

# MORNING IS BROKEN

A FANTASY SHORT FILM

available for programming in 2023

# OVERVIEW:

GENRE: FANTASY/DRAMA

RUNNING TIME: 12 MINUTES

LANGUAGES: ENGLISH (CLOSED CAPTIONING AVAILABLE)

WEBPAGE: [CHLOEBALDWIN.NET/MORNINGISBROKEN](http://CHLOEBALDWIN.NET/MORNINGISBROKEN)





FADE IN:

EXT. FOREST - EVENING

SCENE 1

A man in shabby peasant dress - AVRIE - makes his way through a forest at twilight. He carries a bucket with him. Bottles and tinctures hang from his belt.

AVRIE

(O. C.)

They say she saved my village once, but that was a long time ago.



SET BETWEEN OUR ORDINARY  
WORLD AND THE WORLD OF  
DUNGEONS & DRAGONS,

IN THE AFTERMATH OF A  
BREAKUP, IZZY STRUGGLES TO  
NAVIGATE THE NEW NORMAL  
WITHOUT HER FRIEND GROUP  
AND THEIR GAME WHERE SHE  
PLAYED “MORWENNA  
MORNINGSONG,” A HERO OF  
HER OWN CREATION.

IT’LL TAKE A LEAP OF FAITH  
AND A TRUE COMPANION TO  
STOP HER EROSION AND  
RECONNECT HER TO HER  
CHARACTER, HERSELF AND,  
EVENTUALLY, THE “REAL  
WORLD” AGAIN.

# THE INSPIRATION:

"Morning is Broken explores a question that, on the surface, appears straightforward. What happens to our creations while we, their creators, lack the energy or ability to engage with them?

It's something we all dealt with during lockdown, but it goes beyond a single moment in time. Everyone who has ever dared to grasp at the spark of creation has navigated burnout, self-doubt, external circumstances beyond their control, limited time, and a host of other forces that conspire to keep us away from the sublime joy of making something that didn't exist before.

In a way, I wrote Morning is Broken for all the Morwenna Morningsongs sealed away in hard drives, on memory cards, and across the pages of notebooks. Characters interrupted by forces far more insidious and tenacious than any dark lord.

I like to think that they're waiting for us to come back to them, when we're ready. And they'll wait as long as they have to.

All that matters is eventually finishing their stories."

**D. MATTHEW BEYER**  
WRITER, CO-DIRECTOR



A close-up, low-angle shot of a person's face, focusing on the eye and forehead. The person is wearing a silver headband with a repeating diamond-shaped pattern and small, clear gemstones. The lighting is dramatic, with deep shadows and highlights, creating a moody atmosphere. The background is dark and out of focus.

# THEMES

EROSION VERSUS  
GROWTH

CLOSURE VERSUS  
MOVING FORWARD

RECONNECTION

THE HEALING POWER  
OF CREATION  
THROUGH ALLEGORY



**CHLOE  
BALDWIN**

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER,  
ACTOR



**D. MATTHEW  
BEYER**

SCREENWRITER, EDITOR,  
CO-DIRECTOR



**PAUL  
STAFFORD**

CINEMATOGRAPHER,  
COMPOSER, CO-DIRECTOR

**MEET THE CREATIVE TEAM...**

# CHLOE BALDWIN

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, ACTOR "IZZY/MORWENNA"

Chloe Baldwin is a Jeff-Nominated Actor & Producer based in Los Angeles. Working professionally across film, television, theatre, and voiceover, she trained at The Theatre School at DePaul, where she originally met Beyer. Film & television work includes "Chicago Fire", "Utopia", "Shining Girls", *Widows*, *Perpetrator*, *The Spirit Became Flesh* (2023). She's performed onstage in the First U.S. National Tour of the West End hit *The Woman In Black*, and in nationally acclaimed theatres such as Goodman Theatre, The Old Globe, Seattle Rep, Pasadena Playhouse, and more. She won the *Curious Elixirs Curious Creator Grant* for her most recent project as executive producer: the series *Like What You Like*. On the series, she also plays Rosalind, co-wrote the script, and directed multiple episodes. She serves as executive producer and plays the titular role in the forthcoming *Ress*, which will hit the festival circuit later this year.



MEET THE CREATIVE TEAM



# D. MATTHEW BEYER

SCREENWRITER, EDITOR, CO-DIRECTOR

D. Matthew Beyer is a writer, filmmaker, and video post-production manager based out of Chicago, IL. After graduating from The Theatre School at DePaul University, he spent some 3 years working as a freelance post-production professional in New York City before returning to the Midwest. As a writer, his plays have been produced around Chicago and his short fiction has been published by Bogleech and The Arcanist. He has worked on the editing team for projects such as *Science VS* (Pilot, TV series) produced by Jigsaw Productions, *Turn Every Page* dir. Lizzie Gottlieb, *I Am a Terrible Mother* dir. Kestrin Pantera, *Jelloman, if u will* dir. Colin Kerrigan, and *The Sit-In: Harry Belafonte hosts the Tonight Show* dir. Yoruba Richen.



MEET THE CREATIVE TEAM

# PAUL STAFFORD

CINEMATOGRAPHER, COMPOSER, CO-DIRECTOR

Paul Stafford is a cinematographer, musician, and technical problem-solver of many trades based in Los Angeles. He grew up watching 80s movies, playing sports, and playing in bands. He honed his technical skills while traveling the world in the Coast Guard for 5 years, before bringing all he learned back into the pursuit of filmmaking with a focus in cinematography. He is the cinematographer on the original series, *Like What You Like* and has created his first solo project with his own original music, *Retro-Spectacles* (YouTube, Spotify) over the course of three months in 2022. He's always on the hunt for or more agile workflow in order to breakdown the logistical barriers to good storytelling.



MEET THE CREATIVE TEAM

# WHAT AUDIENCES ARE SAYING...

"A SINCERE EXPLORATION OF SELF,  
BEAUTIFUL CINEMATOGRAPHY,  
AND GENUINE PERFORMANCES..."

"PASSIONATE AND FULL  
OF ADVENTURE!"

"YOUR IMAGINATION  
RIGHT IN FRONT OF  
YOUR EYES."

"A BEAUTIFUL  
MEDITATION ON  
THE HEALING  
POWER OF GAMES  
AND EXPRESSION."

"GAME OF THRONES  
MEETS MEMENTO  
MEETS CINDERELLA."

"CHLOE BALDWIN REALLY SHINES.  
THE RANGE OF GOING FROM  
POWERFUL FANTASY HEROINE TO THE  
SOFT EMOTIONS OF HER REAL LIFE  
COUNTERPART REALLY SOLD THE FILM."

"BEAUTIFULLY SHOT  
AND SUPERBLY  
ACTED."

# CONTACTUS

OFFICIAL WEBPAGE

[CHLOEBALDWIN.NET/MORNINGISBROKEN](http://CHLOEBALDWIN.NET/MORNINGISBROKEN)

LA-BASED TEAM

CHLOE BALDWIN

PAUL STAFFORD

CHICAGO-BASED TEAM

D. MATTHEW BEYER