

The Wait

Written By

Aaron Albert

The Wait is a mixed reality Hololens experience developed in two weeks during Carnegie Mellon University's Building Virtual Worlds course.

More information can be found here:
www.aaronlalbert.com/portfolio/the-wait/

Gameplay can be seen here:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=QtgJUjqrpd0

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HOSPITAL ROOM - PRESENT

1

The Player stands alone in the middle of a small hospital room, containing the following physical objects: a hospital bed, a photo frame containing the picture of Alice, a childish drawing of a butterfly, a bouquet of dead flowers, a syringe in a small metal tray, and a screen showing an MRI of a brain. As the player orients themselves, a Dr. Cohen, a middle-aged man wearing a doctor's coat enters.

DR. COHEN (REAL)

The surgery will last a few hours,
please wait in this room. We will
let you know as soon as it's over.

Dr. Cohen exits.

2

MEMORY 1 - THE FIRST VISIT

2

The Photo Frame lights up with virtual effects. The Player touches the frame, and a memory is triggered.

A virtual Alice, a seven-year-old girl, enters the hospital room and is greeted by a virtual Dr. Cohen.

DR. COHEN (VIRTUAL)

(warmly)

Alice, nice to meet you. I'm Dr.
Cohen.

ALICE (VIRTUAL)

(nervously)

Hello doctor, am I getting a shot?

DR. COHEN

No, no shots, I just need you to
tell me how you feel.

ALICE

Oh... ok. My head has been hurting
a lot, and uh, I get dizzy
sometimes, and well, I threw up
this morning.

Alice fades out and Dr.Cohen turns toward the Player.

DR. COHEN

Based on her symptoms, I'd like to
take an MRI of her brain and
conduct a blood test. We want to
rule out the possibility of a
tumor. But don't panic, it's too
early to say for sure.

Dr. Cohen fades out.

3 MEMORY 2 - ALICE HAS HER BLOOD TAKEN 3

The metal tray begins to glow with virtual effects. The player moves to the tray and examines the syringe, triggering another memory.

A virtual Alice lies on the bed. Dr. Cohen stands on the side of the bed, holding a syringe, and ready to take her blood.

DR. COHEN (VIRTUAL)

Now, Alice, we need to take some blood. You'll feel a little pinch, but I promise, it will be done in ten seconds.

ALICE (VIRTUAL)

Mommy, mommy, I'm scared, I hate needles. Come over and hold my hand, please!

The Player walks over, and as they hold out their hand, Alice and Dr. Cohen fade away. The butterfly drawing begins to glow with effects and triggers a memory when the Player touches it.

4 MEMORY 3 - ALICE DRAWS A PICTURE 4

A virtual Alice sits on the hospital bed.

ALICE (VIRTUAL)

Mommy, can you bring me that paper?
I want to draw you a picture!

The Player picks up the physical paper and moves toward Alice. Alice begins to draw a virtual piece of paper.

ALICE

Look at my drawing mommy!

Alice turns the paper around, showing the same butterfly as on the physical paper. After a short delay, Alice fades away.

5 MEMORY 4 - MRI RESULTS 5

The physical MRI results begin to glow, they trigger another memory when touched by the Player.

Dr. Cohen fades in and talks to the player.

(CONTINUED)

DR. COHEN (VIRTUAL)
Examining her MRI, our diagnosis is
that she has a medulloblastoma, a
form of brain tumor. We have
surgery as an option, but we can't
guarantee success. We will do our
best to save her.

Dr. Cohen fades away.

6 MEMORY 5 - NIGHT BEFORE SURGERY

6

The Withering Flowers light up with virtual effects. When
touched, they trigger a final memory.

Alice lies on the hospital bed, shaking.

ALICE (VIRTUAL)
Mommy, I can't sleep, I'm scared...
can you hug me?

The player moves to the hospital bed and lowers their arms
to hug Alice. As Alice is embraced, she fades away.

7 HOSPITAL ROOM - PRESENT

7

The physical Dr. Cohen walks into the room. He seems
exhausted.

DR. COHEN (REAL)
Please, sit, if you wish.

He takes a moment.

DR. COHEN (CONT'D)
God was with us today. The surgery
was a success, we were able to
remove the majority of the tumor.
She will have to go through six
weeks of radiation therapy, but we
expect a full recovery.

Dr. Cohen approaches the Player and gives them a caring hug.