

Jens Haven Drama Group
from
Jens Haven Memorial School
Nain

presents

Forever to Say Good Bye

Cast

Mike
Liz
Joan
Life
Zack
Others

Josh Pamak
Melissa Webb
Abigail Webb
Jessica Dawe
Lucas Angnatok
Shannon Webb, Danielle Baikie

Teacher Advisor

Deborah Staples

Forever to Say Good Bye tells the story of 4 teens coping with the suicide of their friend. This play reveals the many faces of grieving. It is a play that shows how survivors of suicide are affected. Suicide is an issue that many youth in our society deal with. This play sheds some light on this.

Scene 1

Life:

Hi-I'm life. I 'm not a reaper. I am a sower. And soooo what? I 'm everybody and everything, and yet I am nothing. Well, nothing in particular. I try to be everything to everybody but mostly I am at best some thing to some one.

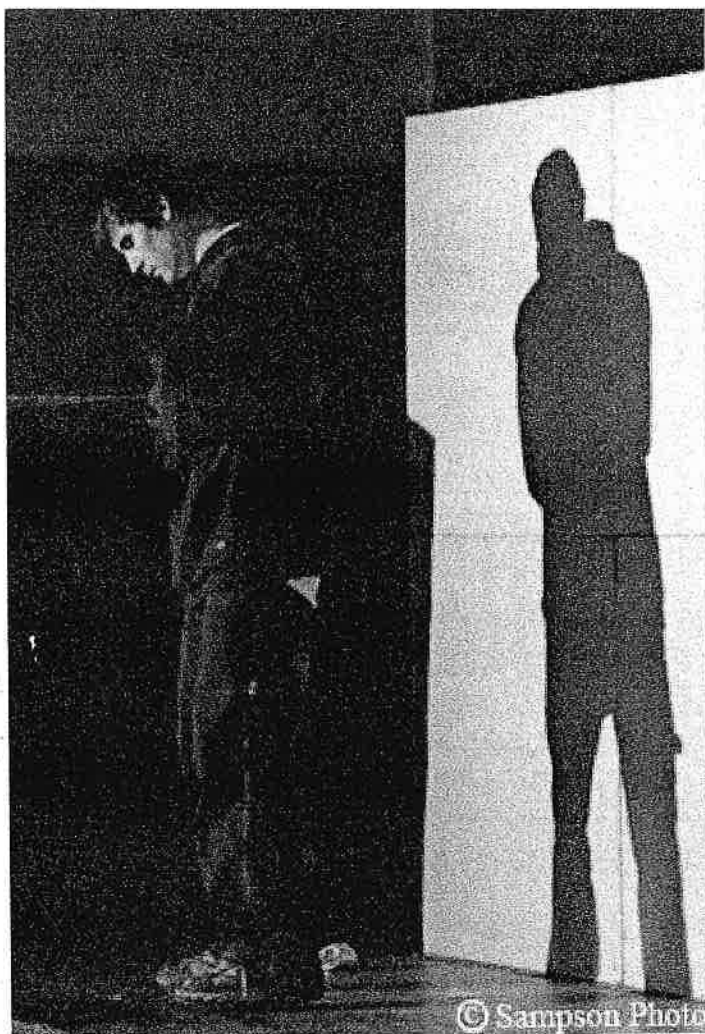
I am taken for granted and yet everyone wants a piece of me .They just take... take... take....

(Pause -Then talking seriously to the 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 . There is lots of sadness and quiet frankly, it's draining.



Title: Yet to be determined

2
Scene ~~One~~:

A Beautiful Starlit night. Three friends (Zack, Liz, and Joan) sit preoccupied with their own thoughts. After a brief period of silence, Liz speaks. All characters speak as though feeling their way through unfamiliar territory.

Liz: Beautiful, eh?

Zack: I don't know. The stars always make me feel so.....

Liz: Small?

Z: Yeah.

Joan: Not me. All those stars millions of light years away, and the moon, I don't know, seem to be putting on a show just for me, and it makes me feel.....big.

Z: Really?

J: Yeah, like I am a part of something really important.

Z: Well I got news for you. You ain't we are just three kids in a messed up world.

L: Zack (in a "let's not go there" tone)

Z: See Mike Monday?

J: No, but I called his house. His mom said he was gone somewhere with his brother.

L: I haven't seen him since the.....funeral. I tried to talk to him but he just walked away. You know the way Mike is.

J: Yeah tough on the outside but you can't judge a book by its cover.

Z: That's what worries me, man. She was all he talked about. (Pause) Remember when he was gone all Summer? Mike called her every friggin day.

L: Oh, I remember. By the time he paid his phone bill, he was broke. (Laughter)

Laughter builds as Liz and Joan reminisce about funny incidents in the past. It should sound a little forced. Laughter crashes to a screeching halt when Zack violently reacts. Silence for what seems like an eternity and Liz speaks hesitantly.

L: I just don't understand why she did it. I mean, we all knew she had problems, even if she didn't talk about them. But, who doesn't have problems?

J: I know. But, like to me, it seemed like she didn't give a crap about our feelings.

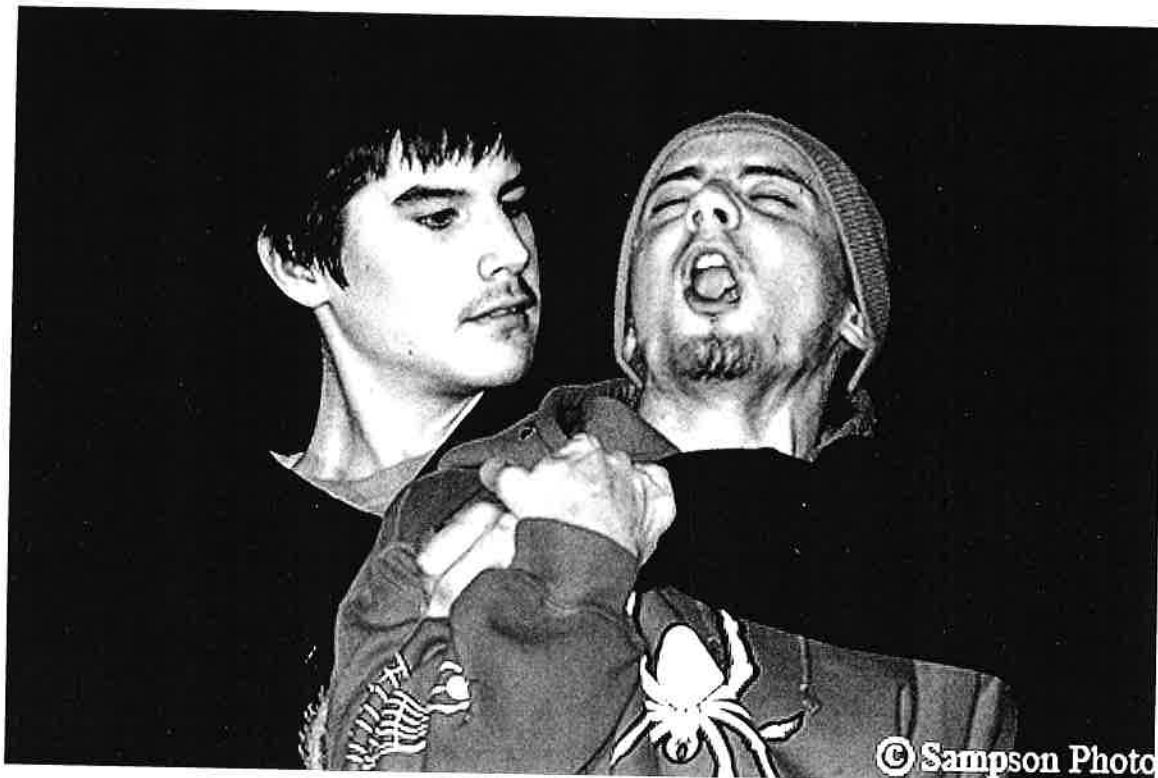
L: I am not so sure about that. But, our lives are changed forever and I wasn't ready for that, and yeah, sometimes it makes me mad. (Pause)

J: Look at the sky, Liz. Isn't it beautiful? The stars seem brighter than ever.

L: I wonder if she is there among the stars looking down at us— an angel flying freely across the heavens.

J: She'd certainly be the brightest star in the sky, I know that much.

Z: Bulls**t!! Six feet under is where she is and that's where she stays, so cut the damn "Up in the Heavens bulls**t. *Storms off stage. Moment of silence. Reenters. All three hug while in silence as lights fade.*



Scene 3

Movement with a poem etc.

I just don't get it (Melissa and Abbie)

This world doesn't make sense to me (Kelly and Danny)

You're just another face in the crowd (Josh and Shannon)

It's not as easy as snapping your (Lucas)

Fingers (All)

It's about living in a society, where (Lucas)

It's Dog (Josh, Kelly, Danny)

Eat (Lucas)

Dog (Melissa, Abby, Shannon)

Law of the Jungle (Lucas)

Do not take anybody's crap (Josh, Kelly, Danny)

Because they won't take yours (Shannon, Abby, Melissa)

It is where (Lucas)

Ruthless and Cunning (Abby, Shannon and Melissa)

Over power (Lucas)

Kindness and Forgiving (Josh, Kelly, Danny)

Learn to fight the verbal war (Lucas)

Watch your back! (Abby, Shannon, Melissa)

Because you never know (Lucas)

Who is out to get you (Josh, Kelly, and Danny)

Get them first if it is possible (All)

Scene 4

Movement sequence-music

Funeral scene. Mike and "girlfriend" symbolize being together. The group responds. They carry "Girlfriend" offstage.

Scene 5

Mike walks on stage and sits down.

Mike: Why did you have to do this? I thought you loved me! All the time we spent together didn't 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 will...between the superpowers of the universe. Take the *(Laughs bitterly and shakes head)* Blah, Blah, Blah! *(Looks down)* You slipped me a note. We looked at each other with silly grins 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's beautiful." I opened the piece of paper....*(Pause)* More...It read more! Not some huge profound confession love....it was simple....sweet....*(smiles)* More.

Now I am 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?

Mike slams something on the ground and tries to slash his wrist. Joan comes in and catches him. He is unaware she was there.

Scene 6

J: Hey, Mike. Mind if I sit here.

M: *Wipes tears, is silent- just shrugs*

J: *Sits next to him*

Mike are you alright? Why didn't you go to school today? Everyone is worried about you.

M: *snaps*

I'M FINE!

J: But Zack said...

M: I DON'T CARE!

J: But Mike, I think Zack would know what he is talking about. I mean, he is your best friend and all. But I just wanna know...is there anything I can do?

M: Look Joan, try to stop making me feel better.

J: Okay

Awkward Pause

J: *Attempting to start a conversation*
Whatcha got there?

M: Oh nothing.

J: Ooookay. I see... well...Mike I think it looks like you need some time alone. I am just going to get up and leave you to yourself.

M: Okay. *Pause* You know Joan, I will never be able to forgive her or myself for letting this happen. I'll see you around.

J: Alright, later. Wait! Hey Mike?

M: Yeah?

J: Just don't give up on yourself like she did okay?
Walks away.

Scene 7

Movement accompanied

Other: I once heard we are the only species who can decide whether 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 for what seems like forever. Funny thing, they always meet at one place.

We all have to find our peace in this place. We all have to find peace with the choices that have been made and the choices we make.

Scene 8

After school

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

J: I know what you mean, but-I guess this is the way Mike is right now, after all he's been through.

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

Mike enters behind Zack

Z: 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.

M: *pushes Zack violently.*

So that's what you think? You got it all figured out? I am glad somebody does. I have to say I am impressed on how you can "help each other" or forgive and forget so easily. To me, she isn't just another one swinging from a rope. It's nice to see how much you care!

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

M: Deal with it....deal with it....DEAL WITH IT?!

Goes after Zack, Joan and Liz try to hold them apart.

Z: Man, calm down! I am not going to fight you!

J: Mike get a hold of yourself! It's not like we don't care about you.

M: Screw this! It's not like I need you guys anyways, I needed her!
Mike leaves

J: (calling out after him) We all did Mike. YOU ARE NOT THE ONLY ONE!

L: Let him calm down. We'll talk to him later.

Z: No way! This is ending NOW! (Exits)

Life: What if more people stood up and said ~~these five simple words~~ "No! This gotta end now!" Don't you think I'd be different? Everyone thinks I'm powerful - but I can't stop things from happening - I just have to watch. That's right! I'm not *that* powerful! It's those people who don't settle for defeat, who can't just sit back and live their lives by the rule "It doesn't affect me." They are the ones that change things. I gotta give me some 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 all love to imagine a perfect, harmonious world. But I guess then there would be no place for me. Sometimes there isn't. (Sigh) 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're too caught up in their own to remember others. *I* do have a unique perspective though, I get to see it all!!!! Did you know that hundreds of people died in Iran two months ago? Or that everyday in Malaysia young children work hard for pennies a day to make that nice brand-name clothing you're wearing? *Or* that there are thousands of women all over the world *still* being treated as burdens less their own decisions and thoughts? And still you are truly not listening to the youth, the future of your world. Or do you care?

These realities are no more or less a reality than Mike's. But your reality is the only one to you, when it's happening.

SCENE 10

A continuation of scene 8. Zack is fed up and no longer going to take no for an answer. He sneaks up on Mike and grabs him in an arm-lock, exerting a little more pressure each time he wants to make a point.

Mike: (caught off guard) What the frig? What do ya think you're doin', man? Ya crazy or wha'?

Zack: What do ya think I'm doin'? I'm lookin' for a dance partner. (still holding him in the arm-lock, Zack tries to waltz Mike around the stage) After all, man, you've been dancin' around us for weeks.

Mike: Let me go, you freakin' perv.

Zack: Yeah, I let you go, and you'll just run like a bat out of hell.

Mike: No I won't.

Zack: Promise? (no reply) Promise? (still no reply. Exerts more pressure)
PROMISE?

Mike: Okay, okay, I promise, you moron. (Zack lets him go. Mike immediately makes a run for it. Zack gets him in a running tackle. A scuffle follows which gets a little rough. Both are releasing pent-up emotions on each other. Zack finally wrestles Mike to the floor onto his stomach and again locks his arm behind him. Both are panting from their exertions. A long moment where emotions are running wild and colliding. An audible sigh of resignation escapes Zack as he speaks)

Zack: We're your friends, man. We care about you. We can't just sit by and let you slip. We lost one friend—we don't want to lose two.

Mike: Is that all?

Zack: (Stronger) Mike, she's DEAD. No matter what you do, it's gonna stay that way. But we're here, man—we can help each other through this. Do you really think this is not rippin' us apart as well. (pause) Ah, what the hell! (starts to walk away)

Mike: (Standing, facing audience) Zack (Zack stops, back to audience. Mike still faces audience.) Sorry, man. (Zack takes one step toward Mike. Fade-out on scene; fade-in on scene 11.)

Scene 11

Joan is on the floor, by Liz who is painting on a stool. She is humming a little. The audience can see the painting.

J: How do you think things went between Zack and Mike?

L: Who knows? This has to get better between us all.

J: when I was talking to Mike the other day, he opened up a little. I didn't push him, but he talked to me, I even got him to smile.

L: You've always been the fixer of the group.

J: Well there is not much I can do to fix this.Liz that's awesome! (Referring to painting)

L: Thanks, I have been practicing.

J: I like how you make things seem so happy. I mean, here it is raining, the dullest day ever, and you are painting that!

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

J: Mike needs to hear that.

L: Mike needs to find it for himself. Life throws some terrible curves sometimes.

J: He will, with time.

L: So, what do you really think? Can I compete with Da Vinci one of these days?

J: (smiles) It reminds me.....it reminds me of seeing a rainbow after a shower. It makes me feel likeliving life the best way I can.

Scene 12

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

J: Remember how we all used to hang out here every night? It was fun.

Z: Yep.....how things change.

J: You know, we are lucky to see the Northern lights, they are beautiful and some people don't even know what they are!

L: It truly is a celebration of life.

Z: I guess we can learn from them.

Mike enters

M: Hey guys.

All: Mike!Hi!.....I am so glad you came!

J: Are you comfortable enough to talk?

M: I dunno.....I just can't be alone anymore.

L: Well, we are just sitting here doing the usual.

M: (sits) Sounds like a plan.

Z: (patting Mike on the back, relaxing everyone) Glad to have you back Man.

M: Me too.

J: We are all in this crazy mess together.

Scene 12.5

Monologue..... split between the three "Others"

Life is good sometimes and we should be grateful to have a chance to do good. After all, we only get one chance. But you have to expect the unexpected all the time. That's just the way it is.

Life is worth it. We are all here for a reason. We all have things to be happy about. We all have things that get us down. Tomorrow will be a different day, it will get better. Focus on this.

Be thankful for others and what you have. Help people who are less fortunate than you- Make your life have purpose.

Live your life positively and be happy because we all have one reason or another to be.

Be an inspiration. We all have a story to tell. Life is a story. A story of discovery, learning, ideas, and the people who create them.

Life is the simple things; drawing when there is no reason to, reading when you feel like it, dancing when there is no music, running just for the heck of it.

Life is surprises, sorrows, joys, excitement, loves, losses, hopes and faith. Embrace it! Experience it!

BECAUSE.....

Life enters

Life: You see....I'm all about the things you do and the things you don't do. The things you know and what you learned along the way. I'm a mystery, I'm a highway....I am a bowl of cherries....What are you waiting for? (Pause) Because most of all.....I am what you make of me.

Curtain