ABSTRACT

KEVIN JAMES PERMENTER. Capstone title: 307 to Vegas. (Under the direction of Professor Devin Orgeron.)

Present day, Daniel is a lost and broken man, isolated from the world after the death of his father during his youth. His life is the same mundane journey through his own sadness, until one night his life changes forever. Across town, his grandfather, Tom, is murdered by a secret government agency that he once worked for. Daniel is given letters from Tom's will to go on a mission to not only save himself but the world from destruction. He has to find room #307.

Daniel finds his grandfather's old friend from the agency, Charles, and together, they plot out the heist of the century. They have to break into the agency's headquarters, located beneath the Las Vegas casino strip and steal back blueprints to a time machine before the agency's director, Kenneth, finds them first. Daniel, at least for a short time, gets the father figure he always wanted. The plan goes almost perfectly until Charles is captured, killed, and Daniel is caught in room #307 shortly after getting the blueprints.

Kenneth, with his cold war masculinity, wants to travel back in time to save American Mythology, the idea of America as the unstoppable force. He plots the loss of invincibility to the Vietnam War, to the Battle of Dien Bien Phu in 1954. Crazed and determined, Kenneth leads an army of mercenaries back in time and wins the battle. As a last resort of escape, Daniel goes to room #307 and travels back in time to find his grandfather in the 1980s, where they plan a last attempt to stop Kenneth before it is too late. In a race against time, they travel back to 1954 and use the time travel portals against the evil Director and his army. Tom and Daniel finally kill Kenneth and travel back to the 1980s, where Daniel finally says goodbye to a man he never knew. As a new man, he travels back to the present, to a new world, changed by the events of the past. Daniel gets his second chance at life.