



Royal London presents Lost for Words

I had a really rocky relationship with my dad. I mean, before I found out that he was dying, that he had cancer, we hadn't spoken in, like, two, three years. And I felt that he was saying that he was dying in order to get back into my good books, cos I was that adamant that I was never gonna to speak to him again.

I was shooting a movie, "Get Rich or Die Trying", and we were shooting in Canada. My dad had been told he only had four or five weeks to live, and against his doctor's wishes, and everyone's wishes, he booked a flight and just turned up at the airport in Canada and was like, "I'm here. Come and pick me up from the airport, I'm staying with you." So, I went and picked him up, brought him home.

And he was in a really bad way, you know, you could see that he was in a really bad way, but I decided that I would film him. So, literally, I just filmed him, every day, with my little video camera. And in the evenings, you know, he'd be like, "I want some brandy." I'm like, "Dad, you're dying of lung cancer. What's wrong with you, man?" He's like, "I don't care. I'm going anyway. I'm gonna live my life to the fullest now." So, I'd go and get him that stuff or whatever and when he was inebriated and slightly tipsy and whatever, I'd ask him questions, just about, like, where were you?

When I look back on it, it's kind of eased my pain when it comes to understanding the person that he was. You know, there was reasons for it. He didn't just abandon me, you know, he wasn't just not there. You know, he grew up in care, he had a rough time with his own parents, went through a lot of stuff that influenced the person that he was.

But it was after he'd passed away, I think after I'd gone to the funeral, I remember a moment where I kind of went to call him and then it hit me. I know it's gonna sound stupid, but it surprised me how much I missed him, and how much I loved him, even though all that time I had to spend with him when he was there, I didn't. I think that was the main



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thing that shocked me was just about how much I cared, because I'd been so adamant that I didn't. I'd been so adamant that it wouldn't affect me. But, I guess, you know, the bond between father and son, even though we didn't have a tight relationship, is always there.