

Salt in My Soul | Will Battersby and Diane Shader Smith Interview [Exclusive]

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Salt in My Soul

After years of fighting cystic fibrosis, Mallory Smith succumbed to the disease at the age of twenty-five. However, she led a fulfilled life without regrets for more than twenty years as her story is chronicled in the inspirational documentary **Salt in My Soul**.

Here is the official synopsis:

Based on the posthumously published bestselling memoir of the same name, the film takes you inside the mind of a young woman who tries to live a full life while dying. Mallory Smith was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis at the age of three. In her twenty-five-year battle with the deadly disease, she carved out a life that most of us don't come close to. Using Mallory's posthumously published 2,500-page secret diaries, hundreds of hours of newly discovered footage, and audio recordings, the film offers Mallory as the narrator of her own extraordinary chronicle. It's a timely coming-of-age story that focuses our attention on complicated issues including mental health, the relationship between human sickness and environmental erosion, and the need to amplify patient voices in order to improve health outcomes.

LRM Online's Gig Patta talked with director Will Battersby, along with Mallory's mother and film subject Diane Shader Smith. We discussed Mallory's life, her intention, the disease, and the optimistic outlook of her life.

Will Battersby produced documentaries and features for the past fifteen years. **Trumbo** was his first documentary as a producer, which won the National Board of Review Freedom of Speech award. The film was released at the Toronto International Film Festival about the blacklisted Hollywood screenwriter Dalton Trumbo. He made his directorial debut with **The Canal** about the environmental tragedy in the Love Canal neighborhood of Niagara Falls, which is now currently developing as a limited series for Showtime.

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Salt in My Soul is currently playing in select theaters in New York and Los Angeles. There is a VOD release in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Ireland, and other key territories worldwide tomorrow, January 25.

Watch the exclusive interview with Will Battersby and Diane Shade Smith below. Let us know what you think of the interview.