

The Story

Aurora "Rory" Freeman has a special gift. She can watch the human history anywhere in the world occur exactly as it happened. Though she has kept this ability secret from everyone but her father Tyler, and his right hand man Dexter, it played no small part in building their fortunes as treasure hunters, and establishing her current fame as a renowned author of historical novels. But there is a price for her ability, witnessing long forgotten moments of human suffering, causes just as much suffering in Rory.

The ever rebellious Rory shunned treasure hunting after her father's death, but a surprise visit introduces her to Eliza Cruz, a self proclaimed legend hunter, and her well presented business partner, Keo Noguchi. They propose that Rory help them find the Jar which was responsible for unleashing the plagues of misery on humanity, better known as "Pandora's Box." Eliza's ultimate goal; to free the mythical creature "Hope" from inside in infamous Jar. Though quick to dismiss their mission as lunacy, Rory soon finds herself roped in by Dexter's pressing need to be back in the field for one last adventure, and her publisher's demand that she write their story into another bestseller.

Guided by first hand accounts from an ancient society, Eliza leads a motley team on a race around the Mediterranean to recover Pandora's Jar from its final resting place. Rory's abilities, masked as mere instinct and insight, prove invaluable to their efforts. Rory maintains her casual obstinance as their journey continues, but unexpected travel through a city with a tragic past brings her abilities, and her weaknesses, to the surface.

Now aware of Rory's priceless gift, the controlling Eliza tightens her grip, assuring that Rory will lead her to Pandora's Jar and the world healing belief that she is certain the release of "Hope" will bring. Rory soon finds an unexpected ally in the ever calm and controlled Keo. As loyalties in the group fray, and the challenges they face become increasingly dangerous, finding the cursed object proves a more likely reality than Rory ever thought possible. Their path soon leads back to the most enigmatic find Rory's father ever made, putting her face to face with her own past.



Why tell this story

I have been musing on the philosophical concept of 'Hope trapped in a jar' for quite a while. Is Hope a plague or a blessing? If the myth is true, and the creature Hope was never released into the world, do we even understand what Hope really means? I love to consider the potential existence of myths and the supernatural, and how these ideas evolve out of the world as we understand it, and the dark corners we have yet to shed light upon. I'm compelled to create stories that explore how a belief in the possibility of something extraordinary, can drive our desires, our achievements, and help push humanity forward.

The core of *The Search* is also about what women are burdened with; by history, by society, by themselves, and how they carry and overcome those burdens. Rory and Eliza's journey explores the complexity of women's relationships to each other, to the influences in their lives, and to their own expectations. I feel a strong pull to create female protagonists who are not just strong and admirable, but also realistic, relatable, vulnerable and flawed. I want audiences to be able to reflect upon their own journeys, as they watch these heroines undertake theirs.





















Aurora Freeman







Rosa Salazar

Aubrey Plaza

Zoe Kravitz

Aurora "Rory" Freeman is an author of sumptuous historic novels and daughter of infamous treasure hunter, Tyler Freeman. Often contentious and highly suspicious of others, she leads an isolated life, often on the move. Rory is honest, unabashed, a bit rough around the edges and keeps her extraordinary abilities entirely under wraps.

Rory wrestles with the vulnerability created by her gift. Not only is she physically compromised by it, but it has made her see herself as a mere tool for the benefit of others. It causes her to shut people out with attitude, and prevents her from trusting others enough to get close to them. Joining Eliza's quest for "Hope", forces Rory out of her self imposed shell and requires her to expose her abilities, and vulnerabilities, to ultimately summon a strength she didn't know she had. This journey also brings her face to face with her own past, allowing her to understand how much she, and not just her abilities, meant to her father, healing a wound that was left after his death.

Eliza Cruz







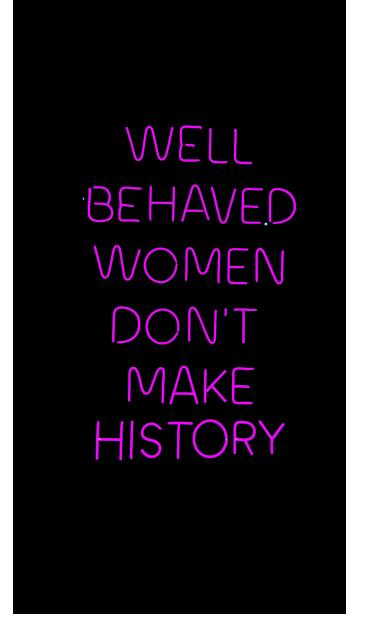
Penelope Cruz

Lucy Liu

Charlize Theron

Eliza is the instigator *The Search* and every possibility and danger that comes along with it. She is a ruthless legend hunter with expectations of epic proportions and the means to meet them. Nothing will stop her quest to obtain the mythical and prove the impossible, and she won't be satisfied by second rate discoveries along the way.

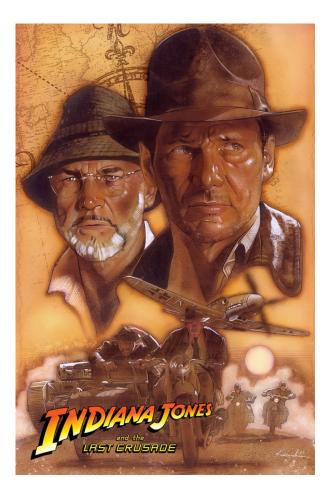
Eliza is driven by a desire for the unattainable which, by its very nature, makes her push beyond reasonable boundaries. Her interest in Rory sits in a confusing region between admiration, avarice, desire, and possession. On the surface, her goal appears to be megalomaniacal, but her true desire is to heal the broken world with "Hope."



Comparables







A haunting super natural gift, a family history rife with mystery and intrigue, and an adventure around the world to uncover a myth

Nriter Margaret M. Mac Donald



Having lived and worked in Los Angeles, New York and Sydney, my twenty years of experience spans several roles in filmmaking and the arts. A background in production design has helped me to hone a uniquely visual voice, which conveys a tangible sense of place, inviting readers into the story world.

My body of written work includes twelve features, three series and a novel trilogy. I have written on spec, on assignment, and adapted my own material to suit production and publication. I have also directed four short films and am working toward directing my first feature. I've been lucky enough to earn a few laurels along the way, and hope to earn more in the future.

I love telling stories that are character driven, and enjoy the challenge of infusing them with a mix of genres and a twist of the fantastic. I am passionate about creating films which transport people into other worlds, and help to make this one a little more extraordinary.

