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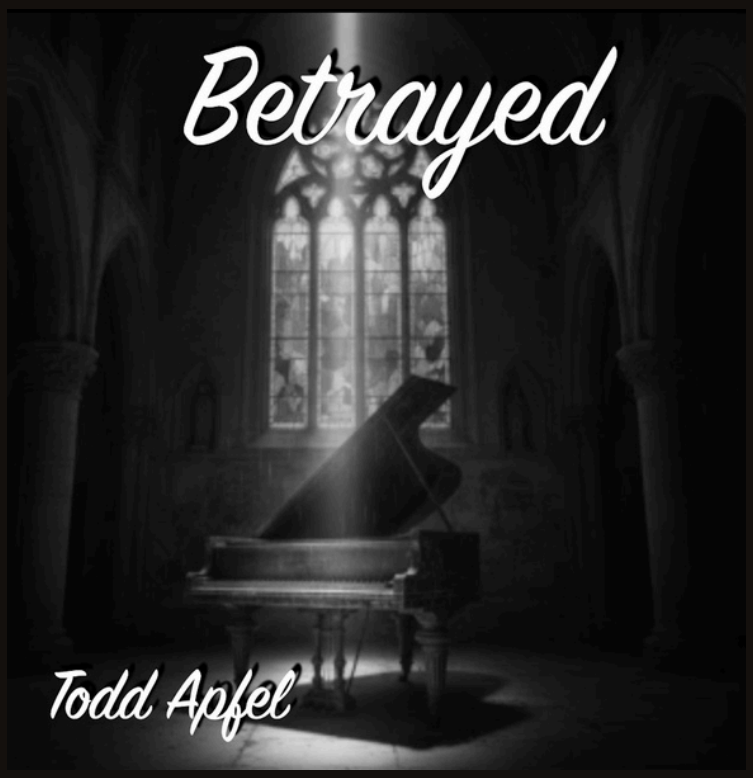


## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### TODD APFEL UNVEILS "BETRAYED" — THE DEVASTATING LEAD SINGLE FROM HIS FORTHCOMING ALBUM

*The Anthemic Rock Track Reveals a Heartbreaking True Story of Grief, Secrets, and a Cell Phone That Changed Everything*

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Independent rock singer-songwriter Todd Apfel is set to release his powerful new single, "Betrayed," on August 7, 2026 — the first official taste of his upcoming full-length album.

For fans of theatrical, emotionally charged rock in the vein of Savatage, "Betrayed" is a sweeping, piano-driven anthem that shifts between intimate vulnerability and explosive, gut-punch choruses. But the song's weight comes from its harrowing real-life inspiration.

"Betrayed" is the final chapter in a trilogy of songs Apfel wrote for his sister-in-law following the sudden, unexpected death of her husband last year. The first three songs — "The Gift," "Coming Home," and "2 Souls, 1 Heart" — were written as a tribute to the man's legacy as an organ donor, capturing the raw grief of loss.

Then came the kicker.

Six months after his passing, while preparing to set his gravestone, Apfel's sister-in-law was finally able to unlock his cell phone. What she discovered shattered her world: he had been living a double life, carrying on a secret relationship with another woman. The devastating twist? That other woman was his brother's wife — her own sister-in-law.

"I had to write this song," Apfel explains. "The first three songs were about honoring his memory. 'Betrayed' is about the horrible, complicated truth that came to light. She still loves him, but now she has to carry that love alongside this impossible betrayal. It's not a clean story. It's messy, it's painful, and it's real."

Musically, "Betrayed" pays homage to Savatage's theatrical masterpiece "Gutter Ballet," with tempo and time signature shifts that mirror the emotional whiplash of the story. The haunting piano intro builds from a whisper into a full-rock assault, anchored by Apfel's signature gritty, emotive vocal delivery.

Lyrically, Apfel weaves in subtle, devastating details: the six-month wait, the hidden key (the phone), the shared last name (the brother's wife), and the gravestone that now holds a secret. The chorus's centerpiece line — "All the lies that he paved" — carries a double meaning, subtly referencing the man's real-life job on a road paving crew.

"That detail is everything to me," Apfel says. "He literally paved roads for a living. And figuratively, he paved a path of lies. It felt like the universe handed me that metaphor."

"Betrayed" is the lead single from Apfel's upcoming album, which will also feature previously released singles "Believe," "2 Souls, 1 Heart," "Coming Home," "The Gift," "Tear Down These Walls," "Tears In The Rain," "With Every Tear," and "I Think Of You."

The album is a deeply personal chronicle of loss, love, and the shattering of trust — and "Betrayed" is its devastating turning point.

"Betrayed" arrives on all streaming platforms on August 7, 2026, with the full album to follow.