

Brew City Pictures

in association with

Fireheart Pictures

presents

VICTIMIZED

a short film by
Tara Plizga



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WHEN SILENCE IS A VIRTUE, SPEAK UP.

This short film follows Mandy Spencer on her journey of survival after she was sexually assaulted by her boss. Living in a “company town” in Northern Michigan where everyone relies on Austin Halloway and his steel factory, she was victim shamed and threatened but still had the courage to speak out.

While the film is fictional, the story is all too real. It symbolizes how powerful people control the narrative and take advantage of people’s weaknesses especially in small town America. With the momentum of “Me Too” I wanted to help raise awareness of other organizations that women in small towns, like the one in the film feel are in their reach. The YWCA is one of those organizations, the goal is to use *Victimized* as a platform to inspire women to speak out about sexual assault and make them aware of a safe place they can turn to for support and take back control of their narrative.

Daniella Gilbert

Thomas McCarthy



VICTIMIZED



BREAK THE SILENCE

a short film by Tara Plizga

BREW CITY PICTURES IN ASSOCIATION WITH FIREHEART PICTURES PRESENT A TARA PLIZGA FILM "VICTIMIZED"

DANIELLA GILBERT THOMAS MCCARTHY TIERZA SCACCIA AND COLLEEN GENTRY

MUSIC BY JEFFREY MICHAEL DEARY SONG BY BRANDON CALHOON EDITED BY ZACH CHAUVIN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ERIC FORAND

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER JEFFREY MICHAEL DEARY CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TARA PLIZGA AND ERIC FORAND ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS KEVIN CAUL AND TINA CAUL

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY TARA PLIZGA

TARA PLIZGA

Writer/ Director/ Executive Producer

[IMDb Profile](#)

A Michigan native, Tara has been working in the film industry for almost fifteen years and has been lucky enough to work on various projects from television to features and everything in between. Starting with an internship with Producer Jenno Topping (*Hidden Figures/ Ford v Ferrari*), and working on such films as *Up in the Air* and *Machine Gun Preacher* and more recently on the Freeform show *Pretty Little Liars*. With experience in many departments Tara has been surrounded by some of the best in the business. After taking some time off from the set to focus on her writing and study her craft as a director (and raise a couple kids) She decided to jump back in full force to write and direct *Victimized*. Accompanied by her husband, Eric Forand who is the director of photography and her childhood friend Jeffrey Michael Deary who is the executive producer and composer *Victimized* has come to life as a story of redemption for those who have the courage to speak out about sexual assault.



ERIC FORAND

Director of Photography / Co-Executive Producer

[IMDb Profile](#)

Growing up on the east coast (Connecticut), Eric started learning how to take pictures when he got his first camera at age 7. In high school, he discovered he could combine two things he loved, photography and theater lighting, into a career in the film industry. He's worked professionally in the motion picture business since 2000, first in Boston in the camera and lighting rental business, then in Los Angeles for the past 17 years as a Chief Lighting Technician for major studios in both television and theatrical and streaming features. His Hollywood experience has proved an asset in making the transition to shooting as a cinematographer, having a strong technical background has enabled him to focus his lens on all the creative aspects of cinematography.





JEFFREY MICHAEL DEARY

Composer / Executive Producer

IMDb Profile

Award winning composer, pianist and recording artist Jeffrey Michael Deary has sold over 2 million CD's and music downloads and has over 7 billion online music streams worldwide. Jeffrey has also composed or licensed original music for over 150 film, television, movie trailers and video game projects.

Jeffrey grew up in Sterling Heights, Michigan. At age 15 Jeffrey broke his right hand and could barely use it to play piano for many months which caused him to develop his left hand much more fully than many pianists. Now he is known for his dexterous two-hand counterpoint melodies. That same year Jeffrey borrowed \$1,000 from his father, went to a recording studio and made a recording of his compositions that he began selling in his high school. In two weeks he paid his dad back. The next year he made another recording. By the time he graduated, he had sold 5,000 cassettes of instrumental piano music primarily to high schoolers!

In 1996 Jeffrey created Fireheart Music. Since then he has developed his company into an independent record label and music production company where he composes, produces and releases instrumental piano and guitar albums. Under the Fireheart label, he has released more than 800 relaxation music albums and compilations worldwide.

Jeffrey relocated to the Los Angeles area in 2006 and since then has composed or provided music for many films, TV shows, movie trailers and video games. Major credits include the "Call of Duty: Black Ops III and IV" video games, "The Girl On The Train" feature film trailer, "London Has Fallen" feature film, "Cirque Du Soleil's Movi.Kanti.Revo", as well as music for Google, Paramount Pictures, Universal Studios, Asics, SyFy Channel, History Channel, ABC, ESPN, NBC and Bravo. He also plays the guitar, writes screenplays, enjoys painting, traveling, golf and has played soccer in Europe. He now resides in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA with his wife and 3 kids.



BRANDON CALHOON

Songwriter - "I'm Going Down"

IMDb Profile

Brandon Calhoon kick-started his music career in 2005 when he became the dark horse favorite on the short lived "RockStar" CBS TV series, "RockStar: INXS." Over the next two years, the buzz he created on "RockStar" resulted in healing gigs for numerous live shows throughout Southern California. After the show, Brandon returned to Michigan where he wrote and recorded several albums. He was consequently nominated for several Detroit Music Awards, including "Best New Artist" and "Best Rock Record." In 2010 his song "Detroit City" was featured on FX's hit show "Justified." In 2015 his song "Lost and Found" was chosen as the theme song for CBS's new show "Battle Creek."



VICTIMIZED

CAST

DANIELLA GILBERT

“Mandy”

[IMDb Profile](#)

Daniella studied the Meisner technique of acting at the William Esper Studio’s summer intensive in NYC. Originally from Toledo, Ohio, she relocated to Chicago where she is currently completing her undergraduate studies at DePaul University. Daniella continues her training in the city with Black Box Acting and Acting Studio Chicago. She thanks her family for their support in her continued dedication to the performing arts.

VICTIMIZED

CAST

THOMAS MCCARTHY

“Austin”

[IMDb Profile](#)

Tom was born just outside of San Francisco, California and grew up in suburban Detroit, Michigan. Upon graduating from the University of South Carolina he moved to Chicago to embark a career in financial services. He then shifted gears after deciding to take his first acting class at age forty-two. He moved to Los Angeles to pursue an acting career where he continued his training with both theater and camera based classes while building his acting resume. He recently moved back to Chicago to get married and continue his acting career focusing on independent films



VICTIMIZED

CAST

TIERZA SCACCIA

“Deanne”

[IMDb Profile](#)

Tierza Scaccia is an American actress and TV host currently based out of Chicago. She is a native New Yorker and has a BFA in acting. She is currently filming the indie-horror, *The Castle*, opposite Lew Temple and Mathew Ashford. And has acted in the indie-horror cult favorites: *Heaven is Hell* and *Wolfman vs Piranha*. She has graced countless stages in Chicago performing improv and sketch comedy.





VICTIMIZED

CAST

COLLEEN GENTRY

“Jean”

[IMDb Profile](#)

Colleen is a film, commercial, theater, voice and pastel artist and has appeared in over 38 films. Her first television performance was in Prayers for Bobby with Sigourney Weaver. She was born in Chicago and now lives in the Detroit area with her family. Colleen was honored to be offered the role of Jean in *Victimized* and to help raise awareness about assault and the emotional pain of the victims who find their strength to speak up through this poignant and powerful story.

VICTIMIZED

PEOPLE ARE TALKING

A compelling female story made by a female filmmaker
that deserves to be seen.

- Sam Kadi, Director, Producer, Writer, TEDx speaker

A story of survival and courage, a must see.

- Karen Romero VP Production- Fox 21 Television Studios

At the crossroads of filmmaking and advocacy,
Tara Plizga's "Victimized" is a short-but-strong survivor's tale.

-Bryan Holdman - Writer/ Producer Pretty Little Liars, Step- Up: High Water

“There's tension and empathy for each character,
intrigue and emotional tension.
That's a lot to deliver in such a short film. Bravo.”

VICTIMIZED

ON LOCATION

VICTIMIZED was filmed entirely on location in the northern lower peninsula of Michigan in August of 2019.

Brew City Pictures thanks all the gracious land owners who allowed us to film on their property to assist in helping this cause.

Filmed in Onaway & Gaylord Michigan.



VICTIMIZED

the producers wish to thank the following organizations for their support

eliminating racism
empowering women

ywca

west central michigan

