

FANGIRLS - Treatment

Rays of morning sunlight stream through a bedroom window as a loud indie-rock song blares out of a vibrating iPhone. An attractive yet odd-looking woman bolts up from her slumber and sings along. This is Kim. 34 years old.

Kim dresses in her book clerk uniform, scattered amongst half-painted canvasses cluttering the floor. Her walls are covered in paintings, all of one subject: a boyishly handsome man sometimes holding a guitar. The portraits show him at various stages of life, from pretty-boy 90s heart-throb, to current day aging rock star. A concert poster reveals his name: Conrad Hutchens. Kim kisses the poster of Conrad as she rushes out the door.

Moments later, she crashes her bicycle on the pavement while singing the climax of the rock song.

Kim stands at her post at the Brooklyn Barnes and Nobles. The cafe is full of people, her bookstand is empty. She stares off into space.

Cut to Central Park. Empty except for Kim and Conrad, who lie in the grass together. He compliments her essay on Dostoyevsky while feeding her candy. Suddenly, Conrad throws coffee on her.

Back to the bookstore. Two girls coming out of the cafe spill hot coffee on Kim. She snaps out her daydream and shrieks.

Later that evening Kim heats up food in the microwave while her three flatmates plan an epic party. They attempt to converse with her, to little avail. Kim dashes back into her room with her frozen dinner and paints more portraits of Conrad.

Time lapse to the next evening. She's still painting while the party rages in the rest of the flat. She joins the gathering to use the bathroom, her social marginality revealed through awkward comments and sappy music selections, bringing the party to a halt.

Kim goes back to her room and jumps onto her computer to surf the Conrad Hutchens Fan Site. After reading a paragraph of pornographic fan fiction, she shudders and uploads a new drawing. Online fans praise her work as she humbly reveals she never went to art school. She was rejected at age 18 and gave up. Art is now just a hobby. When a fan suggests that Conrad will love the drawing, Kim surmises that Conrad never checks his fansite. He's too busy writing new music!

Cut to Conrad. The middle aged rockstar is sitting at his computer in his loft, reading his fansite. His expression morphs from distaste to fear to arousal. He reaches the pornographic fan fiction Kim viewed earlier, and BEGINS MASTURBATING.

The next day while shopping for groceries, Kim gets a text message from the Conrad fan club. He is about to embark on his last tour, then he's is quitting the music industry. The 5th and final album "SAND STORM" will be released soon after. Kim drops her frozen entrees and SCREAMS! Cries her way through the checkout counter, asking the heavens "Why would he stop?"

Conrad yells into a phone "Because I'm not any good!" Thick Manchester accent. "Anyone who buys this has no taste!" On the other end of the line is Janice Jackal, publicist. She demands he show up to a photoshoot. Everyone is waiting. He's obligated to release the 5th album, it's part of his contract to the label and the album has to have a cover. Conrad agrees to come to the shoot. He picks up his copy of "SAND STORM" and plays the first song. It's crap. Self-loathing ensues.

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Moments later, Conrad buys a coffee from a street vendor. Chats up the cute girl queuing ahead of him. She rolls her eyes. Then he removes his sunglasses. Recognizing him, the cute girl freaks out. She asks if he's still friends with Liam, the front man of "The Knives." Conrad's face falls, the attraction immediately dispersed. He runs off, quickly hailing a cab.

The cab driver is listening to the radio. Conrad's big hit from 15 years ago, CARNIVAL, starts to play and the driver sings along. Once he recognizes Conrad, the driver tries to snap a photo. Conrad falls out of the cab to avoid a compromising snapshot.

Conrad arrives at the photo shoot. Bales of hay and a pitchfork have been set up on an NYC rooftop. A group of shivering housewives and dorky dudes stand near the edge. Janice reveals them to be winners of the twitter contest, whose notable tweets won them the opportunity to be photographed for the Conrad album cover. A wardrobe girl exclaims they did this for "The Knives", and they're most popular band in the world! Janice shushes the wardrobe girl as Conrad seethes.

The wardrobe girls dress up the Northern Englishman as some sort of Americana folk legend, the fans encircling him like hawks. They throw him around like a ragdoll as the photographer snaps photos. The pictures momentarily display on screen: Conrad looks like a sad, tortured songwriter surrounded by predatory fans.

One male fan whispers Conrad's ear "I once dreamed we had the same dick." Conrad throws them off and screams that he's quitting. "Go listen to The Knives! That's the band I should have become!" Everyone protests. Then he howls that he wants to KILL HIMSELF. Conrad jumps off the side of the rooftop building... but lands on a bed of potted plants on a balcony one story below.

At the same time, Kim is at a cafe buying bootleg cds off Eddie, a dorky fanboy. He attempts to connect with her romantically, but due to their mutual awkwardness, no connection is made. Kim may well be a 34 year old virgin. She informs Eddie that she won't see him for awhile, she is going to follow Conrad around the country on his last tour.

Back to Kim's apartment. She holds a photo of Conrad with his arm around a British supermodel sporting a trendy haircut. Kim cuts her own hair in the same fashion using a blunt knife while talking to herself in the mirror in a bad British accent.

Kim sits in the office of Barnes and Nobles, her hair looking disastrous. She requests a leave of absence from her job. Her supervisor wonders if she is pregnant, or being incarcerated. Upon learning she simply wants to follow a band around the country on their last tour, he denies her request. Kim must choose between her job or Conrad. Kim looks out at her solitary book stand. She chooses Conrad. Her boss asks what she hopes to get out of this journey. She stares at him blankly, she doesn't know. "I just don't wanna miss this."

Kim sublets her apartment to an insane older woman who tries talking to Kim's portraits. It's her flatmates worst nightmare: they'll now be living with someone even weirder.

Final step before embarking on her journey: Kim withdraws half the money in her bank account and stuffs it into her bum bag. The adventure begins.

Madison Square Garden, afternoon. On screen "NEW YORK CITY – 27 SHOWS LEFT" appears over Kim sitting on the pavement, third in a queue of music fans. A teabag string hangs out of Kim's flask as she reads from a book. She turns down a joint from a hipster. A young teenage girl grabs the joint, takes

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a drag, then hugs the hipster until he chokes. The girl is MELANIE. She does a cartwheel and screams “CONRAD!” as she exhales.

The doors to Madison Square Garden fly open. The crowd of fans run. Kim gets tripped and is forced to stand several rows back. She nibbles on a packed-lunch sandwich while ruing the tragedy.

A dreadful warm up band aurally assaults the audience while Conrad makes bird noises backstage to warm up his vocal chords. After Janice berates the opening act, Conrad does a few painful pushups and tapes his sagging skin back before taking the stage.

As he enters, Kim begins to shake. Conrad begins with an uproarious rock song. He's brilliant. In his element. The crowd sings along and Kim dances uncontrollably. The first moment we've seen her happy.

Melanie climbs onto the stage, attempting to kiss Conrad. He backs away as security guards chase her. Melanie stage dives into the crowd... but trips on a cord and falls right on top of Kim. The girls stand, noses bleeding. But they keep dancing.

After the performance Kim waits by the stage for a possible appearance from her hero. A tap on the shoulder. She gasps. It's Melanie.

“Are you over 21?” Melanie asks.

“I'm 34.”

“Can I use your ID to get into the after-party?”

Kim had no idea about this after-party, but thanks to Melanie's ruthlessness, they both get in. It's nothing more than a dark bar on the Lower East Side past it's heyday. Filled with a few wannabes and lower-rung record label execs, Kim drinks milk while Melanie downs shots, waiting for an appearance by Conrad that never occurs.

All this time, the band has been backstage. In the midst of reveling in the glow of a great performance, Terry, the tour manager, arrives with fan gifts. One of them a glittery replication of his radio hit CARNIVAL. A bandmate snickers that Conrad's late-90s rock group was a boy-band who's fans are now horny housewives. “Boy-band.” That pushes Conrad's panic button. His thin masculinity destroyed, Conrad flares up, rips apart the artwork, and makes a demand: Terry's only job this entire tour is to keep the fans away from him.

The next morning Kim rides the Greyhound bus to the next show. After enduring a conversation with an aspiring wrestler, Melanie boards in Connecticut. The teen girl squeals when she spots her new “friend.” The wrestler gives up his seat, but not before putting his hand on Kim's bum bag.

On the bus ride, Melanie shows Kim a photo of her sister, Nicki. Nicki is a huge Conrad fan, but couldn't make the tour. Melanie is hell-bent on getting the photo of signed, so she's going to every show on the tour. She's on the same journey as Kim. Kim dozes off while Melanie continues to chatter...

Fade to a lake. Kim dips a paintbrush into the water and strokes a canvas while Conrad plays guitar. He asks why she only paints him. She starts to explain. Conrad grabs Kim's hand and digs into the bottom of her fingernail, causing it to bleed.

Kim awakens on the Greyhound bus: Melanie is giving her manicure as she sleeps. Kim tries scratching off the hot-pink nail polish, but Melanie is quick to grab the other hand and start painting it neon green.

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“BOSTON – 26 SHOWS LEFT” appears over Kim and Melanie stepping off the Greyhound. As the bus pulls away, Kim realizes the wrestler robbed her. She withdraws the rest of her money from the bank machine, wailing that she cannot afford to see every show. As she cries, Melanie comes up with a plan. The two should travel together, splitting hotel costs and using the fake bus ticket she printed up at home. A northeastern wind comes in and the fake bus ticket blows away...

The girls enter a filthy motel room. Melanie's plan is Kim's only option. Kim pulls pajamas and a potted plant out of her suitcase. She explains Bono had sniffed the plant once when he visited Kim's book shop. While Melanie jumps on the springy bed, Kim goes to the bathroom and screams: it's covered in hair, condoms, blood stains, and a squirrel is running around the bathtub.

The girls request another room from the receptionist, and are placed into... The Honeymoon Suite. A pink monstrosity furnished with a penis shaped bed, jacuzzi, and a sex swing. More uncomfortable than she's ever been in her life, Kim crawls into bed with her teenage travel companion. Melanie, excited for tour-long the slumber party, shows Kim a video of her and her sister doing gymnastics in their basement to a song by THE KNIVES.

Meanwhile, Conrad lies in his swanky room, reading a small article in Rolling Stone about his retirement. It's just a blurb, really. Far more is written about his former bandmates group, “THE KNIVES”. Two sexy girls are let in by Terry. They run to his bed and he sits up, his distaste for those who love him overshadowed by his horniness. The girls take photos of themselves lying next to Conrad, post them to instagram and chatter about how jealous their ex-boyfriends will be. As Conrad starts to pull up one of their skirts, the girls thank him for the photos and run out the door, making other plans. They got all they wanted. Conrad stares at the door, destroyed.

Now on a tight budget, Kim and Melanie board a free bus taking a group of political activists to Washington DC for a protest. A right-wing protest they soon learn, as the members spin tea-bags in the air. On the ride to the nations capital, old patriots dressed like George Washington sing country music, blame the world on homos, and fart. The group leader makes sure everyone has selected an “arrest buddy” while one frightening redneck shows Kim his gun.

“WASHINGTON D.C. – 25 SHOWS LEFT.” It's snowing. Melanie dances around to stay warm while Kim sketches a Conrad drawing in her notebook. RING. Melanie answers her mobile and speaks to her mom, telling her how fabulously the study abroad program is going in Paris. “No, you can't speak to my teacher! She's busy now!” Melanie panics and shoves the phone into Kim's hand, insisting she pretend to be her teacher. Morally opposed but unable to stand her ground, Kim makes up some ridiculous French words and promises to keep Melanie in her sight. Melanie's mum reveals that Mel has a tendency to run off. But she and her husband are incredibly busy on international business so won't be able to check on her again. Kim hangs up the phone, disturbed. Melanie explains she wasn't accepted to the foreign prep school her parents wanted to send her to, but she threw out the rejection letter and used to opportunity to follow Conrad on his last tour. Melanie reveals her age: she's only 15.

The band walks by the shivering fans, Conrad smoking a cigarette and “saluting” them. One girl sighs “He's so mysterious.”

Cut to Conrad backstage getting a massage from Terry then ordering a frozen yogurt with organic gummy bears. As Terry leaves, Conrad strums his guitar, practicing the new song he was listening to at the beginning of the film. It's still awful. In fact, it's worse.

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Cut to the girls outside. Kim is amending her drawing of Conrad to reflect the “salute.” Having not yet seen her art, Melanie grabs it from her. It's stunning. She insists they show it to him. He'll flip! Kim tries grabbing it back but Melanie pockets it.

Inside the venue, a new opening act tears up the stage. The audience and Janice are ecstatic. Conrad storms off, jealous. In his dressing room, he tries the new song again. He breaks a string and begins to shake. He doesn't have it in him any more.

Conrad and the band play a loathsome set. When he announces their exit, the audience shouts they want more. They want “good.” So Conrad takes the risk. He tries the new song. It's terrible. The crowd boos. As he starts to leave, Melanie pulls out Kim's drawing and hands it to him from the front row. He looks at it, wipes it on his forehead, and throws it into the crowd, who rips it to pieces. Kim is unable to fight back the tears.

After the show the girls go to a fan's house who offered to host a “Conrad sleepover” for anyone in town seeing the show. A “Conrad prayer circle” is formed, fans requesting that God keep him in the music industry. Kim stares off as music plays in the background...

Cut to Kim walking down a dirt road. A pickup truck turns the corner and Conrad is in the back. He's surrounded by everyone she left behind in New York: her flatmates, the boss that fired her, Eddie the music trader. She runs to catch up with the truck, grabs Conrad's hand and pulls him into the dirt. She gives him a small drawing. He starts singing the new song. This time it sounds better, stronger. He starts to nuzzle Kim -

Cut to the Conrad sleepover. Kim wakes up on the floor of the living room, being spooned by a particularly creepy fan. Melanie and a dozen others rise from their sleep. As the fans rush towards morning pancakes, Kim rolls over and tries forcing herself back into the world of the dream.

Later that day, Kim and Melanie are thrown off of a bus after the driver spots the new fake tickets. They're stuck in the middle of nowhere in the deep south. Mel spots a station wagon car for sale at a gas station, only 100 bucks. The car sputters and smokes, Kim nearly crashing into a tree. But it runs. The girls can now get around freely. As freely as a New Yorker accustomed to public transportation and a teen girl under the driving age can...

“ATLANTA – 20 SHOWS LEFT” Melanie body surfs over a raucous crowd. Afterwards, basking in post-show bliss, the girls spot the tour bus. Now that they have wheels, Mel realizes they are much better positioned to reach their goal of meeting Conrad: by following the bus with their station wagon.

Obviously, they must be incognito. Kim drives like a old lady crawling down the roadway. Melanie changes lanes without looking and nearly sideswipes a bus. This isn't going well.

Late one night they sleep in the car, parked in the lot of an upscale hotel where the band stays. Kim is curled up in the front seat, drawing. Melanie asks about the first time Kim had heard him. Kim reveals the root of her obsession. The moment she heard his words she felt that she knew somebody. And that though she had moved to New York City, collective home of the freaks and weirdos, she was still an outcast. Still someone without friends, someone people didn't know. If she meets Conrad, her life might be better. She'll know someone like her. Melanie promises that they will. Melanie then tells the tale of her sister Nicki playing Conrad's old band at her birthday party and their joint sisterly obsession with him. Her school friends all like “The Knives”, but Melanie feels cooler knowing the music that came before it. All Melanie needs is to get that photo of Nicki signed. It would mean everything to her sister.

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As Kim keeps drawing the portrait, Melanie tells her how happy she is to have Kim.

The next day the girls step into a crowded family-style restaurant, where customers sit together on benches, a paper tablecloth and crayons adorn the top. A little boy next to Kim sees her scribbling and suggests she draw an elephant. She doesn't know how. "TRY!" the little boy demands. Kim doodles an elephant, then looks at the little boy and draws him riding a top, wearing a Prince's crown. The boy gasps, rips it from the table and shows his mother, bragging about the talents of his "new friend." Kim tries drawing something else, but gets frustrated and scratches it out.

"JACKSON, MS – 17 SHOWS LEFT" The girls walk down a commercial street when they spot Conrad's guitar tech entering a bar. They hurry into the ladies room, where Melanie gives Kim a quick makeover and fights a dress over her awkward body. Trashy women in the loo give them weird glances. The girls finally prance out the door to make their move, as Conrad is bemoaning his hatred of his former bandmates, who's new song is playing over the bar's speakers.

They try to buy him a drink. Over the course of the klutzy encounter, Kim spills beer all over the table, but is able to give Conrad a painting. He touches it. He signs it. He hands it back and nods to Terry. Terry gently leads the girls out the door before another Conrad explosion occurs.

Outside, the girls begin to cry, having finally had a moment. They believe they are getting closer. Inside, Conrad shags one of the trashy bar girls in the toilets. She screams she can't believe she's "having sex with John Mayer!" Conrad loses his boner.

The girls lie in bed, blissfully recounting every awkward second, the details of the story morphing. Kim steps out of bed, snags the sheet, and begins painting a life-size portrait of Conrad onto it.

"OKLAHOMA CITY, OK – 14 SHOWS LEFT" A local radio station announces Conrad will be in the studio the next day for a live interview and performance. The girls are listening from the car, Melanie gets out her phone to find out exactly when he'll be there.

Cut to Conrad at the radio station. A horrendous interview unfolds, Conrad responding with one word answers before taking out a Casio keyboard and pushing an autotune button as his "performance." He's falling apart. On-air.

Outside the girls have been waiting. When Conrad exits, they hold up a giant bedsheet, the one Kim had painted Conrad's portrait onto. He sees it out the corner of his eye, then runs to his tour bus and breaks down, demanding the fans be kept far away from him. The bus peels away, the girls drop the sheet and surmise he needs to see it up close.

"TOPEKA, KS – 11 SHOWS LEFT" After multiple failed attempts, the illogical now seems logical to Kim and Melanie. They stand in the middle of the hippest bar they could find in Topeka, Kansas, the bedsheet rolled up beneath their arms. There is one open table in the bar. Rather than sit at it, the girls CRAWL UNDER it, assuming Conrad and crew will sit there when they arrive.

Their assumption was correct. Conrad sits at the table, Kim smelling his legs underneath. The band laments the lack of lovely ladies in the area. As soon as a crew member arrives with the drinks, Kim and Melanie bolt up from under the table. Kim holds up the bedsheet portrait. Melanie clutches the photo of Nicki. Conrad kicks the table over and freaks out, frightening the bar patrons, and leaves.

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The girls panic. They fucked up. In a few moments, Terry the tour manager returns. He's been watching them the whole time. Gently, he suggests the girls view the remaining shows from a few rows back. Stay out of sight. Reminding them that an artist can't exist without their fans, Terry promises them he'll get Melanie's photo signed, and hopes enjoy the rest of the tour. Terry gets it. He's on their side.

Montage. The girls drive through mountain-region and southwest landscapes. Shots of monuments, dirty hotel rooms, the girls dancing, singing, running. One shot of Melanie cutting Kim's hair. They're best friends. Final shot of montage: the girls in bed asleep, lying underneath the Conrad bedsheet.

“PHOENIX, AZ – 4 SHOWS LEFT” While queuing outside the venue, Melanie buys Kim a necklace from a vendor. The vendor sees the tickets in her bag and swipes them. Thinking Melanie lost them, the girls purchase new tickets from a scalper... that turn out to be fake. An emotional breakdown at the gate. Melanie sees the jewelry vendor selling her real tickets and ATTACKS the vendor. The girls run from security, now nearly penniless.

The car speeds down a stretch of desert highway, then comes to a startling stop behind a Subaru, the back of which has painted in large letters: “COACHELLA – 3 SHOWS LEFT”.

The girls sit on the side of the road outside the festival. They have no money for the event, so Kim decides they'll sit beyond the gates and listen. Melanie has a different idea. She pulls a stack of paper out of the trunk of the car and yells “CONRAD HUTCHENS POSTERS FOR SALE!” The posters are of Kim's portrait of Conrad. The fans immediately take notice. Kim freezes when seeing her art being purchased for the first time. Mel reveals she had the posters printed one morning while Kim was still asleep.

The girls get enough cash from poster sales to buy festival tickets. Upon entering the music mecca, Kim smiles like a child on Christmas morning. She's in heaven. While she plans out which acts they are going to see, Melanie spots a man handing out pills and sneaks off.

Later, Kim listens to a terrible band in the back of a side tent. Melanie enters, tucking a pill into the side of a hot dog.

Kim: “Oh goodness, I'm starving! Can I have a bite?”

Kim grabs the hot dog and takes a bite. She chomps down on something hard. Starts to spit it out.

Melanie giggles and holds her hand over Kim's mouth. They struggle, but Kim finally swallows, fear enveloping her face.

Melanie: “I'm not even gonna tell you.”

Beat. Panic. “What's about to happen to me, Melanie?”

Beat. Giggles. “ECSTASY!”

Cut to Kim swaying side to side and grinning, feeling the breeze on her face and the grass on the ground, “even though I'm wearing shoes!” Conrad plays on stage. Melanie is dancing with a group of girls, thrilled that Kim is having a good time. A shirtless man holds up a poster of Kim's drawing. Kim yells “I painted that!” The man starts kissing her, she kisses back like an amateur. The breeze kicks in... and Kim vomits. All over the stage. She looks up, horrified, then VOMITS ALL OVER CONRAD. Conrad turns to the audience and slips. They boo. One throws a poster of Kim's onstage, which is picked up by Terry. Kim and Melanie run as Conrad berates the heckling crowd.

Later, Kim is speeding down the roadway crying her eyes out. She shakes in humiliation. Melanie tries calming her down but it's of no use. Kim claims she doesn't want to meet Conrad, she never wants him to see her. Melanie ruined everything. Kim is dropping her off in San Francisco then quitting the tour.

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Melanie's reminder that she's only 15 years old and shouldn't travel alone doesn't work on Kim. Kim tells her to figure it out and to never speak to her again.

The next afternoon the girls check into their San Fran hotel, where they can rest before Kim sells her tickets outside the show the next day. The girls aren't speaking. Melanie says she's running out for a meal. Instead, she runs off and gets a tattoo: a giant replica of of Conrad right across her back.

Kim gets worried and searches for Melanie. When she catches her at the ink parlor and sees the monstrosity of a tattoo being drawn, she realizes she can't leave the girl alone. And she had promised Melanie's mother on the phone in DC that she wouldn't let her out of her sight. Kim agrees to go to the shows in San Fran and LA, then it's time to go home.

They return to the hotel and make up a dance together. Friends again. Melanie asks Kim "What do you plan to do after this? Once the tour is over?" Kim's answer: "I have no idea." They curl up to sleep.

Cut to Kim and Conrad sitting in a rowboat in the middle of the ocean. Kim's hair is long, her skin glowing. Conrad's trying to play the new song he's been writing. It still sounds terrible. Kim grabs his guitar and begins to play. Suddenly it makes sense. Until she SCREAMS IN HORROR -

Conrad bolts up out of bed, a horror movie playing on his hotel room. THIS TIME, IT WAS HIS DREAM. He flicks through the channels and finds a chat show. They are talking about his performance at Coachella. "So bad the fans were barfing on him!" Humiliated, he flicks off the tv and watches youtube clips of his nemesis: The Knives. Alone, his jealousy turns to adoration. His former guitarist, now the lead singer of The Knives, knows how to work a crowd. In the video, he pulls a girl out of the audience and sings to her onstage.

Putting away his computer, Conrad finds the poster Terry had stuffed into his bag. The one Kim had painted. He looks closely, now admiring the image of himself, how beautifully she portrayed him.

"SAN FRANCISCO – 2 SHOWS LEFT" The girls nervously wait in the crowd, hoping not to be recognized. They notice a trend: tshirts with Kim's painting of Conrad on it. Fans seem to be lifting the image from the Coachella posters and putting it on other merchandize. Conrad begins a cracking good show, then holds out his hand to bring a girl onstage. For one moment Kim contemplates raising her hand... but it's too late, Conrad brings someone else up instead. He sings to her like Bono did in the video. Kim is stunned in sadness.

"LOS ANGELES – THE FINAL PERFORMANCE" Kim and Melanie walk down the Hollywood walk of fame, shocked at it's ugliness. After nearly getting run over by a bus full of nuns when they mistakenly ambled up a freeway entrance, the girls take cover in a cafe. One where they spot Prince in the window! They shuffle to a table where they can get a good view of him. Kim tries drawing him as Melanie describes what he's wearing. Then Prince stands... it's not Prince. It's an exotic looking woman with a similar haircut. Kim's portrait is hilariously ridiculous. C-list celebs enter and the girls sulk.

Gig time. Outside the Hollywood Palladium, a vendor sets up a merch table selling shirts, posters, wallets... all emblazoned with Kim's painting. Melanie screams and demands that this is Kim's artwork and he has to cut them into the profit! She proves Kim is the artist by taking the original drawing out of Kim's bag. A nearby couple gasps and offers Kim 900 dollars for the signed original. Kim is overwhelmed as she realizes the value of her work.

Inside, the show begins. Conrad is amazing. The girls dance and scream their hearts out. At the end the

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show, Conrad performs the new tune: and it's perfection. In the middle of the tune, Melanie taps Kim on the shoulder. Kim turns around. THE ENTIRE CROWD IS HOLDING UP HER POSTER OF CONRAD. Conrad gazes into the audience, also awestruck. Melanie whispers "You did it."

After the show the girls glide down a decrepit section of Sunset Blvd. Kim walks slowly, not really wanting to follow the band again. Melanie finds "Bronson Bar." Hip Hollywood types mill outside. Kim won't move. "I'm not cool enough, Melanie. I know that." Melanie demands they go, she MUST get her sister's photo signed. Her anger shocks Kim, she's never seen Melanie so upset.

The girls enter and it's a dark wonderland of cool rock stars. Jack White spills a beer on Kim and she clutches her shirt in glory. They couldn't be more out of place.

Conrad and crew are in the corner, emanating post-show hypomania. Conrad tells Terry he "needs some girls. Someone to celebrate with." Terry sees Kim and Melanie shaking at the bar and pauses. The crew heads to the hotel. Terry invites the girls to join them. Kim and Melanie SCREAM!

The hotel suite. The band and crew party properly, Conrad nowhere to be seen. Kim takes a giant gulp of rum and coke to calm her nerves, then spits it up all over a stripper's tits. This isn't going well. The awkward situation is made moreso when Conrad steps out of his bedroom, looking back and forth between the girls brought to him. Kim and Melanie go quiet. Conrad points at Melanie, who enters, whispering excitedly that she'll come out for Kim soon.

Conrad and Melanie in his bedroom. The 15 year old girl can't contain herself, telling him all about her sister. Conrad briefly looks at the photo of Nicki then kisses Melanie. She kisses back like a sloppy teenage girl, then goes back to chatting about her sister, telling him why he has to sign it. His reply: "tell me what you've fantasized about me." "Um.. I once fantasized about us riding a ferris wheel and having a destination wedding." He doesn't get how young she is, she doesn't get how horny he is. A situation of two people having a completely different idea of what's supposed to happen. It's hilariously uncomfortable, until Conrad pulls her towards his half naked body, thinking it's what she wants. Melanie screams.

Outside, Kim has been tearing apart the threads of the sofa, unsure how to contain with her jealous rage. She hears Melanie scream and a different emotion arises. She tries to open the locked door. Terry tells her she can't go inside. When Kim informs him that Melanie is only 15 years old, Janice Jackal immediately unlocks the door.

Conrad and Melanie in a precarious posture. When Kim pulls her off of him, Conrad whines, asking why they even came here, what is it they want from him? "We just wanted to give you a painting" Melanie tells him. Kim hands him a drawing "I've waited my whole life for this." The girls leave.

As they exit the hotel, Melanie, through thick tears, apologizes for going in by herself. Kim calls the cops and reports drug use and possible prostitution.

In the hotel room, Janice interrogates Conrad on what exactly he did with the young girl. He insists it was nothing. She didn't want him. And he wants this all to be over. After Janice leaves, saying that he's frittering away his immense talent, Conrad picks up the art Kim gave him. He compares it to the poster from Coachella. He lies back and begins to compose a new song as Police officers knock on his door. He lets them confiscate the drugs as he begins a new tune.

Montage. Kim and Melanie drive back through America, their car pointed in the opposite direction.

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The girls at a midwestern diner. Melanie pulls out the photo of Nicki, noting with sadness that he never signed it. She asks Kim to forge the signature.

"You still want his autograph?"

"It's really important." Melanie defends Conrad by saying it was just a misunderstanding. That's probably what most girls do want from him. Kim reluctantly fakes the signature to make her happy.

Kim drives through the posh town of Greenwich, CT. Before she takes her home, Melanie asks Kim to stop by the hospital. Kim parks the car and follows Melanie, who's sprinting inside.

The infirmary. Melanie asks to visit "Nicole Sanderson." They walk down the ward until Kim spots Nicki, on a table in a coma. Melanie runs in and holds the signed photo in front of her sister's expressionless face. Melanie introduces her "new best friend" to Nicki, recounting moments from the tour. She puts the photo onto Nicki's chest and whispers to Kim "That'll be the first thing she sees when she wakes up!" Melanie insists that Nicki can hear things. So Kim puts headphones into Nicki's ears and plays "I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For" by U2. The girls sing along. Nicki's face twitches.

The station wagon approaches a giant house. Before she goes home, Melanie tells Kim about Nicki's accident, about how her parents wouldn't let her cry, that she was supposed to pretend it didn't happen. She then exclaims how happy she is that she met Kim and that she can't wait to show her friends her new tattoo! Kim promises to draw something new to cover the awful tattoo up with. Melanie leaves, screaming back to the car "I LOVE YOU!"

Kim drives back to her apartment. Her flatmates look out the window as she badly parks the station wagon. She enters carrying snacks for the flatmates and starts to tell stories from the tour. The flatmates don't know how to comprehend this friendly new Kim, but they really like it.

Kim stands outside an art gallery. Takes a deep breath. She enters and applies for an internship. Looking at the art on the walls, she contemplates her own body of work.

Central Park. Kim sets up an easel and a chair. As she puts the brush to canvass, she stops. She doesn't know what to paint. Looks around the park for inspiration. Finally, she pulls a polaroid of Melanie from Coachella out of her bag. She sets it on the edge of the canvass, and begins painting Melanie.

THE END.

MONTAGE:

Alongside the credits, the portrait of Melanie that Kim painted fades to the top right corner. Pan out: it's hanging in a gallery. Kim stands at the back of the room as others, including a blushing Melanie, admire it.

On the bottom right of the screen, entertainment news plays. Conrad Hutchens' first independently released album has just come out, and it's marvelous. He's about to begin a new tour, where he'll be opening for "THE KNIVES". The newscaster comments on how this good turn of luck came after he narrowly escaped an unfortunate arrest last year due to a run in with a young fan.

End of credits: the two frames meld together as Conrad enters the gallery. He stands near the edge, looking at the painting of Melanie as art fans surround Kim, gushing at her talents.