

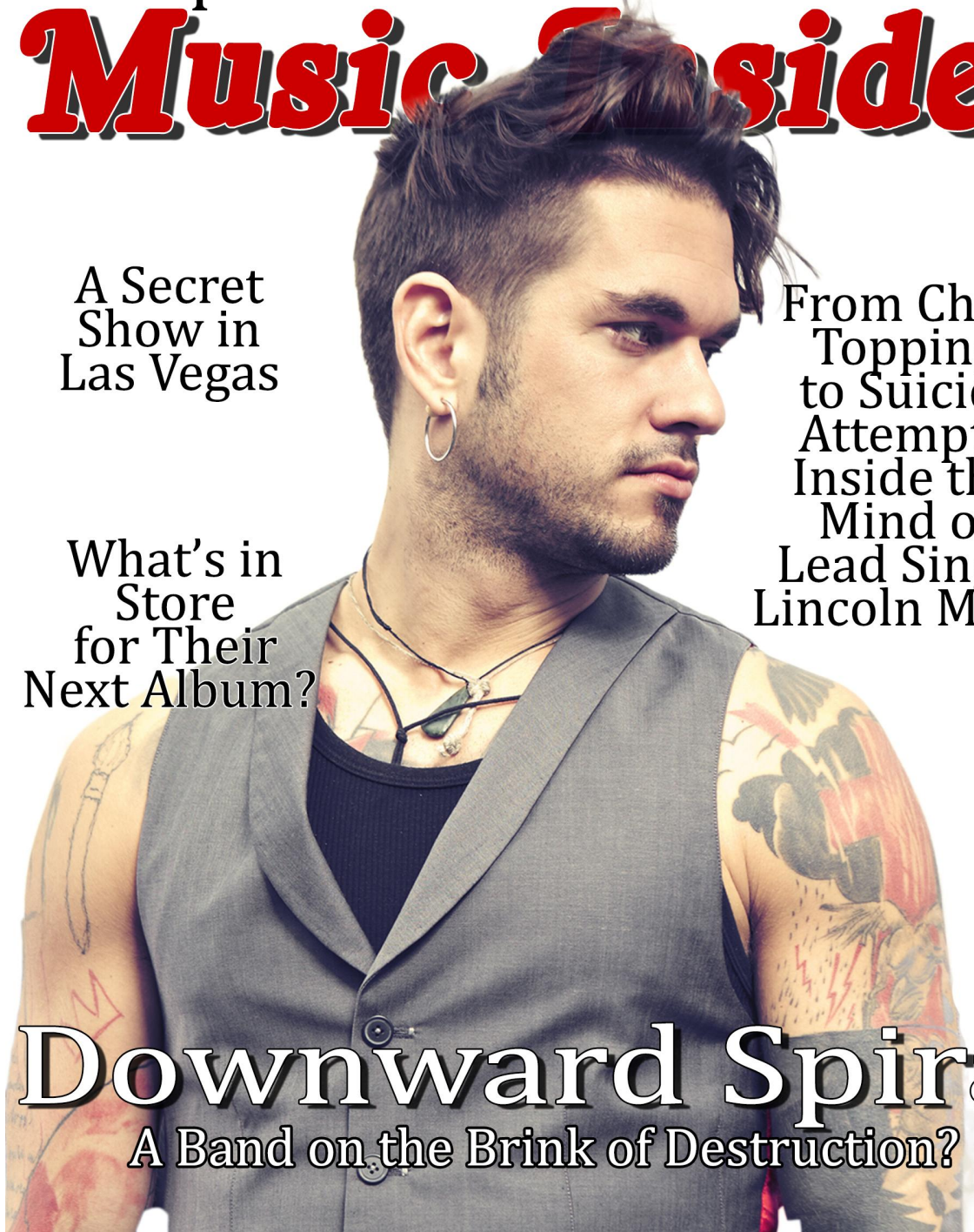
Special Collectors Edition  
**Music Insider**

A Secret  
Show in  
Las Vegas

What's in  
Store  
for Their  
Next Album?

From Chart  
Topping  
to Suicide  
Attempts:  
Inside the  
Mind of  
Lead Singer  
Lincoln Miller

**Downward Spiral**  
A Band on the Brink of Destruction?



# Interview with Lincoln Miller

*This Interview took place on November 1 at Lincoln Miller's Manhattan penthouse. He welcomed me graciously, showing me around the spacious floor plan. Floor to ceiling windows cover the East wall and lead to a large balcony. Predictably, he has several guitars hanging on the wall beside the band's three platinum records. Pictures of the band were also framed and placed on multiple surfaces around the home.*

*We sat at Lincoln's kitchen table, which was littered with scraps of paper with hastily scribbled notes. While we talked, he flipped a guitar pick between his artful fingers.*

*I didn't know what to expect from the often mysterious Lincoln Miller, but I found him to be kind and soft spoken. He strikes me as a man who carries the weight of the world around on his shoulders. I wish I had the words to describe the depth of pain behind his kind eyes.*

— Thomas Riley

## **Tell me about how Downward Spiral came to be**

The four of us— Jude, Lando, Benji, and myself were high school buddies. We met freshman year in English class. We found out we shared a love of music and decided it would be cool to jam together. It was a great outlet for us at that age, kept us out of any major trouble, and gave us something to look forward to most days. None of us expected anything to come of it. Then, ten years ago we were doing an open mic at a hole in the wall bar. I guess it was one of those right place at the right time things because Asher Horowitz happened to pass through that night and liked what he heard.

## **Of your many chart topping songs, do you have a favorite?**

That's always a difficult question for me to answer. But, I guess I have to say *Cherry Lane*. Since that was our first big break, it holds a special place in my heart. And it's one of only two songs I personally wrote, so it'll always be special to me in that way as well.

## **Many people have called *Cherry Lane* one of the most romantic songs of all time. Are the rumors true that it was inspired by your own young love?**

Ha, going right for the jugular aren't you? Yes, the rumors are true. *Cherry Lane* was the road where our summer cabins were located, and I spent every summer from the age of fourteen on falling hopelessly in love with him. I wrote the song for him our last summer together.

## **What happened between you two?**

I ruined things. That's all I'm going to say about it.

## **You mentioned *Cherry Lane* is one of two songs you personally wrote. The other song**

**was *Crimson Tiles*, can you tell me the story behind that song?**

It's not a big secret, I've struggled with self-harm most of my life. That song is about a night things got out of hand, and what it feels like to know you're dying and not care as much as you know you're supposed to. I know it's a song many people can relate to, and I strongly urge those people to reach out to someone for help, or call the suicide hotline if they don't know who to talk to.

**What's it like to be an openly gay rock star?**

Ha, I don't exactly have anything to compare it to so I'm not entirely sure. Being someone people recognize on the street, that's a trip. The first time I heard someone singing one of our songs on the street I nearly fainted. I didn't expect this from my life and most days it still doesn't feel real.

**There have been some rumors recently that the band is in a rough patch. It's been reported Jude and Benji got into a fist fight backstage at your last show. Is there any gravity to any of these claims?**

We've known each other a long time, and at the end of any tour it's often been way too long in close quarters. Do we fight? Absolutely. Are we breaking up? Not on your life.

**What's next for the band?**

We have our next tour starting in the new year, and I know Lando is hard at work on some brand new hits so we can get back to dominating the charts.

**Face the Music (Replay Book 1)**

**Lincoln:**

I thought there was only one thing I needed to make me happy. I was so sure becoming a rock star would heal the dark corners inside me. But every time I walk onto the stage, with a roaring crowd screaming my name, all I can think about is the boy I left behind. All I want to do is rewind and make a different choice.

**Jace:**

I thought I hated Lincoln when he ghosted me ten years ago and destroyed my heart. I thought I hated him when he wrote a chart-topping hit about our idyllic young love. But I've never hated him as much as I do right now, standing in front of me like he has every right to be in my world again. He's not the rock god I thought he was...he's still that same lost boy I used to love. Can I ever trust him with my heart again?

\*\*\*Face the Music is the first book in the Replay series. Each book in the series will focus on a different band member getting a second chance at love. Each book can be read as a stand-alone. This book contains descriptions of self-harm, suicidal thoughts, and sexy times.

<http://www.authorkmneuhold.com/face-the-music>

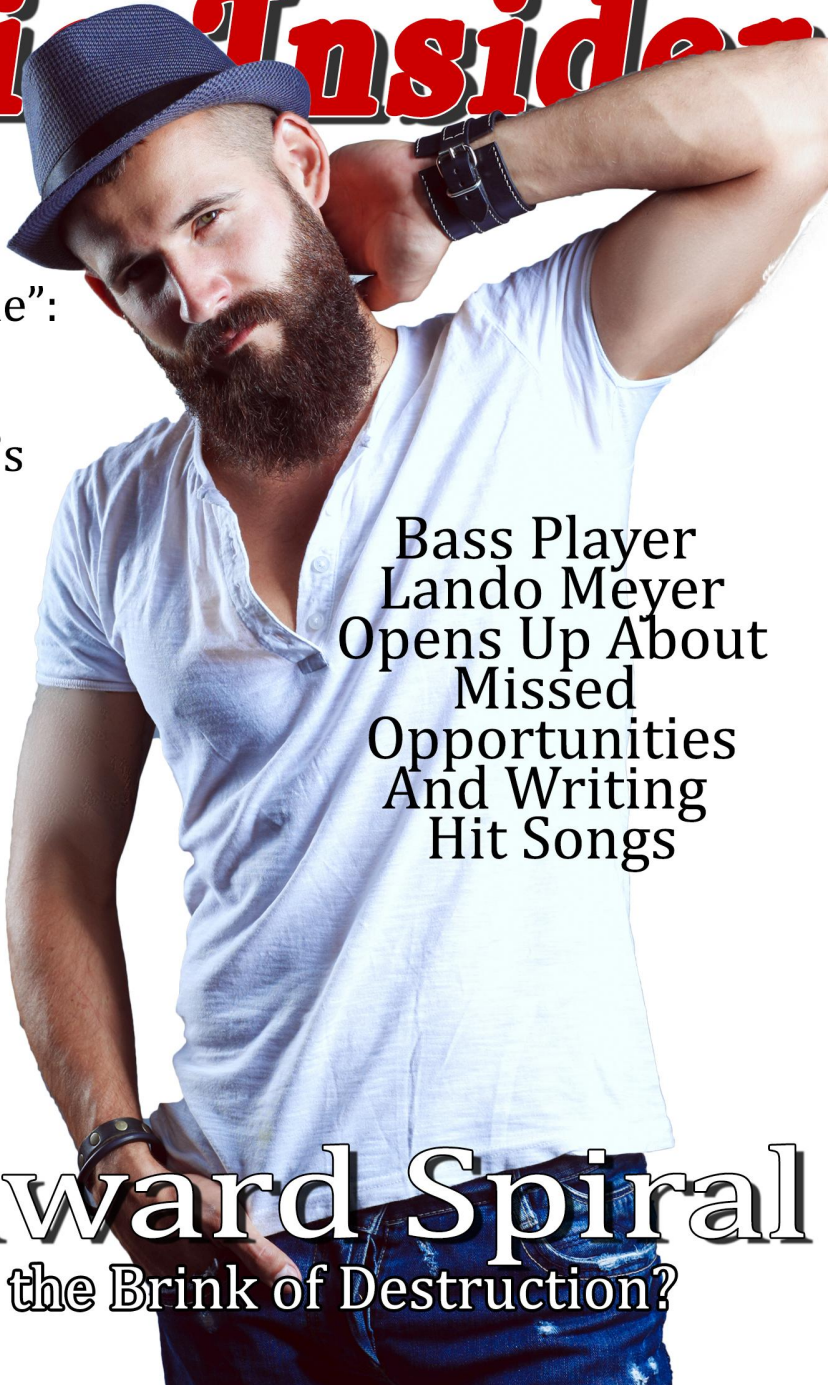
Special Collectors Edition  
**Musi Insider**

Forget “Cherry Lane”:  
Who inspired  
the rest of  
Downward Spiral’s  
songs?  
We might finally  
have an answer!

“My Band  
Mates  
Are Like  
My Brothers.  
I Hate  
When  
We Fight”

Bass Player  
Lando Meyer  
Opens Up About  
Missed  
Opportunities  
And Writing  
Hit Songs

**Downward Spiral**  
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# Interview with Lando Meyers

*This Interview took place on November 10 at Lando Meyers' Manhattan penthouse. His home was strikingly similar to Lincoln's which I visited the week prior— expensive furniture, Downward Spiral paraphernalia. Unlike Lincoln, Lando had sheets of music and notebooks full of lyrics spread out on a desk in his living room, his bass guitar not far away. I asked for a sneak peek into some of his songs that are still a work in progress, but was predictably shut down in a polite manner.*

*The interview was conducted on Lando's couch where he sat with his bass guitar in his lap and occasionally strummed when a question seemed to take a lot of thought or made him uncomfortable.*

*As mysterious as Lincoln Miller was, Lando struck me as a man with a lot more beneath the surface than he was willing to let show during our brief time together.*

— Thomas Riley

**Lincoln told me about how the band was started years ago. But tell me, are you all still as close as you were back in high school?**

I love my bandmates, they're like brother's to me. I'm not going to pretend that after months on the road together, crammed into a bus, smelling each other's feet we don't get a bit fed up, but at the end of the day we're family. We've all been through a lot together and we've formed unbreakable bonds. They're all great guys, even when I can't stand them.

**I understand while Lincoln wrote the two most popular songs in the catalogue, you've written all the rest. Was it always the intention you'd be the primary writer for the band?**

Lincoln writes when he feels particularly inspired, I write because it has to be done. One of the big sticking points when we signed with Epic was that we'd never perform songs by someone outside of the band. We wanted our songs to be personal and mean something to us. I certainly wouldn't mind if Lincoln could manage to get inspired a little more often, but I'll always do what's best for the band and if that means I write almost all of our music, I'm okay with it.

**Your songs are full of passion and a deep longing. Where do you get the inspiration for the songs you write?**

*Lando took a long pause after this question, seemingly lost in thought for several minutes before answering.*

Someone very special to me inspired almost all of my songs.

**There's been a lot of speculation about your love life, you date more than any of the other band members but it never seems to stick. Are you saying there's been someone in particular who managed to capture your heart?**

Ha, yeah he captured it alright. It was short lived but it left a big impression on me. There's not much else to say about it.

**What's it like to be an openly gay rock star?**

I'm sure it's no different than being a straight rock star— fans throw themselves at you, propose marriage, tell you how much they love you even though they don't know you. It's strange and in many ways not what I expected. But it's all worth it to get to do what I love for a living.

**There have been some rumors recently that the band is in a rough patch. It's been reported Jude and Benji got into a fist fight backstage at your last show. Just last week, shortly after my interview with Lincoln, Jude was reportedly found with a prostitute. Is the situation as grave as it seems or do you think you can get through it?**

I wouldn't count us out just yet. We each have our problems, but at the end of the day we're doing what we love and we're not going to let that slip away.

**How close are you to finishing your next album? Can we expect to hear new songs during your tour that starts next month?**

Just some fine tuning left before we can record, everything is right on track.

**Play it by Ear (Replay Book 2)**

The Heart Always Knows

**Lando:**

My muse is gone, and I haven't written a word of music in over a year. Every time I close my eyes, all I can see is Dawson. Nine years ago, just before Downward Spiral's first major tour, I met my soulmate and then I walked away. Now that I've finally tracked him down again, things have changed. I'll have to make him fall for me all over again. But is it possible I put our single weekend together on a pedestal or could Dawson really be The One?

**Dawson:**

A traumatic brain injury nine years ago left me deaf and with spotty memory of the first twenty years of my life. When one of the biggest rock stars in the world shows up and seems to know me, I'm not sure what to believe. Is it possible he's telling the truth when he says he's been in love with me for nine years, even if I can't remember ever meeting him?

<http://authorkmneuhold.com/play-it-by-ear>

Special Collectors Edition  
**Mus<sup>!</sup> Insider**

Their Grammy  
Win: "One  
of Anything  
is Never  
Enough"

Jude Katz:  
Drunk Driving,  
Prostitutes,  
And What it's  
Like to be the  
Token "Bad Boy"  
of the Band

The Most  
Outrageous  
Stories From  
The Road

**Downward Spiral**  
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**Interview with Jude Katz**

*This Interview took place on November 15 at Jude Katz' Manhattan penthouse. In size and decor, his home wasn't much different than Lincoln or Lando's, however one thing that caught my eye was a striking number of empty liquor bottles, broken glass here and there, and a white powdery substance on his coffee table I don't dare speculate about. The items were out in the open and he eyed me as I noticed them, almost daring me to bring them up. There was also a striking lack of band paraphernalia, unlike in the other two homes— no records or magazine covers hanging on the walls, his Grammy wasn't even on display like in the homes of the other two men. If I didn't know any better, there wouldn't be anything to make me guess this is the drummer of arguably the most popular rock band of all time.*

*The interview was conducted on Jude's couch where he sat tapping his fingers against his thigh, beating out the rhythm to some familiar songs in his apparent nervousness.*

*As difficult to read as Lincoln and Lando were, I get the immediate sense from Jude that he's not planning to let me see behind the mask he's pasted on for the public persona, but this reporter was determined to try.*

— Thomas Riley

**Lincoln and Lando talked about the band getting together in high school, can you tell me how you came to be part of the group?**

I knew Lincoln first. We met in elementary school and...um...had a lot in common, let's just say. We were close, like brothers. I didn't know much about music, but I always thought the drums seemed cool, so when Lincoln became pathologically attached to his guitar, I figured I'd see if I had any musical talent. *Jude shrugged, giving me a cocky smile.* Turns out I'm okay at playing the drums I guess.

**You said you were close with Lincoln, are you no longer as close as you were in high school?**

Ah, this is what you get paid the big bucks for, right? Twisting people's words, digging where there's nothing to be found. Lincoln is Lincoln, he's not always easy to deal with. But then again, neither am I. Like I said, Lincoln's like my brother.

**I noticed you don't have your Grammy on display, any reason for that?**

Lincoln wrote that song, all I did was beat the hell out of my drumset.

*I wanted to press for more, but Jude's dark expression warned me against this line of questioning.*

**You're known as the troublemaker of the band, what do you have to say to your critics?**

*Jude's cock smile is turned up a few notches.*



I do what I want to do, people who have a problem with that can suck a bag of dicks. I could give a shit what anyone else's opinion is of my life. I learned a long fucking time ago that I can't please anyone, so why bother trying?

**Lincoln and Lando have love lives that are wildly speculated about, and yours is no less so. Are the rumors about prostitutes true?**

*Jude shrugged and pulled a cigaret out of his pocket, lighting it and taking a deep drag.*

I don't think there's anything wrong with paying for sex. I want sex, they need money, it's a win-win. People need to get off their fucking high horses about that shit.

**And what about your recent DUI?**

That was bullshit. I wasn't driving, I was sleeping in my car, that's it.

**There's been a lot of recent speculation about the band possibly breaking up, do you think you'll make it through, or are we witnessing final days of Downward Spiral?**

Do I look like a fucking psychic? The situation is what it is, we're all reaching the end of our rope. As for how things will turn out, I guess time will tell. Are we about finished here or what?

**Beat of Their Own Drum (Replay Book 3)**

**Jude:**

I'm in a downward spiral...see what I did there? When the band manager, Archer, hires Bennett to keep me from screwing up while the band is on hiatus, I may have finally met someone who won't take my attitude lying down. With the three of us cooped up together for weeks on end, I have a feeling things might get interesting.

**Archer:**

Downward Spiral is my baby. But it's obvious I haven't done a great job because they're falling apart. There's only one man I can think of who might be able to get Jude back on the right track, Bennett. Unfortunately, he's also the man I let get away sixteen years ago and haven't gotten over since.

**Bennett :**

Control is kind of my thing. Which is probably why I'm the best in the business when it comes to getting out of control celebrities back on track. When my ex calls and tells me he's desperate for my help, I can't turn him down. Between the infuriatingly sexy drummer with no idea what kind of trouble he's asking for, and my ex looking better than ever, there's no way this isn't about to get messy.

\* This is an MMM romance with mild D/s play and mild daddy kink (NO age play)

<http://authorkmneuhold.com/beat-of-their-own-drum>