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Humanities - ¾

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**Juvenis Mors**

**Prologue:**

*Chair or couch and lamp are brought on stage. Lights come up. Genevieve enters from stage left looking tired and “high”. Jessie enters from stage left behind her. He is mad about Genevieve taking drugs which she got from his room. They are walking towards center stage at a decent pace*

**Genevieve** *(angry voice)***:** No Jessie! I won’t stop!

**Jessie** *(Concerned, but annoyed voice)***:**Geny, you have to. You’re a mess! I don’t know how mom and dad haven’t found out.

**Genevieve** *(Genevieve turns suddenly and faces Jessie.)***:**Then why don’t you just tell them huh?!

**Jessie** *(Jessie’s shoulders drop and he flicks his palms up)***:**Why do you think?

**Genevieve** *(Genevieve laughs and falls lazily into the chair or couch looks up and pauses and then looks back at Jessie).***:**Who gives a damn? Ever since I told people I’ve been doing crack my status has gone way up. I’m popular for the first time in my life.

**Jessie** *(Jessie uses angry hand motions)***:**You’re not popular Geny, you’re a freaking crackhead who steals my product and...

*Genevieve suddenly stands up and gets in Jessie’s face.*

**Genevieve:** What the hell are you going to do about it huh?! You can’t stop me, and if you tell mom or dad they’ll find out that you’ve been dealing. Besides, isn’t this the reason that you started your little business anyway? To be popular? To get that shiny new car?

**Jessie:** Just shut up Geny. You’ve gotten no better off than me.

*Genevieve laughs and starts to walk towards stage right, but stops and turns around about half way across stage or 2-3m away from Jessie.*

**Genevieve:** What was her name again? The girl with the brown hair. The one who liked you but ran off once she found out you started dealing....

**Jessie***(Jessie’s fists become clenched but he still attempts to hide his anger and despair)***:** Amanda didn't like me. And even if she did she never made a move to tell me that she did.

*Genevieve laughs.*

**Genevieve:** You don’t know a bloody thing about girls.

**Jessie** *Jessie knows he’s saying an empty threat. (Mainly because he doesn’t know how to counter Genevieve).***:**If I ever see you in my room again, I’m throwing it all out.

*Genevieve starts to walk off towards stage right.*

**Genevieve (***Gives a finger shake over her shoulder towards Jessie.)***:** You do that Jessie. You do that.

*Both characters exit stage(Jessie left, Genevieve right, before Jessie).*

**Parodos:**

*The Chorus enters, Jessie’s conscience on Stage Right and Genevieve’s conscience on Stage Left. Spotlight on Genevieve and Jesse’s consciences.*

**Jesse:** I am at war with myself, and I can no longer handle it

Now my poor sister is caught up

She now feels the poison of the drugs in her lungs

She thinks drugs will get her popularity and the attention

Drugs will only make her worse

And make her be the center of attention.

**Genevieve**:Who cares what my brother says

He thinks he knows everything

He thinks he could sell drugs to get rid of his pain

Well I could do drugs to get rid of my pain.

**Jessie:** My idiot sister doesn’t listen to me

She’s being such a know- it all

But the more of the drugs get inside of her

It makes her more naive

And it makes her brain more frustrated

And makes her more smaller.

**Genevieve**: I don’t hide my drug interest

It makes me popular

It makes me belong

My stupid ass brother should just mind his business

He is being just ass hole

What does he know

He knows nothing!

**Jessie:** This story will take place exactly one week before the opening scene you just witnessed.

**Scene 1:**

*5 Desks and 10 chairs are brought onto stage(depicting a classroom)(Desks all angled a little bit up stage of bottom stage right corner). Four students(1 girls 2 boys) come in and sit down and start to do their work(girl 1 and boy 1, sit at back right desk, guy 2 is sits at second right desk left chair). A few moments later, Jeremy, Sam, Jessie, Helen, Amanda, and Lucas enter from stage left(In that order). They are chatting about random stuff and the group sits down in a circle at some desks. Jeremy and Amanda sit at the leftmost desk and turn around to face the others who sit at the back two desk.*

*Helen approaches a girl who is sitting in the seat closest to her friends. Everybody else is still chatting.*

**Helen** *(gives the girl a mean look and uses a “I’m better than you” voice and puts a hand on her hip)***:**Um, I think you’re sitting in my seat.

*Without a word the girl gathers her things and moves to a seat a couple desks up. Helen gives the girl a snark behind her back and sits down and starts to talk with her group.*

**Amanda:** Where’s the teacher?

**Lucas:** Who cares? No one does their homework in this class anyway.

*Lucas and Jeremy high five.*

**Sam:** Hey so are you all going to the party this weekend?

**Jessie:** I might be. Where’s it at?

**Sam:** At the apartment complex a few blocks off campus from SDSU. It’s going to be awesome

**Jessie:** I don’t think I can go I have to watch my little sister.

**Helen:** Man Jessie, why you always gotta be no fun?

**Jeremy:** Well I’m totally going. Going to be getting myself up with them college girls!

*Whole group laughs minus Amanda who just pretends to.*

**Helen:** Can someone give me a ride? My moms not letting me go to any parties for the next month.

**Lucas:** I can pick you up Helen. You’ll be the first girl to get a ride in my new BMW!

**Jessie:** You lucky bastard. All I’ve got is my dads piece of crap toyota.

**Sam:** Man, that blows.

**Lucas:** Not as much as the stupid math test we have on Friday. Did anybody even do their homework?

*The group exchanges no’s, shaken heads while Amanda looks at Jessie.*

**Amanda:** How come you’re parents never give you any good stuff Jessie?

**Jessie:** They say they don’t have the money because they’re spending it all on me and my sister going to this school. But I’ll just scrape some money together by getting a job or something.

**Lucas:** Not me man, all the jobs that hire people our age don’t pay shit.

**Sam:** I might have a way for you to make some extra cash.

**Jessie:** Really? How?

*Sam motions to Jessie to follow him to the front of the room. Once Jessie and Sam get to the front left side of the “room” Lucas, Helen, and Jeremy leave to go to their own classes.*

**Sam:** Dude, you totally like Amanda don’t you.

**Jessie:** What? No I don’t.

*Jessie changes his face from surprised to friendly as Jeremy, Helen, and Lucas walk past them(In that order). Sam fist bumps Jeremy, and Jessie fist bumps Lucas before the three of them exit stage left.*

**Jessie:** Dude I don’t like Amanda.

**Sam:** Yeah you do. I see the way you look at her during class.

**Jessie***(looks back towards Amanda who is doing her work at her desk but then quickly turns back to Sam)***:** Okay, yeah she’s pretty.

**Sam:** Well you’re definitely not going to impress her with the sorry act you’ve got going.

*Jessie ignores the true, but harsh observation and presses Sam on a different topic.*

**Jessie:** So you said that you can help me get some extra money?

*Sam turns his back to the girl sitting close to them and says in a slightly lowered voice.*

**Sam:** I know a person who can help you out. *(Sam slips Jessie a piece of paper with a number and a name on it).* Her name’s Dakota. Meet her behind the school today after the last bell and I’ll have her hook you up with some product.

**Jessie***(Eyes slightly widened)***:** You mean drugs?

**Sam***(Rolls his eyes)***:** *(Sarcastically)* No dude, she deals poultry products.

**Jessie:** I don’t know man, I mean, where would I keep the stuff and how would I sell it?

**Sam:** For right now, just get the stuff and hide it somewhere in your room or whatever. As for selling, I can get Dakota to teach you a few things over the weekend. Though she does ask for 60% of the profit you make.

**Jessie:** 60%?

**Sam***(Shrugs)***:** Hey, girls gotta make some profit too you know. But you end up pulling a good amount of dough though.

**Jessie:** *(Man hand grip/hugs sam)* Thanks man.

**Sam:** It’s cool dude, I take care of my friends.

*As they come apart, Jessie spots the teacher approaching the door.*

**Jessie:** Ah shit, Ms. Colbert’s here.

*Jessie and Sam hurry back to their seats. Lights go down. Props exit stage left and right(Which ever’s closer to each of the desks) actors exit stage left or right(which ever’s closer).*

**Chorus 1:**

*Jessie comes out on center stage. Jessie is dressed in expensive clothes (He dressed in this because he wants to fit in with the cool kids and have the expensive clothes like them).*

Jessie: Jessie: What should I do?

I’m so confused

Maybe Sam is.... No.. he is.. I JUST DON’T KNOW!

And I can’t take my poor little sister crying to me with her sad blue tears.

She cries to me saying ( *He starts mimicking Genevieve voice*) “ Oh brother I can’t take it any

more I can’t never fit in with nobody. I’m the only person in the hole school with dirty ripped up

black and grey clothes.While everybody has there pretty tan gucci shirts and cool expensive

jewlery. I can’t take it. I feel like an OUTSIDER!.”

I can’t take that anymore.

*( He sits down on ground and starts banging his head into his hands).*

My brain is so fried ( *He says it breathy*).

( *He then gets back up and changes his sad face expression)*.

You know what?

I’m going to do it.

And maybe Sam is right.

This is my life

I’m not doing the drugs

I’m just selling it

I got to make this money for me and my family.

**Scene 2:**

*Desk(phone, a couple stacks of paper, pen and lamp) and chair are brought onto stage(facing audience) and place at the front end stage left. A couch or chair is also brought on and placed 1 meter behind and 2-4 meters right of the desk. Lights come up. Catherine is sitting at the desk with a pair of reading glasses on phone to on ear and making hand gestures as she talks. Her elbows are on the table. She is annoyed and slightly stressed.*

**Catherine:** No, I told you we already paid that bill. No(pause) wait, check(pause) check what recipe? Oh, ok let my check.

*Cathrin Shuffles through some papers and pulls out a piece of paper.*

**Catherine:** No, Yes. I have it right here, and it says(pause) Yes, it say that I paid the full amount. Yes I’m sure, Yes I have it right here in front of me. What do you mean your file doesn’t show my payment recipe? I have it right in front of me for gods sake!

*Genevieve enters stage left. She has just come home from school and has her headphones in. She sits down on the couch or chair and starts to do her homework. Cathrin is still talking while this is going on.*

**Catherine:** Look, there must be a computer glitch or something on your end. Yes I’m sure. Yes, YES, it says it right here! Okay, can I talk to your supervisor or something? He’s out? Ok well, will you call me back when he’s available? Yes, and would you please explain to him about what’s going here? *(frustrated, takes off glasses and holds one end of them in her right hand and gestures with them while she talks)*

**Catherine:** Yes, and how long will that take? 30 minutes?*(huffs)*okay yes I’ll wait.

*Catherine hangs up the phone, puts on her glasses, and proceeds to fill out some forms. Genevieve then comes over to her mom with some of her math homework. One of her earbuds is hanging.*

**Genevieve:** Hey mom, can you help me with this problem? *(She starts to put it down in front of her mom).* See it’s 1/3 is equal to 4/q, and I don’t get....

*Catherine shoves the paper away and Genevieve picks it up again.*

**Catherine:** *(Slightly harsh tone)* I can’t right now Gen, *(sighs and goes back to normal voice)* I have all these bills to go through. And take out your headphones when you talk to me. It’s rude.

**Genevieve:** *(Annoyed)* Fine. I’ll ask dad when he gets home.

*Catherine is looking down and filling out a form when she speaks.*

**Catherine:** Your father's coming home late tonight remember? I thought I told you this already.

**Genevieve:** *(Sarcastic)* Thanks for the help mom. *(starts to turn around)*

*Catherine turns to face Genevieve and speaks in a serious”parent child talk” voice. Genevieve turns to face her mom as well.*

**Catherine:** Don’t talk to me like that Genevieve. Next time you use that tone I’m taking your ipod away.

**Genevieve:** *(annoyed teen tone)* All I did was ask you for help with my homework. Sheesh.

**Catherine:** This is exactly what I’m talking about. Why do you talk to me like this? Is there something going on at school?

**Genevieve:** No mom! Nothings going on at school!

**Catherine:** You sure? You know we can always talk if you want.

**Genevieve:** Oh my gosh mom! I told you, nothing's going on!

*Genevieve starts to gather her stuff.*

**Catherine:** Okay fine, we are going to have a talk with your father about this attitude of yours.

*Without saying anything, Genevieve puts in her loose earbud and walks off stage left.*

*Lights go down. Props are replaced with a bed and a lamp and a drawer(drawer will be place 2.5-3.5 meters stage right of the bed and facing the bed to establish the rooms perimeter). A pair of boxers, a hat and two t-shirts are on the floor(preferably some sort of figure on the boxers). A sports trophy is also on top of the drawers. Lights come up and Genevieve enters stage left with only one backpack strap on. Ipod earbuds are still in.*

**Genevieve:** Jessie! You up here? Jessie! You’d better not be planning to jump out and scare me.

*Genevieve comes to the “perimeter” of Jesse's room and pretend to push open the door.*

**Genevieve:** Jessie are you in here? ewww! *(takes note of the clothes on the floor and walks slowly in towards the bed).*

*Genevieve spots something sticking out from under Jessie's bed*

**Genevieve:** Hey what’s this? *(pulls bag from underneath the bed. Bag contains about a 1/4 pound of marijuana.*

**Genevieve:** What the hell? *(realizes what’s in the bag)*Oh my god, Jessies selling marijuana and cocaine. How could he do this? He could get us all arrested!

*Lights go down. Genevieve is still kneeling by the bed with the drugs but the audience can’t see her very well because she’s cloaked by darkness(for the most part).*

Chorus 2: *Genevieves conscious come one stage.*

Genevieve: When I saw the drugs I get this look in my eyes

I see the greenish beige color of the weed

Why is he doing this?

What should I do?

Jessie Oh! Oh! Jessie

Why brother you must do this

Do you know what could happen to you?

You could be sent jail

They will treat you like an animal

Do you know what mom and dad will think?

Oh! Oh! Jessie

Why you must do this.

*lights go down and Genevieve’s conscious exits stage right.*

**Scene 3:**

*Lights come up and Genevieve is still examining the bag when Jessie comes into the room(come on from stage right.*

**Jessie:** What the hell are you doing in my room? *(stops and see’s Genevieve’s holding the drugs in her hand at her side. His eyes widen, and his tone goes slightly shocked)* Where’d you find that?

*Genevieve holds the bag up for Jessie to see.*

**Genevieve:** I found THIS under your bed. Mind telling me what this is?

**Jessie:** It’s nothing Gen, now give it back.

*Jessie makes a grab for the bags, but Genevieve easily keeps it out of his reach. Jessie then stands facing Genevieve. He knows that she’s figured it all out.*

**Genevieve:** I’m not not a dumb ass Jessie**.** Why the hell do you have marijuana and cocaine in your room? What’s going on?

**Jessie:** Nothings going on Geny.

**Genevieve:** Right, and you’re planning to make a rug with all your dirty clothes. I’m not freaking stupid

**Jessie:** Fine. I’m just selling a little bit to get a new car. There. Satisfied?

*Genevieve ignores Jessie and keeps talking.*

**Genevieve:** *(concerned)* Do you know how much trouble you’re going to be in when mom and dad find out? Then the cops will come and you’ll go to jail Jessie! And what about everyone at school? What will they think about all this?!

**Jessie:** Geny it’s fine! no ones going to find out, I promise! Besides, all the cool kids at school light or snort one every once and a while. And you see how popular they are right? Everyone knows they do drugs and they don’t mind at all!

**Genevieve:** Really? Then how come I haven’t heard of all this before now?

**Jessie:** When was the last time you hung out with an upperclassmen?

**Genevieve:** I don’t because only the popular freshmen do.

**Jessie:** See what I'm saying?

*Genevieve still doesn’t look fully convinced.*

**Jessie:** Look, no ones going to get hurt. I’m only going to be dealing for another month or so. And I promise that if anybody does find out, I’ll stop dealing.

**Genevieve:** *(looks at Jessie with a concerned,”I don’t know if I should trust you” look)* Promise?

**Jessie:** Promise.

**Genevieve:** Do the cool kids really take drugs?

**Jessie:** Yeah, like almost all of them.

*Genevieve hands Jessie the drugs and walks out of the room and exits stage right. Lights go down and Jessie and props exit stage left.*

Chorus 3: *Jessie comes out center stage right, and Genevieve comes out center stage left*

Jessie: I can’t believe she saw the drugs. I just had to make something up, so she wouldn’t tell or get caught up. Wooh! That was a close one. Soon or later she’ll forget about. It will be like we never even had the conversation.

Genevieve: Well that was the most intense conversation I’ve ever had with my brother. How should I feel? I mean... it can’t be so bad. It’s just drugs. How bad could it be? And he said he promise to stop in a month. Well maybe if he does his own hustle.. then I could do my own hustle too. And I kinda always wanted to try it. It can be so bad. Beside I always wanted to feel the poison suck into lungs. Why not?