

= Tomorrow Never Dies =

Tomorrow Never Dies ( 1997 ) is the eighteenth spy film in the James Bond series , and the second to star Pierce Brosnan as the fictional MI6 agent James Bond . Directed by Roger Spottiswoode , with the screenplay written by Bruce Feirstein , the film follows Bond as he attempts to stop Elliot Carver , a power @-@ mad media mogul , from engineering world events to initiate World War III .

The film was produced by Michael G. Wilson and Barbara Broccoli , and was the first James Bond film made after the death of producer Albert R. Broccoli , to whom the movie pays tribute in the end credits . Filming locations included France , Thailand , Germany , Mexico and the United Kingdom . Tomorrow Never Dies performed well at the box office and earned a Golden Globe nomination despite mixed reviews . While its performance at the domestic box office surpassed that of its predecessor , GoldenEye , it was the only Pierce Brosnan Bond film not to open at number one at the box office , as it opened the same day as Titanic , but instead at number two .

= = Plot = =

MI6 sends James Bond , agent 007 , into the field to spy on a terrorist arms bazaar on the Russian border . Despite M 's insistence to let 007 finish his reconnaissance , British Admiral Roebuck orders the frigate HMS Chester to launch a missile attack on the arms bazaar . Bond then discovers two nuclear torpedoes mounted on an L @-@ 39 Albatros , and as the missile is too far along to be aborted , 007 hijacks the L @-@ 39 and flies away seconds before the bazaar is destroyed .

The media baron Elliot Carver soon begins his plans to use an encoder stolen from the bazaar by his henchman , cyberterrorist Henry Gupta , to provoke war between China and the United Kingdom ; he hopes to replace the Chinese government with one that will give him exclusive broadcasting rights . Meaoning the GPS signal using the encoder , Gupta sends the British frigate HMS Devonshire off @-@ course into Chinese @-@ held waters in the South China Sea , where Carver 's stealth ship , commanded by Mr. Stamper , sinks it and steals one of its missiles , while shooting down a Chinese J @-@ 7 fighter jet and killing off the Devonshire 's survivors with Chinese weaponry . The British Minister of Defence orders Roebuck to deploy the British Fleet to recover the frigate , and possibly retaliate , while leaving M only 48 hours to investigate its sinking and avert a war .

M sends Bond to investigate Carver after he releases news articles about the crisis hours before MI @-@ 6 had learned of it . Bond travels to Hamburg and seduces Carver 's wife , Paris , who is also Bond 's ex @-@ girlfriend , to get information that would help him enter Carver 's newspaper headquarters . He also knocks out three of Stamper 's men and cuts Carver off the air while he is giving a speech during the inaugural broadcast of his satellite network . After Bond steals back the GPS encoder , Carver orders Paris and Bond killed . Paris is murdered by Carver 's personal assassin Dr. Kaufman , but Bond kills Kaufman and escapes , protecting the encoder . Bond learns that the encoder had been tampered with , and goes to the South China Sea to investigate the wreck ( which was actually in Vietnamese waters ) . He and Wai Lin , a Chinese agent on the same case , explore the sunken ship and discover one of its cruise missiles missing , but are captured by Stamper and taken to the CMGN tower in Ho Chi Minh City . They soon escape and decide to collaborate on the investigation .

The two contact the Royal Navy and the People 's Liberation Army Air Force to explain Carver 's scheme ; Carver plans to use the stolen missile to destroy the Chinese government , and allow a Chinese general to step in and stop war between Britain and China , although not before both sides destroy each other at sea . They find Carver 's stealth ship , which had been built with stolen stealth material , in Ha Long Bay , and board it to prevent him from firing the stolen British cruise missile at Beijing . During the attempt , Wai Lin is captured , forcing Bond to devise a second plan . Bond captures Gupta to use as his own hostage , but Carver kills Gupta , claiming he has " outlived his contract . " Bond detonates an explosive which damages the ship , causing it to be visible to radar to both Chinese and British navies , who had just been warned of the plot , and thus making it vulnerable to a subsequent Royal Navy attack by HMS Bedford . While Wai Lin disables the engines

, and is captured by Stamper , Bond attempts to halt the missile . After killing Carver with his own sea drill , Bond attempts to destroy the warhead with detonators , but Stamper appears and attacks him after sending Wai Lin into the waters to drown . Bond traps Stamper in the missile firing mechanism and dives to save Wai Lin as the missile explodes , destroying the ship and killing Stamper . Later , Bond and Wai Lin share a romantic moment amidst the wreckage as the Bedford searches for them .

= = Cast = =

Pierce Brosnan as James Bond , MI6 agent 007 .

Michelle Yeoh as Colonel Wai Lin , a skilled Chinese spy and Bond 's ally .

Jonathan Pryce as Elliot Carver , a psychopathic media mogul who plans to provoke global war to boost sales and ratings of his news divisions .

Teri Hatcher as Paris Carver , a former girlfriend of Bond who is now Carver 's trophy wife .

Götz Otto as Richard Stamper , Carver 's henchman , who is skilled in the art of Chakra torture .

Ricky Jay as Henry Gupta , an American " Techno @-@ terrorist " in the employ of Carver . Bruce Feirstein said he named this character after a Gupta Bakery , which he passed on the way to the studios .

Joe Don Baker as Jack Wade , CIA liaison , reprising his role from GoldenEye .

Vincent Schiavelli as Dr. Kaufman , a professional assassin used by Elliot Carver .

Judi Dench as M , reprising her role from GoldenEye .

Desmond Llewelyn in his penultimate appearance as Q.

Samantha Bond as Miss Moneypenny .

Daphne Deckers as PR person of Carver Media Group Network .

Geoffrey Palmer as Admiral Roebuck , M 's contentious military contact .

Colin Salmon as Charles Robinson , M 's Deputy Chief of Staff .

Julian Fellowes as the British Minister of Defence , who orders Admiral Roebuck to send the fleet to the China Sea . He is the successor to Sir Frederick Gray ( Geoffrey Keen ) .

Cecilie Thomsen as Professor Inga Bergstrom .

Gerard Butler gets one line as a crewman aboard the Devonshire .

Hugh Bonneville as Air Warfare Officer ? HMS Bedford .

= = Production = =

Following the success of GoldenEye in reviving the Bond series , there was pressure to recreate that success in the film 's follow @-@ up production . This pressure came from MGM along with its new owner , billionaire Kirk Kerkorian , both of whom wished for the film 's release to coincide with their public stock offering . Co @-@ producer Michael G. Wilson also expressed concern regarding the public 's expectations subsequent to the success of GoldenEye , commenting : " You realize that there 's a huge audience and I guess you don 't want to come out with a film that 's going to somehow disappoint them . " This was the first Bond film to be made after the death of Albert R. Broccoli , who had previously been involved with the series ' production since its beginning . The rush to complete the film drove the budget to \$ 110 million . The producers were unable to convince Martin Campbell , the director of GoldenEye , to return ; his agent said that " Martin just didn 't want to do two Bond films in a row . " Instead , Roger Spottiswoode was chosen in September 1996 . Spottiswoode said he had previously offered to direct a Bond film while Timothy Dalton was still in the leading role .

= = = Writing = = =

As had been the case with several previous films in the series , an entirely original story was required as there remained no Ian Fleming novels or stories to adapt . The scriptwriting process was finished very late due to lengthy disputes .

Initial writers on the project included John Cork , Richard Smith , and novelist Donald E. Westlake . In 1995 Westlake wrote two story treatments in collaboration with Wilson , both of which featured a villain who plans to destroy Hong Kong with explosives on the eve of the city 's July 1997 transfer of sovereignty to China . Director Roger Spottiswoode said that in January 1997 MGM had a script that was also focused on the Hong Kong handover ; however , this plot could not be used for a film opening at the end of the year , so they had to start " almost from scratch at T @-@ minus zero ! "

Bruce Feirstein , who had worked on GoldenEye , penned the initial script . Feirstein claimed that his inspiration was his own experience working with journalism , stating that he aimed to " write something that was grounded in a nightmare of reality . " Feirstein 's script was then passed to Spottiswoode who reworked it . He gathered seven Hollywood screenwriters in London to brainstorm , eventually choosing Nicholas Meyer to perform rewrites . The script was also worked on by Dan Petrie , Jr. and David Campbell Wilson before Feirstein , who retained the sole writing credit , was brought in for a final polish . While many reviewers compared Elliot Carver to Rupert Murdoch , Feirstein based the character on Robert Maxwell . There is a reference to the mogul 's death when M instructs Moneypenny to issue a press release stating that Carver died ? falling overboard on his yacht . "

Wilson stated , " We didn 't have a script that was ready to shoot on the first day of filming " , while Pierce Brosnan said , " We had a script that was not functioning in certain areas . " The Daily Mail reported on arguments between Spottiswoode and the producers with the former favouring the Petrie version , but the latter reinstating Feirstein to rewrite it two weeks before filming was due to begin . They also said that Jonathan Pryce and Teri Hatcher were unhappy with their new roles , causing further re @-@ scripting .

The title was inspired by the Beatles ' song " Tomorrow Never Knows " . The eventual title came about by accident : one of the potential titles was Tomorrow Never Lies ( referring to the Tomorrow newspaper in the plot ) and this was faxed to MGM . But through an error this became Tomorrow Never Dies , a title which MGM found so attractive that they insisted on using . The title was the first not to have any relation to Fleming 's life or work .

= = = Casting = = =

Teri Hatcher was three months pregnant when shooting started , although her publicist stated the pregnancy did not affect the production schedule . Hatcher later regretted playing Paris Carver , saying " It 's such an artificial kind of character to be playing that you don 't get any special satisfaction from it . " Actress Sela Ward auditioned for the role , but lost out , reportedly being told the producers wanted her , but ten years younger . Hatcher was seven years Ward 's junior . According to Brosnan , Monica Bellucci also screen tested for the role but as Brosnan remarked , " the fools said no . " Daphne Deckers , who portrays the PR Lady , also confirms that she saw Bellucci the same day she herself auditioned . Bellucci would later go on to play a role in the 24th Bond film , Spectre .

The role of Elliot Carver was initially offered to Anthony Hopkins ( who also had been offered a role in GoldenEye ) , but he declined in favor of The Mask of Zorro .

Natasha Henstridge was rumoured as cast in the lead Bond Girl role , but eventually , Yeoh was confirmed in that role . Brosnan was impressed , describing her as a " wonderful actress " who was " serious and committed about her work " . She reportedly wanted to perform her own stunts , but was prevented because director Spottiswoode ruled it too dangerous and prohibited by insurance restrictions .

When Götz Otto was called in for casting , he was given twenty seconds to introduce himself ; his hair had recently been cropped short for a TV role . Saying , " I 'm big , I 'm bad , and I 'm German " , he did it in five .

= = = Filming = = =

Second unit filming began on 18 January 1997 with Vic Armstrong directing ; they filmed the pre

@-@ credits sequence at Peyresourde Airport in the French Pyrenees , and moved on to Portsmouth to film the scenes where the Royal Navy prepares to engage the Chinese . The main unit began filming on 1 April . They were unable to use the Leavesden Film Studios , which they had constructed from an abandoned Rolls @-@ Royce factory for GoldenEye , as George Lucas was using it for Star Wars : Episode I ? The Phantom Menace , so instead they constructed sound stages in another derelict industrial site nearby . They also used the 007 Stage at Pinewood Studios . The scene at the " U.S. Air Base in the South China Sea " where Bond hands over the GPS encoder was actually filmed in the area known as Blue Section at RAF Lakenheath . The sea landing used the vast tank built for Titanic in Rosarito , Baja California , Mexico . The MH @-@ 53J in the film was from the US Air Force 's 352d Special Operations Group at RAF Mildenhall . Some scenes were planned to be filmed on location in Ho Chi Minh City , Vietnam , and the production had been granted a visa . This was later rescinded , two months after planning had begun , forcing filming to move to Bangkok , Thailand . Bond spokesman Gordon Arnell claimed the Vietnamese were unhappy with crew and equipment needed for pyrotechnics , with a Vietnamese official saying it was due to " many complicated reasons " . Two locations from previous Bond films were used : Brosnan and Hatcher 's love scene was filmed at Stoke Park , which had been featured in Goldfinger , and the bay where they search for Carver 's stealth boat is Phang Nga Bay , Thailand , previously used for The Man with the Golden Gun .

Spottiswoode tried to innovate in the action scenes . Since the director felt that after the tank chase in GoldenEye he could not use a bigger vehicle , a scene with Bond and Wai Lin on a BMW motorcycle was created . Another innovation was the remote @-@ controlled car , which had no visible driver ? an effect achieved by adapting a BMW 750i to put the steering wheel on the back seat . The car chase sequence with the 750i took three weeks to film , with Brent Cross car park being used to simulate Hamburg ? although the final leap was filmed on location . A stunt involving setting fire to three vehicles produced more smoke than anticipated , causing a member of the public to call the fire brigade . The upwards camera angle filming the HALO jump created the illusion of having the stuntman opening its parachute close to the water .

During filming , there were reports of disputes on set . The Daily Mail reported that Spottiswoode and Feirstein were no longer on speaking terms and that crew members had threatened to resign , with one saying " All the happiness and teamwork which is the hallmark of Bond has disappeared completely . " This was denied by Brosnan who claimed " It was nothing more than good old creative argy @-@ bargo " , with Spottiswoode saying " It has all been made up ... Nothing important really went wrong . " Spottiswoode did not return to direct the next film ; he said the producers asked him , but he was too tired . Apparently , Brosnan and Hatcher feuded briefly during filming due to her arriving late onto the set one day . The matter was quickly resolved though and Brosnan apologised to Hatcher after realising she was pregnant and was late for that reason .

Tomorrow Never Dies marked the first appearance of the Walther P99 as Bond 's pistol . It replaced the Walther PPK that the character had carried in every Eon Bond film since Dr. No in 1962 , with the exception of Moonraker in which Bond was not seen with a pistol . Walther wanted to debut its new firearm in a Bond film , which had been one of its most visible endorsers . Previously the P5 was introduced in Octopussy . Bond would use the P99 until Daniel Craig reverted to the PPK as 007 in Quantum of Solace in 2008 .

= = = Music = = =

Barbara Broccoli chose David Arnold to score Tomorrow Never Dies on a recommendation from prolific James Bond films composer John Barry . Arnold had come to Barry 's attention through his successful cover interpretations in Shaken and Stirred : The David Arnold James Bond Project , which featured major artists performing the former James Bond title songs in new arrangements . Arnold said that his score aimed for " a classic sound but [ with ] a modern approach " , combining techno music with a recognisably Barry @-@ inspired ' classic Bond ' sound ? notably Arnold borrowed from Barry 's score for From Russia with Love . The score was done across a period of six months , with Arnold writing music and revising previous pieces as he received edited footage of the

film . The music for the indoor car chase sequence was co @-@ written with the band Propellerheads , who had worked with Arnold on Shaken and Stirred . The soundtrack was well received by critics with Christian Clemmensen of Filmtracks describing it as " an excellent tribute to the entire series of Bond score " .

At first , the theme song was to be written by Arnold himself , with the help of lyricist Don Black and singer @-@ songwriter David McAlmont , who recorded the demo . However , MGM wanted a more popular artist , and invited various singers to write songs before one was picked through a competitive process . There were around twelve submissions , including songs from Swan Lee , Pulp , Saint Etienne , Marc Almond , and Sheryl Crow . Crow 's song was chosen for the main titles . Arnold 's composition , " Surrender " , performed by k.d. lang , was still used for the end titles , and features the same prominent melodic motif as the film 's score . This was the fourth Bond film to have different opening and closing songs . Moby created a remake of The James Bond Theme to be used for the movie . Two different versions of the soundtrack album were released , the first featuring only music from the first half of the film , and the second rectifying this but cutting several tracks , including the songs , to make room for the missing score tracks . Pulp 's effort was re @-@ titled as " Tomorrow Never Lies " and appeared as a b @-@ side on their single " Help The Aged " .

= = Release and reception = =

The film had a World Charity Premiere at The Odeon Leicester Square , on 9 December 1997 ; this was followed by an after premiere party at Bedford Square , home of original Ian Fleming publisher , Jonathan Cape . The film went on general release in the UK and Iceland on 12 December and in most other countries during the following week . It opened at number 2 in the US , with \$ 25 @,@ 143 @,@ 007 from 2 @,@ 807 cinemas ? average of \$ 8 @,@ 957 per cinema ? behind Titanic , which would become one of the highest @-@ grossing films of its time . Tomorrow Never Dies ultimately achieved a worldwide gross of over \$ 330 million , although it did not surpass its predecessor GoldenEye , which grossed almost \$ 20 million more .

The critical reception of the film was mixed , with the film review collection website Rotten Tomatoes giving it a 58 % rating , and similar site Metacritic rating it at 56 % . In the Chicago Sun @-@ Times , Roger Ebert gave the film three out of four @-@ stars , saying " Tomorrow Never Dies gets the job done , sometimes excitingly , often with style " with the villain " slightly more contemporary and plausible than usual " , bringing " some subtler @-@ than @-@ usual satire into the film " . James Berardinelli described it as " the best Bond film in many years " and said Brosnan " inhabits his character with a suave confidence that is very like Connery 's . " However , in the Los Angeles Times , Kenneth Turan thought a lot of Tomorrow Never Dies had a " stodgy , been @-@ there feeling " , with little change from previous films , and Charles Taylor wrote for Salon.com that the film was " a flat , impersonal affair " .

The title song sung by Sheryl Crow was nominated for a Golden Globe for " Best Original Song ? Motion Picture " and a Grammy for " Best Song Written Specifically for a Motion Picture or for Television " . The film received four nominations for Saturn Awards , with Brosnan winning " Best Actor " . It also won a MPSE Golden Reel Award for " Best Sound Editing ? Foreign Feature " and a BMI Film Music Award .

The original UK release received various cuts to scenes of violence and martial arts weaponry , and to reduce the impact of sound effects , to receive a more box @-@ office @-@ friendly 12 certificate . Further cuts were made to the video / DVD release to retain this rating . These edits were restored for the Ultimate Edition DVD release in the UK , which was consequently upgraded to a 15 certificate . However , upon the release of the Blu @-@ ray in 2012 , it was rated back down to a 12 uncut .

= = Appearances in other media = =

Tomorrow Never Dies was the first of three Bond films to be adapted into books by then @-@ current Bond novelist Raymond Benson . Benson 's version is expanded from the screenplay

including additional scenes with Wai Lin and other supporting characters not in the film . The novel traces Carver 's background as the son of media mogul Lord Roverman , whom Carver blackmails into suicide , later taking over his business . The novel also attempts to merge Benson 's series with the films , particularly by continuing a middle @-@ of @-@ the @-@ road approach to John Gardner 's continuity . Notably it includes a reference to the film version of You Only Live Twice where he states that Bond was lying to Miss Money Penny when he said he had taken a course in Asian languages . Tomorrow Never Dies also mentions Felix Leiter , although it states that Felix had worked for Pinkertons Detective Agency , which is thus exclusive to the literary series . Subsequent Bond novels by Benson were affected by Tomorrow Never Dies , specifically Bond 's weapon of choice being changed from the Walther PPK to the Walther P99 . Benson said in an interview that he felt Tomorrow Never Dies was the best of the three novelisations he wrote .

The film was also adapted into a third @-@ person shooter PlayStation video game , Tomorrow Never Dies . The game was developed by Black Ops and published by Electronic Arts on 16 November 1999 . Game Revolution described it as " really just an empty and shallow game " , and IGN said it was " mediocre " .