

[Marci Waters](#) is a beautiful woman in her late 30's although she doesn't look more than one in her late 20's! Along with Detective London and three other friends they 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 her being female on the force and quite frankly she is a very attractive woman. In fact shortly after the New York City female police officer had posed for Playboy a few years ago, all that 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. When she realized this wasn't going to change she decided to change 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 as a uniformed cop she often would ask questions and try and figure it out while staying out of the way. She then decided to get into medical research with the possibility of returning to the police force in their forensic department.

In fact that is what she did. After graduating she did go to work for another police department in Baltimore. She continued her graduate work in college as she worked as a junior in the forensics department. The razzing and jokes 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 a few other women.

Marci continued to work her way up in the ranks so to speak and finished her PHD in school. She met a guy while studying at a local coffee house. He made the right moves and seemed to be out of the ordinary 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. What a big deal and did take some time planning as he did come from "old money" and his mother and sister had to do everything just right. And it looked just like it was suppose to with a reception in the folks summertime Hampton's home. Although it was more of a castle than a home!

During this time her fiancé Graham changed and suddenly seemed as if the guy she met disappeared. Now it was becoming clear that once they married he was expecting her to become the model wife and future mother that all of the other "old money" Ivy league family structures were so damn typical of. 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 tension between them and 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 isle in the cathedral like Catholic church 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 as she has never seen a Catholic wedding service except on television and had no idea it would take what seemed an eternity. This only gave her time to think and that would prove to be 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 when her colleagues twisted her arm to come out and have drinks with them. But every guy who made his moves on the beautiful Marci was shot down in flames! She wasn't interested and wondered if any real men still existed.

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 did not want to move Marci ahead any quicker than he had to. Marci was good and she solved a lot of hard to figure cases. Don't know if it was 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 a case was solved.

This began to become too evident and Marci looked for a leadership position in other cities. She didn't want to leave the field of forensics so she knew she would only get ahead if she found an opportunity somewhere else! 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 was hired. Well it was mostly all done but the formality of signing on the dotted line. 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 got directions to the homicide department and immediately went to see if he was in. Marci knew of his loss as it 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 figured 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 the forensics department from friends she still had in Dallas and would update her whenever they spoke on the phone. So she knew she was walking on egg shells but she risked it to be able to hopefully rekindle the friendship she had with London and missed a lot over the years. She decided not to tell him everything right away and would wait for the right 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 being when 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. In fact his chair was nothing more than the color of his eyes, a part of him but not the whole. 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 herself as she walked away with a little extra strutting then she would usually. It was a conscious but not a purposely intended walk but it did keep London's attention and that of his partner Detective Richmond when he entered the hall 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 bullet points about her that come up in the screenplay.

- Marci is a strong and forceful woman. In the course of dealing with her new position as head of the forensics department and the non-conformity from some of her new colleagues who all have reasons to resent her being hired from the outside Marci makes it clear where she stands and how 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 often contemplated and even attempted suicide to escape the terrible memory and the tragedy that was caused that night.

- She can handle herself – despite her feminine appearance when the action begins she can hold her own and in fact does even more than that 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 her gun and kick in doors with a purpose. She can handle the situation as she remains an active person.
- Marci also shows her softer side when she takes care of the bruising on London's chest. Marci has many qualities and one of which is that she hasn't lost her feminine desire to help others in a motherly way! She can also go beyond mere words and show in action both in her professional life and 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 as well. When Lori Love the local drug provider for the entire area expresses her interests in London, a man in a wheelchair that she never had thought about in a desirous way before, Marci makes her points clear and at the same time shows no jealousy even though it is burning her inside!
- She is the level headed and only person that can settle London down and smooth out the situation when he goes on his tirade about the news media while the cameras are turned on!
- 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 there is positive and negative side effects to her being attractive and she doesn't let it bother her either way. The most important part is that she doesn't allow the stereotypes of a beautiful woman dominate her decisions. Although she loves to defy those stereotypes she isn't obsessed with doing so and in fact rarely thinks about it. She is a natural woman and is well rounded regardless of how many men look only to her as a sexual 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 much Marci and London belong together and is obvious that they will continue to work side by side both professionally and in their personal life together!