



The formative
years of one
of the world's
most famous
modern
politicians

Young Margaret

A fairy-tale rise to global fame

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A Film for Cinema and Television

A revealing story of the formative years of one of the world's most famous modern politicians.

A political force of nature, an iconic figure who wielded power in a headmistressy bossy style. But how did the story begin; how did the grocer's daughter wave the magic wand of her own colossal drive to create her fairy-tale rise to public and global fame. This is the story of Margaret the school girl, the teenager – the rebellious daughter who did everything in her power to distance herself from her humble beginnings.

When she became Leader of the Opposition in 1975, Margaret began to cite her father Alfred Roberts – not just a grocer but a dedicated local councillor and lay preacher – as her great influence in life, quoting his homilies on self-help and hard work. But from the moment a place at Oxford gave her an escape route out of Grantham in 1943, she in fact did everything she could to distance herself from him and her background - to rebel wouldn't be too strong a word.

Her upbringing was very strict, to the point of puritanical. She grew up a lower-middle-class Methodist in the furthest northern corner of the Midlands, forbidden to dance or drink or wear fancy clothes, forced to count every penny not because her family was poor (Alfred owned two thriving shops) but because thrift was a virtue. Yet within only a few years of escaping Grantham she totally reinvented herself as an upper-middle-class Home Counties Anglican, who danced, liked her whisky, dressed fashionably – and married a Rolls Royce-driving millionaire. Only after Alfred was safely dead (1969) did she resurrect him as her guiding light.

Currently financing to budget of £1 million for filming end of 2009

Director: **Tony Smith**
Producer: **Malcolm Craddock**
Writer: **John Wrathall**

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MALCOLM CRADDOCK

Recent TV films include *SHARPE* (16 TV movies for ITV, starring Sean Bean) *A LIFE FOR A LIFE* (ITV, starring Olympia Dukakis), which was nominated for the PRIZ ITALIA and BAFTA, and won the RTS Awards for Best Writer and Best Newcomer, and *REBEL HEART* for the BBC and the film *PING PONG*.

JOHN WRATHALL

GOOD, MAGIC MOMENTS

TONY SMITH

Acclaimed director of award-winning drama for all the UK networks, including *THE ROTTERS' CLUB* (Company Pictures/BBC) *ENGLAND EXPECTS*, *INSIDE OUT* and *TUTTI FRUTTI* (all BBC) and *OI FOR ENGLAND* (ITV)

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13 Egbert Street, London NW1 8LJ

Tel: +44 (0)20 7586 8763

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