

MONOLOGUE – ALEX

FROM *PRESSURE*

by Lindsay Price

Use this monologue for your next IE!

Play	PRESSURE by Lindsay Price
Stats	Drama - Simple set - 45 minutes
Casting	5M+11W
Description	Alex, a refugee from Belarus, tries to explain to his friend, Ally, why he can't go to a school dance.
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ALEX speaks in broken English.

I cannot. I cannot explain. Ally I want to come, but I will not. I... Argh! I wish my English better.

ALEX moves away. He speaks clearly now, saying all the things he would like to say if he could.

I want to go. I want to go so much, just for one night. I want to leave my sisters and the sound of my mother's rattled breathing and the fact that there is no money and if I could shove everything into a paper bag...

I live in a different world. In my dreams my father is taken from us night after night. I could help him, I'm right there, but I'm rooted to the ground. And he is taken, night after night. In my dreams I can't reach my mama's medicine. It's just beyond my fingers and I reach and reach, but she chokes to death in front of me.

When I am awake, sometimes I forget. I go to school and I hear conversations about homework. I hear music. Friends shouting to each other from opposite ends of the hallway. The noise is so comforting. I forget and I want to talk about homework and I start to have fun. I cannot have fun. As soon as they get home from school my sisters run into the

Continued Over...



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kitchen and turn on the taps to see if we still have running water. I cannot go to dances. I am the man of the family.

ALEX turns back to his friend. Again he speaks in broken English.

I am sorry. I wish I say it better. 🍷