



HATED

Written by
J.R. Howell

SERIES PREMISE

HATED is an hour-long historical drama set from the 1950s to the 1980s, telling the true story of Roy Cohn, one of the most infamous lawyers in American history, as he pursues power in Washington D.C. and New York City.

The series is an allegorical narrative of America itself—seen through the dramatized real events of Roy's life as the chief architect of the McCarthy witch hunts, lead prosecutor in the Rosenberg case, consigliere to the mob, antagonist in *Angels in America*, and mentor to the disgraced and twice-impeached former President Donald Trump.

These events present America's unconforted dirty history of anti-Semitism and homophobia and how they incubated the closeted villain whose enduring legacy threatens the foundations of our democracy to this very day.

Are villains born or are they made? Roy ruined countless lives, drove others to suicide, and committed murder. His ghost haunts our nation through his living acolytes the Trumps, Roger Stone, and others. But, Roy himself was the by-product of a racist, anti-Semitic, misogynistic, and homophobic society whose worst qualities infected his soul.



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SERIES PREMISE

The depiction of Roy's tragically ambitious devolution suggests that refusing to confront America's past dooms it to a future as a failed state. The series implies that the best parts of America can prevail when we reconcile with who we really are. Multi-racial, multi-cultural, multi-gendered, religious and non-religious alike. Covering up our failings is holding us back. But embracing our ugly past for what it is can open opportunities for a better future, America as the New World it always should have been. It still can be.

In the end, Roy was too scared to admit he had HIV, too ashamed that it would reveal that he was gay. AIDS killed him anyway. What fatal sickness festers in the heart of America that we're too afraid to admit? On a joy ride of **schemes, lies, sex, money, power, and murder**, we'll find out.





SHOW WORLD

1950s. Washington. New York City. The Senate. Courtrooms. Espionage. Blackmail. Secrets. Lies. Violence. Sex. Suits. Power. Money. Paranoia. Communism. Patriotism. Loyalty. Violence. Homicide. Suicide. Death.

The oppressive air of **paranoia**. Anyone could be a Communist.

Worse still, anyone could be an informer, watching you, reporting on you. Your co-worker, your friend from high school, your children, your spouse. What do they see? What do they know? "Better dead than Red."

War rages on the Korean peninsula. The Soviets have the bomb. The Cold War penetrates every aspect of waking life. The threat of nuclear annihilation hangs over a nation clutched in fear's grasp.



The F.B.I. knew those two code experts were fruity fellows, but off to Moscow. How many more pansies do we have, in strategic caught on cameras by cunning Commie agents, to be used as

nothing was done about it until the boys had already minced positions, whose perverted pursuits in hotel rooms have been blackmail bait to make the homos turn against their homeland?

Behind The Scandal Of Those Two Traitors:

HOW THE REDS BLACKMAIL HOMOSEXUALS INTO SPYING FOR THEM!

126 Homosexuals
Fired by
State Department

431 MORE QUIT
OR ARE FIRED AS
SECURITY RISK

*4 Homosexuals Fired
By State Department*

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BEGIN PURGING STATE DEPT. OF HOMOSEXUALS

BY WILLIAM MOORE

[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

Washington, April 20—A senate appropriations subcommittee today began the task of ridding the state department of homosexuals, subversives, wasters, and

400 More Homosexuals Ousted from Gov't Jobs

Washington, D. C., March 25.—A prompt drive to kick 400 known homo-

SHOW WORLD

Homosexuality is a clinically defined mental illness. Same-sex intercourse is a crime. Yet, all over Washington, the love that dare not speak its name still manages to escape whiskey flavored lips in back alleys and seedy hotels frequented by rich and poor alike, as well as Soviet spies and American informers. And always the ever present threat of an undercover cop or the risk of a police raid hangs dangerously over the heads of men in search of their heart's deepest desire.



SHOW WORLD

Black America's day is coming, but not soon enough. The nation is ready to birth the **civil rights** movements of the 1960s while the oppressive atmosphere of the 1950s gives the coming civil rights heroes a reason to rise. America's role in systemic racism starts in Washington's smoky backrooms. McCarthy's witch hunt etches a too often overlooked scar on a rising movement for black equality.



SHOW WORLD

Though **women's** social roles change during WWII, the prevailing conception of a woman's identity in relation only to the men in her life dies too slowly. Women begin pioneering new frontiers in the workplace, at home, in their relationships, among one another, with their medical providers, with attitudes about their very bodies. But, in a male-dominated world where conformity is the hallmark of patriotic loyalty, free-thinking women become easy targets, as in the contrasting view of motherhood between Dora Cohn, Roy's mother, who does anything for her son, and Ethel Rosenberg, who goes to the electric chair, rejecting a plea deal requiring her to identify Communist co-conspirators, a deal that would spare her life and save her children from orphanhood.

Jewish communities across the nation are swept up in the anti-Soviet hysteria. Religions unite communities across the country—and divide them too. As the Jewish Rosenbergs are blamed for passing the Manhattan Project's atomic secrets to the Soviets, a wave of **anti-Semitism** casts a pall on the prosecution. Or is it persecution? The question divides a nation in peril.



THE CHARACTERS

ROY COHN.

He's in his mid-20s but looks older. Scarred, with a receding hairline, bright blue eyes, he's homely, but he's always in a sharp suit. He's a brilliant legal mind and a charmer. When he's not thinking about his next power play, he's thinking about one thing only: men.

In the first season, Roy's career is in sharp conflict with his illegal same-sex attraction for the love his life, David Schine. Roy's efforts to have them both culminate in his persecution at the hands of Robert F. Kennedy who leads a Senate investigation that both kills Roy's career and chases David away for good.

SENATOR JOE MCCARTHY.

Roy's mentor. At the beginning of the series, he's not yet the man who will become one of the most hated senators in American history—that happens as we watch the series unfold.

McCarthy's in his early 40s, a tall, fit, former marine. As the chairman of a powerful committee, he leads a global investigation to rid the United States of Communist spies and sympathizers. He hires both Roy and Robert F. Kennedy at the same time to serve as his Chief Counsel, setting up a fatal rivalry whose collateral damage will encompass the nation.

Before "McCarthyism," the country faces a very real threat in Communist espionage that not only left the American people at constant fear of nuclear annihilation but also drew the country into the Korean War. McCarthy becomes a leader on the issue and for a brief time is considered a national hero, campaigning for Republicans in difficult elections around the country. But, he succumbs to overreach and wields his power in spiteful efforts to silence his opponents, eventually leading to his disgrace, but not before countless lives are ruined from Hollywood to Harlem.

After his fall from power, he lapses into alcoholism which eventually takes his life.

DAVID SCHINE.

Roy's will-they/won't-they love interest.

He's in his mid-20s, the same age as Roy, but he looks younger and fitter. David is tall, blond and blue-eyed, and is just about the sexiest man in the world by 1950s standards. He's the heir to a hotel empire, oblivious, and just looking for a good time because he's ultimately dead inside. Maybe he's gay, maybe he isn't, but he worships Roy who is powerful, confident, and connected to a lifestyle of excitement to fill his vapid inner core.

David's greatest fear is the Draft and looks to Roy and his powerful connections to protect him from service when he's eventually conscripted into the Army during the Korean War. From Roy's position as a powerful lawyer in the Senate, he pressures the Secretary of the Army to give David special treatment. But when the Secretary refuses, Roy rips the Army apart with prosecutions and investigations that ruin lives and lead to suicides.

David's role in Roy's abuse of power against the Army is exploited by Robert F. Kennedy in a turn that leads to Roy's undoing. Later in life, when David dies, no one attends his funeral.

ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

Roy's arch-nemesis.

RFK meets Roy when Senator McCarthy hires them both for the exact same position in the Senate, creating a rivalry that will haunt them both until RFK's assassination. At this point in his life, he's far from the statesman that he eventually will become. Roy brings out his worst nature: he's competitive, petty, and vengeful.

He lives in the shadow of his accomplished father, businessman and ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy, Sr., striving for his approval even as he remains lost in a world already subject to his two brothers' looming conquest, future legendary senator Ted Kennedy and future president John F. Kennedy.

RFK is the one who outs Roy to the world and ridicules his homosexuality on national television. He hunts Roy until the day he's killed, eventually using his position as the U.S. Attorney General to investigate and prosecute Roy who always manages to escape his grasp.

DORA COHN.

Roy's mother, fixer, and enabler.

She's a 59 year old Jewish mother. She's sweet, petite, and dangerously ruthless. In her eyes, Roy can do no wrong. She forced her husband, who lived in the Bronx, to buy the family a second home in Manhattan to improve Roy's society connections. Dora lived with Roy in his various residences until she died in her mid-70s.

When it comes to Roy's bad habit of renting young men by the hour, she's a master in the art of looking the other way and running interference when required.

BARBARA WALTERS.

Roy's fiancée.

Early 20s, Barbara is a young woman with grit and an ambitious future in the media. Barbara is the face of Roy's pretend heterosexual life. The male dominated field of journalism is no match for the future mogul, who is both a recipient of Roy's confidential leaks and accomplice in his own personal PR machine. After Roy's death, Barbara's role in Roy's manipulation of the media is passed along to his protégé, real estate tycoon (maybe?) Donald Trump.



ADDITIONAL CHARACTERS

J. Edgar Hoover, and
Clyde Tolson (Hoover's long-time
boyfriend)

President Truman

President Eisenhower

President Reagan

Nancy Reagan

President Nixon

President Johnson

John F. Kennedy as Senator
Kennedy

Julius Rosenberg

Ethel Rosenberg

Fred Trump

Donald Trump

Truman Capote

Desi Arnes

Lucille Balle

Steve Rubell/Studio 54

William F. Buckley

Alan Dershowitz

John Gotti

The Genovese Crime Family

The Gambino Crime Family

Langston Hughes

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Harvey Milk

George Steinbrenner

Gore Vidal

Wallis Simpson, Duchess of
Windsor

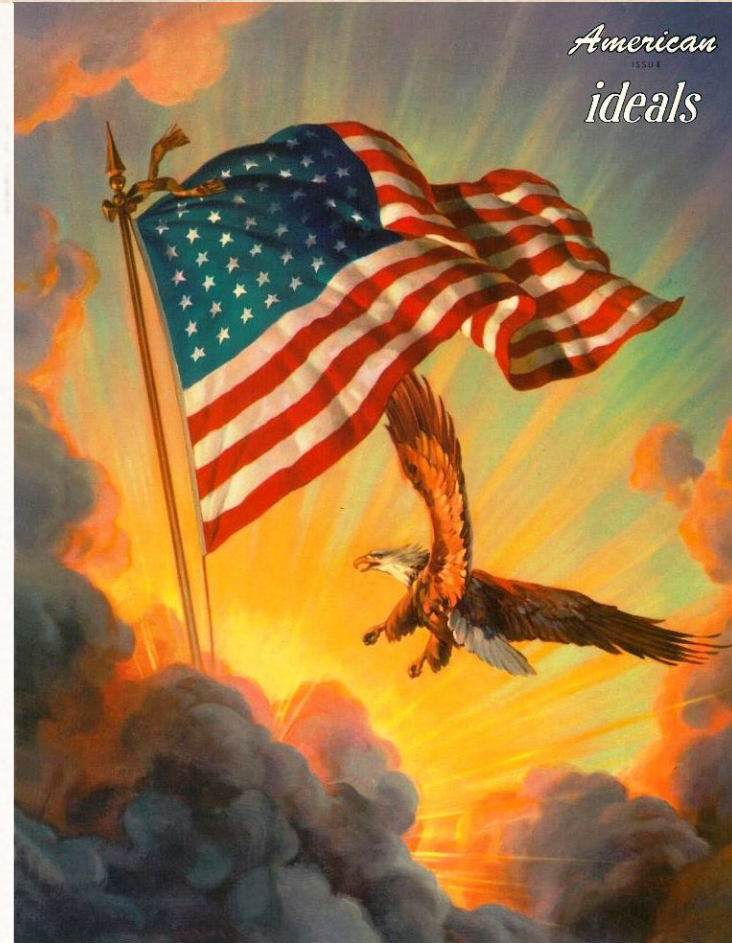
David Windsor, Duke of Windsor

FIRST SEASON ARC

The pilot begins in a scene from the season's final episode, a pivotal moment when Robert F. Kennedy outs the closeted Roy Cohn during a nationally televised Senate hearing investigating Cohn's abuse of power as a Senate lawyer during the McCarthy witch hunts.

The pilot shifts to three years earlier and the remainder of the season builds to this moment. Roy starts out as a powerless junior attorney in Manhattan's federal prosecutor's office. He schemes his way into a powerful position for Senator McCarthy, exploiting the high profile Rosenberg case as a stepping stone. Along the way, he falls in love with David Schine, a forbidden attraction that places his political ambitions in direct conflict with his heart's desire.





We witness the rise and fall of Senator McCarthy as seemingly well-intentioned efforts to protect America from Soviet espionage succumb to mission-creep and corruption. McCarthy's demonization of America's black community and the burgeoning civil rights movement is depicted, as well as the censorship and oppression of Hollywood and the arts and the persecution of homosexuals during the "Lavender Scare," a time of moral panic when homosexuals were deemed implicitly disloyal because of their susceptibility to blackmail.

David's greatest fear materializes, forced conscription into the Army during the Korean War. He seeks protection from Roy, who uses his Senate position to extort the Secretary of the Army into releasing David from service. When this effort fails, Roy commences an inquest that terrorizes the Army from top to bottom. Roy's abuse of power ends when Robert F. Kennedy unearths not only Roy's corruption but also his forbidden love with David, resulting in the end of both his career and their relationship.

S E R I E S A R C

The nameless junior prosecutor becomes the prominent lawyer who becomes the anti-communist crusading hero who becomes the scourge of a nation who becomes the first televised victim of a national gay-bashing who becomes the broken-hearted gatekeeper to a vast criminal underworld. And then: the mentor to twice-impeached former President Donald Trump.

Throughout the series, we watch the promise of a well-connected, brilliant attorney crumble into villainy; for while Roy is ambitious enough to take on the world, he's too weak to confront himself and heal from the internalized anti-Semitism and homophobia that haunt his every choice. The final season culminates in Roy's death by AIDS, his public denial of his illness, and his reticence to use his political power to speak out for the gay community screaming for government intervention and a cure. The series leads up to the realization that though seizing power was Roy's way of making himself more worthy of self-acceptance and the love of others, his actions in so doing left him less deserving of self-respect and more isolated, dying alone and hated by the whole world. As such, Roy is America itself. If our country fails to confront its true nature, to reconcile with its past, to examine ourselves honestly for what we are, we will miss the promise of the New World and will sputter away just the same.



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