



Phil Collins Opens Up About Near-Fatal Battle with Alcoholism

Description

Phil Collins has revealed that he nearly died while in hospital in April 2024, following years of alcohol abuse. The singer and drummer informed the U.K.'s Sunday Times magazine that he was unconscious when his manager called for his five children, as it appeared he was on the brink of death.

Collins recalled that there were serious decisions to make about whether to keep him on life support. His kidneys were failing, and his organs were seizing up. He did not remember his family visiting, but they were worried they might not see him again. He remarked that the situation could have ended very badly.

Since his release from a seven-month hospital stay, Collins has not consumed alcohol. However, he continues to face health challenges. His pancreas is damaged, and his kidneys are functioning poorly, issues he first documented in his 2016 autobiography.

The musician is also contending with type 2 diabetes and nerve damage. This has hindered his ability to play the drums, and he now uses crutches after undergoing back and knee surgeries. He requires the support of a live-in nurse.

In an interview with BBC Two's Eras, Collins described his health as an ongoing struggle. He explained that everything seemed to go wrong at once, including contracting COVID-19 while in hospital. He has undergone five knee operations but can still walk with assistance.

Collins expressed gratitude for surviving his ordeal. He cherished four days spent with his family at the end of last year, sharing a poignant moment with his daughter, Lily Collins. Despite his ongoing health issues, which have kept him from performing, Collins mentioned that he is considering returning to the stage.

Vocabulary List:

1. **unconscious** //ʌn'kɒnʃəs// (adjective): not awake and not aware of surroundings
2. **brink** //brɪŋk// (noun): the edge before something bad happens
3. **seizing** //'si:zɪŋ// (verb): suddenly stopping work or starting to fail
4. **autobiography** //,ɔtəbaɪ'ɑgrəfi// (noun): a book someone writes about their life
5. **hindered** //'hɪndəd// (verb): made something more difficult to do
6. **ordeal** //ɔr'di:l// (noun): a very difficult or painful experience

Comprehension Questions



Multiple Choice

1. What year did Phil Collins nearly die in the hospital?
Option: 2022
Option: 2023
Option: 2024
Option: 2025
2. How long was Phil Collins in the hospital?
Option: Five months
Option: Six months
Option: Seven months
Option: Eight months
3. What chronic condition does Phil Collins contend with aside from kidney issues?
Option: Type 1 diabetes
Option: Type 2 diabetes
Option: Heart disease
Option: Asthma
4. How many knee operations has Phil Collins undergone?
Option: Three
Option: Four
Option: Five
Option: Six
5. What instrument is Phil Collins famous for playing?
Option: Guitar
Option: Piano
Option: Drums
Option: Bass
6. Who did Phil Collins share a poignant moment with at the end of last year?
Option: His mother
Option: His son
Option: His daughter
Option: His manager



True-False

7. Phil Collins remembers everything about his family visiting him in the hospital.
8. Phil Collins has consumed alcohol since his release from the hospital.
9. Phil Collins was hospitalized due to a car accident.
10. Phil Collins uses crutches due to back and knee surgeries.
11. Phil Collins is considering returning to the stage despite his health issues.
12. Phil Collins did not experience any complications during his hospital stay.

Gap-Fill

13. Phil Collins informed the U.K.'s Sunday Times magazine that he was unconscious when his manager called for his five children, as it appeared he was on the brink of death. His kidneys were failing, and his organs were seizing up. He did not remember his family visiting, but they were worried they might not see him _____.
14. Since his release from a seven-month hospital stay, Collins has not consumed _____.
15. Collins is also contending with type 2 diabetes and nerve _____.
16. He requires the support of a _____ nurse.
17. He explained that everything seemed to go wrong at once, including contracting _____ while in hospital.
18. Phil Collins cherished four days spent with his family at the end of last _____.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. 2024 2. Seven months 3. Type 2 diabetes 4. Five 5. Drums 6. His daughter
True-False: 7. False



8. False 9. False 10. True 11. True 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. again 14. alcohol 15. damage 16. live-in 17. COVID-19 18. year

CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL5

POST TAG

1. alcoholism
2. C1
3. ESL learning
4. esl news
5. Level 5
6. nearly died
7. Phil Collins

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