

FILM REVIEW:

The Good Shepherd (2006)

The award-winning motion picture called *The Good Shepherd* (2006) is written by Eric Roth from the American intelligentsia, who also penned such masterpieces as *Munich* (2005) and *Forrest Gump* (1994).

The film is not an action-filled, fast-paced thriller but rather a gradually developing exploration of what goes on behind the scenes of the spy world and elite networks. It captivates and holds the attention of the viewer. One watches the film in one breath. It is more than a psychological intrigue as it also offers a sociological cosmos of subtle processes and mechanisms.

The script of the story and the dialogues in it are written with a rather mature degree of awareness and consciousness. This can only be possible if one has extensive interdisciplinary research with the right observations that is not as that of a journalist but as that of an ethnographer. In order to be able to write the characters' conversations right one needs to channel the characters' thinking right. In order to do that one is required to profile these characters' ways of thinking. This is then psychographic profiling and not merely demographic description.

There are many interesting subtle historical details and nuances in the film that make it both a realistic story and a true work of high art. One of those nuances is how the two agents visit a gentlemen's tailor shop in London and hidden inside the shop is an underground British intelligence center. In this scene the character Philip Allen says:

"You're going to have to learn as quickly and as thoroughly as possible the English system of intelligence – the Black Arts, particularly counter-intelligence. The uses of information, disinformation and how their use is ultimately... Power.

The English have agreed to open up their "operations" to us. They can't win the war without us but they don't really want us here... Intelligence is their mother's milk, and they don't like sharing the Royal Tit with people who don't have titles.

There will be very few people in the intelligence community you can trust. For the sake of your sanity you will need to trust someone... You can trust me. People like us, we don't deceive each other."