

Did You Hear Jake & Courtney Broke Up?

A group of friends deal with the breakup of the couple that brought them together.

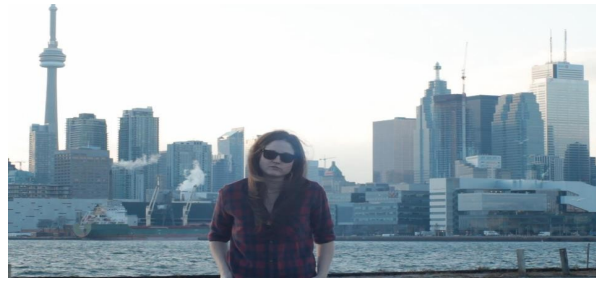
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The Story

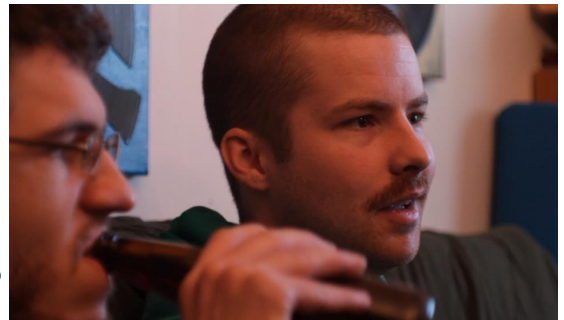


Jake & Courtney have broken up, but their friends are more concerned about how the breakup is affecting their own lives. Jane and Tyler are dealing with the turmoil of the feelings that are brought up as a result of the breakup.



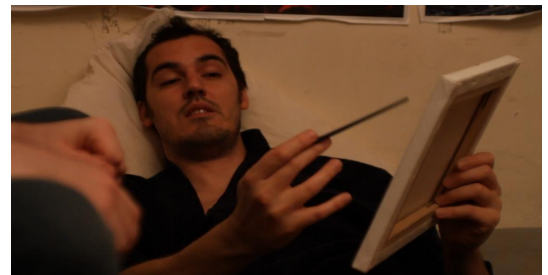
Amanda keeps the rest of Courtney's friends in line, so they don't upset Courtney further, an idea she does not live by.

O'Shaughnessy, despite his friendship with Jake, sets his sights upon the newly single Courtney. Liz is more focused on starting her own relationship than being there to support her friend.



Jake's old friend from back home uses the break up as an excuse to come to the city, and ends up partying and trying to pawn off his duties as a friend...

...while Scott, Jake's roommate, vocally tries to remain as uninvolved as possible. Betty has better success with her mouth shut.



In the end, will Jakes and Courtney's breakup... Break up the group?

The Production



Q and A with Kew and Leroux

By: Daniel Tossion

D: What was your inspiration for the film?

K: Having done a handful of shorts, sketches, and a few plays I really wanted to sink my teeth into a feature project. I was looking at my own life for inspiration, tried developing a few ideas but in the end I was always unsatisfied. Then my roommate broke up with his girlfriend and the ideas started pouring out.

D: How did the film get off the ground? What was the process of getting the film made?

L: I think I'll take this one. So I'm in a fake punk rock band and I wanted to make a short film about them for when we played and I knew (Kew) made short films, so I asked him if he wanted to work on the project together. He told me the idea for Jake and Courtney and I really loved it, so we started working on both projects. To get the film made we just asked a lot of friends if they would help us. We cast people we knew and just went and talked to people and see if they wanted to be a part of the project.



D: How long was the shoot? Where did you shoot?

K: Over all 17 days. Over 2 months.

L: Longer than that.

K: 3 maybe.

L: Yeah 3. In Toronto.

K: Friend's apartments. Producer's Apartment. My apartment.

L: We would ask people in restaurants if we could use their location for an hour or two if we bought some food. Most people said yes.

What is your favorite scene in the film?

L: Well by far the best scene in the...

K: We don't really have a favourite scene, but one of my favourite stories about filming is, we were shooting Damage Control and it was just so much fun. Michael cast Jen and Lara and I got to see my characters come to life. I've only ever worked with people I know, so it was cool. A different experience. After we got home and watched the dailies, we were impressed with what Jen Neales improvised during the scene and I went to Brantford and edited the scene that night.

D: What was the most difficult scene to shoot?

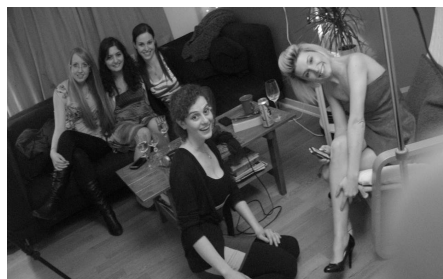
K: Well we did get kicked out of the Botanical Gardens. We didn't even have all the footage, so we had to sneak in and shoot again a different day.

L: Also the night that we had Jen for a bunch of scenes it was raining and we ended up taping an umbrella to the camera so that we could just get the scene filmed. And then the last thing we filmed that night was the scene with Jen and Chris on the streetcar and we had to get all the streetcar footage done before she had to get off at her stop because she had to go home.



D: The movie is divided into chapters and there are a couple of more off beat sections in the film. Why did you decide to tell the story this way?

K: That's the movie I wanted to make. When I got out of school I didn't want to make a stupid "save the cat" movie. Everyone is fucking obsessed with that book and its making every movie the same. Its time to look at alternate structures again.



D: Describe the casting process?

K: I had started writing with several people in mind for certain characters; Chris, Ferg, and Taylor I guess. When Michael got involved he really filled out the rest of cast.

L: I had worked with Jen Neales a few years ago and was always looking for a project I could work on with her. Holly was in the first project we did together. I also got a lot of the actors from my time doing improv in Toronto.

D: What format did you shoot the film on?

K: We shot in on a Cannon DSLR with retro actively fitted, vintage Minolta lenses.

D: As the screenwriter, what do you think the essence of the film and its characters are about?

K: Life moves on and you will always lose people.

Cast & Crew Bios



Amanda: Jennifer Neales has been acting around the world for over 10 years. Some of her selected credits are: Tina in the Off-Broadway Musical "Ruthless"; Jennie Malone in "Chapter Two", touring in Japan; as Roberta in "Love and Human Extinction" (Fringe Festival's Best Actor 2009); a lead in Trey Anthony's "I am NOT a Dinner Mint"; and acting and touring with Trey Anthony Productions as Suzy in "'da Kink in My Hair" in New York City, North Carolina and Toronto; Vi in "Stormcloud" (InsideOut Film Festival - International Tour); Evelyn in "The Shape of Things" (2012 Fringe Festival's Best of Fringe - Toronto Centre for the Performing Arts). Jennifer is now writing her one-womyn show "The Invisible Bride's Maid" and living in Toronto with her beautiful partner.

Scott/Producer: Michael Bennett Leroux can be seen on the small screen in "Inventions That Shook The World" on Discovery Channel and in several commercials. His film credits include Jonathan in the short film "Backed Up" and PowerPhist in "StartStop", which is in post-production. His theatre credits include "Berger" in "Rainbow" (the sequel to "Hair"), in which he worked with playwright James Rado and director Tom O'Horgan. This is his first time acting as producer on a feature film.



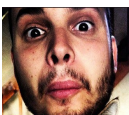
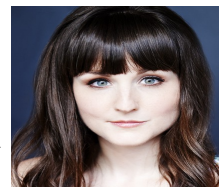
Jane: Holly Greene was born and raised in Montreal, Quebec, where she also graduated from Dawson College's Professional Theatre Program. Her film and TV credits include "The Perfect House", an independent horror film, in which she played opposite Jonathan Tiersten (of "Sleepaway Camp" fame), "The Bellhauser Cup", an improvised feature-film, and BITE TV's "The Short Bus" and "The Cutting Room", both of which she co-hosted. She will also be starring in Kew and Leroux's "StartStop" and "Stereo".

Rich: Andrew Ferguson began his acting career in a variety of television commercials and shows. Shows he appeared in include: "Curious and Unusual Deaths" (Discovery Channel) and the Documentary "Digging Up The Great Escape" (History Channel) where he portrayed one of the POW soldiers in the incredible true story that inspired the classic film. Andrew then ventured into Theatre in The Theatre Centre's Spring 2012 production of "Out The Window", directed by Liza Balkan. Andrew next played a nervous interviewer from Time Magazine in the faux documentary romp "StartStop" directed by Kew and produced by Michael Bennett Leroux. Andrew will star in their third collaboration "Stereo" which is in pre-production.



Liz: Lara Harb is a Toronto based actor specializing in improv. She can be seen in the improvised feature film "Quitter" (Weekenders Present) as Beth, the quirky intern, Grace in the short film "Room 402" (WOA Pro Studios) and Darcy in the zombie web series "Zombie Zeroes" (Anna Sani Productions). Lara's theatre credits include Miss Amelia in the musical "A Little Princess" (WaveStage Theatre), Marianna in 1812 historical play "Forgotten Voices" (Lakeshore Arts) and Mina in "Dracula: The Musical?" (St. Roberts CHS). She directed a play and a sketch review before graduating from Humber College in Toronto. She has directed several short videos, including commercials.

Courtney's Sister: Jennifer Hoffman started her film and television career in a MADD Canada documentary, and starred in several student films. This led to roles in comedy shorts such as "V. A. Substance Abuse & Recovery" and "The Last Destination", as well as the role of Daphne in The Paint Movement's short film/music video "Feed Them One" which premiered in Toronto. A few of her stage credits include Helen in "The Trojan Women", Myrrhine in "Lysistrata", Lady Kix in "A Chaste Maid in Cheapside", and Clara/Dora in "David Copperfield", all with Theatre Erindale. She toured "The Velveteen Rabbit" across Ontario and Quebec with Touring Players Theatre. When not in front of the camera, Jennifer can be seen in a monthly Toronto improv show with her musical improv troupe, "The Special Features".



Score: Alex Werden, an independent musician, has been writing and performing music in Toronto for over a decade, in various bands with various names. "Jake and Courtney" is his first feature-length film score, but he has worked on short films in the past. Alex has played in punk rock groups, post-rock, ambient, folk and pop acts.

Executive Producer: Mark "Dutch" Koetsier can be seen in the feature films "The Intruder" as Police Constable Lawrence, and "Slave Inc." as the Head Investigator. Mark was also the Composer, Musician, Producer & Sound-Engineer for the film "Slave Inc." for which he received two "Northern Ontario Music & Film Award" nominations (best Sound Engineer and best Vocal Performance). As a musician, Mark has toured Europe twice, Canada five times and the U.S. with "OX". Several videos have been aired on ZED TV. He can also be heard in the bands "Sex Toy Video", "Tin Gypsy" and "Big Bill and the Varmints". As an actor, Mark has been active for many years in the Sudbury community. Since 1997 he has been the producer and sound engineer with IMPACT STUDIOS in Sudbury.



Director/Writer: Kew directed a play and a sketch review before graduating from Humber College in Toronto. He has directed several short videos as well as commercials. This is his first feature film.

Credits

Amanda: Jennifer Neales
O'Shaughnessy: Chris O'Sullivan
Scott: Michael Bennett Leroux
Jane: Holly Greene
Liz: Lara Harb
Tyler: Taylor Katz
Betty: Michelle Mohan
Courtney's Sister: Jennifer Hoffman
Courtney's Roommate: Kristina Alexis
Pam: Amber Dawn Vibert

Original Songs: Steve Cruickshank & Joel Buxton
Score: Alex Werden
Colour Correction: Greg Tremblay
Sound Engineer: Craig Estrella
Executive Producers: James McNaughton, Mark Koetsier, Michael Bennett
Leroux, Kew
Producer: Michael Bennett Leroux
Writer/Director: Kew