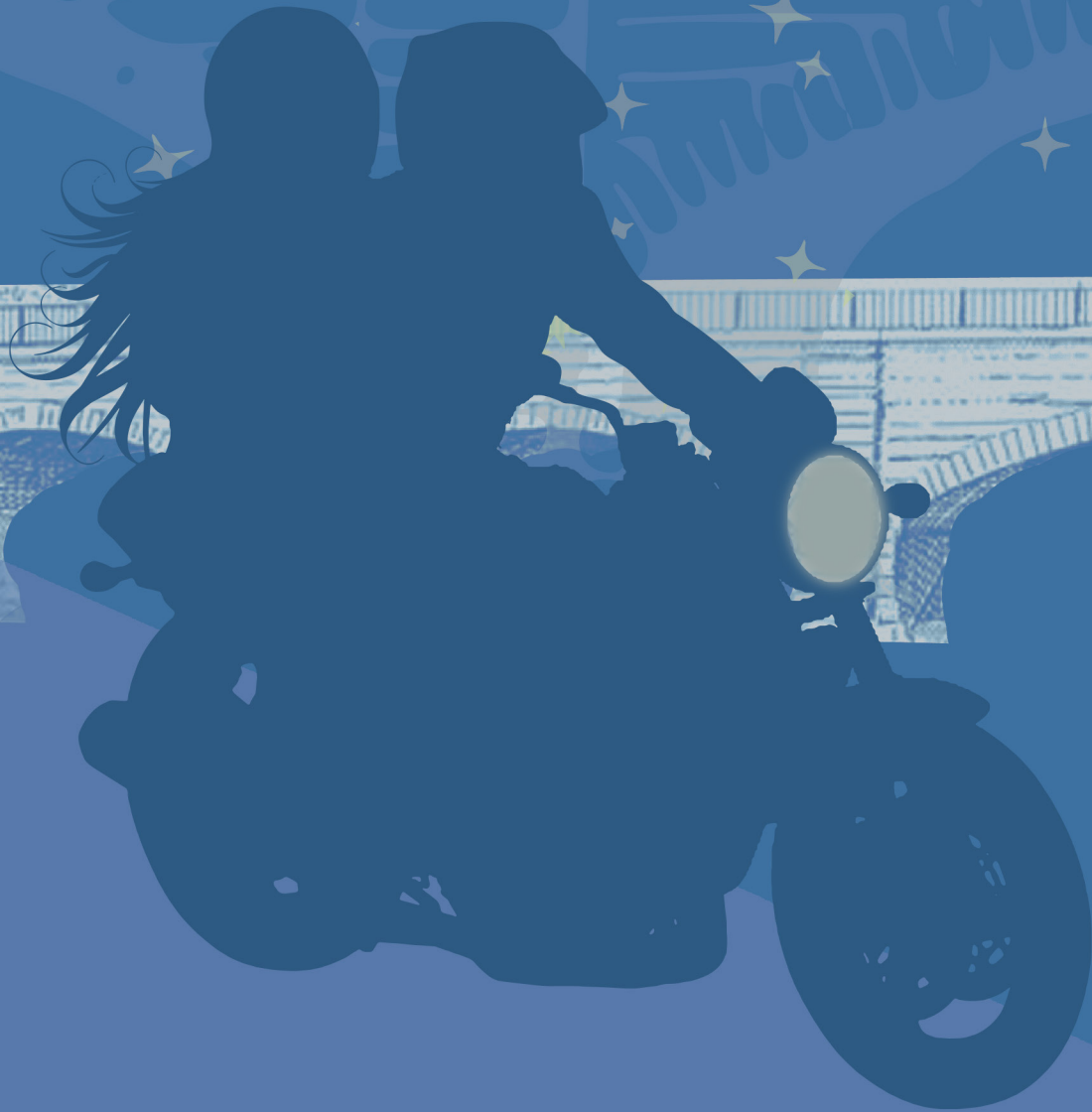


ORTHODOXGIRL



When Zoey meets Azel sparks—of the spiritual kind—fly.

Jeryl Parade

ORTHODOXGIRL

OrthodoxGirl is a romance film about Zoey a secular Jewish woman and Azel an Ultra-Orthodox man.

Amazing projects such as **Unorthodox** and **Disobedience** depict the beauty of breaking free from a restrictive world. **OrthodoxGirl** shows the other side of that desire. Zoey says she yearns for something—someone—spiritual. **Nothing Fails** by Madonna conveys the tone of **OrthodoxGirl**: “I’m not religious, but I feel such love, makes me want to pray.”

Comparable: **Nobody Wants This** romantic comedy about an agnostic woman and a rabbi on Netflix





FESTIVALS & AWARDS



Jeryl's 10-page screenplay for a proof-of-concept film has a 70% film festival acceptance rate and has earned these accolades:

Staged Reading

2024 NYC TV Festival

Best Romantic Comedy Screenplay

2024 Atlanta Short Film Festival

Table Read Performance

2024 Brookfield Film Festival

Best Romance Screenplay

2023 Wallachia International Film Festival

CHARACTERS



ZOEY

In mourning for her dad Zoey says Kaddish in an Orthodox synagogue where, as a secular Jew, she does not fit in.



AZEL

An Ultra-Orthodox Jew. In Hasidic black coat and immaculate white shirt Azel is described by onlookers as “hot”.



SHOSHANA

Modern Orthodox woman who aggressively courts Azel and is Zoey’s rival



BRIDGET AND TIFFANY

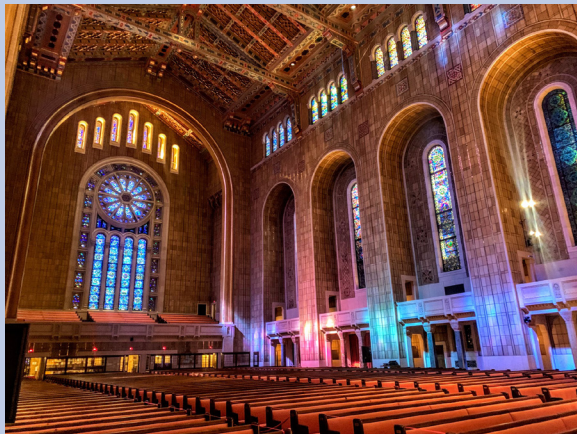
2 call girls who witness the meet cute of Zoey and Azel. They become Zoey’s confidantes and cheerleaders.



AZEL'S DAD

Reform Jew who views Azel’s new devoutness as a rebellion

SETTINGS



UPPER EAST SIDE REFORM SYNAGOGUE

Azel's dad is a benefactor.



5-STAR HOTEL BAR

Where Zoey and the call girls meet and bond



ORTHODOX SYNAGOGUE

Women sit in the balcony separated from the men in the sanctuary below.



LITTLE ISLAND

Where Zoey and Azel stroll at night and have their first kiss



LAG B'OMER BONFIRE

Where Zoey spies Azel celebrating with Shoshana

DIALOGUE

SHOSHANA

He's a returnee.

ZOEY

What's a returnee?

SHOSHANA

A heretofore secular Jew who has recently discovered their religion. Azel scares the other eligible Orthodox women. He could revert to the profane world at any time. Not me. I'm *brave*.

ZOEY

I came to say Kaddish but— (sobs)

AZEL

You could not get the words out.

ZOEY

No.

Azel touches Zoey to console her. Then he catches himself and retreats.

AZEL

Forgive me.

ZOEY

For what?

AZEL

I do not touch women.

Zoey cracks a smile.

ZOEY

Not ever?

JERYL PARADE



Jeryl Parade is the writer/director of two award-winning series, **My 90s** and **The Elite 8**.

In 2023-24, **My 90s** screened at 20 festivals and won these awards:

Best Web Series at Mediterranean Film Festival Cannes-Milan-Athens
Best Pilot at Wallachia International Film Festival (Bucharest)
Best Episodic Series at Dreamachine International Film Festival (LA)
Best Original Song at International Online Web Fest (Milan)

In 2019-20 **The Elite 8** was an official selection at 20 film & Web festivals in major US & European cities & Israel.

Her new screenplay, **OrthodoxGirl**, is for a short film or proof-of-concept for a feature film. It is based on her experiences saying Kaddish for her parents in Orthodox synagogues.

Jeryl studied filmmaking at USC and writing at The New School.