

# Jack Dylan Grazer — Lost & Found

Photography — Daria Kobayashi Ritch  
Styling — Sean Knight







This page: Paul Smith coat, Levi's top, Amiri gloves & scarf  
Opposite page: Prada jumper, trousers & boots, The Elder Statesman jumper worn on his head





Acting might be Jack Grazer's main creative outlet, but our conversation finds this multi-hyphenate has a quick mind and lots more to share – whether it's music, musings on literature or what youth culture means in the here and now.

Interview by Gemma Lacey

Whilst a relative newcomer, Jack Grazer has been gracing our screens for several years now and is fast becoming a compelling fresh face. Speaking to him it's clear there's a richness to his inner world that is part of what makes his on-screen presence so enjoyable. He's polite, engaging, curious and excited about the world.

We start by discussing the parallels of youthful angst in his characters and how he channels his own experiences to bring them to life. "I find that whenever I'm playing a character that's going through somewhat of an identity crisis, learning to find themselves or learning to spread their wings, that it's always happening with me at the same time. Both are happening hand in hand like I'm growing as they're growing. It's kind of easy to get lost in it and just play it really realistically."

This way of harnessing his own emotions and using them to enrich his characters whilst bringing an air of relatability is key, and if anyone needed testament to how impactful this is they need only look to his *We Are Who We Are* co-star Chloe Sevigny, who met Jack whilst pregnant and said his playing the character of her son helped her make peace with having a boy. "I always wanted a girl, and kind of assumed that I would have a girl because I'm such a girly girl," she

said. "But you were such an amazing boy child and now young man... I was like, I can maybe get into this boy thing. I was kind of manifesting my boy child to be somewhat like you, because I was so impressed with you."

From Jack's side, the respect is mutual. "I was not an easy son to take care of in that project. So I think she gained some resilience from it. It felt really good and I loved working with her. She's so professional and incredibly thoughtful as an actor. She's no holds barred and wants to do everything. I like actors who are very visceral and love to immerse themselves in everything. Like in one scene she wanted to get slapped really hard. She's like, 'Jack, you have to hurt me.' I was like, 'OK, I'm so sorry. I'm gonna hurt you. I'm gonna slap you in the face really hard.' It made me feel bad in some ways but as an actor I understood, if that was my role I'd wanna get slapped hard too."

Jack is notably touched by his experiences on this project, but one thing that's important to convey is what a deft blend of intimacy and intellect he has in person, speaking on his role as Fraser in *We Are Who We Are*, which he describes as a standout storyline for him. "The dynamic between Jonathan and Fraser was I think my favourite. All the weird

stuff that happened between them is very complicated, but also very true to life. Things don't just look pretty, and nothing is ever black and white."

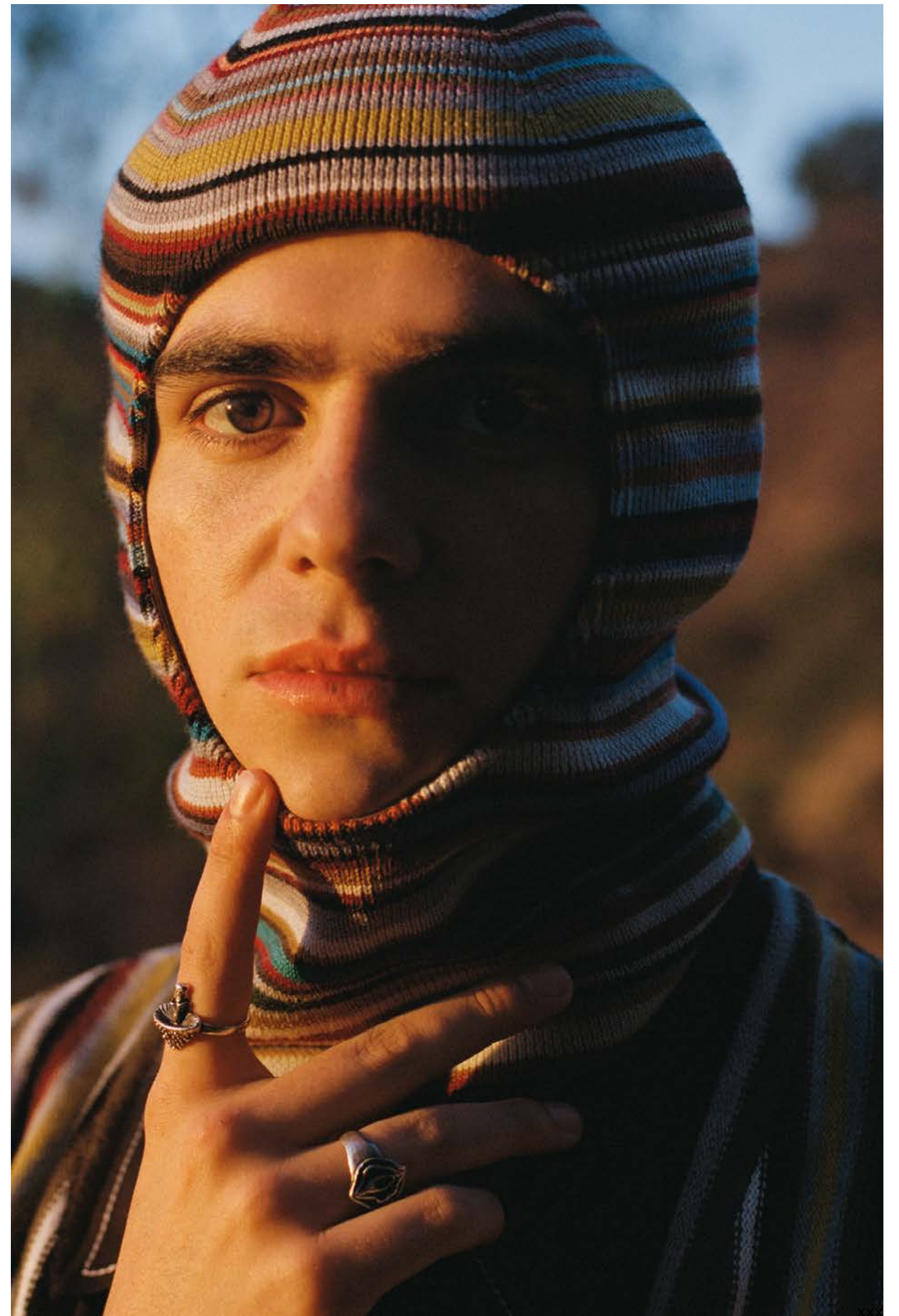
If the energy on set for that show was one of emotion and poignancy, his experience with *It* was radically different, "The atmosphere was really warm, welcoming, fun and had great energy. It felt like summer camp making that movie and being able to pretend like I'm scared was really fun." An interesting part of the dynamic in the movie was the physicality with the character he interacted with, Bill Skarsgård's Pennywise. "Before each take, he would go into his zone and everyone would get quiet. Then he'd run around and scream and go for people and terrorise them. He'd feed off that and their fear. Then he'd look at me and his eyes would seem like he was staring into my soul. Artistically it was intense, as though I had to go down a big water slide or something, it was visceral but I loved it."

We discuss if he uses method acting in his work or if he prefers to be more intuitive, and his response is pragmatic. "I'm a hybrid. I'd love to be intuitive. There are times when I question my intuition when I'm working on a movie and ask myself, 'Do I actually have any idea what I'm doing? Do I know how that really feels?' Because I haven't





This page: Amiri cardigan, turtleneck & shirt, The Elder Statesman cardigan (under), Levi's jeans, stylist's own belt  
Opposite page: Paul Smith balaclava, Stussy shirt & cardigan







This page: Stussy T-shirt & trousers, Paul Smith hat, stylist's own belt & keyring  
Opposite page: Saint Laurent by Anthony Vaccarello jumper, Palace Costume skirt, Converse trainers, stylist's own socks





lived that much life. I'm always learning all the time, but I do find that being physical before a take is helpful, jumping around or moving, if I need to build energy, there are little tactics that are grounding for sure."

It's clear when speaking with Jack that he has a sharp mind. His speech is fast and peppered with interesting words, vocabulary being important for him. "I get stressed when I can't articulate my feelings," he says. "I think reading gives me more reference. I like vocabulary. I'm kind of obsessed with it"

Clearly a quick study, in our short conversation we learn he's a fan of the French philosopher Albert Camus, loves *Catcher in the Rye* and is constantly teaching himself new things, whether it's skate tricks or experimenting musically. "I love weird obscure instruments. I just bought a mandolin that I've been playing. That's really fun. I wanna go to a Renaissance fair with it."

Attending a Renaissance fair may not seem like a typical pastime for a young Hollywood star, but a key part of Jack's charm is his curiosity and willingness to try new things. "I have zero consistency in any of my self-expression, to answer this in the broadest way. I think that clothes have no gender. I think that they've been marketed to have gender. It's the same with makeup, if I use makeup on a day when my pimples look bad that's because I wanna feel pretty. I don't know

why there's a stigma. I mean, I do because men are not conditioned to feel pretty, but I like feeling pretty."

We discuss what this means to him and it boils down to confidence. "When my hair's all done and my eyes are too, I find it generates reassurance from people that matter to me, that I look good and I enjoy that."

If anything is clear, it's that the opportunity to work and hone his craft is what's buoyed his confidence and desire for self-expression. We discuss what experiences and advice have been formulating within his work. "I've worked with a lot of older people, like John Larroquette on a show called *Me, Myself and I*, and he told me something. He said, 'As soon as this stops being fun, stop doing it.' But it hasn't stopped being fun." What he counts as the greatest piece of advice he received came straight from his musical theatre teacher when he was nine. "I was really tired but I had the big lead role in the play and she told me, 'Jack, the show must go on.' I've been saying that every day when shit hits the fan and when it rains, it pours, but my response is, 'The show must go on'. You gotta keep living and I think that's becoming my mantra subconsciously forever."

The next show on his horizon is *Shazam! Fury of The Gods* – a superhero story where he plays a character called Freddy. The nuance and thoughtfulness of the

character is carefully considered for him, describing Freddy and his counterpart Billy as "both kind of losers and outcasts and it makes you think, how can they hide that one thing that makes them special but the beauty is because of that they're learning some discipline along the way."

He is also enjoying embracing his own discipline and his future. "I'm kind of just looking forward to an open canvas, like a big, bright, flat horizon full of opportunity. I'm looking forward to enjoying the freedom of life, gaining some independence and learning how to navigate stuff." And for him, that's taking on the admin and serious conversations too. "I'm having conversations with my accountants and business manager, financial analysts and trying to learn stuff. I don't know anything about taxes. I'm trying to become an adult and it's overwhelming but also exciting."

We discuss what advice he'd give to his young fans on how to do the same, but it's clear Jack doesn't claim to have the answers yet, nor does he think he should. "An adult? Oh, I could never, I have no authority!" he says. "I'm as lost as they are, but I don't think that's a bad thing. I'm lost and I think that's a good place to be because from this place I'm more vulnerable to being found and to discovering new things about myself and growing as a person that way."



The Elder Statesman jumper, Stussy shirt, Levi's jeans, stylist's own belt, Converse trainers

Hair: Lauren Palmer-Smith at Home Agency