

TAMING THE TIGER

THE FILM



A TRUE STORY

WHAT DRIVES A MAN TO LET GO OF HIMSELF TO SAVE OTHERS?

Tony Anthony, whose dramatic story is documented in the award-winning books, *Taming the Tiger* and *Cry of the Tiger* is an international speaker and advisor on crime and rehabilitation. He is married with two children and for the past 20 years he has taken his compelling life story and teaching to prisons, schools, universities and stadiums, addressing hundreds of thousands of people every year.

“ Personal tragedy turned me into a blood-thirsty, violent man. I was incarcerated in the notorious Nicosia Central Prison, Cyprus when, on the 3rd May 1990, my life was radically and powerfully transformed. We live in a world that is desperately in need of hope and redemption. My story shows how this can be found, even in the most unlikely of places. ”



The Award winning book from
Tony Anthony and Angela Little ...

1,500,000 copies sold globally

Translated into 30 languages

TV documentary

Cry of the Tiger book for young people

International author touring schedule

and now...

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Taken away as a child from his parents in England and forcibly trained in the ancient martial art of Kung Fu in rural China, Tony Anthony becomes three-times Kung Fu Champion of the World. He is later head-hunted for his fighting skills and abilities by an elite close protection company.

From China to Europe, America and across the Mediterranean into the Middle East, we follow Tony guarding the world's richest and most powerful people. When deep personal tragedy strikes suddenly, his tough regime of discipline and self-control twists and bolts out of control and he begins to use his skills for illegal means and bloodthirsty pleasures. Eventually incarcerated in a deadly prison in Cyprus, Tony hits rock bottom. When a stranger asks to visit him, Tony's desperate days are set on a different path, towards an encounter with a higher power that will change his life forever . . .





TREATMENT

***Taming The Tiger's* unique cinematic journey offers edge-of-the-seat entertainment. Packed with Kung Fu action, drama, nail-biting suspense, romance and tragedy, it features a surprising twist, challenging its audience in the portrayal of an unexpected and remarkable spiritual encounter. Fast-paced, action-packed, compelling and, at times, chilling, this is a deeply moving story of one man's brutalised life and his journey to redemption . . .**

KUNG FU:

Opening in China, Tony's childhood initiation into the traditional world of martial science is brutal but it sets the scene for some of the story's most beautiful landscapes and thrilling action. From the ancient art of meditation, the study of animals and an encounter with a wild white tiger, to the gritty streets of Triad territory, prostitution and racketeering, we are introduced to an art that is as beautiful, skilled and self-disciplined as it is violent and deadly.

PRISON:

A world of debauchery and violence, these graphic scenes (with echoes of *Midnight Express*) depict the reality of rejected and broken souls at their most base level.

Nicosia Central Prison in Cyprus is a seemingly God-forsaken place, yet as the plot thickens it is in this melting pot of depravity that inconceivable hope, life and true freedom breaks through.

ACTION:

Progressing in a *Bourne Trilogy*-like style through cities across Europe, the United States and the Middle East we are exposed to the world of espionage and underground crime as we follow Tony through highly choreographed close protection and hand-to-hand combat sequences.

ROMANCE:

Juxtaposed against tough scenes of high action, Tony's romantic encounter with a blind Swedish law student infuses the story with emotion, tenderness and glimmers of human warmth that are touchingly apparent in their otherwise startling absence.

Principally set in London, their romance ironically becomes the springboard for the story's progression into tragedy and the unleashing of tsunami force self-destruction.

TRAGEDY:

In an intensely gripping scene Tony learns of the tragic death of his lover, killed by a mindless drunk driver. The trauma finally tips the scales and instantly Tony's suppressed emotions, buried deep in his soul – the wounds of rejection by his mother and his disabled father, the physical and emotional brutality of his training at the hand of a merciless grandfather, his lack of identity and a place to call home – are catapulted to the surface sending him on a blood thirsty rampage.

SPIRIT:

Missionary Michael Wright's visits to Tony whilst in prison present intense scenes of challenging dialogue and the opportunity of a new 'way' for Tony. Films such as *The Green Mile* and *The Sixth Sense*, depicting spiritual encounters, have exceeded box office expectations. It is without a doubt that Tony's tangible spiritual experience can be sensitively and dramatically depicted on screen, making *Taming the Tiger* a unique, powerful and groundbreaking cinematic experience.





SYNOPSIS

Tony Anthony's London childhood comes to an abrupt end when at the tender age of 4, he is sent to Guangdong in Southern China to be raised by his grandfather, the legendary Kung Fu Master, Cheung Ling Soo. Alone, confused and in a foreign land Tony quickly understands that, if he is to survive, he must succumb to a harsh regime of cruel discipline. Like an animal he is quickly 'broken in' and so begins his initiation into the ancient ways of his maternal ancestors.

A half cast or 'round-eye', Tony suffers not only the blows of his Grandfather but also the merciless torment of the community who name him Gwai Lo (meaning 'foreign devil') and deem him forever an outsider. If there is any tenderness it is in the figure of his grandmother who opens up the young boy's imagination with stories and Chinese traditions that bring bitter-sweet reprieve from the cane.

Tony's story of harsh training and brokenness is set against a backdrop of traditional China's colour, vibrancy and stunning cinematic landscapes: From the scorching heat of Guangdong's open plains to ice-cold, death-defying mountain ravines, the young novice is made to perform extraordinary exercises to mould, shape and strengthen his physique into an ultimate fighting machine. Harnessing the power of ch'i, he endeavours to move on the breeze and through a remarkable encounter with a wild white tiger, learns to overcome all fear and adopt the movement, strength and spirit of the magnificent beast. With this he is given a new name, Lo Fu Zai, meaning 'Little Tiger'.

As a teenager Tony finds himself using his skills in many episodes of high drama. When a drug syndicate for human trafficking kidnaps one of his cousins, Tony's grandfather sends him alone to the city to find her and bring her back alive. Tony searches the streets and dark alleys for the

brothel where it is believed she is being kept and finds himself at the headquarters of the city's most deadly triad gang. Men come at him with knives but Tony's deft moves and skill see him defending himself and rescuing the girl.

This is just one of many 'tests' and eventually Cheung Ling Soo begins to enter his apprentice in competitions which take him across China and Pakistan. Continually seeking only his grandfather's fealty, Tony becomes three times 'World Champion', earning a fearsome reputation and becoming a 'Master in Kung Fu'.

Whilst intrigued by his grandmother's superstitious practises to appease ancient gods, Tony is bound under his master's mantra of 'there is no god, only the god within.'

Harnessing the power of this belief he proves himself many times over and gains the attention of a private close-protection company who seek his help in training their men and women in hand-to-hand combat.

This means a move to Europe which soon leads Tony into the higher echelons of society working as an elite bodyguard.

World travel, private jets, fast cars, yachts, big money and powerful people: a far cry from the cherry-blossom temples, the bamboo bed and the restricted pleasures of his youth. Yet whilst Tony relishes the freedom this new life has to offer, the discipline of his training keeps him

focussed and in control. He soon graduates to work with a number of rich and powerful Arabian businessmen and finds himself in a shady world as a tension-filled meeting in the Middle East escalates into a serious life-threatening situation.

A car chase tears through Riyadh's narrow labyrinth streets until Tony, his colleague and their client are forced to abandon the vehicle and take off on foot through the gruelling desert with the assassins hot on their heels.

A shoot-out ensues and Tony's right-hand-man falls but the client is safe. They live to seek refuge with the Bedouin and after a series of intense covert manoeuvres eventually escape the country under false identities.

Tony accepts an appointment for a Saudi Arabian politician named Amin, heading up his close protection unit in the UK, Italy and Cyprus. Whilst in London, Tony meets and falls in love with a blind Swedish law student. Though their time together is snatched between his assignments, they begin planning a future together. Meanwhile, despite only brief periods of contact throughout his childhood, Tony tries to maintain something of a relationship with his parents. It is a tense association but Tony provides financial support for his father who is fast deteriorating through multiple sclerosis.

One day, when Tony is on assignment in Rome, tragedy strikes. Aiya, his fiancée is killed in an accident with a drunk driver. A switch is flicked in Tony's psyche, and the repression of his youth erupts with unprecedented force, sending him on a path of self-destruction.

Reckless, he succumbs to his boss's invitations to get involved in illicit debt collection; the self-control, discipline and etiquette of his training now vanquished by a new taste for unbridled violence. Tony takes to the streets, with predator intent looking for fights, hungry for blood. When his parents approach him for a large sum of money in the hope of treatment for his father's condition Tony vows to get the funds by any means and embarks on a series of burglaries and violent episodes that finally land him in prison in Cyprus.

Nicosia Central Prison is a sickening melting-pot of depravity and severe psychological torment. In the black silence of solitary confinement, Tony

is confronted by the demons of his dark soul. He tries at first to seek solace in meditation and the rituals of his training but the one-time 'path to enlightenment' is now some far distant reality.

Back on the prison block, he receives a letter from a stranger, Michael Wright, an Irish missionary working on the island. Tony at first rejects his request to visit, until he hears about the Coca Cola and chocolate offered to prisoners in the visiting room.

Tony is rude and aggressive with Michael, yet week after week the missionary returns, becoming a precious window to the outside world. Though he remains suspicious of his motives, Tony grows to appreciate the man's warmth and commitment. The months drag by and after a particularly violent episode on the wing an agitated and paranoid Tony confronts Michael about his unprecedented friendship.

That evening Tony cries out from years of torment and in an emotional encounter finds himself literally flooded, experiencing a tangible supernatural power in his prison cell. A new day dawns and Tony Anthony begins a miraculous new life. Though still incarcerated, he lives as a 'free man'. It is a transformation that is sudden, startling and intriguing to all who witness it. Many try to test and challenge his resolve. The result is a remarkable story of redemption that is far from over...



THE PRODUCERS

TONY ANTHONY



'I'm a great fan of movies and I know that the true story of my life is as extraordinary as many of the great action films. The difference with *Taming the Tiger* is its message of transformation and of hope. I believe my experience and my message is worth sharing and what better way than to stage it through a block-busting cinematic experience full of drama, of action, mystery and suspense . . . the depth is in the *truth* of the story.'

PATRICK AUMIAUX



With a Master of Business and Administration (MBA) in movie production and many years experience in international project management of multi-million euros, Patrick Aumiaux is today associate and producer in *Syloe Production*, a movie and TV series production company based in Paris, France.

SISANDA HENNA



Actor-Producer. Trained software engineer turned actor, has been in film production since 2003. Successful South African actor, starring in ground-breaking series *Tsha tsha*, *Rifle Road* (Cannes 2005), moved on to production for TV and film, focusing on development. Married to Bonnie Henna (actress *Catch the Fire*, *Invictus*, *The Philanthropist*...)

FINANCE

The primary objective of *Taming The Tiger, The Movie* is to produce a top quality piece of entertainment from a story that has proved itself undeniably provocative in print but demands the high impact visual format of a Hollywood style blockbuster to tell its amazing truth for a mass audience.

To achieve this goal the producers seek the highest standards in acclaimed screenwriting, casting, acting and production. *Taming the Tiger Productions Ltd.* has been established to oversee the funding and development of the project.

It is estimated that *Taming The Tiger, The Movie* will require an investment budget of £20 million, including a first phase development budget of £500,000.

The producers invite you to further discussion of the business plan, financial forecasting and overall mission of this exciting and ambitious project.

TIMELINE:

Development:

2010: Raising Development Funds

Soliciting interest from Writers, acclaimed Actors & Director

2011: Script writing

Securing financial partners

Recruiting production staff and cast

Pre-Production:

2011: October to December

Production:

2012: January to March

Post Production:

2012: April to September

Distribution and exhibition:

2012: November

TAMING THE TIGER PRODUCTIONS LTD.



TAMING THE TIGER

P R O D U C T I O N S L T D

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