



inspired by e.e. cummings greatest love poem

the secret nobody knows

written & directed by nick ronan



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The Secret Nobody Knows

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Log Line

Kate's parting gift to her soldier Tom reveals a moment in their uncertain future.



Synopsis

Inspired by e.e cummings' greatest love poem, *The Secret Nobody Knows* is a War Romance set in 1952 during the Korean War. The story is about a couple's last few hours together before he departs overseas.

When Kate gives Tom a book of poetry to take with him, he finds a clipping hidden within it. Meant for him to read before heading into North Korea, the clipping is of e.e. cummings' poem "i carry your heart with me(i carry it in." Tom asks Kate to read it to him, and as she begins, the poem offers a glimpse through time to a moment in their future, which will forever change their lives.

Technical Specs

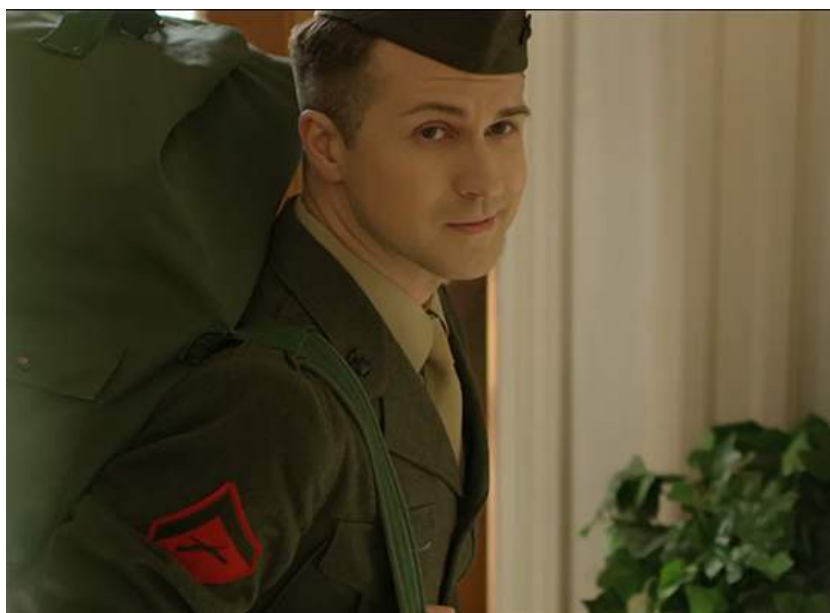


Country of Production	USA
Running Time	8:03 minutes
Original Language	English
Subtitles	English
Shooting Format	HD, Red

CAST



Erica Camarano



Nick Ronan

CREW



Writer/Director

Nick Ronan

Producer

Erica Camarano

Co-Producer

Kim Rios Lin

Co-Producer

Jason Friedman-Mendez

Cinematographer

Bart Cortright

Production Designer

Marisabel Dávila

Editor

Michael Kohlbrenner

Composer

Jesse Wiener

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THE INSPIRATION

I first heard e.e. cummings' poem "i carry your heart with me(i carry it in" in a German commercial for Parkinson's, which I stumbled upon by chance. In the commercial, the poem is beautifully read by an older German actor as the filmmakers take us on the visual journey of a father's relationship with his daughter as she grows into adulthood, is diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, and then has to cope with the gradual deterioration of her body and the knowledge that her father will not always be there to protect her.

What resonated with me so profoundly was this idea: The most important people in our lives we carry with us always. Even if they are no longer with us, they live forever in our hearts. As cummings more eloquently puts it: "anywhere / i go you go, my dear."

Films always seem to have their own timing. For several years now, I have been interested in exploring the intimate moment in two people's lives right before they separate. And then to see them again at a later time in their lives when they are apart, but still affected by each other.

Memory is fragmented. We remember sensations, feelings, pictures, our own lives in short movies, and I wanted to explore that on screen. I had written a sketch of the Tom and Kate scene, knew that I was drawn to 1940s or 1950s as a backdrop, but was unsure of where to take the characters. When I connected that to cummings' poem, which I've grown to cherish, the story started to come to life. The poem becomes almost a window through time offering the viewer (and even the characters Tom and Kate) a glimpse into the future.

So the film also asks: If you could see your future, would you make the same choices in your life? The most important things are the hardest to say, and for Kate her gift of cummings' words is very much her way of saying what she cannot to Tom. And that is: You are always in my heart no matter what happens.

There's a universality in this message that I hope will speak to audiences and invite them to examine their own lives. The story follows two lovers, but it also rings true to any relationship: parents, siblings, friends, the people in our lives who appear and suddenly for a brief moment or a lifetime become the most important people in our lives.

Though the film has a bittersweet ending, for me it is also still a hopeful one. Does he live or die? Does he find his way back to her? Has she already moved on with her life? To close with what my co-author e.e. cummings writes:

here is the deepest secret nobody knows

(here is the root of the root and the bud of the bud

and the sky of the sky of a tree called life

-- Nick Ronan

BIOS

Nick Ronan

Writer/Director

Nick Ronan is an IRNE-nominated actor and award-winning writer. He is the Creative Director of A Night of Fireflies Productions and holds a B.A. double major in Acting and Film Production from Emerson College.



Nick's short psychological thriller *Vinyl Underground* has screened as an Official Selection at NY Short Film Festival & NY Indie Film Fest and is currently on the festival circuit. Other directing credits for film include: *Apollo Minus Project* short featurette, *Ashes*, and *The Intangibility of Sand*. And for stage include: an adaptation of Patrick Maber's *Closer*, *Short Term Affairs* by Donna Spector, and *The Red Squirrel* by George Sauer.

As an actor/producer, Nick has greenlit many of his most successful projects, including a production of Shanley's *Danny and the Deep Blue Sea*, for which he received an IRNE nomination for best actor. He has appeared in three Tennessee Williams World Premieres: *The Remarkable Rooming House of Madame Le Monde*, *American Gothic*, and *Aimez-Vous Ionesco?*

Nick's short stories have appeared in [The Northwest College Review](#) and [Inprint Magazine](#). He is drawn to projects that offer a new lens through which to see the world. www.nickronan.com

Bart Cortright

Cinematographer

Bart Cortright is a Brooklyn-based cinematographer. He is excited about the upcoming release of three features he's shot including Ricky D'Ambrose's *Notes on an Appearance*, Graham Swon's *The World is Full of Secrets*, and Brian Gottlieb's *Oxalis*. He has worked on many award-winning films shown regionally and internationally.



www.bartcortright.com

BIOS

Erica Camarano

Actress / Producer

Erica Camarano is a NYC-based actress who has appeared on cable and network television. Her credits include the recurring roles of Officer Rachel Ortiz on *Law & Order: SVU* and Eva Torres on USA's *Graceland*. She has also appeared on *Gotham*, *Unforgettable*, *Hostages*, and HBO's *Show Me a Hero*.

As a classically trained actor and dancer, she has a diverse background in theatre, film, and dance. She studied with Wynn Handman, Patsy Rodenburg, Shakespeare & Company and at the Linklater Center. She holds a BA in Theatre and Dance from CUNY Hunter College

The Secret Nobody Knows is Erica's first venture into producing. She is excited to greenlight her work and looks forward to future collaborations both in front of and behind the camera.

www.ericacamarano.com



Jesse Wiener

Composer

Jesse Wiener is a New England-raised composer, producer and multi-instrumentalist based in New York. Jesse's unique versatility has led to a variety of music, theater and film opportunities, from playing in pit orchestras in Kansas City, LA, Chicago and in New York both on and off Broadway to creating string arrangements for multi-platinum recording artist Bruce Springsteen.

His work has appeared on television shows such as *Lethal Weapon* (Fox), *Shut Eye* (Hulu), *King Star King* (Adult Swim), and *Mozart in the Jungle* (Amazon), as well as a variety of web shorts for such producers as The New York Times Magazine and Careerbuilder.com. He is the composer for the web series *The Next Four Years*, a New York Television Festival selection, and a number of independent films. jessewiener.com



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