

6

“Under the Influence of Bail”

It started with a case of mistaken identity in early 1967, the “Winter of Love.” Brian Jones leaned against the bar at Blaise’s, a hip London nightclub. Blaise’s hosted light show-enhanced concerts by Pink Floyd and the Jimi Hendrix Experience and quickly became a hub of the city’s new psychedelic rock scene. Once the band’s handsome and talented leader, Jones was now tottering, full of scotch and downers. His chiseled jaw was distorted with bloat and seemed to melt into his thick neck. His brain was addled with pathological insecurity and jealousy. Brian was furious at Mick and Keith for usurping his position in the Stones. They’d emerged, in the last two years, as a formidable songwriting partnership. This, coupled with the media’s fascination with Mick, the face of not just the Stones but the London scene itself,