
Joshua Vitmeyer (17) is playing guitar and singing with his band The Isosceles Triangles at a high school prom. Joshua is a very good looking and funny young man with a tendency to overplay his hand. Immensely talented, his passion for performing is easy to see, Joshua loves being in the spotlight.

Joshua’s best friend, Gary Apple (18) is playing bass in the band, displaying a lot less confidence. Gary is very funny and dabbles in stand-up comedy. A bit on the heavy side, he’s quite jovial and always ready with a good joke.

Gary treats Joshua like the next messiah and has become quite the side-kick, adding to the size of Joshua’s already well inflated head. Unfortunately for the band, Gary is much better at telling jokes than he is at playing the bass.

We join them as The Isosceles Triangles are wrapping up their first set. Johnny Matterson (18) is beating on the drums. Johnny is a bit more no-nonsense than the other two. He’s playing with such intensity you know this is serious business. Johnny is tall and slim, quite smart, and a bit nerdy. He’s solid and practiced on the drums, skilled way beyond his years.

The group has been together about a year and they’ve got a good bit of material down, enough for a couple of sets.

The band finishes the set and turns on some background music for the break. An INXS song plays. The guys are talking about the gigs they’ve got booked, and about the band’s future. Joshua’s pretty pumped-up, Johnny less so, displaying his well-earned Spock-like reputation.

Gary suggests they go outside for some fresh air, ready to hit the guys up with a couple of his latest jokes.

They set the guitars in their stands and head toward the door.
2. High School Prom – Outside

The boys are outside talking, going over the playlist. Joshua is taking charge as usual, leaving no doubt who leads this band.

Johnny notices a pretty girl checking him out and smiles at her. Joshua smirks and gives Johnny a little nudge and a laugh. Gary, fumbling with his notes, has missed the whole thing.

Just then a friend of Johnny’s walks up, burning joint in hand. Johnny turns him down, mumbling something about keeping the beat. Joshua grabs the joint and takes a hit. Gary hesitates, but not wanting to be uncool, follows Joshua’s lead.

The conversation continues as the joint is passed around. The pretty girl has gone back inside, but not before slipping Johnny her number, prompting a high five from Gary.

3. High School Prom – Back Inside

Back on stage, Gary goes up to the mic and gives them a bit of his stand-up act as the band prepares for the next set. He’s killing it, the crowd erupting in laughter. Gary’s pretty high and getting a bit cocky up there. He’s starved for attention and the laughs are feeding his hunger. Johnny is on the spot with the rim shots. Johnny’s new friend is up front, smiling, her big blue eyes looking his way.

Gary finishes with joke time and The Isosceles Triangles begin their next number. It’s a cover song called ‘One More Chance’ by the band BENT SPROCKETS. Joshua’s in full on rock-star mode and channeling Bent Sprockets’ outrageous singer, KYLIE STARR(25). Johnny’s rock solid on the drums, giving it his all as usual.

Bent Sprockets is one of Joshua’s favorite bands, he worships Kyle Starr and works hard to emulate his style. Kyle and his crazy antics and lifestyle is the stuff of legend, and Starr often shows up in the tabloid news rags. Kyle Starr is a bit of a live cartoon character.

Meanwhile, Gary’s a little too high and has gone to battle with his bass guitar. Notes are all over the place, except where they should be. Johnny gives him the look of death as he smashes his crash cymbal in protest. Joshua turns up his amp and strums the chords with a vengeance as Gary catches on and begins to follow. Joshua struggles to contain his laughter as he continues to sing. Johnny, however, is not amused.
4. Three Years Later - College Campus - Minneapolis, MN

Joshua is on the college campus, just coming out of class. He sits outside to have lunch as his new girlfriend Nicole Swanson (22) joins him. Joshua thinks Nicole is the most beautiful girl at school, and may just be right. As they talk we get to know Nicole and see that she is smart, sassy, and isn’t one to take shit from anyone. And she’s mesmerized by Joshua.

Joshua’s inviting her to his gig that weekend. His band Alien Drama will be playing at a local bar. Alien Drama has been at it about two years now. Nicole is excited and can’t wait to see them.

Joshua sees a future with this girl and he’s feeling a bit giddy.

They continue talking as they finish lunch, then head on to their next classes.

5. That Weekend - Local Bar, Alien Drama Gig

We’re at the local bar and Alien Drama is on stage. Joshua is singing and playing the guitar, and Johnny is on the drums. Joshua and Johnny have formed Alien Drama with bass player Sammy Haffner (23) and his brother, Wes Haffner (25) playing the keyboards. The Haffner Brothers are pretty rough and have added the edge Joshua wanted for the band, he’s certain Kyle Starr would approve.

Joshua has found his stride with Alien Drama and they have begun to build a local following. His friend Gary is there tonight, often showing up at gigs. Gary’s still ready with the jokes, and he’s brought a little fan club of his own.

The show ends and Nicole, Joshua, and Gary are talking. Nicole comments on Wes and Sammy Haffner, with scary being more apt a description in her opinion.

Nicole loves the band and she’s very impressed with Joshua, as well as with Johnny’s incredible drumming. Nicole and Gary joke that Joshua’s definitely the next Kyle Starr in the making. Joshua grins at this, and blushes, uncharacteristically so.
At this point the band’s manager, Cedric Brandenhoffer (27) joins the group. He’s been working with the band a couple of months. Cedric is a friend of Wes’ and has been very successful promoting several top bands in the area. He’s a good-looking man, about average height. Mysterious looking, he’s pretty mellow and has an air of authority about him. A wheeler and dealer by nature, his smile often hides whatever self-promoting scam of the day he’s cooking up.

Nicole asks him if he thinks Alien Drama has a shot at the big time. He laughs and talks some bs with no real answer. Cedric seems a bit off around her, a condition unnoticed by the others. Cedric has his sights set on Nicole from the moment he sees her.

6. Two Years Later - Band Rehearsal

As they take a break, there’s discussion about how the gigs have slowed down lately. Joshua brings up the demo’s they’ve recorded and asks Cedric if he’s had any feedback from his label contacts.

Cedric downplays the lack of feedback adding that the response has been that the stuff is great, but the songs need a better hook. He goes on to say that his contacts are excited to hear the new songs the band is working on, and that he’s letting the anticipation build. He mentions one of songs and they start playing it.

7. One Year Later - An Apartment Near Campus

We’re in an apartment with Nicole and husband, Joshua. Nicole has graduated from college and found a great job. But Joshua has dropped out of school to concentrate on the band. He’s also looking for a day job to make ends meet as money from the band’s gigs has been mediocre at best. Nicole has been providing more than her share, a point she makes often.

They are having a serious discussion about their future as we see that Nicole is pregnant. Joshua assures Nicole that he’ll work it out, joking his way through the conversation.

Nicole is skeptical and she’s not laughing. Disappointed with the progress of his rock and roll fantasy, with baby on the way.

Joshua’s just thrilled he’s going to be a father. Nicole wants very much to feel the same, as she struggles with reality.
8. A month later – Used Car Lot

Gary has embarked on a different path, attending a local Tech School. He’s become a car mechanic, and after a couple of jobs at some independent repair shops, now works in the service department at a huge car dealership. Gary continues to work his stand-up comedy in his off time.

Gary has recommended Joshua for a job at the dealership, on the used car lot. Joshua is feeling confident, eager to turn his winning personality into a nice juicy paycheck.

Joshua struts in like a peacock, feathers spread. The seasoned group of hardened misfits on the lot are not amused. They have a few tricks up their sleeves for the likes of this arrogant fool. They proceed to make mincemeat out of Joshua, his bubble burst in an epic fashion. The day does not go well.

Joshua’s shift ends and he heads for the door, the motley crew mocking him as they salute his exit.

9. Five Years Later – Mid Week – Guitar Super-Mart

Joshua (now 28) is managing the guitar department at Guitar Super-Mart where he’s worked for several years. He’s busy showing a Les Paul guitar to a goth girl with no idea what she’s looking for. A boy is nearby struggling with ‘Smoke on the Water’. Joshua is clearly losing his mind, though he somehow smiles through it all.

Joshua lives to see his beautiful daughter RACHEL (5) and for his gigs with Alien Drama, though the group hasn’t managed to play as often as they once had.

Rachel loves to tell Joshua that he’s the best daddy ever. While Nicole wonders if Joshua will be stuck at Guitar Super-Mart forever.

Meanwhile, Joshua and the other guys don’t understand why the band hasn’t made better progress. The gigs have slowed and they’re playing some really crappy places lately.

The band has recorded some great demos, but there’s no record deal. They’re a bit surprised, the fans love the songs and Joshua’s sure they’d be a big hit if they could get the music out there.
10. Saturday Morning – Guitar Super-Mart – Labor Day Supersale!

Joshua’s at the store preparing for the Labor Day Supersale! The crew is busy making signs, moving equipment around, and laughing at the absurdity of the never-ending ‘Big Sale’ event.

It’s time for pizza on the guitar showroom floor. There’s a lot of laughing, some foul language, and boasts of whose department will prove victorious, only half serious.

A flash jam is launched. Joshua snatches his favorite acoustic guitar hanging nearby and joins in. This goes on for several minutes when they realize it’s time to open the doors.

There’s a grand total of three people waiting outside for the ‘Big Sale’.

11. Saturday Night – Another Gig With Alien Drama

The gig becomes a bit of a blur as Joshua has been drinking too much. And as tradition would have it, Wes and Sammy are giving him a run for the money. Not the best of nights for Alien Drama.

Johnny does his best to keep the sanity and slow the drinks. So far he’s managed to keep the group together, quite a challenge indeed.

For Johnny, it’s always been about the music and he tries to ignore the insanity that surrounds it.

12. The Following Thursday – Guitar Super-Mart

Joshua’s on the guitar showroom floor when a familiar looking character walks in. It’s ROB JACOBSON(35), bass player for Bent Sprockets. Rob’s in town visiting his brother, and has just stopped in to waste some time and look at some bass guitars.

A bit tongue-tied, Joshua starts babbling about what a big fan he is of Bent Sprockets, and how much he loves Kyle Starr’s style. And that he’s following in Starr’s footsteps. Rob laughs and tells Joshua that Kyle is actually a total dick and not worthy of his worship. But this bubble is unburstable and Joshua goes on about Kyle’s awesomeness. After a bit of time, Rob leaves the store without buying anything, wishing Joshua good luck.
13. Four Years later – Guitar Super-Mart

Joshua is in the STORE MANAGER’S office getting chewed out. Sales are down and his department is especially slow. Joshua assures the Manager that he can pick things up.

But Joshua’s life is spinning out of control. The band is barely holding it together and now his job at Guitar Super-Mart is in jeopardy, his trademark smile becoming harder to maintain.

Joshua has been drinking more and more as his dreams for the band have started to fade. Nicole has been calling him out and things seem to be heading south for the marriage. He is becoming more distant with Rachel (now 9) and it breaks her heart. She doesn’t understand why her daddy seems to be ignoring her.

Nicole has also become closer to Cedric, who always seems to be around with a shoulder to cry on when she has a big fight with Joshua.

14. That Saturday – Their Small House

Rachel is away at a friend’s and Nicole and Joshua are in the small house they’ve managed to buy, arguing. The marriage is hanging on by a thread. Joshua’s been drinking again and Nicole says she’s tired and can’t go on this way. Joshua promises to clean up but Rachel has heard that before.

Alien Drama has a gig that night and Nicole reminds Joshua that it is Rachel’s 10th birthday tomorrow, Sunday. Joshua wouldn’t miss it for the world.

15. Saturday night – Local Bar – Alien Drama Gig

It is late in the night and Joshua is not the only one who’s had too much to drink. Their playing is sloppy and a loud and obnoxious drunk in the crowd makes it a point to let them know.

Sammy is having none of that and fists start to fly. Of course this isn’t a first for Wes and Sammy and won’t likely be the brothers’ last. Before long, chairs are flying, band equipment crashing to the floor. This leads to an all-out brawl.

It’s not long before the cops are there, loading up the paddy wagon with the band and a half dozen others, bloodied and battered. Sammy’s looking especially bad, Wes continuing to curse as they’re being dragged off.
16. Sunday - Their Small House - Rachel’s 10th Birthday Party

Nicole is steaming as she hangs up the phone, Joshua on the other end, looking to get bailed out of jail.

She holds back the tears as she tells Rachel that her dad is in jail and won’t be coming to the party. Rachel starts screaming that she never wants to see him again as she runs to her room and slams the door. Nicole is left sitting there, crying.

17. Two Years Later - Local Bar - Alien Drama Gig

The band is playing ‘I Could Be Good For You’ by the band 707. It’s a slow night and Joshua is singing to a fairly thin crowd. He’s sad and drinking even more than usual. The ink has long since dried on the divorce papers and Joshua’s drowning his sorrows.

An equally inebriated fan is showing major interest in Joshua. Megan Tory (45) is feeling pretty lonely tonight as well. The eyes on her heavily painted face are focused on Joshua as she dances to the music, her not so fit body moving out of time with it.

The music ends, the lights come up, and the drunk pair is leaving the bar, laughing, stumbling their way out the door.

18. The Next Morning - Joshua’s Apartment

Megan sits up in the bed, quite disheveled, face looking like Alice Cooper caught in a sudden rainstorm. She shakes Joshua, making sure that it’s not a dead body next to her.

Joshua wakes and jolts upright at the sight of Megan. They simultaneously blurt out Oh My God, then nervously laugh as Megan begins to grab her clothes and make her way to the bathroom. Joshua, hungover and nauseous, lays back down, covering his head.
19. One Year Later – Local Bar

*Joshua* is sitting at a table with *Gary*, talking about their lives. *Joshua* has been spending very little time with his daughter. *Rachel* has lost all faith in him and *Joshua’s* sure *Nicole* must be to blame.

He’s still at *Guitar Super-Mart*, where surprisingly he’s managed to keep it together. *Alien Drama* has long since disbanded.

*Nicole* and *Cedric* have been dating, and rumor has it they’re getting pretty serious.

*Joshua* is telling *Gary* that he needs to change his life and that he’s thinking about moving away. He’s been looking at help wanted ads for California bands.

They’re talking about old times, laughing and crying as they proceed to get drunk. *Gary* jokes, but *Joshua’s* struggling to find humor. He’s feeling pretty depressed, to say the least.

20. Two Years Later – Hollywood, CA – THEM DAMNED CATS

*Joshua* has answered an ad and moved to Hollywood to join a band called *THEM DAMNED CATS*. The ‘Cats’ prowl the *Hollywood* scene for a few years, and record a couple records. They’re actually quite good and have a lot of interest from some record company big wigs. But after a very promising start, the crowds thin, the records flop, and the band’s future looks grim.


*Joshua* has been doing odd jobs, the band hasn’t paid well and he’s barely surviving, nearly homeless.

He talks to *Gary* on the phone often, his daughter *Rachel* rarely.

Finally, after a contemptuous and drunken band meeting, *Them Damned Cats* calls it quits.

Defeated, but wiser with life, *Joshua* decides it’s time to sober up for good. Of course he’s tried before, but this time feels different. The drinking no longer masks the pain as it once did and he knows he can’t continue this way. And the mirror doesn’t lie, he’s not looking so good.
22. Six Months Later – Venice, CA

Joshua decides to change his environment as well and moves to the Westside, getting a job selling boards at TIMMY’S SURF SHOP in Venice. He’s also tending bar at the nearby BREAKTIDE BAR, with karaoke two nights a week. He still loves to sing and never fails to get a thumbs up when it’s his turn. He dreams about what might have been as he sings, as passionately as ever.

Late perhaps, but he’s come to terms with his problem and he’s found a new clarity in his life. He feels a bit like a kid again.

23. One Year Later – Venice

Joshua has convinced Rachel (now 18) that he’s sobered up and they reconnect and start to talk often.

During one of the conversations Rachel tells Joshua to turn on the news. The news comes up on the TV and we see Cedric Brandenhoffer being handcuffed as he’s arrested for fraud and forgery. He was managing several very successful bands and got caught forging contracts and skimming off the top. One of those bands noticed the discrepancy and an investigation found widespread fraud with all his clients. We see him driven off in the police car, Brandenhoffer looking at 4 years in prison.

After talking about the absurdity of it all, Joshua invites Rachel to California for a visit and she excitedly says yes.

24. Two Months Later – Venice Boardwalk

Rachel and Joshua are walking on the Venice Boardwalk, laughing and talking. They get a couple cheeseburgers from a nearby street vendor. Rachel has taken a bite and commenting about how good it tastes. Joshua is saying how great he feels and how much his luck has changed.

Just as Joshua lifts the burger to take a bite, a seagull swoops by his head, beak firmly on the cheeseburger, leaving Joshua grasping the air behind it.

Joshua starts to curse at the evil beast and suddenly they both break out in the loudest and longest laugh either one has had since Nicole was a little girl.

Joshua hasn’t been this happy in a long time and he tells her so, Rachel responding that she feels the same. And how glad she is that he’s sobered himself up.

Kyle Starr’s HOUSEKEEPER has rung the bell and she’s knocking on Starr’s front door. He doesn’t answer and she enters the house, calling out his name.

As she nears Kyle’s office she hears what sounds like people having sex. She turns to walk away but the sound stops and then starts up again. She peers into the room and sees Starr slumped in his chair, naked, a porn video playing on his computer in an endless loop. There is an empty booze bottle and drug paraphernalia nearby. She calls his name again but he doesn’t respond. Hysterical, she runs off to the kitchen, grabs the phone and calls 9-1-1.

26. 15 Minutes Later

The police have arrived and they’re entering the home, followed by the paramedics. The porn video continues to play and dominate the sound as they reach Starr, one of the cops finally turning it off. A paramedic checks for a pulse and shakes his head. Kyle Starr is dead.

27. Later That Night – Breaktide Bar

Joshua, the bar staff and a couple of customers are watching TV.

Breaking News: Kyle Starr, Dead At Age 50 From A Drug Overdose.

A news crew outside of Starr’s home is on the air, reporting on Starr’s crazy life as the paramedics roll his covered body out to the coroner’s waiting vehicle.

Joshua is stunned, trying to get his head around the news. The others have plenty of comments to make, mostly not so flattering.

Joshua excuses himself and exits the bar, apologizing to the rest of the crew for bailing.
28. Later That Week – Breaktide Bar

It’s karaoke night and Joshua’s singing ‘One More Chance’, his old favorite by Bent Sprockets. It’s an emotional rendition in light of the news about Starr. Joshua belts out a sad but powerful performance in tribute to Kyle and the Thursday night crowd eats it up. Joshua’s in perfect form, channeling Kyle Starr as only he can.

Perhaps it’s too dark, the crowd too drunk, or maybe both, but nobody notices the two guys sitting at the back of the bar. It’s Bent Sprockets’ guitarist LOGAN ELLERS(49) along with Sprocket’s drummer BOBBY MANN(52).

Joshua goes back behind the bar after his performance just as Logan walks up for drinks. Joshua can barely speak as he sees one of his favorite guitar players standing there at the bar.

Bobby joins them as Logan tells Joshua that he and Bobby were blown away by his performance, and that he must try out for the band, handing Joshua their manager’s card.

Logan goes on to say that they had been planning to replace Starr for some time, unable to deal with his insanity anymore. And that the situation had come to a head recently.

At this point, several drunken bar regulars recognize the two stars talking with Joshua and start bugging them for selfies.

And as if on cue, out the door they go.


Bent Sprockets is in town playing to a packed stadium, the crowd on their feet. Rachel is front row center, Gary and Johnny standing right there beside her.

Joshua Vitmeyer leads the band as he belts out ‘One More Chance’.

30. Final Credits

Bent Sprockets performance of ‘One More Chance’ continues and fades to the background as the credits roll.