

Em's Story

A play by Becca Shelley

We will be holding auditions for *Em's Story* at our theatre on **10 S. Mechanic St.** on:

- Saturday, Feb 10 from 2pm - 5:30pm
- Sunday, Feb 11 from 6pm-8:30pm

The audition will consist of cold reads. There is no need to prepare audition material.

Please bring in a photo of yourself to submit with the Audition Form that is filled out at auditions. This does not need to be a professional headshot or even printed on photo paper, this is simply to help the director to pair names with faces.

Questions? Reach out to the director at beccashelley11@gmail.com.

Play Information:

Em's Story follows a girl who is smart, active and engaged in her community as she develops a disability and her life changes both slowly and all at once. This piece abstracts both time and space, compelling the audience to experience the story as Em does while grappling with chronic pain, brain fog, fatigue, and other symptoms while finding her own identity.

The themes of the play include: disability, chronic illness, coming of age, family, spiritual abuse, medical neglect.

Interested in digging deeper? Read the script [here](#) or at [New Play Exchange](#).

Please note that there is wiggle room with the explicit language in the play. If you are uncomfortable with the explicit language spoken by a character you are auditioning for, please still consider auditioning and speak with the director before or during auditions.

Character Breakdown:

Em / 18 / Female

Em does not leave the stage for the duration of the play, illustrating her endurance and strength while managing college admissions, friendship tensions, overbearing parents, spiritual manipulation, onset of chronic illness, and medical neglect.

Mom / 40's-50's / Female

Mom struggles to recognize that Em is no longer a child, and her support of Em can often be in the form of smothering. Her love and support is there, but without recognition of Em's strength and independence, it creates tension.

Dad / 40's-50's / Male

Dad wants what's best for Em and has decided what he believes is the best path for her and believes that straying from that path will put her into harm's way. Due to this, he struggles to recognize the shift's in Em's journey and to accept that pushing his plan for her is creating a rift.

Music Teacher Guy & Karate Guy / 20's-40's / "Guy"

This role is intentionally double cast. These are adults in Em's life who are fully in her corner. Music Teacher Guy is collected and focused; Karate Guy chaotic and full of life. Both support Em regardless of her current path in life.

Ensemble / All ages 18+ / Any Gender

A 3-4 person ensemble plays 17 characters such as nurses, doctors, Em's friends, Young-but-Balding Youth Pastor and his Wife, Youth Group Kids, Karate Students, and are in the movement scenes. This role requires actors that are quickly able to establish and switch between distinct characters in order to bring Em's world alive and propel the story forward. Specific ensemble tracks will be assigned upon casting.