

## Private Facts for the Writer, Tommy Clance

Tommy Clance published an action/love novel last year "Marching on Time." The novel generated quite a buzz, and he even appeared on the Regis and Kelly show last holiday season. After January of this year, however, the sales dropped off and the phone stopped ringing. Clance is in the process of working on a novel but is having trouble with his publisher. His publisher, *Glory in His Name*, hasn't approved any chapters of the book because it "advocates non-denominational worship."

Clance is tired of waiting for his dream to pay off. He wants a big house in Beverly Hills and autonomy in his work. He'd like to make enough money to begin a publishing business, but knows that his current relationship with his publisher won't generate enough money to accomplish these goals. He had a taste of Hollywood when he published his last novel, and part of him would also like to see his name in lights again.

Clance thought that he might be able to get start-up money if he sold the movie rights to his novel. He wants the movie to be "family friendly" with no higher than a PG rating; at most PG-13 (i.e. fade out at love scenes, no gratuitous violence etc...) One scene in particular he feels is a very passionate, compelling love scene (known as "Bedroom Booty" by the producer). He feels this should be played out through a 10 minute dialogue and then a fade out on the scene. He believes that the actual lovemaking is better when left to the imagination.

Because Tommy is a conservative Christian, he does not want Hung Lee - who Tommy believes to be a liberal without morals - to be in the movie. However, because he knows Lee is best for the part, Tommy would be willing to put his issues aside for the right price. Tommy would also like a say over where the movie is promoted. He does not want the movie to be promoted on the alternative circuit, on shows like Howie Sterno-what Tommy calls "smut to the mind."

While this is the first time anyone has shown interest in one of Tommy's screenplays, he feels he has powerful negotiation leverage because another movie studio is currently very interested in purchasing the screenplay as well. The other studio has offered him some creative control over the movie, but only 5% of gross profits. However, this offer is from an independent production company, and independent production companies do not have large budgets to put into the production and promotion of the movie. Independent films recoup profits that are considerably less than major production companies.

Mr. Clance is tired of waiting for his dream to pay off. For this reason, he's willing to bend on everything, but would like to censor any naked close ups. If the deal is closer to Tom Clancy money, Mr. Clance would even allow the sex scenes, but must have the right to dissociate his name from the movie altogether.