

ONE-PAGER

MARIAM

Rachel Shepherd: Mother of None

A female-led survival espionage thriller in the melting Canadian Arctic

- **Format:** 6–7 episode limited series
- **Genre:** Scripted Drama · Survival Thriller · Eco-Conspiracy · Geopolitical Espionage
- **Tone:** Atmospheric · Urgent · Visceral · Intimate
- **Set:** Present day, Baffin Island, Canadian Arctic

Logline:

A rogue discovery in the Arctic sets off an international scramble to contain the truth. At the quiet center of this storm is Igor Stogoff, arms dealer, father, strategist, and survivor of the Cold War's invisible front lines. He's not the villain. He's the one who arms them.

Why This Story Now:

Rachel Shepherd: Mother of None is a female-driven, emotionally grounded survival thriller rooted in real history, ecological collapse, and geopolitical urgency. It blends high cinematic tension with psychological depth and a wounded love story. It's *Killing Eve* meets *The Night Manager*, with a twist of *The Terror* and *The Revenant*.

Character Spotlight: Mariam

Intelligent, sensual, and emotionally volatile, **Mariam** is the unexpected wild card in *Mother of None*. Both spy and lover, strategist and seductress, she is deeply entwined with the fate of the bioweapon and with Jacques Couteau, the man assigned to find it.

Raised between Moscow and Cairo, Mariam was trained in the sciences and the art of persuasion. Daughter and trusted confidante to arms dealer **Igor Stogoff**, she serves as his

assistant, courier, and occasional executioner. Her loyalty to Igor is both genuine and transactional — she owes him her survival — but her love for **Jacques** complicates everything. She's the only character capable of betraying both men at once.

Mariam boards Igor's private jet en route to the Arctic accompanying Jacques and presenting herself as flight attendant, carrying dossiers and secrets. Her mission: track Jacques, report to Igor, and assess the value of the buried weapon. But her heart and the truth may not survive the trip.

Why We're Reaching Out:

- **Fierce sensuality meets cerebral tension:** Mariam is a rare blend of brains, beauty, and moral complexity; ideal for an actress who excels at subverting the femme fatale archetype.
- **Limited screen time, maximum impact:** Mariam's arc may span only a few episodes, but her presence destabilizes every major character.
- **Award-bait material:** From whispered seductions to calculated betrayals, the role offers range, depth, and unforgettable imagery.
- **Globally resonant:** Her backstory touches on Middle Eastern, Russian, and post-Cold War trauma, making her uniquely relevant in today's geopolitics.

Casting Vision:

Think: *Eva Green* in "Casino Royale", *Nina Hoss* in "Phoenix", *Golshifteh Farahani* in "Extraction", or *Natalie Dormer* in "Penny Dreadful". We're seeking someone who can play allure and menace with equal precision, while revealing a hidden ache beneath.

Production Status:

Pilot script completed. 7 novel chapters complete. Early conversations underway with select producers, directors, and lead talent. We are now assembling a creative team and key cast with a view toward packaging and pre-financing. Mariam is a pivotal part of that vision.

About the Creators:

Written by Grammy-listed artist **Jay Elle** and bestselling novelist **Marielle De Savoie**.

Based on the upcoming novel by Jay Elle titled *Rachel Shepherd: Mother of None* edited by Marielle De Savoie (to be published by **Halfmoon Records and Publishing**). Developed as part of a larger IP slate for novel-to-screen adaptation.

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