

Lost and Found

by

Joseph Arnone

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Cast of CharactersKIMMIE:

Teens

JARLA:

Teens

Place
High SchoolTime
Day

Setting: The play takes place in a High School gymnasium.

At Rise: The play opens up with Kimmie sitting on the bleacher seats with Jarla sitting beside her.

KIMMIE: You ever feel like you want to forget yourself completely and start on a new life? Erase your name, your face, your past...start fresh with a new identity. To create your own narrative, events that shape your life, meaning...instead of this regular, boring life you've been given. How do I escape it? Where do I find the path that will take me away from everything and lead me to where I want to go? ...I think about Tom, how he lived out his short life. If he weren't so full of adventure, maybe he would have died an old man, but he lived, didn't he? He really lived, almost like he knew in some strange way he was going to die young...I wish I had the courage he had. I hate him for it. Hate him for going all in and being willing to die to live, when I can't even get up in the morning on time to go to school. I should have asked him, I should have spoken to him about what he was after...like, why was he always smiling? And wasn't it true that whenever he smiled, you'd find yourself smiling, too?

JARLA: Always. When Tommy died, it woke me up out of myself. I realized I was living in a coma, taking each day as it came with nothing to live for...

KIMMIE: And you feel different now?

JARLA: Well, there's gotta be something more than all this.

KIMMIE: I can't take it here anymore. Hate it.

JARLA: I think Tom affected all of us in some way.

KIMMIE: I feel worse.

JARLA: Why?

KIMMIE: Because I don't know what I want from life.

JARLA: Maybe you shouldn't put so much pressure on yourself.

KIMMIE: No, that's wrong, cause if I don't push myself to figure this out, I'll be lost forever, I just know it.

JARLA: But these answers don't always come overnight.

KIMMIE: You said you woke up out of a coma, what did you mean?

JARLA: The day we went to the wake and I saw Tommy's mother crying, it really went through me. I couldn't bring myself to speak to her, but then she noticed me and smiled and her smile looked just like Tommy's smile. Here was this shattered woman, willing to make the effort to smile at me and I realized that it's not about what you can take from life, but more importantly, what can you give life. That was my wake up call and I haven't looked back.

KIMMIE: That's transcendent.

JARLA: Tommy's mother is transcendent. Through her pain, she changed me and maybe one day I'm going to thank her for it. See life shows us things, makes us all experience things that somehow end up becoming the good in our life. I think it's about your perception. I would always look at things like what's in it for me. Selfish. But lately, I really took a deep dive in on myself and made a promise that if I was going to live my life, I was going to live it with good intentions for others. That's not to say I'm not doing things I enjoy. What I mean is I've given myself a deeper reason to live, the way I want to live.

KIMMIE: Maybe that's what my problem has been this whole time. I mean...it's always been about me.

JARLA: And it doesn't have to be...for example, I want to enroll in the drama department and eventually see if I can go to college for drama and pursue acting and--

KIMMIE: Get out!

JARLA: Well, I've always been too scared to pursue it, but I think there's more I can give to others by being an actor, if that makes sense.

KIMMIE: That's incredible.

JARLA: Well, let's not jump the gun, I'm not looking to be some big star but I'm just saying, I see things in acting that I believe can put us in touch with ourselves.

KIMMIE: You never mentioned anything like this to me before...

JARLA: I know, that's what I mean. I've always been quiet about it. I've been reading plays and practicing monologues and really getting into some stuff. The drama department is putting on a series of one-act plays and I'm going to try out for it and see if I'm lucky enough to get cast in one of them, so...

KIMMIE: Never in a million years did I think you'd be an actress.

JARLA: Well, I wouldn't call myself an actress---

KIMMIE: You are, you are, you're going to be a famous actress. Watch! I already know it.

JARLA: I don't know if I'd ever wanna be famous Kimmie. I saw a documentary once about these movie stars and they all seemed so miserable with their past lives...so much, complication. I don't want my life to be that complicated, I just want to see where this new journey takes me.

KIMMIE: I wish I could find something like you.

JARLA: What are your interests?

KIMMIE: I don't have any...

JARLA: Take a second and think. What do you like?

KIMMIE: ...Um...uh, I like design. I'm always looking at home design. Does that sound stupid?

JARLA: Why not try getting into designing stage plays for the drama department?

KIMMIE: Stage plays? I don't know the first thing about that.

JARLA: Just take what you know about home design and you can apply it to set decorating. You know, make the scenes on stage come to life.

KIMMIE: Never thought of that. But oh that sounds amazing! I did see a Broadway production with my Mother once, it was like stepping into another world. It's hard to believe that there are even..opportunities for something like that...I mean, there's actually a set decorator for the stage?

JARLA: Yeah, who do you think does the job? Someones gotta do it! Just imagine you could do all the designs. Like if a play takes place in the 1950's, you could be responsible for decorating the living room, kitchen and stuff, to give that 1950's look and feel.

KIMMIE: I never knew about this. Who do I talk to for that?

JARLA: Mr. Martin. I heard he's also looking for help building and designing the sets and you can go in as a set designer.

KIMMIE: Sounds like I'll be in over my head.

JARLA: No, no, come on Kimmie! You said you want to do something different, well this could be it! I'll go with you to talk to him. It's a place to learn, you won't be expected to be some expert, but you can see if it suits you, it may be something you can imagine yourself taking more seriously.

KIMMIE: I don't know. I don't think I have the mind for it.

JARLA: That's just the fear talking but as Tommy would put it, you have nothing to fear, life is short enough as it is, what's the point in waiting for something to happen? If Mr. Martin has a position available, this could be just what you needed...

KIMMIE: ...You're right. Maybe this is what I've been looking for. I've been literally addicted with interior design since I could walk and talk but I've always just done my own thing with it. I've never thought about it being a career or anything.

JARLA: Now's your chance.

KIMMIE: This could be everything!

JARLA: See? Might as well just go for it. That's what I learned from Tommy. He was always trying different things, wasn't he? He was into snowboarding, computers, he was in the drama department, had a music band, he was just doing his thing and didn't care what anyone else thought and I want to be like that. He actually lived a full life in my opinion, he had it all...all the books he read, experiences he had. I don't know when my time will be up, with the way things are going in this world, we're lucky we even have tomorrow. So, I just want to give myself a chance to try things, take risks, not live in fear or worry about the things that always seem to get in the way. So many things were always trying to stop me...

KIMMIE: Those negative thoughts, it's like someone plants them inside your mind and they just don't stop growing...right? A constant fight.

JARLA: Yeah, but I realize I'll never completely win with them, they'll always be there, somewhere and in everything I do, but what I will do is ignore them and eventually stop hearing them...they're a lot quieter these days. Not everything is going to work out Kimmie but at least we tried and that's living life, isn't it?

KIMMIE: Tommy's life really made a difference.

JARLA: He really did.

END OF PLAY