

Jump

By Porter Molinar

Characters

- Jack - A kid who suffers from depression
- Dep - Jack's physical embodiment of his depression
- mom - Jack's mom
- Dad - Jack's dad
- Kylee - Jack's so called friend
- Sam - Jack's so called friend

Setting

The 21st century suburban town. Small places like a grocery store, A bridge with a dried up river, A highschool, and neighborhood where Jack lives.

Act 1

Scene 1 - the way it always starts

(Setting is a living room based in the present day. It is the last day of school and early in the morning as Jack is getting ready to leave for school. Scene opens with the setting of a living room. the stage is completely blacked out except for one spotlight on jack, who is standing up center stage.)

Jack

Dear audience... Life sucks. No matter how hard you try it just throws more and more shit at you until you just can't take it anymore. I've tried and I've tried, but no matter how hard, and no matter how far I have gotten, it all feels useless. I'm sick of it. The bully's at school, the constant need to change to be something I'm not, and then my parents. I'm just so sick of it. So this "story" isn't about me getting over that, it's actually quite the opposite.

(Scene opens with lights lighting up the living room. There sits dad on a couch or rocking chair reading a newspaper. Mom is on the couch looking at her phone. Jack walks into the scene and puts a backpack on. Scene is frozen in time until Jack puts on his backpack.)

Jack

Hey mom! Hey dad! I'm leaving for school right now.

Mom

Okay honey! Have a good last day

Jack

I'll try to

Mom

What do you mean "you'll try to"

Jack

(Annoyed)

I don't know, you said to have a good day and I said I'll try to.

Dad

Hey! watch that tone. I don't know who you think you are but it's not the son who I raised.

Jack

I didn't even do anything.

MOM

You know what you did. I don't know what has gotten into you, but you better knock it off. It shows how ungrateful you are.

Jack

But...

DAD

I don't wanna hear it. Just go to school. We will talk about this later.

*(Characters freeze except for Jack
who turns back out to the audience.)*

Jack

This is a GREAT example of what I mean. This is how everyday starts since I told them that I think I was depressed. Its like I told them I was dying or something. They denied it and even said it's "just a phase" and I just need to get over it. And now we are here. Every time I don't seem happy or go lucky like I use to be, I am called ungrateful, or a spoiled brat. they usually keep me on my feet about which one they use..... At least this is the last time they'll use it.

Scene 2 - The end?

(Jack walks in place as the living room scene is moved offstage. on the opposite a bridge is wheeled across the stage to the other side until it is offstage as jack walks.As the bridge passes, Dep Comes on stage behind jack.)

scene 3 - The breeding ground for disaster

(as bridge is Wheeled off stage, Lockers a set on stage, one of which has graffiti with the word loser spelt out. Jack stops walking and turns to the audience.)

Jack

This is the place I thought I could get away from it all. A home away from home, But boy was I wrong.

(Scene lights up as jack steps into the scene, with his friends sam and kylee at his locker)

Kylee

Hey Jack!

Sam

Hey Jack!

Jack

Hey Guys... What the heck dude, again??

(Jack looks to the locker and sees the loser logo spray painted on his locker.)

Sam

It's nothing too crazy. it's just a little... art?

Jack

You're Kidding right?

Kylee

I don't see the problem

Jack

Well I mean besides the fact my locker has been vandalized it's very obvious that I am being targeted again

Sam

Why are you being so superstitious?

Kylee

I'm sure it's nothing.

Jack

Are you serious right now? This has been happening all school year and you guys all make up the same bullshit every single time.

Sam

You know what jack, I'm not gonna take this from you. I don't know what has gotten into you lately, but I don't like it

Kylee

I'm with Sam on this one. I don't know what happened to you but I want the old jack back.

*(Kylee and Sam walk off stage.
Lights dim on scene and spotlight
appears on jack.)*

Jack

They say stuff like that all the time. They just don't understand, and I don't think they ever will. They act all innocent and like they are the victim. Probably because Kylee's boyfriend is the one that is doing this to me. I don't really know what to do anymore.

Dep

(offstage)

Just give up.

Jack

What?

(Dep enters the stage.)

Dep

You heard me. Just simply give up. it's like they never cared for you anyways.

Jack

I mean I can see that for kylee since it is her boyfriend.... but sam?

Dep

Why didn't sam stand up for you then

Jack

....

Dep

It really is heartbreaking, but they are just fake friends, you don't need them, all you need is me. I am the one you can trust, I will never leave your side. I will be with you until the end.

Jack

You're wrong! I don't need you! I don't need Sam or Kylee. I can find new friends, and I can finally get rid of you.

Dep

And how do you plan to do that? You can't get rid of me jack. Me and you are the same person. We are together forever whether you like it or not.

Jack

Just shut up

Dep

why?

Jack

Ever since you showed up I have hated my life. People say I'm different now and I just hate it. I hate all of it.

Dep

Ever since I showed up I have shown you what the world really looks like. I am only here to help you, not hurt you.

Jack

Then why do I feel Horrible every single time you show up?

Dep

I am only here to tell you what is right.

Jack

THEN WHAT?! What Am I supposed to do, what is right??

Dep

Give up

Jack

What?

Dep

You heard me. Simply. Give. Up.

Jack

Are you serious?

Dep

You asked me, and I answered.

Jack

Is that really the best solution

Dep

It is the only solution jack

Jack

.....

*(Lights fade out. Dep exits stage.
spotlight goes onto jack and jack
turns to the audience.)*

Jack

I go through this thought process everyday, except this time it feels different. It feels more real this time. He has always been with me, ever since high school. He has always been there for me when no one else was. Maybe he is right. Maybe it is time to give up.

(spotlight turns off. Backlight lights the stage as the lockers are wheeled off. Jack walks in place on stage as the bridge is brought back on to the stage. Bridge lands in the middle of the stage and jack)

Scene 4 - The final bow

(Jack lands on a bridge. Dep walks onto stage and stands next to Jack overlooking the bridge with jack. Lights go up.)

Dep

That's pretty far down

Jack

Yep

Dep

A fall from this high, especially head first would be a total end for someone.

Jack

Yep

Dep

And think of the splatter. It would really be a sight

Jack

Do you ever have anything positive to say? Like hey it's okay that life sucks, or you still have so much to live for?

Dep

Nope. Not a good bone in my body.

Jack

Great

Dep

I don't know what the attitude is for?

Jack

BECAUSE! You have been in my head for as long as I can remember. I can't stand it anymore. Just leave me alone!

Dep

(Chuckles)

I can't jack. Like I always said. I am with you until the end. The VERY end.

Jack

The end?

(Dep leaves the stage. Jack stands on the bridge overlooking it.)

Jack

This is the only way. I don't know what else to do. I have sat here being criticized my whole life. I always have to be the best. Nothing more, nothing less. No complaining, be grateful or you're a spoiled little brat. You can't cry because men don't cry. I JUST CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE! Life just sucks. There's no point to it. Why do I want a life when it is just misery everyday.

Dep

(Offstage)

Then jump

Jack

Then jump? Then..... Jump

(Jack steps up on the railing of the bridge. his phone rings. he answers the phone)

Jack

Hello?

(Mom enters the stage on the side with a table and a chair.)

Mom

Hey sweetie. Where are you at? It's late and you should be home by now

Jack

I.. I...

Mom

Is everything alright?

Jack

Yes mom. Everything will be alright. Everything is going to be alright soon.

Mom

Are you sure everything is okay? You sound like you're crying.

Jack

Everything's fine. I don't cry. Men don't cry.

Mom

Well alright then head home. It's getting dark.

Jack

Alright

Mom

I love you. I'll see you in a few

Jack

I love you mom.

*(Phone hangs up and mom walks
offstage with table and chair)*

Jack

That's a first. I can't remember the last time she has said that to me. I... I... What should I do?

Dep

(Offstage)

Jump

Jack

I can't

Dep

(offstage)

Jump

Jack

Just... Jump

Dep

(Offstage)

just jump

Jack

Well this is it. I guess you could call it the final bow. The last hoorah! The last... everything. I mean everyone is bound to leave at some point, some just leave sooner than others. But in the end everyone leaves. My time is just now... I love you mom. I love you dad. I know you two didn't tell me a lot but I have a feeling you love me too. At least I hope you do.

(Jack Looks down. He walks off but lights go out before he falls off the bridge.)

End