

Jens Haven School  
Nain  
presents

"Life's Like That"

Cast

Life..... Jessica Dawe  
Joan..... Kelly Edmunds  
Zack..... Lucas Angnatok  
Mike..... Josh Pamak  
Liz..... Jessica Dawe  
The Others..... Abby Webb, Melissa Webb,  
Jillian Angnatok, Donna Dicker

Teacher Advisor..... Jennifer Harris



Jayden Winters,  
Peacock Primary

**Scene I:** *Everyone but Mike sits around looking at stars. Everyone seems uneasy - something is wrong. There is a little period of silence then finally someone breaks it.*

**Liz:** The sky is so beautiful. I'm glad we're together tonight.

**Zack:** I don't know, the stars always made me feel so small, so insignificant. I mean, we're just 3 kids in this world of chaos and destruction. Do we really matter? When is it gonna start making sense for us anyway? I mean really - we go through this lifetime looking - for what purpose?

**Joan:** Come on Zack, it's for the moment we find it. That is our purpose, isn't it?

**Zack:** Maybe.... *(pause)* Did any of you happen to see Mike today? I couldn't find him anywhere.

**Joan:** I didn't see him. I called his house; his mom said he was with his brother. I'm sure he is okay considering.

**Liz:** I haven't seen him since the funeral. He just took off afterwards. I tried to talk to him, but he just walked away. He cared for her so much. You know the way Mike is - he's not one to reach out when he's hurting.

**Zack:** I know, but you can't help but be concerned. She was all that was ever on his mind. *(Laughs)* You remember when she was gone for the summer? Mike called her every night just to hear her voice.

**Liz:** *(Laughs)* Yeah, I remember. All of his summer savings went to the phone bill.

**Joan:** Hey, I'm still washing dishes to repay Mom and Dad! *(They all laugh but stop abruptly)* And we are never gonna hear her voice again.

**Zack:** Geez, man...Life's a -----

**Joan:** *(interrupts)* Tough Zack.

**Liz:** I just can't understand why she did it. I mean, we all knew she had problems even if she didn't talk about them. We all have problems.

**Joan:** I know Liz. You would think after seeing other beings go through this..... to watch their loved ones being hurt. Why would anyone want to hurt his or her loved ones like this? Ya know..... even though there is so much going on in our world, there is still so much to enjoy about it. Now she's gonna miss everything.

**Liz:** She left us all hanging.....Do you think she thought of how we would all feel about

it?

**Zack:** Selfish - that's all I can say.

**Joan:** Who knows? I guess life's just like that.

**Liz:** I don't think it has to be.

## **Scene II**

**Life:** Hi, I'm Life. I'm not a reaper, I'm a sower. And soooo what? I'm everybody and everything and yet I'm nothing. Well, nothing in particular. I try to be everything to everybody but mostly, I'm at best, something to someone. I'm taken for granted and yet everyone wants a piece of me. They just take, take, take. *(Pause. Then talking seriously to audience)* You'd think they would find comfort in me. Wouldn't you? *(Pause)* Do you read the papers? *(Pause)* I know sometimes I wish I didn't either. There is lots of sadness, I agree, quite frankly. It's draining.

## **Scene III**

I don't get it.

This world doesn't make sense to me.

You're just another face in the crowd.

It's not as easy as snapping your fingers.

It's about living in a society where

It's dog

Eat

Dog

Law of the jungle

Don't take anybody's crap

Because they won't take yours

It's where

Ruthless and cunning

Overpower

Kindness and forgiving

Learn to fight the verbal war -

Watch your back!

Because you never know who's out to get you

Get them first if it's possible.

Don't get sucked into this mentality BECAUSE...

#### **Scene IV**

*Mike walks on stage, sits in front and pulls out a picture*

Mike: Why did you have to do this? I thought you loved me. All the time we spent together, didn't it mean anything? We had plans..... big plans, promises. Promises broken now for a lifetime. *(Pause)* Remember the time we were lying on the floor and I told you that I loved you, but you swore that you loved me more. It started to be a running joke for us..... something no one else knew about. We had a lot of those. One day out of the blue.....I'll never forget it.....we were sitting in class listening to Mr. Bonkers go on and on "You see war is a battle of wills..... between the superpowers of our universe. Take the....." *(Laughs and shakes head)* Blah, blah, blah! *(Pauses and looks down at picture)* You slipped me a note. We looked at each other with silly looks on our faces. You were glowing like a damn Christmas tree or something. I knew right at that moment how special you were. I remember thinking "now that picture is beautiful". I opened the piece of paper.. *(pause)* It read more! Not some huge profound confession of love. It was simple.....sweet.....*(smiling)* More. Now I'm left not being able to tell if there is more to anything. I'm scared. We had each other.....and you left me. I hate alone.....I like more better. Why didn't you?

#### **Scene V**

*Movement sequence - Music. Friends appear around Mike with the others. Symbolizes mourning and grieving and saying good-bye. At the end they all exit. Mike is still frozen on stage.*

## Scene VI

*Joan enters with books. She is just coming from school and sees Mike*

**Joan:** Hey Mike, mind if I sit with you? *(Mike wipes tear, silent, just shrugs shoulders, Joan sits next to him)* Mike are you okay? Why weren't you in school today? Everyone's concerned.

**Mike:** *(Snappish)* I'm fine.....

**Joan:** *(sighs)* Zack said.....

**Mike:** *(interrupts)* I don't care!

**Joan:** Geez Mike, I just wanna know is there anything I can do? Do you wanna talk?

**Mike:** Look Joan, just stop trying to make me feel better.

**Joan:** Okay *(smiling and jokingly pushes him)* But you're really gonna owe me one. If it's okay with you, I'm just gonna sit here. *(Folds her arms and swings her legs)*

**Mike:** *(smiling slightly)* Leave it to you to get one up on me.

*They both look at each other. Awkward pause*

**Joan:** *(Attempting to start a conversation)* Whatcha got there?

**Mike:** A picture. *(Shows Joan)*

**Joan:** We had a good time that day, eh?

**Mike:** Year, poor Sarah. She was smothering with the flu and we made her hike all the way up there. I ended up carrying her. When we got to the top we all just laid there in the grass and let the sun shine on us.

**Joan:** Mike, we will always have that day and every other memory.

**Mike:** It's not enough Joan. I'll never be able to forgive her or myself for letting this happen. *(Gets up)* I'll see you around.

**Joan:** *(sighs. Folds her arms and leans back)* See ya. Hey Mike!

**Mike:** Yeah?

**Joan:** Don't give up on yourself like she did, please.

*Mike just walks away. Joan takes out book and starts writing.*

## **Scene VII**

**Other:** I once heard we are the only species who can decide whether or not to create life or take it away. Life is about choices...it's like a tree. One branch after another, after another. Some may go straight for a while and in an instant - all of a sudden go the other way. Some others will twist and twist and twist for what seems like forever. Funny thing .....they always meet at one place. We all have to find peace in this place. We all have to find peace with the choices that have been made and the choices we make.

## **Scene VIII** *(After school by lockers)*

**Zack:** Man, I wish Mike would stop being so angry and talk to us. It's not like we took her away from him.

**Joan:** He just doesn't feel right around us anymore.

**Liz:** It's a part of grieving. We have to let him do this and be there for him when he needs us.

*Mike enters behind Zack.*

**Zack:** Still..... he's not alone in this. He doesn't understand that we are feeling the same way he does. We are hurting too. You don't see us turning our backs on each other.

**Mike:** *(angry, pushes Zack)* So that's what you think? What's this? You got it all figured out? I'm glad somebody does. I have to say I'm impressed on how you can "help each other" or forgive and forget so easily. To me, she isn't just another one swinging from the end of the rope. It's so nice to see how much you guys cared.

**Zack:** We all cared about her, man! But we can't live with the past. She's gone, Mike! Now you gotta start dealing with it, for your own well-being.

**Mike:** Deal with it! DEAL WITH IT!!! *(goes after Zack again)*

**Zack:** Man, you gotta calm down. I'm not gonna fight you.

**Joan:** Come on Mike. Let's just talk.

**Mike:** Screw this! I don't need you guys. All I needed was her. *(Leaves)*

**Joan:** We all did.....Mike come on!

**Liz:** Let him cool down. We'll talk to him later.

**Zack:** No way! This gotta end now! (*Exits*)

### Scene IX

**Life:** What if more people stood up and said those five simple words "No! This gotta end now!" Don't you think I'd be different? Everyone thinks I'm powerful - I can't stop things from happening. I just have to watch. That's right! I'm not powerful! It's those people who don't settle for defeat, who cannot just sit by and live their lives by the rule "It doesn't affect me." They are the ones that change things. I gotta give me credit... yes, they do it through me but I think deep down they know the difference too. They know they are in charge of their own destiny. There is nothing about them or me that's idealistic. They would love to imagine a perfect, harmonious world. But I guess then there would be no place for me. Sometimes there isn't. It's okay though. I accept it like we all should. I can't take it personal. Life's like that! Like what? And for who? They all have their own realities. Sometimes they are too caught up in their own to remember others. I do have a unique perspective - I get to see it all!!! Did you know that hundreds of people died in Iran two months ago? Or that every day in Malaysia young people work hard for pennies a day to make that nice brand-name clothing you're wearing? Or that there are hundreds of women all over the world still being treated as burdens and possessions, less their own decisions and thoughts? And still you are truly not listening to the young people of the world. Or do you care? These realities are of no more or no less a reality than Mike's right now. But your own reality is the ONLY one for you, when it's happening.

### Scene X

*Zack follows in Mike*

**Zack:** Hey, what do you thing you're doing? Are you just going to keep pushing us away?

**Mike:** Why can't you just leave me alone?

**Zack:** We are your friends, what else should we do? (*Mike turns away. Zack grabs his arm*) Listen, we care about you. We can't sit by and just watch you wallow in sadness. We just lost one friend. We don't want to lose two.

**Mike:** Is that all?

**Zack:** Mike, she's dead.. No matter what you do, it's gonna stay that way. But we are here. We can help each other through this. Do you honestly think we aren't feeling sad too?

**Mike:** I know you do.....and I'm sorry. I do appreciate what you and the girls have been doing. I know you have been patient. But I need some space.....to figure things out. So just lay off for a while.

**Zack:** I'm just worried as hell, man. We're here when you need us. *(Leaves Mike alone)*

**Mike:** Why do we have to face this? We are all still so young..... we shouldn't be forced into dealing with serious stuff like this, but we are. It's our reality and it shouldn't be. Why is our world so full of negativity, no one wants to live with each other any more? Is this what our world has become or when is it going to change?

## **Scene XI**

*Joan is on Liz' bed writing in her diary. Liz is sitting on a bench with an easel and paintbrush in hand. She's humming a little. The audience can see the painting.*

**Joan:** How do you think Zack made out with Mike?

**Liz:** Who knows, Joan? This just has to get better between us all.

**Joan:** When I was talking with him the other day, he opened up a little. I didn't push him, but he talked to me. I even got him to smile.

**Liz:** You have always been a fixer, Joan.

**Joan:** Well, there is not much I can do to fix this. Liz, that painting is absolutely beautiful!

**Liz:** Thanks Joan. I've been practising.

**Joan:** I admire how you make things seem so happy. I mean, here it is raining, the most gloomiest day ever and you have painted that.

**Liz:** Well, I've cried through some and smiled to the sun through others. It's all in the way you look at it.

**Joan:** Mike needs to realize that.

**Liz:** Mike needs to find it for himself. Life throws you some terrible curves.

**Joan:** He will with time.

**Liz:** So do you really think? Can I be a De Vinci one of these days?? *(Laughs)*



**Joan:** *(Laughs)* It reminds me..... it reminds me of.. Seeing the sunshine through the clouds.  
It makes me feel like helping the world.

*Soundscape.*

## **Scene XII**

*Zack, Liz and Joan ate stargazing again in their usual spot.*

**Joan:** Remember when we used to do this every night. It was nice.

**Zack:** Yep, things change.

**Joan:** We are lucky to get to see the northern lights. Some people never get the opportunity to see them dance.

**Liz:** It truly is a celebration of life.

**Zack:** I guess we can learn from them. *(Mike enters)*

**Mike:** Hey guys.

**Everyone:** Mike! Hi! I'm so glad you came. *(Everyone hugs)*

**Joan:** Ready to talk?

**Mike:** I don't know..... I just can't be alone any more.

**Liz:** We are just sitting and doing the usual.

**Mike:** Sounds like a plan.

**Zack:** *(Pats Mike on the back as they sit down. Everyone relaxes)* Glad to have you back.

**Mike:** Me too.

**Joan:** We're in this crazy world together.

*(Three monologues follow from "the others". They form a circle around four friends and circulate)*

**Monologue:** Life is a special gift and we should be thankful that we have been given this opportunity to do good and contribute to this world. Cherish it for we only have one real chance! But you have to expect the unexpected.....ALL THE TIME!. That is just a part of life.

**Monologue:** Life is worth living. Everyone is put on this earth for a reason. We all have things to be happy about. Everyone's good at something. When you have troubles there will always be a bright side, focus on this. Tomorrow will come and it will always bring another wonderful thing to explore. Be thankful for others and what you have. Help people who are less fortunate than you. Make your life have purpose. Live your life in a positive way and just be happy. We all have reason to be.

**Monologue:** Be an inspiration. We all have our own story. Life is a story. A story of discovery, learning, ideas and people within it. Life is the simple things. Drawing when there is just no reason to, reading when you feel like it, running just for the heck of it. Life is all the colours that we have not yet painted in our own lives. Life is surprises, sorrows, joys, excitement, loves, losses, hopes, and faith. Embrace it! Experience it!

*(Everyone jumps up and shouts BECAUSE. Life emerges from the crowd)*

**Life:** You see.....I'm all about the things you do and what you don't do. The things you know and the way you learn along the way. I'm a mystery, I'm a highway, I'm a bowl of cherries or a box of chocolates. What are you waiting for? *(pause)* Most of all.....I'm what you make of me.