

**WHEN YOU GET TO HELL, AN  
UNO GAME IS ALL THERE IS**

By India Eddy

India Eddy  
St Louis, MO  
+1 (301) 873-1471  
[indiaeddy@gmail.com](mailto:indiaeddy@gmail.com)

Cast of Characters

RED: *Disillusioned*

GREEN: *Opinionated*

YELLOW: *Gentle*

BLUE: *Curious*

Place

Hell

Time

The middle of a game.

*A liminal space. There is a table with an Uno deck messily set up mid-game. RED, YELLOW, and GREEN are around the table, playing the game.*

RED  
Yellow four.

YELLOW  
Yellow two.

GREEN  
Green two.

RED  
Green one.

YELLOW  
Green six.

GREEN  
Shit.

*GREEN draws three cards from the deck.*

GREEN  
Green eight.

RED  
Green three.

YELLOW  
Green four.

GREEN  
Shit.

*GREEN draws five cards.*

GREEN  
Blue four.

*BLUE enters. They were put here; they are not here voluntarily. They do not even know where "here" is. The players at the table don't look up, but they know someone new is here.*

RED  
Oh, great. We're not starting over.

YELLOW  
That's fine, I'll just deal them a hand.

GREEN  
Don't go from the top of the deck, you'll screw up the rhythm.

RED  
The rhythm is screwed up no matter what, it doesn't matter. Blue two.

*YELLOW takes seven cards from the top of the deck and holds them out behind them.*

GREEN  
I just asked you not to use the top of the deck.

*With their other hand, YELLOW plays a card. BLUE has not moved, and YELLOW is still holding the second deck of cards out behind them.*

YELLOW  
Blue plus two.

GREEN  
Are you serious?  
*GREEN draws two cards.*  
You did that on purpose.

BLUE  
Excuse me?

RED  
Blue seven.

BLUE  
What is this place?

YELLOW  
Come join the game.

Blue skip.

GREEN  
That's not funny.

BLUE  
Where am I?

RED  
Perdition

*RED draws six cards before playing. In this time, BLUE slowly approaches the table and sits down next to GREEN.*

Blue eight.

YELLOW  
Red eight.

GREEN  
Red reverse! Ha!

BLUE  
Is this really Hell?

YELLOW

Red one.

RED

Does it look like it could be anything else?

Red six.

BLUE

It looks like an Uno game.

RED

That's what Hell is.

BLUE

I don't understand. Does this mean I'm dead?

RED

Play your damn card.

*BLUE takes a long moment to organise their deck before playing a card.*

BLUE

Wild card.

*Beat.*

GREEN

What colour?

BLUE

Uh, blue.

GREEN

Blue zero!

BLUE

How long have you guys been here?

YELLOW  
Blue three.

RED  
Red three.

BLUE  
Hello?

RED  
We've been here as long as the game's been playing. Now play your card.

BLUE  
That doesn't mean anything to me. How long have you actually been here?

RED  
Play your card.

BLUE  
I don't want to play my card! I want to know what's going on! Am I dead?

RED  
No, you're the first living person to make it to the afterlife. Congratulations. Play your card.

YELLOW  
Be nice.

RED  
I don't care.

YELLOW  
Whatever.

GREEN  
Could you play your card? We're losing the rhythm.

BLUE  
Fine! Red plus two.

GREEN  
*(to RED and YELLOW)*  
I don't like this one.

*GREEN draws two cards.*

YELLOW  
Red six.

RED  
Red zero.

BLUE  
I'm not playing.

GREEN  
Oh, that's not how this works. You have to play.

BLUE  
Why do I have to play? Who's watching to make sure I play?

YELLOW  
You don't have to play.

RED  
Yeah, you can sit in the corner and watch.

GREEN  
I'm pretty sure you have to play.

RED  
You don't have to play.

GREEN

You just want to say the opposite of whatever I say.

RED

No, I don't.

GREEN

Stop it.

YELLOW

You don't have to play. But you'll change your mind.

RED

They're not playing, can we move on? It's your turn.

GREEN

I don't think it's fair that they can just not play.

RED

Do you wanna stop playing?

GREEN

No.

RED

Then play your card.

GREEN

Green zero.

YELLOW

Green skip.

*BLUE gets up and begins to wander the space while they play. They quickly come to realise that the space is emptiness, and the Uno game is all there is.*

GREEN  
Green two.

YELLOW  
Yellow two.

RED  
Yellow seven.

GREEN  
Yellow five.

YELLOW  
Yellow one.

RED  
Yellow nine.

GREEN  
Blue nine.

RED  
That's a six, dumbass.

GREEN  
Oh.

*GREEN takes back the card and looks for a second before drawing three cards.*

GREEN  
Yellow four.

YELLOW  
Yellow one.

RED  
Green one.

*BLUE rejoins the table.*

BLUE  
Green eight.

GREEN  
Green reverse.

BLUE  
Green four.

YELLOW  
I think we should shuffle.

RED  
Fine.

*RED takes the card off the top and starts shuffling the discard pile. They all are quiet until the game begins again.*

RED  
Green two.

BLUE  
Do you guys remember anything from before you got here?

YELLOW  
No. I don't remember anything before this game. Red two.

BLUE  
So you don't even know why you're here?

YELLOW  
I just kind of have to assume that whoever I was deserved this.

GREEN  
Red six.

BLUE  
I still remember.

*BLUE draws two cards.*

Red eight.

RED  
You're new. Plus four. Yellow.

YELLOW  
Come on.

*YELLOW draws four cards.*

BLUE  
You think at some point I won't remember anything?

GREEN  
Yellow three.

RED  
I know you won't. No one does.

BLUE  
But. In a place like this I feel like that kind of stuff is all you have. If I let go, then what is there?

GREEN  
There's always the game.

RED  
All there is is the game.

BLUE

I can't. I just can't imagine letting go of... of what grass looks like. Or how wind feels.  
Getting to walk my dog. Or talk to my sister, Em... Emily?

RED

Forgetting already?

BLUE

No, I was just there.

YELLOW

This place will do that to you.

GREEN

It's your turn.

BLUE

If I don't play, will I still remember?

YELLOW

Nothing stops the time from passing.

RED

But if you sit there and don't play your card, none of us get to play either.

*BLUE draws two cards*

BLUE

Yellow nine.

RED

Yellow six.

YELLOW

Yellow two.

GREEN  
Yellow one.

BLUE  
Yellow five.

RED  
Yellow eight.

YELLOW  
Yellow zero.

GREEN  
Green zero.

BLUE  
What are your names?  
Green four.

RED  
Green nine.

YELLOW  
Red nine.

GREEN  
Red five

BLUE  
What is my name?  
Red seven.

*RED draws five cards.*

RED  
Blue seven.

YELLOW  
Blue reverse.

RED  
Blue two.

BLUE  
Blue four

GREEN  
Green four.

YELLOW  
Green skip.

BLUE  
Green three.  
Uno.

*Beat.*

GREEN  
Green eight.

YELLOW  
Green one.

*A pause. RED won't play their turn.*

GREEN  
What happens if the game ends?

RED  
The game's not gonna end. This isn't a game that ends. People don't win this game.

GREEN  
But what if someone does?

RED

That doesn't happen, that's not how this game works.

GREEN

Aren't games supposed to have winners?

RED

Not this one.

YELLOW

Just play your card.

RED

No.

*They get up from the table. They pace around the space.*

YELLOW

The game might not even end.

RED

And it won't. You don't win this game you just play it. That's it, that's how it works.

YELLOW

Play your card, then.

RED

No.

This game is all there is. If there is no game, there is nothing left. We are not people anymore, we are players. If we are not players, then what's left?

What's my name?

YELLOW

Come on.

RED

Guess. Guess anything. You can't be wrong if I don't remember what's right.

YELLOW

We can just start another game.

RED

And who will we be then?

YELLOW

Who are we now?

GREEN

*(to BLUE, genuinely)*

Do you really think you could win the game even though you just got here?

BLUE

I think I've been here forever, actually.

YELLOW

Just play your card.

RED

You will be just as much nothing as I will. You shouldn't want this either.

YELLOW

We're already nothing. Play your card.

RED

Fine.

*RED huffs back to the table and slams a card down on the discard pile.*

RED

Blue one.

*Blackout.*