

2 HEARTS Production Notes

Based on a True Story

Written by: Robin U. Russin and Veronica Hool

Based on the book *All My Tomorrows* by Eric Gregory

Produced by Conrad Hool and Lance Hool

Directed by Lance Hool

Filmed in Vancouver, BC, Canada & Oahu, Hawaii

- The project first came into existence after Conrad Hool met the real life Jorge and Leslie Bacardi (of the famous rum family) several years ago, and heard their unique and inspirational life experience. Conrad immediately told them there was a movie in their story. He brought the idea to his brother, and lifelong business partner, Lance Hool, who recruited his daughter, Veronica Hool to work on the screenplay.
- 2 Hearts is a story about two families, made by a strong family – the Hools. Lance directed. Conrad and Lance produced. Award winning Casting Director and Conrad's daughter, Carla Hool, joined the team. Talented musician and singer-song writer Brett Hool, Lance's son, wrote the majority of the songs and composed some of the music score.
- Lance kept Veronica by his side for the duration of pre-production, production, and post. Veronica also directed a day of second unit in Hawaii. She considered this her master's degree in filmmaking, from the best teacher she could ask for.
- There was a strong consensus across the cast and crew that everyone really enjoyed working on this film. They felt a part of the family.
- Many of the cast and crew had personal stories and connections relating to the subject matter of the film, and felt they were a part of something bigger.
- Lance, Veronica, and Carla met Jacob Elordi in LA before his film *The Kissing Booth* had come out on Netflix. Jacob was prepared to leave LA and head back to his native Australia. The Hools believed he was going to be a star, and urged him to hold on. Not long after, *The Kissing Booth* came out and Jacob rose to #1 on IMDB.
- The Bacardis visited the set in Vancouver, and the real life Eric and Grace Gregory visited the set in Hawaii. Both families were filled with gratitude and emotion when they saw their stories coming to life. It was extremely touching for the cast and crew to interact with them. Both families did cameos in the film as background.
- The plane that was used in the film to take Jorge and Leslie to the Mayo Clinic was the actual plane that the real life Jorge and Leslie used. The Captain shown in the film was actually the real life Captain that flew them to the Mayo Clinic many years before.
- The weather throughout the shoot completely cooperated. To the point where the only day it ever rained in Vancouver (a city that typically gets a lot of rain) was the day the funeral was filmed – it being the only day rain

- was actually required for a scene. Director, producers, and cast thanked Chris for this, and always felt he was looking out for them.
- During the first kiss scene between Chris (Jacob) and Sam (Tiera Skovbye), director Lance, being aware of the natural chemistry between the two stars, had fun with letting the take run long.
 - Before shooting in Hawaii, the team received a blessing from a local Hawaiian spiritual man and woman. Everyone was very moved and many were brought to tears.
 - All of the cast and crew stayed at the Kahala Hilton in Oahu. This is the same hotel that director/producer Lance stayed at when he was an actor filming *Hawaii Five-0* in 1975. The Kahala treated the cast and crew very well. Some of the scenes in the film were shot on the premises.
 - The band *We Are The West*, who is featured in the film, played a live show in downtown Honolulu. Many of the cast and crew, who by this time had grown very close, came out to support.
 - The first and last scene of the movie was shot on a secluded beach in Hawaii. The shot was on Jacob, who plays Chris Gregory. During the setup a very large sea turtle swam into the shot very close to shore. The turtle stayed in shot swimming near Jacob during the whole afternoon. Finally when the last shot was completed, the turtle swam away. The cast and crew learned that in Hawaiian culture, the sea turtle is the highest-level of spiritual reincarnation. Everyone felt the presence of Chris Gregory, and a form of protection from the sea turtle. The sea turtle can be seen in the last shot of the film as the credits roll. Interesting note: Grace Gregory, Chris' mother, has been a collector of turtle figures and jewelry since she was very young.
 - The Hool brothers, who have been in the film business for over 50 years, knew that they were making a very important film with *2 HEARTS*. Everyone involved felt emotionally invested. The Hools believe that if the film delivers the message it contains to the audience, their heartfelt goal will be achieved.