

Who is Marci Waters?

Marci Waters is a beautiful woman in her late 30's although she doesn't look more than one in her late 20's! In her early twenties, along with Detective London and three other friends looking for direction in their lives, all joined the police academy together.

It wasn't long after their graduation and rookie year that most went separate ways, except for London who stayed in Dallas. Marci moved to the Northeast where as a uniform police officer she was often made the butt end of everyone's jokes because of being female on the force and for being quite an attractive woman. In fact because of the New York City female police officer had posed for Playboy a few years ago, all of her fellow officers' would say was that she should also pose for Playboy. Sometimes it was subtle remarks and others were just plain blatant about how they wanted to see her naked. Nobody took her seriously as a police officer even though she faithfully did all the tasks and assignments she was given and did them very well. Well, that is after her initial freshman year in a new city when mistakes are often made. But even though they were all minor mistakes, she was prosecuted by the other officers a hell of a lot more than any male cop new to their city. When she realized this scrutiny, endless comments and jokes about her looks, and the plain lack of respect wasn't going to change, she decided to make a change herself and went back to college where she worked for her degree. At first she wasn't sure what she wanted. She still loved investigating crimes and although she never got the official opportunity for a major crime, like murder, rape, abduction, etc., as a uniformed cop, she worked her "beat" and when a major crime took place that was in her district she often would ask questions and try and figure it out while staying out of the way. When thinking about all of this and how much she wanted to continue in some capacity, she decided to get into medical research with the possibility of returning to the police force to work in their forensic department.

That is exactly what she did. After earning her Bachelor's degree she did go to work for another police department in another new city, Baltimore. She continued her graduate work in college while working as a junior in the forensics department. The razzing and jokes happened a little in the beginning and then quickly came to a stop. Except for the normal freshman ribbing every time she or others in the department got a guess wrong, or messed something up! But at least it wasn't demeaning and all about her looks and body. This group was more mature and included two other women. Although she would laugh with them, inside she would still be upset. Not at being made fun of, but she was a bit of a perfectionist. Partly because of her nature but just as much as she felt she had to do everything twice as good just to be recognized and get the credit she deserved and earned through her work, dedication, and perseverance. Nothing extra, nothing more than that which was so freely given to the male officers doing half the work back when she wore the uniform.

Marci continued to work her way up in the ranks and amazingly, with the time and energy she had after work, she completed her graduate studies and her dissertation to earn her Ph.D. During those hectic times she also met a guy while studying at a local coffee house. He made the right moves and seemed to be a really nice and down to earth kind of guy once you got past the tailored outfits and perfect smile. Marci was smitten and after a brief courtship they moved in together. And soon after that he proposed to her. Marci said yes and all the arrangements were being made. It was a major big deal and did take time planning as he came from "old money" and his mother and sister had to do everything just right. And it did look just like it was suppose to with a cathedral wedding and then a huge reception in his parent's summertime home in the Hamptons. Although it was more of a modern day castle than a home!

During this time her fiancé, Graham, changed and suddenly seemed as if the guy she met disappeared. It became very clear that once they married he was expecting her to become the model wife and future mother to his children, to carry on his name, as was expected among all of the other "old money" Ivy League family structures. No longer would he "allow" her to work and she was required to become the social and event planner or hostess that his mother and sister

were. This caused a lot of stress and eventual tension between them. Even though she would compromise on some situations, Graham never compromised. It was becoming too much to handle.

But the day of the wedding suddenly was upon her. And with a fake smile, a fake so good no one else could tell, she dressed and walked down that aisle as a most beautiful bride in the huge Catholic cathedral that saw the wedding of generations of Graham's family. Marci was in place next to Graham as the priest performed the ceremony. This went on for sometime and Marci wasn't expecting it to drag on as she has never seen a Catholic wedding service except on television and had no idea it would take what seemed like an eternity. This only gave her time to think and that would prove to be the needle that broke the camel's back. Before the "I do's" she looked right at Graham and although he didn't want to admit it he knew what was coming. She apologized and ran out of the church.

The next couple of years she put everything into her work and had no social life except on the few occasions she gave in to her colleagues twisting her arm to come out with them and have drinks. And the only other time she was around groups of people was when she was at the gym working out. There she put a lot of focus on fitness, health and really got into a class in defensive combat! Just like when she is with those she works with in the bars she gets men hitting on her here in the gym. But every guy who made his moves on the beautiful Marci was shot down in flames! She wasn't interested in any relationship and wondered if any real men still existed. Usually when contemplating this, her thoughts turned to her dear old friend, London.

Time came for promotions and she was passed by every time she applied for a higher position in the forensics department. The captain of the department eventually did promote her to be his unofficial second in command but even that took a lot longer than it should have. Marci was good and she solved a lot of hard to figure cases. Don't know if it was that the captain didn't want to lose her to another department, his ego, or just fear she would eventually get his job, but he tried to keep her down even though it was her name in the newspapers when the cases were solved.

When it became too evident that she wasn't going to get anything more she looked for a leadership position with other departments and to keep away from the captain's reach of influence she had to search in other cities where she could be evaluated for her talent and work. She looked for months and months and even interviewed a few times in different cities across the country but none hired her. Then came an opening back home in Dallas, Texas! She applied and before she knew it, she was hired. So began another new chapter in her life, but the difference this time was it was one she looked forward to with familiarity and excitement! So she packed up and moved home to accept the job as head of the Dallas Police Departments' Forensic Science team.

Of course she inquired about her dear old friend London and wanted to see him as soon as possible. She learned he was a homicide detective and immediately went to see if he was in. Marci knew of his tragic loss that all happened while she was in the middle of that damn relationship and wedding plans with Graham. He would not allow her to go see London at that time. She worried that London would never forgive her and therefore never contacted him even after her infamous run out of the church.

Marci also was aware of London's opinions of the news media and more importantly, for the forensics department through news media reports and from friends she still had in Dallas that she kept in contact with primarily over the phone. So she knew she was walking on egg shells for not staying in touch and for being one of those forensics detectives, but she risked it all to be able to hopefully rekindle the friendship she had with London and had missed a lot over the years. She decided not to tell him everything right away and would wait for the right time.

This is where Marci first enters our story in the screenplay, "London Time."

Marci made it over to the homicide department and found London. Wow! She wasn't sure if it was just the longing for a dear friend who understood her, the fact she was celibate for the past couple of years, or destiny, that filled a hole inside her as soon as she first laid eyes on London. She played it cool as only she could and fortunately London was receptive to her. She saw London and not his wheelchair which is a little bit more common from people who knew him before his accident, but for her, his wheelchair was nothing more than the color of his eyes, a part of him, but not the whole. Although that might not be a fair comparison since she always loved his eyes that were a lot more beautiful to look at! London suggested they meet up for dinner that night and catch up on everything with each other. Marci happily agreed and sang a little song inside as she walked away with a little extra swing in her step. She was conscious of it and it felt good to freely use some of her abundant feminine allure that she had been repressing for years, but it was not over the top and it did as she hoped it would in keeping London's attention all the way down the hall! And it certainly did not escape that of his younger partner, Detective Richmond when he entered the hall just as she was leaving! Tonight she will tell London why she was back in Dallas and her job that she loved so well. Surely he will understand or at least accept?!

The rest can be found in the screenplay, "London Time." But for those who want to know more about Marci here are a few points about her that come up in the screenplay story.

- Marci is a strong and a forceful woman when she needs to be. This is displayed and magnified in the course of dealing with her new position as head of the forensics department, and the resentment from some of her new colleagues because she was hired from outside the department, her relationship with the man they all semi-jokingly call Evil London, and her specific details in processing a crime scene, all causes contention right away. But Marci makes it clear where she stands and how their jobs and the investigations of each crime scene are a lot more important than their feelings. She earns their respect and acceptance as their new leader.
- Marci is instrumental in helping London deal with his recurring nightmare of the night he lost his wife and child, and became paralyzed by the drunk driver. This is very significant since before her arrival he had contemplated and even attempted suicide to escape the terrible memory of the tragedy.
- She can handle herself despite the stereotypes of her Cover Girl looks and when the action begins she not only holds her own but often does even more! This is evident when the time comes to get the person she and London know, but cannot prove for one reason or another, is guilty of the murders. She can handle a weapon, kick in doors and kick some ass, all with purpose. She has chose to learn and excel when facing the challenges in her life and they all have made her what she is now. This is why she is respected and either admired or feared. Today she has the kind of confidence that is earned and she uses it without flaunting. She is, by no doubt, beautiful and dangerous!
- Marci also knows and shows her softer side when she takes care of the bruising on London's chest. Marci has many qualities and among all of her surroundings of toughness and ugliness of the world, especially in her work, she hasn't lost her desire to help others in a motherly way! And even though she has resisted displaying her feminine side to combat the unfair discrimination and treatment she has been stereotyped in the past, she has no problem expressing it now. This becomes evident in her personal life as she and London begin a romantic relationship that includes the physical nature, although with little modifications, as they make love for the first time.

- Marci is strong in her personal life. When Lori Love, the local illegal drug provider for the entire area, expresses her interests in London with curiosity because she never thought of a man in a wheelchair with a touch of lust and desire, Marci makes her points about London clear and at the same time keeps her composure even though it is burning her up inside!
- Marci is also a wonderful diplomat. She is a level headed person and the only one that can settle London down and smooth out situations such as when she and London are in the parking lot of the Hard Rock Café and ambushed by a tv news reporter. And despite his job being on the line, London goes on one of his tirades about the news media while the cameras are turned on! Thanks to Marci he will have a job the next day!
- She has this way of being ready to deal with situations at a blink of an eye. And usually, not always, but usually is right on the mark. She relies on her instinct and it rarely lets her down.
- Marci knows the positive and negative side effects of her appearance and has learned how to turn it into a life affirming lesson. She acknowledges that many see her as beautiful, sexy, and very attractive, but doesn't always agree and is only something she actually worries about when she is getting ready to go out with someone she cares about, like London! As soon as people spend 5 minutes wither all the stereotypes are forgotten. Much like it is for London when people get to know him they forget the stereotypes of him in a wheelchair. This is one connection among many they relate to each other that is unspoken but very powerful. Marci is 100% woman and is well rounded regardless of how many men look at her only as a sex object. She handles it as she does with so many other aspects of her life, sometimes with wit, sarcasm, or head on for what it really is and setting it in its proper perspective.

There is no doubt by the end of "London Time" just how important Marci is on many levels from her job as a crime scene investigator, her position within the team as a leader, and within all the facets of her relationships with London.

Clearly they make each other better and feeling more complete. They definitely belong together and it is obvious that they will continue to work side by side, as equals with their own talents that compliment the other both professionally and in their personal life together!