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## Janis Joplin: Her Final Hours

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excited about the future. She was talking about leaving the music business, settling down, possibly raising a family. More importantly, she had finally kicked the heroin addiction that had plagued her for years. She had been clean for six months when she went into the studio in Hollywood to begin recording what would become her last, and greatest work, the album *Pearl*.

So how is it that, at a time when she seemed to have so much to live for, Janis Joplin was found dead on the floor of her hotel room from a massive heroin overdose? She had been dead for 18

*Janis Joplin had been clean for six months when she died of a heroin overdose in 1970. What went wrong?*

On October 4, 1970 Janis Joplin's Road Manager John Cooke went to the Landmark Hotel (now the Highland Gardens Hotel) in Los Angeles to see why she hadn't shown up at the Sunset Sound Studio. She was recording her latest album *Pearl* with her new band Full Tilt Boogie. Cooke and producer Paul Rothchild were concerned because Janis was never late for her recording sessions. Yet no one had seen or heard from her in almost 24 hours, not since she had left the studio and went drinking with the band.

Upon entering the room Cooke found Janis, her body cold and lifeless, lying on the floor of her hotel room. He knew as he approached that she was dead. As a massive blast of heroin had hit her brain her body had begun to convulse violently. John Cooke found her where she had fallen, crumpled like a rag doll, her body wedged in the space between the bed and the nightstand. She was partially undressed and the paraphernalia she had used to shoot up was lying out on a table.

Janis had partied with the band and then left the bar alone, heading back to her room at the Landmark. It is assumed that she overdosed shortly after her arrival back at the hotel.

Questions surrounding the death of Janis Joplin have continued for years. At the time of her death Janis had recently become engaged to Seth Morgan, she was working with her new band, Full Tilt Boogie, and she was

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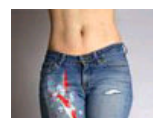
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