

= The Spy Who Loved Me ( film ) =

The Spy Who Loved Me ( 1977 ) is the tenth spy film in the James Bond series , and the third to star Roger Moore as the fictional secret agent James Bond . Curd Jürgens and Barbara Bach co - star . It was directed by Lewis Gilbert and the screenplay was written by Christopher Wood and Richard Maibaum .

The film takes its title from Ian Fleming 's novel The Spy Who Loved Me , the tenth book in the James Bond series , though it does not contain any elements of the novel 's plot . The storyline involves a reclusive megalomaniac named Karl Stromberg , who plans to destroy the world and create a new civilisation under the sea . Bond teams up with a Russian agent , Anya Amasova , to stop Stromberg .

It was shot on location in Egypt ( Cairo , Luxor ) and Sardinia , Costa Smeralda ( Italy ) , with underwater scenes filmed at the Bahamas ( Nassau ) , and a new soundstage being built at Pinewood Studios for a massive set which depicted the interior of a supertanker . The Spy Who Loved Me was well received by critics . The soundtrack composed by Marvin Hamlisch also met with success . The film was nominated for three Academy Awards amid many other nominations and novelised in 1977 by Christopher Wood as James Bond , The Spy Who Loved Me .

= = Plot = =

British and Soviet ballistic missile submarines are mysteriously disappearing . James Bond ? MI6 agent 007 ? is summoned to investigate . On the way to his briefing , he escapes an ambush by Soviet agents in Austria , killing their leader during a downhill ski chase . The plans for a highly advanced submarine tracking system are being offered in Egypt . There , he encounters Major Anya Amasova ? KGB agent Triple X ? his rival to recover the microfilm plans . They travel across Egypt together , encountering Jaws ? a tall assassin with steel teeth ? along the way . Bond and Amasova reluctantly team up after a truce is agreed by their respective British and Soviet superiors . They identify the person responsible for the thefts as the shipping tycoon , scientist and anarchist Karl Stromberg .

While travelling by train to Stromberg 's base in Sardinia , Bond saves Amasova from Jaws , and their cooling rivalry turns to affection . Posing as a marine biologist and his wife , they visit Stromberg 's base and discover that he had launched a mysterious new supertanker , the Liparus , nine months previously . As they leave the base , Jaws , and Naomi , an assassin in an attack helicopter , chase them but Bond and Amasova escape underwater when his car ? a Lotus Esprit from Q Branch ? converts into a submarine . Jaws escapes while Naomi is killed . Bond finds out that the Liparus has never visited any known port or harbour . Amasova discovers that Bond killed her lover in Austria ( at the beginning of the movie ) , and she vows to kill Bond once their mission ends .

Bond and Amasova examine Stromberg 's underwater Atlantis base from an American submarine , and confirm that he is operating the stolen tracking system . The Liparus captures the submarine . Stromberg sets his plan in motion : the simultaneous launching of nuclear missiles from British and Soviet submarines to destroy Moscow and New York City . This would trigger a global nuclear war , which Stromberg would survive in Atlantis , and subsequently a new civilisation would be established underwater . He leaves for Atlantis with Amasova . Bond escapes and frees the captured British , Russian and American submariners and they battle the Liparus 's crew . Bond reprograms the submarines to fire missiles at each other , saving Moscow and New York City . The victorious submariners escape the sinking Liparus on the American submarine .

The submarine is ordered to destroy Atlantis but Bond insists on rescuing Amasova first . He confronts and kills Stromberg but again encounters Jaws , whom he drops into a shark tank . However , Jaws fatally bites the shark and escapes . Bond and Amasova flee in an escape pod as Atlantis is sunk . Amasova reminds Bond that she has vowed to kill him as she picks up Bond 's gun . Then , she admits to having forgiven him and the two embrace . The Royal Navy recovers the pod ,

and the two spies are seen in an intimate embrace through its port window , much to the consternation of their British and Soviet superiors on the ship .

= = Cast = =

Roger Moore as James Bond 007 : A British MI6 agent assigned to investigate the theft of two submarines .

Barbara Bach as Anya Amasova / Agent Triple X : A Soviet KGB agent also investigating the theft . Her attraction to Bond is cut short when she learns he killed her lover . Bach was cast only four days before principal photography began , and performed her audition expecting just a role in the film , not one of the protagonists .

Curd Jürgens ( billed as " Curt Jurgens " in the credits ) as Karl Stromberg : The main villain , a megalomaniac planning to trigger World War III and destroy the world , then recreate a new civilisation underwater . Jürgens ' casting was a suggestion of director Lewis Gilbert , who had worked with him before .

Richard Kiel as Jaws : Stromberg 's seemingly indestructible juggernaut of a henchman , afflicted with gigantism and having a set of metal teeth . He would reprise the role in the subsequent Bond film , Moonraker .

Caroline Munro as Naomi : Stromberg 's personal pilot and a would @-@ be assassin . Munro 's casting was inspired by an advertisement campaign she had made .

Walter Gotell as General Gogol : The head of the KGB and Anya 's boss . Gotell 's debut in the role ; he had previously appeared as Morzeny in From Russia with Love and would reprise the role of Gogol in the next five films .

Bernard Lee as M : The head of MI6 .

Desmond Llewelyn as Q / Major Boothroyd : MI6 's head of research and development . He supplies Bond with unique vehicles and gadgets , most notably the Lotus Esprit that converts into a submarine .

Lois Maxwell as Miss Moneypenny : M 's secretary .

Geoffrey Keen as Frederick Gray : The British Minister of Defence . Keen 's Bond debut ; he would appear in the role in the next five films .

Milton Reid as Sandor : Stromberg 's henchman .

Robert Brown as Vice @-@ Admiral Hargreaves : Flag Officer , Submarines of Royal Navy ; Brown would later play M in Octopussy , A View to a Kill , The Living Daylights and Licence to Kill .

George Baker as Captain Benson : A British naval officer stationed at the Royal Navy 's Faslane Naval Base in Scotland . Baker had previously appeared in On Her Majesty 's Secret Service .

The assistant director for the Italian locations , Victor Tourjansky , had a cameo as a man drinking his wine as Bond 's Lotus emerges from the beach . As an in @-@ joke , he would return in similar appearances in another two Bond films shot in Italy , Moonraker and For Your Eyes Only .

= = Production = =

The Spy Who Loved Me in many ways was a pivotal film for the Bond franchise , and was plagued since its conception by many problems . The first was the departure of Bond producer Harry Saltzman , who was forced to sell his half of the Bond film franchise in 1975 for £ 20 million . Saltzman had branched out into several other ventures of dubious promise and consequently was struggling through personal financial reversals unrelated to Bond . This was exacerbated by the twin personal tragedies of his wife 's terminal cancer and many of the symptoms of clinical depression in himself .

Another troubling aspect of the production was the difficulty in obtaining a director . The producers approached Steven Spielberg , who was in post @-@ production of Jaws , but ultimately decided to wait to see " how the fish picture turns out " . The first director attached to the film was Guy Hamilton , who directed the previous three Bond films as well as Goldfinger , but he left after being offered the opportunity to direct the 1978 film Superman , although Richard Donner took over the project . Eon

Productions would later turn to Lewis Gilbert , who had directed the earlier Bond film *You Only Live Twice* .

With a director finally secured , the next hurdle was finishing the script , which had gone through several revisions by numerous writers . The initial villain of the film was Ernst Stavro Blofeld ; however Kevin McClory , who owned the film rights to *Thunderball* forced an injunction on Eon Productions against using the character of Blofeld , or his international criminal organisation , SPECTRE , which delayed production of the film further . The villain would later be changed from Blofeld to Stromberg so that the injunction would not interfere with the production . Christopher Wood was later brought in by Lewis Gilbert to complete the script . Although Fleming had requested that no elements from his original book be used , the novel features two thugs named Sol Horror and Sluggsy Morant . Horror is described as having steel @-@ capped teeth , while Sluggsy had a clear bald head . These characters would be the basis for the characters of Jaws and Sandor , respectively .

Since Ian Fleming permitted Eon to use only the name of his novel and not the actual novel , Fleming 's name was moved for the first time from above the film 's title to above " James Bond 007 " . His name reverted to the traditional location for *Moonraker* , the last Eon Bond film based on a Fleming novel before 2006 's *Casino Royale* . However , the credit style first used in *The Spy Who Loved Me* has been used on all Eon Bond films since *For Your Eyes Only* , including *Casino Royale* .

= = = Script = = =

Broccoli commissioned a number of writers to work on the script , including Stirling Silliphant , John Landis , Ronald Hardy , Anthony Burgess , and Derek Marlowe . In the second volume of his autobiography , Burgess claims to have worked on an early treatment for the movie . The British television producer Gerry Anderson also stated that he provided a film treatment ( although originally planned to be *Moonraker* ) much similar to what ended up as *The Spy Who Loved Me* .

Eventually , Richard Maibaum provided the screenplay , and at first he tried to incorporate ideas from all of the other writers into his script . Maibaum 's original script featured an alliance of international terrorists attacking SPECTRE 's headquarters and deposing Blofeld , before trying to destroy the world for themselves to make way for a New World Order . However , this was shelved .

After Gilbert was reinstated as director , he decided to bring in another writer , Christopher Wood . Gilbert also decided to fix what he felt the previous Roger Moore films were doing wrong , which was writing the Bond character too much the way Sean Connery played him , and instead portray Bond closer to the books ? " very English , very smooth , good sense of humour " . Broccoli asked Wood to create a villain with metal teeth , Jaws , inspired by a brace @-@ wearing henchman named Horror in Fleming 's novel .

Broccoli agreed to Wood 's proposed changes , but before he could set to work there were more legal complications . In the years since *Thunderball* , Kevin McClory had set up two film companies and was trying to make a new Bond film in collaboration with Sean Connery and novelist Len Deighton . McClory got wind of Broccoli 's plans to use SPECTRE , an organisation that had first been created by Fleming while working with McClory and Jack Whittingham on the very first attempt to film *Thunderball* , back even before it was a novel , in the late 1950s . McClory threatened to sue Broccoli for alleged copyright infringement , claiming that he had the sole right to include SPECTRE and its agents in all films . Not wishing to extend the already ongoing legal dispute that could have delayed the production of *The Spy Who Loved Me* , Broccoli requested Wood remove all references to Blofeld and SPECTRE from the script .

In the film , Stromberg 's scheme to destroy civilisation by capturing Soviet and British nuclear submarines and have them fire intercontinental ballistic missiles at two major cities is actually a recycled plot from Gilbert 's previous Bond film , *You Only Live Twice* , which involved stealing space capsules to start a war between the Soviets and the Americans . The similarity was apparent in the climax ; both films involved an assault on a heavily fortified enemy that had taken refuge behind steel shutters .

The scheme in which the villain wishes to destroy mankind to create a new race or new civilisation was also used in Moonraker , the next film after The Spy Who Loved Me . In Moonraker , the villain Hugo Drax had an obsession with starting human civilisation over again on Earth , using specially chosen " superior human specimens " based in space . The film Moonraker was also written by Christopher Wood .

Tom Mankiewicz , who worked on the three preceding Bond films , claims he was called in to do an extensive rewrite of the script . Mankiewicz says he did not receive credit , because Broccoli was limited to the number of non @-@ English in key positions he could employ on the films to obtain Eady Levy assistance .

= = = Filming = = =

Tom Mankiewicz claims that Catherine Deneuve wanted to play the female lead and was willing to cut her normal rate from \$ 400 @,@ 000 per picture to \$ 250 @,@ 000 , but Broccoli would not pay above \$ 80 @,@ 000 .

The film was shot at the Pinewood Studios in London , Porto Cervo in Sardinia ( Hotel Cala di Volpe ) , Egypt ( Karnak , Mosque of Ibn Tulun , Gayer @-@ Anderson Museum , Abu Simbel temples ) , Malta , Scotland , Hayling Island UK , Okinawa , Switzerland and Mount Asgard on Baffin Island in the then northern Canadian territory of Northwest Territories ( now located in Nunavut ) .

As no studio was big enough for the interior of Stromberg 's supertanker , and set designer Ken Adam did not want to repeat what he had done with SPECTRE 's volcano base in You Only Live Twice ? " a workable but ultimately wasteful set " ? construction began in March 1976 of a new sound stage at Pinewood , the 007 Stage , at a cost of \$ 1 @.@ 8 million . To complement this stage , Eon also paid for building a water tank capable of storing approximately 1 @,@ 200 @,@ 000 gallons ( 4 @,@ 500 @,@ 000 litres ) . The soundstage was so huge that cinematographer Claude Renoir found himself unable to effectively light it due to his deteriorating eyesight , and so Stanley Kubrick visited the production , in secret , to advise on how to light the stage . For the exterior , while Shell was willing to lend an abandoned tanker to the production , the elevated insurance and safety risks caused it to be replaced with miniatures built by Derek Meddings ' team and shot in the Bahamas . Stromberg 's shark tank was also filmed in the Bahamas , using a live shark in a saltwater swimming pool . Adam decided to do experiments with curved shapes for the scenery , as he felt all his previous setpieces were " too linear " . This was demonstrated with the Atlantis , which is a dome and curved surfaces outside , and many curved objects in Stromberg 's office inside . For Gogol 's offices , Adam wanted an open space to contrast M 's enclosed headquarters , and drew inspiration from Sergei Eisenstein to do a " Russian crypt @-@ like " set .

The main unit began its work in August 1976 in Sardinia . Don McLaughlan , then head of public relations at Lotus Cars , heard that Eon were shopping for a new Bond car . He drove a prototype Lotus Esprit with all Lotus branding taped over , and parked it outside the Eon offices at Pinewood studios ; on seeing the car Eon asked Lotus to borrow both of the prototypes for filming . Initial filming of the car chase sequence resulted in disappointing action sequences . While moving the car between shoots , Lotus test driver Roger Becker impressed with his handling of the car and for the rest of filming on Sardinia , Becker became the stunt driver .

In October , the second unit travelled to Nassau to film the underwater sequences . To perform the car becoming a submarine , seven different models were used , one for each step of the transformation . One of the models was a fully mobile submarine equipped with an engine built by Miami @-@ based Perry Submarines . The car seen entering the sea was a mock @-@ up shell , propelled off the jetty by a compressed air cannon . During the model sequences , the air bubbles seen appearing from the vehicle were created by Alka @-@ Seltzer tablets .

In September , production moved to Egypt . While the Great Sphinx of Giza was shot on the location , lighting problems caused the pyramids to be replaced with miniatures . While construction of the Liparus set continued , the second unit headed by John Glen departed for Mount Asgard , where in July 1976 they staged the film 's pre @-@ credits sequence . Bond film veteran Willy Bogner captured the action , staged by stuntman Rick Sylvester , who earned \$ 30 @,@ 000 for the

stunt . This stunt cost \$ 500 @, @ 000 ? the most expensive single movie stunt at that time .

The production team returned briefly to the UK to shoot at the Faslane submarine base before setting off to Spain , Portugal and the Bay of Biscay where the supertanker exteriors were filmed . On 5 December 1976 , with principal photography finished , the 007 Stage was formally opened by former Prime Minister Harold Wilson .

= = = Music = = =

The theme song " Nobody Does It Better " was composed by Marvin Hamlisch , written by Carole Bayer Sager , and performed by Carly Simon . It was the first theme song in the series to be titled differently from the name of the film , although the title is in the lyrics . It was nominated for Best Song but lost to " You Light Up My Life " .

The song met immediate success and is featured in numerous films , including Mr. & Mrs. Smith ( 2005 ) , Little Black Book , Lost in Translation , and Bridget Jones : The Edge of Reason ( 2004 ) . In 2004 , it was honoured by the American Film Institute as the 67th greatest song as part of their 100 Years Series .

The soundtrack to the film was composed by Marvin Hamlisch , who filled in for veteran John Barry , who was unavailable to work in the United Kingdom because of tax reasons . The soundtrack , in comparison to other Bond films of the time , is more disco @-@ oriented and included a new disco rendition of " The James Bond Theme " titled " Bond 77 " ; several pieces of classical music were also included in the score . For instance , while feeding a duplicitous secretary to a shark , Stromberg plays Bach 's " Air on the G String " , which was famous for accompanying disappointed characters in Hamlet cigar commercials . He then plays the opening string section of the second movement , Andante , of Mozart 's Piano Concerto No. 21 as his hideout Atlantis rises from the sea . The score also includes two pieces of popular film music scored by Maurice Jarre . The Doctor Zhivago theme , which is played on Anya 's music box during the pre @-@ credit sequence , and the theme from Lawrence of Arabia , which appears as background music during a desert sequence .

= = Release and reception = =

The Spy Who Loved Me opened with a Royal Premiere attended by Princess Anne at the Odeon Leicester Square in London on 7 July 1977 . It grossed \$ 185 @. @ 4 million worldwide , with \$ 46 million in the United States alone . On 25 August 2006 , the film was re @-@ released at the Empire Leicester Square Cinema for one week . It was again shown at the Empire Leicester Square 20 April 2008 when Director Lewis Gilbert attended the first digital screening of the film .

Eon executive Charles Juroe said that at a screening attended by Charles , Prince of Wales , during the Union Jack @-@ parachute scene " I have never seen a reaction in the cinema as there was that night . You couldn 't help it . You could not help but stand up . Even Prince Charles stood up . " It is Roger Moore 's favourite Bond film , and many reviewers consider it the best instalment to star the actor . Christopher Null praised the gadgets , particularly the Lotus Esprit car . James Berardinelli of Reelviews said that the film is " suave and sophisticated " , and Barbara Bach proves to be an ideal Bond girl ? " attractive , smart , sexy , and dangerous " . Brian Webster stated the special effects were " good for a 1979 [ sic ] film " , and Marvin Hamlisch 's music , " memorable " . Danny Peary described The Spy Who Loved Me as " exceptional ... For once , the big budget was not wasted . Interestingly , while the sets and gimmicks were the most spectacular to date , Bond and the other characters are toned down ( there 's a minimum of slapstick humour ) so that they are more realistic than in other Roger Moore films . Moore gives his best performance in the series ... [ Bond and Anya Amasova ] are an appealing couple , equal in every way . Film is a real treat ? a well acted , smartly cast , sexy , visually impressive , lavishly produced , powerfully directed mix of a spy romance and a war @-@ mission film . " Janet Maslin of The New York Times considered the film formulaic and " half an hour too long , thanks to the obligatory shoot- ' em @-@ up conclusion , ... nevertheless the duller sequence here " but praised Moore 's performance and the film 's " share of

self @-@ mockery " , which she found refreshing .

The Times placed Jaws and Stromberg as the sixth and seventh best Bond villains ( respectively ) in the series in 2008 , and also named the Esprit as the second best car in the series ( behind the Aston Martin DB5 ) .

Marvin Hamlisch was nominated for several awards such as the Academy Award for Best Song , Original Music Score , the Golden Globe Award for Best Original Score , Grammy Award for Best Score for a Motion Picture and the BAFTA Anthony Asquith Award for Film Music ( " Nobody Does It Better " ) in 1978 . The film was also nominated for the Academy Award for Best Art Direction ( Ken Adam , Peter Lamont and Hugh Scaife ) and a BAFTA for Best Production Design / Art Direction

The end credits state " James Bond Will Return in For Your Eyes Only " , but following the success of Star Wars , the originally planned For Your Eyes Only was dropped in favour of the space @-@ themed Moonraker for the next film . Most critics received the film positively : Rotten Tomatoes sampled 47 reviewers and judged 79 % of the reviews to be positive .

= = Novelization = =

When Ian Fleming sold the film rights to the James Bond novels to Harry Saltzman and Albert R. Broccoli , he gave permission only for the title The Spy Who Loved Me to be used . Since the screenplay for the film had nothing to do with Fleming 's original novel , Eon Productions , for the first time , authorised a novelisation based upon the script . This would also be the first regular Bond novel published since Colonel Sun nearly a decade earlier . Christopher Wood , who co @-@ authored the screenplay , was commissioned to write the book titled James Bond , The Spy Who Loved Me .

The novelisation and the screenplay , although both written by Wood , are somewhat different . In the novelisation , SMERSH is still active and after James Bond . Their role begins during the pre @-@ title . After the mysterious death of Fekkish , SMERSH appears yet again , this time capturing and torturing Bond for the whereabouts of the microfilm that retains plans for a submarine tracking system ( Bond escapes after killing two of the interrogators ) . The appearance of SMERSH conflicts with a number of Bond stories , including the film The Living Daylights ( 1987 ) , in which a character remarks that SMERSH has been defunct for over 20 years . It also differs from the latter half of Fleming 's Bond novels in which SMERSH is said to have been put out of operation . Members of SMERSH from the novelisation include Amasova and her lover Sergei Borzov as well as Colonel @-@ General Niktin , a character from Fleming 's novel From Russia , with Love who has since become the head of SMERSH . In the book , Jaws remains attached to the magnet that Bond dips into the tank , as opposed to the film where Bond releases Jaws into the water .

= = Sale of props = =

The Lotus Esprit ? capable of transforming from car to submarine in the movie ? was purchased for £ 616 @,@ 000 at a London auction in October 2013 by Elon Musk , who plans to rebuild the vehicle and attempt to make the fictional dual @-@ purpose car be an actual dual @-@ purpose car ( underwater and on land ) .