

HAS BEEN

Pilot - "Weeds of Wisdom"

Written by

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5th Draft

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EXT. PERFORMANCE ARENA - NIGHT

A massive concert venue. Cheering and music shake the walls.

The venue sign reads HARMONY, TONIGHT ONLY!!!

CHYRON: 1995

INT. PERFORMANCE ARENA - STAGE - SAME TIME

A rocking performance by HARMONY, a five-man boy band. They are killing it! These are the Beatles of Boy Bands.

ON STAGE

JORDAN HAMMER (17) is a walking embodiment of teen hubris in acid-washed jeans. In the front row, he winks at-

KELSEY (17) is the all-American girl, the kind of girl the Beach Boys sang about. She sings along with the music, she knows every word and she's got a great voice.

She wears a VIP pass. A TEEN GROUPIE (16) eyes her VIP pass. Kelsey twists away, tucking the pass into her shirt.

TRISTYN, MIKEY, and ALEX, sing backup. More on them later.

KIRK RUSSO (19, but looks older) moves to center stage. He's the Faith to Jordan's Buffy. Bigger than Jordan, but when the song ends, the crowd is chanting just one name.

CROWD

JORDAN! JORDAN! JORDAN!

CROWD - Thirty-thousand teen girls screaming.

Kirk looks crestfallen. The spotlight illuminates Jordan.

Some ADORING FANS trying to climb up on the stage, right past Kelsey. SECURITY GUARDS rush to block their path.

JORDAN - Basking in that palpable adulation.

KIRK - His fuming eyes move over to Jordan and narrow.

Music surges. SMOKE & FIRE erupts. Jordan spins and-

INT. SHITTY MALL - DAY

-stumbles as he spins on a shitty stage in the middle of a lunch time rush. No smoke, no flames, just sad.

CHYRON: 25 years later

Jordan (now 42) looks rough and out of breath.

MALL WALKERS (70s) blaze by the stage, better places to be.
TEEN JERKS don't even bother to look up from their phones.

Jordan looks down to the same spot Kelsey occupied - the spot is now empty. Not a friendly face in sight.

EMCEE

That was Jordan Hammer, ladies and gentlemen. Brought to you by your friends at Ross. Dress for Less.

EXT. SHITTY MALL PARKING LOT - DAY

Jordan walks to his car. His pride and joy, a Pontiac Firebird Trans Am Type K Concept car. It's a Firebird in the front, with Delorean fold up doors - the mullet of cars.

Some HUGE ASSHOLE backs into his car with his huge truck and breaks the side view mirror - crunch.

JORDAN

Hey, hey, hey!

The huge asshole rolls down his window, raises his eyebrows.

HUGE ASSHOLE

What?!

JORDAN

This is a Pontiac Firebird Trans A-

HUGE ASSHOLE

Fuck you. It's a piece of shit.

JORDAN

Do you have any idea who I am?

HUGE ASSHOLE

No.

The huge asshole starts to drive away. Jordan, fuming, picks up the side view mirror and throws it at the huge asshole's truck. It shatters his back window. The truck stops.

JORDAN

Shit.

END TEASER

OPENING CREDITS SEQUENCE - TMZ STYLE CLIPS ON YOUTUBE

- Conveyed through headlines, talk show interviews, etc.
- Harmony Splits!
- Photos of a very public fight outside a nightclub in their early 20s. Kirk punches Jordan.
- Jordan, solo career. Going amazing.
- Kirk tries to go solo, fails. Terrible record sales.

ACT ONE**INT. POLICE STATION - HOLDING CELL - NIGHT**

Jordan, bruised and bloodied, sits on a bench, alone.

JORDAN (O.S.)
Do you have any idea who I am?

Jordan looks up. Two GUARDS are watching a video of the incident in the mall parking lot on their phone, laughing.

VIDEO - Jordan is chased, then laid out and smacked around by the huge asshole. Jordan hits back, but it's weak sauce.

In the cell, a SEX WORKER (40s, salty) recognizes him.

SEX WORKER
Hey, hey, I know you, you're that kid singer, what's his name, Jordan?

JORDAN
Yeah, that's me.

SEX WORKER
Hmmm. Well, look at you now.

OFFICER (O.C.)
Figueroa. You made bail.

EXT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

STANLEY WILKINS (59, the late night 4am, online law degree kind of lawyer) waits for Jordan with a cup of coffee.

JORDAN
Thanks.

STANLEY
What are attorneys for?

Jordan reaches for the coffee, but Stanley pulls back.

STANLEY (cont'd)
 Sorry, I just got the one.

A few PAPARAZZI wait outside. They snap photos of Jordan.

STANLEY (cont'd)
 Seriously? Come on, guys.

JORDAN
 Hey, any publicity is good publicity,
 right?

Stanley's face says 'no'.

INT. DIRTY BAR - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Jordan triages his cuts with a wet paper towel. Beside the mirror are several pictures of penises and butt-holes.

JORDAN
 So he's pressing charges?

Stanley pees in the urinal next to him.

STANLEY
 Once he found out who you were? You
 can bet your sweet ass he did.

INT. DIRTY BAR - COUNTER - NIGHT

Jordan slurps beer. Stanley wolfs down free peanuts.

STANLEY
 Hey, can I get a refill? And another
 round for us both. He's buying.

Jordan rolls his eyes. The BARTENDER obliges.

JORDAN
 I don't suppose you'd accept an
 autograph?

BARTENDER
 Why, are you famous?

JORDAN
 Never mind. So, what do I do?

STANLEY
 Well, needless to say, most of your
 future events have been cancelled.

JORDAN

What?! No, they can't. I need those shows. They're the only thing keeping me afloat right now. And-

JORDAN

-don't say it-

STANLEY

Reunion tour.

JORDAN

No, it's just a shitty cash grab. Like a holiday album.

QUICK CUTAWAY

Jordan records a Christmas album. In an stocking cap.

JORDAN (RAPPING)

Ho, ho ho! It's a special time of year! Putting girls on the naughty list always makes me cheer!

END CUTAWAY.

Stanley points to a whiskey bottle.

STANLEY

Can we get something stronger?

She brings a bottle and glasses.

STANLEY (cont'd)

Leave the bottle.

BARTENDER

Yeah, we don't really do that.

She pours two fingers, neat, for each of them.

STANLEY

Look, I'm gonna give it to you straight. Twenty years ago, you were a God. But just like Peter Pan, you grew up. Along the way, you made some questionable life choices-

BEGIN RAPID SERIES OF CUTS/INTERCUT AS NEEDED

Note: Jordan and Stanley narrate from within the scenes.

TRENDY 90s CLUB

Jordan (20) does a line of coke and sits back between two CLUB-GOING GIRLS (18, barely) on a couch.

JORDAN
You're both eighteen, right?

CLUB-GOING GIRLS
Sure! Totally!

STANLEY
Really, Jordan?

JORDAN
(to Stanley)
Hey! You weren't even there!

Stanley goes to pour champagne, but the bottle is empty.

STANLEY
You made some bad investments.

OVERPRICED YACHT

Jordan (30s) drunk dances with his COVER MODELS (20s). The music SLURS as Jordan careens around the deck and falls off. Man overboard. Everybody cheers. The music is CRANKED UP!!!

UNDERWATER

Jordan floats. Aimless. Miserable.

Stanley enjoys shrimp cocktail on the poop deck.

STANLEY (cont'd)
Throw in a few pricey divorces-

LAW OFFICE

QUICKLY INTERCUT three different TROPHY WIVES signing divorce agreements and accepting a check from Stanley.

JORDAN
What about the acting thing?

STANLEY
Hollywood isn't calling like they used to.

HOLLYWOOD MOVIE SET

A bad cop movie. It's raining. Jordan and JORDAN'S PARTNER, beat cops, are pinned down by gunfire.

JORDAN
We're pinned down!

JORDAN'S PARTNER
Jordan, you have to sing! It's the
only way!

Jordan stands to sing and is SHOT DEAD. BLAM-BLAM-BLAM!

JORDAN'S PARTNER (cont'd)
NOOOO!

Stanley watches from video village. Shakes his head.

END SERIES.

INT. DIRTY BAR - NIGHT

Jordan throws back his shot. Stanley pours himself another.

JORDAN
Broadway! I could do Hamilton.

STANLEY
You're too white for Hamilton. Look,
Jordan, people love a comeback story.
Go back to where it all began, mend
fences, and get the guys to agree to
a reunion tour. It's your best bet.

JORDAN
Are you telling me this as my lawyer?

STANLEY
I'm telling you this as a friend, who
would like to get paid, eventually.
You need money. Just think about it.

Stanley finishes his drink and leaves. Jordan sighs.

JORDAN
Can I get another one?

Jordan does a shot. An ALLURING GIRL (20s) approaches him.

ALLURING GIRL
Aren't you like, famous?

RAPID SERIES OF CUTS

Jordan and Alluring Girl do a ton of shots-shots-shots.

They take selfies. They make out.

INT. DIRTY BAR - BATHROOM STALL - NIGHT

Jordan and the Alluring Girl have sex in the stall. We hear the sound of vomit hitting the toilet. She quickly exits the stall.

ALLURING GIRL

Asshole!

The stall door swings open and shut. Jordan kneeling before the porcelain throne in a puddle of his own sick.

On Jordan, physically and emotionally exhausted.

INT. TOW TRUCK - NIGHT

Jordan, still very inebriated, rides shotgun.

TOW TRUCK DRIVER

So what's wrong with your car?

JORDAN

I didn't want to drink and drive.

The driver sips a beer, uncaring. Jordan looks at his beer.

JORDAN (cont'd)

Can I get one of those?

TOW TRUCK DRIVER

Sorry, I just got the one.

EXT. JORDAN'S FANCY SMANCY MANSION - NIGHT

More Grey Gardens than Graceland, his car is towed inside the squeaky, wrought-iron gates.

INT. FOYER - NIGHT

Jordan steps inside. No lights are on. Messy stacks of shit everywhere.

JORDAN

Honey, I'm home. Oh, right, I'm all alone.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

Jordan fishes a beer out of the fridge. On the table, a TAX PROPERTY BILL, \$130K, past due, final notice.

INT. AWARD-WINNING HALLWAY - NIGHT

Jordan shuffles down a hallway, littered with fancy awards on shelves. He drunkenly bumps into one, knocks it off the shelf. It shatters into a million pieces.

JORDAN
FUUCCCCKKKKK!!!!

INT. PRIVATE RECORDING STUDIO - NIGHT

The sound booth is littered with bottles and bong. Jordan sits in silence, scrolling his phone.

ON SCREEN - Animated headlines and snarky user comments plaster the screen in different fonts, sizes, and colors.

-JORDAN HAMMER, Is this guy for real?
-Hammertime is over
-His wife totally left him
-From Stud to Dud
-Remember when boy bands were cool?
-Jordan Hammer before and after weight gain
-Scrolling Paparazzi photos and pics from his lame mall gig.

Jordan grabs a liquor bottle and guzzles, then spits up.

INT. PONTIAC FIREBIRD - NIGHT

A very drunk Jordan balances an absurdly large bong between his legs. He takes a big hit. The tape deck blasts something like (Don't Fear) The Reaper by Blue Oyster Cult.

Suddenly in the seat next to Jordan is Tristyn (forever 20), gorgeous but for the gunshot wound to his head.

TRISTYN
Yo, can I get a toke?

Terrified, Jordan coughs and the cabin fills with smoke. He tries to open the windows, but keeps hitting the DOOR LOCKS.

He stands and exits the car.

EXT. GARAGE - DAWN

He was parked. Jordan's garage is full of smoke, his car was idling. Jordan coughs, opens the garage doors, rushes out of the garage, coughing and wheezing. The smoke clears. Jordan looks back, but Tristyn is gone.

On Jordan. Hasn't slept, looks exhausted. The sun is just beginning to rise on the horizon.

MUSIC CUE - Mad World by Gary Jules.

INT. MASTER BEDROOM - DAY

An open suitcase, half packed on the bed. The shower running in the on-suite bathroom.

LAPTOP

A social media page for Mikey, his former bandmate. A picture of him posing for a selfie with a fan. Mikey is wearing a blue work vest. Tagged in Channing, CA.

INT./EXT. PONTIAC FIREBIRD (DRIVING) - DAY

Jordan drives away from the sprawling metropolis of Los Angeles and its millions of twinkling lights.

ROAD SIGN - Now Leaving ORANGE COUNTY.

TRAVELING SHOTS

- Up state, along coastal highways.

-Passing small towns, full of foreclosed houses.

Jordan passes a Welcome to Channing, CA. sign.
(POP. 2549, Est. 1924)

A larger BILLBOARD behind it shows the members of HARMONY.

Jordan's ten-foot face has a giant dick poking out of it.

EXT. STREETS OF CHANNING, CA - DAY

Desolate, urban environments. Graffiti, broken windows on shuttered businesses. Then, amidst the concrete decay-

EXT. LYNN'S MANSION - DAY

Driving past a massive, very out of place house. It was probably an old movie star's secondary home. Surrounded by a high fence, like a compound, shut off from the world.

Jordan sees the house, slinks down in the seat even lower.

A BUS passes him on the road, HONKING.

EXT. PARKING LOT - TOUR BUS - DAY (FLASHBACK)

NOTE: All flashbacks are 25 years ago.

Jordan's picture is plastered on the side of a massive tour bus. Teen Jordan looks up at his visage and smiles.

JORDAN
Looks good, right?

LYNN FIGUEROA (40s), Jordan manager slash mom, in that order, appears behind Jordan and wraps an arm around him.

LYNN
It looks great, sweetie.

JORDAN
Thanks, Mom.

KIRK
I don't think that's the picture we
all agreed on.

The other four members of Harmony are behind him, both in the picture and stand clustered behind him in real life.

LYNN
I just though this one spoke louder.

Jordan turns to Kelsey, standing nearby.

JORDAN
What do you think?

Kelsey is about to answer when suddenly a FLASH BULB goes off right in front of her. She squints. Half a dozen PAPARAZZI suddenly appear, flashing photos.

LYNN
I invited them.

The guys smile for the cameras. They strike a few poses.

JORDAN
(to Kelsey)
C'mon. Let's see the inside.

Jordan leads her onto the bus. Kirk watches them go, a hint of jealousy on his face.

INT. TOUR BUS - CONTINUOUS

Jordan and Kelsey explore the bus. It's pimp.

JORDAN
Nice, right?

KELSEY
Where do you sleep?

JORDAN'S BUNK BED

Jordan pulls back the curtain on his bunk bed. He grins.

JORDAN
Should we try it out?

CUT TO:

The curtain is drawn, the light is soft. It's intimate.

KELSEY
I know when you go on tour you're going to have a lot of temptations.

JORDAN
You know I'd never do anything to hurt you, right?

KELSEY
I know that. I just mean that there will be a lot of ... opportunities.

JORDAN
Girl, trust me.

She smiles and kisses him. BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM-BAM, on the side of the bus. Jordan peeks out the window. A DOZEN TEEN GIRLS appear, banging on the bus. Kelsey looks worried.

END FLASHBACK.

EXT. ISAAC'S HOME - DAY

A two-story mid century, nothing fancy. Jordan pulls up, but stays in the car. Isaac (now 60s, bald) opens the door.

ISAAC
That car makes you look like a jackass.

JORDAN
Hey, Dad.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO**INT. ISAAC'S HOME - DAY**

A time capsule from the 80s. Dirty, ill-kept.

JORDAN

Wow, the place looks ... great.
Why didn't you ever take any money
from me? We could have fixed this
place up, made it nice.

ISAAC

I don't need your money. This place
was good enough before you got famous
it's good enough now.

Jordan notices a GET WELL SOON card on counter.

JORDAN

You sick?

ISAAC

I'm fine. You know, if you've got
money problems, your mom could help.
She's done all right for herself.

JORDAN

For herself? That's my money she's
living on. I earned it, not her.
Anyway, I should just be a few days.

Isaac doesn't look convinced.

INT. ISAAC'S HOME - BASEMENT - DAY

Isaac leads Jordan downstairs. The basement is cramped with
an old sleeper sofa, assorted furnishing, and storage boxes.

ISAAC

What's left of your stuff is over
there in boxes. The sofa pulls out.

Jordan snickers. Isaac silences him with a look.

ISAAC (cont'd)

Well, I'll let you get settled in.

Isaac goes back upstairs. Jordan looks around. He spots some
old moving boxes labeled with his name.

OPENING THE BOX - He finds an old video game system, a SNES.

JORDAN
Sweet. Score.

He sets it aside for the moment, keeps digging. He finds some Glamour shots of Kelsey, they kind you would have done at mall boutiques in the 80s.

JORDAN (PRE-LAP)
Hey, what do you guys think about Kelsey?

INT. GREEN ROOM - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

It's the moments after a show. The guys are cooling off, drinking water, etc.

KIRK
What do you mean?

MIKEY
Are you guys doing it, yet?

JORDAN
She's not ready. I want to respect her wishes. But you know, it's hard.

MIKEY
(chuckling)
Hard.

KIRK
Do you love her?

JORDAN
I guess. I mean, I don't want her to be with anybody else.

Kirk has a pained, slightly jealous look on his face.

MIKEY
Dude, don't you want to live a little? I'm just saying, make hay when the hay is ... you know.

KIRK
Don't listen to this idiot.

MIKEY
Idiot savant! Besides, it's not like you're married.

The doors open. Kelsey and Lynn ENTER.

LYNN
Great job, guys!

Jordan and Kelsey kiss. Kirk stares at Kelsey. She opens her eyes for a moment and sees him staring. She looks away.

KELSEY
You were amazing.

JORDAN
Thanks! I'm so glad you're-

SUDDENLY the door bursts open and TEEN VIPS flood into the room, swarming around Jordan. Kelsey is pushed aside.

She finds herself standing next to Lynn. She smiles.

ACROSS THE ROOM - Jordan signs autographs. Kelsey eyes the teen fans suspiciously.

KELSEY
(mocking)
"You know, I would do just about anything for an autograph."

LYNN
Skanks. Still, if you locked that shit down, weren't such a Nancy-

Kelsey stares at Lynn, dumbfounded.

LYNN (cont'd)
What? Boys have needs. If you don't, someone else is just going to beat you to it. Trust me.

Kelsey stares at Jordan, still surrounded by teen girls.

END FLASHBACK.

INT. ISAAC'S HOME - BASEMENT - DAY

Jordan smiles. He stares at Kelsey's face.

ISSAC (V.O.)
HEY!

Jordan realizes Issac is standing next to him.

ISSAC
Creeper. I found some sheets.

INT. ISAAC'S HOME - KITCHEN - DAY

Jordan finds his dad in the kitchen, paying bills the old fashioned way, stamps and all.

JORDAN
(defensive)
It was a picture of my old girlfriend.

ISAAC
When she was underage.

JORDAN
Yes, but see, I was also underage at the time, so it's okay. I think.

Jordan notices a few are past due. Isaac stares at him.

ISAAC
Don't you have somewhere to be?

EXT. BIG BOX STORE - DAY

Like a Walmart, a soulless blue void. Jordan speaks with a few associates. He's looking for someone.

JORDAN
I'm looking for Mikey.

The associates direct him to the back loading docks.

EXT. BIG BOX STORE - LOADING DOCKS - DAY

Jordan enters the loading docks. The employees only area. A DOCK SUPERVISOR (40s, tired) notices him.

DOCK SUPERVISOR
Hey, you can't be in here.

JORDAN
It's okay, I'm famous.

DOCK SUPERVISOR
What? No, that's not-

MIKEY (O.C.)
Hey, it's fine. I know this asshole.

MIKEY (now 40). Covered in tattoos, bleach blonde hair, a cheap Eminem rip off. Mikey wears a work vest.

DOCK SUPERVISOR
You've got ten minutes.

MIKEY
Break time. Follow me.

Jordan follows Mikey.

INT. BIG BOX STORE - BACK HALLWAY - DAY

Mikey leads them down a hallway. Other employees pass them.

MIKEY
Heard you were back in town.

JORDAN
Yeah? I heard you were working here.

MIKEY
Just for the benefits.

They exit the hallway into a -

EXT. BIG BOX STORE - PARKING LOT - DAY

Jordan is turned around, looks confused.

JORDAN
Where are we going?

MIKEY
Break time.

Mikey leads them to his shitty old beater car. He gets in.

MIKEY (cont'd)
You coming?

Jordan joins him.

INT. MIKEY'S SHITTY OLD BEATER CAR - DAY

Mikey smokes weed. Offers Jordan some. He partakes.

MIKEY
You know, being in a teen boy band
wasn't my first or only goal. I had
ambition, man.

JORDAN
I remember.

MIKEY

Here, listen to this shit. Old school.

Mikey pumps a tape into the deck. It's Regulators by Warren G. featuring Nate Dogg.

MIKEY

Regulators, mount up!

JORDAN

Regulators, mount up!

INT. RECORDING STUDIO - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Mikey (14), black hoodie pulled up tight, crowds the mic. The studio is blacked out - only a single light on Mikey.

MIKEY (SINGING)

*Just hit the east side of the LBC
On a mission trying to find Mr.
Warren G
Seen a car full of girls ain't no
need to tweak
All you skirts know what's up with
213
So I hooks a left on 21 and Lewis
Some brothas shootin' dice, so I
said, "Let's do this"
I jumped out the ride, and said,
"What's up?"
Some brothas pulled some gats, so I
said, "I'm stuck"*

RECORDING BOOTH

Lynn, Justin, Kirk, Alex, and Tristyn listen with mixed expressions. Not what they were expecting.

ALEX

I like him. He looks dangerous.

MIKEY (OVER INTERCOM)

So? What'cha guys think?

END FLASHBACK.

EXT. MIKEY'S MOM'S HOUSE - DAY

Mikey's beater pulls up outside. Mikey gets out.

JORDAN

What are we doing? This is way more than ten minutes.

Mikey just laughs and goes inside. Jordan follows.

MIKEY

C'mon.

INT. MIKEY'S MOM'S HOUSE - DAY

Mikey's Mom's house is a time capsule of the 70s. Everything is baubles and knickknacks, furniture covered in plastic.

JORDAN

You still live here?

MIKEY

Just for the benefits.

INT. MIKEY'S MOM'S HOUSE - GARAGE - DAY

Or as he likes to call it, the command center. Several massive monitors nestled between equally massive towers.

And just to be clear, Mikey is still wearing his work vest. He dons a gamer headset and speaks into the microphone.

MIKEY

Yo, yo, we back. What's happening?
It's your boy, Mikey-Mike, ready to
get it done, son. Let's go.

Mikey starts playing his game. Chat lights up with comments. Mikey takes a big hit of a bong off screen. Jordan is a fly on the wall, just taking it all in.

MIKEY'S MOM (O.S.)

MIKEY?!

MIKEY

WHAT?!

MIKEY'S MOM (O.S.)

YOU HUNGRY?!

MIKEY

YEAH, CAN YOU MAKE ME SOME BAGEL
BITES?!

(to Jordan)

Dude, you want some bagel bites?

JORDAN

WHAT THE FUCK IS HAPPENING RIGHT NOW?
What is all this? And why are you
still wearing your vest?

MIKEY

I told you, I'm at work. As long as you clock in and clock out, nobody even knows I'm gone.

Jordan stares at him. *WTF*.

MIKEY (cont'd)

Dude, relax. Sit down, smoke a bowl, have some bagel bites.

Jordan eats some day old bagel bites, then spits them out.

MIKEY (cont'd)

Those are from yesterday.

JORDAN

What is all this?

MIKEY

This is what I do, playa. The teen dream thing didn't work out, so I started doing this. Yo, I've got ten thousand subs.

Bleep, a sound on the computer.

MIKEY (cont'd)

Ten thousand and one.

MIKEY'S MOM (60s), still wearing her nightgown and slippers, a cigarette hanging limply from her lips, brings them a plate of piping hot bagel bites.

MIKEY (cont'd)

Thanks, Mom.

(off Jordan's stare)

Get them while they're hot.

EXT. MIKEY'S MOM'S HOUSE - DAY

Jordan exits. Runs a hand through his hair. Mikey follows.

MIKEY

Dude, I thought we were hanging?

JORDAN

Do you want to do a reunion tour?

MIKEY

Fuuuuuccckkkkk no. Is that why you're here? A Harmony reunion?

JORDAN

Why not? You could use the money.

MIKEY

Hey, fuck you! You left, remember?
I'm doing just fine.

JORDAN

I can see that.

Mikey brushes past him, then stops and turns back.

MIKEY

All people want to do anymore is
remake or reboot shit. And then when
they do, people are pissed off it's
not like the original thing. You know
why? Because they are so desperate to
get back to that moment, that thing,
that feeling that they think they
lost. Take it from me, nothing is
ever as good as we remember it.

Mikey goes back inside. Jordan fumes, then realizes-

JORDAN

Fuck, you drove me here.

EXT. STREETS OF CHANNING - NIGHT

Jordan wanders the streets, going nowhere in particular. He
stops outside a bar. The sign reads OPEN MIC NIGHT.

He pauses, then goes inside.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE**INT. THE BAR - NIGHT**

Jordan nurses a drink and a bruised ego in equal measure. Ding. Jordan gets a text. He reads it.

LYNN (TEXT)

Heard you're back in town. You should come to dinner. We should talk. I can help. I'm still your mom.

Jordan looks around the bar. TRENDY HIPSTERS (20s) and COLLEGE KIDS (20s) all having a good time, laughing.

A FEMALE VOICE over the din of the crowd sings HURT in the slow tempo cadence made famous by Johnny Cash.

KELSEY (O.S.)

*I hurt myself today
To see if I still feel
I focus on the pain
The only thing that's real.*

STAGE

Jordan looks at the little stage. He sees KELSEY (now 39) playing Tristyn's old guitar. Kelsey has a lovely voice.

KELSEY

*The needle tears a hole
The old familiar sting
Try to kill it all away
But I remember everything.
What have I become?
My sweetest friend
Everyone I know goes away
In the end.
And you could have it all
My empire of dirt
I will let you down
I will make you hurt.*

Traded looks between Kelsey and Jordan as the stanza ends.

BAR

The performance now over, Kelsey approaches Jordan.

Jordan initiates an awkward hug. Kelsey looks uncomfortable.

JORDAN

I'm, yeah, uh. Hey, that was amazing.
(MORE)

JORDAN (cont'd)
You look so different. I mean, great.

KELSEY
Thanks. Yeah, well. Things change.

JORDAN
(points to clothes)
Yeah, I probably look different too,
right? I mean Prada, Gucci, you know.
Is that Tristyn's old guitar?

Kelsey holds it carefully, like it's a precious thing.

KELSEY
Yeah, it sure is.
(a pregnant pause)
Well, it was ... see ya.

JORDAN
Would you like to maybe, get a drink?

She turns back. On Kelsey, considering.

BAR STOOLS

Facing forward. Kelsey avoids eye contact.

JORDAN (cont'd)
I'm putting the band back together.

KELSEY
A little late for that, isn't it?

JORDAN
What do you mean?

KELSEY
Alex is in New York, Kirk hates you,
Mikey is, well, Mikey, and Tristyn-

A pair of COLLEGE GUYS (drunk, gay), approach the table.

COLLEGE GUY 1
Hey!

JORDAN
Hey?

COLLEGE GUY 1
Weren't you cancelled?

JORDAN
What?! No.

COLLEGE GUY 2
I told you, this is Jordan Hammer.

COLLEGE GUY 1
(whispers to friend)
I thought he shot himself?

College Guy 2 whispers in the ear of College Guy 1.

COLLEGE GUY 1 (cont'd)
Oh. Sorry.

COLLEGE GUY 2
Well, since it's open mic-night . . .

They glance over at the little stage, currently empty.

JORDAN
Um, no. Hmm, I don't think so.

COLLEGE GUY 1
Please?

KELSEY
The Jordan I knew would never say no.

COLLEGE GUY 2
Come on, just like one song.

Jordan looks at the stage. He sighs, finishes his drink.

STAGE

Jordan takes the stage. He's a little tipsy. He checks the mic. The two college guys smile and clap.

JORDAN
Hey, is this thing on?

The crowd turns to face him. Every eye is on him.

JORDAN (cont'd)
Wow, there's more of you than I
thought. My name is Jordan Hammer.

COLLEGE GUY 1 & 2
WOHHOOO! YEAH!

Jordan scrolls through a karaoke catalogue til he finds his own original song. The MUSIC begins. College Guy 1 scowls.

COLLEGE GUY 1
(to College Guy 2)
Who picks their own song for karaoke?

Jordan's song has the same vibe as Britney Spears' "Gimme More"; the actual lyrics/melody will be a new original song.

JORDAN (SINGING)

*I see you
And I just want to dance with you
Every time they turn the lights down
Just want to go that extra mile for
you*

The crowd is digging it. Jordan feeds on their enthusiasm.

JORDAN (SINGING) (cont'd)

*Cameras are flashin' while we're
dirty dancin'
They keep watching (they keep
watching)
Keep watching*

Phones start recording. Kelsey smiles despite herself.

JORDAN (SINGING) (cont'd)

*Feels like the crowd is saying
Gimme, gimme (more), Gimme (more)*

Jordan starts to dance. But this stage isn't big enough for any routine. He kicks a drum, knocks over a guitar . . .

JORDAN (SINGING) (cont'd)

Gimme, gimme (more), Gimme (more)

It gets worse, cringey bad. Jordan falls off the stage and crashes into Kelsey. Her drink splashes all over her.

COLLEGE KIDS record the entire thing on their phones.

Jordan looks up. The crowd is looking down at him in more ways than one. An awkward silence follows. Kelsey leaves.

JORDAN

Kelsey!

Jordan picks himself up off the floor and goes after her.

EXT. THE BAR - NIGHT

Kelsey walks away from the bar. Jordan rushes to catch up.

JORDAN

Kelsey! Wait up! Take a chill pill!
Let's get a gelato or something.

KELSEY

Gelato?! Where do you think you are?!
Same old Jordan. You haven't changed.
You haven't been back five minutes-

JORDAN

I didn't even want to sing!

A few TOWNIES approach Jordan.

TOWNIE

Jordan Hammer! Can we get a selfie?

JORDAN

(to townies)

Fuck off?! Can't you see this is a
private discussion?!

The Townies shake their heads and walk away.

TOWNIE

Asshole.

KELSEY

What did you think was going to
happen? That life would just hit the
pause button while you were away?

JORDAN

I came back to make things right.

KELSEY

NO! You came back because you are out
of options. You chose fame over me.

INT. JORDAN'S HIGH SCHOOL BEDROOM - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

The bedroom of a typical teen in the 90s. Posters of
supermodels like Cindy Crawford and Carmen Electra.

Jordan and Kelsey are in bed, making out. It's starting to
get a little hot and heavy. Jordan reaches for Kelsey's
shirt. She pulls his hands away. Rinse and repeat.

KELSEY

Jordan, stop.

Jordan stops.

JORDAN

What, what, was I going too fast?

KELSEY

I told you ... I'm not ready.

Jordan looks disappointed, then flashes a smile.

JORDAN

Girl, you know I'd wait forever for you.

Kelsey can't tell if he's kidding, then warms to his smile.

KELSEY

You're ridiculous.

She kisses him. He reaches for her legs. She brushes his hands back.

KELSEY (cont'd)

Hey, hands where I can see them.

They smile and keep kissing.

END FLASHBACK.

EXT. THE BAR - NIGHT

Kelsey steps up to Jordan, looks him right in the eye.

KELSEY

I am not your fucking backup plan.

Kelsey walks away. Jordan looks upset, then quickly follows.

INT. MIKEY'S MOM'S HOUSE - GARAGE - NIGHT

Mikey plays a video game. Eats a bagel bite. Then makes a sour face. Suddenly the bagel bite tastes like shit.

ON WALLS - Posters from his glorious boy band days. Spice Girls posters; pop rock sensations that were there and gone.

MIKEY

I'M GOING OUT!

EXT. STREETS OF CHANNING - NIGHT

Jordan catches up to Kelsey. Nobody else in sight.

KELSEY

Oh, my God. What do you want?!

JORDAN

I don't know.

Kelsey stops walking, turns to face him.

JORDAN (cont'd)

Okay, I don't know what I want. I thought I did, I thought I had it all figured out, but I was wrong. It just got so big, so fast. I don't know what I want now.

KELSEY

Well, finally, something honest.

Kelsey turns and walks away. Then waits, looks back at him.

KELSEY (cont'd)

Walk me home.

An olive branch. Jordan catches up and walks beside her.

EXT. KELSEY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jordan walks Kelsey the last few feet up to her door.

The door opens and a PRECIOUS LITTLE GIRL (5) appears. She jumps into Kelsey's arms.

KELSEY

Woah! What are you doing up, you little monster? Riley, I'd like you to meet someone. This is Jordan.

RILEY

Hi. How was singing?

KELSEY

Singing was good. Riley is a parting gift from my first husband.

RILEY

I'm a singer too.

JORDAN

You are?! Let me hear.

Appearing in the door is the large, chiseled form of-

JORDAN (cont'd)

Kirk!

Kirk (43) still looks like he does M.M.A., and wins. A lot.

KIRK
Look at this asshole.

JORDAN
Are you guys-

KIRK
Married? Not yet.

Kirk wraps an arm around Kelsey, a bit possessively. Kelsey smiles, but there is a hint of apprehension.

JORDAN
So, Kirk. Uh . . .

KIRK
I know why you're here.

Kirk takes a step towards Jordan. He tries to look brave.

KIRK (cont'd)
Understand me when I say I will never
go on tour with you. Do you hear me?
We are done. Don't come here again.

Jordan stares at him. Kelsey kisses Riley and sits her down.

KELSEY
Can you take her in for me? I'll be
up in a second to tuck her in.

Riley kisses her mom, then runs back inside.

Kirk stares at Jordan while kissing Kelsey. He wants Jordan to see. The kiss goes on too long and Kelsey pulls away.

KELSEY (cont'd)
I'll be right there.

Kirk leaves. Kelsey looks at Jordan, crosses her arms.

KELSEY (cont'd)
Well, thanks for walking me home. I
guess I'll see you around.

Kelsey turns to go back inside.

JORDAN
Kelsey, wait ...

She stops, turns back. A beat. Jordan takes a deep breath.

EXT. TOUR BUS - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Jordan signs autographs for some TEEN FANS. His phone rings. It's Kelsey. He picks up.

JORDAN
Hey, babe.

INT. RECORDING STUDIO - GREEN ROOM - SAME TIME

Kelsey is in a holding area. INTERCUT AS NEEDED-

JORDAN
Show just wrapped up.

KELSEY
Cool. How'd it go?

Jordan smiles at someone off frame.

JORDAN
Great. Really friendly audience.

Jordan winks at someone off screen.

KELSEY
I miss you.

JORDAN
Miss you too, baby. Hey, they're asking for me. I should maybe go.

KELSEY
Okay. Sleep wel-

He hung up. Kelsey looks a little suspicious.

Jordan hangs up the phone.

REVEAL the Teen Groupie, standing inside the tour bus. She grins at Jordan and goes further in. Jordan smiles, follows.

Kirk, walking towards the bus, stops when he see Jordan and the Teen Groupie go inside. Kirk looks conflicted.

BACK TO KELSEY, she waits. A PRODUCER'S ASSISTANT appears.

PRODUCER'S ASSISTANT
Ms. Swords, they're ready for you.

KELSEY
Okay.

Kelsey follows them through a curtain and into a -

INT. RECORDING STUDIO - BOOTH - DAY

Kelsey is recording a demo. She takes place in the booth, puts on her headphones and the the music starts up.

END FLASHBACK.

EXT. KELSEY'S HOUSE - NIGHT

They are standing where they were. Feels miles apart.

KELSEY

Well? Do you have something you want to say to me?

Jordan tries to say something, starts a few times.

JORDAN

I didn't really even want all those other girls. I know I promised I'd wait, and I tried, sort of, but um. Look, at the time, sure, it felt good, like really good, but what I mean is, what I really wanted was-

Kelsey sighs. *He hasn't changed.*

KELSEY

Go home, Jordan.

MUSIC CUE - Your Ghost as sung by Greg Laswell.

Kelsey closes the door. Jordan walks back to the street. He looks back at the house. Riley is watching him from her bedroom window. Just then Kelsey snatches her up and we can hear her LAUGHTER from here. He looks up at them.

JORDAN

What I meant to say was, I'm sorry. I'm so fucking sorry. I'm sorry for everything I put you through. I'm sorry for leading you on and letting you down. I thought you were an anchor, dragging me down, but you were a sail, lifting me up.

The light in the window turns off. He can't see her anymore.

JORDAN (cont'd)

I ruin everything I touch.

EXT. ISAAC'S HOME - NIGHT

Jordan shambles home. He pauses when he sees-

Mikey, sitting on the stoop, waiting for him. He's got some forties, and a giant plastic tub of cheeseballs.

MIKEY

Yo.

INT. ISAAC'S HOME - BASEMENT - NIGHT

Jordan and Mikey play the SNES on an old P.O.S. TV.

They play for a while. Laugh and smile. Toss cheeseballs to each other, catching them with their mouths. Boys again.

LATER

JORDAN

Fuck, I died.

MIKEY

Pussy.

Mikey keeps playing. Jordan looks over and spots another box labeled HARMONY. He drags it over and opens it.

INSIDE BOX

Stacks of autographed pictures of the guys.

MIKEY (cont'd)

That shit might be worth some money.
Probably not, though.

Jordan pins photos to the wall. He sits back, staring.

Mikey spots an old Mentos tin in the same box. He pauses the game. Inside are three rolled joints. He shrugs, grabs a lighter and lights up. COUGHS. This is dry, ditch weed.

LATER

Mikey and Jordan pass the joint back and forth.

MIKEY (cont'd)

A man cannot swim in the same pool
twice, because it's not the same
pool, and he's not the same guy.

Jordan stares at Mikey.

MIKEY (cont'd)
Hercules said that.

JORDAN
I don't think that's right.

MIKEY
Which part?

JORDAN
Any of it.

MIKEY
This is some ditch weed, bro. Hold up
a minute. I got something in the car.

LATER

Mikey has a bong. He smokes up. Blows out like an absurdly long plume of smoke. It practically fills the basement.

For just a moment, Tristyn's form is outlined in the smoke. Jordan sees him, pretends he doesn't. Mikey notices.

MIKEY (cont'd)
You see him too, huh?

Jordan stares at Mikey just as Isaac comes downstairs.

ISAAC
Come on, Jordan, if you're gonna
smoke that shit, at least go-

Isaac sees Mikey. Mikey waves.

MIKEY
Hey, Mr. F.

ISAAC
Hey, Mikey.

Jordan waves the smoke away, clearing the air.

LATER

Isaac and Jordan on the couch, passing a joint.

ISAAC (cont'd)
I don't understand. Are you going to
murder them?

JORDAN
What?! Why would you even think that?

WIDE REVEAL. The wall has been arranged like a murder board, with red threads connecting all the members of Harmony.

JORDAN (cont'd)
Isn't it obvious? Look, I'm at the center of everything.

Jordan's picture is at the center of the board, red threads connecting all five singers. Isaac and Mikey exchange a look. "*Does he even hear himself?*"

JORDAN (cont'd)
It'll work. It has too.

MIKEY
I'll do it.

JORDAN/ISAAC
Really?

JORDAN
Did you get fired at big box?

MIKEY
Actually, they gave me a promotion, but I said fuck that shit.

Jordan stares at Kirk's picture on the board.

MIKEY (cont'd)
You got anything to eat, Mr. F?

ISAAC
You like tuna?

They head upstairs. Jordan keeps staring.

He winds a piece of red thread from himself to one other connection

JORDAN
I'm gonna get it all back. All of it.

MIKEY (O.S.)
Yo! You coming or what, creeper?

Jordan smiles and walks away.

We linger on the board. Off to the far side of the board is the glamour shot picture of Kelsey.

A single red thread connects her directly to Jordan.

END ACT THREE

TAG**INT. ONCOLOGIST'S OFFICE - WAITING ROOM - DAY**

Isaac sits in a big comfy chair. The sounds of a basketball game being broadcast nearby. Could be his living room.

A NURSE comes by and offers him orange juice.

ISAAC

Thanks.

Pulling back, we see he is hooked up to a chemo machine, feeding him fluids by IV.

He sighs, sips his juice, and goes back to watching the game on his phone, propped up on his knees.

LYNN (O.S.)

Hello, Issac.

Issac looks up. Lynn (now 60s), looking every bit a hunter, stares down at Issac behind designer frames. She slowly grins.

LYNN

I heard our son is back in town.

FADE OUT.

END PILOT