Remember

Written by

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BLACKNESS

No light and no sound.

Then...

JACK (V.O.)
How are we remembered? Is it for the deeds we do, or the impact we have on the community around us?

CUT TO:

INT. JACK’S HOUSE – JACK’S ROOM – DAY

Jack is laying on his bed. He is staring up at the ceiling. He doesn’t look happy.

JACK (V.O.) (CONT’D)
I always wanted to be remembered for the laughs I brought to everyone around me. That sounded pretty good.

Jack gets up from his bed and walks into the hallway.

INT. JACK’S HOUSE – HALLWAY – DAY

Jack walks to the next door over and stairs into the room. It seems to be filled with many things, but no one is in it.

Jack stares deeply into it.

JACK (V.O.) (CONT’D)
Emily wanted to be remembered for her kindness and tranquility.

Suddenly we see Emily, happy and youthful. Then we cut back to Jack.

JACK (V.O.) (CONT’D)
Emily didn’t deserve what she got. No one does.

We see a picture of a gun. Then we see Jack.

JACK (V.O.) (CONT’D)
I miss her.

FADE TO BLACK.

OPEN TO:
EXT. MOVIE THEATER - NIGHT

Jack and Emily walk out of the movie theatre. They both seem to be pretty happy.

EMILY
So what’d’ya think?

JACK
Eh, I thought it could’ve been better.

EMILY
Really? I thought it was just fine.

JACK
Whatever Emily, you have a poor taste in movies.

EMILY
Coming from the guy who thought mom’s choice for movie night sucked.

JACK
What? It did.

EMILY
You’re telling me you don’t like Finding Nemo?

JACK
It’s a movie about fish Emily, it should be stupid.

EMILY
Whatever man.

Emily and Jack continue walking towards their car. Slowly a figure removes something from its jacket. It’s a gun.

CUT TO:
INT. JACK’S HOUSE – JACK’S ROOM – NIGHT
Jack screams as he wakes up. He looks around and is panting. He begins crying into his hands.

CUT TO:

EXT. THERAPY OFFICE – DAY
Outside the therapy office stands up tall.

   JACK (O.S.)
   I can’t take it anymore Lynda.

CUT TO:

INT. THERAPY OFFICE – DAY
Jack lays down on a couch. He looks terrible.

   JACK (CONT’D)
   I keep seeing it happen over and over again.

   LYNDAA
   Have you tried the medication we gave you?

   JACK
   OF COURSE!!! AND TIME AND TIME AGAIN THE IMAGES KEEP FLOODING BACK!!!

Jack gets up from the couch and kicks the wall.

   LYNDAA
   Well maybe we have to discuss it again.

   JACK
   (Annoyed)
   Oh Jesus.

   LYNDAA
   Now Jack. Explain to me what happened.

   JACK
   But I already told you.

(CONTINUED)
LYNDA
Well tell me again. Maybe repeating yourself might get the situation out of your head.

JACK
(Angry)
Okay. Fine.

Jack lays down on the couch.

LYNDA
Now close your eyes.

JACK
What? Why-

LYNDA
Because I don’t want you distracted. Now close your eyes.

JACK
(Pissed off)
Ugh.

Jack closes his eyes.

Immediately his face turns dark.

LYNDA
Tell me. What do you see?

JACK
I see...

CUT TO:

EXT. MOVIE THEATER - NIGHT

We see the same thing happen again.

JACK (V.O.)
I see Emily and me. We’re walking out of the movie theatre.

Emily and Jack are walking out of the movie theater.

LYNDA (V.O.)
What else do you see."

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JACK (V.O.)
We’re arguing.

LYNDA (V.O.)
About what?

Jack mouths Finding Nemo.

JACK (V.O.)
Taste in movies.

LYNDA (V.O.)
Was your sister always like that?

Off in the distance we hear Jack laugh a little.

JACK (V.O.)
Yeah. She was.

LYNDA (V.O.)
Now what do you see?

Jack and Emily reach the car.

JACK (V.O.)
We reached the car. And...

Jack and Emily enter the car.

LYNDA (V.O.)
And what?

JACK (V.O.)
We’re in the car.

They buckle up their seatbelts.

Suddenly a gun is seen tapping on the window.

JACK (V.O.)
Oh no.

LYNDA (V.O.)
What is it?

CUT TO:
INT. THERAPY OFFICE - DAY

LYNDA (CONT’D)
What’s happening?

Jack is beginning to convulse on the couch.

JACK
(Anxious)
No.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOVIE THEATER - NIGHT

The figure pulls Jack out of the car. Forcefully.

Emily is screaming.

CUT TO:

INT. THERAPY OFFICE - DAY

Jack is beginning to sweat.

JACK (CONT’D)
No.

LYNDA
Jack. What’s happening?

CUT TO:

EXT. MOVIE THEATER - NIGHT

Emily gets out of the car and tries to help Jack.

She is yelling at the figure.

The figure then points the gun at Emily.

CUT TO:

INT. THERAPY OFFICE - DAY

JACK
(Sad and nervous)
PLEASE GOD NOT AGAIN!!!!!
LYNDA
(Worried)
Jack what are you seeing.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOVIE THEATER - NIGHT

The gun goes off.

Jack screams.

The figure runs away. Emily begins to fall.

Jack catches her.

There is a blood stain on Emily’s chest. Emily then closes her eyes. Jack screams and cries as he holds Emily in his arms.

INT. THERAPY OFFICE - DAY

JACK
NNNOOOO!!!!

Jack jolts and gets up from the couch.

Lynda looks worried.

LYNDA
(Worried)
What happened? What did you see?

JACK
(Angry)
What the hell do you think happened next?

Lynda lays back in her seat.

JACK (CONT’D)
I can’t take it anymore Lynda. Every night it’s the same God damn dream.

Jack looks over at Lynda.

JACK (CONT’D)
Do you know what that’s like?

Lynda slowly shakes her head.

(CONTINUED)
LYNDA
No. I don’t.

Jack slumps down on to the couch. Lynda leans forward and
puts her hand on Jack’s shoulder.

Jack doesn’t look up.

LYNDA (CONT’D)
But I do know what loss feels like.
And I know it hurts...

Lynda puts her finger under Jack’s chin and lifts his face
up.

Jack stares at Lynda.

LYNDA (CONT’D)
But it’s these losses that will
change us. Maybe for the better,
maybe for the worse.

JACK
But why her? Why not me?

LYNDA
We all ask ourselves that, and if
we focus on it too long we will go
insane.

JACK
But what do I do?

Jack slumps back on the couch.

JACK (CONT’D)
What can I do?

Lynda looks away in thought. Then she looks back to Jack.

LYNDA
Don’t remember Emily for her death.
Remember the good things, instead
of the sadness.

Jack looks down.

LYNDA (CONT’D)
Do you think you can try that?

JACK
I think I can.
LYNDA
Good. Because, to me, it would be better to be remembered for all the happiness I gave people. I would hate it if I was remembered for all the pain I brought to people.

Lynda looks to Jack.

LYNDA (CONT’D)
Wouldn’t you agree?

Jack gives a slight nod.

LYNDA (CONT’D)
Then I want you to try that. Go home tonight and get some rest. If you find yourself lingering onto the pain, go to the light. Okay?

Jack sniffs and wipes his nose.

JACK
Okay.

Lynda gives Jack a slight smile.

Jack smiles back.

INT. JACK’S HOUSE – JACK’S ROOM – NIGHT
Jack lays in his bed. He is fast asleep.

Suddenly he twitches.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOVIE THEATER – NIGHT
A gunshot goes off. Emily slowly falls back.

Jack screams.

CUT TO:
10.

INT. JACK’S HOUSE - JACK’S ROOM - NIGHT

Jack is tossing and turning.

JACK
(mumbling)
No...no.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOVIE THEATER - NIGHT

Jack is holding Emily in his arms. He is crying. The cries can be heard but only faintly.

CUT TO:

INT. JACK’S HOUSE - JACK’S ROOM - NIGHT

Jack is beginning to lose it. He is starting to cry.

Then voices can be heard.

MOM (V.O.)
(Angry and sad)
Why did this happen? Why?

COP (V.O.)
I’m sorry ma’am we couldn’t find him.

FRIEND (V.O.)
This is all your fault.

Jack is tossing and turning aggressively.

The voices are getting stronger and stronger. They go through Jack’s head faster and faster.

This goes on for a little bit.

Finally...

LYNDA (V.O.)
Go to the light.

Jack stops turning.

LYNDA (V.O.) (CONT’D)
Don’t remember Emily for her death, remember the good things.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Jack calms down.

FADE TO:

EXT. PARK - DREAM - DAY

Jack is laying on the ground. It is sunny outside and bright.

Jack opens his eyes. He is laying on grass. He plays with a few strands of grass.

Then a small voice is heard.

Jack looks off into the distance. He slowly gets up from the ground. He looks around not knowing where he is.

EMILY (O.S.)
Hey. Jackass.

Jack looks over to the sound of the voice.

Emily is standing by a slide. She waves for Jack to come over to her.

Jack slowly walks over to Emily.

Finally he reaches her.

Emily smiles at Jack.

EMILY (CONT’D)
How are you?

JACK
I...I don’t know.

EMILY
(sarcasm)
Well that’s a surprise.

Jack looks over at Emily. He smiles.

JACK
I miss your sarcasm.

EMILY
Yeah well I miss calling you Jackass. But nothing lasts forever. Am I right?

A tear runs down Jack’s eye.

(CONTINUED)
JACK
It should’ve been me.

Emily looks over to Jack. She slaps him across the face.

JACK
(In pain)
OW!!! What was that for?

EMILY
For being an idiot.

JACK
What.

EMILY
You think I would’ve been happier if you were dead. That’s just a dick move man.

JACK
But I-

EMILY
But you what? You can’t sleep every night because of the incident. Your grades are dropping and let’s be honest, you’re not helping anyone being depressed all the time.

Jack looks down.

Emily seems a little upset.

EMILY (CONT’D)
Hey...

Emily smacks Jack’s shoulder.

Jack looks up.

EMILY (CONT’D)
...Everything’s gonna be okay. Alright? Pull yourself out of whatever hole you put yourself in, and live your life. Can you do that?

Jack doesn’t answer. He doesn’t even look at her.

Emily tries to look directly at Jack.
EMILY (CONT’D)

Jack.

Jack slowly looks at Emily. He nods.

JACK

Okay.

Emily smiles.

EMILY

Good.

Emily begins walking away.

Then she stops, and turns around.

EMILY (CONT’D)

Hey Jack.

JACK

Yeah.

EMILY

Can I ask for a favor?

Jack smiles.

JACK

Of course. What is it?

EMILY

Can you put a blue paper rose by my gravestone? You know, the ones you used to make for me for my birthday.

Jack smiles.

JACK

Sure.

EMILY

Thank you.

The dream begins to melt.

Jack is getting nervous.

JACK

Will we ever be able to talk again?

(CONTINUED)
EMILY
Talk whenever you like, I’m always listening.

The dream is about to end.

EMILY (CONT’D)
See ya’ later Jack.

JACK
Goodbye Emily.

They both wave goodbye to each other.

The dream fades.

FADE TO WHITE.

OPEN TO:

INT. JACK’S HOUSE - JACK’S ROOM - DAY
Jack slowly opens his eyes. He looks around his rooms.

Jack smiles.

JACK (V.O.)
I...uh...took your advice.

CUT TO:

EXT. CEMETERY - DAY
Jack stand in front of a gravestone.

JACK (CONT’D)
My dreams have been getting better.
I’m getting my act together nd getting back into my school routine.

The gravestone doesn’t respond.

JACK (CONT’D)
I think I’m gonna have to thank Lynda for her advice on trying to cope with your death. I know if I don’t, you’ll come back from the dead and beat me up.

Jack laughs a little bit.

(CONTINUED)
The gravestone doesn’t respond.

Suddenly a buzzing sound is heard. Jack reaches into his pocket and pulls out his phone.

Jack’s smile melts a little.

    JACK (CONT’D)
    Oh crap, it’s my friends. Sorry about this, but I have to go.

Jack puts his phone back in his pocket.

    JACK (CONT’D)
    But first...

Jack places a small, paper, blue rose on the gravestone.

    JACK (CONT’D)
    I just wanted to...you know...

Jack starts to cry a little bit.

He cries for a little bit then soaks it up.

    JACK (CONT’D)
    A promise is a promise.

The gravestone doesn’t respond.

Jack sniffs a little. He wipes his nose and takes a deep breath.

    JACK (CONT’D)
    See ya’ around sis.

Jack walks away from the gravestone.

We see the paper blue rose on the gravestone.

    FADE OUT.

THE END