

= Broken (Lifehouse song) =

" Broken " is a song by American alternative band Lifehouse . It is the third single released from their fourth studio album , Who We Are (2007) . Lead singer Jason Wade was inspired to write the song after he visited a friend in Nashville who needed a kidney transplant . Originally released on June 18 , 2007 as the fifth track on Who We Are , the song was then edited for radio to give it more of a " rock " feel . The new radio version of the song was released via digital download on July 8 , 2008 .

The song received positive reviews from critics , as they applauded the use of instruments in the song . The song charted at number 83 and 84 in the United States and Canada respectively , and later charted in New Zealand at number 21 . The song 's music video premiered on VH1.com on September 16 , 2008 . It is set in the scene of a tunnel where Wade is walking away in the opposite direction of a car crash . Lifehouse has played " Broken " live on several occasions , including on Soundstage and at the 2011 Pinkpop Festival in the Netherlands . A seven @-@ minute extended version is often the final song in their concert setlist .

= = Background , release and composition = =

The song was written by Jason Wade , who originally finished the song in a hotel room after he visited a friend in Nashville who needed a kidney transplant . It was produced by John Fields and Scott Faircliff . In an interview with Alternative Addiction , Wade said , " Broken is the song that moves me the most . I wrote it in Nashville , about 6 months ago . I was in my hotel room at 3 AM , I was out there visiting a friend ... he ? s really sick , he needs a kidney transplant . " Furthermore , he said , " That [the] song just kinda fell in my lap , and I really haven ? t written a song like that since ' Hanging by a Moment ' where it just happened within a 15 minute time period . " Broken was released as the third single from the album on June 18 , 2007 . The song was then edited for radio to give it more of a " rock " feel and was released via digital download on July 8 , 2008 .

" Broken " was described as a pop @-@ rock song with influences of adult alternative . According to the sheet music published at Musicnotes.com by Sony / ATV Music Publishing , the song is set in common time with a slow tempo of 69 beats per minute . It is composed in the key of C major with Wade 's vocal range spanning from the low @-@ note of G3 to the high @-@ note of G5 . The song has a basic chord progression of F2 ? Am7 ? F2 ? Am7 ? F2 ? Am7 ? C / G ? G. Alex Lai of Contactmusic.com described as a song " [that] features great string use and takes a tender tone " . A review from Alternative Addiction said that the song was one of the best Wade has ever written and noted " [that] the more you listen to it , the better it gets . "

= = Chart performance = =

In the United States , " Broken " debuted at number 95 on the Billboard Hot 100 for the week of November 8 , 2008 . It fluctuated on the chart for several weeks , before reaching its peak of 83 . The song debuted at number 70 on the Billboard Digital Songs chart and peaked at number 38 after being on the chart for three non @-@ consecutive weeks . On the Billboard Adult Pop Songs chart , the song debuted at number 38 for the week of August 2 , 2008 and after moving around the chart for 32 consecutive weeks , the song eventually peaked at number seven .

The song also charted internationally . " Broken " debuted at number 92 on the Canadian Hot 100 for the week of January 26 , 2008 . On July 26 , 2008 , the song reappeared in the chart and peaked at number 84 . It debuted at number 40 on the New Zealand Singles Chart for the week of May 26 , 2008 . After being on the chart for 13 consecutive weeks , the song eventually peaked at number 21 .

= = Promotion = =

== Music video ==

The music video for " Broken " was filmed on August 24 , 2008 in Los Angeles and was directed by Kiefer Sutherland and Frank Borin . It first premiered on VH1.com on September 16 , 2008 . Wade and Sutherland then appeared together on the VH1 Top 20 Video Countdown on September 20 , 2008 to debut the music video on VH1 . In an interview with Ultimate Guitar , Wade described his experience with working with Sutherland by saying , " Whilst listening to the song a little while back , Kiefer came up with the video 's concept . Working with him was a great experience ; with all of the expressions and very moments , Kiefer was extremely hands on . With him handling direction , acting in the music video was extremely easy . "

The video starts with Wade in the drivers seat of a car , with the other members of Lifehouse in the car with him . The traffic is at a stand still in a tunnel , as a swarm of people have abandoned their vehicles and are walking through . Wade and the band members get out of the car , and begin walking in the opposite direction of the crowd to the other side of the tunnel . Wade pushes through the people , who are in a rush to get to the entrance of the tunnel and is constantly focused on his destination to get to the end . When he reaches the tunnel 's end , he sees the wreckage of a car crash with firefighters and paramedics cleaning up the mess . Wade then sees a girl observing what appears to be herself , dead inside one of the crashed car . He then looks to the left , and sees an old man observing himself , dead on the ground . As Wade looks into the other car , he sees himself , also seemingly dead . Upon this , he frantically runs back into the tunnel towards his car . He sees himself in the car with the band members , however everyone seems to be frozen as he bangs on the windows . Suddenly he 's inside the car again , and a police officer comes to the window to motion him to continue driving , since he is stopped in the middle of the tunnel for no apparent reason .

== Live performances ==

Lifehouse performed " Broken " along with other songs on Nissan Live Sets on Yahoo ! Music in 2007 . On October 15 , 2007 , Lifehouse performed an acoustic version of the song on VH1 . In January 2008 , the band performed the song as part of a set list on the PBS show Soundstage . The song was also performed live at the 2011 Pinkpop Festival on June 11 , 2011 , as part of a set list of songs at the festival .

== Media appearances ==

" Broken " was featured on General Hospital , Criminal Minds , Grey 's Anatomy and One Tree Hill .

The song was used in the trailer for The Time Traveler 's Wife .

== Cover versions ==

Daniel Evans , a finalist on series 5 of The X Factor (UK) recorded a mellow contemporary version and was a standout track on his 2013 iTunes EP " Reflections "

In 2016 , Trisha Yearwood covered the song for the soundtrack to the U.S. version of The Passion and performed the song during the live broadcast for the special . Her version peaked at number 48 on the Billboard Hot Christian Songs chart , and # 20 on the Billboard A / C Chart

== Credits and personnel ==

Songwriting ? Jason Wade

Production ? Jason Wade , Jude Cole

Mixing ? Thom Panunzio , Jack Joseph Puig , Florian Ammon , Keith Armstrong , Dean Nelson , Jeff Rothschild

Engineering ? Florian Ammon , Scott Faircliff , Ross Hogarth , Will Sandalls
Credits and personnel adapted from Allmusic .

= = Charts = =