(logline)

## **Layers of Deception**

After stumbling onto a dark web conspiracy a start-up boss becomes the target of an inexorable Malaysian gangster and his iniquitous underlings.

(synopsis)

## Layers of Deception

Zealous entrepreneur Steve Roussos is set to grow his firm exponentially, until the UK Government denies him a critical patent. With bills piling up, Steve sets out for Asia after he's extended a lucrative lifeline from a Malaysian conglomerate. However during his new contract, Steve fortuitously unearths the illicit digital marketplace of local crime boss Prem Jothi. To protect his secret, Jothi sets in motion a plan to rot Steve's company from within. A few well placed moles allow Prem's tentacles to spread quickly, reaching the highest levels of the firm. Once in possession of the intel he needs, Prem moves into the blackmail phase of his program. In a bold show of power, the Malaysian mastermind proceeds to introduce Steve to a high ranking local lawman who's currently; *in his pocket*.

Shortly thereafter, the mysterious and fatal death of Steve's security chief occurs. Which is when the businessman decides to summon the authorities. But without knowing how high up corruption within the Royal Malaysian Police goes, Steve turns to law enforcement back home in the UK. However his protests are met with skepticism. Prem learns of this, and moves to have Steve detained by another one of his law enforcement *proxies;* in Malaysia. With Steve now under his watchful eye, Prem eliminates another critical piece of his organization. Steve's sales chief. Who leaves behind a pregnant girlfriend.

As events unfold, Prem also learns of an unforeseen familial tie to his targets firm. One which the crime boss aims to quickly rid himself of. While simultaneously, giving Steve the break he needs to take Prem down. After narrowly surviving a recent attempt on his life, with help still scarce from authorities on either side of the pond, and a new ally in tow; Steve is determined to bring an end to this minacious game himself. He absconds to the northwestern state of Penang where he uncovers an intricate web of corruption and political infighting, and where he must tread carefully; and choose his allies wisely. Before Prem can successfully hand down his latest death sentence...upon Steve's family!