

Jordyn Goes Through It Before Going For It

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Description: Jordyn has an okay start to her senior year, then a downhill graduation, then gains the will to try again for college.

Jordyn, for most of her life, had been interested in music—starting with orchestra in the 4th grade playing the violin (learning later in life that the cello would have been much nicer to learn because it sounds prettier), and continuing until switching to choir in the 6th grade and continuing that all throughout middle school and high school. Senior year of high school, Jordyn is doing wonderfully in choir: she is taking two select choir classes, one of them being a jazz choir that is only limited to only 20 members. Despite not really feeling welcomed by the choir group, she feels like she has found a fun and safe space in high school! February of 2020, she travels to Idaho for the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival and gets to perform in front of a live audience inside the college's giant performance hall as an opening act for the festival. The entire time, despite some moments of feeling left out, she feels like she really is having fun and getting out there in the world and experiencing new things. She returns March 2020, the day after the festival ended on February 29th.

And then COVID hit. A lot of things happened condensed into just a few months. Jordyn stopped doing her work after significantly feeling like there wasn't much left that mattered, especially when she learned that everyone was just going to get the grades that they had before the pandemic hit (luckily, she had As and Bs, so her lack of work wasn't going to reflect on her report card). She got **really** sad. She also got very recluse (even more so than she used to be), and even though she was sitting in her house 24/7, she was still scared of getting sick. She also took up digital art as a hobby, even though she barely draws now on her own time. She attended graduation since it was safe enough to do so, but left after the ceremony completed without any hesitation, feeling empty and like it was a waste of time.

It took Jordyn 3 years before deciding that she could do something with herself if she learned more about art and tried to refine her skill. She applied to the college in January, after the winter quarter began, and gets accepted about a week after the initial application. She proceeded to go through the steps of preparing herself to go to college (getting funding, deciding on what classes to take, mentally preparing herself to go back to school after such a rough graduation). First quarter into college, she switches degrees to study for her Multimedia Communications Graphics degree. She is now halfway through finishing her degree and is feeling proud of herself for going for it.