

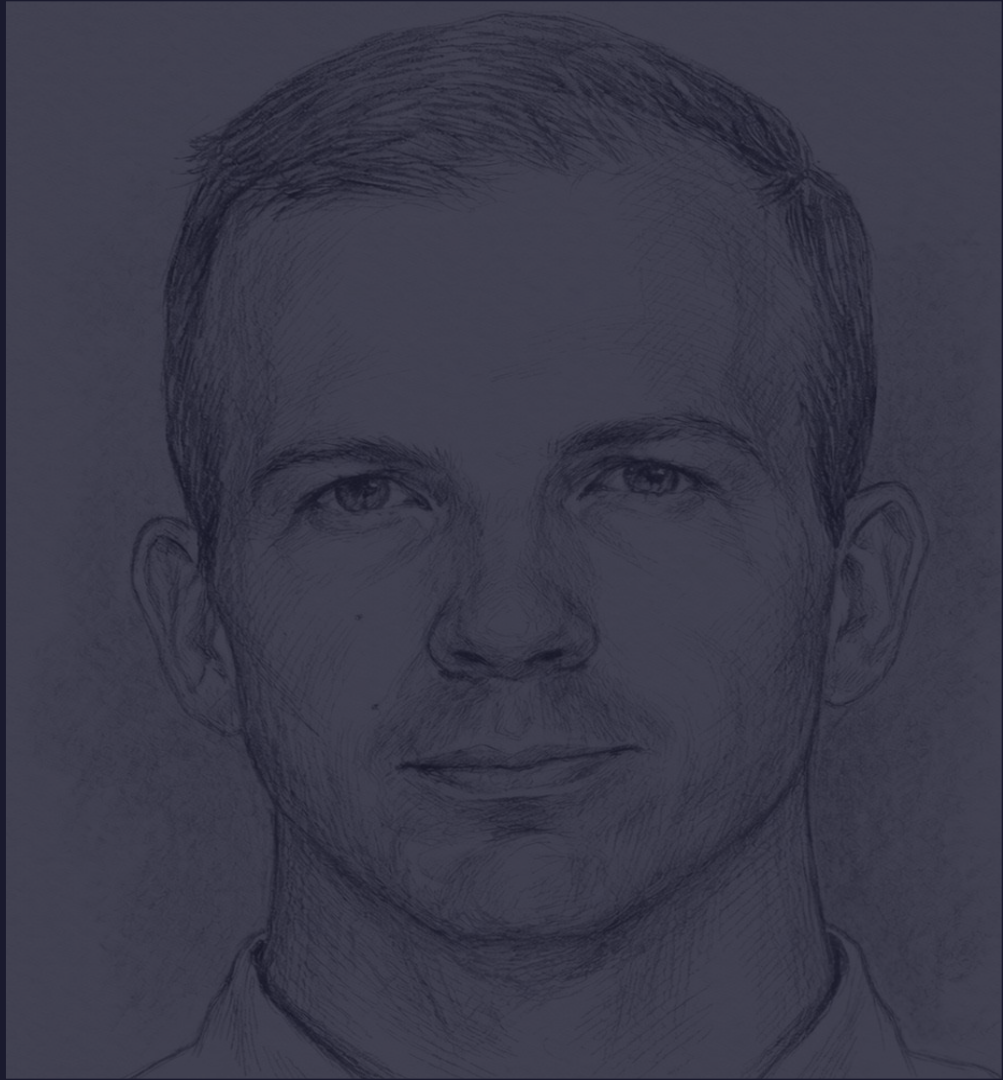
PATSY

Lee Harvey Oswald.

Not innocent,
but not guilty of murder.

A SCREENPLAY BY GARY B. HALEY

Quarter-Finalist · Emerging Screenwriters Drama Competition 2026
Quarter-Finalist · Santa Barbara International Screenplay Awards



THE LOGLINE

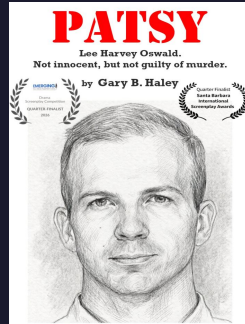
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A young US Marine, duped into becoming a pawn in a presidential assassination, realizes too late that his greatest act of patriotism has made him history's most infamous villain.

Genre: Historical Thriller / Political Drama

Format: Feature Film

Runtime: ~1 Hour



THE PREMISE

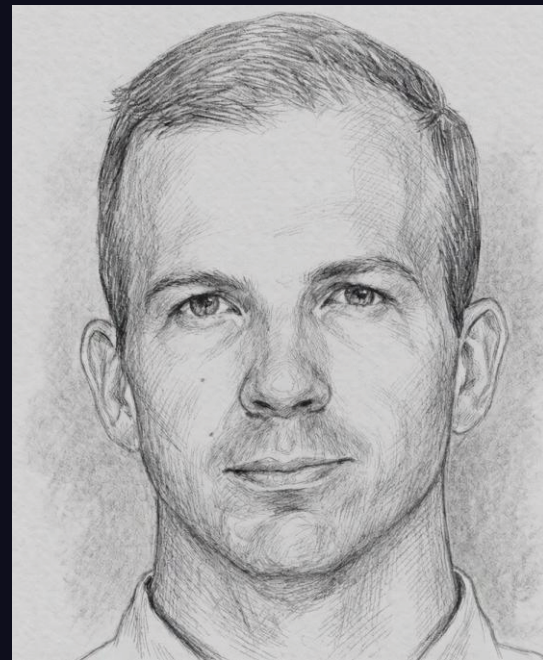
History's most reviled assassin was more likely trying to *prevent* the assassination...again.

Recruited by the CIA: A young Marine is covertly recruited for a deep-cover mission to infiltrate the Soviet Union — and told to defect.

Planted as a patsy: On November 22, 1963, Oswald believes he is protecting the president by leaving his Carcano rifle on the sixth floor, with an unsighted scope.

The trap springs shut: Moment after the last shot rang out, Oswald realized he has been played. His rifle, his workplace, his identity — all engineered to blame him.

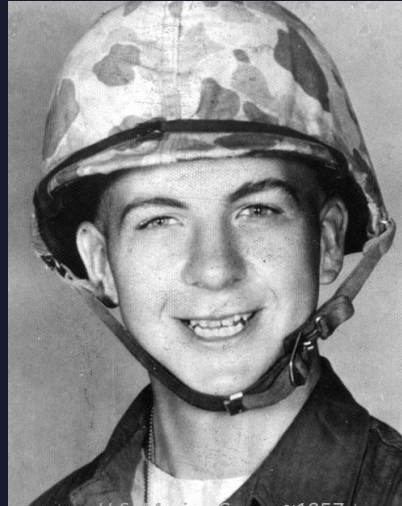
No day in court: Before Oswald can speak publicly or secure a lawyer, Jack Ruby silences him forever.



THE REAL LEE HARVEY OSWALD



"Bing! You're hypnotized," says Janet Bolin to Lee Oswald in the old bio lab.



U.S. Marine Corps, ~1957

A teenager from New Orleans & Fort Worth scored 7th in his class at Keesler AFB's Aircraft Control & Warning Operator course.

Trained on U-2 spy plane radar systems at the most sensitive base in the Pacific.

Court-martialed twice

— for a gun planted in his desk, and for "spilling a drink" on a superior — yet he never informed on his fellow Marines.

"Bing! You're hypnotized" — Arlington Heights HS Yearbook, 1957

THE STORY ARC

ACT I

The Recruit

1957–1959 · Keesler AFB → Atsugi, Japan → defection to USSR.
A patriotic young Marine is slowly turned into a living cover story.

ACT II

The Mission

1962–1963 · Return to the U.S. · surveillance of Walker · the planted Carcano · a warning call to the FBI that goes unheeded.

ACT III

The Frame

November 22, 1963 · Oswald's scope is not sighted in. He is in the lunchroom. The shots are fired above him. He realizes the truth.

CODA

Silenced

Nov. 24, 1963 · Two days after the assassination, Jack Ruby walks into the Dallas PD garage and ensures Oswald never speaks, even though Oswald passed a paraffin test.

WHY THIS STORY, WHY NOW

- 1 The JFK Records Collection was finally released in full in 2025, reigniting global public fascination with the assassination.
- 2 New generations hunger for revisionist histories that challenge accepted narratives — from *Oppenheimer* to *Spencer*.
- 3 The screenplay is already an award-recognized quarter-finalist, validating its dramatic potential.
- 4 No major film has ever placed Oswald as the protagonist — the man wronged by history.
- 5 Dallas Police Chief Jesse Curry admitted in 1969: "We don't have any proof that Oswald fired the rifle, and never did."

COMPARABLE FILMS

JFK (1991)

Munich (2005)

Thirteen Days (2000)

Frost/Nixon (2008)

Oppenheimer (2023)

GROUND IN DOCUMENTED EVIDENCE

Every scene in Patsy is drawn from testimony, historical records, documented facts, and decades of research.

Officer Baker encounter

Baker and Truly confirmed Oswald was calm and unshaken just seconds after the final shot — on the 2nd floor.

Roger Craig's testimony

Deputy Sheriff Craig saw a man matching Oswald's description flee and enter a Nash Rambler on Elm Street.

The defective scope

Tests revealed that the Carcano's scope lacked the shims needed to sight the scope in — the rifle could not have been used to assassinate Kennedy.

Chief Curry's admission

Dallas Police Chief confirmed in 1969: no physical evidence places Oswald at the window with the rifle.

Carolyn Arnold's account

TSBD employee placed Oswald in the 1st-floor lunchroom at 12:25 p.m. — 5 minutes before the shots.

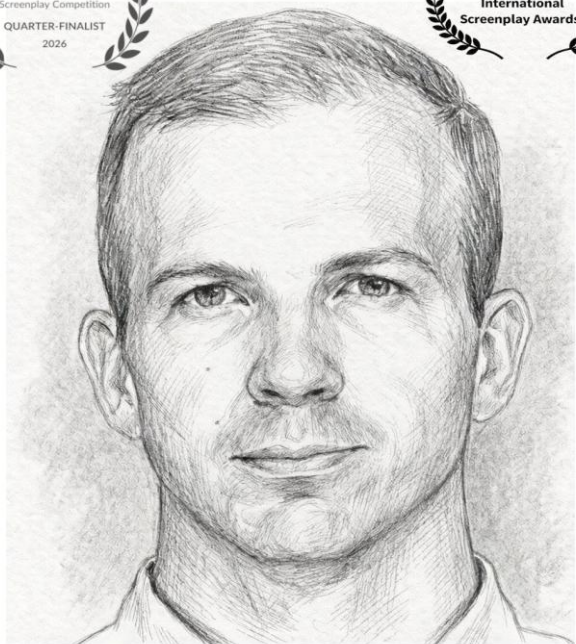
The Thomas Vallee tip

Evidence suggests Oswald phoned authorities about a separate Chicago assassination plot days earlier.

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by Gary B. Haley



THE WRITER

Gary B. Haley

Screenwriter

Patsy is based on decades of meticulous research into the Kennedy assassination while writing novels JFK FYI and JFK Q&A. Gary has read nearly everything that's ever been written about the assassination, including much of the newly released, declassified JFK Records Collection.

Gary approaches Oswald not as a villain to be condemned, but as a complex, tragic figure caught between duty and deception.

The screenplay has been recognized as a Quarter-Finalist at both the Emerging Screenwriters Drama Screenplay Competition (2026) and the Santa Barbara International Screenplay Awards.

PATSY

*"Nobody's yet been able to put him in that building
with a gun in his hand."*

— Dallas Police Chief Jesse E. Curry, 1969

Written by Gary B. Haley