

WORST CASE SCENARIO

Series Bible

By
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WORST CASE SCENARIO

“Life behind the music. “

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

We all have dreams, but very few of us ever see those dreams realized. Even fewer are careless enough to let those dreams slip away before our eyes. That’s exactly what happened to Jamie Carmichael.

Jamie Carmichael became a musician, because music was his outlet for the frustration and resentment he felt as a result of his dysfunctional home life. His only family was a mother whose job as a research psychologist eclipsed her role as parent, and a half sister who was too young for him to relate to in any meaningful way.

Jamie was a talented musician and he and his friends Nick Penterro, Spencer Free, and Scott Pulley formed a band called *Green Pieces*. The band took off faster than any of them could have imagined. Propelled by a great debut album, and their frontman Scott’s popularity from his activism in the Environmental Movement, the band achieved superstardom almost overnight.

However success was fleeting. They became more focused on living the rock star lifestyle, than on making good music, and their second album suffered. Scott was arrested for crimes of Eco-Terrorism, and the public revolted against the band due to their association with him. Having lost everything, the band parts ways.

Three years later, their lives stagnant and unfulfilled, Jamie leads Nick and Spencer in reuniting for another chance at the lives that they always wanted. But this isn't the only reason Jamie brings the band back together, as he realizes that his friends were always his real family growing up. He will need their support now more than ever, because his mother has left on an extended research assignment in Brussels leaving Jamie's young sister August in his care.

Now Jamie's life is filled with second chances. A second chance to be a respected musician. A second chance to be a better friend. A second chance to live the good life. A second chance to be a better brother.

This won't be an easy journey. There are many obstacles stacked against them including an apathetic fan base, a public that still hates them because of their former singer's actions, numerous enemies made during their time as famous rock stars, and their own personal flaws and insecurities.

The climb back to the top will be slow and painful, but he will have family by his side. This is the story of *Worst Case Scenario*.

ABOUT THE SHOW

Themes

Worst Case Scenario will primarily explore two major themes that overlap in some respects. The first theme is second chances. Who deserves them? How do you get them? What do you do to prove yourself worthy of having received one? How do you deal with the stress of trying not to mess up your do over? Will characters rise to the occasion or will they fall? These are all questions that will be explored throughout the course of the series.

As Paul says in the opening narration of the Pilot, everyone wants to be a rock star but not everyone has what it takes. These characters achieved the wildest dreams of so many people, but let it slip away as they drank and partied to excess. They were so absorbed in living the good life that they did not realize that the music which all of them cared deeply about was suffering. They did not realize that their “friend” Scott was deeply unstable.

Now several years later and with all the odds stacked against them they are going to try it again and get it right this time. They realize that the key to their success is supporting each other and keeping each other focused this time. This brings us to the second theme, that of family.

Worst Case Scenario will make the argument that there are two families in your life. The one you can't choose, your blood relatives, and the one you can choose, your friends. Jamie sought out the new family of the band because his actual family was so dysfunctional. During his second try at a music career he will find himself reconnecting both with the family he chose and the one he didn't. We will see this dynamic explored with other characters as well. The series will examine the differences between these two social constructs, as well as the areas where they overlap.

Over themes that will be explored to a lesser degree are the recklessness of youth, going to extremes, music, sacrifices you make for yourself and others, and the allure of fame.

Story Telling Style

The story will be told mostly in episodes that tell a complete story beginning to end, but have elements that advance the overall plot of the show, that being the growth of the characters and their journey to recapture their former glory. The show will be heavily steeped in continuity. The events of each episode will not be forgotten and will have concrete ramifications on the episodes that come after. This won't be a show where all the toys are put gently back into their boxes at the end of each episode just as we found them. There will be major changes to the status quo for individual characters and the group as a whole. Many of the jokes and plot lines will

build upon past developments, some of which are shown in previous episodes, others are part of the band's history which is revealed through Paul's narration. The series will have a slight documentary feel to it, but more similar to *Arrested Development* than the *Office* in that the story is narrated and characters are unaware of the cameras.

The narration comes from Paul, a roadie who has lived his life around rock stars and has been with the band almost since the beginning. He is a reliable if biased narrator. He will give you the whole story but he will also pass judgment on the people therein. He will also reveal the band's history in the form of oral narration, stock video footage, and old photographs. Paul will be a character in the series both in the present and removed in the future as the narrator.

Humor

The humor in the show will come both from the eccentric nature of the characters and from the situations they find themselves in. This will not be a show about ordinary people living ordinary lives. These characters were rock superstars and although they may have the same flaws and needs as everyone else, they are accustomed to a certain kind of lifestyle and it is one that is far beyond the imagining of most of us. They will find themselves in outrageous situation often as a result of their own actions. To a degree some of these characters could be described as spoiled. I like to describe it as "careless people making careless decisions." They

are selfish to a degree but they will be empathetic because under the selfishness lies a love for each other and lifetime's worth of accumulated insecurities.

The dialogue will be very witty and fast paced. There will be no laugh track. The show will employ running gags that resurface and build over time.

For instance:

- Spencer has tried his hand at numerous businesses over the years, and we will see some of them revealed over the course of time.
- Living in other people's houses. The guys have a great deal of trouble holding down stable residences, and will often move into an abandoned house as a solution for their homelessness.
- The guys will dare each other to complete little challenges, the loser must spend the next 24 hours speaking in an accent of the winner's choosing.
- Jamie will correct people who misspeak by phrasing the correct word as a question. For instance Gunther: "I like doing business to nice boys." Jamie "With?" This is a habit August will acquire in time.
- Spencer volunteers to become a spokesman for ill conceived products his Uncle invents including a phone camera which is a camera with limited phone calling capabilities.

The humor will have a slightly dark edge as will be established by the Pilot. Nick has a criminal background which will be an area mined for dark comedy. Also the characters will frequently make gallows humor references to Scott Pulley's crimes.

This is probably a coping mechanism to deal with the shocking betrayal of someone they thought was their friend but in truth never really knew at all.

Visual Style

The show will employ a handheld one camera shooting style similar to *Arrested Development* or *The Office*. The cuts will be very fast. Editing will be stylized with freeze frames, text overlays, and grainy stock footage and photographs inserted often.

CHARACTER BIOS

JAMIE CARMICHAEL

Jamie Carmichael is a 26 year old Caucasian male.

Jamie was born in Albany, New York. His dad, David was a sensitive and soft spoken painter who dabbled in many different forms of artistic expression, including music. Unfortunately David died of a brain aneurysm when Jamie was two years old.

Although Jamie never met David, those that knew him know that Jamie inherited his father's creativity.

Following David's death, Jamie's mother Ellen relocated herself and her infant son to Miami Florida in order to be closer to her own parents. Ellen was the polar opposite of David. She is a research psychologist by profession. Though while she has spent

most of her life studying human interaction, she was never very good at it. Most people find her cold and off putting.

Ellen had an especially hard time relating to Jamie. She never quite understood what it took to be a parent, so she approached all her interactions with Jamie from the viewpoint of a scientist. Growing up Jamie always felt more like a test subject than a son. His mother took a very analytical and logical approach to all aspects of parenting.

Growing up, Jamie and his mother had a very dysfunctional relationship. His mother's eccentricities made it hard for Jamie to fit in at school and keep friends and would profoundly affect the rest of his life.

One time when Jamie was in third grade, he invited some friends over for a sleepover and his mom thought the boys would be impressed by some of her lab equipment. Ellen locked the boys in a sensory deprivation chamber traumatizing them slightly and ruining any chance Jamie might have had at a second play date.

When Jamie was in the fourth grade, he discovered his own singing voice, and would frequently enjoy singing while doing his chores. At this time Ellen was working on a study of people who cannot recognize they have annoying voices. She would videotape Jamie when he sang leading him to believe he had an awful singing voice and becoming too self-conscious to ever sing in public. In reality the videotaping

had nothing to do with Ellen's study. She was proud of her son's amazing singing voice. Their failure to communicate would fuel Jamie's insecurities and resentment.

Jamie developed a quick wit early on and would often lash out at his mother with sarcasm in retaliation for her "offenses." Growing up Jamie went through several phases of youthful rebellion. He was a skater, he was a graffiti artist, and he smoked for a while. None of his rebellions were very extreme. Ellen wasn't always around, because she was always working on some research project or another. As a result Jamie grew to be very independent and at times valued his solitude.

Ellen wanted Jamie to grow up to be a successful scientist and took steps to ensure this through the books, movies, and toys she bought him as well as the activities in which she enrolled him. Jamie was a smart kid. School came easy to him. He quickly learned that his mother would be less involved in his life if he kept his grades up so he made an effort to do this, except for the occasions where he deliberately wanted to piss her off.

When Jamie was ten years old, his mother became pregnant with and gave birth to his half sister August. Ellen told Jamie that August's father was a fellow researcher, although Jamie never met the man and he was never involved in the Carmichaels' lives. Because of the large age gap between Jamie and his sister, he never felt especially close to her until later in life.

When Jamie was in the eighth grade, he found his father's old acoustic guitar buried a few old bookshelves in his garage. Jamie started to fool around on the instrument and discovered a latent talent. Over the next two years, he would teach himself to play proficiently. Jamie would spend most of his free time playing the guitar. Music became a release for all of his pent up rage and frustration.

While Jamie was able to make casual friends and acquaintances early in life, it wasn't until high school that he made his first truly close friends. Early into his freshman year of high school, Jamie met Nick Penterro. The two bonded over a shared taste in music, and solidified their friendship by swapping stories of their dysfunctional families.

Midway through ninth grade, Jamie joined a band called Misanthropy.

Unfortunately for Jamie, he was far more skilled than anyone else in this band, and he quickly became bored with them. He quit the band after they performed a disastrous set of Cream covers at a school talent show. This experience gave him a taste for playing live music with a group, and he was thrilled by it. Shortly thereafter, he approached Nick with the idea that they should start their own band. After convincing Nick to learn to play guitar he actively recruited Scott Pulley and much later, Spencer Free.

Jamie wrote a good number of the songs for the band. Scott was the only member who would compose more of the band's original music. Jamie's songs would often

deal with themes of frustration, feeling dissatisfied, abandonment, and political discontent. While Jamie was the impetus for starting the band, he quickly deferred to Scott's leadership, as Scott was a much more forceful personality and seemed to have a good plan for how to lead the band. There were times where Jamie would rise to take charge because he had a much more levelheaded and practical temperament than his friends who tended to get carried away at times.

Jamie had a few girlfriends in high school, nothing terribly serious. His senior year he met a girl from a nearby school named Erin Price. Jamie fell in love with Erin and the two dated for over a year. Unfortunately the relationship did not last, as senior year was when the band was just starting to take off, and Jamie's rapid immersion into the world of mega stardom tore the couple apart eventually. Jamie would never admit this to anyone but Nick, but there is a tiny part of him that will always regret the mistakes he made that drove Erin away.

With the band quickly on the rise, Jamie decided to postpone college in order to focus on his music career. This decision had the added bonus of infuriating Ellen. With money starting to come in, Jamie began to save up. Once he had saved enough, he moved out of the house after a particularly heated argument with Ellen over his future plans. The two would later reach an uneasy peace, but Jamie never moved back home.

Scott and Jamie served as leadership for the band, with Scott in charge and Jamie as de facto number two. Over the years Jamie maintained his close friendship with Nick and despite minor arguments and periods of tension, the two remained best friends. Of the three, Jamie was never really close to Spencer, and would find himself at odds with Spencer more often than would with the other two.

When the band got popular, Jamie hesitated to fully immerse himself into the rock star lifestyle, holding out much longer than his three band mates. However eventually the temptation became too great and he fully embraced a lifestyle of drinking, partying, and hooking up. Like his friends he came to indulge himself so much that the music began to suffer. The songs that he and Scott recorded for their second album were sloppy and cliché. The awful reviews for the album served as a wake up call for Jamie, and he began to eschew having fun and tried to convince the band to get serious about the music again. His party days serve as a constant source of regret for him, because more than the others, he felt a deeply personal connection to their music and he really wanted to be taken seriously as an artist.

Jamie felt completely surprised and betrayed when they discovered the real Scott Pulley. However this was nothing compared to the sense of betrayal he felt when Nick and Spencer resisted his attempts to keep the band together, choosing instead the easy option of cashing in and retiring early. Jamie would try to join a couple other bands after the disintegration of *Green Pieces*, however these bands either broke up or kicked Jamie out because he was a controversial figure. Jamie began

working on a solo album in this time, but his heart really wasn't in it because he no longer found music to be fun. He found it difficult to find work, and money began to run low as time went on. Eventually he decided to sell the song catalog because it served as nothing more than a painful reminder of the fact that he had once accomplished his dream, and then let it slip away. Likewise, contact with his band mates reminded him of what he had lost.

He likes to read, but is not as well read as he would like to be. He enjoys movies, especially gangster films and comedies. He is an amateur graphic designer and tried to find work in this field a few times, however his skill set could only be described as mediocre. He is a photographer by hobby and is actually pretty talented.

Jamie has a diverse and varied taste in music. Some of his biggest influences include Paul Simon, Nirvana, Bob Dylan, Michael Angelou, CKY, Black Sabbath, Boston, Styx, The Ramones, The Offspring, The Doors, Elvis Costello, Dio, Guns and Roses, Fall Out Boy, and Oasis.

NICK PENTERRO

Nick Penterro is a 26 year old Caucasian male. He is Italian American by descent and his family has a strong roman catholic background, one he does not really share.

He grew up in a family almost as equally dysfunctional as Jamie's. Nick has three brothers. He is the second youngest. Growing up Nick always had to compete with his brothers for everything, including attention from their parents. This constant need to be a squeaky wheel and receive validation through attention became a characteristic that would stick with him throughout his life.

Some of Nick's Uncles and Cousins were involved in a local crime syndicate, and though his parents made a half hearted attempt to shield him from this life style, he grew up around the shady underbelly of Miami. At a young age, some of his older cousins would take him along with them when they stole cars or broke into homes. Nick never participated in the criminal activity as more than an onlooker.

Nick is a very loyal friend. He will go the distance to help a friend in need without hesitation. To Nick, friends and family come first always.

Nick was never very intelligent. He is not stupid by any means. If he is passionate about something, he will become very knowledgeable about it. However in terms of traditional schooling, he just never really had a knack for or an interest in it. He also lacks a good degree of common sense and impulse control. Nick has a slightly obsessive nature, when he finds something he likes; he tends to fully immerse himself in it. He had never touched a guitar before Jamie told him that he wanted to start a band. However once he began playing and found that he enjoyed it, he devoted an enormous amount of time to learning to play it and learning about music

in general. Similarly he became knowledgeable and/or skilled in the fields of tattoos, martial arts, extreme sports, bartending, and auto repair.

Nick constantly craves attention and validation both from the people he knows and from complete strangers. This can lead him to make short sighted and dumb decisions. It also makes him easy to manipulate. He doesn't have many skills, but he is fearless to a degree. He began a career on the side of the band as an amateur daredevil. Often times his stunts would end badly and he would end up in the hospital. This led to a hatred of traditional medicine and whenever possible Nick will eschew doctors in favor of alternative healers.

When the band became popular, Nick was the first to fully embrace the rock star lifestyle and get lost in it. Nick did back up vocals for some of the songs, but has a very limited vocal range. He was always very close with Jamie and Spencer, but he never really liked Scott that much. He and Scott would clash often.

Although Nick is fearless when it comes to his own personal safety, he does a few major fears. Nick doesn't want to hurt anyone, but fears he is capable of it given his family background. He feels like he could easily fall into a criminal lifestyle, as he doesn't really care about taking advantage of people who he is not close with. He does not want this to happen. However when he quickly blows through his savings after the band breaks up, he eventually finds himself with no choice other than to join his cousin as a bank robber.

Nick has never really had a serious relationship and has so far had no problems with this fact.

When the band broke up, Nick made many efforts to stay close to Jamie, but Jamie resisted. Eventually Nick gave up. Following the band's break up, Nick appeared as a contestant on a number of reality tv shows but all of them failed relatively soon after they began airing.

Nick likes tattoos, bartending, martial arts, extreme sports, super hero comic books, and cartoons. He dislikes reading and playing video games. He hates traveling outside of the US. Nick is a smoker and has tried to quit on several occasions.

His musical influences include Nirvana, Oasis, Guns and Roses, Judas Priest, The Clash, The Who, Sum 41, Iron Maiden, Billy Idol, Metallica, Black Sabbath, Jimi Hendrix, and ACDC.

SPENCER FREE

Spencer Free is a 25 year old Caucasian male. Spencer was an only child who was constantly doted upon by his indulgent Jewish parents. He started playing the

drums in the school band when he was twelve years old. Later that year his parents bought him his very own drum set.

Spencer was the best drummer at Jamie's high school. Spencer was the last member to join the band. Originally he was in a very popular band at the guys' high school called *Glass Submarine*. When this band broke up after a huge fight, Jamie made a concentrated effort to recruit Spencer. Spencer held out for awhile though secretly he did want to join *Green Pieces*. He liked the attention of being courted.

Spencer craves attention almost as much as Nick, however whereas Nick wants attention because he rarely had it, Spencer wants attention because he always had it. Spencer will go to great lengths to get attention, however he is not as flamboyant or desperate about it as Nick. Spencer is far more subtle and can be very manipulative at times.

Spencer was always the second most popular member of the band, right after Scott, much to Nick's dismay. Especially among female friends, Spencer had a very devoted following. He has a slightly feminine demeanor, leading some to mistake him for being gay.

Shortly after the band's first international tour, Spencer began a relationship with british pop sensation Star Hollis. Both of them are very dramatic in nature so they tend to fight and break up often only to reunite in grand gestures of romance and

passion. Nick and Jamie don't like Star very much, and are constantly annoyed with how much unnecessary complications she brings into their lives. It is almost impossible to figure out how many times Spencer and Star have broken up and gotten back together over the years. Spencer and Star are not always faithful to each other.

Spencer was always closest with Scott and Nick. However he and Nick were prone to vicious arguments at times. A year after their first album dropped, Spencer and Nick got into an argument so great that Spencer actually quit the band for a period of three weeks. He was later persuaded to return by Scott and Jamie. Spencer and Jamie were never particularly close, partially because Spencer recognized how much Jamie disliked Star.

Following the band's break up, Spencer lived most comfortably of the three. Between money from his parents, and from Star he enjoyed a close semblance of the lifestyle he had been used to. Additionally he retained a degree of fame from being Star's trophy boy friend. However with Star on tour most of the time, he began to grow restless and bored.

Spencer is very well read. He enjoys reading, playing video games, watching action movies, going to concerts, and playing board games. He has a knack for foreign languages and studies French for fun.

Spencer is the self styled entrepreneur of the group. He is always looking for new business opportunities to invest in. Some of them are his own, some of them are the idea of his eccentric inventor Uncle. Some of Spencer's past business ventures have included a night club that is extremely exclusive in that it is located in the middle of Miami's worst neighborhood and only the bravest of Miami's elite will go there, and a combination doughnut shop strip club. He has also tried several failed ventures into the world of fashion design.

Spencer's musical influences include The Beatles, The Zombies, Coheed and Cambria, Simon and Garfunkle, Rush, The Who, The Police, Fall Out Boy, Van Halen, Incubus, Sonic Youth, Pink Floyd, and British Sea Power.

AUGUST CARMICHAEL

August Carmichael is a 16 year old Caucasian female. August is the daughter of Ellen and a research scientist that Ellen had a brief torrid affair with, making her Jamie's half sister. August never met her father, and she has always been very curious about his identity.

August grew up under circumstances very similar to Jamie's childhood. August was more inclined and interested to study science which meant that she had a slightly better relationship with Ellen than did Jamie, however many of the same tensions

remained. Ellen still took a much too analytical and clinical approach to parenting, and was often absent due to her work on numerous research projects.

August secretly worshipped her big brother although she was never very close with him. She admired the way he spoke up against their mother saying all the things she could never quite bring herself to express. She was devastated when Jamie moved out and left to pursue his music career. Part of her has always resented him for leaving her behind, because even though there was a massive age gap between them, she still loved the family presence he brought to her life.

August craves attention much to the same degree that Nick and Spencer do, given that her father was never in her life, her mother was often occupied with work, and her brother abandoned her at a young age.

Like Jamie, August found it a struggle to hold onto friends growing up as her mother often alienated those that she came into contact with. However she was able to make a few close lasting friends.

August is a bright and pretty girl. She would probably be very popular if it weren't for the fact that her upbringing has made her a bit socially awkward. Always highly studious in elementary and grade school, August has begun to rebel in high school. She is searching for her own identity separate from her mother's expectations.

August is a skilled pianist, although her mother frowns upon this at times because she is worried that August will follow in her brother's footsteps, eschewing higher education in favor of a career in the arts.

August like biking, lacrosse, science, reading, dance, action movies and she is a big fan of musical theater.

August's musical influences include Radiohead, Incubus, Green Day, The Foo Fighters, The Dispatch, Interpol, The Killers, The Rolling Stones, The All American Rejects, and Oasis.

ELLEN CARMICHAEL

Ellen Carmichael is a forty something Caucasian female. She is Jamie and August's mother. Ellen always had a problem with normal interaction. She was very stern and serious most of the time. She was entirely focused on her career as a research scientist. Some would even describe her as cold. Then she met David and fell in love. David was her polar opposite in every way, but as they say, opposites attract. The pair worked well together and were married the year following their meeting.

They had Jamie after two years of marriage. Unfortunately, tragedy struck when David died of a brain aneurysm when Jamie was only two years old. Ellen was devastated. David's death caused her to retreat inward and become even more stern, serious, and in adept at social interaction than she had been before. She had always counted on David being there to nurture Jamie. Without him to support her the role of parenting scared her senseless. This caused her to approach the job from the only standpoint she was comfortable with, that of a scientist. This created a very awkward and frustrating dynamic between her and Jamie that would result in a number of issues and a very estranged relationship between them.

Ellen realized she was not adept as a parent and would retreat into her research whenever she felt overwhelmed by her failures. When Jamie was ten years old, she had a brief torrid affair with a fellow researcher which resulted in the birth of August. Although she did a slightly better job raising August, many of the same tensions exist in their relationship.

MICKEY BELLEM

Mickey Bellem is a forty something Caucasian male. Mickey was the assistant of the band's first manager Dana Donner. While Mickey means well and tries to be helpful he is very incompetent. Mickey loves the guys and wants to do right by them. They are the first real clients he has had for a long, long time. His successes in managing the band give him the courage to out himself as a transvestite.

THE PLAN

Season 1 Overview.

The Pilot puts Jamie, Nick, and Spencer back into each other's lives and into a position where they want to make another go at having a successful music career. While their set at August's party is a success, this performance is not indicative of how the general public will respond to the band's return. In order to return to their former lives, the guys are going to have to overcome a great deal of apathy from one section of the listening public and a great deal of animosity from the other. They also need to relearn how to function as friends and a band. None of these things is an easy process that will happen overnight. They will learn that you can't just start over. Second chances mean hard work and lots of patience.

The Pilot also featured Jamie reconnecting with his blood family, most notably in August coming to live with him. Over the course of the first season, Jamie realizes that he really threw his sister under the bus when he left her to fend alone against the mother with whom he had so many personal problems. Having never been very close to his sister before, and her having some resentment towards him, it will take him time to connect and establish that familial relationship. Jamie is also not used to having to take on the role of a positive male role model and parent figure. This is something he will constantly struggle with throughout the course of the series and the first season especially.

Midway through the season, Ellen will return home with a new husband and a new attitude. She becomes intent on making amends with her children and becoming a real family. Jamie and August are hesitant to accept this personality shift, and the building of their relationship will take a great deal of time.

Season 1 follows the band as they begin their first steps on the arduous journey back to stardom. That means bringing back their support personnel including their new manager, Mickey Bellem, roadies, Paul, and finding a concert guitarist, Don Thrash. Shortly after the pilot, we will also meet the infamous Star Hollis as she is a major influence on the band as a whole, especially Spencer. The primary focus will be on Jamie as he steps into the unfamiliar role as front man and leader. This is a role he will grow into as the series progresses.

Much of their time will be spent trying to reestablish themselves among the Miami music and social scene. Jamie's primary concern is writing and recording a new album that redeems the band's last album. Spencer and Nick see this as a priority but they also are eager to return to their status as party boy rock stars. This will serve as a frequent source of tension among the group. The band will try to book shows to garner fan support, however they have a great deal of trouble booking respectable venues. It is only in the season finale when they finally are able to line up a respectable show, nowhere near what they used to have but the best they find to date.

Over the course of the first season, we will learn more about the band's history through Paul's narration, and as events in the present are heavily influenced by those in the past. Most notably here we will see, Star's history with the guys, some of the more outrageous incidents from their time as famous rock stars, and some insight into who Scott Pulley was and what his crimes were.

The season ends with the guys playing a small but successful show. Jamie and August reach a new level of understanding and acceptance in their relationship. Jamie makes the drunken mistake of sleeping with Star, jeopardizing the band's unity, while simultaneously, Scott escapes from prison.

Rough Episode Breakdown

Pilot: Narration by Paul, *Worst Case Scenario's* Senior Roadie, gives a brief history of the band and the major characters. This includes Jamie's tense relationship with his overly analytical scientist mother, the band's rise to stardom and their eventual fall after their lead singer Scott was arrested for acts of Eco-Terrorism.

In the present, a broke Jamie Carmichael is looking to sell the band's song catalog in order to find the money to stay in his Condo. He finds a buyer and then approaches his former band mates. This is the first time he has spoken to them in years.

Spencer Free is bored out of his mind and is very excited to see Jamie. He

reluctantly agrees to the sale, but insists on accompanying Jamie to his estranged younger sister's birthday party, as Spencer just really wants to get out of the house. Simultaneously, Jamie's estranged best friend and former guitarist Nick has realized that if he does not rejoin the band, he will be forced into a life of crime, which he is not very skilled at.

Jamie and Spencer arrive at August's party and Jamie realizes that she is miserable because their stern and socially awkward mother has once again failed to understand how to provide the support her children need. She has thrown August a really lame party. Things get even worse when the band, the one bright spot, can't go on stage. It is at this point when Nick arrives, and Jamie asks the guys to fill in as the band. After playing a successful set for August and her friends, the guys decide they want to officially restart the band.

Jamie is moving out of his condo when his mother calls to inform him that she is in Brussels doing research and that August will be staying with him for the foreseeable future.

End.

Episode 2: Paul's narration lends further insight into Jamie's relationship with his mother. When Jamie was young he discovered he liked singing. He would often sing as he went about everyday tasks. Around this time his mother was doing a research

study to determine why some people can't tell that their voice are annoying. When Jamie caught his mother secretly videotaping him, he thought she had added him to the study, as she had frequently in the past, and became too self conscious to ever sing again.

In the present, Jamie having moved out of his condo is now living in his mother's house with his younger sister August. Tension is developing between the pair as Jamie is chaffing against having to provide for someone other than himself, and curtailing his usual lifestyle. August is dealing with abandonment issues from her mother leaving for Brussels indefinitely, and is resistant to Jamie just walzing back into her life, especially when he doesn't seem to be happy about it.

The band meets and decides that they need to find a singer. Nick protests saying that he is willing to sing, but Jamie and Spencer deny him, given that his limited vocal range, while good for singing back up, will not be enough to carry the band going forward. Spencer decides to take charge of finding a replacement singer. Shortly thereafter, Nick finds it difficult to leave his life of crime behind, as his gang insists he knows too much to just walk away.

Jamie reaches his breaking point with playing the doting big brother and decides that the best solution would be to enroll August in boarding school. He sets up an interview without her knowledge and brings her there right after school. August is furious and makes up ridiculous lies in the interview to ensure she will not be

chosen. Jamie is outraged but August tells him that he is just as bad as their mother and storms off leaving Jamie stunned.

Spencer auditions potential new singers. Each one is creepier than the last.

Nick tries to figure out something really shaming that he can give to his crew to hold over his head as leverage in exchange for releasing him from the gang. Jamie returns home to find Nick there and he relates his fight with August. They go out looking for her and eventually find her at a shady abandoned building which serves as a skatepark/teen hang out (One of Jamie's old haunts). August is being hit on by a creepy skater punk. Jamie and Nick tell him to get lost. Jamie apologizes to August and tells her that he does want her around, and that he forgets that he never really had a family growing up except for the band, and that maybe they can be her family too.

They go to leave but are stopped by the creepy skater punk who has returned with a large group of his friends. All of them are underage and looking for a fight. Some are carrying blades. Jamie and Nick are unsure of what to do. Suddenly Nick's crew appears and beats the crap out of the kids. They then take video of Nick miming assaulting the minors, leave with the tape telling Nick they are even.

Back at the house, Spencer informs them that he was unsuccessful in finding a singer. August suggests that Jamie be their singer because he has an amazing voice.

The others realize that they have never heard him sing. Jamie insists he does not, but August counters by showing them the collection of tapes his mother had kept, not as research, but as prized memories of her son's talent. The band jams quickly with Jamie singing and he is quickly instated as the band's new front man.

Paul closes the episode with narration about how we don't always consider how our actions are perceived by others, and the importance of trying to empathize.

End.

Episode 3: The guys are working on writing new music. Jamie is becoming increasingly frustrated because Spencer won't focus, and is instead trying to pick out a new name for the band. Just as Jamie is about to explode, the guys are surprised by Star Hollis who has returned home from her tour. While Spencer and Star enjoy a disgustingly passionate reunion, Jamie expresses his concerns to Nick that now Spencer will be useless to them as he is always extra distracted when Star is around. Nick expresses his hatred of Star and wishes there was a way they could get Star out of the picture. Jamie notices that Star seems to be especially friendly with her new bodyguard.

At school, August is lamenting that her biggest crush, Connor Lark, is dating her rival Samantha King, and that Connor thinks of August as nothing more than a friend.

August's best friend tells her that she needs to do something to make Connor

jealous. Right then she runs into Nick who has been frequenting the high school cafeteria. After Nick's old crew beat up the skater punks, they have come to fear him so much that they offer him their lunches now, which is good seeing as Nick is very poor. Connor approaches August asking if she wants to come with him and Samantha to the carnival that night. She responds yes but only if Nick can come, she then lies telling Connor that Nick is her boyfriend who is in college.

Jamie accepts an invitation to go out with Spencer, Star, and Star's entourage. They go shopping and then out for dinner. The whole time, Jamie tries to interrogate the body guard and discover whether or not he and Star are having an affair. He is unable to discover anything concrete but vows to keep trying.

At the Fairgrounds, Nick is having a good time hanging out with August and her friends. He has no idea that August is telling the others that they are dating. Throughout the evening the girls goad the boys into a series of increasingly ridiculous challenges that culminates in an overly intense bumper car match.

Star announces that she is late for rehearsal. She and the bodyguard leave. Jamie and Spencer return home. Spencer keeps remarking on how odd it is that Star would schedule a rehearsal so soon after her return. He and Jamie pop in a movie, *The Matrix*, but Spencer quickly falls asleep. Jamie leaves and books it to Star's rehearsal space. Star uses a very Lady Gagaesque fashion for her shows, so Jamie is able to move around undetected backstage by posing as a back up dancer. He finds

Star and the bodyguard dancing very closely. He takes a cell phone picture, and anonymously texts it to Spencer. He tries to leave when one of the choreographers grabs him and drags him into the dance routine practice.

August, Nick and her friends are going through the tunnel of love. Connor and Samantha start making out. August tries to kiss Nick. This startles and disturbs him so much that he exits the gondola and wades out of the ride through the entrance passing couple after couple.

Jamie extricates himself from the dance line and goes to make his mistake. He is about to exit when the bodyguard stops him, telling him that Jamie has something that belongs to him. Jamie tries to make an excuse, but the bodyguard interrupts him, kissing him passionately. Jamie pulls away shocked. At this moment Star enters and is startled to find Jamie there. Jamie confronts her and admits he was spying on her because he thought she was cheating on Spencer with the bodyguard. Star remarks that is ridiculous because the bodyguard is obviously gay, in fact he is not only her bodyguard, but her choreographer which is what Jamie saw earlier. Star frantically asks Jamie if he mentioned his suspicions to Spencer. She is terrified when he tells her about the text. She tells him that She and Spencer have cheated on each other before. Many times. There is so little trust left between them that Spencer will probably leave her if he even suspects her of cheating. She asks Jamie why he would do that to which he responds that Star was acting suspicious, not wanting to be around Spencer. She responds that she knew how important getting

the band back together was to Spencer and the guys and didn't want to be a distraction at such a crucial time. She breaks down crying. Jamie tells her there is no time. The two book it for Spencer's house.

Nick catches up to August on the Ferris Wheel and apologizes for how he reacted, August apologizes for lying to him, using him, and trying to kiss him. She watches Connor from a distance, he is standing outside the girls restroom. Nick tells her that it gets easier with time, and not to give up. She responds that she thinks it's hopeless and that Connor and Samantha are probably going to have sex later. Nick responds that they wouldn't tonight, as once he figured out why August was upset and how much of a bitch Samantha was, he had purposely thrown up all over her. A mortified and outraged Samantha exits the bathroom, Connor can't help but laugh at her.

Jamie and Star arrive home just as the movie is ending and Spencer is waking up. Groggily Spencer reaches for his cell phone, Jamie lunges across the room, grabs it, and whips at the wall smashing it to smithereens. Spencer asks him why he did that and Jamie responds that the movie inspired him to free himself of slavery to technology, he then painfully takes out his own cell phone, and Ipod and wrecks them. Spencer accepts this explanation and has a nice moment with Star.

The next day at school, August is hanging out with her friends in the cafeteria. Connor and Samantha are making out at a nearby table. Her friends ask her if she

wants to move. August responds that she is fine, as she thinks she is over her crush and has moved on. In the background she has focused her gaze on Nick who is extorting a lunch from the skater punks.

Jamie finds Star and apologizes for his behavior. The two agree that they both care about Spencer and promise to work to try and put aside their differences. They part ways with Star muttering “prick” and Jamie muttering “bitch.”

End.

Episode 4: When the guys find it impossible to even book open mic nights, they realize that they need to hire a manager. Jamie goes to great lengths to avoid hiring Mickey Bellem, their old manager who although is well intentioned is also highly incompetent. In the end Jamie realizes that Mickey deserves a second chance too, as he is the only person who is willing to give the band a chance and take them on as a client.

Episode 5: August is getting into trouble at school, leading her principle to suspect that she has an unstable environment at home, suspicions, which are worsened when he discovers her mother is out of the country and she is under the care of her rock star brother. Social services is called, and Jamie asks the others not to get involved as it will only make things worse. Star and Nick do not listen to him and

both come up with their own plans to fool the Social Services worker by posing as a normal, loving, supportive family, with Star pretending to be Jamie's fiancé. Things get more complicated when Spencer arrives at the house whacked out on pain pills.

Episode 6: Looking to reestablish themselves as part of the Miami social scene, Nick and Spencer want to throw a killer party. Jamie is against this because Gunther Von Hagen, the man he was going to sell their song catalog to has launched a smear campaign against the band in retaliation for backing out of their business deal. He tells them that they need to lay low, and even if they didn't they don't have the money to throw any kind of party. Jamie then starts to search for a PR specialist with Mickey to combat the smear campaign. Meanwhile, ignoring Jamie's pleas to lay low, Spencer and Nick examine the band's holdings, and realize that although he is in prison, Scott still retains ownership to a fully staffed beach condo. They decide to hold the party there. Nick and Spencer go to the house and discover that shortly before his arrest, Scott had broken three Jaguars out of the zoo and unable to coordinate their release into the wild, had been paying his staff to take care of them. Nick and Spencer accidentally release the Jaguars into the city. Jamie finds a PR specialist he likes. Actually he finds one he likes a lot and ends up asking her out on a date. However it's been a long time since Jamie has been on a date and he is excessively awkward. Meanwhile Nick, Spencer, and August try to hunt down and recapture the Jaguars.

Episode ?: A flashback episode reveals the events that led to the band's schism.

Scott was set to receive a humanitarian award from a local environmental group.

Nick and Spencer were sick of him hogging the spotlight and decided to boycott the ceremony and subsequent concert they were set to perform. Jamie wanted to play the concert because he felt it would help the band regain good will after the release of an album which Rolling Stone called "The Worst Sophomore Slump of All Time."

Eventually he convinces the guys to stand by Scott. Unfortunately this was the night that the FBI arrested Scott and all his band mates were very publically arrested to and hauled in for questioning.

Episode ?: The guys get a gig playing at August's Winter Formal. Nick sleeps with a woman who he believes is a teacher. She later tells him she is 17 and begins blackmailing him. In reality she is 19.

Episode ?: Ellen returns from Europe with a new husband who is younger than Jamie. She wants to be a better mother and reconnect with her children. Jamie immediately plans to move out. August is torn.

Episode ?: The guys get a gig playing at a renaissance fair. Jamie is becoming fed up with Nick's constant attention seeking behavior as it is distracting from the new music they are trying to write. They resolve their differences by jousting.

Season Finale: The guys finally line up a respectable show. Things are also looking up for Jamie as he has finally lined up a real date with the PR Specialist he has been pursuing all season. However two days before the show, Jamie is summoned to prison to meet with Scott. Scott has learned about the bands resurgence and tells Jamie they will never succeed without him. Jamie tells him he is wrong and leaves. The day of the show arrives, and the guys couldn't be more excited. However due to an airport mix up, Jamie and Spencer end up in another part of the country and have to race against the clock to make their deadline. Nick tries to stall through his daredevil routine. August has moved back in with Mom and around this time realizes she wants to return to living with Jamie. During their trip to the show Jamie and Spencer acknowledge that there has always been tension between them. They come to a new understanding through their travels and vow to be closer. Jamie and Spencer arrive at the show. Jamie kisses the PR Specialist right before he goes on stage. The guys play a great set and are more united than ever. They have a crazy after party. Jamie wakes up the next morning to find himself in bed with Star. Scott escapes from prison.

ARC OF THE SERIES

Each season will show the slight progression of the band towards their goals. Season one focuses on them coming back together and having trouble lining up small local gigs. Season 2 will show them having more momentum but still dealing

with being polarizing figures. Season 3 will show them on tour. Season 4 will show them in a position similar to where they once were as famous rock stars and will deal with their temptation to fall back into bad habits.

LOCATION

The guys live in Miami and the show will be firmly set there. I wanted to place these characters firmly in a modern city where there is an abundance of wealthy people and young people. The different neighborhoods will add character to the world around them, and many of the places they visit will be actual Miami locations. They will go to real Miami restaurants, shopping centers, and beaches.