

**10 Years I've Crushed on You**

By: Karin Biggs

[Karinbiggswrites@gmail.com](mailto:Karinbiggswrites@gmail.com)

Twitter: @biggswrites

10 Years I've Crushed on You

Characters:

SHELBY, teen girl (18)

MIA, teen girl (18)

JAKE, teen boy (18)

LUKE, teen boy

EMMA, teen girl

Setting: A DAY AT HIGH SCHOOL

Scene 1:

Cafeteria Lunch Table

Scene 2:

On Stage in Theater, Drama Class

Scene 3:

Outside Band Room

Scene 4:

On Stage in Theater

Scene 1

*SHELBY and MIA are seated at a table. SHELBY holds a bouquet of red roses. They are eating lunch.*

SHELBY

Ten roses, not twelve. Because ten is the number of years I've known you *and* the number of years I've had a crush on you.

MIA

So, who have you known for ten years?

SHELBY (laughs)

Nearly every person in this high school! That doesn't narrow it down to anyone.

MIA

But there's something specific about *ten*. What happened ten years ago? You were eight. What grade was that - third?

SHELBY

Sure, but, Mia, it could be anyone. (pause) I just *really, really* want it to be Luke.

MIA

In his seventh note, he said he's been too afraid to tell you how he feels about you in person - that he's so close and yet so far or something like that.

SHELBY

Was that the note with the Stormtrooper figurine? What was the point of that gift? I'm not a Star Trek fan.

MIA (serious)

Shelby. Star Wars. They are two very different franchises. But moving on, I was thinking that *maybe* he's someone who

doesn't go to this school and he's been having these things delivered.

SHELBY

Maybe. But how does he know which desk is mine in bio?

MIA (shrugs)

SHELBY

Hmm. Ten roses as the tenth gift. (excited) Mia, I think this might be the last one. Ten gifts for ten years!

MIA

But there weren't any instructions on where to meet him. Oh! Maybe he'll surprise you and do a big band number like in 10 Things I Hate About You!

SHELBY

I hope not. The whole serenading thing creeps me out.

MIA

How *is* it that we're friends?

*JAKE enters the scene and takes a seat at the table*

JAKE

Whoah, red roses? This guy is trying way too hard.

MIA (offended)

It's romantic.

JAKE

It's weird.

MIA

Well, I think it's the coolest thing ever and I'm insanely jealous.

JAKE

Jealous of cheesy gifts?

MIA

Jealous of someone who cares enough about Shelby to put this kind of effort into telling her how he feels. Her first gift was a S'mores Pop tart. That's THE best kind and what was the note again?

SHELBY (dreamily with hand on her heart)

You make my heart go pop!

JAKE

Or...he could have skipped all the stuff and just told her the truth from the beginning.

SHELBY (lifts roses)

These things are definitely a distraction.

*Mia takes the roses from her SHELBY.*

MIA

Consider yourself distraction-free. It'll be nice to pretend someone likes me for a minute.

JAKE

Why do you need flowers to prove someone likes you?

MIA (defensive)

It's a statement.

JAKE

It's a status symbol.

MIA (sets down the roses)

If you don't like it, then you can go sit with your other friends. Shelby doesn't need your negativity.

SHELBY (speaking to JAKE)

Jake, you're fine. (speaking to MIA) Mia, calm down.

*LUKE approaches their table, carrying a food tray or*

*bagged lunch.*

LUKE

Hey, Shelby.

SHELBY (shyly)

Hi, Luke.

LUKE

Nice roses. They're pretty. But not as pretty as you. See you in Drama?

SHELBY

Okay...bye...

*LUKE exits scene.*

(excited) Oh my gosh, it's Luke!

JAKE

What makes you think it's Luke? He tells all the girls they're pretty.

MIA

Shelby, he's totally going to tell you in your Drama class! Shelbs. Maybe he'll ask you to prom!

SHELBY/MIA

A prom-posal! (both squeal)

JAKE (disgusted)

Yep, I picked the wrong table today.

*EMMA approaches table, hands clasped behind her back.*

EMMA

Hi, Jake.

JAKE

Hey, Emma.

EMMA

Can I talk to you for a minute?

JAKE

Please. Save me from this nauseating conversation.

*JAKE and EMMA share silent conversation away from table. EMMA appears excited at first, then hurt.*

MIA (watches conversation between JAKE and EMMA)

What do you think Emma is talking to Jake about?

SHELBY (looks over shoulder, uninterested)

I don't know. Probably something Robotics Team related. We're doing improv in drama class today! What if Luke improvises a way to tell me he's my admirer?

MIA (still focused on conversation)

She looks kind of sad.

SHELBY

Mia!

MIA (refocuses on SHELBY)

Sorry.

SHELBY

So, Prom. Did Aiden ask you last night at your track meet?

MIA

No.

SHELBY

But I thought you said you were 98 percent sure he was going to ask you.

MIA

I did?

SHELBY

Yes! I can't wait to go shopping together. Have you thought about what kind of dress you want?

*JAKE returns to the table. EMMA exits scene.*

MIA (looks at Jake)  
What was that about?

JAKE  
Uh...she just had some questions about Robotics stuff.

MIA  
But she looked kind of sad.

JAKE (scratches the back of his head)  
Yeah...her dog died.

SHELBY (shocked)  
Mr. Pickles died? I just saw him last night! Emma took him on a walk around our neighborhood.

JAKE  
Oh. Yeah...it was a freak accident. Happened a few minutes ago. Anyway, Mia, can I catch a ride home with you after school today? My ride went home sick this morning.

MIA  
Sure. Just meet me in the band room.

JAKE  
Okay, see ya then.

*JAKE leaves the table and exits the scene.*

SHELBY (crosses her arms and stares at MIA)

MIA (laughs)  
What?

SHELBY  
Why can't you just admit it?

MIA  
Admit what?



SHELBY (whispers)

That you like Jake!

MIA

I don't...that's...don't be silly.

SHELBY

Oh, come on, Mia. I see the way you look at him.

MIA

I look at him the same way I look at...pizza...or roses. It's just a look!

SHELBY

Uh huh. I think you should ask him to prom.

MIA

I've known him for way too long. It would be weird.  
And, remember Aiden? There's a 99 percent chance he's going to ask me.

SHELBY

I thought it was 98?

MIA (angry)

Well, now it's up to 100!

*MIA leaves the scene.*

*SHELBY shakes her head.*

END SCENE

## SCENE 2

*Shelby's Drama Class. SHELBY and LUKE are packing up their backpacks center stage.*

SHELBY

Sorry I bumped your nose with my elbow during our improv game.

LUKE

No worries. Your funky chicken dance was hilarious.

SHELBY (shyly)  
Thanks.

LUKE  
Hey, Shelby? There's something I've been wanting to ask you.

SHELBY (hopeful)  
Yes?

LUKE (nervous)  
Will you...go to Prom with me?

SHELBY  
Yes! I will!

*LUKE and SHELBY embrace in a quick hug.*

I was hoping it was you since the very first gift!

LUKE (confused)  
What gift?

SHELBY  
Aren't you my secret admirer?

LUKE  
Well, I *have* been not-secretly-admiring you but I haven't sent you any gifts. Hey, I gotta run. Can't wait for prom with you.

SHELBY (lovingly)  
Me too.

*EMMA walks across stage, wearing backpack.*

SHELBY  
Hey, Emma. I'm so sorry about Mr. Pickles.

EMMA (confused)  
What do you mean?

SHELBY  
Mr. Pickles. Didn't he have a freak accident today?

EMMA  
No...not since I saw him this morning.

SHELBY  
Jake said you were sad because your dog died.

EMMA  
Jake turned me down when I asked him to Prom. He's planning to ask someone else. Someone he's liked for ten years.

SHELBY  
Oh, no. No, no, no, this isn't good.

*SHELBY runs off stage*

EMMA (shouts to SHELBY)  
So, is Mr. Pickles okay?

### SCENE 3

*Band room - MIA is packing up an instrument.  
JAKE stands beside her, wearing a backpack.*

JAKE  
Thanks for the ride.

MIA  
No problem. But I need a caffeine fix, so we're stopping for coffee.

JAKE  
Works for me. Hey, remember when I moved here? The teacher made me stand up in front of our third grade class and say my name and where I was from?

MIA (packing music folders into her backpack)  
Yeah.

JAKE  
That sucked. I hate any kind of public speaking. I was terrified the rest of the day. Until lunch. You said I could sit with you and Shelby. And you gave me one of your pop tarts.

MIA  
How do you remember that? That was ages ago.

JAKE  
*Ten years ago, actually. And...I just do. Just like I remember that time I invited you both over to watch Star Wars. Shelby fell asleep. But you and I stayed up and binged three movies back to back.*

*SHELBY runs into the scene.*

SHELBY  
Jake! We need to talk. Right now.

JAKE  
Uh, well Mia's giving me a ride home.

SHELBY  
I can give you one.

JAKE  
But you live on the other side of town. And Mia and I-

SHELBY (desperate)  
*I really need to talk to you. Please.*

MIA (sighs)  
Whatever. I'll get coffee by myself.

*MIA exits the scene with backpack and bouquet of roses.*

SHELBY (to JAKE)  
I know it's you.

JAKE  
You know *what*?

*MIA enters the scene again behind SHELBY,  
extending bouquet*

SHELBY (to JAKE)  
I know you're my/ secret admirer.

MIA (to SHELBY)  
/ forgot your flowers.

MIA (hurt, looking at JAKE)  
You're Shelby's secret admirer?

*SHELBY turns to see MIA behind her.  
JAKE peers around SHELBY to see MIA.*

JAKE  
Yes...it's me, but-  
*MIA throws bouquet on ground, exits scene*

Mia!  
(runs out of scene, then reenters)  
She's locked herself in the girl's bathroom. (upset) This is a disaster. I knew I should have stopped after I realized I got your desks mixed up. I just thought she'd catch on to the clues, but she never did!

SHELBY  
Wait, so you're *not* my secret admirer? This was all supposed to be for Mia?

JAKE  
Yeah.

SHELBY (relieved)

Oh, thank God. Jake, Mia likes you. And right now she thinks that you like *me*, so you need to fix this. Now. How were you going to tell her?

JAKE (shrugs)

I was just going to tell her. In the car.

SHELBY

No, that won't do. Come on, I have a plan.

*JAKE follows SHELBY out of the scene.*

END SCENE

SCENE 4

*MIA is walking down an aisle of the theater.  
Stage lights are off.*

MIA

Shelby? Are you in here? I got your text. What's the emergency?

*Spotlight comes on center stage, illuminating  
JAKE, who holds a mic.*

JAKE (singing to tune of CAN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF OF YOU by Frankie Valli)

I like you, Mia, and if it's quite alright, you'll join me,  
Mia, on Prom night, oh pretty Mia, trust in me when I  
say...I'm sorry Mia, those gifts were meant for you, oh  
pretty Mia...HMMMMMM...

*JAKE stops singing and jumps off stage to stand  
in front of MIA.*

I can't remember the rest of the words that Shelby wrote for me.

MIA

I'm confused.

JAKE (speaking quickly)

I know. I screwed up big time. I put the first couple gifts on the wrong desk and when I realized it, it felt too late to change it up and I thought you'd eventually figure it out from the clues. But now I've hurt your feelings and this song was Shelby's idea and I don't know what I'm doing and I'm so, so sorry.

MIA

You've had a crush on me? For ten years?

JAKE

Yeah, I've just been too scared to tell you. So I did the secret admirer thing. (shrugs) I thought you'd like it.

*MIA is silent.*

Please, say something.

*MIA takes mic from JAKE.*

MIA

I hate that you screwed up. I hate the way you sing. I hate that you didn't ever tell me. What's a word that rhymes with sing?

JAKE

Ring? Bling?

MIA

This situation is crazy. And weird. And kind of sad. But the truth is, I don't hate you at all. And if it's me you like, I'm glad.

*MIA reaches for JAKE's hand.*

*They both smile.*

*JAKE dips MIA, as he is about to kiss her.*

*Fade to black.*

House plays CAN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF OF YOU by Frankie Valli.

CURTAIN