

HOT ICE, COLD LIES

A Climate Thriller

Feature Film Screenplay

by

Kate Troll



“Treat the Earth well. It was not given to you by your parents, but loaned to you by your children.” —*Kenyan Proverb*

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PREMISE: World Climate has reached the tipping point of no return. Two female protagonists—one the head of an international alliance of concerned earth-conservationists, the other in a position of power with big oil, battle each other and Congress to do or not do something about it.

SYNOPSIS: *The story of the script is based on the true science and economics of climate change.*

This timely thriller addresses key issues at stake for all of us human beings and our fellow creatures. In the vein of Erin Brokovitch, protagonist Kari Sutton comes into possession of some critical evidence about dangerous environmental risks. It comes in the form of ice cores . . . ice cores that could reveal mankind is approaching the tipping points for irreversible climate change.

Kari has inherited the Chair of her father's scientific foundation dedicated to reversing global warming. Not the dynamo that her late father was, she is at a loss as to how she can really do anything to move Congress to act on global climate change by getting them to invoke a carbon tax.

Per her father's will, she goes to Alaska to return a gift, a hand-carved mask. While there, the mask-carver, Victor Paukan, shows her why his village, after thousands of years, must be moved, because the Arctic icecap is melting underfoot.

Victor shows her the plight of walruses, who are running out of ice floes upon which to dwell. Her heart is broken by the sight of baby walruses being trampled by their elders fighting for mates, food and positions on the ice-shore. She tells him she will try to do something about the effects of climate change upon his homeland.

Kari's ultimate objective is to be a pivotal player in getting the US Senate to regulate greenhouse gases and establish a carbon tax. This is fiercely opposed by big oil. When back in New York, she gets the news that the ice cores have disappeared.

To get a stronger voice in Congress, Kari helps form a consortium of climate activist groups. The more her political star rises, the more her life becomes endangered. As Kari's name starts popping up on the activists' side in the media, the feathers of big oil high-ranking official, Lisa Myers, are ruffled right at the time that her company has discovered a way to harvest huge profits from Greenland's hitherto unrealized oil deposits.

The duel between Kari and Lisa is set in motion.

Meanwhile Kari is stung by constant reminders that her ex is still in the mix. After all, he, Brian, is a professor at UC Berkeley where his research and work on geo-engineering (technological solutions to cool the earth) run counter to her beliefs and ultimately interfere with and distract and deflect Congressional action.

Unhappily for her and happily for him, their lives intersect again, when he is on hand to help her escape an attempt on her life. It is clearly evident that someone is out to silence Kari and will stop at nothing to do so. Driven by the same passion to save the earth from climate calamity, Kari and Brian must find a way to regain their respect for each other.

On a much-needed R&R whitewater rafting adventure, attempts are made on lives and people are killed. Danger, social issues and love-pursuits drive the story forward to a conclusion that affects us all.

Perhaps this ancient text is an epitaph for a planet:

“Treat the Earth well. It was not given to you by your parents but loaned to you by your children.”
—*Kenyan Proverb inscribed at NYC Museum of Natural History*



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