

THE INTERVIEW

A Play by Richard Ehrlich

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Running Time

75 minutes, no intermission

Synopsis

Michael Porter is 62, widowed, and lives alone. He's managed fine for three years. He pays his bills, sees his doctor, keeps to himself. He's not in crisis. He's not asking for help.

But people have noticed. Friends say he's withdrawn. Emails go unanswered. Appointments are missed. Small things. Normal things. Except when enough people express concern, the system responds.

Now Michael sits across from two professional interviewers in a small, institutional room. They're here to conduct a wellness review. It's routine, they say. Just a conversation. Just some questions. But as the interview unfolds, Michael discovers that his choices, his solitude, and his right to live quietly have all become evidence in a case he didn't know was being built.

THE INTERVIEW is a 75-minute psychological drama that asks: Who decides when independence becomes inability? When does care become control? And what happens when you can't prove you're fine—only that you want to be left alone?

Themes

- Personal autonomy vs. institutional oversight
- The surveillance state disguised as care
- Solitude as choice vs. isolation as symptom
- The burden of proof in ordinary life
- Power masked by procedural kindness