



A Three-Part Limited Series

THE RESTLESS ONE

Created by
Nina Johnsen

The poster features a man with long dark hair and a woman with long blonde hair in a desert landscape. The man is wearing a brown fringed leather jacket and has his arms around the woman. The woman is wearing a dark denim jacket and is leaning her head against the man. In the background, a long straight road stretches into the distance under a sunset sky with clouds. The overall mood is romantic and adventurous.

THE RESTLESS ONE

— ◆ —
ONE ROAD
CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING

Logline

A self-destructive New York model forms an unlikely friendship with a quiet Hopi silversmith who has spent years running from the life he left behind. When an impulsive road trip takes them across America and back toward his home in Arizona, they are forced to confront the lives they have been avoiding and discover that sometimes home isn't a place, but a person.



FORMAT

Title

The Restless One

Language

English

Format

Three-Part Limited Series

Setting

New York City & Arizona, USA

Episodes

3 × 60–80 minutes

Themes

Longing
Belonging
Forgiveness
Home
Love

Genre

Romantic Drama • Character Drama • Road Drama



THE PREMISE

The Restless One is a three-part limited series about longing.

Set between the streets of New York City and the deserts of Arizona, the series follows Heidi Hauk, a struggling model whose life is quietly falling apart beneath the surface, and Ahote Honanie, a Hopi silversmith who has spent years avoiding the family, marriage and responsibilities he left behind.

Heidi is her own worst enemy. Impulsive, emotionally reckless and constantly searching for validation, she has learned to mistake attention for love and desire for genuine connection.

Beneath her confidence lies a woman deeply afraid of abandonment. Her father left when she was young, and the home she still has in New York is one she refuses to return to.

When Heidi meets Ahote, she encounters something completely unfamiliar.

Safety.



Premise cont.

Unlike the men Heidi has known before, Ahote sees beyond her appearance and the image she has spent years creating. When others treat her vulnerability as entertainment, he protects her without asking for anything in return.

For Heidi, that changes everything.

But Ahote is running too.

Years earlier, he left Arizona, abandoning his wife, his family and the future expected of him. When Heidi unexpectedly becomes the reason he finally returns home, he is forced to face the consequences of everything he left behind.

As their friendship deepens into love, their greatest fears begin to collide: Heidi is terrified she will once again be abandoned, while Ahote must decide whether he is brave enough to choose a life of his own.

Their journey is not simply about whether they will fall in love.

It is about whether Heidi can believe she is worth choosing and whether Ahote can finally allow himself to choose.

At its heart, *The Restless One* is a story about two imperfect people searching for a place to belong.

Through friendship, heartbreak, forgiveness and love, they slowly discover that home is not always a place.

Sometimes it is a person.





AHOTE - QUIET. GROUNDED. CARRYING MORE THAN HE SHOWS.



HEIDI - RESTLESS. BEAUTIFUL. SEARCHING FOR HOME.



ARIZONA - WILD. SACRED. THE LAND THAT HEALS.



WORLD & TONE

A Story Between Two Worlds

At its heart, The Restless One is a story about two people from completely different worlds who discover that they share the same loneliness.

Set between the restless energy of New York City and the vast landscapes of Arizona, the series explores the tension between modern life and tradition, movement and stillness, freedom and responsibility.

New York represents possibility, reinvention and escape.
Arizona represents roots, family and belonging.

Neither world is portrayed as right or wrong.

Both are beautiful.

Both are flawed.

And both characters must learn that belonging is not about choosing between two worlds but finding the courage to build a life of their own.



Heidi Hawk

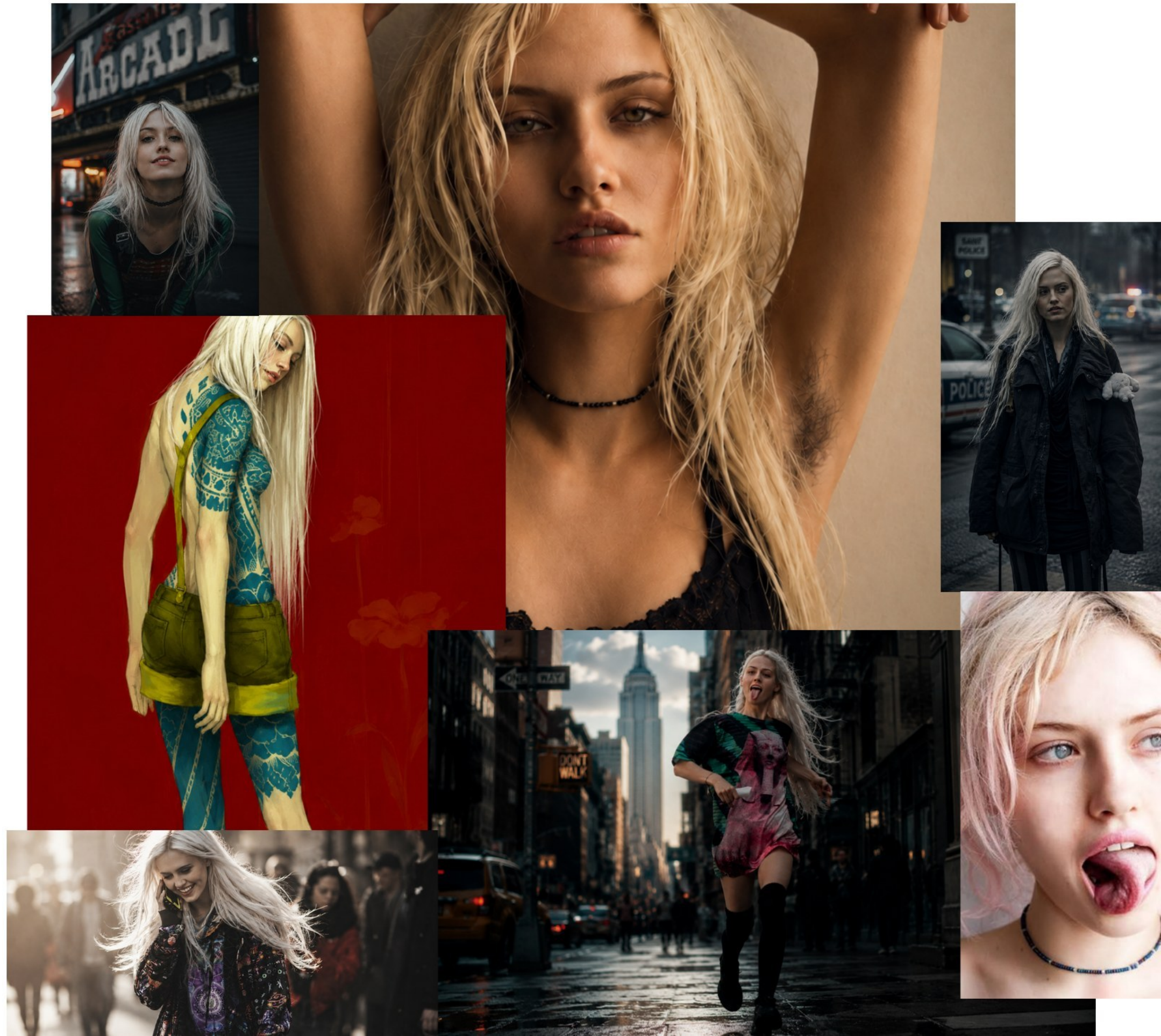
A 28 year old restless model from Brooklyn, New York.

With striking white hair, an artist's eye and a heart that never learned where home is, Heidi drifts through life searching for something she cannot name.

She hides loneliness behind sarcasm, impulsive choices and reckless freedom, yet beneath the chaos is someone desperate to be truly seen.

She has learned not to expect anyone to stay.

Until Ahote changes everything.



What Heidi wants:

Love.

What Heidi actually needs:

Safety.

She searches for validation through relationships, sex and attention, mistaking desire for genuine connection. The image she presents to the world is carefully constructed, yet beneath it lies a deep fear of being abandoned.

When Heidi meets Ahote, she encounters something she has rarely known: care without expectation. He sees beyond the performance, protects her when she is most vulnerable and asks for nothing in return.

Throughout the series, Heidi's journey is not simply about finding love. It is about learning that being desired is not the same as being loved and that being loved means allowing herself to be truly known.

By the end of the story she is still flawed, still emotional and still imperfect.

But for the first time in her life, she believes she is someone worth choosing.



AINL
pa
vite



HEIDI
restless soul
daydreamer
too sensitive
too loud
too much
or not enough?
who even knows



I have
this restless
heart
and this
wild soul
and they both
scare me
sometimes

model
but not
the kind
you put
in a box



I'm not
lost.
I'm just
not found
yet.



plans:
1. get out
2. breathe
3. figure it
out later



random
thoughts
- stars
- ocean
- silence
- freedom
- you



seeking
something
real in a
world that's
so fake.



Ahote Honanie

A 30-year-old Hopi silversmith from Kykotsmovi, Arizona.

Ahote grew up surrounded by family, tradition and the quiet beauty of the Southwest.

He crafts Hopi jewelry by hand, believing every piece should carry a story.

Gentle by nature but deeply guarded, Ahote has spent years caught between the life expected of him and the life he wants for himself.

**He knows exactly where he comes from.
He is far less certain where he belongs.**

Until a restless girl from Brooklyn makes him question everything.





What he carries:
Duty.

What he longs for:
Freedom.

Born and raised in Kykotsmovi, Arizona, Ahote grew up surrounded by family, tradition and responsibility. A gifted silversmith and artist, he eventually left behind his wife, his family and the future expected of him in search of a life he could choose for himself.

Unlike Heidi, Ahote hides his wounds in silence.
Where Heidi turns toward chaos, Ahote retreats from it.

When Heidi enters his life, she unsettles everything he has carefully learned to control. Beneath her confidence, he recognizes a loneliness that mirrors his own but her restless courage also awakens something in him he has spent years suppressing.

Through Heidi, Ahote begins to rediscover the parts of himself buried beneath years of duty and expectation. She brings him back to the home he abandoned but returning forces him to confront the difference between responsibility and surrendering his own life.

And for the first time in his life... he chooses the life he truly wants.





Character contrast

HEIDI *AHOTE*

New York	<i>Arizona</i>
Chaos	<i>Control</i>
Speaks	<i>Listens</i>
Blonde	<i>Dark</i>
City	<i>Earth</i>
Impulsive	<i>Deliberate</i>
Emotional	<i>Reserved</i>
Noise	<i>Silence</i>
Fashion	<i>Craftsmanship</i>
Attention	<i>Presence</i>
Provokes	<i>Observes</i>
Runs	<i>Stays</i>
Instinct	<i>Duty</i>
Fire	<i>Stone</i>
Movement	<i>Stillness</i>
Desire	<i>Restraint</i>

TWO RESTLESS PEOPLE

A man and a woman are sitting on a bed, facing each other and holding hands. The man has long dark hair and is wearing a dark shirt. The woman has blonde hair and is wearing a dark top. They are in a dimly lit room with a window in the background showing some light. The overall mood is intimate and contemplative.

Heidi and Ahote appear to be opposites.

She moves toward chaos.

He retreats from it.

She searches for connection in other people.

He keeps people at a distance.

She comes from a home she refuses to return to.

He comes from a home he has spent years avoiding.

Heidi is terrified of being left.

Ahote is terrified of choosing.

Yet beneath their differences lies the same restlessness.

He gives her something she has rarely known: **safety.**

She gives him something he has forgotten: **movement.**

Through Ahote, Heidi discovers she can be still without being alone.

Through Heidi, Ahote finds the courage to return to the life he has been running from.

Their transformation is often revealed not through words, but through small choices.

When Ahote first returns to Arizona with Heidi, he holds her hand until his brother sees them. Then he lets go.

When Heidi returns a year later, his brother sees them together again.

This time, Ahote reaches for her hand.

Nothing needs to be said.

The choice has already been made.

They are both restless.

They are simply running in opposite directions.

Timeless Storytelling

While contemporary in setting, *The Restless One* aims to feel timeless rather than trendy.

The series is inspired by character-driven films that continue to resonate years after their release because of their emotional honesty rather than their relevance to a particular moment in time.

The visual style favors sincerity over irony and emotional authenticity over spectacle.

Influences

*The tone draws inspiration from the emotional intimacy of films such as *Lost in Translation*, *Buffalo '66*, *Dogfight* and *Thelma & Louise*, while embracing the patient romantic storytelling often found in Chinese and Korean dramas.*

Like many of these stories, *The Restless One* understands that anticipation can be as powerful as fulfillment.

The audience is invited to wait, hope and long alongside the characters.







Beauty in Ordinary Moments

The series finds beauty in everyday experiences.

A road trip.

A sandwich.

A bus ride.

A teddy bear.

Dyeing her hair.

A red thread.

Rather than relying on grand romantic gestures, *The Restless One* builds its emotional impact through ordinary moments that gather meaning over time, a meal, a touch, an object, a shared silence until the smallest things become inseparable from the people we love.

The audience should finish the series with the feeling that they have spent time with real people whose lives continue beyond the final scene.



Episode Guide

PART ONE

Title: “The Party.”

A restless New York model and a quiet Native American silversmith unexpectedly cross paths in New York City.

Heidi lives fast, keeping people close without ever truly letting them in. Ahote has built a quieter life around a past he refuses to return to.

What begins as an unlikely friendship becomes something neither of them knows how to name. With Ahote, Heidi experiences something unfamiliar: safety. With Heidi, Ahote begins to feel alive again.

Then one impulsive decision changes the direction of both their lives.

They leave New York together.

PART TWO

Title: “The Road Trip.”

On the road across America, the distance between Heidi and Ahote begins to disappear.

Away from New York, Heidi slowly lets down the defenses that have kept everyone at a distance, while Ahote reveals the family, marriage and responsibilities he left behind.

Their friendship deepens into something neither is ready to admit until the journey forces them to confront what they mean to each other.

But Arizona is waiting, and with it the life Ahote once abandoned.

For the first time, love asks something of them.

Arizona changes everything.

PART THREE

Title: “The Homecoming.”

In Arizona, Ahote is forced to choose between the life expected of him and the woman who has become impossible to leave behind.

When he cannot choose Heidi, she leaves convinced once again that she is not someone worth choosing.

Time passes. Heidi builds another life, but neither distance, marriage nor success can erase what they found in each other. When she finally returns to Arizona, she does so without knowing whether Ahote will choose her this time.

But Ahote has spent his life running too. To be together, Heidi must believe she is worthy of being chosen and Ahote must finally become brave enough to choose.

The final chapter is not about finding each other.

It is about choosing each other.



THE
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ONE ROAD
CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING

A THREE PART LIMITED SERIES

THE RESTLESS ONE

— SOME ROADS CHANGE EVERYTHING —



TARGET AUDIENCE

Primary Audience:

Women and men aged 25–55 who enjoy character-driven romantic dramas and slow-burn storytelling.

Fans of:

Normal People
Outlander
Buffalo 66
Thelma & Louise
Korean dramas
Chinese dramas

Secondary Audience:

Viewers who enjoy road movies, independent cinema, character studies and emotionally honest storytelling.



We live in a time where we have never had more ways to reach each other.

Yet genuine human connection has rarely felt more fragile.

The Restless One explores a universal longing that technology cannot replace:

To be truly seen.

To feel understood.

To find a place where we belong.

In a world built around instant gratification, this series celebrates something increasingly rare:

Patience.

Presence.

Connection that is earned.

Because the greatest love stories are not about falling in love quickly.

They are about what happens when two people finally become brave enough to stay.

Why this series?





Creator statement

I've always been fascinated by longing.

The joy when two characters finally end up together and the feeling that somewhere in the world there is a person who sees you completely and still chooses to stay.

The Restless One is a story about two imperfect people trying to find peace in themselves before they can find peace in each other.

I wanted to tell a love story where the emotional payoff is earned. Where every glance, every conversation and every moment of restraint matters.

Because when longing is allowed to grow, love becomes something deeper than attraction.

It becomes home.

About the Creator



Nina Johnsen is a Norwegian writer & director with a passion for character-driven storytelling and emotionally resonant romance.

Having previously worked in film production and music videos, she developed a strong interest in visual storytelling and the emotional connection between character and audience.

The Restless One represents her most ambitious project to date and reflects themes she has long been drawn to: longing, belonging, vulnerability and the search for meaningful human connection.

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Influenced by classic romantic dramas, independent cinema and the slow-burn storytelling found in Korean and Chinese dramas, Nina's writing focuses on flawed characters whose emotional journeys are often more important than the plot itself.

I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN FASCINATED BY LONGING.
NOT PERFECT RELATIONSHIPS.
BUT THE DISTANCE BETWEEN TWO PEOPLE.
THE MOMENTS BEFORE.
THE THINGS WE NEVER SAY.
THE PEOPLE WE SPEND OUR WHOLE LIVES SEARCHING FOR.
THE RESTLESS ONE WAS BORN FROM THAT FEELING.
A STORY ABOUT TWO PEOPLE WHO ARE LOOKING FOR HOME.
AND DISCOVER IT IN EACH OTHER.
— NINA JOHNSEN

NEW YORK CITY

ARIZONA

THE RESTLESS ONE

— SOME ROADS CHANGE EVERYTHING —