

LEGACY OF SPIES THE MUSICAL™

Legacy of Spies the Musical Synopsis

Logline:

"Are you prepared to die to live your dream?"

Story Synopsis:

In "Legacy of Spies," a 45-year-old successful businessman, Marco, harbors a lifelong dream of being a film star, inspired by childhood fantasies of being James Bond.

His mundane reality transforms when he decides to chase this dream, but the path to stardom is fraught with unforeseen challenges and deceptions.

Marco's journey begins with a burst of enthusiasm but limited knowledge of filmmaking. He casts a wide net, seeking help from acquaintances, and soon, Michelle, a Facebook connection, emerges with an offer too enticing to refuse.

She proposes collaboration on a feature film with Marco as the lead. Blinded by ambition, Marco invests \$25,000, entrusting Michelle with scriptwriting, location scouting, and casting.

Months of anticipation dissolve into frustration and betrayal when Marco discovers Michelle's disappearance with his investment, leaving his cinematic aspirations in tatters. Yet, fate intervenes.

During the casting, Marco befriends Victor Sole, a Spanish actor, who introduces him to Adrian Bol, a visionary filmmaker with an impressive portfolio of MTV music videos and award-winning commercials, yearning to make his feature film debut.

Initially skeptical, Marco's intrigue is piqued by Adrian's idea – a harrowing tale based on the 1999 Russian bombing of an apartment block in Kyiv, Ukraine, a tragedy with personal connections to Adrian's Ukrainian wife. Sensing the potential for a compelling narrative and significant public interest, Marco travels to Holland to meet Adrian.

Their meeting sparks a creative and personal connection, leading to the birth of "Truth 99."

The film "Truth 99" evolves rapidly, fueled by a potent mix of personal ambition and historical significance.

Within three months, the script is ready, and a dynamic social media campaign captures widespread attention.

Marco stands on the brink of realizing his dream, poised to become the leading man in a story that intertwines personal redemption with historical tragedy.

But as the project gains momentum, an unexpected phone call in February 2016 threatens to upend everything. Marco's recounting of this pivotal moment encapsulates the high stakes and emotional depth of this journey from a dreamer to a leading man in a tale that blurs the lines between history and fiction, ambition and reality. "Legacy of Spies" is more than a film; it's a testament to the resilience of dreams in the face of adversity.

The Phone call:

From Adrian Bol, the co-creator (with me) of the eventual feature film "Legacy of Lies" (debuted at #2 on Netflix), then the co-creator & director of the feature film "Truth99" the true story of how the Russians bombed a building in Kyiv in 1999 and killed many Ukrainians, the film we were going to make now! (Adrian's wife was Ukrainian and lost people she was very close to in that bombing").

Conversation:

Adrian: "Marco, are you sitting down?"

Marco: "No Adrian, why what's up?"

Adrian: "Sit the f**k down right now!"

Marco: "WHY! What the hell is up" ...proceeding to sit the f**k down.

Adrian: "Your face, you're social media accounts, including your facebook AND your Instagram are all over Russian National News TV!

Marco: "F****g BRILLIANT that's the best PR we can ever have for the film!"

Adrian: "NO MARCO, this is not good...they have circled the comments you made in red ink about Pu**n (we will now refer to that person as "you know who") bombing that building and killing innocent people.

Marco: "WHAT?!"

Adrian: "They are saying LIVE on the news that you are crazy for making this film and you are probably not going to live very long, they said this is a dead man walking!"

Marco: "Adrian, are you f***ing with me? f**k the f**k off!"

Adrian: "I'm sorry Marco it's true, I am really sorry..."

Marco: "Adrian this is not my film, this is YOUR film, why the f**k are they targeting me?"

Adrian: "Because you are promoting it and you are the public face of the film!"

Marco "I don't believe it! I really don't believe this..." (starting to feel a humongous feeling of fear welling up in me (NOT for the first time in my life).

Marco: "What the hell am I gonna do about this?"

Adrian: "I don't know man, I'm in shock..."

Still not believing what I just heard although Adrian was a great friend and I had no reason not to trust him, as you can imagine, this was now the ONLY thing on my mind.

I reached out to Adrian and asked if we could get the Russian news story sent over to us and translated into English...

I needed confirmation that this literal bombshell news was true...

24 HOURS later I was watching the Russian news article with me all over it.

Apparently it was broadcast to over 10 million people which didn't really make me feel better...

I was stunned and now truly scared for the first time in my life that I was going to die a lot sooner than anticipated...the news article was true.

Seeing your own face on the news in Russia, going against the most powerful man in the world for all to see was not just surreal, it was spine tingling scary as f****g sh*t, the worst kind of scared you could ever imagine in your very worst nightmares... this was serious shit and I was in seriously the deepest sh*t you could ever think of.

Deeply shaken, I obviously reacted emotionally and started calling all the people I knew, but not my family as I didn't want to scare the sh*t out of them, I had kids, and they didn't need to know this just yet..

Fortunately...after spending some time in Ukraine auditioning actors for the film I had connected with a few Russian people and got on the phone with them as soon as I could...

To protect identities I'll just refer to my Russian friend as "Anastasia".

Phone call after sending Anastasia the news reel...

Marco: "So what do you think Anastasia?"

Anastasia: "I think you will be ok Marco..I wouldn't worry about it too much..."

Marco: "Really? Have you had your face all over the national news in a foreign country and your life threatened?"

Anastasia: "No! Of course not, but Russians do this a lot to sell news, I think you will be ok. I don't want you to worry...ok YOU WILL BE OK!"

Call ends.

I wasn't ok...I did feel a little better but I definitely was not f****g ok.

You see, everyone wasn't me...even Adrian didn't really get it because it wasn't his face all over the news...

I was still searching for answers and most importantly...safety!

So I decided to back off for a while and definitely not do any PR about the film, until I felt some sense of normality...which for me, in that moment, normal was never coming back!

Now at the same time this was happening, which felt completely unrelated to what was going on with my film nitemare, in fact for about 9 months...there was a very beautiful Russian woman talking to me on my instagram, stunningly beautiful and we got on really well, there were voice notes and even video calls, it was going well with this girl...really well.

One day she asked to come and see me so we could meet and see how we got along in real life.

I didn't hesitate...this felt good.

I picked her up from the airport and sure enough we got on well.

After three days in bed...one morning...in bed, both naked, she says something I did not expect at all...

And just to emphasise the gravity of this conversation, these are the EXACT words as she said them.

Anna: "Marco, I don't think you should make this film".

Marco: "Anna, why the hell would you say that?"

Anna: "Because I am not who you think I am"

Marco: "What do you mean? Who are you?"

Long pause...

Anna: "I am a Russian FSB agent and I have been sent here to warn you that if you make that film we cannot guarantee your safety".

Marco: "What the f**k are you talking about?"

Anna: "Marco I am a spy, I sell weapons, my best selling weapon is Cyanide, and (reaching for her phone) this is me and my cousin the president (you know who), you know his name".

She continues...

"Your office is bugged, your production office in ukraine is bugged, we have been watching you and listening to you for a long time...we know what you are up to".

I was frozen with fear...how the f**k did my life get to this? What the f**k was I going to do?

F**k!