

TO~LA YUMA BACKGROUND

THE OPERATIVE AND THE DESERTORA

Following my release from the machinery of the South Texas jail, I crossed paths with a young Cuban *desertora* at a bodega soccer broadcast. We were both survivors of distinct, violent worlds. We quickly bonded over the terrifying, predatory realities of her long trek to the United States—a connection that evolved into a deep, meaningful love affair. Then, the system struck. She missed a date, vanished from her apartment, and was swept away in a sudden ICE raid, erased without a trace.

THE REALITY OF THE JOURNEY

While Hollywood sanitizes the immigration narrative with safe political platitudes, the ground reality of the migrant trail is a cold, predatory gauntlet:

- **The Predator Network:** Asylum seekers aren't just fleeing a regime; they are hunted across borders by lethal coyotes who view human trafficking as a blood sport.
- **Administrative Disappearance:** The system doesn't differentiate between threats and survivors. In a flash, an ICE sweep can vanish a human being completely from your life.
- **The Broken Focus:** *Interceptar drogas, no personas.* The state machinery wastes its operational might hunting the desperate rather than interdicting the poison destroying the country.

THE CREATIVE MANIFESTO

LA YUMA is born directly from the echoes of that vanished life and the raw trauma of the human pipeline.

- **The Storytelling Edge:** I do not guess at the psychological toll of flight, the terror of being hunted, or the sudden horror of state erasure. My work strips away the political talking points to deliver a visceral, cinematic thriller capturing the "feel of the real."
- **The Metamorphosis:** When a survivor is pushed past the brink by a predatory pack, the survival instinct overrides everything. She doesn't just endure—she becomes the violence.

THE MISSION BEYOND THE SCREEN

- **Friends of Caritas Cuba:** Please donate. As the largest worldwide donor to Caritas Cuba, this organization focuses entirely on providing critical humanitarian relief and support directly to the vulnerable souls within Cuba.