

One Man's Hike Through Hardship

Indie Rock Legend 'Karl Kenneths' Inspiring Story of Struggles and Adversity



“It’s good to be back on top,” declared Karl Kenneths.

He reflected on what had started his transition into stardom.

“I had big plans and even bigger aspirations, but at the time I was living on the wrong side of the track with the police always keeping an eye on me, getting involved with criminal activity, money laundering and possession of drugs. The one thing I’ve always had, however, was my passion for music. I finally got my chance when during a karaoke night at a small pub in 2003 I was approached by Willard Ahdritz from Kobalt Music, who was impressed by my unique vocal abilities.”

“This was the start of my path to success, Karaoke nights in pubs turned into opportunities to sing at restaurants and full on gigs in bars. My influence grew for years like this, but issues arose in 2005, I guess the fame got to me. I was involved in many scandals, assault allegations surfaced against me. I had changed, my dreams of

power and influence were realised but the very thing I had longed for years and thought would bring

“I’ve made many tough choices, worked myself to the bone. And I have to wonder if it was all really worth it...”

me true happiness only brought horrific misery.”

“By 2007 my influence on the Indie scene was on the wane and I spiralled into a deep depression. In the evenings after a stressful day I would drink to console myself and I engaged less and less in music. Before I knew it, alcohol had become an essential part of my life, this had negatively impacted my decision making and brought me back on a downward path of drugs and more bad choices, debts racked up to bad

people and I found myself doing the most unspeakable things just to survive. The life I had tried so hard to escape had finally caught up with me.”

“My sense of moral responsibility along with my family and friends had vanished. I remember hearing and seeing, through a haze, doctors and nurses working over me, I was in excruciating pain, seeing my own life flash before my very eyes, the people I had wronged, my rise and fall in power and fame. A wasted life.”

“That’s when the old Karl Kenneths died.”

“A year had passed when I awoke in a hospital, hooked up to life support, the realisation of what happened to me brought back memories that ravaged my mind.”

“I knew this was my second chance and I couldn’t waste it, so I started attending A.A. meetings and therapy for my self-destructive urges. I rediscovered my love for music and turned my experiences into a tool to raise aware-

“Some days I wonder if I can still do this...”

If I still want to...

Is it too late for redemption?

Am I destined for failure?”

ness for these issues. I was approached by multiple record labels like XL Recordings and Rough Trade, amongst others, inspired by my experiences using music to relay social issues and cope with the past life that to this day haunts my mind.”

“For the last few years, I’ve completely turned my life around. I use music as a medium to tell my story in my latest album ‘Seared my mind’ and have been approached by fans telling me that my music has saved their lives.”

“It’s been a tough road,” Karl sighed.

But is there more hardship still to come?

