THE STORY

Written in response to *'The Last Five Years'*, this musical tells the story of Jacob and Leila Carver, a young Christian couple who are committed to each other and to God. But when married life does not meet his expectations, Jacob leaves home and family to pursue his dreams.

The decision shatters Leila, his wife, and Amalia, their daughter.

The musical begins with Leila packing boxes. Jacob left a year ago and she is devastated but still trusting that God has a plan ('Altar'). The story then jumps back in time to the night Jake and Leila meet at a party (She's/He's Mine). Jacob is quick to recognize that Leila is special; within a year he proposes and they are married ('Jericho Road'). Their first year of marriage is not without its challenges ('Stronger in the Broken Places'), but they soon find out Leila is pregnant, and Jacob's fears about fatherhood fade when he meets his daughter Amalia ('Overflowing'). Jake and Lei are surrounded by a community who welcome and dedicate the new baby ('We Bring Blessings').

Over the years, cracks appear in the marriage as Jake spends more time pursuing his career. He has a special bond with his daughter and tries to make it home for their traditions ('Sabbath Prayer'), but Jake is torn between family and his music ('Everybody's Chasing Me'). When Leila finally confronts him about his choices, he snaps. She tries to mend the breach ('Overflowing—Reprise'), but Jake realizes he is capable of hurting Lei and warns her to keep away ('Warning'). Leila is crushed. Her husband is seeing other women—and she doesn't know how to keep her vows to him or to a God who seems absent ('Faithful').

The second act opens with a prayer ('Lest We Forget') and Amalia reminding Leila that God is still looking out for Jacob. Leila realizes that her marriage was a shadow of a deeper reality and reaffirms her commitment to her faith ('Dare to Dream'). Meanwhile, Jacob has been living with his girlfriend, Ellie, and is starting to believe he has made a mistake. He seeks wisdom from Pastor Matt, but is overheard by Ellie who confronts him and asks him to leave ('Never Knew'). Unaware of Jake's change of heart, Leila prepares Amalia for a new chapter in their lives ('Sing in the Rain'). The final scene returns to Leila the night before their move. She is asking God for guidance when Jacob returns and confesses he still loves her ('Altar—Reprise'). How will Leila respond? Performed over three nights with three alternate endings, *Jericho Road* explores what it means to be faithful, but offers no easy answers.

JERICHO ROAD

A MUSICAL EVENT

ALTAR

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton
Orchestrated by Oliver Doyle

Brick by brick, stone by stone / look what I'm building / I'm building an altar to You / Lest I forget where You've brought me this far / or the place that You're leading me to / Tear by tear, pain by pain / look what I'm leaving / I'm leaving my burdens with You / lest I forget what You've carried so far / or the cross that You carried it to / I know You're leading and watching and waiting / to see if I'll carry through / But right now I can't hear or see through these tears / so I'll wait / I'll wait / I'll wait / I'll wait / to hear from You //

SHE'S/HE'S MINE

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton
Orchestrated by Oliver Doyle

So I guess we met in the usual way / such a cliché / at a friend's party / The music's loud / got the usual crowd / so I'm trying to look happy / When in walks this guy and he kinda reminds me / of a PI-type of James Dean / It's so hard to breathe / does he look like he's leaving? / I've got to make him see me / and I say "Who's that vision?" / He's a musician / Gotta find a clever way / to meet this guy and make him stay / and maybe down the road I'll hear him say / "She's mine" / Well I'm out with my friends when I'd rather be spending a night with cable TV / The music's loud / not my usual crowd / but I'm trying to look happy / Everyone seems like they're having fun / everyone that is except me / When out of the whirl steps this beautiful girl / and she starts walking towards me / and I say "Who's that vision?" / An apparition / Gotta find a clever way / to meet this girl and make her stay / and maybe down the road I'll hear her say / "He's mine" / How do I get this guy to look at me? / With this clown standing right in front of me / Can you believe this size of this guy's ego / I think it's time for (me/him) to throw the elbow / She will / He will / be mine / (She's/He's) so perfect / Eyes like diamonds / Arms like firemen's / I just found a clever way to meet this (guy/girl) another day so maybe down the road I'll hear (him/her) say ("She's/He's mine") //

JERICHO ROAD

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton
Orchestrated by Oliver Doyle

We're no Adam and Eve / and this garden ain't no Eden / but as we are standing here under this tree / it occurs to me we're close to heaven / You reached out for my hand / and suddenly life had new meaning / all my questions and doubt and fear all disappear / the moment you promise I do // So God bless our walk down Jericho Road / When the walls fall down help us stand tall / We're watching and waiting and knowing in awe / as You go before us / down Jericho Road // There'd be no distance at all / even with oceans between us / cause part of you is part of me / oh can't you see / you're in my heart / till death do us part // So God bless our walk down Jericho Road / When the walls fall down help us stand tall / We're watching and waiting and knowing in awe / as You go before us / down Jericho Road // Down Jericho Road / When the walls fall down / Down Jericho Road / When the walls fall down / Down Jericho Road / When the walls fall down / Down Jericho Road / When the walls fall down / If somewhere down the road / you should let go of my hand dear / know I'll be waiting and praying for you / You know I will, faithfully, too //

STRONGER IN THE BROKEN PLACES

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton
Orchestrated by Oliver Doyle

Here again / I'm closing down / losing ground / looking round to see / if there is another way / to escape this pain / Can you see me? / I'm holding out / hoping that you / won't see the truth / make it all go away / deal with another day / But I will lay down my pride and surrender / when I remember // That we're stronger in the broken places / when we lift our faces / and look each other in the eye / don't let this moment pass us by / cause when I speak the truth and let you see / the darkest places in me / I find out how deep your grace is / and we're stronger in the broken places // You and I are learning how / You and I are learning how / You and I are learning how to love / and to be loved / You and I are learning how / Come on baby, show me how / You and I are learning how to love / and to be loved // Cause we're stronger in the broken places / when we lift our faces / And look each other in the eye / don't let this moment pass us by / I'm gonna speak the truth and let you see / the darkest places in me / I find out how deep your grace is/ and we're stronger in the broken places // You and I are learning how / You and I are learning how / You and I are learning how to love / And to be loved / You and I are learning how / Come on baby, show me how / You and I are learning how to love / and to be loved // Cause we're stronger in the broken places / when we lift our faces / And look each other in the eye / don't let this moment pass us by / I'm gonna speak the truth and let you see / the darkest places in me / I find out how deep your grace is / and we're stronger in the broken places // Cause we're stronger in the broken places // Stronger in the broken places / when we lift our faces / And look each other in the eye / don't let this moment pass us by / I'm gonna speak the truth and let you see / the darkest places in me / I find out how deep your grace is / and we're stronger in the broken places // You and I are learning how / You and I are learning how / You and I are learning how to love / And to be loved / You and I are learning how / Come on baby, show me how / You and I are learning how to love / and to be loved //

OVERFLOWING

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton
Orchestrated by Oliver Doyle

My heart's overflowing / now that you are here / All my fears are going / now that you are near / If there were any questions that needed an answer / it's here in my arms / here in my arms / Some cosmic puzzle that's missing a piece / well I found it right here in my arms / My heart's overflowing / now that you are here / All my instincts knowing / there's no need to fear //

WE BRING BLESSINGS

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton
Orchestrated by Emily Dorrough

Oh these tiny hands / Oh this beating heart / The smell of your skin / and the curve of your chin / I am melting in wonder / Oh these trembling hands / Oh this pounding heart / Know that there's nothing that I wouldn't do / to protect you // We bring blessings / We sing blessings over you / in the name of our Heavenly Father / We bring blessings / We sing blessings / We bring you / to the feet of our Heavenly Father / Amalia we bring you // See His wounded hands / Feel His breaking heart / Know that is nothing He wouldn't do / to redeem you // We bring blessings / We sing blessings over you / in the name of our Heavenly Father / We bring blessings / We sing blessings / We bring you / to the feet of our Heavenly Father / Amalia we bring you // We bring you //

SABBATH PRAYER

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton
Orchestrated by Oliver Doyle

Our Sabbath prayer is that You're there / in every moment we share / when we're alone / that we'll still know that You're near // Be there to guide us / and show us the way / on this and on each Sabbath day / This is our Sabbath prayer // We're one in heart though we're apart / right to the end from the start / These Sabbath hours / a special blessing we share // You're there to guide us and show us the way / on this and on each Sabbath day / This is our Sabbath / You are our Sabbath / This is our Sabbath prayer //

EVERYBODY'S CHASING ME

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton
Orchestrated by Oliver Doyle

Life is slipping away through my hands through my arms / life is slipping away with its bells and its charms / and it's pushing me over the edge / pushing me over the edge / so it seems / Everybody's chasing me / Everyone's reminding me / Everybody's taking everything from me / Gotta be a good guy / Gotta be a nice guy / God I wish you'd just leave this / man alone / Everybody's chasing me / Everyone's reminding me / Everybody's taking everything from me / Leave the past behind me / there it can't remind me / who I was or what I was / Won't you let me go / You're pushing me over the edge / Pushing me over the edge / Everybody's chasing me / Everyone's reminding me / Everybody's taking everything from me / Gotta be a good guy / Gotta be the nice guy / God I wish you'd just leave this / man alone / You're pushing me over the edge / Pushing me over the edge / Cause there are times when I feel / like I'm the one at the wheel / and that the car that I'm driving's flying out of control / and I am heading for somewhere / but I don't want to go there / so I've got to move on / Then there are days when I know / that things are moving too slow / and this small town I live in's not getting me anywhere / And I don't want to get old here / I don't wanna grow cold here / So I've got to move on / I've got to move on / Everybody's chasing me / Everyone's reminding me / Everybody's taking everything from me / Leave the past behind me / there it can't remind me / who I was or what I was / Won't you let me go / You're pushing me over the edge / Pushing me over the edge / I'm falling over the edge //

OVERFLOWING

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton

My heart's overflowing / now that you are here / All my fears are going / now that you are here / If there were any questions / that needed an answer / it's here in my arms / here in my arms / Some cosmic puzzle / that's missing a piece / I found it right here in my arms—

WARNING

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton
Orchestrated by Lindsay Morton

This is the time the magic conspires / clearing all sense from my mind / This is the hour the chemistry lies / and tells me that everything's fine / This is the way the blood starts to race / and feelings fly out of control / This is the way the wave starts to break / and floods through the depths of my soul // But I'll break your heart in the daylight / I'll strip you of all that is you / I'll turn you around / throw your heart to the ground / I'll break me and then I'll break you / Consider this a warning // This is the time the temperature rises / making a mess of my mind / This is the hour the Enemy lies / and tells me that she is still mine / And this is the way the heart starts to race / and reason flies out of control / This is the way the dawn starts to break / and lights up dark in my soul // But I'll break your heart in the daylight / I'll strip you of all that is you / I'll turn you around / throw your heart to the ground / I'll break me and then I'll break you / Consider this a warning // I'll bend / and I'll burn / and I'll break you Leila / I'll bend / and I'll burn / but you can't break me / I'll bend (I will bend) / and I'll burn (I will burn) / and I'll break you Leila (but you can't break me) / We'll bend / And we'll burn / and I'll break you Leila (but you won't break me) / Cause you didn't make me Jake / I'll break your heart in the daylight (You can't break me Jake) / I'll strip you of all that is you (I will not leave you Jake) / I'll turn you around / throw your heart on the ground (See my heart's on the ground) / I'll break me and then I'll break you (Jake can't you see I need you) / Consider this / Consider this / Consider this / Consider this a warning / Consider this a warning //

FAITHFUL

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton
Orchestrated by Lindsay Morton

I think You're asking me to be faithful / but I don't know what that means / or what that looks like / I think You're asking me to be faithful / but I don't know how that feels / or what that sounds like / My name is not Ruth / it's not Esther / I don't have the wisdom of Solomon / or the patience of Job / So I'm here on my knees / cause I need you to see / how unfaithful my heart wants to be / I think You're asking me to be faithful / but I don't know what that means / or what that looks like / I think You're asking me to be faithful / but I don't know how that feels / or what that sounds like / No I'm not my mother the warrior / I don't have the grace of my grandma / or their courage and hope / But I'm here on my knees / cause I'm trying to be / just as faithful as You've been to me / I know You're asking me to be faithful / but I don't know what that means / or what that looks like / I know You're asking me to be faithful / but I don't know how that feels / or what that sounds like // You're all I want / You're all I've ever needed / At the end the of the day / all I need is / You to be faithful to me / You're all I want / You're all I've ever needed / At the end the of the day / all I need is / You to be faithful / You'll make me faithful / Cause when I am faithful / I'm free / I'm free // I think You're asking me to be faithful / and You've shown me what that means / and what that looks like / I think You're asking me to be faithful / and You've shown me how that feels / and what that sounds like / It looks like abandoned, forsaken / It means choosing to stay on ground that's shaking / when you're brought to your knees / And it sounds like a scream / And it feels like "My God / Why have You forsaken me?" / I know You're asking me to be faithful / and You've shown me what that means / and what that looks like / I know You're asking me to be faithful / and You've shown me how that feels / and what that sounds like //

LEST WE FORGET

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton
Orchestrated by Emily Dorrough

Lord we seek you at sunrise and midnight / at bedsides and high tides / when floodwaters rise / high above our thresholds of pain / Lord remind us / remind us again / lest we forget / That You meet us in foxholes, at funerals / at bedsides and high tides / when flood waters rise / high above our thresholds of pain / Lord remind us / remind us again / lest we forget / As summer turns to autumn turns to winter turns to spring / We turn to You our God / and all the good things that come from Your hand / We do not understand / As summer turns to autumn turns to winter turns to spring / We turn to You our God / and the good things that come from Your hand / We do not understand / As the light falls / and pain calls / and faith falls / deliver / deliver us oh Lord / Lest we forget the hurting ones / Lest we forget the risen Son / Lest we forget Your kingdom comes / in foxholes / at funerals / Remind us / remind us oh Lord / Lord you meet us / at sunrise and midnight / at bedsides and high tides / when floodwaters rise / high above our thresholds of pain / Lord remind us / remind us again / lest we forget / lest we forget / Lord remind us / remind us again / lest we forget / lest we forget / lest we forget //

DARE TO DREAM

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton
Orchestrated by Oliver Doyle

I used to dream / that I was lost / waiting for my prince / to come and carry me away / We'd live together / till kingdom come / and my forevers would start that day / But that dream has passed / now it's gone away / I live for yesterday / Now my life has changed / I'm no longer young / my dreams just fade away // Cause I forgot how to dream / when I forgot how to pray / But if you cling to me / if we both believe / if we dare to dream away / we can start forever that day // And now I know / that I am lost / waiting for my King / to come and carry me away / We'll live forever / finally one / and my forevers will start that day / For that dream is strong / my Lord I hope I pray / I

live for that day / Now my life has changed / I'm forever young / my dreams are here to stay / For she taught me to dream / when I forgot how to pray / And if you cling to me / if we both believe / if we dare to dream away / we will start forever that day // For He taught me to dream / when I forgot how to pray / And if you cling to me / if we both believe / if we dare to dream away / we can start forever today //

NEVER KNEW

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton
Orchestrated by Oliver Doyle

Broken hearted / torn apart / I'm none of these / I'm just a failure / Self-defeated / so afraid / There's no excuse for my behaviour // Never knew I / never knew I ever needed anyone before / Never knew I / never knew I ever needed anyone before // Broken hearted / torn apart / and now he sees / he's just a failure / He's defeated / tired and afraid / There's no excuse for his behaviour // He never knew / he never knew he ever needed anyone before / He never knew / he never knew / he ever needed anyone before // Broken hearted / torn apart / and he believes / he's just a failure / He's defeated / tired and afraid / He needs someone / he needs a Saviour // He never knew / he never knew / he ever needed anyone before / He never knew / he never knew / he ever needed anyone before / Never knew I / never knew I ever needed anyone before / Never knew I / never knew I ever needed anyone before // I've never gone this far before / I turned and face a closed door / but now I know He wants to have my life / If only I could turn and see the grace His blood has bought for me / Can He help? / Save? / Raise? / Or have I gone too far this time? // You've gone too far this time / Don't lift your head or you'll be blinded / by the light / don't try to find Him // No one can help you / save you / raise you've / gone too far this time // He's standing with you / here beside you / He's the One to change your life / His mercy calls you / grace implores you / He can help you / save you / raise you / haven't gone too far this time // Broken hearted / torn apart / I need someone / I need a Saviour //

SING IN THE RAIN

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton
Orchestrated by Oliver Doyle and Lindsay Morton

When dark clouds drive in from a western sky / the wind tries to blow you off your feet / When lightning strikes at the very heart of you / and thunder shifts the ground beneath your feet / Lift up your head / Let raindrops stream down your face / It's in this moment you'll know / His amazing grace // Then just sing / in the rain / Just sing / in the rain // When trouble flies like fury through your door / and your clock strikes midnight every hour / When you can't see the road through a flood of tears / and fear seems to take away all your power / Lift up your head / Let mercy stream down your face again / It's in this moment you'll know / His amazing grace // Then just sing / in the rain / Just sing / in the rain // Then just sing / in the rain / Just sing / in the rain //

ALTAR (REPRISE)

Music and Lyrics by Lindsay Morton
Orchestrated by Oliver Doyle

Word by word / note by note / look what I'm writing / I'm writing a love song to you / Lest we forget where He's led us this far / or the place that He's leading us to / us to / Us two / Us two //

CREDITS

VOCALS

LEAD VOCALISTS: KRISTY MALETIN, FOMAI MOHR / **VOCALISTS:** TUKAHNI GREENFIELD, DEREK LITTLEWOOD, JOHANNA KINGSTON, CAROLYN BOBONGIE, JO-ANN LEMON, CALUM ENTERMANN, FELISHA TO'A, EMILY WOOD, CHERITH TEO, MISTY EVANS, JUSTIN LITTLEWOOD, DEREK LITTLEWOOD, ZAYNE MARIASSOUCE

ORCHESTRA

FLUTE: MEAGAN BULL / **OBOE:** CHRIS PANTELIDIS, TOBIAS JACKSON / **FRENCH HORN:** ARTHUR WEBSTER / **TRUMPET:** JAMES JELLYMAN / **VIOLIN I:** ALETA KING, LARISA MILER, LEE THOMPSON, LETITIA CAMPBELL, MIRANDA ARRIGHI / **VIOLIN II:** ANGELINA KERR, JESSICA DORROUGH, JESSICA GRAY, JOHN DUNCAN, LAVINIA ONTANU / **VIOLA:** GABRIEL ONTANU / **CELLO:** ADRIANA KRYSTA, ESTHER ALBERT / **ELECTRICBASS:** ETHAN POWRIE / **DRUMS:** LACHLAN HARDERS / **PIANO:** LINDSAY MORTON

GRAPHIC DESIGN

MINAH BOCCHINO

PHOTOGRAPHY

DAVID PAGE

SOUND ENGINEER

DALE WILLIS

Avondale COLLEGE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

INSTITUTE OF WORSHIP

CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL manifest

THANK YOU

THE JR PRODUCTION TEAM WOULD LIKE TO THANK:

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Lindsay would like to add: To the many people who inspired these songs—you know who you are—thank you for walking part of your journey with me. MSP and JMR, this album is for you. And finally, to Emily Dorrough and Oliver Doyle—we made it! Em and Ollie, thank you for the countless hours you spent pouring yourselves into these songs. Somewhere down the road you became colleagues and friends—it has been a pleasure to share this music with you. Thank you for giving your talents so freely (i.e. for no money at all), and for your vision and joy. This can't be the end…let's do it all again!

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: OLIVER DOYLE
PRODUCER: EMILY DORROUGH
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: LINDSAY MORTON
ALL SONGS RECORDED AND MIXED BY: DALE WILLIS – HONEST CROW STUDIOS

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