



PARTNERS IN MOTION
PRESENTS

ESCAPE FROM
IRAN
THE HOLLYWOOD OPTION

FINAL DRAFT SCRIPT

PARTNERS
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HARMONY
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ESCAPE FROM
IRAN
THE HOLLYWOOD OPTION

November 4, 1979. Militant students seize the American Embassy in Tehran, Iran. 66 Americans are taken prisoner; 52 of them will remain in captivity for 444 days.

In the midst of this chaos, five Americans, Mark and Cora Lijek, Joseph and Katherine Stafford, and Bob Anders, elude the students. Temporarily free, they quickly find themselves stranded in a hostile country gripped by revolutionary fervour.

November 8, 1979. Ken Taylor, Canada's Ambassador to Iran, receives a call from one of his staff who has been contacted by the five desperate Americans. This call takes him, his staff, and his family into the realm of political maneuverings and international intrigue, forged passports and secret agents, a world in which the danger of betrayal and capture is ever present. Shortly after this another American, Henry Schatz, joins the five "houseguests" in Tehran.

An undisclosed date in November, 1979. CIA agents Antonio Mendez a master of disguise and espionage, receives word that he must formulate a plan to exfiltrate six American Embassy staff from Iran. Choosing "*The Hollywood Option*", he creates a phony film production company called **Studio Six** and disguises the six houseguests as Hollywood executives in an effort to smuggle them out of Iran in plain sight. Aided by the Canadian Government at the highest levels, the plan is put into motion.

Escape From Iran: The Hollywood Option commemorates the 25th anniversary of the "*Canadian Caper*." Unravel this startling affair through the words of the Americans who found sanctuary with the Canadian delegation and the Canadians who risked their own safety to give sanctuary to their closest neighbours. Supporting interviews with politicians, CIA agents, and diplomats highlight the great efforts that were made to bring these six Americans home to freedom.

On January 21, 1981, 444 days after their captivity began, the remaining 52 American hostages were released and returned home to the United States. Thanks to a small group of Canadians, six of their compatriots were waiting there to meet them. *Escape from Iran: The Hollywood Option* tells the story of these six.



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