ELECTRIC ENTERTAINMENT COVERAGE REPORT

**TITLE**: FOREVER MARILYN

**FORMAT:** Feature Script

**WRITTEN BY:** Julianne Shinto & Michael Walsh

**GENRE:** Romance, Biopic, Period Drama, Thriller

**ANAYLIST:** Oscar Gervet

**DATE:** 06/18/21  
**LOGLINE:** The iconic Marilyn Monroe struggles to find true love and divorces from baseball player Joe Dimaggio and playwright Arthur Miller. Marilyn’s intense romance with JFK will lead his family to increasingly drastic means to stop their relationship, ultimately resulting in her suicide and his assassination.

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|  | **Excellent** | **Good** | **Fair** | **Poor** |
| **CHARACTERIZATION** |  | **X** |  |  |
| **PACING** |  | **X** |  |  |
| **STRUCTURE** |  |  | **X** |  |
| **DIALOGUE** |  | **X** |  |  |
| **STORY** |  |  | **X** |  |
| **RECOMMENDATION** | **PASS** | | | |

**SYNOPSIS:** 1954, JOE DIMAGGIO (39), the most well-known baseball player, is married to MARILYN MONROE (27), already globally famous. But from Tokyo to Beverly Hills, Joe gets tired of Marilyn spending time with the countless paparazzi. One day, Marilyn comes to BILLY WILDER's set of *The Seven-Year Itch* with her face bruised: Joe hit her while drunk! As she files for divorce, Joe becomes madly possessive. Marilyn leaves for NYC to create her own studio, but Fox gets her back by agreeing to produce her film project. Joe stopped drinking and meets Marilyn on her 29th birthday, but she marries the celebrated playwright, ARTHUR MILLER. In NYC, Marilyn suffers from the contempt of Arthur and his intellectual friends, and it even affects her work on Wilder's *Some Like It Hot*.

In L.A., JFK (43) intensely rekindles a romance with Marilyn, and she divorces Miller. After JFK's election, Marilyn keeps calling The White House for him, but only his brother BOBBY (35) answers to tell her she cannot have anything to do with him. She continues calling until, in 1962, she discovers her NYC apartment turned inside out and feels followed! Marilyn seeks help in a mental hospital where she gets held against her will at the secret orders of the Kennedy family. She succeeds in calling Joe by threatening to kill herself, and he rescues her the next day. She sings for Kennedy's birthday at Madison Square Garden, where the President secretly reaffirms his love for her and plans a date. But only Bobby shows up.   
  
JFK'S FATHER (73) tells Bobby to take care of Marilyn for good with the Chicago mob led by SAM GIANCANA (46). Joe tries his best to protect Marilyn, who plans to expose the Kennedys and marry JFK. A few weeks later, Marilyn comes to the lac Tahoe to sing for a charity, but it is a fake event, and THUGS come for her. On August 4th, Marilyn is found dead in L.A. with three empty pills bottles. A year later, Joe, still heartbroken, questions his well-informed friend Sam. The latter tells him a group of MASKED THUGS working for the Kennedys rapped Marilyn and took pictures to spread if she did not shut up. Joe asks Sam if he "knows someone" to make it right. Sam does. Three months later, JFK is assassinated.

**COMMENTS:** This original take on Marilyn Monroe's life sheds new light on the complex and vulnerable woman behind her on-screen sex symbol persona. Marilyn likes Hollywood's fame and glam but also feels trapped by her iconic image. She aspires to more in her career and intimate life (her marriages with Joe and Arthur suffer from her image). Characters have distinct voices and effectively clash in dramatic dialogue. However, the structure sometimes feels convoluted and lacks an impactful climax (which could be an argument between Joe, who loves Marilyn, and her, who still wants to be with JFK). Ending twists (aka explanations for Marilyn's suicide and JFK's assassination) fail to replace an intense climax. And, while gripping, the twists and some other elements could be perceived as a mere conspiracy theory defamatory to the Kennedy family. Suppose the writers mostly like the drama out of it. In that case, they could draw more ambiguity about the Kennedy family's actions to raise questions while developing a reflection on the power of images and narratives. For example, this more ambiguous version would not have JFK's father explicitly ordering Bobby to "take care" of Marilyn with their mob "friends." To sum up, the characters and dramatic dialogue are impactful, but the film feels anticlimactic and could end up seeming like a defamatory conspiracy theory.