"SONG OF THE YEAR®"

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INT. DEVON’S HOUSE - MORNING

We see a young man that appears to be at the age of 17 getting up and getting ready for school.

His alarm goes off which wakes him up.

He gets out of bed rubbing his face, then goes in the bathroom and to take a shower.

INT. BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

He washes his face and looks in the mirror, to pop a small blemish. He jumps in the shower.

Devon starts singing in the shower to FINDING A WAY by BEFORE THEIR EYES.

DEVON
(singing)
I’m not waiting forever for this to get better. For day, I’m finding a way! To keep pushing forward. I’ve gotta be stronger! For today! I’m finding a way!

He gets out of the shower, still humming the song.

INT. DEVON’S ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

He walks into his room to get dressed. He picks out a graphic tee, a pair of skinny jeans, and white slip ons.

DEVON
Breakfast time. Yeaahh.

He walks downstairs and toward the couvertes to grab a box of TRIX cereal. He then opens the fridge for milk, attached to it is a note from his mom that reads: “I’LL be home late tonight because of work. Baby-sitter’s coming for Brighton at 8. Love You! MOM.

Devon goes over to the table and sits down, beginning to eat when his cellphone rings. His ringtone is A PROPHECY by ASKING ALEXANDRIA.

DEVON (CONT’D)
(answering phone)
Dec. What’s up?
DECLAN (V.O.)
Yo, man. You ready?

DEVON
Yeah, just grabbing some breakfast. Come on over we still got like 20 minutes before class starts.

Declan blows his car horn.

DECLAN
Hear that? I’m already here.

DEVON
(holding his ear)
I can tell. Come around front. I’ll unlock the door.

Devon goes to the front door to unlock let Declan in.

INT. FRONT DOOR - MOMENTS LATER
Devon opens the front door for his best friend DECLAN JAMES (a guy that looks about the same age of Devon, maybe a bit older).

DECLAN
What’s zup!

DEVON
(still tired)
Hey man.

DECLAN
What’s with you?

Declan enters the house closing the door behind him.

DEVON
Nothing, just really tired.

DECLAN
Tired? Dude, you should be pumped! There’s only like 4 more weeks of school, and incase you haven’t noticed this is our senior year.

DEVON
Well, if you really think about it. Its not that great.
DECLAN
The hell it isn’t. Tell me one bad thing.

DEVON
College.

Devon leads Declan into the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS
Declan and Devon sit at the table.

DECLAN
College? Oh.. You still bumming about that? Dude we’re gonna be fine. We got into the same one. UCLA. It’ll be sweet.

DEVON
That’s not it at all. It’s all the work. I hear its brutal. Like some people don’t make it through. I don’t wanna be a college drop out.

DECLAN
Why do you always think the worst possible outcomes of things? You’re gonna be fine. We’re gonna be fine. OK?

DEVON
Yeah...

DECLAN
We better get going, school starts in like 15.

DEVON
Why so early? We usually check out some YouTube before class starts.

DECLAN
I know ,but I gotta meet with the counselor about college courses. So let’s roll.

DEVON
(grabs his backpack)
Right behind you.

MUSIC UP: WEIGHTLESS by ALL TIME LOW.
EXT. SCHOOL PARKING - MORNING

The guys arrive at school.

They get out of the car and start walking toward the entrance of the school.

DECLAN
I can’t believe I let you talk me into playing that song.

DEVON
What? Its a good song. Better than that Ke$ha crap you listen to.

DECLAN
Please. Ke$ha gets you laid.

They come up to the door.

They walk in.

INT. SCHOOL - CONTINUOUS

Devon and Declan walk to their lockers, saying what’s up to several students. They are obviously very popular.

DEVON
Ha! Since when?

DECLAN
Since chicks started liking her. Duh. Get a girl in the mood. Play a little Ke$ha.
(opens door)
They practically wet themselves. Its a proven fact.

DEVON
By who?

DECLAN
Me and about 3 million men on this planet.

DEVON
The only thing that proves is that you’re an idiot. How you ever got into UCLA blows me away.

They walk over to their lockers.
DECLAN
Because dude, our parents are loaded. In case you haven’t notice we can do whatever we want.

DEVON
I have noticed, but I chose not to. I play it safe, stick to the rules. Then you’ll never have to worry about a life of crime.

DECLAN
Are you serious? Life of crime? OK. If you go to college with that speech you’ll have a problem. The best advice I can give you is to just chill.

A group of students walk up to them.

DEVON
Sup.

GROUP
Sup.

DECLAN
I’ll catch up later.
(to Devon)
Counselor. We talked about it.

Devon and the group known as “THE CROWD” an elite group of popular high school students. Start to walk into the cafeteria.

RYAN GRIFFIN, a guy from the group walks up beside Devon.

INT. CAFETERIA - CONTINUOUS

In the cafeteria we see it is packed with students, mostly separated into groups of populars, nerds, “actors” (drama kids), etc.

RYAN
Where’s Declan goin’?

DEVON
To meet with the counselor about college.

RYAN
Oh. I heard you guys got into UCLA, congrats.
DEVON
Thanks. How’s the University for Spoiled Children looking?

RYAN
Haven’t heard back yet. But, I sure I’ll get in. It’s not even my choice, though. My parents want me to go, because it’s for “rich people”. I’m more of a Stanford guy.

The two walk over to the table where the others went to sit.

DEVON
Then why don’t you tell them that?

RYAN
I’ve tried, but sometimes my old man’s hard to deal with.

DEVON
It’s your life. It should be your decision, not theirs.

JACOB BRANDON, who’s sitting at the table with ‘The Crowd’ looks over to Devon.

JACOB
Hey Devon.
   (looks at Ryan)
Ryan.

DEVON
Jacob. What’s going on?

JACOB
Nothing much, same ol’. You guys still coming over today?

DEVON
Yeah, I guess, if it’s still cool?

JACOB
Yeah, of course. I can’t thank you guys enough for letting me join The Crowd.

DEVON
No prob man, you’re cool.

JACOB
Ryan, you coming?
RYAN
Can’t. My families going up to the lake this weekend.
(looks at them blankly)
They said I have to go.

Declan walks up.

DECLAN
Sup, my ninjas.

DEVON
(laughs)
What?

DECLAN
Ninjas? You know, it sounds like I said-

DEVON
(cuts him off)
Are you still coming to Jacobs house tonight?

DECLAN
Sure. We need to start the initiation process.

DEVON
Initiation process? I thought he was already in?

JACOB
Yeah, I thought I was in?

DECLAN
Well, yeah you’re in, but you’re not in.

JACOB
What do I have to do? I’ll anything.

DECLAN
Nothing. All you have to do is nothing.

JACOB
What do you mean?
(to Devon)
What does he mean?

DEVON
I don’t know. It’s still early.
RYAN
Speaking of early. Bell’s about to ring.

DECLAN
This is bull crap, school on a Friday should be illegal.

Bell rings.

They go off to class.

INT. MATH – LATER

Devon is sitting in math class, he appears to be bored looking for a distraction.

He pokes the rather attractive brunette sitting in front on him.

DEVON
(whispering)
You know sometimes I wonder what this guy does outside of school.

GIRL #1
I know right, it seems all he does is math.

DEVON
Yeah, totally. I mean it’s like when will I ever need to use trigonometry, this is just wasting my time.

GIRL #1
I never thought about that.

DEVON
Yeah, it’s like the only time I use math is the rate girls. Like you. Can I ask you a question?

GIRL #1
I guess...

DEVON
Are you from Tennessee? Because you’re the only ten I see. Huh.

The girl turns around degusted.
DEVON (CONT’D)
(to himself)
Nice.

The bell rings to end the class.

Everybody gathers they’re things to leave.

TEACHER
(trying to speak over the noise)
Remember, class tonight’s homework, is the first 50 problems in your textbook, the school dance is next week, remember there will be an assembly on Monday. Have a good weekend.

Some guys walk up to Devon, joking about what just happened.

GUY #1
Smooth one Dev. Tennessee, gotta use that one.
(laughs)

Devon walks out of school.

INT. OUTSIDE SCHOOL – CONTINUOUS

He spots Declan and Jacob and goes over to them.

DEVON
(downed tone)
Hey guys.

JACOB
What’s with you?

DEVON
Oh nothing, just that I dropped the ball with one of the hottest girls in school.

DECLAN
Ha! What did you say?

DEVON
(mocking himself)
Are you from Tennessee?

DECLAN
You didn’t!? 
DEVON
Yep, It gets worse.
(continues mocking)
Because you’re the only ten I see.

Ryan and Declan both laugh.

DEVON (CONT’D)
Come on guys. It’s not funny.

JACOB
It kinda is, but can’t be all bad, considering you were in math and all.

DECLAN
You should have played Ke$ha. I told you.

JACOB
Who listen’s to Ke$ha?

DECLAN
God! This again!

Declan gets into his car.

DEVON
It’s his insane theory about Ke$ha getting you chicks.

Declan blows his horn.

DECLAN
Let’s go!

Devon and Ryan get into the car.

DECLAN (CONT’D)
Where are we going?

JACOB
My house.

Devon reaches for the radio, but Declan slaps his hand.

DECLAN
(slowly)
Don’t touch the radio.
(normal)
I will select a song.

He puts on BORN THIS WAY by LADY GAGA.
INT. DECLAN’S CAR OUTSIDE OF JACOB’S HOUSE - LATER

The guys are traveling to Jacob’s.

JACOB
Yeah, down this street, then the next house on your right.

The guys pull up to the house.

DECLAN
(astonished)
Holy-

They see this huge mansion like home of Jacob.

DEVON
You gotta be kidding...

JACOB
Yep. This is the place.

They get out of the car.

JACOB (CONT’D)
You guys like?

DECLAN
Like? I love it.

DEVON
You never told us your parents were... You know... rich.

DECLAN
Yeah, way to keep secrets, Jacob.

JACOB
Yeah, well. My dad had an insane job.

They go up to the front door, which Jacob unlocks.

INT. JACOB’S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

They walk in.
DEVON
Declan, this house is more awesome
then mine and your houses combined.

DECLAN
I know. Jacob, wanna trade?

JACOB
Not really. You guys wanna look
around.

DECLAN
Wouldn’t that take all day.

JACOB
Exaggerate much? No, never has
taken me more then a hour, but if
you need it.

Jacob reaches for a map from the holder next to the front
door.

JACOB (CONT’D)
Here’s a map.

DEVON
Map? God, this is sweet.

JACOB
You guys thirsty?

DECLAN
Whatcha got?

They walk into kitchen.

Devon and Declan are still looking around amazed.

JACOB
Umm. Mountain Dew, Gatorade,
Powerade. Same thing pretty much.
Coke, Diet Coke, Coke Zero-

DEVON
Same thing.

JACOB
Yeah. Bottled water, and that’s
about it. Oh and there’s some
Screaming Eagle, but that’s for my
parents.

DEVON
Gatorade’s good.
DECLAN
Yeah, me too. Powerade just ripped them off.

Jacob gives them their drinks.

JACOB
For you and you.

DECLAN
Thanks.

DEVON
Thanks.

JACOB
So you guys ready?

DEVON
Yep.

DECLAN
Ready.

INT. TOUR - MOMENTS LATER

Jacob gives them a tour of the house.

MUSIC UP: BLACKOUT by BREATHE CAROLINA.

- They enter a dark theater room.

Jacob turns on the lights.

Devon and Declan look amazed.

We can see it’s complete with a couple of rows of recliner like seats, huge popcorn maker and other snacks, a huge TV mounted on the wall, and posters of some of the greatest movies of all time.

DECLAN
Seriously!??!

DEVON
No way. I know what I’m getting for Christmas.

DECLAN
No kidding.
My dad doesn’t really allow people in here, only for like movies, football, WWE, and UFC. Shall we continue?

- Next, they enter a room fulled with high end computers.

And this is my bro’s CPU room.

CPU room?

(sighs)

Yeah, he’s kinda computer nerd. You’ll see what I mean later.

- After that they enter, a game room with PS3’s XBOX 360’s, a pool table, foosball, Retro games, etc.

No way, bro.

Yes way.

This is insane.

(looks at the two)

Quick game?

You know it.

They play STREET FIGHTER X TEKKEN, Devon is being beat pretty bad by Jacob, Declan snatches the controller from Devon, and creams Jacob.

Crap!

Owned!
They all get up and chest bump.

12 INT. BACKYARD - CONTINUOUS

- Finally, they head outside to the backyard, where there is a enormous swimming pool, a tennis court, garden, greenroom, etc.

  DECLAN
  Come on.

  JACOB
  Yep.

  DEVON

13 INT. JACOB’S ROOM - LATER

The guys go into Jacob’s room after the tour.

  JACOB
  And last but not least. My room.

  DEVON
  Sick.

  DECLAN
  Insane.
  (looks at his watch)
  And it only took 56 minutes.

Devon and Declan start walking around the room.

Devon goes over to a poster of Green Day.

  DEVON
  Cool. You into Green Day?

  JACOB
  Somewhat. That poster is mainly for show.

  DECLAN
  How can a person not be into Green Day? What are you into then?

  JACOB
  Mainly the old stuff. You know like Black Sabbath, Metallica, The Beatles, stuff like that.
DEVON
You have good taste, my friend.

DECLAN
Yeah he does.

JACOB
Thanks. You know when I told you that my dad had an awesome job earlier? Well, he used to manage Foo Fighters.

DEVON
Are you serious?

JACOB
Yep.

DECLAN
That’s freakin’ incredible.

DEVON
You are defiantly my new favorite person.

DECLAN
(hits Devon)
What about me?

DEVON
Hey Lady Ke$ha, when you’re dad manages one of the best bands in history, we’ll talk.

Declan continues to look around the room and see a guitar.

DECLAN
(points to guitar)
You play?

JACOB
Yeah, a little.

DEVON
What songs?

JACOB
A little this and that. Really too many to name.

DEVON
You know Never Too Late?
JACOB
By Three Day’s Grace?

DEVON
That’s the one.

Devon tosses he the guitar.

DEVON (CONT’D)
Strum a bit.

Jacob starts playing the song.

Devon and Declan exchange looks, Declan stops Jacob from playing.

DECLAN
Wait!

JACOB
What? I know I’m a little rusty but I haven’t play--

DECLAN
Not that. Quite the opposite my friend. Your guitar playing abilities are superb.

Jacob puts down the guitar.

JACOB
Thanks man, I try but--

DECLAN
Not finished, here me out guys; This might be the most cliche I’ve ever said but. We should start a band.

DEVON
What?

JACOB
Damn, that was cliche.

DECLAN
Come on guys think about it. This is what happens in the movies. Devon you sing, Jacob you play guitar, and I play guitar and sing.

DEVON
Yeah, that sounds awesome, but--
JACOB
Devon, he does have a point.

DEVON
Yeah, I know, but you haven’t known him for as long as I have. He always comes up with these get “get rich quick” schemes that never turn out right. God, sometimes it feels like I’m in an Ed, Edd, n’ Eddy episode.

Declan grabs Devon’s shoulder to reassure him.

DECLAN
Devon, dude this is going to work out, trust me. How could this possibly screw up?

JACOB
Come on dude. Say yes.

DEVON
I still don’t know.

Declan gives up.

DECLAN
Fine. I’ll sing then, it--

DEVON
(quickly)
No, no. I’ll do it!

JACOB
Yes!

DECLAN
Thatta boy! Now, well start tomorrow with practice.

DEVON
Where?

JACOB
We can do it here. This place is so big that no one around will hear.

Declan, slaps his hand.

DECLAN
Perfect! OK, I’ll text Blaine and Ryan with the dets.

(MORE)
DEMAND (CONT'D)
We sir might have ourselves one
hell of a rock band.

INT. JACOB’S GARAGE - NEXT DAY

The guys gather into Jacob’s garage for practice all except Devon who hasn’t arrived yet.

We see Ryan, on the keyboard. BLAINE CARTER, on the bass guitar. Jacob on the drums, and Declan walking around with a guitar around his neck.

DECLAN
Where is he? I’m about to bust a nut!

Ryan speaks up.

RYAN
Will you relax, he’s coming.

Devon finally comes bursting in.

DEVON
I’m here! I’m here!

Declan angrily rushes over.

DECLAN
Where have you been?

DEVON
Home, I told you I had to babysit my little bro and his friend today.

DECLAN
Yeah, well you’re still late.

DEVON
Yeah, well who the hell calls for practice at 10:00 am?

DECLAN
Rockstars?

DEVON
Whatever.

Devon looks over at everyone.

DEVON (CONT’D)
Sup guys? So what song are we doing?
There is a silent while they think.

DECLAN
The one thing that we didn’t think of.

DEVON
How about... Hands Down? Dashboard Confessional?

Blaine looks around.

BLAINE
You guys know that one.

JACOB
Sure, where do you want us to pick up?

DEVON
Chorus.

They start playing HANDS DOWN BY DASHBOARD CONFESSIONAL.

DEVON (CONT’D)
My hopes are so high,
That your kiss might kill me.
So won't you kill me,
So I die happy.
My heart is yours to fill or burst,
To break or bury,
Or wear as jewelry,
Whichever you prefer.

The words are hushed lets not get busted;
Just lay entwined here,
undiscovered.
Safe from the hour and all the stupid questions
"Hey did you get some?"
Man, that is so dumb.
Stay quiet, stay near, stay close they can't hear
So we can get some.
My hopes are so high,
That your kiss might kill me.
So won't you kill me,
So I die happy.

(MORE)
DEVON (CONT’D)
My heart is yours to fill or burst,
To break or bury,
Or wear as jewelry,
Whichever you prefer.

They end the song.

RYAN
That. Was. Awesome!

DEVON
I know, Ryan, bro that twist you put in there was sick!

DECLAN
We all played great.

DEVON
(jokingly)
Uh.. Not you bro, you were kinda late on the..

Declan looks down.

DEVON (CONT’D)
I’m kidding dude, you were hot.
That was amazing.

DECLAN
I knew you were joking, I’m never late. Anyway what song should we do next?

BLAINE
Sick Puppies, Riptide?

They get set to play, we just hear the instrumental.

15 INT. SCIENCE - NEXT DAY

Devon is sitting in a science lab, with his lab partner, pouring chemicals into beakers.

SCIENCE TEACHER
Now class, if you’ve done the experiment right, you should now have achieve the unique aroma of lemon pound cake.
DEVON
You smell it?

His partner smells the chemicals. And shakes his head no.

DEVON (CONT’D)
Yeah me neither, maybe we need to
add more--

He is interrupted by the school bell to end class.

SCIENCE TEACHER
Have a good day. Remember to clear
your work areas for the next class.

Devon helps clear his work area and begins for the door, he
is greeted my LUCAS POWERS, a guy around the same age as
Devon there is visible tension between the two.

LUCAS
Hey, Devon wait up.

DEVON
What’s up Lucas.

Devon continues walking out into the hall.

LUCAS
I hear you and Declan started a
band with Blaine, Ryan, and Jacob.

They continue to walk over to Devon’s locker.

DEVON
Yeah, well we only had one
practice. I’d hardly call us a
“band.”

LUCAS
So you’re saying you’re not good.

DEVON
No, I’m saying that we don’t know
each other well yet as a band. So
there you go.

LUCAS
Well that’s too bad. Because there
is a battle of the band this
Friday, the school’s sponsoring it
and the winner gets to play the
prom this year.
DEVON
(thinking to himself)
Uh huh.

Lucas gives Devon a flyer.

LUCAS
Here take it. Talk it over with your group of losers. Oh, I mean band mates, they might be interested.

Devon figures something is up but receives the flyer.

DEVON
Why are you giving me this?

LUCAS
Well if you’re as good as you say you are then we could use the competition this year.

DEVON
(mockingly)
Thanks.

LUCAS
Don’t ever say I didn’t do anything nice for ya.

INT. DECLAN’S ROOM - LATER

Devon and Declan are sitting planning songs for their next practice.

DECLAN
Now, I think we should really start practicing songs that everyone knows. Stuff like 30 Seconds to Mars, Fall out Boy, Papa Roach you get me. But we also need to start writing original songs.

Devon gets the flyer out of his pocket and tosses it down.

DECLAN (CONT’D)
What’s this?

DEVON
A flyer.

DECLAN
For what?
Declan picks up the flyer and reads it.

DECLAN (CONT’D)
Battle of the bands. Dude this is sweet we have to sign up.

DEVON
Really?

DECLAN
Of course, I think we’re ready we’ve had 5 pract--

DEVON
Declan.

DECLAN
1 practice. But, we’re really good. We can win this.

DEVON
He called us losers.

DECLAN
He what? Who is he? And why did he call us losers?

DEVON
Lucas.

Declan begins walking around the room.

DECLAN
Lucas, huh? So he’s still butt hurt over the fact that we kicked him out of The Crowd huh? You what we’re doing this. We are going to prove to him that we don’t need him, we never did. WE are winning the battle of the bands.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD - FRIDAY

We see the high school football stadium packed to the rim with students, adults, and every type of person you could imagine. All hyped, all going crazy, waiting for the current band on stage to finish which is Lucas’ band.

EXT. BEHIND THE STAGE - CONTINUOUS

Declan tries to pep the band up before going on.
DECLAN
Alright guys this is it. This is what we worked our butts off for. Tonight is ours. We own it. Let’s make the last 7 practices matter.

All agree in unison.

DECLAN (CONT’D)
No matter who wins or loses. We make sure we kick the snot out of Lucas and band of nerds.

He extends his hands.

DECLAN (CONT’D)
Pound it.

They do a “knuckle touch.”

We hear Principal Victoria over the speakers.

EXT. ON STAGE - CONTINUOUS

PRINCIPAL VICTORIA
Let’s give it up for an incredible performance by Disco Set Fire To The Rain. It’s going to be pretty tough to top them, we should probably call it here.

LUCAS
That wouldn’t be fair to the other social outcasts-- Oh, I mean fellow competitors. Sorry got a slight sudden case of tourettes.

PRINCIPAL VICTORIA
Oh, Lucas you’re so brave and modest. Let’s hear it again for Lucas!

The crowd mildly cheers.

PRINCIPAL VICTORIA (CONT’D)
Now on to our last band of the night.

She looks down, but she doesn’t see a name for them.

PRINCIPAL VICTORIA (CONT’D)
Let’s give it up for the... The...
Who cares! Just get out here!
Camera zooms in on Declan.

DECLAN
Let’s rock.

Devon, Declan, Ryan, Jacob, and Blaine take the stage.

Lucas’ band Disco Set Fire To The Rain backstage.

LUCAS
There’s no way these losers will top our performance. It’s in the bag.

The guitarist steps up.

MATT
I don’t know Luc. I’ve heard they are pretty good and--

LUCAS
(calmly)

The band is preparing to play.

DEVON
How we feeling to night, baby yeah.

A fat guy with his shirt off and his chest painted to represent school colors (baby blue, white, and yellow) stands up and shouts.

FAT GUY
(yelling)
We feel good! We feel good! Gooyah!

He chest bumps with a fellow jock and knocks him down.

FAT GUY (CONT’D)
Oh, sorry bro.
DEVON
OK. I guess we’ll start now.

The song that they chose was DON’T WALK AWAY by SICK PUPPIES.

DEVON (CONT’D)
(singing)
I'm feeling so afraid
'Cause everything that I do lately
Makes you angry
I've never been so ashamed
It really felt like you and me were
Getting better
I hope that you still want me
I hope it's not too late
Don't walk away
And leave me without a reason
When there's too much to say
That hasn't been said
I know I was wrong
And I'm sorry for making the same
mistakes
Don't walk away
Can you really throw away

All the times that we've recovered
One another
And I know I make it hard
But how long should I pay for being
Unappealing
I know you want to want me
I see it in your eyes
Don't walk away
And leave me without a reason
When there's too much to say
That hasn't been said
I know I was wrong
And I'm sorry for making the same
mistakes
Don't walk away

The band finishes up the song.

DECLAN
(singing)
It felt like you and me were
going better.

The stadium erupts from the performance.

Principal Victoria walks on stage.
What a performance. Am I right? Now, it’s time to chose the winner. We will judge by the amount of cheers or boos from the crowd.

The crowd cheers.

Principal Victoria looks down at her card.

Hearts Uninspired.

The cheers mildly.

Masked in Romance.

We see an “emo” style punk rock band dressed in black.

The crowd boos, someone even throws a tomato at the lead singer. Who just stands unaffected.

(almost under her breath) And my personal favorite.
(normal) Disco Set Fire To The Rain.

The crowd erupts, mostly the women in the crowd cheering for Lucas.

And last, but not least.

(under his breath but loud enough so Declan can hear) Even though some would beg to differ.

Declan gives him a snarl look.

These guys.

The crowd erupts once more, but this time its more guys and girls.

Principal Victoria looks surprised.
PRINCIPAL VICTORIA (CONT’D)
OK looks like we have a tie. Between Disco Set Fire To The Rain and again. These guys.

DEVON
(to Declan)
We done everything except come up with a name.

Declan is smiling like an idiot.

DECLAN
 stil smiling
Just keep smiling and no one will notice.

PRINCIPAL VICTORIA
Let’s hear once more for Disco Set Fire To The Rain!

The crowd cheers, slightly less than before.

Lucas becomes irate and grabs a mic.

LUCAS
Come on you idiots! Cheer! We are clearly the best, better than all you low lives. Maybe if you people weren’t stuffing your fat ugly faces you’d be able to cheer louder.

The crowd boos.

Lucas storms off stage, his band follows.

Principal Victoria still stunned, announces the winner.

PRINCIPAL VICTORIA
Well, after that outburst. The winner and the band that gets to play at our prom this year...

She still tries to figure out the name.

Devon grabs the mic.

DEVON
We’re Present Day.

The crowd goes wild. We see a sea of people waving blue, white, and yellow towels and flag. Chants of “Present Day” ring through the stadium.
INT. DEVON’S KITCHEN - LATER THAT NIGHT

The guys are hanging out at Devon’s house after battle of the bands.

We can see they are having shakes, pizza, and burgers.

DEVON
OK, how awesome were we?

All the guys talk at once with their mouth still full.

DEVON (CONT’D)
Ryan dude, I can’t put you over enough. I was a fan of the keyboard, now I’m a huge fan.

RYAN
Thanks man.

DEVON
Imagine what we could do, dubstep, sythpop, etc.

DECLAN
That’s great, I think our next practice we should really focus on an original sound. It’s getting kinda boring doing covers all the time.

BLAINE
Agreed.

Devon reaches for his backpack.

DEVON
Well I was working on a song. A ballad. I don’t know if it’s good though, but I guess we could try it.

JACOB
Totally.

DECLAN
Yeah Dev, let’s hear it.

Devon clears his voice to begin to sing.

DEVON
OK--

He is interrupted by his mom who comes in holding the phone.
MOM
Sorry to interrupt fellas, but Devon there is a man on the phone for you.

DEVON
(sarcastically)
For me? I wonder who it is?

JACOB
Probably Lucas, complaining about not winning.

RYAN
He probably wants to join.

DECLAN
Yeah, Devon, don’t let him.

Devon walks out of the kitchen.

DEVON (O.S.)
I got it.

We hear Devon’s mom in the background asking about what happened at the battle.

MOM
I heard you guys were...

INT. DEVON’S ROOM - CONTINUOUS
Devon goes up to his room to receive the call.

DEVON
(answering the phone)
Hello?

TED FIELD
To whom am I speaking with?

DEVON
Devon. Devon Pattynson.

INTERCUT
TED FIELD
Well, Devon. My name is Ted Field.

DEVON
Wait a minute. The, Ted Field?
TED FIELD
That’s the one. I just spoke with your mother. I have some very good news. Are you sitting down?

27 INTERCUT

DEVON
Should I be?

TED FIELD
I would if I were you.

DEVON
OK, I’m sitting... I guess.

TED FIELD
Well, I just watched your bands performance. At your school’s battle of the bands. I’m impressed.

28 INTERCUT

Devon gets up for a second.

DEVON
Are you serious Mr. Field. Were you in the crowd?

TED FIELD
No. It’s all over YouTube. You didn’t know that?

29 INTERCUT

Devon sits back down to his computer.

DEVON
No, sir we just got back in the house.

(typing)
Hold on. Let. Me. Check... Got it.

We see a YouTube version of Present Day’s performance, from a fan point of view. It appears to have well over 24,000 views.

DEVON (CONT’D)
24,000 views! That’s not possible!

TED FIELD
It is kid. If you’re good.
DEVON
Mr. Field can you hold on for a minute?

30  INTERCUT

TED FIELD
Sure, but make it fast kid.

31  INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS
The runs down stairs the show the rest the video.

DEVON
Guys! Guys! You have to check this out.

Devon pulls up the video.

DECLAN
Dude, that’s the battle of the bands! How did it get put up so fast?!?

RYAN
Check out the hits!

BLAINE
24,000?!?

DEVON
Yep.

MOM
Congratulations boys! Oh and Devon who called for you?

DEVON
Who it was the-- Crap!

Devon picks up to phone quickly.

DEVON (CONT’D)
I’m so sorry Mr. Field. I totally forgot-

Devon takes the call into the other room.

The guys in the background mouth the words “Field”.
INT. PHONE CALL - CONTINUOUS

Devon continues his conversation with Ted Field.

32  INTERCUT

TED FIELD
It’s quite alright. It seems everyone is pretty excited and they should be. Are the rest of your band members there with you?

DEVON
Yes, sir.

TED FIELD
Well, here’s the good news I promised you. I will be attending your school’s prom next Saturday. While I’m there I will be watching you all very closely to see how you connect with your smaller group of peers, and how you connect as a band.

33  INTERCUT

Devon drops his pizza.

DEVON
That’s awesome!

TED FIELD
Yes. And if you impress me the same way you done tonight. I’ll fly you all out to New York to negotiate a recording contract.

34  INTERCUT

DEVON
Wow, this is happening really fast. Thank you Mr. Field that’s so generous.

TED FIELD
No problem kid. I see great potential in Present Day. Oh and Devon.
35. INTERCUT

TED FIELD
Call me Ted. Mr. Field doesn’t hit the ear right.

DEVON
You got it, Mist- I mean Ted.

TED FIELD
You see less tension already. That is until you make me angry. I’m putting my name and a lot of money into this so don’t disappoint me. See you Saturday.

36. END INTERCUT

37. INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Devon prepares to tell the guys about the prom.

DEVON
OK, guys. I have something to tell you.

RYAN
What?

DEVON
That was the president of Interscope Records-

All look astonished.

DECLAN
Interscope? Records? That’s awesome! What did he-

(beat)

Wait.

DEVON
What?

DECLAN
That wasn’t Interscope Records.
DEVON
OK, then who was it?

DECLAN
Lucas.

JACOB
What? Come on. You think Lucas would sink that low just to get back at us.

DECLAN
It’s not a low. It’s an all time high. We need to find a way to get back at him. He can’t get away with this.

RYAN
Right.

Declan, Ryan, and Jacob start talking over a plan for Lucas.

DEVON
I just check the caller ID. Area code. Not from here.

The guys stop and look embarrassed.

DECLAN
Oh. Right. I knew that.

DEVON
No you didn’t.

JACOB
So...

DEVON
Oh right. Yeah, he wants to come to the prom-

DECLAN
Oh sorry bro, I don’t swing that way.

DEVON
(sighs)
Not as a date Declan. He wants to come watch us perform.

RYAN
Awesome.
DEVON
Exactly. And if we kill it like we
did tonight. He’s flying us to New
York, to “negotiate”.

DECLAN
Negotiate what?

All give him a face palm.

DECLAN (CONT’D)
Oh, a contract. Again I knew that.
Dramatic effect.

DEVON
More like the idiot effect.

Declan grabs the can of whipped topping and squirts it into
his mouth.

DECLAN
(mouth still full)
So what song are we going to play?

BLAINE
Yeah, we need to decide cover or
original.

DEVON
Well since the Interscope Records
are going to be there, we need to
perform an original.

All agree.

DECLAN
But, lets not go all out. Just
enough. Leave something to the
imagination.

INT. PROM - SATURDAY

In the LaruenBrooks High School Gym, we see hundreds of kids
dressed in typical prom appropriate clothing.

INT. BACKSTAGE - CONTINUOUS

The band is backstage getting ready.

We see DEVON, in skinny white tuxedo, in order to stand out
as the lead singer.
DEVON
(to Declan)
How do I look?

DECLAN
Great bro. How about me?

DEVON
Good. You think we got the song down?

Declan goes over to the curtains and looks into the sea of people.

DECLAN
We, better because if Google Images didn’t fail... That’s our guy right there.

Declan points to a man Ted Field, sitting with a group of men in suits, and a couple of body guards.

DEVON
Gee. You really needed Google to figure out that’s Ted?

DECLAN
Mr. Field.

DEVON
Well, he wants me to call him “Ted” that is until I piss him off.

Principal Victoria comes from behind.

PRINCIPAL VICTORIA
Are you boys ready?

DECLAN
Ready as we’ll ever be.

PRINCIPAL VICTORIA
Keep it appropriate fellas.

DECLAN
We’ll try.

Devon hits Declan on his shoulder.

Principal Victoria rolls her eyes and proceeds onto the stage.
INT. PROM STAGE - CONTINUOUS

PRINCIPAL VICTORIA
Ladies and gentlemen. It is with
great honor that I present to you.
Local icons made over night. Lauren
Springs very own... Present Day!

LUCAS starts off the cheer with a boo. He is ignored by the
eruption of cheers and applause.

Ted Field looks impressed at the reaction the band draws.

MAN #1
Mr. Field, are you sir these boys
are worth our time. I mean they are
"Internet stars".

TED FIELD
Do you know how many stars are made
on the internet?

MAN #1
Yes, but sir they only have one-

TED FIELD
Just trust me. They won’t let me
down.

INT. PROM PERFORMANCE - CONTINUOUS

Present Day appears on stage.

Devon appears nervous, but takes a few short breaths.

DEVON
How we doing promers? Prom people?
Whatever you want to call it. But
hey, you didn’t come to see me do
my Adam Sandler impression. Get it?
He’s not funny.

The crowd doesn’t respond.

DEVON (CONT’D)

Any way, are you ready for some
Present Day!! Baby yeah! Kick it
Jacob!

Jacob begins to play the double bass.

Ryan starts in with the keyboard.
Then, Blaine and Declan come in with guitars.

DEVON (CONT’D)
Its been a long time since we've talked
and I think about where we should be
but I know that you're thinkin'
and I know that I'm still waitin'
for you to say.

That Finally its over
man it been taken
way to long to tell you to
Please remember me, but

Finally its over
and I'm getting better
day after day till I think whether
maybe it was me. And
I've got nothing else to lose.

The song ends and they receive a standing ovation.

Devon looks over to Ted Field who has already left. He looks down.

He goes backstage.

INT. PROM BACKSTAGE – CONTINUOUS

Devon is greeted backstage with the principal, his band mates, and others.

DECLAN
Well? Did it look like he liked it?

DEVON
(sighs)
He left.

He goes over to a nearby table and throws his blazer onto it.

BLAINE
What do you mean he left?

DEVON
Blaine, I don’t know how else to explain. We all practiced for nothing.
PRINCIPAL VICTORIA
You didn’t practice for nothing, you just made about a thousand kids happy.

DECLAN
(sits beside Devon)
Yeah, but did they have a million dollar contract on the line.

They both hand they’re heads.

INT. DEVON’S ROOM - MONDAY
Devon is asleep, when he hears a loud horn outside.
He immediately jumps to his feet, remembering it’s a school day.
He randomly grabs his clothes and showers himself in AXE bodyspray.

EXT. OUTSIDE - CONTINUOUS
We see Declan outside blasting his horn.
Devon comes running out of the house still putting on his belt, spitting out mouth wash.

INT. DECLAN’S CAR - CONTINUOUS
Devon hops in the car.
Declan begins to laugh.

DEVON
(annoyed)
What?

DECLAN
Who dressed you this morning? Your mom?

Devon looks down at his shirt and sighs.

DEVON
Just drive.

DECLAN
You’re still bummed about Interscope, huh?
DEVON
No, we have 3 minutes till class starts. I suggest we start heading there now!

DECLAN
Fine.

They drive off.

INT. ENGLISH - LATER

Devon and Jacob are sitting in History bored out of their minds.

Jacob begins to slouch in his seat.

Devon looks over at the clock, and down at his paper to which he has barely written anything done.

DONNA MORGAN, English teacher, looks very young for her age, and dresses to fit the description, begins to wrap up the class.

MRS. MORGAN
Alright, the bell’s about to ring in about 3 minutes so for tonight’s homework I want all you to prepare a graduation speech. I will select one from this class to read at the ceremony, I feel that there is a lot of creative minds here.

She looks over at Devon who’s has his head on his desk.

She walks over to him.

MRS. MORGAN (CONT’D)
Devon? Devon!

She picks up a book to slam on the desk to wake up him up.

There is a knock on the door.

She proceeds to answer it.

MRS. MORGAN (CONT’D)
Yes?

Here is inaudible speaking between her and the gentlemen dressed in black shades and a suit.

He points the Devon.
There is more conversation between them.

MRS. MORGAN (CONT’D)
Jacob? Could you come here please?

Jacob goes over and begins to talk with the two.

MRS. MORGAN (CONT’D)
(to the man wearing black)
Well, if you could wake him up.

JACOB
Sorry, he had a rough weekend.

He and the man walk over to Devon to walk him up.

JACOB (CONT’D)
Devon. Devon, come on buddy get up.

The man sits up Devon, he gets his cell phone out of his pocket. He calls him.

Devon’s cell phone begins to ring, his ringtone is WHEN I GROW UP by THE PUSSY CAT DOLLS.

The class laughs, it wakes up Devon.

DEVON
(still half asleep)
What’s up guys?

He realizes his phone is ringing.

DEVON (CONT’D)
Crap! I thought I changed it last night.

He answers it.

DEVON (CONT’D)
(into the phone)
Hello?

MRS. MORGAN
Devon.

DEVON
(to Mrs. Morgan)
Hold on Mrs. Morgan. Don’t you think that’s a little rude?

She sighs.
DEVON (CONT’D)
Now as you were saying.

MAN #2
Mr. Pattynson, you need to come with me.

Devon realizes the man he is speaking with is in front of him.

DEVON
(looking up still speaking into the phone)
Why? I didn’t do anything.

MAN #2
Please stand up.

DEVON
(into the phone)
No, I feel like sitting. And why are we still talking-

Devon hands up.

Man #2 signals in 2 more men that are wearing the same suits.

One grabs Devon, the other Jacob. The man that grabs Devon puts him onto his shoulders.

The boys are carried out.

EXT. SCHOOL PARKING - CONTINUOUS

The men take Devon and Jacob out to the school parking lot.

DEVON
Come on, bro. What did I do? If this is about Declan James, I assure you I don’t know nor do I associate with such person-

The man puts down Devon.

MAN #2
Shut up.

JACOB
What’s this about?

MAN #1
You shut up too.
Devon and Jacob look at each other.

We now hear the voices of Declan, Ryan, and Blaine all confused.

DECLAN
Dude? What are you doing?

RYAN
Declan, you ass. What did you do!?!?

DECLAN
I didn’t do anything! Let me go!

Declan breaks free and punches the man that’s holding in the nose.

DECLAN (CONT’D)
(realizing what he just done)
I’m so sorry bro.

The man, DEREK, runs over to Declan, MAN #1 stops him.

DEREK
You better be glad! I just got this done!

MAN #1, who we now know is PHIL motions the boys over to a van.

PHIL
Get in.

DEVON
We are not getting in that thing. You just can’t kidnap us from school-

PHIL
Grab them.

They all the guys and literally throws them into the van. The van speeds off.

EXT. IN FRONT OF DEVON’S HOUSE – CONTINUOUS

The pulls to a stop in front of Devon’s house and the men get of and take Devon, Ryan, Declan, Blaine, and Jacob into the house.
DEVON
Did you break into my house!?! I still don’t know who you are, but I promise you will be prosecuted at the fullest-

DEREK
Shut your mouth boy.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

They open the front door and they shove the group in.

Inside we see Devon’s mom in the living room having coffee and chatting with Ted Field.

Devon doesn’t see Ted though.

DEVON
Mom! Did you know these idiots-

Derek is about to punch Devon.

DEREK
Hey!

DEVON
(standing by what he said)
Idiots, kidnapped us from school?

MOM
Devon calm down, look who’s here.

Devon looks over and finally notices Ted.

DEVON
(surprised)
Mr... Mr. Field?

Ted gets up.

TED FIELD
How’s it going Devon?

DEVON
I’ve been... I’ve been, better.

TED FIELD
Your mom told me you have been “under the weather”.
DEVON
(mouths)
Mom?

She shrugs her shoulders.

TED FIELD
Well, I think I might be able to change that. How would you boys like to accompany me to New York? To negotiate a recording contract.

The boys slap hands.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
Well, there won’t be much negotiating you’ll pretty much take what I give you.

He laughs.

The guards elbow the band to make them laugh. They do so.

Ted walks over to the door.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
We leave tonight, boys. I’ll have a limo come to get each of you. Till them, take care.

He and the men walk out the door.

Derek punches Declan in the stomach, and proceeds out the door.

DECLAN
(in pain)
Wicked strength on that guy.

DEVON
Try telling that to his nose.

EXT. WALKING TO THE JET - LATER

The band (Devon, Declan, Jacob, Blaine, and Ryan) walk with Ted Field and his several body guards to his private jet in slow motion.

MUSIC UP: PARADISE by COLDPLAY (INSTRUMENTAL)
The guys are heading to New York.

The jet ride appears to be a blast as Ted is having a drink and chatting with Devon. Ryan, Declan, Blaine, and Jacob are sitting in the gaming part of the jet playing to XBOX 360.

TED FIELD
Devon don’t you want to be with your friends. Really I don’t mind, go have fun.

DEVON
Are you kidding? I’m sitting here with the Ted Field. The CEO of the biggest record company in the world. A business man.

TED FIELD
I’m flattered Devon, honesty. I really like you and the band. You have exactly the face, and the mind set we’re looking for. Matter of fact...

Ted reaches for his briefcase. He pulls out a large binder, in it Present Day’s contract.

He pulls out the table from the wall and sets the papers on top of it.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
Why waste time, let’s get down to business. The faster we get this signed, the faster we get you in the studio.

Devon looks nervous, as he’s never dealt with “real” business endeavors before.

DEVON
(shaky)
O. O. K.

Ted, puts down the pen.

TED FIELD
Devon, you can’t carry yourself this way. Weak. You have to put me on notice that you want this contract.
DEVON
You want me to beg?

TED FIELD
Not necessarily. I want you to prove to me that you are strong enough to handle what the world might throw at you. Just because I say you’re good, the rest of the world might not give a damn.

Devon starts looking down, thinking.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
Word of advice Devon, we’ll eat you alive.

Devon looks up.

DEVON
I’m ready.

TED FIELD
Then prove it. Sign it, but don’t just sign it. Sign like you mean it, sign it like a man.

He gets the pen and is about to sign the deal when he thinks to himself.

DEVON
(smiling slightly)
I wanna read it over with my band mates first.

TED FIELD
Sure.

DEVON
But, just know, before hand. Full creative control.

TED FIELD
Wouldn’t expect anything less.

Devon gets up from the table and walks toward the gaming compartment. He turns back.

DEVON
I see what you did there Teddy.
Word of advice, nothing gets over me. I’ll eat you alive.

He turns and walk away.
TED FIELD  
(laughs to himself)  
Damn kid.

INT. CONTRACT REVIEW - CONTINUOUS

Devon enters the compartment, and closes the door.

DECLAN
What’s up, Dev.

Ryan looks down.

RYAN
What’s that?

DEVON
Good news guys, contract!

All look shocked.

DECLAN
What? Now, what about New York?

Devon sits down at a table in the room.

DEVON
He wants to get us in the studio as soon as we land. The contract’s basically a formality for now.

Devon looks over to Jacob.

DEVON (CONT’D)
Jacob, I want you to read over this, I have slight headache, so I can’t comprehend much right now.

Jacob, gets up and comes over to read the recording deal.

JACOB
Got it.

DECLAN
You did tell him we get full creative control, right?

DEVON
Yep, he agreed, but I wonder why he’s giving us so much leeway this early on.
Declan, goes over to the fridge and grabs a can of Coke. Devon signals for one, Declan tosses him one.

DECLAN
Because, no knows, we’re gonna make him a lot of money. Get it?

DEVON
Yeah, he plans on plastering our names all over everything milk, cereal, socks, shoes, bread.

Devon points to Declan’s hair.

DEVON (CONT’D)
Hair gel. You know the works.

DECLAN
Ah, yes, this is why I love this business, you get more than what you give it to it. We’re like the modern day Madonna. Plus.

JACOB (O.S.)
Guys?

DEVON
What’s up.

JACOB
Everything looks good, but the rights and the pay. When we sign this he owns the rights the all Present Day merch, CD, digital, and commercial sells. On top of that, he owns our names, our literal names for the next 15 years. Are you sure we want to do that?

Devon looks at each member.

DEVON
Guys? You wanna go through with it, or tell him to go eat a sandwich.

They all think.

DECLAN
Well, guys?

BLAINE
We would be selling out...
DEVON
I think we should do it.

JACOB
Me too.

DECLAN
I’m in.

RYAN
(resistant)
So am I.

They look at Blaine.

DEVON
Well Blaine? We can’t do it without you. If you don’t want to then we’ll just forget it.

DECLAN
We’re all the members of the same team.

Blaine thinks for a second and sighs.

BLAINE
(resistant)
Let’s do it.

They all sign the contract.

DECLAN
Let’s rock.

DEVON
Really? How cliche, didn’t you already say that.

DECLAN
Hey, you try thinking of a clever transition.

They all head toward the main compartment where Ted is.

Devon thinks to himself.

DECLAN (CONT’D)
See, it’s hard, isn’t it?

DEVON
Yeah, props given.
DECLAN
Props, accepted.

EXT. INTERSCOPE RECORDS - NEW YORK - EVENING
Present Day finally arrive at Interscope Records.
They head inside.

INT. INSIDE THE BUILDING - CONTINUOUS
MUSIC UP: WRITTEN IN THE STARS by TINIE TEMPAH (CHORUS)
The group walk in the building, as there are panoramic views of the office.
The band looks on amazes as Ted and his body guards walk on to his office.
They finally get there, we can see his office is very nice.

TED FIELD
Go on boys have a seat.
Declan eyes an coffee machine.

DECLAN
(to Ted)
May it?

TED FIELD
Go ahead, you boys are welcome too.
They get up and go over to the machine.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
Hold on, you guys are apart of this company now, we’ll have the interns to bring you some of the best coffee in New York.
He buzzes one of the interns.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
Nicole, yes. This is Mr. Field.

NICOLE (O.S.)
How are you today sir?
TED FIELD
I’m fine. I just signed the 5 hottest commodities in the music business. Speaking of them, they want coffee, so get them the best you can find. And they need in under 5 minutes. Don’t keep us waiting.

He buzzes out.

BLAINE
You think she’ll be able to find some that fast.

TED FIELD
She better.

The guys look surprised.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
Now, you guys will be in the studio for the rest of the evening. We already have lyrics down there, make it work to your favor. But have it ready for me tomorrow, I have NIKE lined up ready to close a deal for a commercial at 2. Sound good?

The guys now look excited.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
I thought so, very impressed with you boys, you’ll make me proud.

NICOLE, young girl, blonde, about the same age as the band, bursts into the room holding a tray of 6 gourmet coffees.

She sits them on the desk.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
Ah, and in under 5 minutes. That’s why you’re my favorite.

Nicole who is clearly exhausted, lights up.

NICOLE
(smiles)
Really?

TED FIELD
Correct.

(beat)

(MORE)
TED FIELD (CONT'D)
Because, you haven’t upset me...
Yet.
(beat)
Boys, Nicole. Nicole, Devon,
Declan, Ryan, Blaine, and Jacob.
Present Day.

NICOLE
Nice to meet you.

The band waves, all except Declan who winks.

TED FIELD
Glad you all like each other,
Nicole will be in assistance to you
for the remainder of the evening.
No need to call her either, she’ll
be in studio with you.

Nicole looks slightly annoyed.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
Derek here, will show you to the
studio, if you need anything life
or death, Devon you know my cell
and personal numbers. I’m going
home rest up for the big day
tomorrow. Good luck.

INT. STUDIO - MOMENTS LATER

We see a large studio, complete with couches, soda machines,
snacks of all sorts, games, video games systems, and a HUGE
television.

NICOLE
And here we are.

The boys look astonished.

DECLAN
Am I in heaven?

DEVON
Nope.

DECLAN
But, I’m close. I do get to spend
an entire evening with
(looks to Nicole)
You.

Nicole blushes.
ETHAN
(clears throat to get attention)
Hello? Forget about me?

NICOLE
Oh, this is Ethan Foster. He’s the producer here.

ETHAN
How you guys doing?

DEVON
Good man, great to be here.

ETHAN
Love to hear that, you wouldn’t believe some of the artist I have to deal with from time to time. Huge fan of your performance at your school’s battle.

DECLAN
Thanks man, we try.

ETHAN
Mr. Field sent down some lyrics this afternoon, you guys ready.

JACOB
Ready as we’re going get.

BLAINE
So what do you wanna record first?

ETHAN
Vocals. It’ll give us a good grounding point for the instrumental. So Devon if you don’t mind stepping in the recording booth, the faster we get this done the faster we can get home.

Devon walks into the recording booth.

INT. INSIDE THE RECORDING BOOTH – CONTINUOUS
Devon get inside and looks around.
He picks up the headphones.
INT. OUTSIDE - CONTINUOUS

Ethan gets the mic.

ETHAN
OK, Devon if you’ll look down you’ll see the lyric sheet.

DEVON (O.S.)
Got it.

ETHAN
Alright, when you’re ready just sing into the mic. Sing whatever works.

INT. INSIDE THE RECORDING BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

Devon reads over the lyrics for a minute and begins to sing.

DEVON
(singing)
Burning all away
In front of my demons
now. I can see,
and I'm crashing to the floor.
I don't wanna think
that I'm
pushing myself to hard,
its just that I've finally had
enough
of the old me.

INT. COMPLETED SONG - LATER THAT NIGHT

The group is sitting down listening to the completed product.

ETHAN
(spins around in his chair)
So? Guys? How is it?

DEVON
I like it.

DECLAN
Like, this is the best song we’ve ever done.

BLAINE
It’s the only song we’ve ever done.
All laugh.

DECLAN
You get my point.

ETHAN
This should be enough to get you guys over for the next 3 months or so. Then, we’ll start working on your first album. Any ideas?

DEVON
I’ve been working on this song “Give Me a Clue.”
(looks around)
Name not final. But, if you want to hear it, I think it could be the single of the album.

Ethan points to the booth.

ETHAN
Let’s get it done.

INT. INSIDE THE RECORDING BOOTH – CONTINUOUS

Devon gets the headphones.

DEVON
I’ll start from the chorus, is that cool?

ETHAN
Whatever makes you happy.

DEVON
OK.

He thinks for a minute.

DEVON (CONT’D)
(singing)
Just forget about the love
And forget about today
Just live for the moment
Of our shining day
And I'll forget about the weakness
But I've lost my head (to you)
You know its true
And we're probably threw
But please
Just give me a clue.
Ethan and the others think over the song.

ETHAN
I really like the chorus, it’s catchy.
(to the others)
What do you think?

DECLAN
I think it’s good. It’s a solid first single.

ETHAN
Agreed. How soon do you guys want to lay it down? It’s 10:30 now, so?
All nighter?

DEVON
Sure. I-

He looks to Nicole’s face she looks happy, but is still clearly tired.

DEVON (CONT’D)
Ah, I think we can get it done.
But, I think we should let Nicole off. It’s late.

Devon leaves the recording booth.

NICOLE
No, I’m fine. Seriously.

DECLAN
No, you’re not, you’re tired. Go home, and we’ll pickup where we left off tomorrow.

Nicole blushes again.

NICOLE
Alright, you guys are right. See you tomorrow.

She starts for the door.

DECLAN
Wait, you forgot something.

Nicole pats herself.
NICOLE
What?

DECLAN
This.

Declan walk toward her, and kisses her on the cheek.

DECLAN (CONT’D)
Get some rest.
(winks)

ETHAN
(makes fun of Declan)
Now, that our little love scene is over. Let’s get to work fellas!

Declan grabs his guitar and heads for the booth.
The is inaudible speaking as the camera fades out.

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

INT. HOTEL SUITE – NEXT MORNING

We see Declan, Jacob, Ryan, and Blaine all passed out in their individual bedrooms within the hotel suite.

We finally see Devon, who unlike the others simply laid across his bed (horizontal) and still clothed.

He stirs a little, rubs his face and wakes up. He glances over to clock which reads; 12:34. He jumps up.

DEVON
We’re gonna be late!

He runs outside his door into the hall.

INT. HALLWAY – CONTINUOUS

Devon runs into the hall banging on each door, yelling “Get up we’re gonna be late!”

MUSIC UP: HERE TO SHOW THE WORLD by DOWNSTRAIT
INT. KITCHEN (SUITE) - MOMENTS LATER

Devon is shown throwing on his shoes the label sent over (NIKE) as he tries to scarf down a candy bar.

The others start running in.

BLAINE
How much time do we have?

DEVON
(looks at this watch)
About 20 minutes. I’ve already looked down, the SUV’s here. So that’ll give us an extra-
(beat)
Where’s Declan.

Declan runs in.

DECLAN
Here, I’m here.

His shirt’s on backwards.

JACOB
Your shirt’s on backwards.

DECLAN
(looks down)
Well forgive me for not dressing classy.

They here a door close.

Devon is gone.

DECLAN (CONT’D)
(as he turns his shirt around)
There better now? What was that?

The other’s are gone as well.

He looks over and sees the door is open, he runs out the suite closing the door behind him.

EXT. OUTSIDE INTERSCOPE RECORDS - MOMENTS LATER

Present Day arrives at the record label.

The driver opens the door and they rush into the building.
The guys rush into the building, but Declan goes to the front desk.

DECLAN
Hey, excuse me. What is the quickest way to Ted Field’s office?

The receptionist, a women, looks up.

RECEPTIONIST
Uh, I don’t know... Maybe the elevator.

DECLAN
(smiles a little)
I knew that.

He runs into the elevator where the rest are waiting, the door is about to shut, but he catches it.

The band finally get into Ted’s office.

Nicole comes out, she is crying. Declan goes over to her.

She brushes by him.

DECLAN
(yelling)
Nicole! Nicole!

She gets into the elevator and goes down.

DEVON
I wonder what’s her problem?

Derek comes out of the office.

DEREK
Finally you’re here. Go on. Go in.

They walk in.

We see Ted shaking hands with some executives at NIKE, revealing the deal has already been closed.
TED FIELD
(looks over to see the band)
Oh look, there you are!

He goes over and puts his arms around the band.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
Paige, come over. Take a picture with me and my new money makers.

The new intern PAIGE, takes the photo.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
Boys, I’d like to introduce you to Mark Parker the President and CEO of Nike, Inc.

MARK PARKER
How you doing boys?

He goes over and shakes the hands of the band individually.

He get down to Devon lastly, looks down at his shoes.

MARK PARKER (CONT’D)
Nice shoes.

DEVON
Well, you made ‘em.

They all laugh.

MARK PARKER
I like you kid. In fact, I like you all, but I love the single you wrote from me. What’s it called?

DECLAN
You didn’t listen to it?

MARK PARKER
Of course I did. Ted just never mentioned the name.

DEVON
Broken at 21.

He looks over at Ted.

DEVON (CONT’D)
The song’s called Broken at 21.

Mark thinks to himself.
MARK PARKER
I like it. Broken at 21.
(goes over to Ted)
Imagine it Teddy. A major ad
campaign with Present Day’s name
from top to bottom, for our new
line of shoes. This has never been
done before.

He goes over to the band again.

MARK PARKER (CONT’D)
Especially for a new band. You’ve
out done yourself, after this
commercial hits airwaves. The sky’s
the limit for Present Day.

Ted walks over toward the band.

TED FIELD
Well, I did make you a promise.

MARK PARKER
You never let me down. Trust me, if
there’s anymore songs you have just
let me know. I’m sure we can strike
a deal somewhere.

Declan hits Devon.

DEVON
Well we did finish a son-

Ted steps in.

TED FIELD
Ah, Mark could I have a word with
my band for a moment.

MARK PARKER
Sure, I should be going anyway. I
have small businesses to crush.

The band doesn’t laugh.

MARK PARKER (CONT’D)
It’s a joke.

Ted laughs.

TED FIELD
(to the band, hushed tone)
Laugh!
They fake laugh.

MARK PARKER
Have a good one.

He leaves for the door.

Ted goes over to the door, and locks it.

TED FIELD
Boys take a seat.

They go over to the couch.

Ted goes to his desk.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
Let me explain something. I’m going to say it once.

He looks each member in the eye.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
All merchandise and records sales are done by me and me only. You see we here at Interscope Records, are a team and I’m the coach. Which means I can cut, promote, and end. You boys catching my drift?

They nod.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
OK, now that the dust and the grit have settled, we can move on. I have a surprise for you boys. Ethan, let me listen to your new single. It gave me an idea. So I’ve arranged for you to record a brand new single with one of the industries top star.

The guys get excited.

RYAN
That’s awesome, when?

TED FIELD
Now. You know the way to the studio. Right? Don’t keep them waiting.

The band gets up and leave the room.
TED FIELD (CONT’D)
(to Devon)
Devon, one more quick word.

Devon sits back down.

The rest of the band leaves from the studio.

DEVON

Yes?

TED FIELD

About the song you wrote. I love it.

DEVON

Really, you do?

TED FIELD

Yes, but unfortunately we can’t use it.

DEVON

Why not?

TED FIELD

Because, I don’t think it’ll appeal to the demographic we’re gunning for.

DEVON

Which one are we trying to hit?

TED FIELD


DEVON

I think this song fits that demographic nicely.

TED FIELD

I’ve been in this business for a very long time, you not so much. So I think I know a little bit more about sell records than you.

Devon looks confused.

DEVON

OK, that’s cool. But, can we get back to why you called me?

Ted sits back down at his desk.
TED FIELD
You are not to write or modify any song this label gives you. You are to preform it as instructed. Any failure to do so, will result in your contracts being immediately terminated. Do I make myself clear?

DEVON
Yes, sir.

TED FIELD
Good, now run along.

Devon gets up, slightly shocked, as he leaves he looks back at Ted who is in a call.

INT. STUDIO - LATER
Devon walks in with his head held down slightly, still processing what Ted told him.

He looks up, and sees Multi-Platinum recording artist LADY GAGA.

DEVON
(shocked, stuttering)
Lady. La- La-, Ga-.

She walks over and hugs Devon.

LADY GAGA
Lady Gaga, sweetie. Gaga.

DEVON
Lady Gaga! Huge fan, I love that one song that goes; Pa, Pa, Pa, Poke her face, Pa, Pa, Poke her face. And the other that’s like; Just dance, Gotta pee OK?, Gotta dodo. Just-

She puts her finger on his lips.

LADY GAGA
Those, aren’t my lyrics.

Declan steps in.
DECLAN
Yeah, Dev. Shut up, for a sec. Mrs. Gaga is going to be recording a song with us, little more respect OK?

DEVON
Sorry about butchering your songs, even though some would agree-

This time Jacob butts in.

JACOB
Why don’t we start OK?

Lady Gaga, walks over to the sound mixer, where lyric sheets are.

LADY GAGA
No offence to however wrote these, but these lyrics are garbage.
(reads)
Blue Hair and tattoos
The best thing ever
Its all on me to make this
Day worth meaning?

DEVON
I didn’t write that.

DECLAN
None of us did, it’s what Ted wants us to do.

Devon goes over and plants himself on the couch.

DEVON
Speaking of Ted, just had a very intuitive conversation with him.

LADY GAGA
About what?

DEVON
Ah, just to sum it, we have absolutely no say in what we do or sell. No creative control.

LADY GAGA
Well, you can’t really expect so much right now. You are just beginners.

Declan goes over and sits beside Lady Gaga.
DECLAN
I totally understand where you’re coming from, but don’t you think it’s a little miss leading to blatantly tell some one they have creative control, then not give it to them.

LADY GAGA
So, he actually said you’d have full control over your careers?

BLAINE
Yep.

LADY GAGA
And you believed him?

DEVON
Don’t laugh, we’re noobs.

Lady Gaga sits back and glances the look that are on the faces of the band.

LADY GAGA
Let me hear it.

RYAN
Hear what?

LADY GAGA
The song. The song you Devon wrote. The one you were telling me about.

DEVON
I don’t know where it is. If it’s not saved on Ethan’s PC, then Ted must have destroyed it.

JACOB
Found it.

DECLAN
Awesome, where?

JACOB
He hid the final copy. You see just clicked on-

DEVON
Enough of the geek talk, let’s hear it!
JACOB
Alright.

Jacob plays the audio file.

MUSIC UP: THIS ONE’S FOR YOU (WAIT MAYBE NOT) by PRESENT DAY

The song plays and the band and Lady Gaga exchange looks.

The song ends.

DEVON
(to Lady Gaga)
Well?

JACOB
(to Lady Gaga)
What did you think?

LADY GAGA
I like it.

The band self congratulate themselves.

LADY GAGA (CONT’D)
But... It could use a little more.
Gaga.

She gets up and goes into the studio and starts recording vocals for the song.

She finishes.

RYAN
That was great.

LADY GAGA
Really, I could do better, just testing the waters.

DECLAN
No, that was perfect.

DEVON
Sucks, no one will ever hear it though, thanks anyway. Mrs. Gaga, it’s amazing that you took the time.

LADY GAGA
Tell you what. Why don’t we release the song.
BLAINE

How?

LADY GAGA
An EP, but a single. We have the instrumental and the vocal, We’ll put them together and there, we have a hit.

DECLAN
That’s great, but if Ted finds out, we’ll be out of a contract.

LADY GAGA
Well, sometimes, in some situations you have to jump the fence a little. I know for a fact that if one person heard this then thousands will, hell maybe even millions.

Devon puts his hands on his face.

DEVON
Yeah, but if-

LADY GAGA
Look, if you don’t wanna make it a duet I’ll gladly buy it off of you.

They think for a minute.

DEVON
You know what, we’re in. Right guys?

The band agrees.

LADY GAGA
We’ll split the profits, 50 for me, 50 for you.

DEVON
But, when will we release it.

LADY GAGA
It’s up to you, really. But, the earlier the better.

JACOB
We’ll do it tonight.
LADY GAGA
Or, we could upload it now, what will tonight matter?

DEVON
We own the night.

Every looks at him confused.

DEVON (CONT’D)
Get it? That’s one of your songs.

DECLAN
Uh, Devon, you got the wrong Lady.

LADY GAGA
Yeah.

We see that Jacob has iTunes pulled up and he is currently publishing the song to the iTunes Store.

INT. TED FIELD’S OFFICE – THE NEXT DAY

The boys walk into Ted Field’s office, their personal security.

TED FIELD
I’ve got some good new boys.

The guys sit on the couch.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
I’ve booked you the biggest gig of your lives.

BLAINE
Awesome, what is it?

TED FIELD
Brace yourselves... You are opening later tonight.. For, Katy Perry!

The boys jump up with excitement.

DEVON
Dude, that is awesome!

JACOB
Katy’s so frickin’ hot, maybe I could-

The guys start talking all at once.
TED FIELD
Boys, settle down.

They sit back down.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
This isn’t about having fun. Well, it is. But, you have a job to do.
You boys will be playing your first hit Broken at 21, it officially peaked last night at number 6 on Billboard’s Top 100 chart. WE need to make it number one. Play your hearts out.

INT. DRESSING ROOM KATY PERRY CONCERT - LATER THAT NIGHT
Devon, Declan, and Jacob are getting ready for their performance.

They are going over their set, which only consists of the one song they were instructed to play.

Ryan and Blaine walk into the room.

RYAN
You won’t believe how many people are out their.

BLAINE
Are you guys nervous?

They continue over to sit with the rest.

DECLAN
Not really, we’re just going over Broken at 21, so we don’t screw it up.

Devon gets up and goes over to the snack table and pops and a M&M into his mouth.

DEVON
Yeah, I’m not feeling this song.

JACOB
What do you mean?

DEVON
C’mon guys. You know this song isn’t us. It’s them. I know I can’t be the only one here that thinks that.
BLAINE
He’s right.

DECLAN
But, what are we gonna do? If we
don’t play it, we’ll get pink
slipped.

DEVON
We’ll since we’re prepared to play
Broken, then that’s what we’re
gonna play, for tonight only. But,
before we get into my plan, I wanna
know how the song we did with Lady
Gaga is coming.

JACOB
Oh, I forgot about it. Hold I’ll
check, it’s on my account.

He grabs his iPad.

Suddenly a stage manager burst into the room.

MANAGER
Guys, Katy would like to have a
quick word with you. Is that OK?

Katy Perry comes in.

KATY
(to the manager)
Of course it’s OK.

The stage manager closes the door.

KATY (CONT’D)
How you doing, guys?

The band states that they are fine.

KATY (CONT’D)
That’s awesome. Thousand’s of
people out. I hope that doesn’t
make you too nervous.

DEVON
Nah, we got it. No prob.

KATY
Well you’re about to go on. I just
wanted to drop by to say good luck
and I’m rooting for ya!
She leaves.

The stage manager re-enters.

    MANAGER
    Alright guys, you’re on.

The band looks at each other and bro fists.

EXT. OUT ON STAGE - CONTINUOUS

Present Day, enters the arena. They take their places.

    ARENA VOICE
    Ladies Gentlemen, it is our
    pleasure to announce that you are
    in for a special guest appearance,
    by the band behind the hit single
    Broken at 21, Present Day!

The crowd mildly applauds.

They are about to start.

Devon turns his back to the crowd.

    DEVON
    (mouts to Declan)
    Flipside B.

Declan goes to each member.

    DECLAN
    (to each member)
    You’re Life Lives On!

They get set again.

Declan begins with the first guitar riff, which makes the crowd erupt.

    DEVON
    How ya doin’ everybody?!?

The crowd cheers.

    DEVON (CONT’D)
    Now, we’re not gonna be here for
    long, we don’t wanna steal you away
    from Katy Perry. But, we wanna
    conduct a little test. So without
    further ado, he a preview of our
    new say You’re Life Lives On.
    (MORE)
DE Devon (cont’d)
It’s not finished, but feel to cheer or boo as you please. We know you like Broken at 21, we hope you like this one.

The crowd continues to cheer.

The main chorus kicks in.

DE Devon (cont’d)
I really appreciate the offer for you.
But if can tell just me where it all when wrong from here.
Breath it out
Breath in
Like I know you how
But lately it really feels like life is the bullet and I’m the shield.

The songs ends.

DE Devon (cont’d)
What’d you guys think?

The crowd cheers louder.

They start chanting “We Want More”

DE Devon (cont’d)
You guys are awesome. Thank now it’s time for what you actually paid to see. Mrs. Katy Perry!

INT. BACKSTAGE CONCERT – CONTINUOUS

The band goes back stage, slapping hand at the success you the song.

Katy runs up and hugs each member of Present Day.

DE Devon
So, I take it you liked it.

KA katy
I loved it!

DE Declan
So did the crowd.
KATY
Tell me about it, listen! They’re seriously warmed up better than most people that open for me.

DEVON
Yeah, we’ll someone had to go on after The Beatles, right?

KATY
(laughs)
Aren’t you modest?

A stage manager comes up to Katy.

STAGE MANANGER
You’re on in 30 second, we need to go!

Katy resists.

KATY
Let them wait. Seriously, I could be here all night and they’d still be out there. But, I’m coming.

She turns back to the group.

KATY (CONT’D)
Listen, guys. I have to go. But, since your new song isn’t finished yet, I’d love to help you out with it.

She reaches into her bra for a pen and paper.

The guys look at each other weirdly. Except Declan, who is amazed.

KATY (CONT’D)
Here’s my personal number.

She gives it to Devon.

KATY (CONT’D)
(to Devon)
I look forward to working with you.

She turns and goes out on stage.
The guys walk in overly excited about what just happened. They are all speaking at once.

DEVON
Did you see the way she looked at me?

DECLAN
Did you see the way she pulled stuff out of her boobs!

They don’t notice Ted sitting on the couch holding Jacobs iPad. He clears his throat to get their attention.

They turn to him.

DEVON
(scared)
Mr. Field. How’s it going?

He stands up.

TED FIELD
Well, Devon, I was doing fine. I was excited to see you boys blossom into stars. Illustrating the image, that I created, yet you punks defy, and contradict my every idea. You gladly go on with what you want to do. Take tonight for instance. I laid out a perfect format for you to follow, it wasn’t hard you play the song and out you go.

He looks at Devon.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
No, you play a song that I hadn’t approved.

DEVON
But, the song got a standing ovation.

TED FIELD
Shut up! Shut the hell up! I’m sick of your excuses. I don’t give a rat’s ass if the songs you write is bought 500,000 times. Oh wait!
He looks at Jacob’s iPad.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
It has! You used my equipment to go behind my back to make money that should be mine! You’re traitors!

He sits in a nearby chair.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
Now, what are we going to do about it?

DECLAN
Well, we could give you everything we’ve made off you it.

Ted laughs.

TED FIELD
You see, Declan. That was a trick question, of course you’re going to give me every damn dime of what you owe me! I don’t care if Gaga get’s on red cent!

He gets up and looks each member in the eye.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
Do I make myself clear?

They agree.

He turns to leave, he opens the door, but turns back around.

TED FIELD (CONT’D)
Oh yeah, boys. Your bags are packed back at your penthouse with plane tickets, coach. I suggest you get out of New York. You’re fired.

He slams the door.

CUT TO BLACK

FADE IN:

75 EXT. WALKING TO CLASS UCLA - MONTHS LATER 75

Devon is shown walking to class, months later after they were let go by Intersoppe Records.

Devon walks through the court year, into the main building.
He then turns down the crowded hallway into Business Communications.

Devon takes his seat and is slapped on the back by Declan.

DECLAN
Sup man?

DEVON
Nothing much, man worried about the essay, I know we flunked it.

DECLAN
Nah, I slipped Ol’ Teach, an extra 20 to pass us. Besides, I’m sure you did fine.

The teacher comes in. He is a middle aged man, dressing in a button down shirt with khakis.

PROFESSOR ARMSTRONG
Good afternoon class. Before we begin, I’m passing back your papers on different ways to use Effective Communication to close high profile business deals.

He begins to pass the quizzes out around the room.

Declan gives a thumb up and wick to Devon.

He gets his quiz and he sees he got a D.

DECLAN
A D? I’m sure it’s just a formality.
(to Mr. Armstrong)
Right?

PROFESSOR ARMSTRONG
Nope, you earned that D.

DECLAN
(under his breath)
What about the kickback I gave you?

PROFESSOR ARMSTRONG
That reminds me...
(digs into his pocket, he takes out 40 bucks)
Nice try, homez.

He gives Devon his paper.
Declan slumps in his seat.

DECLAN
It didn’t work.

DEVON
I can tell.

Declan grabs his paper.

DECLAN
How the... You got an A!?

Devon grabs his paper back.

DEVON
Yeah, it’s called stop partying and gaming and start studying.

Declan still looks displeased.

DECLAN
College’s a bitch.

EXT. OUTSIDE EATING LUNCH – LATER

Devon and Declan are sitting eating lunch.

DECLAN
You know Armstrong hates me, right?

DEVON
(sipping on his drink)
No, he doesn’t. I mean he gave you 40 dollars. Which may I add you’re paying for lunch, since you still owe me from that favor.

DECLAN
Sure, but I should only give you half because that favor is something we could both use—

A man comes up and sits down with them, smiling.

Devon and Declan exchange looks.

DECLAN (CONT’D)
May we help you?

The guys extends his hand.
RICK RUBIN
Rick Rubin, Columbia Records.

They shake his hand.

DEVON
Nick?

RICK RUBIN
Rick.

DEVON
Got it.

DECLAN
Well, Rick. If you’re here to try to sign us to your label. Offer denied. We’ve had enough of the music industry. We just wanna focus on our realistic careers.

Rick looks at the boys.

RICK RUBIN
Look, I know about you trouble you had over at Interscope.

DEVON
Yeah, it was too much trouble to handle.

He puts his laptop in his backpack.

DEVON (CONT’D)
C’mon Declan. We class starts in 3.

Declan gets his bag and follows Devon.

RICK RUBIN
C’mon guys, we already have the other 3 we just need you guys.

They turn around.

DEVON
Wait, Jacob, Blaine, and Ryan?

RICK RUBIN
Yep, but they don’t want to do anything unless you two were in.

DECLAN
We haven’t seen them in almost a year and a half.
DEVON
Yeah, we lost contact with ‘em after...
(looks down)

Rick walks over to them.

RICK RUBIN
If you don’t want to hear our offer, at least come and see your friends. They miss you.

DEVON
We’re not going to New York again.

RICK RUBIN
No, I have a studio here in LA. Downtown.

DECLAN
That would be awesome, but we have classes,
(looks at his watch)
And now we’re late, thanks a lot.

DEVON
Sorry, Nick. We gotta get going, maybe next time.

They turn to leave.

RICK RUBIN
Rick. I’ve signed you guys out for the day. I even got you credit for all your courses for the rest of the week.

DECLAN
Wow.

DEVON
Alright. But, we’re not signing anything. Got it?

RICK RUBIN
Not asking you too, just come see your friends.

INT. RICK RUBIN’S STUDIO - LATER

They arrive at the studio.

It’s pretty standard, it has a lounge area with a few games.
They spot Ryan, Blaine, and Jacob sitting playing a video game.

DEVON
Dudes!

They look up and run over to Devon and Declan.

DECLAN
Bros!

JACOB
It’s been too damn long!

BLAINE
How you guys been?

Rick motions the boys to have a seat. They do so.

DEVON
Better.

RYAN
Ah, UCLA being hard on ya already?

DECLAN
Yep, got my first official college D.

Rick pulls up a chair.

RICK RUBIN
Well, with the credits I got you that D will fade away.

DECLAN
I hope so.

Jacob sits up.

JACOB
So, did he tell you?

Both Devon and Declan look at each other.

DECLAN
Sorry guys, Devon and I are just thinking about our future, We just can’t go through what we went through last year.

RYAN
Well, if you guys don’t want to. Then we don’t want to.
DEVON
Guys, no. If you want to go on performing, do it. Don’t let us stand in your way.

BLAINE
It won’t be the same, not without you guys. We love you guys... No homo.

They all laugh, including Rick.

DECLAN
Way, to ruin a mushy moment like only you can, Blaine. I’m gonna miss that, I’m gonna miss all of you.

Devon is thinking to himself.

DEVON
I can’t give this up. Not, all of this. This is the only way for us to hangout, have fun. I mean you guys can’t just up and come to LA, music is the only way for us to connect. I don’t wanna lose that.

Jacob stands up.

JACOB
Are you saying you want to do this?

RICK RUBIN
Yeah Devon. I don’t want this to be something you’re pressured into.

Devon smiles.

DEVON
As long as it’s cool with Declan, it’s a go for me.

DECLAN
Rick, my only thing is. Don’t screw us over.

(laughs)

Rick goes over to the studio and returns with a huge binder with many papers in it.
RICK RUBIN
I won’t think about it. Jacob told me about Interscope tricked you
guys into thinking you had control
over your careers. I think it’s
crap, the way they done you boys.

The guys look down.

RICK RUBIN (CONT’D)
Now, I’m just going to be direct.
We’ll never ask you to do anything
you’re not comfortable with, 95
percent of the time you’ll have
full creative control like you
want.

They nod.

RICK RUBIN (CONT’D)
If there is something, you don’t
agree with just come talk to me or
anybody else, we’ll get it
straightened out. Please and I beg
you please.
(chuckles)
Don’t cost us millions by going
plan B.

They laugh.

RICK RUBIN (CONT’D)
(still laughing)
I’m serious guys.

DEVON
Loud and clear.

They all sign the deal.

78  INT. RICK RUBIN’S OFFICE COLUMBIA HEADQUARTERS - A MONTH 78 LATER

The band takes a seat, to hear Rick’s news.

RICK RUBIN
Good news, guys! You’re Life Lives
On, is doing fantastic. Maybe it
has something to do with Katy
Perry, I don’t know.

He laughs, so does the boys.
DEVON
That’s good. A relief actually.

RICK RUBIN
Now, now on to even better news. The company thinks you need to go on your first tour, you have 3 hit singles out, This One’s For You, You’re Life Lives On, and Broken at 21, that one’s not ours but still. You need to go on tour to promote your new album, which you can name yourselves.

They boys give bro fists.

RICK RUBIN (CONT’D)
That’s not the only good thing, over the last few weeks we’ve surveyed people from all 50 states and Canada, they all seem very open to paying to see you guys in concert, so we’re giving you the torch to choose which cities you tour in as long as it’s in the US or Canada. Your passports should be arriving next week, you’ll be all set then.

He gets up and sits directly in front of the band.

RICK RUBIN (CONT’D)
Now, for the bad news.

The guys stop and stare.

BLAINE
What bad news?

RICK RUBIN
Ted’s suing us.

DEVON
What why?

Rick walks over toward the window.

RICK RUBIN
He says he still owns the rights to the name Present Day and likeness to it. They are claiming we used it illegally by letting you record a song without proper rights toward your name.
DECLAN
So what’s going to happen?

Rick returns to his desk.

RICK RUBIN
We have a court date next week.
Right before we start scheduling
your tour. They got us, we’ve lost
this one.

INT. COURTROOM - NEXT WEEK

Present Day along with Rick Rubin and lawyers are in court to
determine their fate against Ted Field, Interscope Records,
and his own lawyers.

JUDGE
(to Ted)
So, you were still receiving
revenue after you released the band
from their contract, correct?

TED FIELD
Yes your honor. It was what I
deserved. They used my equipment to
record an unauthorized musical
single.

One of Present Day’s lawyers speaks up.

LAWYER #1
Objection! What the plaintiff
failed to state, preforming artist
Lady Gaga, also was present and
even featured on the single, why is
he not suing her as well?

TED FIELD
If I may state, this isn’t about
the single you stole from me. It’s
about you still making money off of
my name!

The judge bangs his gravel.

JUDGE
OK, let’s stick to the main problem
at source here. Now, Mr. Rubin,
when you signed Present Day to this
very lucrative contract.

(MORE)
JUDGE (CONT'D)
Did you bother to see if the rights to the band name had been cleared or in fact that Mr. Pattynson here, who created the name even signed away the rights to the name to Mr. Field and Interscope Records.

Rick stands.

RICK RUBIN
No, your honor I hadn’t.

JUDGE
I see. I’m sorry Mr. Rubin, but you will have to pay Mr. Field and Interscope Records the amount of 12.7 Million dollars, and the amount the song “Your Life Lives On” is currently valued at 4.5 Million dollars.

Rick talks to a lawyer.

RICK RUBIN
Your honor. Could I possibly buy the rights to Present Day right here in court?

JUDGE
Yes, if you can afford to play their net worth of current 13 Million dollars, the rights are yours.

RICK RUBIN
Where do I write the check?

EXT. OUTSIDE THE COURT HOUSE - LATER

Present Day and Rick Robin, walk out of the court house.

Rick is laughing to himself.

DEVON
That was a lot of money Rick, are you sure you’re not mad?

RICK RUBIN
Nope, it was my fault, but still I’m glad we got that taken care of.

(MORE)
Now, we can talk about your tour, you’ll make the money back, I believe in you boys, money well spent in my book.

The band looks reassured.

No, where do you guys wanna eat, I know this great Chinese place...

His voice trails off as they walk away.

INT. DEVON AND DECLAN’S DORM UCLA – LATER THAT MONTH

Devon and Declan are packing their stuff up for the tour.

MUSIC UP: ONE DAY REMAINS by PRESENT DAY

Devon finally picks up a paper the reads; “PRESENT TOUR CITIES”

The list of cities are; **BOSTON, SAN FRANCISCO, DALLAS, CHICAGO, ATLANTA, TAMPA, TORONTO, LOS ANGELES.**

They exit the room, closing the door.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN:

INT. TOUR: BOSTON – NEXT DAY

Present Day begins their North American Tour; debuting a new song in every city for Boston it’s: “...AND THUS THEY CRIED THE TEARS OF BLACK PT. 1”

**DEVON**

Boston! Baby, yeah! Join us in creating history, thank you so much for coming out to see us. All 16,000 of you! You demanded it, you got it. Now, as a treat for you we’re debuting a new song in every city, thanks for making us number 1, enjoy, AND THUS THEY CRIED THE TEARS OF BLACK PT. 1!

The band starts the song.
DEVON (CONT’D)

(singing)
If I was born this way
Tell me that you love me or
should I die, slowly
in your arms, so we gaze into
each other’s eyes I know my
sights set free...

Do I belong here? (Do I belong here)
Do I fit your mold of faith
Am I crazy? (Am I crazy)
To think we could ever be...
But times are changing
Ships are sailing
And even at that time
It so seemed possible to me..
Now I see...

They end the song, and the crowd erupts.

INT. TOUR: SAN FRANCISCO - NEXT NIGHT

The band is now in San Francisco, we can see the crowd is packed with anxious fans cheering almost all in Present Day gear, hats, shirts, bracelets, posters, etc.

Suddenly, the lights shut off and the words; “Present Day” light up huge on stage, the lights come on and the band appears in white with also white smoke.

The crowd erupts.

The band starts playing; AFTER TOMORROW.

DEVON
(singing)

Wipe your tears I'll be OK.
Daddy's gonna come back home one day
I told her; It was my honor to fight
Sorely to the master's delight
She said; Why is he so cruel?

(MORE)
DEVON (CONT'D)
Just pretend
You like the way that I am
Cause I think it's too late to
change back now
Besides the rebels have already
taken my crown
Life was just starting to get good
again

The song ends.

MONTAGE:

MUSIC UP: GIVE ME A CLUE by PRESENT DAY

The rest of the tour is shown the fans going nuts, the
theatrics, and everything else.

A) Dallas
B) Chicago
C) Atlanta
D) Tampa
E) Toronto

END OF MONTAGE

INT. TOUR: LOS ANGELES - 5 NIGHTS LATER

The band arrives back on stage after their performance.

DECLAN
Guys, we can't thank you enough!

RYAN
You guys have been so good to us,
before all of this.

BLAINE
We grew up here, matter of fact.
(Blaine points to a guy in
the audience)
I went to high school with you bro!
JACOB
Thanks Mom, Dad without you none of this would be possible. Shout out to the Foo Fighters!

DEVON
There’s nothing else to say, but we have one thing we can give you. A new song, we just finished writing it before we landed here, it’s called SERENITY’S SONG, we hope you like it.

They start the song, the pyro fires, the crowd explodes with cheers.

DEVON (CONT'D)
(singing)
As I open my eyes
I can see the fright
under the sunlight (sunlight)
I can see your life
being wasted now
It flashed before my eyes (before my eyes)
And the fact that he stole you away from me
without a word

Every time I see your head
resting upon his shoulders
My heart collapses like an abandoned shed
without an owner
She said "Forget about me
Or you'll lose your life"

The song ends.

INT. RICK RUBIN’S STUDIO - THE NEXT DAY
The band returns to New York in Rick’s office.

Rick is watching a news broadcast about Present Day’s tour, claiming it was a huge succeeds and that “Serenity’s Song” had gone viral in just 24 hours.

The band walks in.

RICK RUBIN
Good new guys!

He gets up and goes over to hug the band.
RICK RUBIN (CONT’D)
The tour was a huge success! And
Serenity’s Song, viral in just 24
hours!

The band cheers.

BLAINE
Really, it isn’t even done yet.

They walk over to the couches and sit.

RICK RUBIN
Sounds good to me. Get this, I got
an e-mail from the National Academy
of Recording Arts and Sciences,
this morning. They want you to play
it at this year’s Grammy Awards!

DEVON
No way!

Rick jumps up.

RICK RUBIN
Yes way! That and get this, it’s up
for the Song of the Year award.

RYAN
You don’t expect us to win do you?

Ricks sits back down.

RICK RUBIN
Even if we don’t win, I’m happy
that you guys came this far so
early in your careers, this is
awesome! You’re up to 3 Teen Choice
Awards too!

The band is astonished.

RICK RUBIN (CONT’D)
Now, the Grammys are in 4 weeks so
they want you down to rehearse and
go over your plan for the night.
You leave today.
(looks at his watch)
This afternoon. So go to your place
and get prepared.
Devon, Blaine, and Ryan are getting fitted for their suits for their performance.

We can see the overall theme of the wardrobes is medieval kings and peasants.

DEVON
Guys, do you realize how awesome this is?

RYAN
Yeah, it was just last year we didn’t even have a band, and now we’re famous, performing at the Grammys.

BLAINE
And to think, we were going to be completely bored at college.

The tailors finish up with the boys.

DEVON
Hey, let’s go see how the set’s coming.

They walk onto the set.

They see the theme of the medieval ages are continued.

We see peasant houses, shops, and people standing around getting into character.

A stage director, a younger blonde, dressed in a business and carrying a clipboard walks up to the boys.

STAGE DIRECTOR
How are you guys? I’m the stage director for your guy’s performance. I’ve looked over your requests, and I think we’ve done a good job with the whole medieval thing.

BLAINE
Yeah, it looks great.
STAGE DIRECTOR
Well, if you’ll step over here, we were just about to go over the fight scene.

She motions them over to seats in the audience.

The fight scene begins.

INT. FIGHT SCENE - CONTINUOUS

Two men start their staged fight, with punches and kicks that don’t connect.

We hear Serenity’s Song playing over the speakers.

STAGE DIRECTOR
It’s such a good song.

The fight ends.

DEVON
That was epic!

(he hugs the stage director)

Just like we pictured it.

Jacob’s gets his phone from his pocket.

JACOB
Oh, dude we have to get out of these clothes and get going!

Jacob and Blaine runs backstage to change.

STAGE DIRECTOR
Why are you in such a rush?

Devon turns to her.

DEVON
We’re almost late for our interview with ET.

INT. ET STUDIOS - LATER

The band is sitting down with Nancy O’Dell being interviewed about their popularity and Grammys performance.

NANCY
Did you guy’s ever imagine getting all this, so soon in your careers?
BLAINE
Not at all, I think we are truly blessed to be in the position we’re in today.

NANCY
Does the pressure ever get to you? Considering your performing at the world’s most watched award show?

RYAN
Well, a little. But, we’re lucky to have each other to help us preserve through the quirks and pressure we get.

Nancy looks at Devon.

NANCY
Devon, you’re the leader of Present Day, and you’ve been relatively quiet. What’s on your mind?

DEVON
Nothing. Well, obviously there’s something, but I don’t know what it is. It’s just this is a lot. I’m a little confused
(he looks at his band mates)
Don’t get me wrong, I’m thankful to all our fans. It feels like a dream, it all happened, not to be cliche, but so fast.

DECLAN
Yeah, considering we were going to college in order to get boring desk jobs, this is seriously the best life a person could ask for.

NANCY
What song will you be performing at the Grammys, our online servers were shut down due to fans wanting to know the answer. It seems you appeal to all audiences.

JACOB
Well, we’re keeping that a secret for now, but you won’t be disappointed. And, you’re correct. (MORE)
JACOB (CONT'D)
We try our best to connect with every generation of fans, not just kids, or adults, but teens and everyone included.

DEVON
And, I think that’s what sets us apart from the crowd. When we write songs, we always picture how we would feel if we were the person playing it in public. Whether they’d be embarrassed or confident. And whether it would make people sing along or not. As for the song we chose for the Grammys, we are sure it’ll be something everyone enjoys.

NANCY
Well, I know I’m not the only one when I say it will be something we’ll talking about the next day. Good luck.

(she turns toward the camera)
If you haven’t already, you can pre-order And Thus They Cried Tears of Black: In The Dark today, we’re told the pre-order for both iTunes and Amazon are quite high, the album officially goes on sale after the band’s performance at the Grammys.

INT. GRAMMYS NIGHT - 4 WEEKS LATER

Devon and Declan, dressed and ready, are walking around mingling with backstage presenters and other celebrities.

We see Jacob, Blaine, and Ryan talking with Lady Gaga and Nicki Minaj.

NICKI
I’m so excited for you! Are you ready?

BLAINE
As ready as it gets.
LADY GAGA
Word of advice, remain calm.
Imagine the crowd in their underwear. It’s the oldest trick in the books, but it works.

JACOB
Except half the people out there are hot, so they’ll look pretty damn good in their underwear.

They all laugh.

A stage manager comes up.

STAGE MANANGER
2 minutes, guys!

RYAN
Thanks, for the advice girls.

Nicki and Lady Gaga hug the boys for good luck.

NICKI
Break a leg!

INT. BACKSTAGE DEVON AND DECLAN
Devon and Declan are talking to Chris Brown and My Chemical Romance.

The stage manager comes up.

STAGE MANANGER
1 minute!

Devon and Declan shake hands with Chris and each member of MCR.

CHRIS
Good luck, man it’s nothing to it, as long as you live it and love it.

GERARD WAY
Yeah, just remember what we told you, even if you make a mistake, just keep going, no one will notice or care, just have a good time and play our hearts out. We all believe in you.

DECLAN
Thanks, it’s means a lot.
The guys meet Ryan, Blaine and Jacob over by the stage entrance.

INT. GRAMMYS STAGE - CONTINUOUS

The lights go dark for a minute. Then then they reappear with the medieval set.

The king rolls through the town, he sees a beautiful girl with a peasant. He commands his horses to stop and gets off the cart, and faces her.

KING
Guards! I chose her! She belongs with me, not this waste of life peasant! I could give her everything she could ever ask for. Jewelry, clothes, my palace to live in, and all the money she could spent.

PEASANT
With all due respect, my lord. Those are materialistic things. My lady will see right through it.

KING
I’m not giving her a choice, you low life scum, I want her so I’m taking her. You nor her have no say in the matter.

He pushes the peasant down to the ground, and grabs the women as she tries to break for a run.

WOMEN
Help! Help! Someone please!

He loads her in his horse pulled throne.

WOMEN (CONT’D)
You have no right to do this! (slaps him)
You won’t get away with this!

The kings laughs and he commands the horses and guards to move forward, as they become more and more invisible the peasant gets up and runs, but trips and falls.

The beginning of Serenity’s Song starts, the audience applauds.

The lights go out again.
Present Day appears on stage.

DEVON
As I open my eyes
I can see the fright
under the sunlight (sunlight)
I can see your life
being wasted now
It flashed before my eyes (before my eyes)
And the fact that he
stole you away from me
without a word

Every time I see your head
resting upon his shoulders
My heart collapses like an abandoned shed
without an owner
She said "Forget about me
Or you'll lose your life"

It seems the only way
to make it through this pain
is to throw is to them away
I'll come and fight
even through my fright
I must stand my ground
(I must stand my ground)

The music stops.

The peasant burst into the king’s palace with a sword and demands to fight.

The king accepts and demands they do it outside at the town square so everyone can see the peasant die.

The music continues.

Even through this love
I've been shoving it under the covers
It's been hard trying to find the courage; to show that I love her
I'll be damned; If he's keepin' her
I'll lose this life
(MORE)
In the end they may all bury me up Under the dirt
A single may tear come crashing down
from her in a puddle
Of my blood; There's not twisting fate
Like we thought there would

Ultimately the peasant is killed by the king and he wins the women, the by standers are in shock.

(singing)
I stood my ground
Now I lay here down
He has stole my crown
It's the end of me
I've lost my only friend
Now I wait for death. (By the moonlight light)

The song ends.
The crowd give Present Day a standing ovation.
Which brings the members to tears.

On behalf, of all Present Day.
Thank you, this was an honor!

The band mates return backstage.

The band returns to hugs and kisses from several people including their parents.

Even Nicole is there to support Declan.

(to Declan)
I’m so happy for you! Congrats!

Nicole, where have you been? I’ve been texting and calling for like a year.
NICOLE
(in a downed tone)
I had a nervous breakdown.

Declan takes her to his dressing room.

INT. DRESSING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

He sits her down on the couch and gets her something to drink.

DECLAN
Tell me. There’s nothing me important to me than you.

NICOLE
Well, I got fired from the one job I loved?

DECLAN
What job?

NICOLE
At Interscope.

DECLAN
Figures. That guys bad news, he sued us for using our own name.

Nicole hugs Declan.

NICOLE
Let’s not talk about work, I’m just really glad we’re together again I have so much to tell you.

Declan cuddles with Nicole.

DECLAN
Let’s start now, I have all night.

Suddenly, Blaine bursts into the room.

BLAINE
Declan, we won! We won!

Declan and Nicole stand up.

DECLAN
What!?
BLAINE
Song of The Year! We did it! We have to go now!

Declan picks up Nicole and runs out of the room so he can join his band mates to receive the award.

INT. ON STAGE RECEIVING AWARD - CONTINUOUS

Present Day is on stage with the “Song of The Year” Award.

DEVON
Guys, come on. I truly feel like we don’t deserve this. I mean there are so many artists out there that write better stuff than we do. I guess we just got lucky. If I could take anything away from this experience. Keep working at it, nothing’s impossible, if you work hard for it. I love you all thank you so much!

The audience cheers once more for Present Day as they exit the stage.

INT. BACKSTAGE GRAMMYS - MOMENTS LATER

They are greeted once again with hugs from several artist.

Rick Rubin comes over with good news.

RICK RUBIN
Good news guys, the albums pre-orders have gone out by the pre-orders it’s already gone gold!

He high fives the band.

RICK RUBIN (CONT’D)
After the pre-order went out, the regular units are moving great.

They notice a gentlemen, in a suit standing nearby staring at them.

He’s making eye contact with Devon.

DEVON
I’ll go see what he wants.

Devon goes over to the man.
Devon greets the man.

DEVON
How ya doing’?

He extends his hand.

KEVIN KELLEHER
Great, and you?

DEVON
Fine.

KEVIN KELLEHER
You’re probably wondering why I’m staring at you.

DEVON
Yeah, that’s kinda why I came over.

KEVIN KELLEHER
Do you know who I am?

Devon looks confused.

KEVIN KELLEHER (CONT’D)
I’m Kevin Kelleher. CFO, Chief Financial Officer, of Sony Records.

Devon shakes his hand again.

DEVON
Uh, cool you guys are the parent of Columbia, huh?

KEVIN KELLEHER
And several others.

DEVON
Hey, look. Rick over there said it was cool that he spent all that money after you guys got sued. Not us so-

Kevin stops him.

KEVIN KELLEHER
That’s not why I’m here, looking at what happened tonight I’ll say he made a great decision.

(MORE)
I’m here because the company has been speaking highly of you in all of our financial plan meetings.

OK.

We see potential in you kid. You could make a lot of money. You have the mind set for success.

You do.

Devon thinks for a second.

OK.

We want you to go solo.

Solo!?! I can’t do that. I can’t leave my band behind.

Kevin, wraps his arm around Devon.

Look, I know you love those guys, they’re your friends. But, if you want to get serious about your future you need to do this. Look at Phil Collins and Michael Jackson. Both went solo and sold over a hundred million records. That’s what we see in you.

Devon continues to think.

But, what would they do without me?

We’ll get a replacement singer. Even better Declan could do it.

You think so?

Of course I do. Talk it over with them, now.

(MORE)
INT. DRESSING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Devon goes over to his friends.

DEVON
Guys, we need to talk.

Devon grabs a seat.

DECLAN
Sure man, what’s on your mind?

DEVON
That guy was from Sony Records.

BLAINE
It’s cool man, but we’re happy where we are.

DEVON
It’s not about us.
(he looks at them)
It’s about me.

Declan and the others looks surprised.

DECLAN
He wants you to go solo doesn’t he?

DEVON
Yeah, but it’s not all bad. They want you to replace me.

DECLAN
I don’t want to replace you, you’re irreplaceable.

Devon stands up.

DEVON
Don’t say that man. You guys are just a big of part of this band, as I am, I’m just the singer. And remember Dec, you were going to sing in the first place.

JACOB
Are you’re gonna do it?
DEVON
I don’t know, yet. I wanna make sure it sits well you guys.

BLAINE
Well, it’s never gonna sit right with us. But, if it’s what you want to do then, we have to respect that.

RYAN
We don’t wanna slow you down. Go for it.

DECLAN
And if it doesn’t work out, you know where to find us.

They stand up and group hug, they cry and laugh.

DEVON
I’m gonna miss you guys.

RYAN
So are we.

DECLAN
We have one more night together though! Let’s make the best of it, I heard Nicki Minaj is throwing an after party, let’s hit it up.

DEVON
Sounds good, but I’ll meet you guys there. I kinda have a contract to sign.

They smile as they look down.

They finally, after another group hug, exit the room.

MONTAGE:

MUSIC UP: Just Give Me A Clue (The End of An Era) by PRESENT DAY

The guys go their separate ways.

A) The remainder of Present Day gets into there limo outside the building setting their sites on Nicki Minaj’s party.
B) We see Devon shaking hands with Kevin again as they get into his limo and they are off to Sony’s recording studio to get Devon signed to a recording deal.

C) Both limos fade off into the distance turning their separate corners.

FADE TO BLACK.