

"THE LOVE APP"

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. NYC SPORTS BAR - NIGHT

INSERT: A YOUNG URBAN MAN HOLDS UP A BASEBALL JERSEY AT A PRESS CONFERENCE, BEAMING BESIDE HIS AGENT.

A huge screen illuminates the faces of many who cheer at the site of JASE JEWELS (18) coming from the shadows with a suit and ball cap on.

YOUNG MAN #1
(like Shannon Briggs)
You're looking at Baseball's next
superstar, Jase Jewels!

The crowd Cheers but not loud enough for the host, RON (18) style is beyond cultured and his theatrics are next-level type energy.

RON
Going Number one!
(with his finger erected)
Brothaman, Brothaman.

A louder reaction ensues which satisfies his taste. One of the PATRONS yells OH YEAH twice, clearly drunker than the others.

DRUNK PATRON
Greatest DJ of all-time.

Ron pulls up a Certified Gold plaque of his single.

RON
(to Patron)
Oh, and you know.
(looks at T.V.)
Hold on, here is the announcement.

ON BIG T.V. the MLB commissioner announces Jase being the number one draft pick, only 18 years of age. Everyone CHEERS.

Ron slips out his smartphone, giving it to his ASSISTANT.

RON (CONT'D)
Quick, get that content.
(back to crowd)
Number One baby boy!

... Ron then goes to doing some type of superhero dance to get Jase up to the stage.

Jase peers over the crowd, taking it all in.

For the first time the audience drops to complete silence, dragging on his every word.

JASE
(looks up)
We made it Ma.

The crowd bursts out with the LOUDEST cheer ever!

INT. DISC JOCKEY AREA - LATER

The novelty of the party is winding down. The DRUNK guy from before is comically being carried out.

Jase and Ron are congregating about a GIRL giving Jase the goggly eyes.

JASE
You see her right?

RON
(looking over shoulder)
She looks familiar... Where did you meet her again?

...Jase pulls up her social media profile to show him.

JASE
Online.

Jase shoots him a disapproving look.

RON
I'm just sayin', you know I deal with a lot of them, I mean, a lot.
(Jase shakes his head)
Which is why I ain't no sucka' for love or chemistry or any of that fairy tale stuff - They come to me, that's how it's done.

Jase gives him a dismissive look.

They stand silent for a second. Jase looks around for the server to bring him his confidence.

RON (CONT'D)
 (off Jase)
 Of course, I have to save the day,
 again...

... Ron grabs to microphone from the booth.

RON (CONT'D)
 Who wants a autograph?

Nobody reacts.

RON (CONT'D)
 A *free*, autograph.

Almost everyone shoots to the table.

After Jase signs a few, Ron signals for the GIRL IN BLUE DRESS to come over; Jase signs her as they both evade the crowd with Ron's help of diverting their attention.

CORNER OF BAR

JASE
 (phone out)
 Wow, you actually look like you
 profile photo.

She gives a light laugh as they both sit down.

After a moment of silence, they just look around, catching eye contact here and there.

JASE (CONT'D)
 So what's your favorite color?

She signals at his Ball Cap.

JASE (CONT'D)
 Blue? You look more like a purple.

She makes 50/50 hand gesture.

He starts looking for something in his pocket.

JASE (CONT'D)
 Just makin' sure I don't have to
 put a dollar in for you to talk.

She burst out with this distinct LAUGH.

Jase (CONT'D)
 Some character I see.

All things come to a sudden stop when the very attractive, CAMILLA, walks in the door.

All of Jase's attention goes to her, and another guy, SHILO, in the corner who's sitting with his obnoxious friends.

Jase makes eye contact with Ron for a nanosecond, before they both get the same idea as Shilo, coming from the corner.

JASE (CONT'D)
 (to girl in blue)
 Um... Yeah.

They all jet off and arrive at the same time, trying to impress her, but Jase gets cut off.

MIDDLE OF BAR

GIRL IN BLUE (O.S.)
 (yelling)
 You said you loved me, and this is
 how you treat me?

Jase and Ron look around stunned - all SOUND in the place stops.

The Girl just starts going in on Jase, YELLING randomness. After 20 seconds of her craziness, she stops and gives him a puckish smile.

GIRL IN BLUE (CONT'D)
 You broke my heart.

She does some wand motions with her hand.

GIRL IN BLUE (CONT'D)
 Now the same will happen to you.

Then struts out the door.

CAMILLA
 This is why I don't go out.

She walks out. Jase, Ron, and Shilo all look at each, then Jase jets as Ron trips Shilo.

RON
 My bad.

EXT. PARKING LOT - MOMENTS LATER

JASE

Excuse me.

She walks faster.

JASE (CONT'D)

Aye.

CAMILLA

Not interested.

She gets in her car, and rambles to get the keys in the ignition and puts it in park but Jase gets right in front.

JASE

Do you know who I am?

CAMILLA

A guy that's about to get ran over,
now move!

Jase looks confused, then improvises.

Jase gets down on his knee, pulls out his phone; and starts on a poem.

JASE

The symmetry of your face is veil
to the mystery behind your magnetic
eyes.

(scratches head)

I forgot the rest.

The few people who have gathered to watch this cheer in a condescending way.

JASE (CONT'D)

You gotta' admit, I'm different.

Jase brushes himself off like Jay-Z.

CAMILLA

Simpish... at best.

(Jase frowns)

Plus, why would I date someone who
dates porn stars?

JASE

Are you talking about that girl in
Blue? I met her online but I don't
even know her.

She gives him a distrustful look, then jumps in her car -- He jumps right in front of it, pulling of a bracelet of some sort.

JASE (CONT'D)

Do you really think I'd date a porn star *and* write a poem?

(shows her the bracelet)

See this, my mom gave it to me when she passed away.

(walking to window)

Here.

(hands it over)

I'll get it back once we meet again.

She just looks at it, then takes it and drives off with him SHOUTING his social media off.

EXT. FRONT OF BAR

RON

(front of sports bar)

What the heck you out here doing,
#1 draft pick on his knees begging.

Jase walks over proud. The crowd all came out to watch.

SHILO

Loser! Do the same your first game
so I can win some money.

He gestures to his friends to leave.

The crowd throws boo's, leaving for the night.

RON

If you had the same power that I
yield, you wouldn't have to do all
this parking lot poem stuff.

JASE

And what power is that?

Jase's phone starts BUZZING.

JASE (CONT'D)

(looking at phone)

Ha, Looks like I just powered up my
guy.

BLACK

INSERT: CAMILLA SOCIAL MEDIA FRIEND REQUEST RECEIVED.

THE SOUND of a PHONE SWIPE, then CHATTER, followed by the SOUND of TEXT MESSAGING, from a great distance, growing louder.

The smizing eyes of a MALE are shown illuminated by the glare of a phone in the dark.

INSERT: PHOTO OF FINGER SWIPING RIGHT WITH MESSAGE SENT: WASSUP

The smizing eyes of a GIRL are shown peering through the glare of a phone in the dark.

MESSAGE SENT SOUND

INT. NYC SUBURBAN APARTMENT - DAY

MUSIC drowns. Jase slumps down on the couch evasively. Camilla follows suit, grabbing his arm towards what seems like the corner of the apartment.

Camilla is glowing with excitement; Jase is timid.

CAMILLA

Come on babe... you said we would do it tonight.

JASE

Don't you think this is too soon? Plus, I have my first game tomorrow...

Camilla sits on his lap. Jase searches her face. She's too fine to resist.

CAMILLA

Wait, what are you talking about?

JASE

(repeating)
What are you talking about?

CAMILLA

I'm talking about the boyfriend tag, for my live stream, *hello?*

Camilla signals to a desk and camera equipment in the corner.

JASE

Oh yeah... that's what I was talking about.

CAMILLA
 (rolls eyes)
 Um hm... yeah, *whatever*.

Camilla bats her eyes, then a puckish smile appears as her glance shift down his pants. His legs are shaking.

... Camilla goes in for a kiss. He tries to evade it but to no avail -- Jase is so focused on her lips coming towards him, that he doesn't notice her hand moving down towards his pants, right next to a large couch pillow.

Camilla grabs the pillow and right before their lips meet, SMACK across his face.

Jase grimaces with joy -- Camilla jumps up and runs from Jase, getting cornered at the wall.

Camilla giggles uncontrollably.

CAMILLA (CONT'D)
 (double-entendre)
 Gotta' make you work for it, Mr. Chasity.

Camilla allures him over to the desk where she has two chairs set up. He sits and she follows on his lap.

JASE
 Sometimes I question this whole abstinence thing.
 (to himself)
 Will it make me great?

CAMILLA
 The First Pick in the MLB should be enough.

Jase rubs the right side of his chest.

JASE
 (looking at bracelet)
 Ma believed sensual control was the key to greatness.

Camilla pulls her hair back. Embracing his words.

CAMILLA
 So did Muhammad Ali.

She plays and slaps him as he playfully runs after her.

JASE
 Oh yeah... oh yeah.

He corners her with seduction.

The room becomes a trance as they stare at each other, going in for another soft kiss.

INT. BALLPARK PLAYER'S ENTRYWAY FOYER - DAY

Jase sports is practice gear, rookie hat tilted up, exuding confidence while the CAMERA MAN and INTERVIEWER start rolling.

REPORTER

What do you think you're going to do tonight kid?

JASE

The starting pitcher's strikeout average was about 26% last season, which is about seven a game, but his home to FB percentage indicated he struggled with lefty's so I like my odds.

REPORTER

Wow. Somebody upstairs really gave you a gift.

JASE

I don't know about all of that, but I do know I will be the greatest of all times.

REPORTER

I didn't know time could be plural.

JASE

Well, why you're out here winning a grammar award, I'll be winning the game.

Jase gives a confident smirk, tilts his hat to the camera with a blink, and walks away.

REPORTER

(to camera)

We'll see about that kid!

EXT. EAST COAST BASEBALL GAME - NIGHT

An anxiously BUZZING crowd stands on their feet in anticipation. The scoreboard above them reads 9 to 12, with 2 outs at the bottom of the ninth inning.

Jase, fully decked out, goes to the plate and points at what looks like his sister KENDRA (25) and Camilla in the stands.

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
9th inning with two strikes and the
bases fully loaded.

ANNOUNCER #2 (V.O.)
Let's see if he really is, *number*
one.

The PITCHER adjusts his ball and glove, eyeing down Jase like a hawk, spitting tobacco upon eye contact. Jase proceeds to his stance with a smirk. The CATCHER signals.

-- A truculent swing connects with the air.

-- Another swing; CLANK, into the foul ball area.

ANNOUNCER
2 outs and 2 strikes. This is his
last chance.

ANNOUNCER #2
It's win or go home.

-- The pitcher leans in, squinting for the signal from his catcher. Jase braces for the final showdown.

-- The pitcher erects with a deep breath. Not a SOUND is heard as the WINDS assaults Jase's face. A fastball rips the wind and CLANK -- GRAND SLAM HIT! The home crowd EXPLODES.

Jase circles the bases, celebrating.

ANNOUNCER
The Rook' did it!

His family is seen jumping for joy. When he gets around to third base, his teammates from the ball pin await him - Camilla blows him a kiss from the stands.

Right before he gets to home plate, everything becomes dizzy as his teammates embrace him. With his foot on home plate, he collapses.

INT. TRAUMA ROOM - LATER

The medical crew enters with Jase strapped to a backboard. They quickly gather around Jase, attaching tubes wherever they can.

The NURSE fires off her report.

NURSE

We have an eight-teen-year-old
male...

... Jase takes a gulp of air, responding to the pain as he is
lifted from the backboard. He is nearly dropped on the
trauma table -- a sudden throaty yelp escapes him.

NURSE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

... Went into cardiac arrest
suddenly. No allergies. Family
history of heart problems...

BLACK SCREEN

JASE (V.O.)

Have you ever found that one thing -
- The thing you'd do anything to
get....

SUPER: "One year later"

INT. JASE'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

The Luxury apartment is dank. Standing bored with his Grocery
Mart uniform, a slightly heavier-looking Jase flicks on the
television. As he pours a bowl of cereal, looking depressed,
the TWO SPORTS NEWS ANCHORMAN sound off the morning topics.

SPORTS NEWS ANCHOR (O.S.)

Up next, is the story of Jase
Jewels signing the biggest rookie
contract ever only to fall short,
literally, after a career-ending
heart disease. Lester, what do you
believe is next for an Athlete who
deemed himself one of the greatest
of all time before ever stepping
out on the field?

LESTER KLINE THE SPORTS ANCHOR

Unfortunately, it happens, but in
his case, maybe too much confidence
his downfall.

BACK TO ROOM

Jase is looking at all his overdue bills, shaking his head.
One, in particular, is his eviction notice.

Jase sighs then snatches the T.V. Remote control and turns
the channel.

He accosts the single PRAIRIE VOLE sitting in the cage next to the computer. He looks at himself in the stand-alone mirror next to the cage.

JASE
 (to himself)
 Too much huh?
 (jumps at self)
 What? Thought so.

The Prairie Vole just looks at him puzzled. He then looks back at the T.V., spilling the cereal over the counter. His eyes become fixated on the weatherwoman, Camilla, older and filling the T.V. frame radiantly.

ON THE TV

CAMILLA
 And today's forecast is partly
 cloudy with a chance of rain.

BACK TO JASE'S KITCHEN

Jase sprints to his front door, which opens to reveal a luxury foyer when he runs into MS. WATERBAKER. Old-fashioned, high-toned, and sweet.

INT. HALLWAY

MS. WATERBAKER
 Oh Jase, I've been meaning to ask
 you if you can watch my dogs again.

JASE
 Can't, super busy today.

A half-naked HOT GIRL is BANGING on a door a few feet down the way; he observes but Ms. Waterbaker insists.

GIRL
 I'm not playing, open this door,
 Ron!

MS. WATERBAKER
 Oh darn, I guess I'll have to miss
 my very important medical
 appointment...

Ms. Waterbaker lowers her countenance as if the world just ended. Jase's eyes are on the HOT GIRL; he softens and gives in.

JASE

Ugh, all right but on one condition--
-give me a leash that works this
time.

EXT. NYC CITY PARK - DAY

Jase is sprinting frantically across a green park hill with a broken leash grappled above his head, trying to catch a PUPPY DOBERMAN.

BACK TO SCENE

MS. WATERBAKER

Oh so wonderful... And you just
have to meet my granddaughter,
she's a real cutie patootie ya know
-- Just moved back in town.

Jase doesn't look at all interested as he continues to watch the hot girl assault the door. Ron opens it charismatically, throwing garments at the her.

As she is picking up her clothes, Ron does a selfie pose to capture the moment with his CAMERA PHONE.

HOT GIRL

Really? I just gave you the best
sex you ever had and this is how
you treat me?

RON

Not even close!

He SLAMS the door in her face. She grabs the rest of her things and storms past Ms. Waterbaker and Jase.

HOT GIRL

Has been.

MS. WATERBAKER

This is better than my Soap Opera --
Here comes Mr. Hopper.

MR. HOPPER (50s) is coming down the hallway as Jase sees this and evades view.

Jase dismisses her and parades right up to Ron's door and starts BANGING.

RON (O.S.)

Be gone!

Jase squeaks his voice like the hot girl.

JASE
I just wanted to let you know I
wasn't on the pill.

Ron storms to the door and swings it open with sheer aggression. Super cultured with dipped-out braids and gold jewelry.

INT. RON'S APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

JASE
Got you.

Ron throws his head back in relief, then tries to slam the door in his face but Jase barges through him.

RON
(like bob barker)
Well, come on it.

JASE
Why didn't you tell me Camilla was
on the news?

RON
She is?

Ron looks at his phone, not really paying attention - the TV is right on the weather channel.

RON (CONT'D)
Ohhh. Hey, Camilla on the news
now.

Ron chuckles at himself. Jase slumps on the couch looking at the muted Television set. His legs start shaking again.

JASE
Ever since I got out the hospital
I've been depressed bro... I really
feel like giving up -- I feel
worthless.
(looks at ceiling)
Why Sir, why did you give me this
horrible life?

RON
(looks up)
Don't worry about him, he just
trippin' again.

JASE
 (looking up)
 Lost the Girl, lost my career, and
 now I'm losing my place. All you
 wanted huh?

RON
 (looking up)
 If you strike him down can you do
 it right when he gets outside the
 door?
 (runs to window)
 Better yet just have him end it now
 Boss....

Ron is waiting, Jase evades.

RON (CONT'D)
 (point at sky)
 Look, quick, it's a sign!

... Jase runs over, nothing -- He pushes Ron and walks back
 to the couch.

RON (CONT'D)
 (to sky)
He'll love ya tomorrow.

Jase bury's his face in his hands. Ron's place is a lot more
 macho with a few kid toys. His DJ lifestyle has taken a turn
 on the downside. Jase leans in on the sofa towards the T.V.,
 clearly dejected about life.

Jase gets a glimpse of Ron around Camilla and other girls
 partying on his mobile app. Ron notices and tries to slip
 his phone away.

JASE
 Wait, is that you in a video with
 her?

RON
 No... it wasn't.

JASE
 Let me see!

Jase puts his hand out. Ron looks down in sheer amazement.

RON
 Oh would you look at that, battery
 just died.

He puts it away. Jase still hawking him, then the ALARM goes off.

JASE

Liar.

RON

Yo, what happened between ya'll?

Jase seals his lips, throwing away the invisible key.

RON (CONT'D)

Was it about the whole virginity thing? Man I told you, the remedy to have girls all over you is to lie, cheat, and put that *thang* up on them.

Jase just gives him a look.

RON (CONT'D)

Facts! It's like they have a drama default setting or something.

JASE

Like ole' girl you just kicked out? Wait, don't you have to go pick up your son?

Ron looks off, showing symptoms of being a dead beat.

Jase throws himself back on the couch, not wanting to listen to his uncommon rhetoric. Ron recovers from the last comment, then jumps up on the coffee table.

RON

Like I've been telling you for years, men are hardwired to have sex with multiple partners, that's how we get to our peak as men. The fact that you're trying to do the opposite against our chemical design.

(examines Jase)

Look at yourself bro.

(smiles)

Then look at me.

Ron starts bowing -- Jase starts CLAPPING.

JASE

It's officially the end, I'm about to be homeless and all I can think about is her.

RON
Just sell your condo.

JASE
Can't sell something I don't own --
What's up with that loan?

RON
I just went independent so I'm in
the negative until my next album
comes out.

They both sit on the couch, just looking at the T.V.

Ron grabs the remote, turns up his EDM MUSIC song, and starts dancing like a clown towards the bathroom. Jase looks around the living room, ignoring Ron's shaving/dancing mirror act, spotting a pamphlet; titled "Coding is the Future".

He examines it for a hot second, then throws it at the TV.

RON (CONT'D)
(stops dancing)
Yo, that's for my interactive DJ
app I'm putting together.

Jase clutches his chest.

JASE
A what?

Ron turns down the MUSIC... Jase continues to grimace, rubbing his chest -- The room becomes dizzy, SOUND and sight blurred.

RON
You should join me in the class.

Jase's vision of Camilla on the T.V. goes in and out. Ron moonwalks out of the bathroom -- Jase stands and staggers standstill.

JASE
What would I know about apps, I'm
an athlete, remember? Plus I don't
have the money for an app.

RON (V.O.)
What do you have to lose? How about
this, we take the class and if
nothing comes of it, you can give
up then.

JASE
 (standing up)
 Sounds like a plan to me.

Ron goes to the bathroom. A KNOCK is heard at the door.

MR. HOPPER (O.S.)
 Jase are you in there? We need to
 talk about the rent.

RON (O.S.)
 (comically)
 I'll take care off the class -- *We
 give up tomorrow, ha-ha.*
 (hears knocking)
 Who is that?

INT. HALLWAY

MR. HOPPER
 I can hear you guys... Open up.

BACK TO SCENE

JASE
 (looking at t.v.)
 I'm feeling, a little...

... Jase passes out. Ron runs over shaking him.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - LATER

Blurred figures start to come into focus. Jase comes around,
 examining himself in a hospital gown with medical tubes
 attached to a HEART MONITOR.

NURSE (V.O.)
 Jase, Jase. Can you hear me?

Everything is becoming clearer. The concerned FIGURES begin
 to manifest into a DOCTOR BROOKS (48) and NURSE hovering over
 him protectively.

JASE
 (hardly)
 W-h-a-t-h-a-p-p --

NURSE
 -- Don't say too much. It looks as
 though you had a slight episode of
 a coronary spasm.

JASE

Another one? A little Ice Cream
and I should be good.

The doctor and the Nurse find this comical. The Doctor is a taller, intense man with effeminate compassion.

DOCTOR BROOKS

Jase, do you know what set it off
this time?

INT. NEWS CHANNEL STUDIO - DAY

Camilla is standing adjacent to the weather green screen like Vanna white, flossing all smiles.

PRODUCER

All right cut, beautiful Cam.

Her fake smile ceases, parading past the camera crew.

CAMILLA

(diva)

Ugh, I am so sick and tired of
doing this Dave.

She pulls out her phone, revealing her social media profile. Flashes a smile and then takes a selfie with the news studio in the background.

INSERT: CAMILLA SELFIE, HASHTAG #Livingthedream #TeamCam

BACK TO CAMILLA

DAVE (40s) the Producer has a headset on, and a script in his hands. He obviously notices how much into herself she is.

DAVE/PRODUCER

You did great today, your fans --

CAMILLA

-- Followers.

DAVE/PRODUCER

Excuse me?

CAMILLA

They're not fans, they are just
followers. You know, the reason
why your ratings have gone up.

Dave starts fidgeting.

DAVE/PRODUCER
Yeah, that may be --

CAMILLA
-- Save it, Dave! When am I going
to get something real, huh?

She gestures to the News Anchor seats on set.

DAVE/PRODUCER
(timid)
We have... something in
development.

CAMILLA
You've said that for the thousand
time, Dave.

A smooth, captivating voice creeps up from behind them.

LESTER
So, you really think you're ready?

LESTER CLINE (40s), appears like a highly-developed
connoisseur. His style and charisma is meant for television.

DAVE/PRODUCER
I'll let you two discuss the
details.

Dave exits. Camilla softens with gleam. Lester obviously
has a macho effect on her.

CAMILLA
Hey Lester.

LESTER
I have an assignment for you.

CAMILLA
Yes, anything... I mean, what is
it?

LESTER
I've been trying to reach out to
Jase Jewels, but I haven't gotten a
response. You guys have
considerable history is that
correct?

CAMILLA
Yes. But we don't --

LESTER

-- Get me the interview and I'll see about getting you some time in front of the real camera.

Lester gestures to the main set. He nods as a MAKEUP ARTIST ushers him away. Camilla pulls out her phone and looks at:

INSERT: FRIEND REQUEST FROM JASE JEWELS

She hesitates.

INT. HOSPITAL HALLWAY

Ron is outside the room on the phone.

RON

Yeah, he's all right
(smacks lips)
Why can't I come over tonight?

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - SAME TIME

Jase is on the hospital bed jovially throwing a baseball up and down. The doctor examines the heart x-rays, using the light to see better.

JASE

(blithely)
So, am I good now?

The doctor stops, then looks around under the bridge of his glasses and smiles.

The doctor grabs the rolling chair and sits bedside him. Jase continues throwing the ball up and down.

DOCTOR BROOKS

I'm afraid you have takotsubo cardiomyopathy.

JASE

What?

DOCTOR BROOKS

Commonly known as, a broken heart.

BEAT. The doctor puckers his lips, nodding in agreement. Jase BURST out LAUGHING. Ron slides into the room at the same time.

JASE
 (to Ron)
 You won't believe what he just
 said.

Jase finds this extremely funny. The doctor doesn't.

JASE (CONT'D)
 (to Doctor)
 Tell him what you just said.

DOCTOR BROOKS
 (to Ron)
 His conditions are normal. A
 little too much activity for
 someone with his cardiac history
 but the diagnosis is that he indeed
 has symptoms of a broken heart.

Jase stops laughing and examines Ron's oscillating eyes
 between him and the doctor. All is silent for a nanosecond
 when -- Ron BURSTS out laughing, followed by Jase again.

RON
 Hold on. Hold on.

Ron grabs a piece of paper and crayon from the visitor's
 counter, draws a heart, and rips it in half slowly while Jase
 pretends to be dying more and more with the exaggerated
 RIPPING of the paper heart.

JASE
 Oh no, don't do it.

Ron rips the rest of the heart up as they cannot stop
 laughing.

They get done. The doctor is now folding his arms, taking
 the matter seriously. Jase is rubbing his chest.

JASE (CONT'D)
 So, what's the remedy doc, A box of
 chocolates?

DOCTOR BROOKS
 I know it sounds mundane but when
 you saw her on television, your
 brain went into shock, stimulating
 the sympathetic nervous system,
 which then released a surge of
 stress chemicals into the
 bloodstream, causing a fight-or-
 flight response, which is why
 you're here.

Ron and Jase look confused. The Doctor has shown them up.

DOCTOR BROOKS (CONT'D)

An excess of stress hormones in the bloodstream has been known to cause serious health conditions... including death.

It just got serious, real fast.

RON

Brah....

Jase swats at this bit of brilliance.

JASE

Like I said, I'll be good.
(to Ron)
Let's bounce.

Jase starts undoing the wires on himself.

DOCTOR BROOKS

We need to monitor your heart so...

... He pulls out what looks like a Fitbit band.

DOCTOR

This is a heart-rate monitor. Once you download the app, you'll be able to monitor your heart rate, especially when feeling stressed.

He hands Jase the band, monitoring it with both hands. Jase dismisses it.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

I'm also going to give you a referral to a psychologist. I suggest you do something to get your mind off stress-related things.

RON

Like Sex.

Jase signals him to shut up.

DOCTOR

Sex is proven to be a big stress reliever.

RON
(definitive)
See, even the Doc says you need to
get with the program.
(to Doc)
He's been on this whole abstinence
thing.

DOCTOR
I'll have the Nurse write it up.
See you in a month for the follow-
up.

INT. RON'S OLDER SUV - MOVING

JASE
Can you believe that guy -- That
broken heart thing is ridiculous.

Jase pulls out the ball again and starts throwing it up and
down. All jokes aside.

RON
I don't know, maybe. I never told
you this but it's kind of hard
being your boy -- always uptight
and stuff -- killing my vibe *dawg*.

Ron does a goofy gesture as they both laugh.

RON (CONT'D)
So, we going out this weekend or
what?

JASE
I'm working.

RON
(coughs)
Working that hand.

Jase stuffs him in the chest.

RON (CONT'D)
Once you switch that manual
discharge to automatic, gone be
good to go!

Jase gazes out the window on this -- Ron watches the ball go
up and down and grabs it mid-air.

A MESSAGE pops up on Jase's phone.

INSERT: FROM CAMMY: CAN WE MEET?

Jase smiles like Mr. Grinch.

RON (CONT'D)

I better see you this weekend,
rookie.

JASE

I appreciate the invite but I don't
think I'll need it.

INT. GROCERY SALES FLOOR - DAY

Jase is in his work uniform, counting inventory, ad-lib SINGING, and be-bopping along the way to unheard music in his head. BRIAN, the southern twang store manager, walks by and stops to stare. Jase's back is turned towards him, so he keeps dancing.

BRIAN

Jase!

This startles him. He jilts.

JASE

Oh, hey there, *Boss*.

BRIAN

Let's see, Athlete, want-to-be
rapper Poet *dude*, and now you're
getting *jiggy* with it. I'd say --

JASE

-- Your racistness points just went
up.

BRIAN

So, what's all this *Boss* stuff
about? You must need something...

JASE

An employee can't be happy to see
his Bossman.

BRIAN

Ha! Your *Blackness* just went down
two points -- So what do you need?

JASE

Brian, why did you hire me?

BRIAN
Had to fill the quota.

Jase clears his throat and shakes his head "No".

BRIAN (CONT'D)
Because you're still sniffing for
Cammy's scent in aisle 3 -- I saw
the security cameras.

Brian sniffs, finding this funny.

JASE
Nope, naw, and hell no.

BRIAN
Then why?

Jase continues to get jiggy with it. Dancing like a duck at the pond. Brian starts laughing, pausing instantly at something over his shoulder. Jase still clowning, and doesn't notice Camilla standing right behind him.

BRIAN (CONT'D)
Well, say it ain't so...

MID AISLE

Jase does a horrible spin move right into the eyes of Camilla. Brian pats him on the back about lunch and exits.

Jase and Camilla stand in the same aisle they met. He waves, causing her to exhale and proceed.

JASE
Heyyyy, what's up?

Camilla gestures a smile.

CAMILLA
I used to shop here -- I see they
remodeled the place.

JASE
Yeah , we're under new management.

Jase gestures to his ASST Manager tag. Camilla looks off on the comment.

JASE (CONT'D)
(easing closer)
I was glad to get your text, didn't
think you had my number anymore.

CAMILLA

I... I didn't want to confuse things.

JASE

The only thing confused here is me, and why you blocked me on everything?

CAMILLA

Look, I didn't come here to argue, I came here to ask you --

JASE

(throws head back)
-- I knew it! You want an interview so you can get that promotion.
(to self)
All about you, I should have known better!

CAMILLA

Jase you know why I left, it's even embarrassing thinking about it!

Jase stands with his mouth open; Camilla capitalizes.

CAMILLA (CONT'D)

How about we make a bet, for the interview....

INT. CAMILLA'S APARTMENT

Decked out and glamorous, Jase is totally awed, not noticing Camilla stripping her clothes.

CAMILLA

All right, let's go!

Jase looks around.

JASE

What?

CAMILLA

Yeah big boy, let's see what you got.

Down to her bra and panties now, Jase subsides.

JASE

Well, we can't just do it out in
the open like this.

She shoots over, straight towards his zipper.

He backs off.

JASE (CONT'D)

But what about everything my mother
--

CAMILLA

She wants this for you, trust me,
plus you wanted to know why you
have been blocked, well here is
your chance to prove we're
soulmates.

Jase sighs then...

INT. CAMILLA'S BED - MOMENTS LATER

Jase is on top of Camilla getting edged on -- He's trying to
get into but can't make the cut.

JASE

Hold on let me --

CAMILLA

Jase! Look at it.

He has his eyes closed, imagining success.

CAMILLA (CONT'D)

Jase!

He pops his eyes open, looking down.

JASE

What?

CAMILLA

What do you mean what? Look!

JASE

What's wrong with it?

CAMILLA

You tell me?

She's throws him off, looking for her clothes with
disappointment motivating her every move.

JASE
Wait it's only been 45 seconds.
Let's put some music on and --

CAMILLA
-- Admit it Jase, you're not into
me like that.

Jase is taken aback by this statement.

JASE
Hold on just one minute, don't you
remember this...
(jumps on one knee)
How can you say that?

CAMILLA
It's never going to work!

JASE
Because I have a problem.

CAMILLA
(signals to door)
Please.

JASE
Actually, I have an app coming out.

This sparks her interest.

CAMILLA
You have an app?

JASE
Prototype app, never been done
before -- it's a.
(thinking)
Chemical app.

CAMILLA
Chemical... Weirdo.

JASE
It, It, It... Measures Connections,
like real ones.

CAMILLA
Measures connections?

JASE
Yeah, for people with the same
issue.

Camilla doesn't look convinced whatsoever.

JASE (CONT'D)
It's going to be out soon.

CAMILLA
How soon?

JASE
Real soon.

INT. DOCTOR BROOKS OFFICE

Jase impatiently waits with his hospital gown on, shifting his eyes from the floor to the door.

The door jerks open, revealing the Doc with test results in hand.

JASE
So what's up, Doc?

DOCTOR
It looks like your condition is impairing blood flow, which is why you're having, *issues*.

JASE
(sighs)
Oh thank God! So magic pill and I'm good?

DOCTOR
(pointing pen)
Say no to drugs.

Jase laughs.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)
(pulls out prescription)
This will help everything flow better.

JASE
Cool - Also, how is chemistry measured between two people? In terms of science?

The Doc takes his glasses off.

EXT. NYC CITY SQUARE - LATER

The city is buzzing with young people bar/club hopping.

Jase and Ron are casually walking down the street, eye-checking every girl that crosses their path.

RON

And she believed that?

JASE

Nope, but the Doc said it could be possible to link chemistry, but it hasn't been done before, especially with an app.

(looks at heart band)

Maybe I can link it to the band, like on impulse.

RON

Look, bro, we out here tonight so get that off your mind and have some fun and try to meet --

-- Ron spots a young CURVY GIRL leaving a bar, approaching like a smooth operator.

EXT. FRONT OF BAR

RON

Excuse me --

GIRL

-- Don't try it, not my type.

RON

Oh it's like that?

(taken back)

How do you know I wasn't about to ask you for directions?

The girl shoots a sarcastic look at the super high and cheesy Ron. Another girl, GABBY (20s) smart with an average yet sexy appeal, appears from the front of the adjacent bar. Jase notices his heart band starting to spike.

GABBY

(annoyed)

Kimber, aren't you coming back in?

(looks at Ron & Jase)

Hey, you're that DJ guy and is that *Jase Jewels*? Nice seeing you again, alive, and well.

Ron and Jase exchange a look, then go with it.

KIMBER

Gabby, can we go now?

GABBY

No Kim, you wanted to go out, so...
we're out.

(to Ron)

Hey have you ever met your biggest
fan?

Ron throws his head back in utter amazement, as in realizing something finally. Kimber softens, shifting her body in embarrassment.

RON

I knew it! KPalmX9 right? Sorry,
it's hard to keep up with the DMs
but I must admit, you do look a lot
better in person.

(to Jase)

She sent me like 20 DMs.

KIMBER

Actually, like your career, we're
done here.

(to Gabby)

Are you coming or what?

Kimber walks away aggressively. Jase can't take his eyes off Gabby, who shrugs her shoulder with a smile at Jase, then happily skips after Kimber. Jase can't find the words when:

RON

(to Gabby)

How do you know my boy?

Kimber ushers Gabby away as she turns and blows Jase a kiss.

RON (CONT'D)

What's that supposed to mean?

Jase attempts to go after her, but Ron thrust himself around his shoulder.

RON (CONT'D)

Forget them, let's hit it up like
we use to -- we can give up
tomorrow but tonight, we gets it in
ya dig!

SHOW MONTAGE OF RON AND JASE DANCING AND HAVING A GOOD TIME -
BOTH ARE GREAT DANCERS.

INT. DINER - MORNING - LATER

Ron is telling jokes. Jase is somewhat laughing, still
searching his phone. Ron grabs his phone with the quickness.

JASE
Give it back!

Ron searches for a split second. Jase retrieves it.

RON
You have about a thousand Gabby's,
Gabe, and whoever else in your
search engine.
(mocking voice)
Jase Jewels, sucka' for love.

JASE
Why you gotta' be a hater?

RON
That's your problem bro, ain't
enough water in the ocean for your
type of thirst.

JASE
Can you just let me do me?

Jase sighs, running both hands through his hair, trying to
figure out the Gabby code to success. Ron turns his
attention to his hunger.

RON
Once again, stressing for no
reason.
(shaking head)
You're wasting your time bro --
speaking of that, can I get my
cheese fries already!

Ron signals for the WAITRESS to come over.

JASE
Why is it all about looks for you?
(a thought strikes)
And what does average even mean?

RON
Because I'm a man! Are you a man?
Is that guy a man?
(MORE)

(looks at weirdo)
We need something *hot*, like these
fries with cheese I've been asking
for.
(yells to Waitress)
Ayo!

JASE
... You sound like a programmed
fool, *foo'*!

RON
(over at cooks)
Excuse me, how hard is it to put
cheese on them fries, I mean come
on now.

Jase looks at his band, his heartbeat is normal, then...

JASE
Average... that's it!

The waitress hobbles over with their food. A few patrons
look over at Jase spazzing out.

RON
Bought time.
(to waitress)
Don't worry about him, he's being
really average right now.

JASE
Hey, when does that coding class
start?

RON
In a few weeks. What, are you
going to create your own dating app
to find her?

JASE
Maybe.

RON
It's not going to work.

JASE
Oh yeah, why not?

RON
Because just like cheese fries, you
like the cheese and the fries, even
when separate.

JASE

What?

The waitress brings him his food, looking as though she has done some odd things for a few dollars in her day.

RON

I connected with these fries, and
then this cheese, not one but both -
- Kind of like you did with Gabby.

Ron takes the cheese and dumps it on the fries, looking up as the waitress towers over him with a livid smile.

WAITRESS

(seductive)

I think I'm feeling a connection
too.

Ron looks around as if she's not talking to him.

JASE

I'll see you in that coding class.

INT. CODING CLASS - NIGHT

Jase and Ron are sitting in front of a night classroom with roughly ten other people. They stand out with their urban appeal. The INSTRUCTOR SOUNDS off.

INSTRUCTOR (O.S.)

We will try to get through loops
fairly quick, followed by
variables, arrays and if
statements. Operators and loops
through weeks six and eleven,
ending with object expressions and
climbing the mountain.

Jase is taking notes; Ron isn't paying attention, just checking his Social Media accounts.

RON

(whispering)

Are you going to tell me this
master plan or what?

JASE

In time. Just know when I swing...
home runs son.

Ron finds this extremely funny, referring to his single home run career hit.

INSTRUCTOR

Excuse me... do you have a question?

All eyes on him, he revisits his class clown days.

RON

I'm not trying to knock this course, but don't you need some type of computer repair degree for this stuff?

Some people laugh at his ignorance.

INSTRUCTOR

That would help if you wanted to build computers, but here we concentrate on coding to get your basic applications started and running properly.

On the other side of the room, TWO YOUNG MEN observe in truancy. They are SHILO KETTLE (25), from the Bar, and TIM HENCE (25). Both carry a very affluent demeanor, embraced with cynicism.

RON

So, what's the difference between this and uh, learning it free on Youtube?

More laughter. Shilo makes himself known. Loud and indirect with his annoying but distinctive ACCENT.

SHILO

(to Tim)

Can you believe this guy?

Laughing ensues, and Jase shoots Shilo a cowering look. Shilo whispers something in Tim's ear and he laughs. Feeling like the old confidant Jase, he interjects.

JASE

(to Instructor)

Hmmm... I was wondering the same thing.

Jase shoots a nasty look over to Shilo. The tension is mounting. Shilo wipes the smile off his face as he loses the staring contest with Jase.

INSTRUCTOR (V.O.)

That is a really good question --

-- Shilo raises his hand quickly. Jase gives Ron a look to zip it.

INSTRUCTOR

Would you like to give an explanation Mr...

Shilo clears his throat and projects. His response seems only fitting.

SHILO

Shilo.

Ron smirks.

SHILO (CONT'D)

I think most of us who have been in a college setting.

(clears throat)

Can attest that traditional learning promotes a better understanding through growth with group brainstorming as opposed to online, which is done only with a teacher via phone, email, text or two-way cam interaction.

RON

(to Jase)

I see the middle-earth people have advanced.

SHILO

Or in other words, motivation.

Ron is about to jump out of his seat when Jase grabs him.

INSTRUCTOR

I concur. Let's get started, shall we.

Ron mocks Shilo to Jase, going back to his phone. Out the corner of his eye, Jase sees Shilo and Tim exchange looks of conceited triumph. Jase then leans in and whispers to Ron.

JASE

He looks familiar.

RON

All *Children of the Corn* do.

INT. GYM - NIGHT

Jase is hitting the dumbbells, examining himself in the mirror. Uncertainty prevails over his face.

A balding guy with Harry Potter glasses stammers next to him, setting up the deadlift. His shirt seems to be the same size as his confidence. He is LANCE KOWALSKI (28). A Mark Zuckerberg and Arnold Schwarzenegger prototype.

Jase and Lance don't pay any attention to each other until a captivating FEMALE walks by -- they both notice but Lance more so than Jase. Lance begins making LOUDER sounds as he works out. A comical smile appears on Jase's face.

She proceeds to the ladies' changing room:

JASE
(humored)
Getting it in I see.

LANCE
(straining)
What was that?

JASE
I see you're working hard.

LANCE
Yeah... Got an important
competition coming up.

JASE
Weightlifting?

LANCE
Productivity team -- for Google.

JASE
(surprised)
Hold on, you work at Google?

LANCE
Um well... not yet, but once we
win, most definitely.

JASE
Oh ok, Tech Guy.

LANCE
(boastful)
Um yeah... MIT will do that for
you.

Jase doesn't seem to mind his apparent arrogance.

JASE
Yo, are you *forealzy*?

LANCE
Huh?

JASE
Its' Vernacular, google it later --
So you build computers and stuff?

LANCE
(scoffs)
Software engineer.

JASE
(mocking)
Software Engineer.
(matter-of-fact)
So that means you can write code,
right?

LANCE
No, I engineer software, what
you're talking about is
programming.

Lance looks offended.

JASE
It's all the same thing to me, tech
stuff -- I have an app.

LANCE
You...have... An app?

JASE
That's what I just said right -- I
just completed a coding class, and
now I'm back in the big league.

Lance pauses on the deadlift, leaning his head in on Jase,
and adjusting his glasses.

LANCE
I thought I recognized you, you're
that baseball kid from that special
they did, right?
(mocking)
How is that grocery life working
out for you?

JASE

Laugh now, cry later -- I got the best dating app ever developed! Just gotta' get it on market.

LANCE

Dating app? One of a million so, good luck.

Lance finishes with the deadlift, unstrapping. Jase is still lifting dumbbells. They are talking to each other in the mirror.

LANCE (CONT'D)

(loathing)

I don't really use dating apps. A lot of weirdos, scammers, baby mama's and god knows who else.

The captivating GIRL is seen leaving the gym with a quick flash from Lance. He wants to run after her but:

LANCE (CONT'D)

(mutters to self)

Dang it.

JASE

(off Lance)

Well, this is different.

Jase places the dumbbell's back on the rack.

LANCE

Oh yeah, how so?

Jase looks at Lance's work-out band. Seems to be making it up as he goes.

JASE

Goes off impulse, so you always get the girl... Even if she gets away.

LANCE

(stops lifting)

I'm not following....

INT. JASE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Jase and Lance are standing in the living room looking at a drawing board. Jase looks assured at the MASTERPIECE DIAGRAM.

JASE
What do you think?

Lance looks amused but isn't totally convinced. Although the board is small, it could have been drawn out by Albert Einstein himself.

LANCE
I'm not sure *what* to think.

JASE
Something about it feels... Right? -
- Plus it makes me look smart.

Jase takes a bite out of an apple he's been chewing on.

LANCE
Um, looks can be deceiving...
(adjust's glasses)
How did you come up with all of
this?

JASE
Originally from my heart-rate band.
(flashes band)
But you're the Scientist -- you
tell me.

Lance gives him a shady look. Jase is overtly joking; Seems to be very much impressed with himself.

JASE (CONT'D)
Ok, so I started looking up
information on the ionic bands --
Come to find out, each of us has a
magnetic field that creates
electrical charges and magnetic
forces.

LANCE
Which consist of Atoms.

Jase points to a picture of an Ion band on the board.

JASE
Atoms are the basic unit of
chemistry. When you have chemistry
along with...
(points to another picture)
... A medical grade magnet, you
come to this...

... Jase points to a colored pictures of a green, orange, and red circles.

LANCE
 (off Jase)
 Protons, Neutrons, and Electrons,
 basic high school chemistry.

JASE
 Ah, but there's more to it. You
 see, to create balance, the proton
 or male energy must marry two
 particles...

... He points to Orange Neutrons and Red Electrons.

JASE (CONT'D)
 The female electron and the neutral
 neutron. Now, the neutron may
 throw off the electrons if it's --

LANCE
 -- Not stable, once again, basic.

JASE
 Hold on Potter.
 (back to drawings)
 So once the proton becomes radiant
 and *sending* while the electron be
 polarized as magnetic and
receiving...

LANCE AND JASE
 ... Total balance is achieved.

LANCE
 Are you saying you created the
tangible link of chemistry with an
 app and *heart-rate band*?

Jase is referencing the board like a mad scientist.

MONTAGE - JASE'S TRANCE ON HOW THE ION BAND WORKS

-- An attractive MAN and WOMAN see each other at a gathering.
 Sound drowning at sight. Both have the Ion bands on,
 feelings much deeper than the room cultivate.

JASE (V.O.)
 (smooth)
 Infatuation ensues as their
 magnetic forces impose on each
 other, releasing testosterone and
 estrogen...

-- The man and woman gravitate within proximity, smiling, avoiding direct eye contact, a glance here and there, each one sending stronger sparks.

-- A hologram of animated chemicals illuminated with isotope symbols and drawings of the periodic table are seen bridged between them. The culmination rises as everything in SLOW MOTIONS.

JASE (V.O.)

Symmetric body proportions make the hormones go wild -- Ions from the band shoot a charge throughout the body.

-- An animated electrical charge from the illuminated invisible isotopes in the air go directly to the ion band. The band shoots charges throughout the body, creating adrenaline with the heart BEATING FASTER.

JASE

Blood levels rise, adrenaline increasing by the minute!

-- We jump back to reality, back to the still love connection between the two.

-- The temptation to avoid eye gazing reaches its boiling point. They lock in and submit to the feelings of chemical rush throughout their body. They find themselves within proximity, meeting between friends.

MAN

(nervous)
Hello.

WOMAN

Hi.

-- All sound is drowned out by the other party goers; this is love at first sight.

JASE (V.O.)

The chemical dopamine exudes as serotonin prevails -- But then...

-- A FLUSH is heard from the bathroom. The MAN walks out in the hallway of the dwindling party, scanning the remnants of the PARTY GOERS eagerly.

He accosts an ACQUAINTANCE from earlier.

MAN

Where did she go?

ACQUAINTANCE

(smug)
She's gone -- you lost her, forever
haha.

-- The man falls to his knees in theatrics.

MAN

Nooooooo!

BACK TO SCENE

JASE

Kinda' extreme but, you get it.

Lance looks at Jase as if he has lost his mind.

LANCE

Right.

JASE

Simply put, the band sends a signal
to the app and lets you know if the
energy is mutual.

(points to phone photo)
And the best thing about it, it
links you to that person's profile
so if you lose her after first
sight --

LANCE

-- Or because you don't have the
confidence to walk up to her.

Jase stands in front of the board with arms out, beaming.

JASE

Kind of like what happened to you
at the gym right?
I'm calling it the LIPS app.

Jase marvels at this bit of brilliance. Lance squints at the
board in deep thought.

JASE (CONT'D)

The name is kind of seductive, but
it gets people's attention.

LANCE

Right. And this band, picks all of
that up?

Jase goes to the board like a professor.

JASE

Once your heartbeat or impulse counteracts the negative ions in the magnetic field, the band reacts, and you basically have found a match.

LANCE

What about privacy, stalking, and not actually wanting to be bothered when you're out for a run?

JASE

Works like any other geolocation dating app, just swipe left or right. And, if they don't want to be bothered, block em' or better yet delete the app.

Lance sits right there for a minute. Jase takes another bite of the apple, smiling.

LANCE

I will admit, this is pretty interesting.

JASE

(proudly)
Oh, it is.

LANCE

Except none of this makes any sense technically.

Jase beams an unexpected look at him.

JASE

I know.

LANCE

You do know that this doesn't make any sense?

JASE

No, I only know that some of this makes sense, that's why I need you, my guy.

Jase slaps him on the back. Lance shakes his head and grabs the marker, adjusting his glasses.

LANCE

It's a great concept but you're missing a few things like how are the bands going to communicate with each other without touching?

JASE

Like a phone does?

Lance shakes his head "No way".

LANCE

Another thing -- apps communicate through servers --

-- Lance looks around, the all of Jase's lights shut off.

JASE

(phone light out)

Don't mind that... Continue.

LANCE

And let's not forget the most important thing...

... Lance gestures to Jase's band.

He then writes something at the bottom right of the board and then circles it.

INSERT - THE APP BOARD, which reads:

Coding drawings, and arrows in different computer languages. Just drawn at the bottom, five-dollar signs.

BACK TO JASE LIVING ROOM

LANCE (CONT'D)

Unless you can figure that out or you're independently wealthy.

(turns his phone light on)

It's not going to happen.

JASE

Well, I have something more valuable Sir...

LANCE

Oh yeah, what's that?

JASE

Belief.

LANCE
Ha! Maybe that belief can bring you
back to the light.

Lance gathers his things and heads for the door. Jase
doesn't pay him any mind, still looking at the board.

JASE
(mutters to self)
Yeah.

INT. GROCERY MART - DAY

Jase is next in line checking out with his items; he pulls
his credit card out and swipes it then it declines, then
declines again, and then again.

JASE
(to Cashier)
Oh I forgot, this is a new card.

He turns to the lines behind him.

JASE (CONT'D)
New card everybody, new card.

CASHIER
You wanna' call your bank?

Jase checks his phone... No Service. A GUY in the line
notices Jase.

GUY
Hey your that baseball kid - I can
cover ya.

JASE
I got cash in the car, I'll be
back.

INT/EXT. KENDRA'S APARTMENT IN NEW YORK SUBURBS - NIGHT

Jase gallops to the front door and KNOCKS steadily on the
door. After a minute or so, KENDRA (30) answers with a rag
on her head, looking tired yet beautiful. She has short hair
like Halle Berry, responsible, but in a fun way.

JASE
Did you get my text?

KENDRA
Do you know what time it is?

Jase looks up at the dark moon-struck sky.

JASE
Would you look at that...

Jase sighs and gasps for air, lowering his eyes for pity.

Kendra's countenance is about to give him a piece of her mind when a TODDLER SOUNDS off from behind:

Standing with her teddy bear in hand, WHINING with no tears and looking cute.

Jase, with a look of abatement, imposes his way in.

JASE (CONT'D)
Hey, look who's up.

Jase stampedes in and throws MELODY (4) up in the air. She giggles, both clicking with familiarity.

KENDRA
(annoyed)
Come right in....

INT. KENDRA'S KITCHEN

Kendra is seen heating leftover Spaghetti on the stove. Jase is on the couch tickling Melody while she plays with his Custom Jase Bobblehead. The apartment is modest, something missing though.

KENDRA
People have been calling and asking me all these questions about that special they did on you.

JASE
(composed)
That's great to know.

KENDRA
Even Dad.

... Jase shifts his eyes from the Tablet to Kendra, giving her a dismissive look. Knowing him all too well, she moves from this.

KENDRA (CONT'D)
Can you take her into the room and put her to sleep?

Jase cradles Melody as her eyes are getting heavy. He takes her to the bedroom, lays her down in the toddler crib, rubs her back and closes the bedroom door. Creeping out like the pink panther.

INT. KITCHEN

Jase is counting some money in a white envelope. The pot of spaghetti is simmering with savory.

JASE
(excited)
I appreciate this though sis, I'm
going to get you back.

She gives him that "Um hmm, believe it when I see it look" as Jase quickly grabs a plate; scoops half the pot this indulges like he hasn't eaten a real meal in days. After the third or fourth chew, he grimaces.

JASE (CONT'D)
Ugh, What type of Spaghetti is
this? Is their *imitation* meat in
this?

She gives him another look and folds her arms -- Jase is in a joking type of mode.

JASE (CONT'D)
Why are you looking at me like
that?

KENDRA
You shouldn't be complaining when
you ain't got that many option!

JASE
Dang Kendra, get off my back!

KENDRA
With that life-size bobblehead.

She does a real-life bobblehead gesture like his toy from earlier.

JASE
Hey, do you remember a girl named
Gabby that we may have grown up
with?

KENDRA
Doesn't ring a bell. Why? You in
love again?

JASE
I ran into her out in town, and she
gave me this idea for this app.

KENDRA
App?

JASE
Yeah, Ron and I --

-- Kendra stops mid-point before reaching the sink, snaps her
head around, and...

KENDRA
Don't ever mention that name in
this house again!

Jase looks off and finishes his food with a puckish smile.
Kendra stares for a few more seconds before proceeding to the
sink.

A NOTIFICATION pops up on Jase's phone.

INSERT - JASE'S PHONE

Someone viewed his profile on a generic dating app.

BACK TO KENDRA'S KITCHEN

... KENDRA grabs the tablet off the couch and strides over to
him.

KENDRA (CONT'D)
I saw your girl online.

JASE
(dismissive)
Already seen it on the news, so
don't bother.

KENDRA
The news?

JASE
Yeah, the weather channel... Right?

... Kendra sits down, scrolls through the laptop trying to
find what she's looking for -- finds a VIDEO and:

ON THE COMPUTER

YouTube entitled FIANCÉ TAG. It's paused, but you can see
Camilla and Shilo both flashing their engagement rings.

JASE'S FACE

Jase looks completely ossified.

Kendra slides the video back her way and waits for a verbal response.

Beat. Jase doesn't blink an eye, just stares at the frozen video.

KENDRA

I thought you should know.

INT. OUTSIDE CODING CLASSROOM DOOR - NIGHT

Jase, wearing his work shirt still, is posted-up outside the classroom door waiting for the talkative Ron, visually assaulting Shilo and Tim chatting with another FEMALE student a few feet away.

Ron finishes flirting with another STUDENT and walks over to an infuriated Jase.

CODING HALLWAY

Jase is still engrossed on Shilo, clearly not in the mood to joke.

RON

Yo, where were you at last night? I tried to call you like hundred times but your phone kept going to voicemail.

His eyes never leave the chuckling Shilo -- Jase proceeds to walk over to Shilo with an inquisitive look. Ron sighs, shaking his head while following reluctantly.

Shilo and Tim seem to be snickering about something, noticing Jase heading their way.

Jase stops within arms distance, cowing, but Shilo is the same size.

JASE

Don't I know you from somewhere?

SHILO

(condescending)
I don't know, do you?

Ron recognizes him.

RON

Oh snap, you were the guy about to catch a beat down on draft night.

(to Jase)

Another grand slam bro!

SHILO

You sure you want to do that?

(signals Jase's shirt)

JASE

What's your last name again?

SHILO

Kettle...

Ron SNICKERS... Jase looks down on his company logo t-shirt -- Tim mocks Ron with his own SNICKER.

JASE

(ignoring)

Isn't it interesting someone like you would be in a class like this?

SHILO

What's interesting is seeing the greatest of all times in a coding class getting a good nap in.

Tim cough's a laugh.

JASE

(to Ron)

You're right, this was a waste of time.

Jase starts walking off.

SHILO

You purport to be great at everything -- How about we take that to task?

JASE

I'll pass, seeing I just hit 10k last week and probably 100k by the end of this class!

SHILO

(to Tim)

Awesome feat we celebrated what, last week?

(to Jase)

(MORE)

What's the name of your app again?

Ron clears his throat.

JASE
LIPS.

Shilo and Tim laugh because they know this is a lie.

JASE (CONT'D)
Something funny?

SHILO
We both know why you really came
over here, Camilla...

BEAT. Ron looks off knowing this was coming.

JASE
I saw your little online thing --
been there, done that.

Ron does a counter LAUGH, to no effect.

SHILO
You're an athlete --

TIM
(coughs)
-- Was.

Jase sneers. Ron cheese's a fake smile as Tim cowers.

SHILO
We're on the same playing field,
right? Let's say you hit 1 million
downloads on your "app" -- 1
million downloads and I'll see to
it you get stock options worth a
lot more than that contract could
ever be!

JASE
(cowering forward)
... Like I said, I don't --

RON
(to Shilo)
-- Hold up.

Ron shuns him out of earshot.

OTHER SIDE OF CODING SCHOOL HALLWAY

RON (CONT'D)

Yo, this is *easy* money! Plus I know you need it.

JASE

I only compete with myself!

RON

Forget the job, it's all about them stock options! This dude's company is worth millions! Ain't you about to lose your place?

(whispers in ear)

The fact that ya'll are fighting over a girl is one thing but seeing that your life is spiraling, this is a sign of *help* from above.

JASE

From above?

RON

Yeah, that's what He just told me to tell you.

They both look up to a missing ceiling tile, then back at each other.

Jase doesn't have a 'convincing look' -- looks over at Shilo who has a condescending smile. He shoots a word to Tim who smirks.

They both look at each other with an intense discerning look -
- nod with a silent agreement and shoot back over.

SHILO

So, has the congregation decided?

JASE

What's in it for you?

SHILO

Nothing too simple, just let Camilla no you've moved on, for good.

Jase looks over at the confirming Ron.

JASE

Are you serious?

(to Ron)

He's kidding, right?

(to Shilo)

That's not even a real challenge.

SHILO

No more love DMs. No more requests from different accounts after she's blocked you.

RON

That's just sad bro... Told you she --

JASE

Shut up.
(to Shilo)
Hope you are ready to pay up, Boss.

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Lance is sitting, drinking coffee, and staring at his computer; An email puts him as a deer in the headlights:

ON LANCE'S LAPTOP SCREEN

Google Hiring Committee response:

"Although you were among the best candidates, we regret..."

Back to scene

As he reaches for another sip of coffee, the GIRL from the gym walks in casually with street clothes and a red purse with a Winnie the Pooh logo attached. After making eye contact, Lance spills the coffee on his computer.

LANCE

Holy crap!

The girl notices and protrudes over compassionately. Lance is shown to be a clumsy wit, like Clark Kent around kryptonite.

She giggles and thinks it's zany at best.

GYM GIRL

That happened to me last week, I'll give you the address of a computer repair guy I know.

LANCE

I may need it, even though I am a software engineer.

GYM GIRL

Same here.

Those sparks are happening again.

GYM GIRL (CONT'D)

I've seen you before, at the gym,
without the grunts of course.

Lance gets red, teasing him. He's lucky she even knows him.

IZZY

I'm Izzy.

Extending her hand, Lance hesitates, then extends his own.

LANCE

Uh, Lancelot.

IZZY

Is that really *your name*?

LANCE

My mom was really into Medieval
literature... left me hanging in
modern times.

Izzy giggles uncontrollably. Lance didn't really intend to make a joke.

BARISTA (O.S.)

For Izzy. Watch out, it's hot.

The Barista smiles at both Lance and Izzy, recognizing the chemistry flare.

LANCE

I guess I'll take that number
then...

IZZY

(beat)
... Oh right, the address.

Hands it to Lance with a sweet exit. The Barista cheeses at him with dumbs up but Lance just watches her walk out, memorized. The Barista throws him a "why didn't you look".

INT. PAWN SHOP - DAY

Jase is busy struggling, watching a How-to video on the computer, and learning hardwiring of an Ion Band in the back of a junky Pawnshop.

An OLDER MAN pops his head through the curtain -- He is JOHN (ret) (54), austere but comical.

JOHN
 Can I get some help out here
 nephew?

John walks back out to the front, helping customers. Lance
 walks in the front door, galloping to the counter.

LANCE
 Someone named Izzy recommended you.
 (shows computer)
 Had a little --

JOHN
 -- Spill huh? Let me see what you
 got.

John examines it.

LANCE
 Does that Izzy person come in here
 often?

JOHN
 The name doesn't ring a bell. What
 does she look like?

Jase finishes with another customer, brandishing an "I work
 for free T Shirt".

INT. NYC TECH STORE COUNTER

JASE
 I remember her.

LANCE
 (shocked)
 You work *here*?

JASE
 More like unsolicited bondage.

John gives him a look.

JOHN
 I'm guessing you two know each
 other?

JASE AND LANCE
 Sorta'.

JOHN
 Well, I hope you know you're not
 getting a discount.

Jase shakes his head and smiles as Lance sighs.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Nothing too complicated outside of what the Army had me doing. Should take a week or so -- have it good as new.

(to Jase)

Cover the counter, need to make a call.

Jase and Lance are left alone, lost for words.

JASE

So how is the Google thing going?

LANCE

Good. How is the app thing going?

JASE

Great.

They stand in silence.

LANCE

Well, I'll be back a in few days to um... pick the computer back up.

Jase sighs in disbelief. Lance ignores it and starts walking away.

Jase looks off. Lance walks hesitantly toward the door. He stalls and turns around with alacrity.

LANCE (CONT'D)

How strong is that belief?

JASE

Come on Lance, I know you can fix this so why did you come here today?

LANCE

Ok, I didn't get the job and I saw Izzy and she gave me this --

JASE

-- Trying to find her. Don't you think this is a little ironic, almost like a sign?

LANCE

I just don't understand why you would want to invest in the impossible? An app band that links tangible chemistry is against the laws of physics.

JASE

This is not about the correct laws of your science-type mind.

LANCE

Then what is it about?

Best. Jase pauses, looking out the window.

JASE

Told you, Belief... But I don't expect you to understand being a scientist and all.

(grabs computer)

We'll try to have this ready for you in a week sir, have a good day.

Jase heads toward the back, head down.

LANCE

(off Jase)

Hey, let's see what you got.

MONTAGE - JASE AND LANCE ARE PUTTING TOGETHER APP - DAY

-- At the Pawn Shop -- Lance shows Jase what he is missing and helps him figure out bugs and features on a whiteboard.

JASE

(sits watching confused)

I get this, but I don't get that.

LANCE

(sighs)

Let's start over.

-- Jase's apartment -- Lance is at the computer rambling while Jase is in the kitchen.

JASE

(realization)

Ok, now I get it!

LANCE

Simple right?

-- Jase's apartment -- Jase is now at the whiteboard, teaching Lance as he looks on proudly.

LANCE (CONT'D)
 Awesome, except you missed this whole thing...

JASE
 ... Ahhh!

Jase impresses him with this programming skills, bringing a rare smile to Lance's face.

-- At the Pawn shop again -- Jase seems to have figured out the software systems.

JASE (CONT'D)
 That's it?

LANCE
 Almost.
 (off his sad look)
 But it will do for now.

JASE
 (excited)
 Haha, yes *Sirrrr!*

Jase starts dancing as he turns up the MUSIC and starts moonwalking. Lance for the first time laughs temporarily forgetting his prude card and doing a robot dance. Hard work and team effort flaring between them.

END MONTAGE

INT. PAWN SHOP BACK ROOM - DAY

Lance is working on the app software via computer; Jase is sitting, testing the prototype via computer simulator, attached to the Ion Band.

The room looks like someone just step into a 70's Microsoft garage, in full throttle. Jase and Lance bouncing ideas, clearly equals.

LANCE
 So, explain to me how it works again?

Jase sighs, going over it for the hundredth time. Lance folds his arms as Jase strides over to the board with the flimsy band in hand.

JASE
Once we --

LANCE
-- You.

JASE
(nonchalantly)
Whoever -- gets within close
proximity of their match, they open
the app, hit the poke button on the
geolocation profiles within 100
meters and, whaa laah, instant
match!

Uncertainty in the air. Lance stares at the band on Jase's
hand.

LANCE
Great. And the band?

JASE
Why can't we use the band?

LANCE
We can't link the physical element
of chemistry with a band, it's just
not possible.

JASE
It's a key feature.

LANCE
If you want to continue with the
band, go right ahead but what we
have is as good as we're going to
get.

Jase goes and slumps down on the couch.

JASE
So, what now?

LANCE
Test run. The hardest part is
getting people to download the app.
Once they do, we're in the money!

JASE
You make that sound so easy -- Hey
everyone, download this new dating
app that pretty much invades your
privacy.

LANCE

It's geolocation, public places only -- If they're in the same area and you see their profile, send a poke and there you have it.

JASE

But where is the chemistry connection? You're going to get lost with the other 100 guys who also find her on that geography map.

LANCE

If there's real chemistry, it will come with the gaze.

JASE

What if you're blind?

LANCE

Love is supposed to be blind -- look, just remember geolocation and poke the profile on the app's map.

Jase looks over at the band, off into space then back to Lance who seems to have taken on this belief ideal into his own fruition.

JASE

(counters)

I think we should start with Izzy, from the gym.

LANCE

First of all, No. Second, I haven't seen her since the coffee shop.

JASE

How else are we going to get a test run on this?

Lance shrugs his shoulders, then looks over at his forcefully sad face.

LANCE

If it's meant to work out, then it'll work out.

JASE

You don't understand, I need this to work.

(examines app)

(MORE)

I got until the end of the month or
I'm getting evicted to my place.

A KNOCK is heard at the door as Jase proceeds to go open it.
It's Ron with his hair breaded to perfection, gold chains on,
and a bag full of Vegan fast-food.

FRONT DOOR

RON
Yo, what's good.
(to Lance)
Who is this?

JASE
He's the computer guy from the gym.

LANCE
(extends hand)
I'm Lancelot and your name?

RON
(shade)
They did you wrong for that --
look, I only brought food for two.
You look like your good though,
Suspect, but good.
(sits down)
And by the way, I'm the one
financing this whole app thing.

APP AREA

Ron looks him up and down, cowing. Lance doesn't pay him any
mind.

LANCE
Is that *Vegan* fast food?

RON
It's healthier.

LANCE
But it's still a burger and
fries...

... Ron unwraps the burger and takes a huge bite on this
comment. Lance, looking disgusted, shakes his head and
continues inspecting the other band.

RON
So, you're an Engineer huh, same
here.

LANCE
Really?

JASE
He's a *sound* engineer.

RON
Certified, Gold.

Ron sounds assured -- Lance SCOFFS it off.

JASE
(to Ron)
Speaking of that, you still
performing at that event?

LANCE
What, is it some *club* event?

Lance's gild seems more like insecurity.

RON
It's the Town Gala. Raising funds
for non-profits, but, I think
people just show up to validate
their tax-write-offs.

LANCE
And you're headlining this?

RON
Remember that song the "hittin'
home"?

LANCE
(matter-of-fact)
Uh, No.

RON
(to Jase)
I can't continue talking to this
guy knowing I'm losing cool points
by the second.

Lance still doesn't look impressed. Another bite with
confidence from Ron.

JASE
That's it, test run at the Gala!
That way we can test the
compatibility problems.

RON
Test run? I thought it was done
already?

JASE
Almost.

Ron looks at Lance, who looks away.

RON
Hold on, the app is still going to
be doing the chemistry thing,
right?

LANCE
(clears throat)
Connection app.

RON
Hold up, you said this dude was
going to link chemistry, which is
why I paid, now it's just a regular
old connect app like all these
other apps!

JASE
Chill out.

RON
Chill out.
(to Jase)
Is it your money?
(to Lance)
What about you?

Ron gets up and starts getting theatrical.

RON (CONT'D)
Nah, Nah, it's my money.

JASE
It's going to work, we just need
the test run.
(puts hand out)
You know I got you, *brothaman*.

After a few seconds, Ron gives him a smile.

RON
Brothaman, Brothaman.

They embrace each other like old friends.

RON (CONT'D)
 (examines Lance)
 Wait, you can't role looking like
 that.

LANCE
 Like what.

Jase and Lance exchange a 'it's time look' as Lance looks like a throwback Cowboy Jack.

MONTAGE - JASE AND RON FITTING WARDROBE FOR LANCE

-- Lance rejects several ridiculous looking outfits Ron fits him in.

-- Jase puts a silly hat on Lance's balding head, Ron objects:

RON
 Nah brah, shave it all off.

LANCE
 I see, Dwayne Johnson...

RON
 ... More like Stone Cold.

-- They shave Lance's head, more seductive now. Beard and blues eyes popping.

-- The three stand in the mirror looking, dressed to impress.

LANCE
 Reminds me of the three musketeers.

RON
 Style, grace, and...

LANCE
 Class.

Ron shakes his head.

JASE
 Let's do this fellas!

INT. TOWN GALA EVENT - NIGHT

The event is live and diverse with hipsters, businessmen, and individuals dressed up and down in semi-darkness; it's basically a mixture of hip-hop and wall-street.

Most PEOPLE are wearing masks that cover their eyes.

DJ RON DUPREE is on the turntables and Mike. His energy is off the charts.

EMCEE/RON

All right ya'll, you know what tonight is, our annual Gala where art brings awareness to various non-profit organizations, bringing social uplift. So, mingle, buy some art, and...

(more quietly)

... Don't forget to download the Connect App.

Uniformed FEMALE BARTENDERS deploy drinks to the glasses of Jase and Lance who stand observing the crowd, mission orientated.

The Bartender flashes Jase a smile; it's Gabe.

Jase cowers on this looking, evading the curiosity from Lance.

JASE

(teasing)

Nice event, huh?

LANCE

He could have done the app download with a little bit more, justice --

(looks at bartender)

What was that earlier, with the Bartender?

JASE

Nothing.

LANCE

Nah, you know her.

Jase gives him a look.

LANCE (CONT'D)

Medieval right? Better get on it, *Romeo!*

Jase looks for her on the 'LIPS' app but to no avail.

Jase strides over to the busy bar counter and waits to signal to get the Bartender's attention.

INT. BAR COUNTER AREA

GABE

Well, if it isn't Mr. Jase Jewels.

She walks off to the other side of the counter to take an order. Jase follows.

JASE (O.S.)

I must admit, I'm totally lost.

GABE

Not surprised -- I was the paralegal for your Agent.

JASE

Oh Ok, yeah I kind of remember.

GABE

You don't.

JASE

I don't.

(she laughs)

How did you go from *that* to *this*?

GABE

Well, *this* is something I do extra.
Law school gets expensive.

She finishes making a drink and gives him a half-hearted smile; love sparks fly from Jase.

EMCEE RON (O.S.)

All right ya'll let's get loose in here. The night is young, like real young, but we still have of art to be sold.

(turns music up)

And download the app.

Eurodance MUSIC plays; this is clearly Ron's genre. People start dancing.

INT. OTHER SIDE OF BAR

A smooth voice creeps up from behind Jase.

SMOOTH VOICE (V.O.)

Any success?

Jase looks around slowly to the beaming Lester Cline.

LESTER

Jase Jewels, I'm a big fan.

Jase leans back over the counter, away from Lance.

Jase takes a big gulp, last of the drink.

LESTER (CONT'D)

Wondering if we could sit down and talk.

JASE

Don't you think you should have done that before your little *special*?

LESTER

You declined our interviews, so we had to go with it - Ratings.

Jase looks off.

LESTER (CONT'D)

You sit down with me; we change the narrative.

Lester flips him a card then walks off.

INT. NEXT TO DJ BOOTH

Ron is going harder than the crowd, taking his headphones off for Jase who just stopped by.

JASE

Can you promote the download of the app some more.

Ron signals like he can't hear, taking his headphones off to go elsewhere. Jase checks app downloads -- nothing.

INT. GALA ENTRANCE

Camilla walks in alone. She looks as if she's been out to a few other places -- Jase gets excited for a second, leg shaking when:

The BOUNCER waives in Shilo and his POSSE, resembling royal buffoons, all hammered. Shilo comes up from behind Camilla, kisses her on the neck. She giggles.

Jase's excitement turns into pure jealousy.

DANCE FLOOR - LATER

Fire in his eyes, he assaults Shilo and Camilla, now dancing promiscuously on the dance floor. The Gala has turned into a nightclub type of thing. A much younger crowd than before.

Camilla breaks free and heads to the bar area. Shilo, touted by his friends, checks his phone and maneuvers to the bathroom entrance. Jase's seizes the opportunity, and struts over, concealing his pride.

INT. TOWN GALA FUNDRAISER BATHROOM - SAME TIME

Ron is washing his hands slowly at the sink. A toilet FLUSHES; Shilo appears boisterous from behind the stall door. He strides to a sink next to Ron's, Not saying a word, then:

SHILO

(sly)

Have you ever heard the saying,
"true friendship multiplies the
good in life and divides its
evils"?

RON

(beat)

Naw... must be something rich
people say.

Another MAN is using the restroom -- they wait until he exits. Shilo then pulls out a clip of cash, flipping each bill. Ron looks at it, wipes his hands and then looks away with shame.

Shilo extends the bill with a smile, Ron goes for it, Shilo still holding on tight.

Shilo's smiles goes away, gritting his teeth, looking dead in the eye of a shamed Ron.

SHILO

Money talks, remember that!

Shilo lets the cash go with a puckish smile, and heads toward the exit. Ron gives a deep gasp and follows.

Afterward, Lance appears to have witnessed it all.

INT. TOWN GALA FUNDRAISER BAR - NIGHT

JASE

Are you really going to marry him?

CAMILLA

When did you -- Are you... *drunk*?

Camilla is more amazed that Jase is drinking rather than the topic at hand -- In total desperation mode.

JASE

(gets closer)

Was it real, what we had?

Camilla returns a blank stare.

JASE (CONT'D)

Because if it's no, I'll truly walk away...

... Camilla moves closer, looking more radiant and seductive.

CAMILLA

Do you really want to know?

JASE

Yes, I really want to know.

Camilla begins when -- Shilo evaporates out of nowhere, looking angered at the sight of them.

SHILO

(checking phone App)

Will you look at that, zero downloads for your *LIPS* app -- You know what to do.

Beat. Jase looks around as Shilo is standing behind him with his two GOONS. Someone is recording with their mobile app.

Jase doesn't pay them any mind, back to Cammy.

JASE

Look, I created this app to really show what we had is more than physical.

CAMILLA

Wait, what's going on?

JASE

It was his idea.

Camilla shoots past the goons toward the exit.

SHILO

(to boys)

Can you believe this, *has been*?

(MORE)

(to Jase)
 Greatest of all times... All that
 confidence and you can't even get
 it up.

Angered, Jase swings with an uppercut but doesn't connect as Shilo unveils some unknown combat skills. The two other guys launch at Jase, sending everyone to the ground.

The MUSIC comes to a complete stop. Ron jumps over the high-end disc jockey equipment, running to aide his best friend.

EXT. OUTSIDE TOWN GALA - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

SECURITY throws both Ron and Jase out the front entrance.

They dust themselves off, gather, still very emote.

RON
 I need my equipment!

Security still blocking the door, A well-dressed ARMENIAN MAN rushes out with Ron's equipment in cases.

RIGO
 Sorry, Ron, you know how this
 business is.

RON
 It's like that Rigo -- this place
 wouldn't be nothing without me.

RIGO
 Get over yourself, you're a one-hit
 wonder.

He throws the rest of the equipment down, hurrying back in.

RON
 Forget you then. When I make my
 comeback, I'm going to hit that
 decline button so fast.

Ron starts assaulting his phone, hitting the buttons on it.

SIDE OF ROAD/CURB

They both sit on the side of the road with the equipment, looking dejected. Ron checks his phone, jumping up.

RON (CONT'D)
 And my phone just got turned off.

Ron throws his hands up, slumping back down.

Jase rips the side of his fancy shirt, ailing his bruised eye. With Ron's head between his legs staring at the ground, A breeze comes their way. Through all the chaos, the city night lights flicker beautifully.

Jase starts LAUGHING. Ron looks up at him, trying to gauge the rationale for this comical relief.

RON (CONT'D)

What are you over there laughing at?

JASE

At you -- jumping over that table like the black Spiderman.

For a quick second it seems as though Ron wants to point out he's the cause of this mess, but then:

RON

You're the one trying to be like Mike Tyson.

Laughter proceeds the calming night in the backdrop, then Jase gets somber.

JASE

Phone off, eviction, Baseball dream over, now I owe you all this money for this app.

RON

Don't forget you just got fired.

JASE

No, I clocked out.

RON

Oh is that what it is?

Jase gets up does a swing and Ali shuffle.

RON (CONT'D)

Real question is, how will we get the Uber with no phone...

... Jase gets up and puts his thumb out.

A light-colored mid-size car pulls up near the curb; windows tinted. The window rolls down halfway. It's Gabe.

GABE
You guys need a ride?

INT. GABE'S CAR - NIGHT - MOVING

The urban sedan meanders away from the receding city lights, into the outlines of the countryside.

Jase is very ardent on the passenger side, rambling about what happened -- Ron is getting annoyed by the minute as he watches the passing streetlights. Jase, not paying any mind, demonstrates what he should have done during the fight.

JASE
I'm telling you, if his boys weren't there, it woulda' been over!

GABE
-- Hold on, was that *your* App?

JASE
Yeah LIPS -- man if I would have connected...

GABE
(looks at Jase)
Impressive.

... Jase starts moving his hands and head like Mayweather. Gabe is very entertained: The once smooth Jase is now acting like a Prized Fighter -- He's gained some confidence back.

GABE (CONT'D)
(to Ron)
Did he really fire you?

Ron is in the passenger seat, quiet, watching the street lights flicker with brash eyes.

RON
It's whatever.

Gabe SNICKERS. Something else is buzzing in Ron's mind...

JASE
I still got it, greatness man I'm telling you it never leaves, even if --

RON
-- Dang, ain't you caused enough drama tonight?

Ron and Jase's building comes into view.

GABE

(to Ron)

Yeah settle down, cowboy.

(to Jase)

Your App idea is good though, but the name though... Really?

RON

He's not doing the app anymore.

GABE

Wait, why not?

RON

As of the end of the week, he's homeless.

GABE

Are you serious?

Jase is shadow boxing to himself, not really paying attention.

RON

He created a connection app for a girl who doesn't want to connect with him.

She pulls up to their apartment complex.

Ron jumps out; Gabe reaches for the trunk button, releases and looks back over to a *googly-eyed* Jase leaning towards her over the console. Noticing, she smiles as the moonlight hit's her face just right.

GABE

No charge.

JASE

(taken back)

Huh?

GABE

For the ride.

JASE

-- Will you at least download the app?

GABE

With a name like LIPS, I think not.

JASE

I'll change the name and don't mind him, he's just mad he's getting a roommate.

Ron hears this then shakes his head.

The chemical connection manifests as the moonlight hits both their faces; entropic feelings rise. Gabe plays off this:

GABE

Unfortunately, you're not my type.

JASE

Okay, on a scale from one to ten.

GABE

Zero.

Jase thinks for a second then...

JASE

Just make this one exception --

RON (O.S.)

-- Yo, Casanova, I need some help!

A dejected Jase looks over then puts his head down as she waves and drives off -- Ron, struggling with his equipment, throws his hands up as Jase jumps out the front passenger door.

EXT. RON'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Ron is SIZZLING veggie stir fry in the kitchen, still fuming and mumbling above the stove. Jase sits on the living room couch, nursing his bruises and messing with the app features on his computer.

Ron finishes cooking, prepares two plates, then grabs ice out the freezer and heads over to the couch where Jase lays on the floor.

RON

Man, I needed that gig. Maybe I can get back in the studio, get a hit -- And you gone need to get a job too! None of them twenty-minute Hollywood showers -- Five minutes, tops! And if you bring somebody over -- my bad, I forgot who I was talking to.

JASE

I need to change the name.

Dead silence. Uncertainty looms.

A LOUD KNOCK is heard at the door. No one moves, they just stare at the walls. Another KNOCK.

LANCE (V.O.)

Jase, you in there?

Jase looks over at Ron, who shakes his head.

FRONT DOOR

LANCE

I know you guys are in there, I can smell the horrible veggie food.

Ron shoots to the door, revealing Lance with his blazer off looking like a Mormon in training.

RON

Look at what we got here.

LANCE

Where is he?

RON

So now you're concerned?

Lance makes his way past Ron, on a mission.

LIVING ROOM

RON (CONT'D)

(throws hands up)

Where were you when the homies needed help?

(to Jase)

Told you he was suspect.

Lance adjusts his glasses, forward with no regard.

JASE

(off Ron's statement)

Dude, what happened?

Lance goes straight to the app board.

LANCE

Sorry man, but I figured out an anomaly in one of the bugs, thanks to Izzy.

RON
(mocking)
Thanks to Izzy... can you believe
this guy?

Lance ignores him and starts drawing a math equation on the board. Ron shakes his head.

LANCE
(pointing to board)
What do you think?

Jase doesn't say a word, just looks at the board.

RON
(dismissive)
Forget this board, let's talk about
how you rogered out on us.

LANCE
Excuse me sir, but we're discussing
business here, so, if you don't
mind....

Lance keeps on -- Ron has a "had it with this guy" look. The dislike between them is mounting. Jase is still fixated on the board.

JASE
What does this all mean?

LANCE
We need more server space -- a few
other bugs will be costly, but more
importantly, we need to make this
thing bigger than a dating app...
We need to make it to where people
can connect and chat live in a
public location.

Lance addresses the board once more. Jase leans in and let's it all soak in.

Jase doesn't seem to care for the tension building, mind somewhere in the abyss.

RON
I'm done funding this app!

LANCE
Is that right? Or is it that we
have a traitor in our mist?

Jase zones back in, no words.

LANCE (CONT'D)

(to Ron)

Are you going to explain yourself?

JASE

What is he talking about?

Lance gives him a confirming look in which Jase looks over at Ron.

RON

Look bro, people hook up, then they fall in love, simple. No band, no app, just happenstance. This was all a waste of time and the sooner we all realize that, the better.

JASE

What are you saying to me?

LANCE

(to Jase)

Right before I left with Izzy I was in the bathroom and seen Shilo paying him.

Jase is shocked.

RON

(off Jase's look)

Okay look, before you say anything I found out Shilo's family owns the place I DJ at, so he came to me and offered me money not to promote the app and I took it -- But I still promoted the app.

Jase jumps up on this.

JASE

You did *what*?

RON

I only did it because I needed the money.

JASE

So you never believed it from the jump?

RON

You were falling apart, so I was just excited to see the old you back, you know, that kid that said he was the greatest, even before he went to bat! You were walking around here all depressed so when you jumped on this, I seen that confidence again and not some love desperate rookie with a heart problem. I didn't know you were actually going to go through with it though.

Lance starts clapping his hands.

LANCE

And now we know who the real suspect is.

RON

I had about enough of you!

Ron gets into some type of karate stance and goes after Lance. As nerdy as Lance is, he height and muscular psychic is outmatched for Ron; goods looks are no match -- Lance quickly puts Ron in a light chokehold; Ron squirms as Lance settles on him.

JASE

(yelling)

All right, that's enough.

They keep at it.

JASE (CONT'D)

(yelling)

Enough!

(to both)

The app is done, it's no more.

(to Ron)

Brothaman...

... Jase storms out. Lance and Ron stop immediately. Ron looking shocked, gets shoved off by Lance then follows him to his place down the hallway.

INT. HALLWAY

RON

(grabbing Jase's shoulder)

Sorry man, I --

JASE

-- It's over, tomorrow is today!

Ron gets misty-eyed. Jase storms toward the exit.

INT. JASE'S APARTMENT/HALLWAY - DAY

Jase is walking slowly to his apartment sluggish to his apartment, clearly despondent about life. As he gathers his keys, Ms. Waterbaker is leaving her apartment.

MS. WATERBAKER

Oh Jase, I've been looking for you.

JASE

Hey Ms. Waterbaker. Sorry, I can't watch Beowulf anymore -- I'm leaving town tomorrow.

Ms. Waterbaker comes over to comfort him.

MS. WATERBAKER

Do you like pie?

This brings somewhat of a smile to Jase's face.

JASE

The last pie I had was from my mother.

MS. WATERBAKER

I'll make you a pie, for your trip.

JASE

Thanks, Ms. Waterbaker but I won't be coming back.

MS. WATERBAKER

You must come back, to meet my granddaughter.

(off his sad look)

Promise me.

JASE

(sighs)

Ok.

She CLAPS her hands,

MS. WATERBAKER

Let me go get started on that Pie... This is going to be so wonderful.

EXT. BACK OF USED FURNITURE STORE - DAY

Jase and the STORE OWNER are behind a moving truck full of Jase's furniture; he's counting some money

JASE
Hold on, you said \$1200 for everything.

STORE OWNER
That's all I got.

JASE
You're a Cooke man.

STORE OWNER
C'mon, I'm struggling too.

JASE
My bad, I didn't mean anything by it. Take it easy man.

Jase walks off sorting the money while the store owner goes through his stuff.

STORE OWNER
Hey is this real?

He's referring to his Baseball Jersey.

JASE
Yep, all included in your \$500.

Jase shakes his head in disappointment.

STORE OWNER
You're the Grand slam kid! Have you been back to the ball park since...

JASE
... Nope.

STORE OWNER
You should go, you might find something there you never expected.

EXT. BALLPARK - LATER

Jase is walking up to the entrance of the stadium; He stops where he can see home plate, then he puts on a face mask and pulls up a sign that reads "Send love with anything you can", follow by a large QR code.

He goes to the street, and holds the sign up. Someone is walking by and notices him:

Beat. SOUNDS of a ball game fill his head.

GIRL IN BLUE (O.S.)
Um, Hello. Hello?

He snaps back to reality, the Girl in Blue right front of him.

JASE
Anything will help.

GIRL IN BLUE
Is that Jase Jewels?

Jase looks around as if someone else is around.

JASE
Sorry, I don't know who that is.

GIRL IN BLUE
Remember me, from the sports bar.

A FLASHBACK of her going crazy and doing a wand motion hits him.

JASE
You. You're the one who cursed me!

GIRL IN BLUE
I did not, you cursed yourself.

JASE
I've officially lost everything.

He uncovers his masks so she can see his angry face.

JASE (CONT'D)
Congrats, You're little wand thing worked.

He starts walking to the other side but she follows him.

GIRL IN BLUE
How about you come work with me.

Jase stops and turns around.

JASE
You're still crazy I see.

GIRL IN BLUE
Content. Big money.

JASE
What type of *content*?

GIRL IN BLUE
(seductive look)
Is there any other kind?
(walking toward him)
With your brand, we can make an
instant million...

She starts strutting towards him like an evil queen in slow motion.

GIRL IN BLUE (CONT'D)
When you rejected me for that
social media model, I battled
depression to ya know... Then I
found my calling and now my fanbase
loves me, and I know they'll love
you.

Jase looks at her then up at the sky for the longest he's ever did, then back to her.

JASE
Let's do it.

INT. DOCTOR BROOK'S OFFICE - LATER

JASE
(examining pill)
And this is going to get me going?

DOCTOR BROOKS
Have you seen the psychologists
yet?

Looks at it intensely.

The Doc gives him a curious look as Jase gathers his things.

DOCTOR BROOKS (CONT'D)
I almost failed med school, now I
have my own practice - sometimes
the obstacle is there to erect the
growth.

INT. NEWS CHANNEL STUDIO

Lester Cline is on the phone, leaving a voicemail.

LESTER

Hey Jase, been trying to call you.
Someone wants to invest in your app
idea so call me back as soon as you
can.

INT. SOFTWARE HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Lance is unpacking stuff at his new cubicle when a CO-WORKER
walks by.

CO-WORKER

Welcome to the team my man. How do
you feel?

LANCE

Dream come true.

CO-WORKER

Yale sits that corner, Stanford
over there, Harvard over there and
MIT...

(pats his back)

Right here baby!

He walks off. Lance looks around, then looks at the Gala
photo of him, Ron, and Jase.

INT. JASE'S APARTMENT - DAY

The fluffy Prairie Vole is the only thing left in his
apartment.

Jase

Just you and I now buddy.

The Prairie Vole falls over, dead. Jase sighs.

A soft KNOCK is heard at the door.

JASE

I told you I'd be out today.

Jase waits, no knock -- A letter appears from under the door.

Jase goes to pick it up; It's from Ms. Waterbaker.

INSERT: FOR ALWAYS BEING NICE.

Back to Scene.

Jase pops the door open; no one is there. Below is a Blueberry Crumb pie. He looks down the hallway and sees a young woman walking away.

JASE (CONT'D)

Excuse me.

She turns around, it's Gabe.

EXT. CITY PARK - DAY

Jase and Gabe are walking along the park pond while PEOPLE feed ducks. Outside of Jase's gloom, it's beautiful.

JASE

So tell me again why you failed to mention your grandmother lived in the same building you dropped us off in?

GABE

Because you were acting super thirsty, like you never been with a girl before.

This comment hits him to the core.

JASE

Well, my thirsting days are over!

GABE

Is that right?

JASE

That's what I said, right?

They both stop and stare each other down.

GABE

You're just a nice guy who watches dogs for free!

Jase pulls out a wad of cash.

JASE

Never count me out!

He stops and counts and smells the money with a puckish smile.

GABE
What are you talking about?
(looks at cash)
Wait, where did you get all of
that?

Jase looks at the sparkle in her eye.

JASE
(to himself)
I think I'm going to take that
interview so I can let the world
know *exactly* how connected we are.

GABE
But everyone has their flaws Jase --
maybe that's the true connection
you've been missing.

JASE
Get outta' here with that nonsense.

GABE
Excuse me?

JASE
First, you tell me, "Oh Jase I'm
not into guys", then you pull up to
a house lying and now you're coming
at me with this soft story about
not giving up on a connection.

GABE
To think I actually thought we had
something, but this proves
otherwise.

Jase does a hand gestures, mocking her talking.

GABE (CONT'D)
Looks like you finally turned to
the dark side.

JASE
You know what, I would have rather
died than deal with people like
you.

GABE
Maybe you should have!

She storms off.

JASE
 (looks at sky)
 You here that, she's wants me dead.
 (throws hands up)
 I gave you all of me -- What did I
 do wrong to deserve this life huh?
 Just know, you gave up on me long
 before I gave up on you.

He flops on the grass LAUGHING, then his face turns into uncertainty.

MOMENTS LATER

Jase is lying flat on his back, looking at the sky. Lance and Izzy are walking a dog and spot him from a distance and shoot over.

LANCE
 Jase, Jase.

He just continues staring at the sky.

LANCE (CONT'D)
 Jase, Lester trying to get a hold
 of you, it's about the app. He has
 an investor ready to take it to the
 next level.

JASE
 It doesn't matter.

LANCE
 No man, this is it.

Jase throws his phone over to Lance.

JASE
 The world is really going to know
 who I am now.

Lance looks confused then his eyes pop once he looks at the video playing, covering his mouth. Izzy follows suit.

IZZY
 Jase, you didn't.

JASE
 I did.
 (points to sky)
 Hope that made you happy because it
 sure made me.

IZZY
This is going to ruin him.

LANCE
We gotta' clean this up before it goes...

LANCE AND IZZY
Viral.

LANCE
(to Izzy)
You erase it from all platforms,
and I'll get in contact with
Lester.

Jase starts LAUGHING but with a sad undertone.

JASE
Sir Lancelot, trying to save the
day.

LANCE
And get his sister.

INT. SPORTS NEWS - DAY

The Sports News Anchor is beaming beside Lance.

NEWS ANCHOR
Looks like Jase Jewels is back in
the news. The Grand Slam king is
hitting home a little different
these days, role the clip.
(get's camera attention)
Gotcha! Of course the viral video
is a little too much for this
program but I can say his
performance, will amaze you.

NEWS ANCHOR #2
Jewels, Jewels trying to make a
comeback -- always knew you had it
in you my brother.

BACK STAGE - MOMENTS LATER

Lance is breathing heavy, looking for Lester; he spots
Camilla instead.

LANCE
Hey where is Lester?

CAMILLA

I saw the video and he's not interested in helping him anymore.

She starts strutting away.

LANCE

Please, Jase really needs this... He's losing it.

CAMILLA

He definitely lost something!

Lance jumps in front of her.

LANCE

Dang it, would you stop thinking about yourself for one minute! You have millions of followers for what, doing body gestures.

CAMILLA

Says the guy who had a one-way ticket to an Ivy-League school.

LANCE

I came from nothing! In high school no one even knew I existed -- My only option was to be smart or else or else fade into the invisible shadows that I'm sure you know nothing about.

CAMILLA

Go away!

LANCE

(getting louder)

No! You're going to help because guys like Jase -- people like *us*, must be more than looks to get 1 third of the attention you seem to relish on, so you're going to tell me where he is right this second.

Camilla just stares, scoffs, then...

CAMILLA

He's on his way to the airport, for a story he's been gathering on Middle Eastern players - Better be quick though because he'll be gone for a few months.

LANCE

Thank you.

EXT. LANCE'S CAR - MOVING

Lancing is rushing through traffic, dodging cars and pedestrians alike. He finally pulls up to the airport but is being blocked by SECURITY, so parks in the restricted area and shoots in the airport with security YELLING after him.

INT. SECURITY CHECK - MOMENTS LATER

After popping his head here and there, he finally spots him almost at the security post.

LANCE

Mr. Cline, Mr. Cline.

Lester looks his way then ignores him.

LANCE (CONT'D)

Mr. Cline.

Lance catches up to him.

LANCE (CONT'D)

The, the video --

LANCE (CONT'D)

-- Ends everything, sorry.

Lester gets to the security post but Lance shoots past him, alerting security who rush over and grab him.

After a brief struggle, Lance interjects.

LESTER

Wait, he just wants to talk to me.

SECURITY looks at Lester, who imposes a bit of celebrity on them, so they let Lance go.

LESTER (CONT'D)

Why are you doing all of this?

LANCE

Belief sir. Because of him, I believe that I'm meant for something more.

Lester sighs. Then SECURITY asks Lester to come through the metal detector.

LESTER
 (to Security)
 I'm staying.
 (to Lance)
 You got one day for the interview.

EXT. NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

Ron is DJing when a couple of hot GIRLS run up to him with their phones.

GIRL #1
 Hey is this your friend?

Ron's eyes pop at the video.

GIRL #2
 Can you give me his number?

Ron looks at her.

RON
 No! Matter of fact, get away from
 my table.
 (he stops the music)
 Party over.

All the MUSIC stops as Ron slams the headphones down.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

Jase is sitting in the back of a wiry service not really tuned but listening to the speaker, PASTOR (50s), a gentle yet persuasive man.

PASTOR
 And he who shall do the work shall
 reap the award.

Jase lowers his head in shame.

INT. KENDRA'S OFFICE - DAY

A VOICE is heard distant but cannot be distinguished. Jase talks to it with his eyes closed, laying on the couch.

VOICE (V.O.)
 What do you see?

JASE
 The back of my eyelids.

VOICE
 Beyond that, what figure do you
 see?

MONTAGE - JASE TRANCE

- A vision of Jase's mom smiling while Jase plays as a boy.
- A woman zooms in from a distance, like a farmhouse on an eye scale.

JASE (V.O.)
 I see a woman.

VOICE
 Go ahead, let her enter.

- Camilla comes into view...

JASE
 I don't want to do this.

Jase wakes from the couch and looks around disgruntled. His eyes pierce at Kendra.

JASE (CONT'D)
 You said this would work!

KENDRA
 You need to focus, now lay down!

Jase tries to get up but Kendra hits him with a teddy bear.

JASE
 Ayoooo -- You can't hit a client
 like that.

KENDRA
 Lay!

Jase lays back down.

JASE
 I don't understand how all of this
 is supposed to help...

KENDRA
 ... Say it.

JASE
 (softly)
 Discover my feelings.

KENDRA
Why did you start the app?

JASE
To get you and your beloved back
together.

Another swap from the teddy bear.

KENDRA
It's because you don't know what
chemistry is -- It's a gut
feeling; like feeling your body
heat up when you get around them or
as if your internal sensors are
truly activated.
(older sister voice)
Now, let's try to find that feeling
again.

He does a double look at her and knows she's serious.

MONTAGE - JASE'S TRANCE

-- Camilla walking towards Jase in a seductive dress, blinded
by everything around him.

JASE (V.O.)
I still see her.

KENDRA (V.O.)
Go beyond...

-- Beyond her smile, Jase's Spirit-self passes over the
horizon of a melody hill filled with dandelions.

-- Now he's zooming through space like a lightyear with
social media photos of all kinds of beautiful women.

-- He approaches a woman in a dress with her back turned to
him.

JASE
I see, someone.

KENDRA
Keep going.

-- He approaches her slowly, with his hand out -- His hand
reaches to reveal but a KNOCK is heard at the door. Jase's
eyes pop open and Kendra SNAPS at the door.

Jase lays with a confused look.

JASE
Should I --

KENDRA
-- Keep going.

Another BANG.

JASE
Are you gonna...

KENDRA
(Sighs)
Ugh...

Kendra totters to the door, and SWINGS it open.

FRONT OFFICE DOOR

KENDRA (CONT'D)
Were in the middle of a session.

It's Lance and Ron holding Melody; Melody reaches for her mom.

LANCE
Is he ready?

KENDRA
A few more minutes.
(to Ron)
Get out of here before he sees you.

She tries to close the door but Ron puts his foot in between it.

RON
Brothaman, Brothaman. The one that
taught me sensual control.
(Kendra sighs)
How to be there for my daughter,
how to believe in whatever you are
doing -- That's how to be Great.
(beat)
I'll do anything for my brother.

COUCH

Jase looks at the half-closed door.

Tears are flowing down Ron's face -- Both Lance and Kendra are taken back. Ron pulls out an album, with Jase's baseball card as the cover.

RON (CONT'D)

Please give this to him.

He hands it to her and starts walking away.

HALLWAY

JASE (V.O.)

Brothaman -- we give up tomorrow.

Ron turns around to the warm smile of his buddy.

INT. LATE NIGHT TALK SHOW - NIGHT

The stage is set up more like a Larry King Live or Bill Meyer. Jase is sitting alone, getting touch-up makeup.

Lester Cline is getting script notes and talking to the PRODUCTION ASSISTANT.

He finally gets done and comes over to Jase:

LESTER

You good?

JASE

Let's just do this!

Lester flashes him a smile, liking every bit of it.

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT (O.S.)

And we are on in five-four-three-two-one...

LESTER

On Lester Cline today, America's forgotten baseball star, Jase Jewels!

SERIES OF VINTAGE VIDEO SHOTS - From Jase playing college ball to present-day working at the grocery mart.

BACK TO SCENE

Jase gives him a smile with confidence. The videos don't bring back any negative feelings. He has clearly evolved from that time is his life.

LESTER (CONT'D)

(methodical)

Big time star... potential great...
Hit with a career ending condition
and now stocking groceries. Would
you say that lead to the video?

Jase leans in with a smile. Crowd anticipating.

JASE

I came here today to reveal the
truth.

The attention of the audience culminates.

LESTER

Oh.

Jase rubs his chest, takes a moment then --

JASE

That special you did on me, self-
proclaimed greatest of all *times*!
It really was a cover up to how
nervous I was.

(sighs)

I never believed it -- it was just
something to get back at my
critics.

(to audience)

The ones who felt like the know my
purpose.

LESTER

Nothing wrong with confidence, but
you'd agree you flavor was a little
too much.

JASE

I don't agree with that at all.
You see, my heart condition took
more than baseball from me, it took
away my ability to keep my D*** up.

The crowd GRASPS, totally taken back. Some start giggling
from the recourse of the statement.

LESTER

Sweet Jesus man!

Camilla appears from behind the stage, engrossed. Gabe is in
the crowd with her mouth wide open.

JASE
(addresses crowd)
Yep.

LESTER
You must be kidding, right?

JASE
I wish. None of that matters now because I've realized no matter what the public projected me to be, they could never give me the desire to be great at anything I do.

LESTER
Now Jase, it sounds like --

JASE
-- Sounds like I'm starting to listen to myself and value my own feelings. That mindset is leading me to be my very best at whatever I desire to do next.

Jase looks over to a misty-eyed Camilla. Ron hugs Kendra, whose holding Melody; Lance and Izzy are right next to them.

LESTER
And what exactly do you desire?

JASE
I don't know, but I'm not going to give up until I figure it out. Look, I spent my whole life thinking I could be great if I control my sexual nature, that if I did that, everything would work perfectly! But guess what, I'm sitting up here with a viral video that's the complete opposite of that. But you know what, I don't care.

LESTER
Now I don't want to give the audience the wrong idea here but you just admitted you lost control and everything else followed.

JASE

No, because I couldn't get it up',
I tried to develop an app that
links physical chemistry between
people in a non-sexual way -- Like
the feeling when you meet someone
whose a fan of the same sports team
or Athlete...

... A member wearing Jase's Jersey CHEERS from the audience.

JASE (CONT'D)

Simply put, something tangible that
shows we have the same feeling but
without words -- that's what the
app is about.

Beat. Jase looks defeated until --

LESTER

Hey, that sounds better than a love
app.
(checking himself)
Yep, I'm feeling the love.
(to audience)
Are you guys feeling the Love?

The audience break into a surprise APPLAUSE. Lance gives him
a smile, as if he planned this conversation way ahead of
time.

LESTER (CONT'D)

Well lets see it then, lets all
download the help and connect on
this feeling of greatness.

Lance and Izzy exchange a look then Lance runs on stage.

LANCE

(yells to crowd)
Don't you guys want it?

The crowd sympathizes, agreeing with mutters.

RON

(chanting)
App, App, App, App!

The crowd follows suit with the App chant.

JASE

Are you guys ready for the app of
the future?

The crowd CHEERS yes.

LANCE

Ladies and gentlemen, let me
present to you, the Lume Connect
App.

A Video plays from the projected back screen -- the crowd is amazed at its features as many people pull out their phones and start connecting, in-person, with those around them as the screen shows a live-chat public happening in real-time.

LANCE (CONT'D)

Lets give it up for the creator,
Mr. Jase Jewels!

A standing OVATION ensues as Jase looks around amazed.

INT. DRESSING ROOM - LATER

Jase is standing in front of a mirror, looking at a photo of his mom. The door shoots open -- From the mirror view, A huge smile meets Gabe's.

She runs over and hugs him.

GABE

That was so awesome -- and to think
you almost gave up.

Jase's eyes get misty when he sees Ron and his sister come in the room together.

Lester appears in the doorway, followed by Camilla.

LESTER

That was beautiful guys.

Camilla beams a smile, then sends a zestful wave to Jase who mutters a silent "thank you".

JASE

Wait, was this your marketing
scheme?

Lester does a hand gesture of zipping his mouth and throwing away the key.

Melody comes running over to him with a loving hug.

Gabe appears in the doorway as radiant as ever. Jase gives her a slight smile, extending his hand out for a handshake.

She goes in for a kiss, taking Jase by surprise.

Everyone CHEERS them on.

JASE (CONT'D)

But I thought --

GABE

-- I think I'll make an exception.

More CHEERS ensue.

EXT. BASEBALL STADIUM - YEARS LATER

Jase is walking the field with his old Jersey on, next to Gabe and his TODDLER. He starts swinging at the air with his air bat, then pointing in the crowd, pretending like they are cheering him on.

He gets to the batting plate, then looks at the stands with his serious face on -- Gabe throws from the pitching mound.

He swings and misses.

JASE

Strike One.

He swings again.

JASE (CONT'D)

Strike two.

(gathers himself)

Can the rook do it?

Out of the dugout comes Camilla. Jase swings again the invisible crowd goes wild as he runs the bases.

Camilla is walking toward home when Jase notices her at the last minute.

CAMILLA

(clapping)

Greatest player I've seen in a long
time - Care for an interview?

Camilla waves at Gabe, who returns it with a smile and gestures for the toddler to do the same.

GABE

See you in the car.

JASE

If you want an autograph, you
better have a pen!

CAMILLA

Trust me, journalism school keeps
me doing that without a doubt.

Jase folds his arms with a smile as they meet at home plate.

JASE

Millions of fans, and you want to
write a story about me?

CAMILLA

Let's see, first round draft pick,
then grocery boy, after that
dabbles in x-rated social media,
and owner of that very same
baseball team -- Guaranteed
Pulitzer!

Jase does a LAUGH as we've never seen before; truly happy.

CAMILLA (CONT'D)

Thank you for showing me greatness
is a process. That through ups and
downs, anyone can provide something
special to the world.

JASE

I had a pretty good muse at the
time.

CAMILLA

Speaking of Muse.

She points to the Baseball Field Name: Lume Connect Field.

CAMILLA (CONT'D)

Looks good up there.

FIREWORKS then start going off.

JASE

Hold on.

Jase runs to third plate then goes to home plate -- He then
falls to his knees, raising his hands to the sky.

JASE (CONT'D)

How could I think you gave up on me
when this was the plan the whole
time.

(MORE)

(closes eyes)
Thank you.

The FIREWORKS continue to go off in the background.

FADE OUT