

AMALIA'S LEGACY

(feature film)

written & produced by
Vince J. Trenton

(C)2024 Vince J. Trenton
Trevin Film & Media Production

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PRODUCTION NOTE:

This Film has been written with dialogue & the actions are mainly generated through gestures, facial expressions & verbal improvisations.

CHARACTERS & CREW:

- Main Actress = Amalia (Anja Hundsinger)
- Support. Actress = Valentina (Melissa Emily Maier)
- Support. Actress = Josie (Jennifer Dimino)

- Extra Boss of Amalia = Vince J. Trenton (Cameo)
- Extra Agent of Amalia = Vince J. Trenton (Cameo)
- Extra Fiance of Amalia = Vince J. Trenton (Cameo)
- Mentioned in credits = Giuseppe (Wahid Albarzawi)
- Mentioned in credits = Louisa (Ines Isabel Braun)

- Producer, Writer, Director = Vince J. Trenton
- D.O.P., 1st AD = Isabella Solarte
- Post Production = Vince J. Trenton

PRODUCTION / CO-PRODUCTION:

Trevin Film & Media Production / University of West London

SETTING:

Present Day (05/28/2028 - 05/29/2028):
Public, Stuttgart/Germany (2024)

Amalia:

Amalia graduated from drama school 5 years ago & has had some success in her private & professional life in recent years, which didn't look very promising during her time at drama school. She struggled a lot with her own mental health, but it improved over time. Through another upheaval in her life, she was able to accept this fate for a new & positive turn.

Valentina:

Valentina, who's first a high school student & then becomes an acting student at Amalia's acting school, comes from a broken environment, which is due to both her classmates & her own family. She has also suffered from a mild learning disability since early childhood.

Josie:

Josie is Amalia's former classmate during her time at drama school 5 years ago. During this time, Josie's character was characterised by insecurity & aggressiveness. When her niece Valentina was diagnosed with a mild learning disability, her character & outlook on life changed completely.

Agent:

Amalia's acting agent, who sends her the bad news via text message & doesn't offer any suitable alternative solutions for her.

Supervisor:

Amalia's current employer at the health insurance company, who only shows his acknowledgment briefly once when Amalia is on the phone with her agent.

Amalia's Boyfriend:

Amalia's boyfriend is also only present in the background while she's talking to him on the phone after talking to Valentina.

LOGLINE:

5 year later, after the event of „Amalia’s Prime“:
In the face of industry downturn, 40-year-old actress Amalia mentors Valentina, a bullied teen with acting aspirations, spurring her to launch an acting school to empower youth. As she confronts her past & mentors others, Amalia's journey unfolds amidst unexpected reunions & revelations.

SYNOPSIS:

5 year later, after the event of „Amalia’s Prime“:
Amalia, a 40-year-old actress who has built a successful career in the theatre & film industry, faces unexpected challenges when the industry takes a downturn. Struggling with scarce job opportunities & personal setbacks, she finds solace in mentoring Valentina, a bullied teenager with dreams of acting. Inspired by Valentina's resilience, Amalia takes a bold step to start her own acting school, aiming to empower young people facing adversity. As she navigates this new chapter, unexpected reunions & revelations force her to confront her past & embrace her role as a mentor.

PLOT:

5 year later, after the event of „Amalia’s Prime“:
Amalia, who recently celebrated her 40th birthday, had established a good reputation in the theatre & film industry five years after graduating from drama school. Many aspects of her life had progressed positively: She had her own apartment, an agent, a part-time job (she had quit her original profession during her acting career), new friends, & a steady boyfriend. Additionally, her health, which had been an issue during her time as an actress, continued to improve steadily.

It seemed as though her life had taken a turn for the better. However, a sudden piece of bad news rocked her world once again: The theatre & film industry had shown it's negative side in recent years, especially economically. There were few job opportunities, many major roles were being given to mediocre actors, scriptwriters were struggling against artificial intelligence for their livelihoods, unscrupulous agencies were going bankrupt, & many production companies were investing more & more in CGI, which affected other artists & employees in the industry due to budget cuts or layoffs.

This came as a shock to Amalia, & she increasingly felt the pressure & the changes in the industry, making her conscious of the loss of her own livelihood. Her agent, also facing increased competition, could no longer secure her any reputable assignments, & her part-time job alone didn't provide enough income to make ends meet. Her boyfriend, with whom she shared an apartment, was the only moral support regarding the current overall situation. Nevertheless, she felt internally abandoned & didn't know how to get her professional & personal life back on track. These events weighed heavily on her physically & mentally, & she found herself back in the situation she faced when she was still attending drama school.

One morning, she decided to take a day off & sit on a park bench to reflect intensively on her life. She wondered if this was what she had ever wanted & if there were other reasons that had previously motivated her, & why her health was deteriorating again. Sitting on the park bench next to her was a young girl, about 17 years old, who looked very sad, with tears visible in her eyes. Amalia sat down next to her & asked what was wrong.

The young girl, who introduced herself as Valentina, revealed that she was being bullied at school because of a minor learning disability, & her parents were also struggling to cope with it.

Valentina also shared her dream of becoming an actress someday. Through this revelation, both engaged in conversation & shared their experiences. Amalia was impressed by Valentina's determination, motivation, & willpower, which also benefited her & distracted her from the events of the past few days. After a few hours, the paths of the two parted, & they both went back home.

After several weeks of careful consideration, Amalia took her life into her own hands & changed everything: She quit her part-time job, ended her cooperation with her agent, & with savings from her old job & her part-time job, founded her own private acting school. She realised that she wanted to give young people the opportunity to achieve their dreams, & that those who either showed a certain ailment or came from difficult family circumstances also had a chance. Her advertising was well received by the public, & her engagement was rewarded in her own industry.

One day, Valentina entered the door of Amalia's acting school, which bore the name "Actors Studio Amalia", accompanied by Josie, a former classmate of Amalia. When Amalia saw Josie again after so many years, she was completely surprised, but she remained calm, polite, & professional. Amalia had not expected such a reunion, especially since she had cut off contact with Josie, Giuseppe, & Louisa. Josie accompanied Valentina, who introduced herself as her aunt, because she had been carrying a burden for years. Josie asked Amalia to briefly talk to her about her behaviour, her background, & the situation back then at drama school.

Josie, who had now given up on her acting dream, revealed to Amalia that she, like her niece Valentina, also suffered from a minor learning disability, which was a great burden on the entire family & had strongly influenced her character. This diagnosis changed Josie's character so much that she carried an inner insecurity & this was also evident in an aggressive manner in acting class.

Amalia thanked her for her candid words & forgave her by embracing her. At the same time, Amalia promised Josie that she would take good care of her niece & encourage her as well.

At that moment, Amalia faced her fate in which she would pass on her talent to the next generation in order to better protect the profession of acting & to practice it honourably & dutifully.

THE END

(further continuation or new edition possible)

FADE-IN

001 FLASHBACK: Amalia's Success

In this scene are some flashbacks about Amalia's success over the last 5 years visible: These can be seen both in the professional & private areas. These are mainly footage about her work in front of the camera as an actress as well as insights into her social environment & her recently celebrated 40th birthday.

002 INT (Afternoon): Office: Distressing News

(Establisher/Fullshot: Shots from all possible angles)

Amalia is currently at work, where, in addition to her work as an actress, she works part-time as a commercial employee for a health insurance company. However, she only does the work with half her strength because she wants to invest her skills more in acting. While working, she receives a text message from her agent with bad news. Amalia reacts completely confused & stunned.

003 INT (Afternoon): Office: Pressure Mounts

The content of the message from her agent describes the current situation in the industry: The industry is currently not doing well economically & the agent can't find Amalia any demanding jobs as an actress. Amalia picks up the phone herself & calls her agent to clarify the situation. She leaves the office & her supervisor asks what's going on. The agent explains the situation to Amalia but behaves quite cowardly & unprofessionally, while Amalia had an emotional outburst & a mix of anger, disappointment & insecurity.

The agent regrets giving Amalia this kind of news & offers poor alternative solutions, but Amalia doesn't accept this behaviour of her agent & demands explanations. She feels abandoned & starts to get suspicious about the whole situation. After a while she ends
the call.

Amalia:

Yes? What's going on? What happened?

Agent:

Well, I'm afraid I have some bad news.

Amalia:

Yes, you just messaged me about it, what is it about?

Agent:

Well, there are some major issues at the agency & ...

Amalia:

And what? Spit it out!

Agent:

Well, there are financial difficulties & also regarding bookings for the artists. Many of our clients, including those you know, can no longer afford to pay larger fees to the artists. We also have to say goodbye to some of our loyal artists because we no longer receive the necessary fees from the client to compensate our artists.

Amalia:

I don't understand, what does that mean? What are you trying to tell me?

Agent:

The film industry is currently not doing well. Strikes have been announced in the news, many production companies are opting for AI & CGI as cost-saving measures, & yes, there're other reasons that I unfortunately can't disclose to you.

Amalia:

Does that mean you want to terminate my contract?

Agent:

Well, yes & no. You're one of our artists with a professional background, but the fact is, it's not possible for me to keep artists that we then have to pay more. I can only offer you jobs that come with significantly lower fees. These are fees we usually pay to extras. What do you think about that? Do you want to reconsider or should we end our cooperation?

Amalia:

I can't believe what I'm hearing. I'm hanging up now, I can't talk anyway, as I'm at work. Goodbye.

END OF SCENE 1

004 EXT (Afternoon):

Park: The Conversation

(The next day)

After this terrible phone call, Amalia takes a day off & goes for a walk in a park. She takes a seat at a bench where she first reflects on everything about herself & how she's trying to get around this situation. She also asks herself all sorts of questions about her past, present, future & her own existence.

At the same time, she notices a young girl on the bench next to her who looks very emotionally distressed. Amalia sits down next to her & starts talking to her.

Amalia:

Hello? everything OK?

Valentina, who looks very emotionally distressed at the moment, slowly composes herself & tries to answer a little hesitantly.

Valentina:

Not really, everything is so bad at the moment.

Amalia:

What happened?

Valentina

I don't know if I should tell you. I'm very embarrassed & ashamed of it.

Amalia:

What should you be ashamed of?

Valentina gathers her courage & admits what's bothering her.

Valentina:

Things aren't going well at my school. I'm being teased by my classmates & my teacher doesn't do anything. My parents also let me down in this regard.

Amalia:

But what exactly is the problem?

Valentina:

My dream is to become an actress after school, but due to a learning disability that I was diagnosed with as a child, everyone laughs at me & no one wants to believe in me. I feel alone & abandoned by the whole world.

Amalia seems quite shocked & tries to give Valentina courage, without considering the impression that she's also an actress & is currently having a sensory crisis.

Amalia:

Don't let people like that & sayings like that get you down & don't let diagnoses or the like unsettle you either. You decide your own destiny & if you believe in yourself first, then you'll gain self-respect & then people will respect you too.

Valentina's smile slowly returns, giving her hope again.

Valentina:

That's very nice, thank you very much.

Amalia:

You're more than welcome. If you work hard on yourself, you can achieve your dream. By the way, I'm Amalia. What's your name?

Valentina:

I'm Valentina, nice to meet you!

The two continue to talk & deepen their conversation.

005 EXT (Afternoon):

Park: Decision

After a while of intensive conversations, Amalia & Valentina part ways & both go home. On the way home, Amalia suddenly stops in front of a building mirror respectively glass wall & begins to observe it intently. She begins to reflect on the conversation between Valentina & her & sees it as a change that occurred at that moment. At the same time, Amalia calls her boyfriend & asks him to speak urgently.

END OF SCENE 2

006 INT (Afternoon):

Drama School: A New Start

(1 month later)

After several weeks of careful consideration, Amalia took her life into her own hands & changed everything: She quit her part-time job, ended her cooperation with her agent, &, with savings from her old job & her part-time job, founded her own private acting school. Her boyfriend also gave her some support. She realised that she wanted to give young people the opportunity to achieve their dreams, & that those who either showed a certain ailment or came from difficult family circumstances also had a chance. Similar to the encounter she had with Valentina back then. Her advertising was well received by the public, & her engagement was rewarded in her own industry. As a name, Amalia founded the acting school "Actors Studio Amalia".

007 INT (Afternoon):

Drama School: The Surprise

Shortly before Amalia starts her next class, she does some preparation & administrative work. Suddenly she receives a pleasant visit from Valentina, who would like to take lessons with her. Valentina had recently successfully completed her compulsory schooling & now wants to devote herself entirely to her dream. First they greet each other & briefly discuss the program. Then comes the next surprise: Valentina comes accompanied by her aunt Josie, Amalia's former classmate at the drama school. When Amalia saw Josie again after so many years, she was completely surprised.

Josie:

Hello Amalia. Nice to see you again.

Amalia had not expected such a reunion, especially since she had cut off contact with Josie, Giuseppe, & Louisa. Amalia remained calm, polite, & professional.

Amalia:

Hello! Yes, it's nice to see you again too. I didn't know that Valentina is your niece. She was about to inquire about one of my courses.

Josie:

Yes, she told me about you, how you met her & that she saw that advert of your drama school. Congratulations on that! I consciously accompanied her to you because I also carry a certain burden with me. Something that neither Giuseppe nor Louisa know.

Amalia:

What do you mean by that?

Josie asked Amalia to briefly talk to her about her behaviour, her background, & the situation back then at drama school.

Josie:

I gave up my dream of becoming an actress for personal reasons. Like Valentina, I also suffer from a mild learning disability, which my environment & my own family didn't accept. This diagnosis had no positive impact on my life. I'm truly sorry for the way I treated you at drama school. I don't want this to happen to Valentina either. Please take care of her.

008 INT (Afternoon):

Drama School: Forgiveness

Amalia was quite shocked by this confession & at the same time she showed understanding about Josie's behaviour during their time together at drama school. Amalia forgives Josie by embracing her & Valentina smiles.

Amalia:

I promise you that I'll take good care of Valentina & I'll encourage her too.

At that moment, Amalia faced her fate in which she would pass on her talent to the next generation in order to better protect the profession of acting & to practice it honourably & dutifully.

FADE OUT

THE END

(further continuation or new edition possible)

Alternative ending:

Amalia can't forgive Josie because of the mistreatment at the drama school. But she still wants to help Valentina because Amalia sees many good qualities in her, which is of great importance for maintaining the actor's profession.

Amalia:

You know, I suffered a lot because of you, Giuseppe & Louisa. You can't imagine what I had to go through. I couldn't forget all that. However, I will forgive you, but only so that I can find peace myself & that I will take care of your niece & support her on her journey.
