

Inheritance
James Howden

£1,500



REF: 3905

Height: 13 cm (5.1")

Width: 6.5 cm (2.6")

Description

Original Series of 10 (2 Remaining)

Bronze

"Inheritance" is a meditation on war, legacy, and love a symbol of protection forged in bronze.

At first glance, the object is unmistakable: a grenade, the epitome of violence and destruction. But pressed into its surface are two sets of teeth marks the smaller from my son, the larger from me. It's a quiet but deliberate act: my bite shielding his.

This piece speaks to the primal instinct of parenthood to absorb the blast, to take the hit, to stand between our children and the chaos of the world. In a time where conflict is ever-present, Inheritance becomes a personal protest, a declaration that our love can still interrupt the cycle of violence.

It asks: what do we pass down? Fear or safety? Destruction or defiance?

I'll be honest I don't claim to fully understand all the history or political complexities between Israel and Gaza. I know there are decades of conflict, narratives on all sides, and deep pain that stretches back generations. But even without being an expert, one thing is painfully clear to me what's happening to innocent people, especially children, is inhumane and unacceptable.

Every day, we're seeing the devastating consequences of a conflict where a far more powerful force is inflicting unimaginable suffering on people who have nowhere to run. Entire families are being wiped out. Schools, hospitals, and shelters places that should be safe are being reduced to rubble. And far too many of the lives being lost are those of children.

These children are not fighters. They are not threats. They are the heart and hope of a people, of any people. To watch them suffer or die, to see their futures erased before they even begin, is to witness a deep moral failure one the world should never become numb to.

No matter where someone stands politically, we have to draw a line when it comes to the killing of the innocent. Silence and neutrality in the face of such injustice isn't peace it's complicity. I may not know all the answers, but I do know this: children should never pay the price for war.

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