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One less lonely girl in Barrhaven

"He was singing to me and I just kept shouting 'I love you' to him"

By JEFFREY MORRIS

Thanks to Justin Bieber, there is one less lonely girl in Barrhaven.

Mother Teresa High School student Sara Hemens had been looking forward to going to last week's Justin Bieber concert at Scotiabank Place all summer. She knew it would be the highlight of her summer. But what happened, she said, was the highlight of her life.

Hemens attended the concert with her friend, Taylor Smith, who had obtained tickets on the floor, close to the stage, for them. During the concert, the girls were approached by a woman working with the show.

"A lady came up to us from the back of the floor and asked me if I would like to be the 'One Less Lonely Girl' for his song," she said. "I couldn't believe it. I knew that they always picked a girl for him to sing to at his concerts, but I never imagined it could have been me."

Hemens and Smith were escorted backstage and waited with security. Before Bieber sang his hit, One Less Lonely Girl, a chair was set up on stage and Hemens was escorted out to the chair, while her friend had the best seat in the building.



IMAGE COURTESY OF MATTHEW DOIRON-TRACEY

Singer Justin Bieber serenaded Barrhaven teen Sara Hemens onstage during his sold out show at Scotiabank Place last week.

Within seconds, Bieber filled the Barrhaven teen with butterflies as he serenaded her.

"He brought me roses, and he sang to me," she said. "It was beautiful. I couldn't believe it. I couldn't believe that I was the one who got picked. It was amazing."

Partway through the song, Bieber had Hemens stand up. She reached out and held his hand while

he sang to her.

"He was singing to me and I just kept shouting 'I love you' to him," she said.

At the end of the song, he embraced her with a hug.

When she got back stage after the song, Hemens was trembling.

"The paramedics came and asked me if I was going to be okay," she said. "I could barely breathe."

As she was escorted back to her seat, Smith had to play the role of body guard for her friend. Fans were swarming Hemens and going after flowers, as they "had been touched by Justin." Order was eventually restored, and they enjoyed the rest of the show.

After the show, Hemens went home and had 90 messages waiting for her on Facebook.

Most were well-wishes and congratulations. She even had threats from jealous fans. She is hoping that things are a little less crazy when she returns to school Tuesday.

The shirt she wore to the concert, meanwhile, is hanging up and will likely go on the wall with her Bieber posters. She had made the shirt specifically for the concert.

"I could never wash it,"

she said. "He hugged me in that shirt."

Although the moment was only for one song, it is a memory that Hemens says will last forever.

"I have been asked about it over and over again, but I love telling the story," she said. "I don't mind. It was the highlight of my life. Telling the story to my friends lets me live through the memory one more time."

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