪ *I know that I can't take no more* ♪
♪ *It ain't no lie* ♪
♪ *I wanna see you out that door* ♪
♪ *Baby bye bye bye* ♪
♪ *Don't wanna be a fool for you* ♪
♪ *Just another player in your game for two* ♪
♪ *You may hate me but it ain't no lie* ♪
♪ *Baby bye bye bye* ♪
♪ *Don't really wanna make ya tough* ♪
♪ *I just wanna tell you that I had enough* ♪
♪ *Might sound crazy but it ain't no lie* ♪
♪ *Baby bye bye bye* ♪ ♪ *Just hit me with the truth* ♪
♪ *Now, girl you're more than welcome to* ♪
♪ *So, give me one good reason* ♪
♪ *Baby come on* ♪
♪ *I live for you and me* ♪
♪ *And now I really come to see* ♪
♪ *That, life would be much better once you're gone* ♪
♪ *I know that I can't take no more* ♪
♪ *It ain't no lie* ♪
♪ *I wanna see you out that door* ♪
♪ *Baby bye bye bye* ♪
♪ *I'm giving up my love for sure* ♪
♪ *I don't wanna be the reason for your love no more* ♪
♪ *I'm checking out, signing off* ♪
♪ *I don't wanna be the loser and I've had enough* ♪
♪ *Cause I don't wanna be your fool* ♪
♪ *In this game for two* ♪
♪ *So I'm leaving you behind* ♪
♪ *Bye bye bye* ♪
♪ *I don't wanna make it tough* ♪
♪ *Bye bye* ♪
♪ *Baby baby baby* ♪
♪ *I don't wanna be your fool* ♪

♪ *Ain't no lie* ♪
♪ *But no no no no no* ♪
♪ *Might sound crazy but it ain't no lie* ♪
♪ *Bye bye* ♪
♪ *Bye bye* ♪
♪ *Bye bye* ♪
♪ *Bye bye* ♪
♪ *I got to leave you but* ♪
♪ *Goodbye* ♪

[00:11:10]

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