

MOVIE REVIEW

"NEVER SAY NEVER AGAIN"

James Bond, British Secret Service Agent 007, is dangerous.

In a world dominated by computers and buraeucracy, he is a man whose greatest strenght lies in his own intuitions, a man who allows his hunches to take him straight to the heart of the danger and has the courage and the skill to face the gravest of perils -- and survive.

So when SPECTRE (Special Executor for Counter - intelligence, Terrorism, Revenge, and Extortion) holds the world to ransom witha devastating act of nuclear terrorism, only Bond is able to cut straight through to the rotten core of the operation.

While recharging his batteries at a health clinic, Bond's sixth sense picks up an early warning of SPECTRE's plan. His involvement leads him from England to the Bahamas and the South of France, pursued along he way by the beautiful but deadly Fatima Blush, a SPECTRE assassin who is determined to get her man -- in more ways than one.

He encounters the charming but sinister Largo, one of the richest and most lethal men in the world, and his mistress, the enigmatic Domino, who is unaware of Largo's true nature and who becomes quite taken with the charming Mr. Bond. The entire SPECTRE operation is masterminded by Bond's long-time enemy, Ernst Stavro Blofeld.

Against this arsenal of evil, Bond is backed up by his American pal, Felix Leiter (who has the knack of turning up a the most oppurtune moments), as well as by members of the British Secret Service: "M," the adoring Miss Money Penny, and Algy the Armorer with his sophisticated and ingenious collection of devices.

Stunts, special effects and high-speed action abound as James Bond follows the story to its dramatic conclusion, refusing to take anything -- well, hardly anything -- lying down.

"Never Say Never Again" is the film that nobody believed could ever be made. The cinema history books had already recorded actor Sean Connery's vehement assertions that he would never again play the role of James Bond. There seemed no possible chance that the much-loved Scottish actor would ever be persuaded to resume the role of everybody's favorite secret agent, James Bond, 007, licensed to kill.

Yet, despite all predictions, in September, 1982 the cameras rolled on the first day of production of "Never Say Never Again," a Warner Bros. release with Sean Connery starring as Ian Fleming's James Bond. The buzz of exitement during production reverberated around the world and the questions on everybody's lips were, of course: Why had Connery accepted the role and who had managed to persude him?

The persuasion came from an unexpected quarter. Jack Schartzman, an American film producer with a background in entertainment law, had been the man with the patience, the courage and the skill needed to aquire the complex rights to the project, to untangle all the knots and to present the idea to Connery in an appealing way.

According to Connery, his decision to play Bond was influenced by his wife Micheline. (It was also Micheline who later came up with the catchy and witty title of the film.)



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