Forever & Never

A Feature Film by Scott Sawitz



Logline & Synopsis

Logline: After a one-night stand on a business trip, two people in unhappy marriages come together on the anniversary to relive a night of passion.

Synopsis: Marcus Goldberg and Sara Jaber had perfect lives on paper.

Marcus, married to his college sweetheart, is a working screenwriter in Hollywood. Sara has a family in Kenosha, Wisconsin, and a burgeoning career at a Fortune 500 company.

Seated next to each other on a flight from her adopted London back to the United States, the two would be seated next to each other randomly. Striking up a conversation, as people with five hours to kill sometimes do, they'll discover a once in a lifetime chemistry with one another.

A fluke meeting years later leads to a one night stand... and life keeps conspiring to keep them together, if only for one weekend a year.

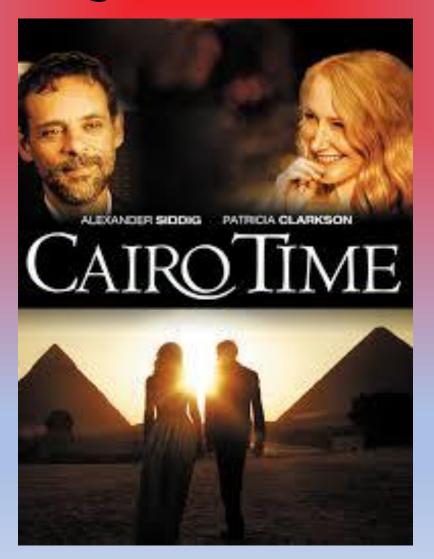
Getting together once a year on the date of their first meeting, we'll see Sara go from corporate go-getter to the c-suite and eventually her own company. Marcus will go from being a staff writer to a writer/director of significance.

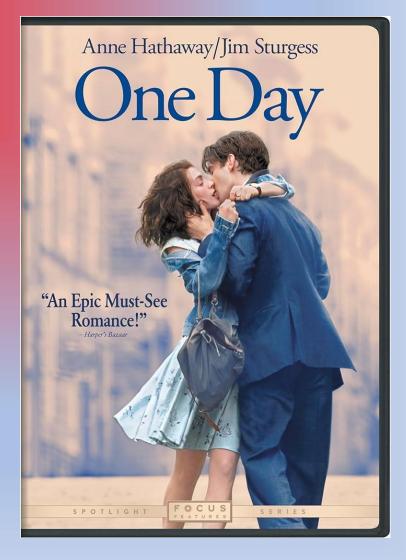
Along the way we'll see them grow and change as people as they try to figure out what they are, and try to be together despite life conspiring to keep them apart.



Comparable Films







Purpose

Love and marriage are a hell of a thing. While most people will tell you that their spouse is the great love of their life, a lot of marriages fail because the sort of person you are at 25 isn't the person you are at 45.... and that art of growing and changing can leave a lot of marriages being more functional roommates than genuine relationships.

And now imagine being in that comfortable, functional roommate relationship and meeting that one person who you know is the one you should be with... but you can't just give up the life you've built on a whim, right?

That's what this film will explore... what if you found the love of your life but it was geographically undesirable to go with being untenable because of your personal circumstances?

That's where Marcus and Sara find themselves at, personally, and we see them grow with one another over the years as we see them change professionally as well.



Marcus Goldberg

(Casting Idea: A Donald Glover type)

Marcus beat cancer as a child and decided he was going to try to make it as a screenwriter early on... and when we first meet him, he's discovering that Oscar Wilde's proverb about the two tragedies in life is painfully accurate.

Over the years he'll become a creative force but have to balance out with his desire to be seen as a creative, not a black creative.



Shokoufah "Sara" Jaber

(Casting Idea: A Emmanuelle Chriqui type)

A refugee from Iraq to London who found herself in America via an arranged marriage, Sara has a good life on paper.... but deep down she'd admit that she cares for her husband but doesn't love him in the way she was told she'd grow to.

We meet her a corporate cog angling for her boss's job, and then a role in the c-suite, and along the way she discovers that being a worker bee might be all it's cracked up to be.

Approach





This is a film that will need to view creative approaches; stock footage of locations across the country and filming in areas that can double for other parts of the country (with a first rate production designer) is critical as this is a film focused on two people meeting each other clandestinely all across the country for that one weekend a year they can be together.

A top notch makeup artist will also be required as we see Marcus & Sara grow and age; it needs to look natural as the two principal actors will be playing the characters over roughly 20 years of age and development.

Distribution & Budget

Forever & Never is a great movie for streaming services such as Hulu and Netflix where the film would be accessible to a range of audiences and take advantage of the long-tail and data-driven recommendations on the platforms.

The production would not like to rule out the possibilities of acquiring international pre-sales. There is potential for a romantic comedy to bring revenue abroad.

Ideally the goal would be to emulate a film like Edward Burns' "Summer Days, Summer Nights," Isao Yukisada's "River's Edge" and Jason Reitman's "Thank you for Smoking" as a festival favorite that winds up being picked up a larger distributor.

Estimated budget between \$750,000 - \$1,000,000

Team

Scott Sawitz, Writer/Director

What began as a deep father/son conversation brought Scott from being a multi-time optioned screenwriter into daring to be one of the few who had embraced the grind of feature film-making as a writer/director with his 2023 film "Save State."

A romantic comedy in the vein of "Groundhog Day," "Save State" was inspired by the failings of his own long term romantic relationship and the sage words of his father. Confronted with a son who wanted to go back to the moment of his break up, and find a way to make it work, he asked two profound things that would inspire the film: "What would you have changed?" and "How would it be better?"

Film Threat praised Scott for his "stellar writing" on the film.

A 2001 Saint Norbert College graduate who spent nearly two decades as a freelance journalist (and just as many in the financial services field at all walks of the life insurance industry), Scott's byline appeared all over the internet and covered a variety of topics, from mixed martial arts (where he covered the second UFC on Fox card live from Chicago's United Center) to film and television criticism, Scott evolved into a filmmaker when he collaborated on the web series "Confessions of a Web Series" with his producing partner Mike Noyes.

Mike Noyes, Producer

Mike Noyes received his Masters Degree in Film from the Academy of Art University, San Francisco in 2013. He also earned a Communication Studies degree at Sonoma State University in 2000. He has been writing and making short films since high school. He graduated from SSU as the first student to write/direct/produce a feature length film in one semester for his graduating thesis project. Mike has been Scott's producing partner and personal editor on both short films Scott created as well as his producing partner on "Save State."



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