

"Unwell"

is the third presentation from **Liminal Spirit**

as told by

Phillip, Jonathon, Madeline, C., E., and The Adjudicators

over the course of 5 acts.

## 1. Admittance

*Enter Phillip, Jonathon, and Madeline.*

Jonathon: "Welcome home, Dad."

Madeline: "I don't know how you can call this a home."

Jonathon: "What difference does it make? He doesn't know where he is half the time."

Madeline: "And that's why he shouldn't be here. We should be taking care of him."

Jonathon: "We can't do this anymore. We have our own lives to live."

Madeline: "How could you be so heartless? He was always there for us."

Jonathon: "I understand that but he isn't even here now. He doesn't know what's going on."

Madeline: "He's still our dad, and part of him is still with us, I can see it."

Jonathon: "He's a danger to himself. He needs constant care and we can't provide that anymore. We have our own kids."

Madeline: "And I hope that when we get old, ours won't do this to us."

Jonathon: "I would hope that they would. They have a right to live their own lives."

Madeline: "This isn't right. He's afraid and you're just going to turn your back on him."

Jonathon: "I'm not turning my back on him. This is what's best for him, can't you see that?"

Madeline: "Oh, so withering away in a nursing home is what's best for him?"

Jonathon: "Yes- he still has time with us but only if he's somewhere like this."

Madeline: "Just admit that you don't care. You haven't cared for years."

Jonathon: "I do care and putting him here shows it. He will have comfort here."

Madeline: "Nothing about this place is comfortable. Look at him- he's terrified."

Jonathon: "He's terrified at home. It makes no difference where he is."

Madeline: "I can't do this. Since you wanted this to happen, you tell him goodbye."

Jonathon: "Who's leaving who now? Every time things get hard this is exactly what you do."

Madeline: "It's always been hard and I've always been there, I've had enough."

Jonathon: "Well, don't you think both of us should say goodbye, to give him the comfort you say he doesn't have?"

Madeline: "If what you're saying about him is true, I'm already gone to him"

Jonathon: "You act like this was an easy choice for me. I wish it didn't have to be this way too."

Madeline: "But it was your choice whether it was easy or not. I never would've done this to him. You can do this on your own."

Jonathon: "Fine, go ahead- but I want you to remember who stayed with him the longest."

*Madeline leaves.*

Jonathon: "Ok dad, I know this place is strange  
but I know what always makes you feel at home.

Let's listen to your old music. I brought your old record player.

I'll play your favorite song. It'll help you relax."

*Jonathon plays the song "Welcome to My World," by Jim Reeves.*

## 2. Unwell

*All lines spoken by Phillip.*

Where am I?  
Where is my family?  
I cannot remember  
How I've gotten here  
Or where I've been before this wretched place  
I can't move any part of this worthless old body,  
Confined to lying and hoping for my heart to cease

Surely I've had purpose in a past life  
Will I be remembered for good deeds?  
Does one forfeit semblance of soul  
If afflicted with eroded memory?

I must find humanity  
In past deeds to justify  
My suffering, and to allow  
Me to die with dignity

There must be more to me  
Than this empty shell of being  
God, help me

Who am I?  
Who is my family?  
I cannot remember  
Who has brought me here  
How can I find identity  
In this void in lived history?

Please God, let me have  
Been a good man, I can  
Not bear to wander  
Final days in darkness  
Surely, my acts shall  
Warrant my salvation  
Even the most unwell  
Spirit can never be cast below

### 3. Visiting Day

Phillip: "How long has it been since their last visit  
Everyday feels endless, I've no sense of time  
No one comes to see me, have I passed beyond  
To a purgatory disguised as refuge for the sick?

Surely today they'll return for me  
There is no way they've left me to rot  
In this vile room, hidden from all of their  
Careless living, unburdened by me

Today will be the day, I feel their presence

Why now so cold, wretched room?  
Who's that I see, watching me?  
Not those I've loved, someone new?  
Yet familiar

What use is this fear, each day I grow much weaker without  
Those I've come to love, even if I can't remember their faces  
Could this be for me an escape from solitude, or are  
You here to guide me away from this dark prison  
Please, speak to me

I can no longer bear this frigid cold  
Please, let me see the two of you  
They've abandoned me, you're all I have"

*Enter E. and C.*

E: Can you see us, old man?

E. and C: Can you see us?

E: You robbed us of our innocence

C: (A debt is owed)

E: Our deaths forced by your hand

C: (A debt is owed)

E: You will see us in three days

C: (A debt is owed)

E: Take this time to repent

C: (A debt is owed)

E: We will collect upon our return

C: (A debt is owed)

E. and C: **A debt is owed**

*Exit E. and C.*

Phillip: "My god, who were those children? They believe that I'm someone else  
Someone of darker spirit, I can't be the man of whom they speak  
Surely I've now lost what's left of my mind, and soon my body  
will follow

If I can't remember the present  
Who is to say that my past was morally sound  
Am I capable of what they've said  
How could cruelty lie dormant in my heart  
Two fates await me: madness grips me  
Or should I beg for mercy upon their return?"

#### 4. EOLC

Phillip: "I have counted three days. Will they come for me?  
All I can remember of my cursed life  
Is tied to their visit, their horrid faces  
Contorted in judgment of my unknown acts  
Have I preyed upon them?

Can I repent forgotten acts  
Is my soul blighted for what I once was  
Is their god the one that I knew  
One who will forgive all who may seek refuge"

*Enter E. and C.*

Phillip: (My God, they've come back for me)

E: Have you repented for your sins?

C: (A debt is owed)

E: Do you remember us?

C: (A debt is owed)

E: Do you see the gash across my throat?

C: (A debt is owed)

E: Do you see the wounds across his face?

C: (A debt is owed)

E: Let us reacquaint you

Your malice took our lives

C: (A debt is owed)

E: We've come to rob you of yours

E. and C: **A debt is owed**

Phillip: "No, this cannot be happening, my soul carries no guilt  
Your judgment should be reserved for truly malicious hearts  
In a former life, I had two children resembling you  
Or has my rotten memory replaced their faces with yours  
I would never harm innocent children, please spare my life"

E.: Do you remember when you "Welcomed us to your world?"

C.: You will feel the same helplessness we did

E.: You were merciliess with us

C: Your suffering will be prolonged

Phillip: "God forgive me"

E: Does this blade look familiar?

Phillip: "I accept it  
Forgive me for my deeds

This torture shall pass  
Your vengeance will cease  
It serves as penance  
Allowing me to pass through the gates above"

(God help me, I see no semblance of light)

## 5. A Better Place

*All lines spoken by The Adjudicators*

Judgment, our gift to all who pass these thresholds  
Shall grant for each deserved eternal confines  
Come, accept your fate

Within this realm, mercy does not exist  
Your path decided through each unforgivable act  
No penance heeded, equivalent tortures await  
For each innocent life you robbed of its essence  
Judgment comes swift, but punishment will never cease  
You shall be cast to dimensions of endless agony  
Plead not, old man  
Guild, let us assemble and present the instruments of jurisprudence

For each evil deed committed upon them, we judge thee  
For each plague you've cast upon youth in malice, we judge thee  
For afflicting those pure of heart without guilt, we judge thee,  
Your sentence is earned, vile man, cease your pleas, we judge thee

We shall cast those down  
Who earn eternal  
Torture, cursed be  
Those we should choose to lower  
Lower  
Lower  
Lower  
Lower

All music written, recorded and mixed by Jerry Haappa.

Role of Madeline performed by Kaitlyn Menden.

Mastered by Jeff Wojtysiak at Spiral Sound Mastering.