

## Everyday Miracles and Real-Life Fairy tales

Shanice Singh

Documentary: Alison

Directed & Written: Uga Carlini

In 1994, Alison was raped, brutally attacked and left for dead. The documentary/feature hybrid of the same name is a tale of survival and hope that teaches us that life may not be the fairy tale we expect. Christia Visser, who delivers a moving performance that audiences will most definitely sympathise with, flawlessly plays Alison's character. The film follows her journey from her rape to present day. Alison is a story narrated by Alison Botha herself and the other people who have been involved with her following the attack in some way or another.

Throughout the film, Alison makes it clear that while her life is not a typical fairy tale, she still has much to be grateful for. It is the optimism that makes Alison's story a beacon of light and hope for many. This film is not for the faint of heart but is recommended to anyone who is looking for a piece of hope in a world that seems rife with endless violence with the Orlando shooting; the Brock Turner sexual assault case and even the possible parole of Alison's attackers being prime examples. Alison, however, reminds the audience that there is still light in even the darkest of situations.

Interested in watching Alison? Alison will be screened at the Durban International Film Festival tonight, 21 June at 6pm at Nu Metro cinema complex and on 25 June at 5pm