

The Jackal *(Sleepwalk With Me, 2011)*

A few years ago, I started walking in my sleep. I was living with my girlfriend and I had this recurring dream that there was a hovering, insect-like jackal in our bedroom.

And I would jump on our bed and strike a karate pose – I had never taken karate, but I had the books from the book fair when I was a kid.

And I would say “ABBIE!” – that was my girlfriend – “THERE’S A JACKAL IN THE ROOM!” And she got so used to it that she could talk me down while remaining asleep.

She’d say, “There’s no jackal – go to bed.” And I’d say, “ARE YOU SURE?” And she’d say, “Yes, Michael, there’s no jackal. Go to bed.”

And I’d say, “Okay.” And I would go to bed, knowing there was a jackal.