

# THE GIRL FROM KRAKOW

A gripping epic of survival and forbidden  
romance, inspired by true events.

Written by:  
Staton Rabin

Produced by:  
Tony Greenberg  
Mike Sammaciccia



Ghetto

# THE GIRL FROM KRAKOW

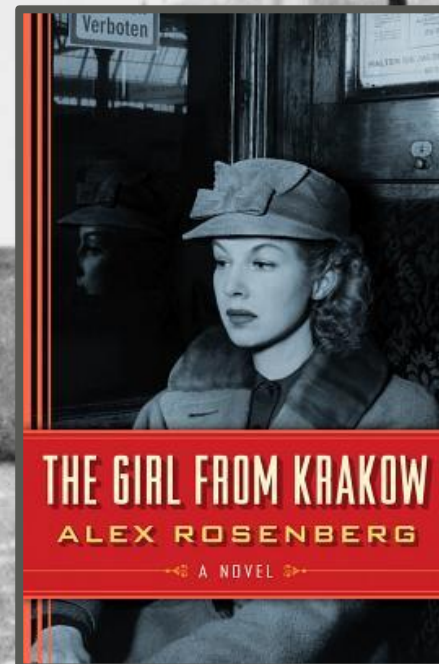
## Executive Summary

LENGTH: 120 minutes

GENRE: Romance/Thriller

BUDGET: \$7 - \$10MM

Based on the novel by Alex Rosenberg



“The Girl From Krakow” tells the story of a beautiful young Jewess on a desperate search for her missing child who, while on the run from Nazis, falls in love with a woman from the Polish Resistance.



# SYNOPSIS:



Nazi-occupied Poland, 1942. RITA FEUERSTAHL (late 20s) is a woman on the run: From a loveless, oppressive marriage; from her dashed hopes and dreams of a medical career; and from the powerful secret currents of her sexuality that have recently been awakened by a forbidden love, shaking up her world. And now-- with the Nazis hunting down every Jew in Poland and her estranged husband, URS, away in the war— Rita is even forced to run from her Jewish identity too.

Posing as a Catholic ("Margarita Trushenko") with the help of her anti-Nazi boss, LYDIA, and her courageous friend, ERICH, 20s-- who helped her get false identity papers-- Rita must find a way to escape and survive on her own. Her only weapons? Her wits and a small hidden stash of morphine and gold coins, left behind by her husband, who is a doctor. The one blessing from Rita's troubled marriage was their son, STEFAN (4), born as the dark curtain of a Nazi invasion and Holocaust was about to descend on their homeland.

Once the Germans start rounding up Jews into Ghettos as a prelude to the death camps, Rita reluctantly places Stefan in the custody of a mysterious courier for the Polish Resistance, hoping the woman can smuggle her son to safety. But when the courier is captured by the Gestapo and Stefan vanishes without a trace, a terrified Rita is desperate to find and rescue him.

Meanwhile, Rita is pursued by a relentless shark: Nazi SS officer LEIDERITZ, who targets Rita after she makes a dramatic escape from the Jewish Ghetto by assaulting her would-be rapist: a Nazi guard who is the son of a high-ranking German officer. Now a fugitive, Rita travels from city to city, living by her wits and using gold and morphine as bargaining chips to stay one step ahead of Leideritz-- and the many dangerous extortionists who threaten to expose her true identity. ... (CONT'D) ...

## SYNOPSIS CONTINUED:




Throughout Rita's perilous journey-- which even takes her inside Germany itself, trapped working incognito as a nanny for a family of Nazis-- Rita remains determined to reunite with her Polish lover, DANI (female, 20s): a courageous Jewish Resistance fighter. The pair had an intensely passionate romance earlier in the war. But, fearful of committing to a relationship with a woman, Rita had pulled back from Dani-- to Rita's never-ending regret. And now the war has separated them, leaving Rita with the crushing realization that she's made a terrible mistake-- and may have lost the love of her life forever.

Before they were split up by the war, Dani had told Rita: "If you find your courage, I will find you." But Rita wonders if she's truly capable of courage. The kind that Dani has, in being fully herself and willing to die, if need be, to save others. The kind that Erich has-- as a self-declared "proud homosexual Jew" who rescues other Jews in swashbuckling fashion and laughs in the face of danger.

Will Rita find the courage to go on a dangerous mission into the terrifying "house of horrors" known as the Warsaw Ghetto— to find and rescue her missing son? What happens if she eventually finds Stefan—but her son no longer remembers her? Will Rita have the courage to sacrifice her own needs to do what's best for him-- even if it breaks her heart? And even if Rita can truly "find her courage", survive the war, and-- in all ways— stop running from her true identity, will her soulmate, Dani, find her again-- so they can heal their hearts and finally make a life together? Or might Dani have surprising secrets of her own that threaten to tear them apart forever?







### Why The Girl from Krakow?

There have been many stories centered around World War 2 and the horrific actions of Nazis throughout Europe, and this story too is inspired by true events. In fact, the main character, Rita, is based in part on the author's mother who chronicled her experiences as a survivor of the holocaust in her memoir *TO TELL AT LAST*. But apart from the fact that this story is about survival, it is a moving love story of two Jewish women whose love for each other gives them the reason to do whatever they can to survive. And the dramatic plot twists after the war when Dani finds the fiancée she never mentioned and Rita learns that her son, now 6, is still alive lead to an unexpected and memorable climax.



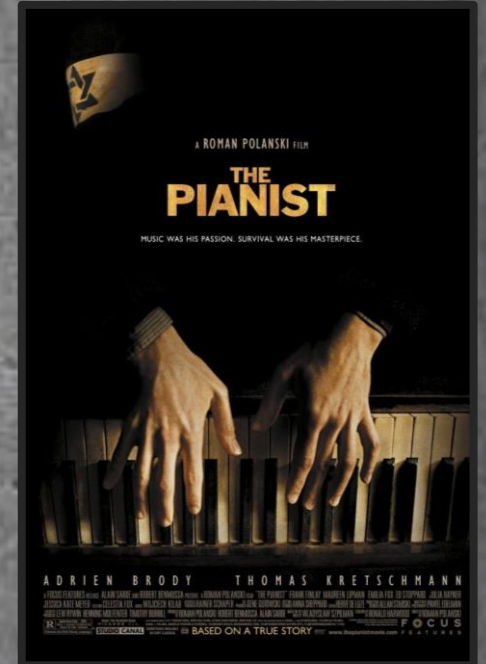
Schindler's List (1994)  
Budget: \$22mm  
Gross: \$322.2mm



The Boy in the  
Stripped Pajamas (2008)  
Budget: \$12.5mm  
Gross: \$44.1mm



Sophie's Choice (1982)  
Budget: \$9mm  
Gross: \$30mm



The Pianist (2002)  
Budget: \$35mm  
Gross: \$120.1 mm



STATON RABIN  
(Writer)

Staton Rabin is an award-winning, optioned screenwriter, and a critically acclaimed novelist for Simon & Schuster with a global audience. Her many books include *BETSY AND THE EMPEROR* ("...an engaging novel, based on real events" - New York Times Book Review) published in 15 languages, which also launched her film career. Ms. Rabin's new screen adaptation of Alex Rosenberg's groundbreaking *THE GIRL FROM KRAKOW*, is a moving and exciting wartime adventure inspired by true events-- about a young Jewish wife's courageous, transformational journey to rescue her kidnapped child from the Nazis and reunite with the true love of her life: a woman from the Polish resistance. Produced by Tony Greenberg and Mike Sammaciccia, it's an LGBTQ "Dr. Zhivago" for the New Millennium-- with powerful relevance for today's audiences. Ms. Rabin writes original scripts and screen adaptations of books-- with starring roles that attract A-list attachments. She has two screenplays on the Red List, "Betsy and the Emperor" and "Saving Mark Twain", and has won awards from the Montreal Independent Film Festival, ISA Fast Track, Festival Napoleon in Paris, and others. Previously, Ms. Rabin was a freelance story analyst for Warner Bros. Pictures, New Line Cinema, and the William Morris Agency. She received her BFA from NYU's Institute of Film & Television (Tisch), where she was later a frequent Guest Speaker, and also has a background in theater. She's taught screenwriting classes at NYU, for Cunard, and for Hudson Valley Writers' Center. Staton Rabin ([www.ScreenplayMuse.com](http://www.ScreenplayMuse.com)) is represented by Leyla Kader Dahm of Zero Gravity Management.





# Producers



Tony Greenberg  
(Producer)

Producer, Tony Greenberg, MD, retired from hospital practice in 2013 and decided to realize his lifelong dream of making movies. His primary objective has been to identify books with meaningful stories, obtain the film rights, and create a team of collaborators to develop & produce the movie.

Tony produced THE RIDESHARE KILLER, which was released in 2022. His company, Two Jacks Productions LLC, has multiple projects in various stages of development.

His company's motto:  
Betting on a Good Story is  
Never a Gamble!

MICHAEL SAMMACICCIA  
(co-writer/director/producer)

Mike Sammaciccia began his career with Robert De Niro's Tribeca Productions and Miramax Films. From there, he became Walden Media's first creative executive, bringing in the book "Holes" and serving as executive in charge of production. Next, Sammaciccia wrote, directed, produced, edited, and shot "Always Will", an award-winning indie available on Amazon and iTunes. He was the SVP of live-action for Viacom/Nickelodeon, producing highly rated content every quarter. He then produced Quibi's "Survive" for Jeffrey Katzenberg, a 10-part series starring Sophie Turner and Corey Hawkins and directed by Mark Pellington. Most recently, Sammaciccia launched Afterglow Pictures, specializing in content guaranteed to leave a lasting impression long after the glow of the screen fades. Afterglow has over 15 active projects including films and tv series with HBOMax, Ubisoft, Fremantle, Sony and Westbrook Studios.







# Thank You

We Look Forward to your Feedback!



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