

Director's Statement

My intention for *Four Weeks, Four Hours* was to create a survival story featuring women in situations that are usually reserved for male characters. I wanted to focus on the strength that women can exhibit in such situations, as well as to explore some of the differences between these two particular women, and what we've come to expect from heroic male leads.

Interweaving two different stories of desert survival allowed me to go one step further, and compare the experiences of two completely different kinds of women. While it was important to me to show Liza as a determined and intelligent survivor, with the skills to deal with her situation, I was also interested in how the same situation would be handled by a woman who's grown up in an air-conditioned cocoon of urban living, whose idea of the wilderness is going to the beach.

After reading many handbooks on desert survival, and numerous stories of people who survived desert experiences (and those who didn't), it became clear that the overriding characteristic dividing those who live from those who die is the sheer will to endure. This became the primary focus of the story—what led each woman to be in this situation, and how do their differing backgrounds affect their decisions? As their stories unfold, each woman's journey is as much about self-discovery as it is of simple survival.

Contact

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