

IT'S ALL IN ——— KALI PARMLEY

The Details

KAY FOYE is a New York corporate lifer, turned Colorado ranch hand, turned knifemaker. Nurtured by a childhood surrounded by horses and inspired by her mother, a talented chef, whose way of wielding a kitchen knife was legendary, Foye found her calling not in the concrete canyons of the city, but on the open plains of the West, where she learned the importance of a sharp blade strapped to her belt.

Recognizing knives as mankind's first primitive implement, a hunter's must-have tool, a means of survival, and a staple on the dinner table, Foye began a collection. Each acquired knife possessed a memory and ignited a passion for handcrafted blades. A chance meeting with skilled knifemaker Jake Asuit led to an apprenticeship, and Foye discovered her life's work in the forge.

"Each of my knives possesses something unique and meaningful to my clients," said Foye. "My goal is to take a piece of history from things that may not seem usable anymore and create something that has life again."

Using found objects, such as wood, fossils, stone, bone, ivory, old military cloth, and even feathers, Foye creates a knife handle that is unique to the client, with each handle embracing its own story. Forged from salvaged steel, her knives give new life to old files and rusty rasps, transforming them into beautiful blades that will hold their edge.

"An older gentleman gave me an antler from his first deer and asked me to make him a knife," remembered Foye. "He had tears in his eyes when I gave him the final product. It was a piece of something important to him, and he could now carry it with him every day."

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