

Ash Crestfelt



Someone to
Remember

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by

ASH CRESTFELT

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Publishers

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Someone to Remember

By Ash Crestfelt

A one-act play in 30 minutes

THE CHARACTERS*

JEAN A young man/woman dedicated to saving the lives of others.

MORGAN A deceased young man/woman existing in ghost form and can only be seen by JEAN.

ALEX One of JEAN's childhood friends. He/she is suffering from depression.

CHRIS A boy/girl who was bullied at school.

SAM JEAN's older brother/sister.

*Note: A forward slash will be placed between pronouns for all characters. Actors may pick whichever one is applicable.

SCENE ONE

MORGAN sits at a table, humming. SAM is busy at a counter. JEAN enters.

JEAN: Hey.

SAM: Morning.

JEAN sits down at the table, picks up a magazine, and reads it.

MORGAN (to JEAN): Good morning!

JEAN does not respond to MORGAN and continues reading the magazine.

SAM: By the way, food's ready and I need to get to work.

JEAN: When will you be back?

SAM: Late.

JEAN: Ah, figured.

SAM: Eat up.

JEAN: Okay.

SAM: See ya.

JEAN: Later.

SAM exits. JEAN puts the magazine down.

JEAN (to MORGAN): Who is it today?

MORGAN: Good to see I'm finally acknowledged. The name's Chris.

MORGAN produces a photo and hands it to JEAN.

JEAN: Cause?

MORGAN: Drowning.

JEAN: Reason?

MORGAN: Bullying.

JEAN: Time and place?

MORGAN: The bridge. Sunset.

JEAN glances at his/her watch.

JEAN: We've still got some time.

MORGAN: So, what will you do?

JEAN gets up.

JEAN: The usual.

MORGAN: Exciting.

JEAN: You think suicides are exciting?

MORGAN: I died a long time ago, so assume my sense of humor is dead.

JEAN: Very funny.

MORGAN: Glad it's catching on.

JEAN: Let's go.

MORGAN: Roger that.

JEAN and MORGAN exit.

SCENE TWO

CHRIS enters.

CHRIS: This is it, my friends...not that I have any.

CHRIS climbs up onto a ledge.

CHRIS: This is the best spot I could find, so let's make this quick.

CHRIS takes a deep breath, then sighs.

CHRIS: Maybe I'll be remembered after this, maybe not. That's how it goes; that's how I'll be going.

JEAN and MORGAN enter.

JEAN: Chris, wait! Don't do it!

CHRIS: Um...who are you?

JEAN: I'm Jean! But that doesn't matter!

CHRIS: Huh?

JEAN: You don't have to jump. I mean it. It won't be over when you reach the bottom.

CHRIS: Why are you telling me this?

JEAN: Because I know you're being bullied at school. And I'm sure it's not an easy time for you. But please, just hold on.

CHRIS: No! I'm sick of this. I'm sick of the way things are and I just want it to be over. Just stay out of this!

JEAN: But do you really want to die?

CHRIS falls silent.

JEAN: Well, do you?

CHRIS remains silent.

JEAN: I bet you don't. And I'm sure the way you're treated isn't fair. But that just gives you an opportunity to turn things around. This is your chance.

CHRIS: What are you on about?

JEAN: The only lie in this world is ignorance. If you continue to ignore reality, you'll spend the rest of your life living an illusive lie.

CHRIS: So?

JEAN: Someone told me that once. And to this day, I think it's a sappy quote. But I also think it's important to be honest with yourself. So I'm going to ask you again: do you really want to die?

CHRIS does not respond.

JEAN: ANSWER ME ALREADY!

CHRIS: I want to live!

JEAN: Then why did you just try to die?

CHRIS: Because I don't know what to do!

JEAN: Did you ask anyone for help?

CHRIS: No! They're all liars.

JEAN: What, did you test that or something? Tell me: am I a liar?

CHRIS: Yes!

JEAN: If I'm a liar, then a liar just saved your life.

CHRIS: Say what?

JEAN: Alright, now jump.

CHRIS: Eh?

JEAN: Jump. Trust me. Nothing bad will happen, I promise.

CHRIS: What is wrong with you?

JEAN: You're asking me that? Look down.

CHRIS looks down.

JEAN: I know you didn't want to, but I was serious when I said you wouldn't die.

CHRIS: But—

JEAN: Do you feel like a moron now? Because even if you did jump, that 10-meter splash wouldn't have washed away the embarrassment from that mistake. If you're going to die...well...actually die.

CHRIS: But I could still drown!

JEAN: Sure you could. But it won't be quick and painless, as you wanted. Like I said: it won't be over when you reach the bottom.

CHRIS: Dang it!

JEAN: Now get over here.

CHRIS hesitates.

JEAN: Pretty please?

CHRIS: Fine.

JEAN goes to CHRIS, helps him/her down from the ledge, and gives him/her a hug.

JEAN: Just hang in there. Also, do me a favor and talk to someone. It might save your life.

CHRIS: I'll try.

JEAN: Great. Now get outta here.

CHRIS: Hey...

JEAN: Yeah?

CHRIS: Thanks.

JEAN: Sure.

CHRIS: Um...

JEAN: Hmm?

CHRIS: Will I ever see you again?

JEAN: Not a chance.

CHRIS: Why not?

JEAN: Every day's a little hectic when you're killing time slowly. So I don't let it pass me by too fast...I guess what I'm trying to say is: I like to keep busy. Sayonara, friend.

JEAN and MORGAN exit.

CHRIS: What a weirdo.

SCENE THREE

JEAN and MORGAN enter.

JEAN: Well that was tiring.

MORGAN: I think you did a pretty good job out there.

JEAN: Don't I always?

MORGAN: Don't ask me – my sense of judgment is dead.

JEAN: Punny, aren't ya?

JEAN sits down at a table.

MORGAN: Always. We got another one.

JEAN: Who is it this time?

MORGAN: Someone named Alex.

JEAN: Alex...what's the cause?

MORGAN: Drowning.

JEAN: Reason?

MORGAN: Depression.

JEAN: Time and place?

MORGAN: The bridge. Now.

JEAN: Now?

MORGAN: Oui.

SAM enters, staggering.

JEAN: Oh, hi.

SAM: Yeah.

JEAN: Busy day at work?

SAM: Yeah.

JEAN: Need to crash?

SAM does not respond.