

Worst Case Scenario: Pilot

By

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EXT. LOADING DOCK-DAY

PAUL, a grizzled long hair who hasn't shaved in years lifts up a guitar amp and carelessly tosses it into the back of a truck.

He turns to the camera.

PAUL

Anybody who tells you they never  
wanted to be a rock star is a god  
damn liar.

Paul walks back to the loading dock and starts to roll a mass of cable.

PAUL

It's the greatest job on  
earth. Money, fame, girls. Or  
boys if one is so inclined.

Paul winks at the camera.

Paul tosses the cables into the truck. He begins to pick up guitar cases labled "fragile" and throws them into the truck discus style.

PAUL

Names Paul. Friends call me  
Paul. I'm what some folks call a  
Roadie. I prefer the term  
Professional Expediter of that  
which is Awesome. I've been around  
more rock stars than Syphilis. I  
tuned Joe Perry's guitar. I drank  
with Slash. And I helped Eddie Van  
Halen bury his turtle. That's not  
a euphemism. Van Halen loved  
turtles. But you ask me what my  
favorite story is, a story that  
cuts straight and deep to the  
essence of Rock, then I'll tell you  
about a band called Worst Case  
Scenario.

INT. LIVING ROOM-DAY

A young JAMIE CARMICHAEL is at the dinner table eating.

Across the table, his mother, ELLEN, an austere looking woman, stares at him intently. She is holding a voice recorder in one hand, and holds a pen poised over a legal pad in the other.

(CONTINUED)

PAUL VO

To be a rocker, you need passion, dedication, and most importantly a lifetime of repressed frustration and family issues. Jamie Carmichael had these in spades.

Jamie takes a bite of a buttered biscuit.

PAUL VO

See, Jamie's mother was a research psychologist. She was very invested in her work.

Ellen turns on the voice recorder.

ELLEN

(whispering)

Subject prefers the carbohydrates. May lead to weight problem later in life.

JAMIE

Mom I can't eat like this.

Ellen lets out a heavy sigh and glares at Jamie.

ELLEN

Subject is interfering with the experiment.

INT. HIGHSCHOOL CAFETERIA-DAY

High school age Jamie is sitting at a lunch table across from a young NICK PENTERRO.

PAUL VO

Jamie needed a release for all of that frustration. His outlet was music.

NICK

I can't play guitar!

JAMIE

You'll learn!

NICK

Who's gonna sing?

Jamie points to a young SCOTT PULLEY sitting across the lunch room, arms covered in hemp bracelets, wearing sandals, surrounded by girls, and telling a story.

(CONTINUED)

JAMIE  
Scott Pulley.

INT. CAFETERIA-DAY

Nick and Jamie are standing in front of SCOTT.

PAUL VO  
Scott Pulley was popular because he was a sensitive environmentalist and as the kids say, "a total babe!" At the time they had no way of knowing that Scott was completely insane.

SCOTT  
A band huh? Could be cool

INT. LOCAL BAR-NIGHT

A sizable crowd is rocking out to the guys who are playing on a small stage.

PAUL VO  
They called themselves Green Pieces. They took off.

INT. OUTDOOR PAVILION-DAY

The guys are playing on a much larger stage for a much larger crowd.

PAUL  
And they took off quick.

EXT. PARKING LOT-DAY

Nick and Jamie are boarding a large tour bus.

PAUL VO  
Green Pieces got a record deal and their first album went platinum faster than Larry King signs a prenup. Jamie went on tour leaving behind his mom and his kid sister August.

A young and wide eyed AUGUST reaches out longingly at the tour bus. Jamie gives her a half hearted shrug.

EXT. HOUSE PARTY-NIGHT

The guys are sitting on the roof drinking as a house party rages around them.

PAUL VO

These were the good years. But they didn't last.

EXT. SKI RESORT-DAY

Scott stands at a podium addressing an outraged crowd and holding a picture of a Lynx in his hand. Behind him. Bulldozers are clearing way for a ski resort.

SCOTT

By expanding this mountain, you are driving a ski pole right into the heart of the poor defenseless Lynx!

PAUL VO

Scott became a leader in the environmental movement, and fans loved him for his commitment. But like I said. He was crazy

EXT. SKI RESORT-NIGHT.

PAUL VO

Scott felt that all environmental problems were the result of human overpopulation. And he tried to solve this problem with plastique explosives.

Scott packs C-4 under the ski lodge.

Two skiers are walking back to the lodge when a giant explosion lights up the night, blowing them off their feet and into a snow bank.

Scott looks on from a distance, drops his detonator, and runs away.

INT. POLICE STATION-NIGHT.

A disheveled looking Scott turns towards the camera to pose for his mug shot.

(CONTINUED)

PAUL VO  
He went to prison.

INT. RECORD STORE-DAY

A RECORD STORE CLERK pours a bunch of "Green Pieces" CDs into a trash can.

PAUL VO  
But the public hated the rest of  
the band by association.

INT. PRACTICE SPACE-NIGHT

Nick, Jamie, and Spencer exit, walking off in different directions.

PAUL VO  
Eventually, they broke up.

EXT. LOADING DOCK-DAY

PAUL  
And you might think that would be  
the end. But this isn't the story  
of Green Pieces. This is the story  
of what happened next. This is the  
story of Worst Case Scenario.

EXT. MIAMI-DAY

Scenes of city life.

EXT. SIDEWALK-DAY

Jamie wearing a wrinkled suit is walking down a crowded city block. Jamie's phone rings. He answers it.

JAMIE  
Can't talk. Not a good time.

INT. KITCHEN-DAY

Ellen is washing tomatoes while talking on the phone.

(CONTINUED)

ELLEN

Well when is it ever a good time  
Jamie?

Intercut the conversation.

JAMIE

15 years ago when I called to tell  
you that you forgot me at Geology  
Camp.

ELLEN

I was in the middle of a critical  
experiment, and I was only a few  
hours late.

JAMIE

I HAD TO HITCHHIKE! Never mind, I  
can't deal with this now.

ELLEN

Jamie this is important!

Jamie passes by a disheveled street performer who is playing  
blues guitar. Jamie pauses for a second to throw a five  
dollar bill into his case, then walks on.

JAMIE

Really can't talk. I'm on an  
airplane and the stewardesses are  
assembling.

ELLEN

Fine, I'll speak with you  
tonight. You are coming to  
August's sweet sixteen right? I've  
been planning it for weeks, the  
least you can do is make an  
appearance.

JAMIE

You planned it? What's on the  
agenda? Pin the tail on the donkey  
followed by a rousing Milgram  
Experiment?

ELLEN

Charming. You should try stand up  
comedy if your music career doesn't  
work out.

(CONTINUED)

JAMIE

Chzzzzk what's that? I'm going through a tunnel. Chzzzzk. Breaking up!

Jamie hangs up. He turns to enter a large corporate office building.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM-DAY

Jamie is sitting at the far end of a long table. The room looks cold and metallic.

Jamie twists back and forth in his spinning chair.

PAUL VO

Three years had passed since the band broke up. The guys have rarely spoken to each other since. If they had, they could have bonded over their money problems. But Jamie was about to catch a break.

GUNTHER VON HAGEN, a 50 something man, flanked by TWO ASSISTANTS enter the room. Jamie jumps to his feet, face grimacing in pain.

GUNTHER

Apologies for your wait. I'm Gunther Von Hagen.

Gunther and his aids walk to Jamie and shake his hand.

JAMIE

Jamie, pleasure. Not a problem. Love the place by the way. I must get the name of your decorator.

Gunther and his entourage turn, walk back to the far side of the table and take seats on that side of the room.

Jamie looks at them uncertainly. Then he follows them and takes a seat next to one of the aids. The aid looks to Jamie and then to Gunther with an uncomfortable expression. Gunther gives a dismissive wave.

GUNTHER

After many discussions with my board, I am prepared to make you what I feel is a very generous offer for your song catalog.

(CONTINUED)

The aid hands Jamie a piece of paper. Jamie looks at it and immediately his hand starts shaking. He places the paper and his hand on the table. He puts his other hand on top to steady the shaking.

PAUL VO

Jamie hadn't seen a number that big since Scott Pulley's sentencing hearing. This was good news.

INT. CONDO-DAY

The Condo is decorated with a very modern chic however the furniture and electronics look like they are much less expensive than the space itself.

PAUL VO

Jamie had lost a lot of things since Green Pieces broke up. Cars, a jet ski, the right to set foot in the state of Georgia. He had managed to hold on to his beloved Condo overlooking South Beach.

INT. CONDO-NIGHT

The lights are off in Jamie's apartment and he has pressed himself up against the wall. There is a persistent knocking at his door.

LANDLORD OS

Carmichael! I know you're in there! You owe me rent!

PAUL VO

But now, the Condo was at risk. So Jamie was forced to sell his only other valuable possession. Green Piece's song catalog.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM-DAY

GUNTHER

The tunes will make good commercial jingles. I like the one that goes tra la loo lala la loo la la la.

JAMIE

Uh yeah, that's my favorite too...

(CONTINUED)

GUNTHER

And your partners have authorized you to make this deal?

JAMIE

Absolutely.

PAUL VO

Hasn't spoken to them in years.

JAMIE

They're excited.

PAUL VO

Years.

JAMIE

I just need to run this number by them and we are golden!

GUNTHER

Squeeze your horses Mr. Carmichael.

JAMIE

Hold?

GUNTHER

I am prepared to make you this offer, but I have not made it yet. You are a controversial man. My board has advised me not to do business with you.

JAMIE

I think you're confusing me with Scott. Don't worry they've got him in the super max. He only gets to see sunlight once a month.

GUNTHER

You and he were close. Like it or not, he reflects on you.

JAMIE

I'm nothing like Scott.

GUNTHER

Perhaps. But this is a wholesome family business. You have a reputation as a wild rock and roller. I must be cautious.

Jamie pauses to gather his thoughts.

(CONTINUED)

JAMIE

For better or for worse, those days  
are over. I'm just looking to make  
a fresh start.

Gunther ponders for a moment. Then he smiles.

GUNTHER

Alright. Have your partners sign  
these.

An aid slides Jamie a packet of papers.

Gunther winks at Jamie.

GUNTHER

I know you won't make me regret  
this decision. You are a nice  
boy. I like doing business to nice  
boys.

JAMIE

With?

EXT. CAR ON HIGHWAY-DAY

Jamie is driving his run down, ten year old Subaru.

PAUL VO

So Jamie went to find his estranged  
band mates.

EXT. SPENCER'S HOUSE-DAY

Jamie parks the car out front of a small but nice looking  
house.

PAUL VO

First up,

EXT. SPENCER'S HOUSE-DAY

Jamie knocks on the door, a male in his mid twenties with  
curly dirty blond hair answers the door. His face lights up  
at the sight of Jamie.

PAUL VO

Spencer Free, the drummer.

(CONTINUED)

SPENCER

JAMIE!

Spencer pulls Jamie in for a firm embrace. Spencer holds onto the embrace.

PAUL VO

Spencer was the last member to join the band.

INT. LIMO-NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Jamie is sitting in the back of a limo next to Spencer who is passionately kissing STAR HOLLIS on top of him. Jamie tries to move away from them.

PAUL VO

Shortly after their first international tour, Spencer started dating British Pop Sensation, Star Hollis.

EXT. RED CARPET-NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Spencer is holding Star's purse and shifting uncomfortably while she poses for pictures

PAUL VO

Spencer lives a pretty sweet life as Star's trophy boyfriend.

EXT. SPENCER'S HOUSE-NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

A pizza delivery guy rings the doorbell. Spencer answers.

PAUL VO

However with Star on tour most of the time, he had begun to feel restless and lonely.

SPENCER

Thanks. Hey you wanna hang out for awhile?

INT. SPENCER'S HOUSE-DAY

Spencer leads Jamie into the house.

SPENCER

Here sit down, can I get you anything? I've got a smoothie machine we could put together.

JAMIE

No I'm good.

SPENCER

So what have you been up to?

JAMIE

Oh, you know. Surviving.

SPENCER

Yeah? Nice! Tell me all about it!

JAMIE

Ahh there's not much to tell. And I really shouldn't stay long, I don't wanna take up your time.

SPENCER

Nonononono! You're fine. Stay for awhile. Chillax! I've got PS3! You want to play some NBA Street?

JAMIE

Um that sounds great, but I really need to talk to ask you an important question.

SPENCER

We could order some Thai Fusion.

JAMIE

It's about the song catalog.

SPENCER

I've got Jenga.

PAUL VO

Eventually, Jamie succeeded in describing the deal he had made.

INT. KITCHEN-DAY

Spencer is pouring Jamie a soda.

SPENCER

And what are they selling with our songs.

Jamie coughs.

JAMIE

Patio furniture. And accessories.

SPENCER

Ahh.

JAMIE

It's not like anyone ever buys or listens to these songs anymore. Right now all they do is remind me of bett-

Jamie catches himself. Spencer looks at him.

JAMIE

Of another time.

SPENCER

Well I suppose I could use the money to open my Doughnut Shop Strip Club.

PAUL VO

Over the years Spencer had pursued many business ventures. All had failed miserably.

JAMIE

Still working on that huh?

SPENCER

I came up with a great name for it. Poles and Ho-

Jamie cuts him off. And takes out the paperwork from VonHagen.

JAMIE

Oook, if I could just have you sign here. And here.

Spencer signs the documents.

(CONTINUED)

JAMIE

Great.

SPENCER

Yeah, so what do you want to do now?

JAMIE

Actually I should go. I need to be at my sister's birthday party in an hour.

SPENCER

Ok, you talked me into it.

JAMIE

Into what?

SPENCER

Into going to the party with you.

JAMIE

You really don't have to. It's probably gonna be really lame.

Spencer has already left the room.

SPENCER OS

Lemme just change my shirt.

EXT. JAMIE'S CAR-NIGHT

Jamie is driving and Spencer is in the passenger seat. They are stuck in traffic. Spencer looks entirely too happy to be out of the house. Jamie checks his phone.

JAMIE

Hey, do you know if Nick got a new number. He hasn't responded to any of my texts.

PAUL VO

Actually, Nick had his phone turned off because he was at work.

EXT. BANK-DAY.

A busted up Camry is parked outside of a bank on a street that looks like a business district for a more Suburban area of Miami. Inside the car sit four men. NICK PENTERRO is behind the wheel.

(CONTINUED)

MAN 1

Ok we'll be right back.

Everyone but Nick puts on a ski mask and exits the car. Nick sits behind the wheel squirming uncomfortably.

PAUL VO

Of all the former members of Green Pieces, Nick Penterro had been most affected by the band's break up. Having no skills other than playing the guitar, he was fired from one job after another. Finally his cousin offered him a position with the family business.

OS SFX: BREAKING GLASS followed by ALARM.

SECURITY GAURD OS

Freeze!

MAN 1 OS

Where'd he come from?

OS SFX: Gunshots.

Nick looks terrified.

PAUL VO

This level of criminal activity was really out of his comfort zone. And the stress was starting to get to him.

The three men come running back to the car. Man 1 opens the passenger side door.

MAN 1

GO! GO! GO! MOVE IT YOU IDIOT! GO!

NICK

Uh, ok, sorry! Going!

Nick fumbles to put the car in Drive.

MAN 2 is running behind the car.

Nick hits the accelerator, and the car speeds backwards, plowing into Man 2 who flies up, rolls across the roof of the car, and lands with a hard thud on the hood.

Nick, Man 1, and MAN 3 stare at Man 2 in disbelief.

EXT. HOSPITAL-NIGHT

The Camry speeds into the parking lot of a major Miami Hospital. It comes to a screeching halt in front of the entrance to the Emergency room.

Nick and Man 3 carry Man 2 over to the door, and prop him against it. The door is automatic and opens, causing Man 2 to slump against the floor halfway inside the hospital doorway, half out.

Nick and Man 3 run back to the Camry. It speeds away.

EXT. APARTMENT COMPLEX-NIGHT.

The Camry parks in front of a seedy looking apartment complex.

Nick, still driving, turns off the ignition. Man 1 in the passenger seat turns to Nick.

MAN 1  
YOU ARE THE WORST GETAWAY DRIVER  
EVER!

Man 1 turns to Man 3 in the backseat.

MAN 1  
Sean, get your cousin in line or I  
will do it for you!

Man 1 exits the car.

NICK  
Sean, I am so sorry.

SEAN  
Hey, it happens. Look try not to  
think about it. Cuz if you think  
about it, your just gonna get  
nervous and screw up again. And if  
you screw up again I'm reasonably  
certain they will kill you.

Nick gulps.

SEAN  
Alright, see you tomorrow.

Sean gets out of the car.

(CONTINUED)

NICK

Gotta get the band back together.

Nick takes out his cell phone and turns it on.

His LCD Screen shows a message from Jamie which reads: "Need to talk. Meet here: (Address).

Nick smiles with relief.

INT. PARTY HALL-NIGHT

Jamie and Spencer enter and survey their surroundings.

A group of about 50 teenagers and 20 adults are milling about a large, blandly decorated room. The linens and balloons are all shades of white, grey, and copper. People stand around awkwardly in small groups.

In the center of the room are evenly spaced round tables. A band is just beginning to set up at one end of the hall.

At the other end of the hall is a buffet table. The food all looks very soupy and gray colored. Each serving tray has a scientific formula for a name.

On the left side of the room is a 40 something man, sitting behind a table covered with papers neatly arranged in stacks side by side. A sign on the table reads "Resume Workshop."

SPENCER

This place is more dead than those Canadian Loggers that Scott went after.

Jamie shoots him a look of disbelief.

SPENCER

Too soon?

Jamie notices AUGUST CARMICHAEL, a depressed looking girl wearing a very pretty dress. TWO GIRLS kneel beside her and talk to her even though she doesn't respond.

JAMIE

There's August. I should go say hi.

The two girls give up on trying to talk to August and walk away leaving her alone. Jamie sits down across from her. She doesn't notice him until he speaks.

(CONTINUED)

JAMIE

Hey kiddo. Happy Birthday.

August smiles very, very slightly.

AUGUST

I didn't think you'd come.

JAMIE

And miss your big party. Never.

AUGUST

Some party. I told mom I wanted to plan it because I knew she would turn it into something like this. But instead, she throws me a surprise party, and it's totally lame.

JAMIE

Hey well, ya know.

August shoots him a "come on, really?" look.

AUGUST

Is that the best you've got?

JAMIE

At least you've got a band! The young folk love music. Well music that's not played by Eco-Terrorist Sympathizers.

AUGUST

I've missed you Jamie, that's why I'm glad you're ok with me stay-

NICK

JAMIE!

August is interrupted. Jamie turns to see an overjoyed Nick Panterro making his way towards him.

JAMIE

Hold that thought.

Jamie stands up and walks over to meet Nick. Nick embraces him in a powerful bear hug.

NICK

I was so glad you texted me.

(CONTINUED)

JAMIE

I've missed you too.

NICK

I'm not going to lie to you. I'm kind've in a bad place right now.

JAMIE

Well I might have a solution for you.

NICK

I know what you're thinking. We need to get the band back together.

Jamie breaks away from the embrace.

JAMIE

What? No, I was going to say that we should sell the song catalog. I found a buyer.

Nick looks shocked.

NICK

Sell them? Why? Fate has thrown us back together! The universe is humming man! In the key of G! G for get the band back together!

JAMIE

Are you alright? You're rambling?

NICK

We can't just give up!

Jamie's voice rises and people start to look at him.

JAMIE

We gave up three years ago when people started burning our CDs in the street as a giant middle finger to us and the green movement! It got hard and we all walked away! And even if people didn't associate us with Scott the mass murdering psychopath, even if this wasn't the first time we've spoken in three years, who even cares about our music anymore?

NICK

I care.

JAMIE

Well maybe it's time to let go.

Jamie takes the papers out from his back pocket and hands them toward Nick. Nick doesn't take them.

NICK

What happened to you?

Nick storms off.

JAMIE

Nick!

INT. PARTY HALL-NIGHT

Jamie is sitting at a table with one GUY and TWO GIRLS. All four of them are staring off into space. He sees his mother making her way towards him.

His mother sits down beside him.

ELLEN

Making friends I see.

JAMIE

Making up for lost time. It's hard for a kid to keep friends when his mom sticks them in a sensory deprivation chamber.

ELLEN

That was one time.

JAMIE

And that makes it ok?!?

ELLEN

Jamie this is not the place for your childish venting. There's an important matter we need to discuss. I just received a grant to study...

Over Ellen's shoulder, Jamie notices the band setting up. Ellen's voice fades out. The band is young, probably in their early twenties. He can almost hear the band members laughing and joking as they tune their instruments. A LARGER MAN steps in obscuring his view. Jamie refocuses on his mother.

(CONTINUED)

ELLEN  
...is that acceptable.

JAMIE  
Sure mom. Sounds great.

A BAND MEMBER approaches Ellen.

BAND MEMBER  
Hey do you have a second?

ELLEN  
Certainly.

They walk off leaving Jamie alone.

Spencer approaches the table. He sits down next to the guy.

SPENCER  
Cool party huh?

The Guy looks at him in disbelief.

GUY  
You're joking, right?

The guy gets up and leaves. Spencer seems unfazed.

JAMIE  
Are you really having fun?

SPENCER  
Are you kidding me? I'm out of the house. This is great!

Across the hall, Ellen causes a commotion.

ELLEN  
NO! UNACCEPTABLE!

Jamie quickly turns to see her red in the face. She then storms out of the room followed by the band member.

Jamie sees August looking distressed. He shoots her a reassuring glance. He stands up and walks towards the exit.

EXT. PARTY HALL-NIGHT

Nick is sitting outside on the steps with STEPH, RACHEL, AMANDA, and GREG, teenage guests at the party. All of them are smoking. The teenagers try to hide their cigarettes when Ellen appears.

Ellen storms out, quickly followed by Jamie.

NICK  
Is everything ok?

JAMIE  
What's wrong?

ELLEN  
The band won't go on.

NICK  
Is it a money thing? Cuz I've got cash. Sequentially marked cash.

ELLEN  
The band was the one thing I knew I did right. They came very highly recommended!

JAMIE  
What's the problem?

ELLEN  
Their singer is a doctor at the hospital I work with. That's how I found them. He got called in to operate on some idiot bank robber who was in a hit and run.

NICK  
Is he going to make it?

ELLEN  
No, he'll be in surgery all night. And the band won't go on without him.

NICK  
No I meant- never mind.

Ellen breaks her austere and professional composure to let out soft awkward sobs.

(CONTINUED)

ELLEN

I'm not good at this Jamie! I know that! But I wanted August to have a great birthday party!

AMANDA

Really? Cuz this is the worst party ever.

Amanda turns to her friends.

AMANDA

C'mon let's get our stuff and go to my place.

NICK

If they leave everyone leaves. That's the rule of high school parties. Follow the smokers.

ELLEN

She's going to hate me as much as you do.

Jamie stands speechless. Nick looks at him, urging him to say something with his eyes.

JAMIE

I don't hate you. We have issues. Lots of them. But there's a difference. Hopefully August won't have as many.

Jamie turns to Nick.

JAMIE

Think you can sing and play at the same time?

NICK

Only one way to find out.

Jamie and Nick jog back into the reception hall.

INT. PARTY HALL-NIGHT

Spencer sits down behind the drum set, and adjusts the height of the snare drum.

(CONTINUED)

SPENCER

I gotta warn you, I haven't played  
in over a year.

Jamie slides a bass strap over his head.

JAMIE

Yeah I think we're all gonna be a  
little rusty on this one.

NICK

Fake it til we make it. Shadows?

JAMIE

Shadows.

Nick taps the microphone. Everyone stops and looks towards  
him.

NICK

Hey guys. Sorry we're late. First  
song's called Shadows.

August moves to the front of the room.

In unison Jamie and Nick strum their first notes. Nick  
starts singing.

NICK

Here we lie again. And here we die  
again. Our fears are just a  
product of what's wrong.

Spencer plays a soft triplet on the high hats.

NICK

Feeling stripped and naked do you  
think we can make it.

Spencer starts to pound the bass pedal.

NICK

In spite of everything we  
looooooost. Everything we lost!

All three break out into a full volume jam. Nick and Jamie  
are both rocking out, banging their heads and jumping  
around. Spencer is smiling ear to ear.

One by one some of the guests start to move along with the  
music. Finally one brave GUY gets up front and center, and  
starts to fist pump and bang his head. Two girls join him.

A smile starts to break across August's face.

(CONTINUED)

NICK

And all we are is shadows on the wall. Give up your hate, Give in to fate, and surrender it all.

More people start to dance. Almost all of the kids are moving now. August joins her friends on the dance floor.

NICK

I turned to you, begged you to see, you told me I think you should leave, I faked a smile and tried to hide, these wounds are open dead inside, this twisted game, this isn't right, will you see me in a different light? come know me in a different light, Shadows cast in a different light!

Ellen watches her children from a distance and smiles.

Jamie swings his bass.

NICK

Cuz all we are is shadows on the wall. Give up your hate, give into fate and surrender it all. Feeling stripped and naked, I know we can make it, in spite of everything we lost.

The band rocks out to a big finish. The crowd goes wild.

Jamie is ecstatic. He looks out at the crowd, and sees August laughing and dancing with her friends.

He looks at Nick and Spencer, and he locks eyes with both of them individually, Spencer first then Nick. They are as happy as he is.

PAUL VO

At that moment, Jamie realized that he had been holding onto the wrong part of his old life, and that what he really missed was playing music with his best friends.

Jamie takes the paperwork from Von Hagen out of his back pocket. He tears it in half. He turns to Nick.

JAMIE

Let's do it. Let's get the band back together.

(CONTINUED)

NICK

YES!

INT. JAMIE'S CONDO-DAY

All of Jamie's possessions are boxed up and stacked by the door. Jamie is finishing taping up a box when his phone rings. He answers it.

JAMIE

Yello?

EXT. BRUSSELS-DAY

ELLEN

I have to hand it to you Jamie, you really came through last night.

Intercut the conversation.

JAMIE

And I have to hand it to you, I didn't think you could produce tears.

ELLEN

Seeing you take charge like that made me feel much better about my decision.

JAMIE

What decision would that be.

Jamie's doorbell rings.

JAMIE

Hang on, that's probably my land lord and his trusty baseball bat.

Jamie goes to the door and looks through the keyhole. He sees August standing with several suitcases.

JAMIE

Um Mom? Where are you right now? Why is August outside my door?

ELLEN

Jamie, we talked about this last night. I'm in Brussels doing a research fellowship. For the next

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ELLEN (cont'd)  
six months, August is living with  
you.

JAMIE  
Me?

END.