

# **IT BEGINS BUT NEVER ENDS**

*The Atlantis Story*

*Screenplay by  
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## It Begins But Never Ends *The Atlantis Story*

100 minute feature film.

Genre: Adventure – Romance

Theme: spiritual- past lives (reincarnation)

### **Log Line:**

When Gordon Stirling a lecturer in Ancient History with a fierce belief in Atlantis is shown a relic that proves his theory he is thrown into a past-life adventure where he must face his deepest fear and fight an old adversary to save the life of the woman he loves.

Sub plot: the romance between Gordon and Leeanne

This seems doomed from the start as they are total opposites and don't really like each other. They are at loggerheads over belief in Atlantis and reincarnation. Gordon hates the water and has a great fear of sharks. Leeanne loves the water and is a good diver....

### Note:

Set in New York and the Greek Island of Santorini the film is high budget. There is approximately 15 minutes of underwater footage with the first part of the climax as an undersea battle between divers then sharks. The bulk of the film needs to be shot on Santorini for authenticity. The writer has contacts on the Island and has lived there.

FADE IN:

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

GORDON a man in late 30's tosses and turns in a bed.

CLOSE UP: Eyes closed he is sweating heavily, hair tousled around his face. He swings his head from side to side.

SFX: A roaring sound of a volcano erupting.

DREAM SEQUENCE:

EXT. LARGE ISLAND WITH VOLCANOS ERUPTING - DAY

Molten lava runs down the side of a volcano, rocks and fire fly into the air.

Behind the volcano two other smaller volcanoes start to erupt. Rocks and smoke spew from their tops.

EXT. ANCIENT GREEK CITY - DAY

Chaos as buildings smash to the ground, PEOPLE run in all directions.

SFX: Explosions and people screaming.

A large crystal pyramid stands untouched in the middle of the city.

Cracks appear in the ground and run through the city. People fall over. Buildings crash and some disappear into the widening cracks. Dust and fire engulf the city.

The crystal pyramid starts to crack, then explodes.

Pieces of multicolored crystal fly towards the sky.

ANNOYTA teenage girl who looks similar to LEEANNE is dressed in ancient Greek garment, long blonde hair matted in dirt, blood streaking down her face is running.

Annoyta falls as the earth beneath her opens up.

CLOSE UP: Her hand covered in blood as she desperately clings to a ledge.

ZAIOT teenage boy dressed in leather tunic, his chest is bare covered in dust with bloodied cuts, runs towards Annoyta. His mouth is open screaming in silence.

Zaiot reaches Annoyta, he bends down trying to grab her hand. He can't reach it.

Annoyta looses her grip and falls.

CLOSE UP: Of Zaiot's eyes, filled with horror.

Smoke covers the scene then fades away.

Zaiot is running, the earth opens up beneath him. He falls into a wide crack.

ZAIOT  
(Screaming)  
Aahhhhhh!!

CLOSE UP: Of Zaiot's hand covered in blood struggling to hold onto the side of the crack. His hand is slipping and lets go.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gordon jumps in his sleep. He sits up, eyes closed, body shaking.

GORDON  
Aahhhhhhh!

Gordon opens his eyes wide with fear. Sweat is running down his face. His chest is heaving.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

LEEANNE a woman in early 30's, shoulder length blonde hair tosses and turns in a bed.

Leeanne jumps in her sleep and sits bolt-upright. Her eyes wide in fear, sweat is pouring down her face. She is shaking and suddenly screams.

LEEANNE  
Aahhhhhhhh!

FADE TO BLACK:

The title IT BEGINS, BUT NEVER ENDS comes onto the screen.

EXT. NEW YORK CITY - DAY

The New York skyline shimmers in the mid-day sun.

On the harbor the Statue of Liberty stands above the boats going to and fro.

Through the maze of high-rise offices center on one office.

INT. NEW YORK HIGH-RISE OFFICE - DAY

Inside the office Lawyer KATH WATERS mid 40's dressed immaculately in business suit is standing near a window looking out at the city. She turns and walks over to a shelf.

On the shelf is an ancient urn. Close up there are letters and symbols on the urn.

SFX: Phone ringing.

Kath turns around, looks at the phone as it keeps ringing. She is deep in thought, turns back and looks at the urn again.

She picks up the phone and yells.

KATH

Whoever it is I don't want to  
talk to them!

The phone is dead.

Kath sits at her desk and opens her address book, scanning a few pages. She picks up the phone and dials a number.

EXT. CHICAGO UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - DAY

Gordon is walking along a path with a bundle of books under his arm.

SFX: Mobile phone ringing.

Gordon reaches inside his pocket and answers his mobile phone.

GORDON

Yeah! Hay, what are you up to  
Kath?

INT. NEW YORK HIGH-RISE OFFICE - DAY

Kath is talking excitedly on the phone, the urn is in front of her. She is looking at it.

KATH

I picked it up at an auction.  
Gordon, the markings look similar  
to what you showed me!  
(beat)  
Listen to me will you! You have  
to see it for Christ sake!

EXT. CHICAGO UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - DAY

Gordon drops a book, he bends down and drops his phone. He looks disheveled and sits on the ground with phone in hand.

GORDON

I'll be in New York next week.  
(beat)  
You'll have to wait!

Gordon looks exasperated, he stretches his neck.

GORDON (CONT'D)

Bye the way, how's it going with  
the corruption case against  
Rogopilis Holdings?

INT. NEW YORK HIGH-RISE OFFICE - Day

Kath is standing with the phone in her hand looking out the window.

KATH

It's a tuff battle. They bribed  
their way for the re-zoning, but  
I won't let them force that poor  
old lady out of her house!  
Bastards!

EXT. CHICAGO UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - DAY

Gordon is still sitting on the ground.

GORDON

Don't let him win Kath, he's a  
pig of a man!

Gordon has a far away look in his eyes.

DISSOLVE INTO GORDON'S MEMORY:

INT. HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOM - DAY

A TEACHER, male in forties stands writing on a blackboard. Behind him a CLASS OF BOYS sit at desks looking through papers in front of them and writing. They are doing exams.

The teacher stops writing and turns around. He looks at his watch then speaks to the class.

TEACHER

You have another ten minutes,  
that's all.

The teacher sits down at his desk and looks through some papers.

ANTHONY AS TEENAGER, Greek boy about fourteen looks up from his papers and looks from side to side at the other boys.

The boys all have their heads down writing.

Anthony looks at the teacher.

The teacher has his head down reading.

Anthony feels under his desk and slowly pulls out a slip of paper. He looks around again, no one is watching.

In the back row GORDON AS TEENAGER about thirteen moves his head to the side and looks at the back of Anthony with paper in his hand as he slips it up onto the desk.

Anthony copies writing from the paper onto his exam paper. He then crumbles the paper up and slips it into the front of his pants pocket.

The teacher stands up and looks directly at Anthony.

Anthony drops his pen and looks nervously at the teacher.

TEACHER

Time is up. Put your pens down  
and bring your papers to me.

The class stand, pick up their papers and drop them on the teacher's desk as they file pass.

Anthony picks his papers up and looks around at the other boys.

Gordon looks angrily at Anthony.

Anthony gives Gordon the finger with a nasty look.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY

Outside on the grass area BOYS are walking around.

Gordon and Anthony stand opposite each other with books under their arms.

GORDON AS TEENAGER

(Yelling)

I saw you take that paper from  
under the desk! It's the only way  
you could pass!

Anthony has hate in his eyes.

ANTHONY AS TEENAGER  
Calling me a cheat, ya fuckin'  
nerd?

Gordon tries to look brave.

GORDON AS TEENAGER  
Yes, I am.

Anthony drops his books and punches Gordon in the face  
several times. Then punches him in the stomach.

Gordon falls to the ground, doubles over in pain.

Anthony has a smirk on his face as he kicks Gordon in the  
side.

SEVERAL BOYS gather around to watch.

Gordon lays on the ground with blood pouring from his nose  
and mouth.

Anthony sniggers at Gordon.

ANTHONY AS TEENAGER  
Ya a piece of weak shit. Malarka!

EXT. CHICAGO UNIVERSITY CAMPUS - DAY

Gordon straightens himself up, picks up his books, looks at  
his phone and walks away.

EXT. CHICAGO AIRPORT - DAY

Gordon gets out of a cab, he is carrying a brief case. He  
pays the driver, grabs a bag and walks into the airport.

INT. AEROPLANE - DAY

Gordon moves into his seat and places his brief case  
underneath the seat and belts up.

AIR HOSTESS moves through the aisle checking the  
PASSENGERS.

The plane takes off.

INT. AEROPLANE - DAY

Gordon has his brief case open in front of him. He is  
looking at a pile of papers.

CLOSE UP: Of notes he has on ancient continent of Atlantis. He flips over several pages of text. Stops at a page of ancient pottery. Some symbols are the same design as the ones on Kath's Urn.

Gordon looks intently at the symbols.

Gordon leans back in his chair, takes his glasses off and closes his eyes.

DISSOLVE INTO GORDON'S MEMORY:

INT. HOUSE LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Gordon is pacing the room looking at a magazine. He rolls the magazine up and walks through the living room into a study.

INT. HOUSE STUDY - AFTERNOON

In the study there is a messy desk with papers and books scattered around. Against the wall is a large bookcase overflowing with books.

Gordon goes to the bookcase and pulls out a small book and dusts it off.

On the book cover is the title THE DESTRUCTION OF ATLANTIS.

Gordon sits at his desk and opens the book, reads a few pages then puts it aside. He flips through papers on his desk, finds what he is looking for and reads it.

SFX: Door opening then banging.

Gordon does not look up he keeps reading.

JULIE (O.S.)  
Are you home Gordon?

Gordon keeps on reading.

INT. HOUSE LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

JULIE young woman mid twenties, short brown hair studious type dressed in skirt and sweater throws her bag onto a couch notices Gordon's briefcase on the couch and walks through into the study.

INT. HOUSE STUDY - AFTERNOON

Julie stands at the door, her hand on her hip glaring at Gordon.

JULIE  
Are you deaf or what?

Gordon looks up from his papers and blinks his eyes.

GORDON  
Uh! Sorry darling.

Julie walks over to the desk and places both hands on the desk. She looks at Gordon.

JULIE  
I came home early, we talked  
about it last night. Just so we  
could have some time together.

Julie spins around and spreads her arms wide.

Julie's eyes follow the mess in the study.

JULIE (CONT'D)  
I had some crazy idea we could  
open a bottle of champagne. Like  
we used to.

Gordon stands up and gives a lopsided smile.

JULIE (CONT'D)  
You do remember our afternoon  
delights?

Gordon walks towards Julie his arms outstretched.

Julie pushes Gordon away.

JULIE (CONT'D)  
You forgot! You got tied up in  
all your, things!

Julie goes to the desk and angrily pushes all the papers onto the floor.

Gordon looks angry. He grabs Julie by the shoulders.

Julie twists herself free and slaps Gordon on the face.

Gordon looks stunned but stands firm.

Julie strides out of the study.

INT. HOUSE BEDROOM - NIGHT

Gordon and Julie lay in a double bed together. Gordon is laying on his back staring at the ceiling, his eyes wide open. Beside him Julie is laying on her side her eyes closed.

INT. HOUSE STUDY - NIGHT

Gordon is sitting at his desk reading. The room is dark except for the light of a small lamp shining on the papers in front of him.

Gordon stands up goes to the book case and gets a large book of maps out. He sits back down at his desk, opens the book and turns several pages.

INT. HOUSE STUDY - EARLY MORNING

Gordon sits asleep, slumped at his desk his head laying on a mess of papers and books. He is snoring.

SFX: Snoring sound.

EXT. TIMBER HOUSE - NIGHT

Gordon stands at the front door, he looks deep in thought. He knocks on the door.

SFX: Knocking.

The door opens. MR. WINDSOR a grey haired man in his 60's glares at Gordon.

GORDON

Good evening Mr. Windsor. I just wanted to talk....

Mr. Windsor half closes the door behind him and steps outside close to Gordon.

MR. WINDSOR

You listen here boy, my girl doesn't want to see you! She's filing for divorce next week, and that is final!

GORDON

All I want to do..

Mr. Windsor cuts him off.

MR. WINDSOR

(yelling)

That's what it was. All about you! A Dreamer! You're nothing but a dam dreamer!

Gordon and Mr. Windsor face-off at each other.

MR. WINDSOR (CONT'D)

Ya used my daughter's money and  
wasted five years of her life!  
What for? A myth! You'll never  
find something that is just a  
stupid myth!

Gordon silently turns away and Mr. Windsor bangs the door hard.

SFX: Door banging.

INT. AEROPLANE - DAY

Gordon jumps as the seat belt sign comes on and the plane starts to descent for landing.

Gordon quickly shuts his brief case, closes the table and puts his brief case under the seat.

Gordon adjusts his seat and looks out the window as the skyline of New York comes into view.

GORDON

(whispering to himself)  
You're wrong.

EXT. FLORIDA KEYS YACHT MARINA - DAY

Rows of yachts are lined up moored each side of the jetty in the sun.

ANTHONY Greek man in his late 30's is walking down the jetty carrying two dive bags.

He looks ahead to a yacht named DIONYSOS.

EXT. FLORIDA KEYS YACHT MARINA - DAY

On board the Dionysos COSTA Greek man early 50's is at the stern of the yacht putting diving fins away. Several diving tanks and equipment are stored nearby. FOUR CREW are on the boat. CREW ONE walks towards the bow of the yacht.

Costa turns and looks towards Anthony who is almost at the yacht.

COSTA

(speaking greek)  
Kalimera Anthony, Ti kanis?

Anthony places one of his bags on the jetty and walks up the gangplank towards Costa.