

# The Swan lake Tragedy

By: Callie C

Shelby was always dancing. "Everywhere she went she would dance, dance, dance. She was in every dance class imaginable, tap, ballet, hip hop, jazz and contemporary. "Ok class, in just a few weeks we will be holding auditions for Swan Lake," said Madame Tibido (Shelby's dance teacher) in her French accent. "Who are you auditioning for Shelby?" said Madison (Shelby's best friend) Shelby was just a nickname Madison made up. "I've auditioned for Claire, The Swan Princess!" said Shelby. "I had feeling you would say that," said Madison unsurprised. "I would recommend you practice, I don't just cast anyone," said Madame Tibido.

From week after week after week Shelby practiced. When all the girls and boys would invite her to lunch, parties anywhere she would turn them down. "Wow, she's so desperate for this part." They would say. "She's such a freak." They'd say, but Shelby never gave in or gave up.

One day Shelby was practicing the final dance. She went in for the big arabesque but fell instead of landing gracefully and felt a snap in her ankle. She crawled to her dance bag and grabbed her phone. "Mom you need to bring me to the hospital. NOW!" Shelby and her mom frantically drove to the ER to see Dr. Harmon. "I'm afraid we have a broken ankle on our hands." He said. Shelby thought it was funny when he talked because he sounds like Superman. "Six weeks in a cast and on crutches. Also, no dancing." "What?" Shelby yelled. "I have auditions in 3 weeks." She said practically with tears in her eyes.

Three weeks went by, Shelby had to sit on the side and watch. People would look at her and talk. "She worked so hard, I kinda feel bad for her." said one boy. "Now I have a good chance of being the lead." said a girl. Shelby was cleared to dance again. She would secretly dance to the Swan Lake music. She would try her best to not get caught.

One day she was dancing when the studio was empty. "Ms. Shelby" said Madame Tibido startling Shelby. Shelby turned off the music. "Madame Tibido, I was just ---" Shelby said before being cut off. "Shelby don't explain just, show me what you've got." So Shelby danced as gracefully as a swan itself. "Shelby darling, you've got the part." Said Madame Tibido. When Shelby heard those words she remembered all the work she put in and the moment she broke her ankle. And remember thinking she never had a chance. "Thank you, thank you, thank you!" Shelby cried and ran to Madame Tibido. "You're welcome."

After a few months later Shelby was dancing on stage. The big arabesk she was hesitant. But Shelby leaped into the arabesk and landed gracefully. Shelby ws so proud of herself that she didn't give up.