### For Now Productions presents



(a 12 part web series & multi-platform story)

created by Nate Locklear & Kayla Olson

Written & Directed by Nate Locklear



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## Synopsis



Lost and alone, Kayla must contemplate her next move. Where do you go when the road has run out? How did she get here? She retraces her steps, haunted by shadows of her past and confronted by demons in her present. On the road she must face the reality of lost, unrequited love, the dark hearts of men and dream-shattering disappointment. Will Kayla find the strength to

go on, to find herself, to find her home?

They say you can never go home again, once you leave

**For Now Productions presents** *Once You Leave*, a 12 part award-winning dramatic series and multi-part online story including a character blog, a one-issue digital comic book and a behind-the-scenes series detailing the making of the entire project.



#### ep 1.01: you can never go home again

"What are you doing here...What the fuck is going on?" Kayla returns home, after two years, to a defective situation. Her alcoholic mother, the root of this dysfunction only complicates matters. And most of Kayla's high school/college friends are nowhere to be found. But luckily Kayla has a plan, even if there is

a small hitch...



#### ep 1.02: a change of plans

"I'm going to find my best friend...well she was..." Kayla's plans are altered when she discovers that her best friend, Rachel has moved to Salado for work. So Kayla hits the road (in her mom's car) to set things right and hopefully repair their fragile relationship. Upon reaching Salado she meets Rachel's

employers, John and Mary Anderson. Unfortunately they have some bad news and everything changes...



#### ep 1.03: Saturn Return

"This is your journey." Kayla wakes in Rachel's room, in Rachel's bed. Hopeless and alone she contemplates her next move. All seems lost... but then comes Awenasa, a Native American Indian drifter. They disappear into the woods together. Intoxicated by the dancing flame and Awenasa's psychotropics, Kayla begins her

transformation.



#### ep 1.04: rite of way

"What am I supposed to do now? She was the plan." Where do you go when the road has run out? Without a destination, Kayla's journey begins. The peace of the road encourages reflection.

However the constant painful reminders of a once hopeful reunion with Rachel now haunt Kayla's every thought. What was Rachel trying to say in her last bits of communication? Will Rachel's little brother, Jon-Michael have the answers?



#### ep 1.05: Tunde et le feu

"Why are you here, Kayla?" A storm hits, interrupting Kayla's journey. She decides to wait it out in the back of her (mom's) car. Boredom soon sets in so Kayla decides to dig into her past. She watches video from her time in the Peace Corp with her pal Tunde. But Tunde's light-hearted demeanor soon turns dark as he

vents his frustrations and worries. This doesn't help Kayla's sullen mood, for Tunde turns the camera and spotlight on her causing her to come clean with her feelings. From the banter back-and-forth with Tunde in the video, Kayla remembers the link she found on Jon-Michael's page. A link to a blog...



#### ep 1.06: battered suitcases

"I need some help." A love story comes to an end... but the journey must go on for "the road is life." Drifting along back roads, Kayla hums a simple tune... then comes Abby and Camden, a single mom and her child with some car trouble. Kayla agrees to give them a ride not realizing she's agreeing to far more. Abby

and Camden are on the run and it's reaching the breaking point.



#### ep 1.07: I would run

"Where were you headed?" Kayla wakes after being mugged; how did she get here? She's all alone and the last bit of her money is gone but luckily she lands a job as a dishwasher. Curiosity sends her out back one day where she meets Ben, the cook. They share a cigarette. These two damaged creatures are

on similar paths, one hiding from the past and the other running from the present. But when Ben finally reveals his story, Kayla hears just how dark the hearts of men can become and it changes her, forever.



#### ep 1.08: animal kingdom

"I am a tiger!" growls Kayla. Rachel stops, looks directly into the camera and declares, "You can call me Rachel-bear!" It's a new day... Kayla travels the back roads in her mom's (now reported stolen) car. She has a little wad of cash from her buddy Ben and she's headed to find her estranged father. A stop off at a

laundromat proves to be a horrible mistake. But out of the darkness, the animals come to play...



#### ep 1.09: sunset

"...that's when the fire started." Now on foot, with no money and only a few of her belongings Kayla is forced to continue her journey. Alone...



#### ep 1.10: "Rachel"

"She rejected me..." It's 11:25 pm. Kayla paces around her motel room. A knock on the door changes everything. And the truth is finally revealed...



#### ep 1.11: sunrise

"You left us all a long time ago." Kayla finally commits to seeking out her estranged father. Along the way she stops off at a lake cove and reflects upon all that has happened on her journey.



ep 1.12: building sandcastles "Do you remember when you were young..." The journey is the destination.

### "Moving, real and beautifully shot. THIS is great drama!"

~IndieIntertube.tv



# **A Multi-Platform Story**

The Once You Leave story is told in other components besides the web series, including:



#### Rachel Perkins Blog

A journal detailing the life of Rachel Perkins two years before the series events take place and while Kayla is in the Peace Corp. The journal contains personal entries from Rachel, her fears, desires and regrets and ranges in story from her adventures with a half

wolf-breed dog to some painful events overseas. The journal is filled with photos and videos made especially for the blog and links to relevant and mood setting material. The blog entries help shed light on what might have happened to Rachel for her to end up dead in the first scene of the series. Kayla visits *Rachel Perkins Blog* in episode 1.05 and it is referenced several times in the series.



OYL comic book: episode 1.00: before I come home to you "I'm really gonna miss this place..." After a 27-month stay in Niger (for the Peace Corp), Kayla heads home to Texas. She says goodbye to her African friends

and then boards the plane. The quiet hum of the airplane cabin sends Kayla into a slumber. She dreams of haunting images from the past and a foreshadowing of the future. She wakes to a city she no longer knows but remains hopeful for her only plan, Rachel...

Episode 1.00 is a one-issue comic book presented as a MOTION COMIC, INTERACTIVE WEB COMIC and a DIGITAL COMIC and is a prequel to the *Once You Leave* series. Illustrated by Karla Moya and written by Nate Locklear.



# Without You I Am Lost: the making of Once You Leave

A detailed video series on the intense work that went into the creation of the entire OYL world. Interviews with the creators, cast and crew, behind-thescenes footage and photos help tell the story. Hear about inspirations and get the inside scoop on the drama and

trials the entire team struggled through to make something that was lasting and relevant but also emotionally charged and honest.

### About

Nate and Kayla worked together on the PBS show, *The Daytripper* and became best buds. From being out on the road while shooting they got the idea to create an on-the-road drama. About the same time, Nate had been visiting his sister on her ranch and land in Goliad, TX and was inspired by the trip and the mis-enscene of country life. Circa July 1<sup>st</sup> Nate and Kayla sat down at Chuy's Mexican food restaurant in Austin, TX over chips, queso and margaritas and they hatched out all 12 episode ideas. What started as a potentially quirky "dramedy" soon changed when they decided to kill the Rachel character. They are glad they made that decision and have remained the best of friends ever since.

### **Our Fans Are Talking**

"Finding that place called home is often a difficult journey and the search for home can occur at different times throughout our lives...Y'all are depicting a universal feeling in a way that can be recognized by many. Great EVERYTHING!!! ...And yes, I had tears." ~Barbara Burke

"You've got an eye for catching life in motion. Loved [episodes] 4 and 5. In [episode] 5 you really did show what it is like to be alone. I loved it." ~David Bryant

"I absolutely love what you are doing with this project. Great episode [episode 1.05]! I really dig how elemental it looks. Light through the rain, light from flames. The wind through the tall grass. Thank you for sharing your talents with us!" ~Barry Dodd, award-winning creator of *Ragged Isle* 

"Kayla, I love your acting... nice combination of a strong and vulnerable young woman." ~Peggy Vanruijssevelt

"I just love Kayla's journey. In life, I feel that every person you meet will affect some part of your spirit and actions. You have managed to capture the endurance of the human spirit." ~YouTube user "loveforyourself"

"It makes you take a look into that scariest place of places...inside your own heart and mind." ~Joey Arone

"I just love how each episode of this series can stand on its own, but collectively they reach the spirit on a much deeper level. This is truly media that MOVES usthank you so much for all your contributions to this genre!!" ~Justin St. Louis

## Bios



#### Co-Creator/ Producer/ Director/ Writer/ Director of Photography/ Editor/ etc...

Nate has been creating film, video and web material in the Austin area since his graduation from The University of Texas' Radio, TV, Film Program in 2002. He is the owner of the production

company For Now Productions that specializes in pre, pro and post production services. He was the Co-Producer, Director of Photography and Supervising Editor for the first two seasons of the hit Texas PBS show *The Daytripper* for which he won two Emmys® for his work. And he is the recipient of three Telly Awards, a Webby Honoree and an Indie Intertube Award for his work on *Once You Leave*. He also teaches film/video editing at Austin Community College.



#### Kayla Olson

Nate Locklear

Co-Creator/ Producer/ Lead- Kayla Marshall/ Music Co-Producer After attending the University of North Texas in Denton, TX to study musical theatre, Kayla moved to Austin and began concentrating on acting for film. While in Austin she received professional certificates in Radio. Television and Film from Austin

Community College, and directed a handful of short films. She then interned for the hit Texas PBS travel show, *The Daytripper*. Soon after, she became an independent contractor for For Now Productions and went into production on *Once You Leave*. She won the Indie Intertube Award for Best Actress in a Drama in 2011. In addition to being a working actor and filmmaker in Austin, she also works as a teaching assistant at Austin Community College in the RTF department. **KaylaMOIson.weebly.com** 



#### Jacki Brinker

Actress- Rachel Perkins Jacki, surprisingly, is not a working actress. She graduated from The University of Texas in 2010 with a Master's in Social Work. She currently works for Communities in Schools of Central Texas where she serves as the AmeriCorps Program Coordinator. She

recently retired from a long career as a TXRD Lonestar Rollergirl under the name, "Crybaby." From her cheerful attitude and "rock star-like" performances skating around as Crybaby, *Once You Leave* creator Nate Locklear knew she would be perfect as Rachel. And she blew the performance away and made a lovable character with deep, realistic emotions.

#### Michele Hale



#### Producer/ Additional Writer/ PR & Marketing

Michele is a critically acclaimed independent author. She also works as a freelance copywriter/editor and photographer. She heads up Cowgirlie Media and has published five books under this imprint. Michele is the former editor and publisher of Derby

Gal Magazine and currently serves as the Austin Roller Derby Examiner. **AreWeZombies.com**.

#### Samantha Ireland



#### Producer/ Actress- Molly

Samantha Ireland is a theatrical, voice and film actress who's been working in Austin for over a year now and is known locally for her work in the world popular web series *Red Vs. Blue* as the voice of 'C.T'. Other work includes roles with Rooster Teeth

Productions, Blue Goggles Films, various independent films and an anchor for Comics Plus! And most importantly she serves as a producer and supporting actress, playing the role of 'Molly', in the award winning web series *Once You Leave*. FaceBook.com/SamanthalrelandActress



#### James Jackson Leach

Actor- Jon-Michael Perkins

James is an Austin based producer of film and live theatre and is co-founder of the marketing company Cosmic Mammoth Productions. James writes for the screen and stage. His work can be seen on **CosmicMammoth.com** or **ChaoticTheatre.org**.



### Russell Minton

Actor-Roger Marshall

Russell stumbled into stage acting by accident when one day on campus a professor from the speech department told him he needed to go read for a part. From there came several lead roles in The Miser, Frankenstein, Deathtrap, and Antigone. He dabbled

in community theatre before moving into the film scene in August of 2008. Some 60 plus films later he is now serving as director of photography and co-director on his second film based on the *Masters of the Universe* cartoon series. An avid and once professional photographer, Russell enjoys shooting behind-the-scene stills on movie sets. Russell earned both a Bachelor's of Applied Science from ETBU and a Master's degree from SMU.



#### Karla Moya

Comic Book Illustrator

Karla is currently a student at Austin Community College studying Visual Communications and 2D animation. Besides creating storyboards and comics she's also a very talented costume and wig designer and loves cosplay. She recently became a co-host

for the podcast, *Things That Go Bump in the Night*, which examines horror and paranormal pop-culture. **KarlaMoya-NoBiscuits.blogspot.com** 



#### Rae Petersen

#### Actress- Linda (Marshall) Taylor

Rae has been acting in and around the Austin theatre scene since 2007. Most recently, as *Crazy Bett*, she was named one of the "Best of the Fest", Hyde Park Theatre Frontera Fest, Short Fringe. Other favorite roles include Mother in *Red Balloon*, Mama in

*Night Mother*, and Mommy in *The Sandbox*. Playing Linda Taylor, the mother in *Once You Leave*, was both a privilege and great fun! **arllynsen@yahoo.com** 



#### Indigo Rael

#### Actress-Awenasa

Indigo is from Denton, TX where she studied drawing and painting. She moved to Mexico for a year where she was inspired to pursue her acting and filmmaking goals. Since moving to Austin she has worked as a bike taxi, mural artist, improviser, actress,

art director and producer. Her most recent work is co-starring in Larry Clark's (KIDS, Bully) next film. She is a passionate activist for the environment and is in pre-production for a series starring her creation, The Plastic Mermaid, to raise awareness about garbage in the ocean through comedy. **IndigoRael.com** 



#### Cynthia Schiebel

#### Actress- Mary Anderson

As a stage actor, Cynthia has performed with numerous theaters including Amarillo Little Theater, Sam Bass Theater, Gaslight Theater (Lockhart) and Paradox Players. Cynthia is a regular performing actor with Capital Murder Mystery Players in Austin.

Her film career started when she moved to Austin. She has appeared in six feature films by Paul Bright, Tapestry: The Music of Carol King (Zack Scott Theater) and A Slipping Down Life. *Once You Leave* is Cynthia's first web series. In regular daytime hours, Cynthia is a licensed professional counselor, trainer and certified coach in private practice in the heart of South Austin.

### **Featured Music**

Once You Leave has an award-nominated soundtrack made up of an amazing range of bands and musicians, most of which are Texas artists.

Bobee www.Bobee.BandCamp.com

Go to Stereo www.FaceBook.com/GoToStereo

Brian Kremer www.BrianKremerMusic.com

Curt Locklear Email: info@onceyouleave.com

Naked Fiction www.NakedFictionMusic.com

Liz Simmons www.Myspace.com/DistantSiren

Telegraph Canyon www.TelegraphCanyon.net

ldgy Vaughn www.ldgyVaughn.net Kacy Crowley www.KacyCrowley.com

Stirling Johnson www.YouTube.com/Stirlingalang

Jennifer Leonhardt www.JenniferLeonhardt.com

MVP FaceBook.com/GroundUpWorldWideEntertainment

Smoke and Feathers (courtesy of Frenchie Smith Records) www.ReverbNation.com/SmokeAndFeathers

Through the Eye www.ThroughTheEye.BandCamp.com

and more...



### **Cast & Crew**

Kayla Olson	Kayla Marshall
Jacki Brinker	Rachel Perkins
James Jackson Leach	Jon-Michael Perkins
Rae Petersen	Linda Taylor
Mark Wilson	Ronnie Caulters
Eric Anschutz	Tim Squires
Cynthia Schiebel	Mary Anderson
Johnny Anderson	John Anderson
Indigo Rael	Awenasa
Sara Hamman-Ludwig	Woman in Park
Jerry Carroll, Jr.	Tunde
Lyndsey LeJeune	Abby
Nathan Harris	Kenley
Ira Fowler	Camden
Russell Kreig	Jimmy
Mitchell Dean Diaz	Jimmy's Dad
Laura Johnson	Jimmy's Mom
Jason Massey	Kitchen Employee
Ashley Steffey	Kitchen Employee
Nate Locklear	Ben Langley
Samantha Ireland	Molly
Mike Thrailkill	DJ Angry Jack
Dana Brown	Pretentious Fiction Guy

Sonya Ramos	Gal w/ Cigarette
Russell Minton	Roger Marshall
Nate Locklear	Executive Producer, Producer, Director, Writer, Director of Photography, Editor, Co-creator
Kayla Olson	Executive Producer, Producer, Co-creator, Music Co- Producer
Jason Massey	Executive Producer, Producer, Asst. Director, Web Design
Anita Garza	Producer
Michele Hale	Producer, Additional Writer, PR/Marketing Asst.
Samantha Ireland	Producer
Kevin Harris	Producer, Behind-the-scenes Producer, B-Camera
Ken Dvorak	Sound Recordist, Craft Services
Cody Johnson	Gaffer, Key Grip, Assistant Camera
Lyndsey LeJeune	Still Photography, Additional Writer, Associate Producer, Craft Services
Eric Anschutz	Grip, Production Asst.
Laura Johnson	Asst. Music Producer
Ashley Steffey	Associate Producer, Craft Services
Eva Busch	Associate Producer, Foley Recording Asst.
Karla Moya	Comic Book Illustrator
Curt Locklear	Additional Executive Producer
Deb Locklear	Additional Executive Producer
Joey Arone	Additional Executive Producer
Bobby Olgin	Additional Producer

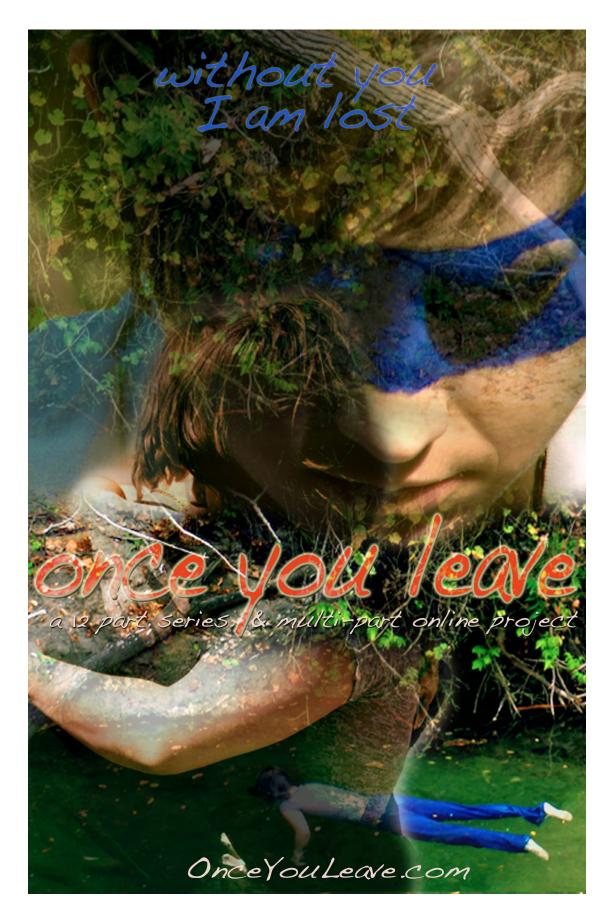
Special Thanks: OneMoreLesbian.com, IndieIntertube.tv, AfterEllen.com, PNTTVonline.com, Msfantastico, Austin Community College



"Not until we are lost do we begin to understand ourselves." ~Henry David Thoreau

OnceYouLeave.com

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