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HEADLINE: Lee Harvey Oswald's Russian Wife Profiled in TV Movie

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CNN Transcripts, September 23, 1992

HIGHLIGHT:

A made-for-television movie filmed in part in Moscow is about the woman who was the wife of Lee Harvey Oswald, the believed assassin of President John F. Kennedy.

BODY:

BRIAN CHRISTIE, Anchor: Details surrounding the assassination of U.S. President Kennedy still haunt American society, and those who were caught up in that tragedy have always been objects of curiosity and subjects for books and films. CNN's Siobhan Darrow has the story from Moscow of one of the lesser known figures, Marina Oswald.

SIOBHAN DARROW, Correspondent: It's being billed as a love story, a tale of betrayal, and the quest for truth.

Unanswered questions and conspiracy theories about the Kennedy assassination still torture America's conscience, but this made-for-television movie shot in part in Moscow is about one woman whose life was also transformed on that November day in 1963.

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Marina's Story is a seldom told one - the tale of Lee Harvey Oswald's Russian wife. Oswald moved to the Soviet Union in 1959, where he met Marina. The couple married, then returned to the United States three years later. In 1963 events took place which changed history and the life of a young Russian girl.

The actress portraying Marina admires her strength.

HELENA BONHAM CARTER, Actress Playing Marina: When in 16 months having your husband accused of assassinating the president and then him being assassinated himself and then being left alone with two very young children and not speaking the language. And it goes on.

was the lone assassin of President Kennedy. For years Marina just tried to get on with her life, but looking back, she now believes Oswald was innocent and herself a pawn.

MARINA OSWALD PORTER, Former Wife of Oswald: But I am just a simple woman who was tangled up in a situation of politics and power struggle.

DARROW: Why has her story not been told before?

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STEVE BELIO, Writer: It's been so painful for her that she really hasn't wanted to look at all of this for much of her life. But she says, you know, 'All I want is for the truth to be known, even if it is a bitter truth.'

DARROW: It was a complex relationship at the height of the Cold War.

BELLA DUNYAEVA, Assistant Director: [through interpreter] In those times, if a Soviet girl married a foreigner, she was never overlooked by the KGB.

DARROW: Filming in Moscow with Russian actors gets confusing at times, perhaps tiring, but the executive producer explains why he wants Marina's Story told.

BERNARD SOFRONSKI, Executive Producer: I don't think anyone ever thought about it. They're only into who killed the president, and I was into that relationship.

DARROW: Marina's Story will now be told, but that doesn't mean all the questions will be answered immediately. The JFK assassination files are to stay sealed until the year 2029. So, much of the information Marina has sought will remain under lock and key.

CNN Transcripts, September 23, 1992

Siobhan Darrow, CNN, Moscow.

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