

LIFE CYCLE

Written by

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INT. JAKE'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

JAKE, 13, short, skinny with floppy brown hair stands on a plastic foot stool and makes himself a sandwich. Takes his time in order to make it just so.

RICHIE, 17, overweight, with bad facial hair and a dirty face comes into the kitchen. He opens the fridge, takes out a can of soda then once Jake's finished making his sandwich he reaches over and steals it from him.

JAKE

Hey!

Richie stuffs the sandwich into his mouth like the pig that he is, all in one go. He laughs back into Jake's face before then running out of the kitchen.

JAKE (CONT'D)

That was mine! That was for school!

Richie leaves and Jake throws up his arms defeated.

The kitchen opens up into the dining room. GRANDAD, 80, in his wheelchair and next to the table has his newspaper open and tries to complete a crossword puzzle.

Grandad keeps his focus onto his newspaper but calls across to Jake.

GRANDAD

I saw that.

JAKE

And you said nothing? He normally waits for lunchtime at school before he steals my lunch. I didn't even get to try out my new hiding place today. At the back of gym class next to where they keep the trash.

GRANDAD

Sounds like a great spot.

JAKE

Well, what would you do if your brother who's twice the size of you keeps stealing your lunch? And don't say tell the teachers. That's what Dad said, but the teachers don't care.

GRANDAD
You need to be brave.

JAKE
The guy is twice the size of me.

GRANDAD
I never said being brave wasn't
also scary.

JAKE
I've got to go.

GRANDAD
No, wait.

Jake shakes his head.

JAKE
I'm going to be late for school.
I've really got to go.

GRANDAD
Help me with my crossword before
you go. Eight letters, starts with
an F. Popular kids online game.

JAKE
Fortnite. Spelled F.O.r.t.n.i.t.e.

Grandad writes it in.

GRANDAD
Perfect. I never would have gotten
that.

EXT. JAKE'S HOUSE - DAY

At the back of the house, CHASE, 29, tall, skinny, shaved head and several truly terrible tattoos running down his arms is digging through the families trash cans. Pulling out a bag that's filled with old toys and clothes.

Richie and Jake leave the front of the house. Chase hides.

DAD, 49, beer belly and thinning hair waves his two boys off with a coffee mug in his hand as they get onto their bikes and ride away.

DAD
Please don't get into any trouble.
Just keep your heads down. Do your
work and come home.

Chase watches the two boys ride off.

INT. CITY PARK - DAY

Richie rides off just a little in front of Jake. As they head along the path that cuts directly through the park, Chase leaps out from behind a tree and knocks Jake off of his bike.

Jake falls hard. Richie stops, looks back and watches as Chase steals the bike and runs off with it.

Jake staggers up to his feet.

JAKE

My bike!

Chase continues to make his escape.

Jake looks pleadingly over towards Richie.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Help me.

Richie just stares at Jake, dumbfounded.

JAKE (CONT'D)

I can't live without my bike. Help me get it back.

Richie is scared.

RICHIE

I can't be late for school again.

Richie continues to ride off on his bike. Making his way through the park.

Jake is stunned.

JAKE

Coward!

EXT. UP MARKET HOUSE - DAY

Chase carries the bike inside a very expensive four bedroom house, polished gates and pristine gardens.

Jake has followed him here. With a confused frown he watches as Chase disappears inside.

EXT. UP MARKET HOUSE - DAY

Jake rings the bell, Three middle aged MAIDS answer it. All in their maid uniforms. One with a feather duster, one with a hand held vacuum cleaner and the third with a can of spray and a rag.

JAKE

I want to...

All three interrupt him.

MAIDS

Get away. Dirty boy. Get away from this house. What are you doing here. Dirty. Filthy. Stop touching the door. Get away. Go.

The maids push Jake away from the house and onto the lawn.

Jake falls onto his backside. He sees a water hose on and watering the plants. The soil is wet.

The maids are still calling him dirty and ordering him to simply go away.

Jake grabs two fistfuls of the wet soil and marches back up towards the house.

The maids all scream in terror. Jake throws the mud against the front door, it splatters all over it.

The maids scream again, they start scrubbing and scraping the mud from the door.

Jake is able to slip past them and head inside.

INT. UP MARKET HOUSE - GARAGE - DAY

Jake finds himself in the garage, stacks of cardboard boxes pushed and stacked high in every corner. And in the very centre of the garage, his bike.

Jake rushes over to it, hugs the bike.

JAKE

Oh, I thought I'd lost you forever.

Right at this moment, MURRAY, 13, a posh looking kid in designer clothes and sunglasses enters the garage with Chase following on behind him.

MURRAY
What are you doing?

Jake spins around to face them.

JAKE
I'm taking back what's mine.

MURRAY
I had a bike just like that. But I broke it.

He gestures to Chase.

MURRAY (CONT'D)
So I sent my fathers associate to go out and find me another. I've paid him so I think you'll find that bike is now mine.

JAKE
He stole it from me.

MURRAY
I don't care. It's my bike now.

JAKE
This isn't right.

MURRAY
I'm rich and just by the looks of you, you're extremely poor. If I want something I get it, it's just tough luck for you.

JAKE
It's my bike.

MURRAY
Well I don't see what you can do about it?

Murray turns to Chase.

MURRAY (CONT'D)
Remove this filthy street urchin from my house and I'll throw you another dollar for the trouble.

Chase's eyes light up. Chase grabs hold of Jake and lifts him easily up from the floor.

EXT. UP MARKET HOUSE - DAY

Chase carries Jake out of the house and dumps him down onto the ground outside. Jake quickly gets back up onto his feet.

The three maids are still cleaning the front door.

JAKE
I want my bike back.

CHASE
You'll never see it again.

JAKE
Why have you done this?

Chase reaches into his pocket and takes out a bundle of cash.

CHASE
Right here.
(grinning)
That's how much your bike was worth
and it's all mine.

Jake snaps. He charges at Chase, kicking him as hard as he can, right between the legs. A solid hit where it hurts.

Chase collapses to the ground, dropping the money.

Jake picks the money up and puts it into a nearby trashcan.

Chase panics, throws himself at the trashcan, knocking it over and sending all the trash inside spilling across the ground. Making a real mess. The three maids yet against scream.

Jake runs back inside the house.

INT. UP MARKET HOUSE - GARAGE - DAY

Murray is polishing the bike as Jake runs back inside.

JAKE
Get your hands off of my bike.

MURRAY
You again? I'm not going to let you
have it.

Jake stands in front of him, holds his fists out.

JAKE

Then I guess I'm going to have to
fight you for it.

Murray shuffles away from the bike, afraid, his face turning
a pale white. He holds up his hands in surrender.

MURRAY

Alright, alright. Take it.

Jake does just this.

EXT. CITY PARK - DAY

Jake is back on his bike and rides it proudly through the
park. Pride beams from him.

FADE TO BLACK

THE END