

# MOTH INTO FLAME

*Metallica*

\*Author's Note: *Moth Into Flame* is presented as a bonus track, due to being an unexpected, late addition to the score. Metallica's *Hardwired... To Self-Destruct* was released upon the script's completion, nearly three full years after the soundtrack had been set in stone. Whereas I can identify several areas where the lyrics would substantially support the plot line, compositionally, the charging metal riffs appear to best refrain from disturbing the film's flow between tracks 21, *Testify*, and 22, *Truth*. Similar to *Testify*, *Moth Into Flame* seems to be best utilized as a montage sequence, synced and aligned with each line of James Hetfield's verses.

Time	Audio	Video
0:00 – 0:01		The chapter opens with a very young child and both of her
0:01 – 0:04		parents sitting in a plush office with studio executives and
0:04 – 0:07		the Three Ominous Men in Suits, all of whom are tempting
0:07 – 0:10		the family with riches, royalty, and fame. The parents grin
0:10 – 0:13		at each other before they all sign the contract. The girl is
0:13 – 0:18		seated in a chair, looking herself in the mirror, as the studio
0:18 – 0:21		executives & makeup artists clamor around her to sexualize
0:21 – 0:24		her. A quick-paced montage ensues, portraying the child
0:24 – 0:27		star's rise to fame, her work on TV sitcoms & film, magazine
0:27 – 0:29		covers, a confused girl collecting bank checks, her transition
0:29 – 0:35		into a pop music icon in her teens, her parents living a lavish
0:35 – 0:40		lifestyle, and her inevitable downfall into excessive drug use.
0:40 – 0:45	<i>Blacked out, Pop queen, amphetamine, The screams crashed into silence</i>	The blacked-out 'pop queen' lies unconscious on a sofa in a beachfront mansion, amongst empty liquor bottles, knocked-over pill containers, and white lines chopped on a mirror.
0:45 – 0:51	<i>Tapped out, Doused in the gasoline, The high times going timeless</i>	Pop artists, boy bands, athletes & movie stars have their faces caked with makeup to pose for photo shoots, as their images appear on billboards, and magazines fly off the presses.
0:51 – 0:56	<i>Decadence, Death of the innocence, The pathway starts to spiral</i>	The entertainment stars appear uncomfortable and insecure, as paparazzi clamor around each of them to photograph, film and interview the 'idols' while indulging in excessive luxury.
0:56 – 1:02	<i>Infamy, All for publicity, Destruction going viral</i>	The pop icons begin to spiral out of control, with their demises intentionally publicized each step of the way. TMZ pumps out rumors, consumed by endless shares & retweets.
1:02 – 1:07	<i>Light it up! Ah, light it up! Another hit erases all the pain</i>	The blotched-skin, gloss-eyed teen pop star fires her lighter under a crack pipe, and blows a rail of coke off a glass table.
1:07 – 1:12	<i>Bulletproof. Ah, kill the truth. You're falling, but you think you're flying high,</i>	Barry Bonds, his agent, and his publicists scramble to kill rumors of steroid use, while the visual displays the broken diva, falling through thin air, chugging liquor & swallowing
1:12 – 1:18	<i>High again...</i>	prescription pills, plunging into a dark abyss of cash, bank
1:18 – 1:23		checks, cars, jewelry, designer fashion, and tabloid stories.

1:23 – 1:28	<i>Sold your soul... Built a higher wall...</i>	The plummeting pop queen's ghost soul leaves her body, as the imagery reflects on the scene of her signing her contract, looking down at her parents in bitter disappointment.
1:28 – 1:34	<i>Yesterday... Now you're thrown away...</i>	Strangers on a Los Angeles street point & laugh at a stoned, miserable Macaulay Culkin, mocking him with the <i>Home Alone</i> face. On a nearby block, <i>Star Wars</i> fanatics pretend to engage in a Lightsaber battle with an irritable and annoyed Mark Hamill, attempting to walk past them briskly.
1:34 – 1:36	<i>Same rise and fall</i>	
1:36 – 1:38	<i>Who cares at all?</i>	
1:38 – 1:40	<i>Seduced by fame,</i>	
1:40 – 1:42	<i>A moth into the flame</i>	Inspired by the album cover of Nirvana's <i>Nevermind</i> , The Three Ominous Men in Suits hold out a dollar bill, teasing and taunting a young, aspiring actor. As he reaches out to grab it, the imagery shifts to illustrate the parallel to a moth drawn to a flame, unable to restrain itself from the seduction.
1:42 – 1:47		
1:47 – 1:52		
1:52 – 1:58	<i>Twisted, Backstabbing wicked, The delusion absolution</i>	Mickey Mouse instructs Mouseketeers Britney Spears, Justin Timberlake, Christina Aguilera, and Ryan Gosling during a rehearsal for <i>The Mickey Mouse Club</i> . Mickey also counts bills while overseeing the child stars being recorded on-stage.
1:58 – 2:03	<i>Perjurer, Fame is the murderer, Seduce you into ruin</i>	2007-era Britney Spears shaves her head with electric hair clippers in a self-loathing, desperation attempt to destroy her image. Britney violently attacks paparazzi with an umbrella.
2:03 – 2:08	<i>Light it up! Ah, light it up! Another hit erases all the pain</i>	Kurt Cobain sits on the carpet in his Seattle home, with his back against the wall. Wearing a blue tourniquet around his lower bicep, Kurt fires a lighter under a spoonful of heroin.
2:08 – 2:14	<i>Bulletproof. Ah, tell the truth. You're falling, but you think you're flying high,</i>	Lance Armstrong sits in an interview with Oprah Winfrey, admitting his use of performance enhancing drugs. While cycling, strangers who once admired his triumph, now give him disparaging looks in passing for betraying their trust.
2:14 – 2:19	<i>High again...</i>	
2:19 – 2:24		A '90s era Pro Bowl NFL quarterback is glamorized by commercials, and idolized by all around him, before he turns old, grows grey hair, his uniform appears outdated, and the confused QB dissipates into obscurity, as the fans shift their attention & dedication to an exciting young franchise star.
2:24 – 2:30	<i>Sold your soul... Built a higher wall...</i>	
2:30 – 2:35	<i>Yesterday... Now you're thrown away...</i>	
2:35 – 2:37	<i>Same rise and fall</i>	
2:37 – 2:40	<i>Who cares at all?</i>	
2:40 – 2:42	<i>Seduced by fame,</i>	
2:42 – 2:45	<i>A moth into the flame...</i>	
2:45 – 2:51	<i>(Burn.)</i>	
2:51 – 2:56		
2:56 – 3:02		
3:02 – 3:07		

3:07 – 3:09	<i>Guarantee your name, you go and kill yourself</i>	One of the Three Ominous Men pulls a white label reading 'Entertainment Media Contract' off of the child's signed paperwork, instead revealing a Bill of Sale for her conscience.
3:09 – 3:12	<i>Vultures feast around you still,</i>	The trapped celebrities put their hoods over their heads and cover their faces, in attempts to hide from 'vulture' paparazzi.
3:12 – 3:15	<i>Overdose on shame and insecurity</i>	
3:15 – 3:18	<i>If one won't do, that fistful will</i>	Dustin "Screech" Diamond shakes out one painkiller in his hand, before shaking his head, pouring out a fistful from the orange pill container, and throwing them down his throat.
3:18 – 3:20		
3:20 – 3:23		
3:23 – 3:25		
3:25 – 3:28		Alfonso Ribeiro sits by the window in a restaurant, enjoying a meal with his friend. Strangers bang on the glass to get his attention, only to taunt him with the 'Carlton Dance.'
3:28 – 3:31		
3:31 – 3:33		
3:33 – 3:36		Shia LeBeouf wears a paper bag over his head at his own premiere, reading "I AM NOT FAMOUS ANYMORE."
3:36 – 3:39		
3:39 – 3:44		Thousands of aspiring Americans wait in line to perform for executives and celebrity judges of <i>The Voice</i> , <i>American Idol</i> , and <i>America's Got Talent</i> . Nearly everybody leaves the set feeling obviously dejected and insecure. Several contestants shed tears upon seeing red X's and being quickly rejected.
3:44 – 3:47		
3:47 – 3:49		
3:49 – 3:54		
3:54 – 3:57		
3:57 – 4:00		
4:00 – 4:02		Amongst syringes & heroin paraphernalia, a NYC coroner pulls a white sheet over Philip Seymour Hoffman's corpse.
4:02 – 4:05		
4:05 – 4:07		With trophies and framed #55 jerseys on his walls, a teary Junior Seau writes a note, and presses a glock to his chest.
4:07 – 4:13		
4:13 – 4:15		
4:15 – 4:18		
4:18 – 4:20		Amy Winehouse's family members wipe tears from their eyes, as a black hearse leads a funeral procession to a cemetery. Her headshots are on display on either side of the casket, as her body is lowered into its grave. The visual then returns to Kurt Cobain's house in Seattle, where he stands in "the living quarters above his garage," loading a shotgun.
4:20 – 4:23		
4:23 – 4:28	<i>Death scene, Black hearse, the limousine, A grave filled with seduction</i>	While wearing Mickey Mouse ears and virtually nothing else, Miley Cyrus lights a blunt and hands it to Justin Bieber.
4:28 – 4:34	<i>Vaccine, Fame does the murdering, She builds up for destruction</i>	
4:34 – 4:36	<i>So light it up! Ah, light it up!</i>	Miley then leaves a backstage area, walks towards the stage entrance, tosses the Mickey Mouse ears, gets on stage at the VMAs, and twerks her ass on Robin Thicke in his infamous <i>Beetlejuice</i> suit, with her trademarked tongue sticking out.
4:36 – 4:39	<i>Another hit erases all the pain</i>	
4:39 – 4:42	<i>Bulletproof. Ah, no excuse.</i>	
4:42 – 4:44	<i>You're falling, but you think you're flying high,</i>	
4:44 – 4:50	<i>High again...</i>	A drunk & depressed Jaleel White watches <i>Family Matters</i> reruns on a bar TV during daytime hours, often sighing and scoffing at clips of Steve Urkel. Bar patrons point at laugh at White, who shakes his head and takes another sip of liquor.
4:50 – 4:55		
4:55 – 5:00	<i>Sold your soul... Built a higher wall...</i>	
5:00 – 5:05	<i>Yesterday... Now you're thrown away...</i>	

5:05 – 5:08	<i>Same rise and fall</i>	Kim Kardashian sits in a fur robe in her gold-plated marble
5:08 – 5:11	<i>Who cares at all?</i>	bathroom, on the floor with her back against the tub. Kim
5:11 – 5:13	<i>Seduced by fame, A moth into the flame</i>	bites and ties a Louis Vuitton-patterned tourniquet around her bicep, and inserts a diamond-encrusted IV needle in her
5:13 – 5:16		vein. The visual expands to display Kim's IV is connected to
5:16 – 5:18		an LCD TV pumping out clips of Kardashian reality shows,
5:18 – 5:21		and two tablets monitoring the activity on her Instagram
5:21 – 5:23		and Twitter accounts. As though she had injected morphine,
5:23 – 5:25	<i>Addicted to the...</i>	Kim's demeanor grows numb and grey as she succumbs.
5:25 – 5:27	<i>fame.</i>	
5:27 – 5:29		A line of aspiring celebrities stand patiently on a conveyor
5:29 – 5:31		belt being operated by The Three Ominous Men. The end
5:31 – 5:34		of the belt is covered by red & gold stage curtains. Upon
5:34 – 5:37		reaching the front, a machine dumps cash, gold, and jewelry
5:37 – 5:40		into the arms of each new star, but when the celebrities cross
5:40 – 5:45		beyond the curtains, the conveyor belt stops abruptly, leading
5:45 – 5:51		each icon off a steep cliff, and falling directly to their demise.