

BIG NATE

"Song for Nate"

Short #909 (pitch)

Written by

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INT. WRIGHT HOUSEHOLD, MARTIN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

We start on black. A *click* and we're on Martin in the POV of his phone being set up on a desk. Done setting up his phone, he walks backward and sits on his bed, looking at camera. Martin reaches down offscreen and pulls up his guitar. It's like he's a YouTuber recording himself, but this is a little more intimate.

He strums his guitar lightly, checking to ensure it's in tune. (It is, cause we don't have time to mess around in these shorts!) He looks back at camera, feeling a little vulnerable.

MARTIN WRIGHT

Hi, um, this is called "Song for Nate."

Martin takes a cleansing breath and starts strumming. It's a light tune. Simple chords. 3/4 waltz time. The intimacy of an Elliott Smith song.

MARTIN WRIGHT (CONT'D)

(singing)

*Hello my little nine brown-spike
haired boy.
You entered the world and with you,
you brought joy.
To a father gone solo
Who can't claim to know
How to bring up a plant, much less
you...*

(stumbles, searching for a
rhyme.)

Oy!

*I marvel at who you are starting to
be.
You seem to be doing it all without
me.
Though I try to be helpful,
I'm never successful,
And I'm scared I have nothing to
offer to thee.*

*But you're growing up awesome.
And I'm scared of awesome.
Cause awesome just might outgrow
me.*

Martin changes keys.

High-strung

(MORE)

MARTIN WRIGHT (CONT'D)

*Terrified father I am.
Far from the man in your life that
I want to be.*

*Could you stop
growing
for one goddamn second
so I can catch up?
But you can't
and I know it
so I'm watching you
(rapid)
climb so much higher and
growing more confident
taking on life with a
vigor unparalleled
beating all challengers
conquering fears day by dayyyyyyy...
(Martin stops for a beat.
Takes a breath)
You're growing up awesome.
And I know that awesome
One day will for sure outgrow me.*

Martin abruptly puts down his guitar.

MARTIN WRIGHT (CONT'D)

This is stupid. Why did I do this?

Martin stands up and goes to delete the video he just took, but can't figure out how.

MARTIN WRIGHT (CONT'D)

How do I delete on this stupid
thing... Why did I... ugh. Forget
it.

Martin gives up and walks off, the phone still recording.

We see Nate peek out of Martin's closet. He walks toward camera (the phone). Picks up the phone. Looks at the screen (directly at camera). Smiles.

CUT TO BLACK.