

## THE H WORD AUDITION SIDE: PHASE 2 (DEWEY)

**Role: Phase 2 (Dewey):** Moments of life: 12-17, TEENAGE YEARS: Outed at 16, introverted. Experienced 1st moment of sexual awakening. Has gone through some traumatic experiences. The library is a safe space.

**Notes from casting:** This monologue is a major plot point in the development of the relationship between Phase's 2 & 3. This monologue should feel like a retelling of a very familiar story. A scenario played over and over. Paint the picture and feel free to get animated.

### PHASE 2

**START:** Peyton spent the entire summer before junior year in the library. The summer reading that year was heavy, even for me. And if he wanted to stay on the team he had to put in the work. He would run over after practice; And every time he entered, he just had to be noticed. *(Beat)* I would notice him immediately. He was. For weeks he would come in and I would help him find whatever the reading was. And no matter how many times I would tell him how the system worked; he always came to find me. It became a part of my routine that I looked forward to. I mean I couldn't explain it, but I enjoyed my time with him. I longed for the minutes we would spend together, and it eventually became clear that Peyton felt the same. This one day he ran in, it had been raining, and he clearly didn't have an umbrella. He was looking for a Baldwin book, and he wanted to show me that he knew exactly where it was located. *James Baldwin, 1956.* He was so proud when he found it, "I figured out your little system, Dewey."

Then this fool told me he wanted me to read the book. He had picked it out, just for me. Then he just stared at me. *(beat)* When he finally went and moved the wet curly mop out of his face, it was as if he was staring deep into my soul. For a moment, words were obsolete and all I could do was feel. I felt my heart racing and my palm sweating. For the first time I noticed all of the intricacies in Peyton's face. His rounded eyes and the subtle freckled pattern that only the Carolina sun could produce. For the first time, I was able to pinpoint what I had been feeling. I was finally noticing Peyton. But from the look in his eyes, I could tell he had noticed me a long time ago. Then we kissed.

**END**