

## **‘Together’ examines a relationship falling apart**

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Friday, 18 February 2022 05:47

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Alcohol ruined Kelly and Mason’s life together. Months after their breakup, just as Kelly is in recovery and Mason is hitting bottom, a mutual friend’s suicide brings them back together.

The reunion forces them to confront their life choices, the damage they have done to themselves and others, and the ferocity of the love they shared. We can feel how much they want to be together, even as they both know they’re idealizing the relationship in hindsight. Along the way some emotional bombs drop, threatening to drive both men to the brink.

Writer-director Stanley Bain packs a lot of emotion into 18 minutes, and there are no easy answers here. We’re left to wonder whether Kelly will lift Mason up, or Mason will pull Kelly down, or maybe they’ll find a better way – together.

“Together” is available for rental online at <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/togethergayfilm> and is set to stream on GayBingeTV, scheduled to go live Feb. 17.