

An aerial photograph of a forest with a path leading to a lake. The path is a light-colored, sandy or dirt trail that winds through the trees. The forest is dense with green foliage. In the background, a body of water is visible, with a small island or peninsula in the distance. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

# In The End

A FILM BY  
SARAH KLEIN AND TOM MASON



# In The End

## SYNOPSIS

Thirty-year-old Christen faces a traumatic near death experience that forever changes the way she thinks about life.



## DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

Very few people have touched death and lived to talk about it. What does it really feel like to die? We stumbled upon Christen O'Brien's story, *What It Felt Like to Almost Die*, in late 2019. She wrote a brilliant description of a harrowing near-death experience and talked about how that experience changed her understanding of the nature of life and death. She had been given a window into something most of us never truly comprehend and we wanted to know her secrets. That curiosity became a two-year long, Covid-be-damned, attempt to tell her story.



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## DIRECTORS' BIOS



### **Sarah Klein**

Redglass Pictures co-founder Sarah Klein is an award-winning producer and director. Her early credits include the HBO documentary *Hard as Nails* and the Arte film *The Good Mother*. She created Redglass Pictures in 2008 and since then Klein has co-directed and produced many notable projects, including the New York Times short, *Miracle on 22nd Street* which was recently optioned by Tina Fey and Universal Pictures, a series of shorts for the Ken Burns PBS project *The Emperor of Maladies*, which won a DuPont Award, and a four-part video installation on Vietnam for the New York Historical Society. Klein has had the honor of interviewing: The Obamas, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, John Kerry, Michael Chabon and JJ Abrams to name a few. When not on location Klein may be found in her studio creating large-format abstract paintings with her daughter.



### **Tom Mason**

Tom Mason is the co-founder of Redglass Pictures and serves as the principal of photography and post production. Mason's cinematic approach to shorts comes from his deep roots in film and still photography, which he studied at Syracuse University. After receiving an Alexia Grant, Mason spent a year documenting the world of Russian adoption agencies. Some of the projects he has co-directed at Redglass include *George Saunders: On Story* for the Atlantic and *How to Win an Election* for The New York Times OpDocs. He was also the lead director of the large-scale installation piece Redglass did for the 2015 World Expo with Barack Obama. In addition to his work at Redglass Pictures, Mason is also an adjunct professor of digital storytelling at Columbia University's School of Journalism.



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## PRODUCTION COMPANY

Redglass Pictures is a full-service production studio.

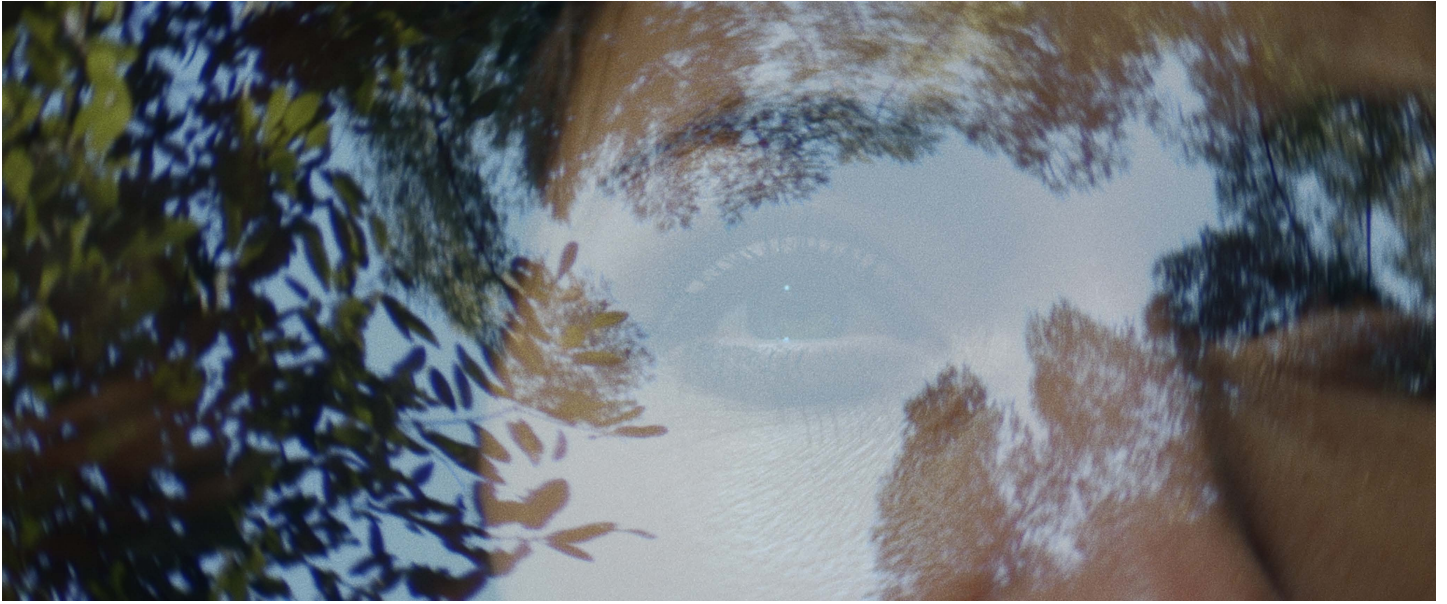
We are storytellers, problem-solvers, and visual thinkers. We approach each project asking the same basic questions we always have: How can we take this story – these people, words, ideas, and images – and turn them into something that can last and be beautiful?

We work with top brands and institutions to plan and execute big ideas. Our work has been distributed by HBO, PBS, The New York Times, and The Atlantic, and has been displayed in museums and public events all over the world. We've won a Tribeca X Award, DuPont and two Webby Awards.



# In The End

## STILLS





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## CREDITS:

**Directors** Sarah Klein, Tom Mason  
**Producer** Heather Martino  
**Editing and Cinematography** Tom Mason  
**Music** Ryan Whittier  
**Drone Operator** David Zlutnick  
**Colorist** Stephen Derluguian  
**Sound Mixing** Silver Sound  
**Re-recording Mixer** Cory Choy  
**Featuring** Christen O'Brien  
**Additional Appearances by** Scot C. Free  
Midge Asselanis  
**Filmed on Location in** Mill Valley, CA  
San Francisco, CA  
Oakland, CA  
Newark, NJ  
Montclair, NJ

## Special Thanks to:

Christen O'Brien and Paul Paulsson  
Ken Burns, Ben Gray, David Klagsbrun, Angela Matusik  
Alison Murdock, Tula and Jon Asselanis, Abhas Gupta, Patricia Piroh

## Additional Thanks to:

Anthony Alvarez, Rebecca Arora, Carrie Douglas  
Amanda Accardo, Krystal Acosta, Patricia Sizemore  
Montclair State University, Calyx Health, Express Newark, NEX

**"In the End" is inspired by Christen O'Brien's viral Medium post**  
*What It Felt Like to Almost Die.*

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## MEDIA CONTACT

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Redglass Pictures

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## TECHNICAL DETAILS

Original Title: In The End

Duration: 9 min 20 seconds

Aspect Ratio: 2.4:1

Format: 4k

Sound: Stereo

Year: 2021

Original Language: English

Countries of Production: United States

Production Company: Redglass Pictures