

“CHRISTMAS IN JULY”
a 30-minute comedy-drama short film proposal by Nik Davies

‘Last Christmas.’

Two strangers confide in each other during their last night on earth, and embark on doing things they’ve never done before.

A girl, late twenties, enters a bar and finds it completely isolated except for one-man, in his early thirties, seemingly a bartender, behind the counter. She accepts his offer for a drink and questions why there’s Christmas music playing in July. It is here that, as the audience, we first learn about the impending end of the world, and the man explains that life has been filled with doing things we don’t want to do; work, chores, heartbreak, and questions why the duo shouldn’t spend their last few moments doing exactly what they’ve always wanted to do, but never had the courage to do it. He further demonstrates this by singing Karaoke, whilst the girl observes before eventually being over won and begins to mildly participate. During the conversation of names, the man suggests that they should only refer to each other as their chosen drink orders, symbolising their first meeting, and jokingly calls her Martini, whilst referring to himself as Jack Daniels.

With their last night on earth having already begun, Jack decides to not waste his last moments in the place where’s he already wasted the majority of his last few years and persuades Martini to join him in doing all the fun stuff they’ve always wanted to do. Having never learnt how to drive, Martini suggests stealing a car, and begins to speed into the city, despite Jack’s fears due to previous trauma. Jack suggests the idea of streaking down the abandoned city streets, to which they both willingly participate. Jack begins to detail his last relationship and how his girlfriend would ridicule the way he looked, and how this severely affected his self-esteem and also explaining that was his only long-lasting relationship. Deciding to clothe themselves again, they steal expensive formal wear from a nearby high street store, and make their way to the top off a nearby building.

After admiring the view of the blacked-out city below, Martini proposes jumping, but Jack dismisses this idea, claiming there’s no point in giving the world that satisfaction. When Jack questions why Martini entered the bar earlier that night, she says she once knew a girl that worked there, who she was overwhelmingly in love with, and was hoping to see her one last time, even though she knew she was likely already gone. She proceeds to tell Jack that he is the only other person she has met, that she could tolerate. Jack proceeds to talk more about his past relationship and mentions they also had a child, who died two years prior at the age of five in a car accident along with his ex-girlfriend. He begins to break down, laughing and crying, questioning the bitter sweet moments of life. Jack then states that perhaps jumping wouldn’t be such a bad idea. Martini grabs his hand as the sun begins to rise in the distance and the film fades to white.

Audiences will be attracted to the film’s obscure title, and the rebellious events that happen during the plot and will hopefully find the character of Jack interesting and the themes of his damaged self-esteem and the showcase of how his confidence has grown over his last few final years, whilst also finding engagement in Martini of how she’s led a particularly sheltered social life due to her unrequited love story and has chosen to branch out on her final night, finding a friend in Jack.