



Running In Circles

By Gary St. Martin

Logline

When a young woman goes missing in Russia, a disgraced ex-FBI agent and a genius computer hacker are teamed together to find the kidnappers, exposing a criminal ring involving drugs, weapons and human trafficking in the process.

synopsis

In this gripping screenplay, Agent James Erskine of the FBI becomes entangled in a dangerous web of deception and international intrigue. When Louisa Ivanov, a young girl, is kidnapped by a Russian cartel, Erskine, along with his partner Agent Judd Mann, initiates an investigation. Their search leads them to the docks of San Francisco, where they suspect a Russian ship is smuggling illicit cargo.

Along the way, Erskine meets Nelka, a mysterious woman who claims to have information about the cartel. However, Erskine falls victim to a honey trap as Nelka reveals herself to be a Russian spy. Erskine's career is jeopardized as he *is accused of being compromised. Meanwhile, media reporter Candence senses a bigger story behind Erskine's downfall and starts digging deeper.*

As Erskine spirals into despair, Gordon Maxford, a powerful figure, recruits him for a covert operation. With his redemption on the line, Erskine must navigate a treacherous path and uncover the truth before it's too late.

SHOW CROSS



REDHEAT - RONIN - JOHN WIC

Main characters

LELLA,

PROTAGONIST 2: MAURICE HAMBURG

FBI AGENT JAMES ERSKINE



Main characters

AGENT JUDD MANN early 40s, African-American, Erskine's partner, casual, friendly, confident

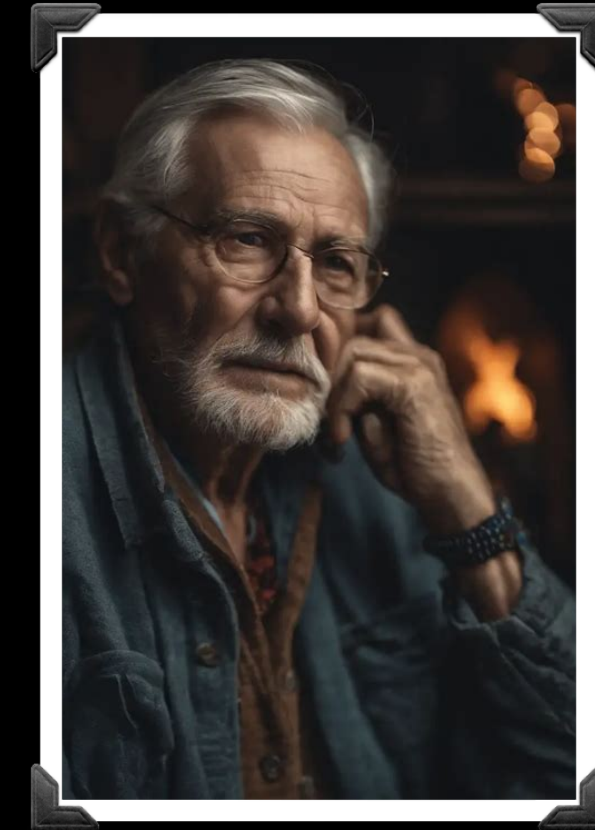


AGENT LOUIS MARTINEZ, 45, head F.B.I. Agent in charge of the task force hunting the Cartel.



Main characters

Gorden Maxford, 70s, Entrepreneur Media
Mogul



BILLY LEROY, 61, Gorden Maxford's Lawyer
and right hand man



ELTON MILLIA mid 40s, he looks more like
an advertising agency executive, then head of
a security firm.



ANTAGONIST

OLAK ALEKSEY *Head of the International cartel based in Kazan Russia he runs a successful technology business*



MAKAP *50's, The Boss - large scar on his left cheek, booming, large, dominating personality.*

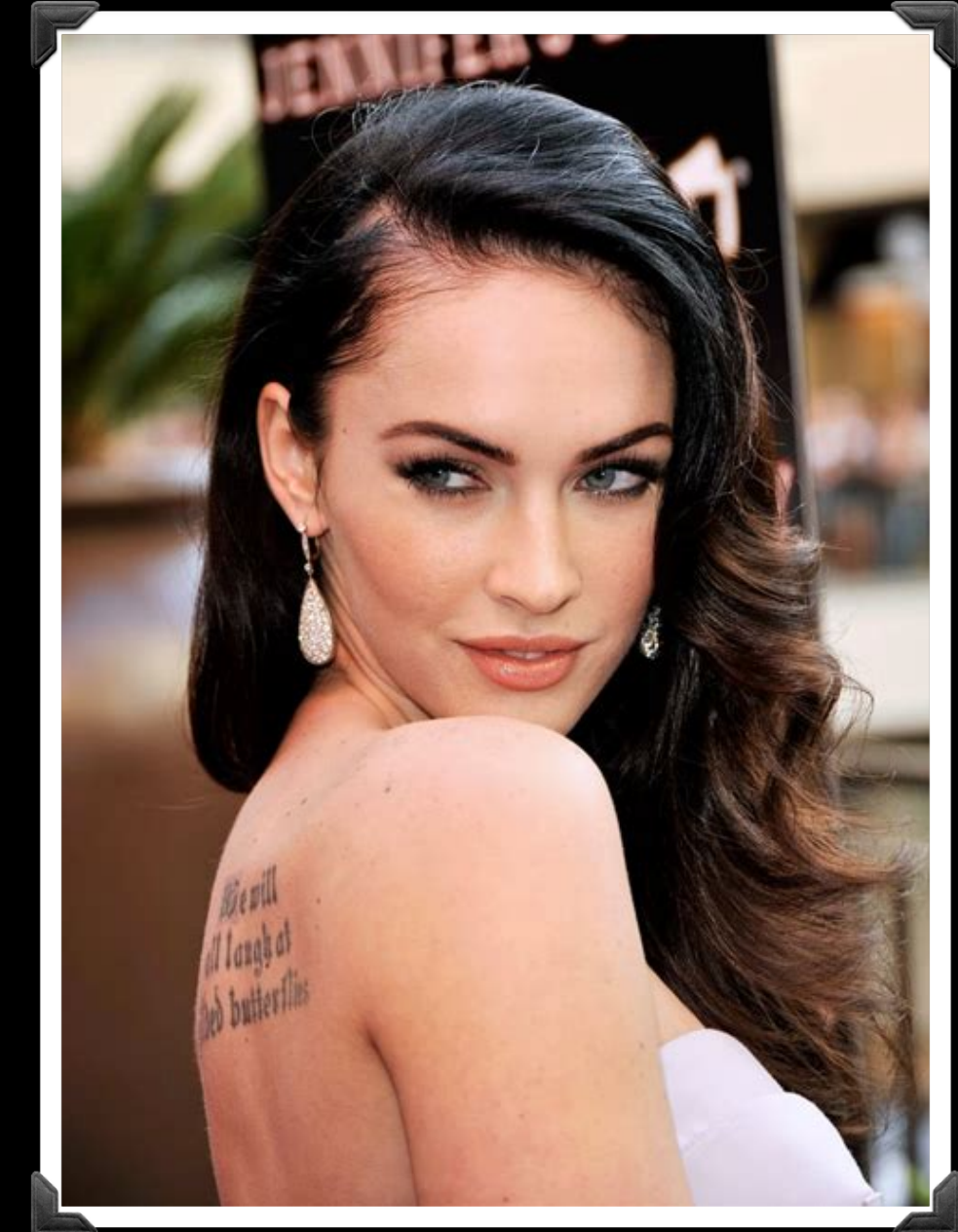


HAI *Leader of the Chinese gang The Dragons*



ANTAGONIST

NELKA, 30s, undercover spy for the cartel.
Her target is James Erskine



DIAZ DUNLAP, 39, local Cartel leader
Long time resident of the area.
Head of the local crew, drug distribution.



Pilot

This is an international-intrigue, crime story that takes us into the life of our leading man James Erskine as he is pulled between all different factions and targeted by different groups as he does all he can to get to the bottom of this international ring of criminals.

He's put in a position where he must bend and alter how he does his job and his old school ways in order to catch these people that take a cyber force to get to the bottom of. You have him team up with L Ella as they try to get Nelka, and through that process, they connect romantically, and there is a feel that something is building between the two of them as it take us through to this final wrap-up where the bad guys are caught, and James gets out okay.

It is a story that has a lot of intrigue in it has a procedural nature that paints a certain kind of picture, and it is a story that falls inline with what people expect when they are looking to read a crime thriller.

OVERALL

Overall, there is a lot going on in this script. It feels like it is very present and very current and speaks to a lot of the ideas of cyber-crime and how authorities must change the way they do things and advance a lot of their processes in order to keep up with these criminals who are masterminding ways to use technology to get ahead.

Nelka is a strong character who becomes quite the force as the story moves along. You have L Ella, who is another great character that balances things out and becomes that force that pushes back against Nelka as she and James combine their resources and their skills to be a team that eventually is able to take everybody down.

I thought it was great how you have these two very strong female characters. It's wonderful to see that in movies more and more, and it's great when a female character isn't just there to be a romantic interest. Both of your characters are not simply written for those reasons, as they both have very specific agendas and very specific skill sets, and they are both worthy of what this story asks of them and what the story puts them through. When it comes to James as a leading character, he is someone that does capture our attention because of the way that he gets tossed around and pushed and pulled in two different directions. He is working for this guy, and then working for that guy, and then working undercover for this guy and using this guy's resources against this other guy. It gets quite complicated for him as he goes through this story and gets to the bottom of exactly what is happening, and who is responsible, and how much further this goes with the drugs and the money and arms dealing and human trafficking and everything that they are using and dealing with through to the end.