

# Lionsgate and Liberty Global Partner on Supernatural Spy Thriller *The Rook* for Premium Pay Platform STARZ

Twilight Creator Stephenie Meyer and Television Icon Stephen Garrett to Executive Produce New Premium Series

Series Will Debut on STARZ Platform in the U.S. and Across Liberty Global's International Platforms in Europe, Latin America & the Caribbean

Santa Monica and Beverly Hills, CA, and London, UK – July 28, 2017 – Starz President and Chief Executive Officer Chris Albrecht announced today that STARZ has picked up the supernatural spy thriller *The Rook*, produced by a ground-breaking partnership between global content leader Lionsgate (NYSE: LGF.A, LGF.B) and Liberty Global (NASDAQ: LBTYA, LBTYB, LBTYK, LILA and LILAK), the world's largest international TV and broadband company. *The Rook* is a premium series executive produced by *Twilight Saga* creator Stephenie Meyer, with industry icon Stephen Garrett serving as showrunning Executive Producer. The announcement was part of Starz's presentation to the Television Critics Association (TCA).

The series will air on the STARZ platform in the U.S. beginning next year. At the same time, Liberty Global will feature the series exclusively on demand across its footprint in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean. Lionsgate will distribute the series worldwide.

A riveting supernatural thriller about a young woman pursued by shadowy paranormal adversaries while grappling with extraordinary abilities of her own, *The Rook* is executive produced by Ms. Meyer (*The Twilight Saga*, Lionsgate's upcoming *Down A Dark Hall*, *Austenland* and *The Host*) and producing partner Meghan Hibbett under their Fickle Fish production banner.

An accomplished producer in both television and film, Stephen Garrett will serve as showrunning Executive Producer under his Character 7 banner. Garrett most recently served as Executive Producer on the award-winning and ratings hit, *The Night Manager. The Rook* is adapted and co-produced by award-winning playwrights and screenwriters Sam Holcroft (*Rules for Living*) and Al Muriel (*Precious & Rich*) based on the novel by Daniel O'Malley.

"A high-end series aimed right at the sweet spot of our audience, *The Rook* is a great addition to a STARZ slate loaded with the most exciting new and returning series offered by any platform anywhere," said Albrecht. "We are thrilled to add the talents of Stephen Garrett and Stephenie Meyer to our creative family and forge our partnership with the Lionsgate Television Group and Liberty Global. *The Rook* is instantly addictive from the very first scene and introduces what we believe will be one of the most fascinating and thrilling female protagonists on television."

"Stephenie is one of the world's great creative talents, and Stephen has an incredible track record in bringing remarkable stories to the screen," said Lionsgate Television Group Chairman Kevin Beggs and President of Worldwide Television & Digital Distribution Jim Packer. *"The Rook* is a major premium property driven by an amazing creative team, and it's not only a terrific addition to the STARZ platform but the perfect series to launch a content alliance with our friends at Liberty Global."

"*The Rook* is another important step in Liberty Global's premium scripted content strategy. Shot in the UK, this project is a perfect fit for Virgin Media as well as our other European markets," said Liberty Global chief programming officer Bruce Mann. "The series, which we look forward to making available exclusively to millions of Liberty Global subscribers worldwide, is an amazing supernatural thriller which we are excited to have in the hands of an elite creative showrunner like Stephen Garrett. We're also delighted to be partnering with our good friends at Lionsgate and Starz."

"Everything starts with great writing," said Character 7's Executive Chairman Stephen Garrett. "To be conspiring on *The Rook* in partnership with Stephenie based on a book that is as dazzling as it is surprising and working with the talented team of Sam and Al, is the perfect springboard for thrilling television. The teams at Lionsgate, Starz and Liberty Global are great champions of creativity, and we're looking forward to partnering with them."

*The Rook* tells the story of a young woman who wakes up in a London park suffering total amnesia – surrounded by dead bodies, all wearing latex gloves. Pursued by shadowy paranormal adversaries, grappling with peculiar 'abilities' of her own, she must fight to uncover her past, and resume her position at the head of Britain's most secret (supernatural) service... before the traitors who stole her memory can finish what they started.

#### About Stephenie Meyer

Ms. Meyer has gained worldwide recognition for her original and captivating stories that have paved the way for a new generation of women heroes, and her blockbuster *Twilight Saga* film franchise, which she created and produced, grossed \$3.5 billion at the worldwide box office. The *Twilight* films were based on her acclaimed book series which has sold over 100 million copies in more than 50 countries and been translated into 37 languages. She also coproduced *The Host*, based on her #1 New York Times best-seller, and *Austenland* with Hibbett. They are producing an adaptation of Lois Duncan's teen classic *Down A Dark Hall*, starring Uma Thurman and AnneSophie Robb, with Temple Hill's Marty Bowen and Wyck Godfrey, for Lionsgate.

Ms. Meyer was the best-selling author of 2008 and 2009 in the U.S., selling over 29 million books in 2008 and another 26.5 million in 2009. USA Today named Ms. Meyer "Author of the Year" in 2008, noting that she swept the top four slots on the USA Today best-seller book list,

something that no one else had done in 15 years. Ms. Meyer accomplished this feat again in 2009.

## About Character 7

As an accomplished producer with an eye for pedigree material, Stephen Garrett most recently served as Executive Producer of "The Night Manager." The series marked the first under his Character 7 production company, which is based in Los Angeles and London for high-end television and film projects. A ratings and critical success, "The Night Manager" was done in collaboration with The Ink Factory, and garnered multiple Emmy and Golden Globe Awards. The Character 7 team also includes Head of Development Michele Wolkoff, who works closely with Garrett on the company's expanding slate of projects. Wolkoff joined the company last year having most recently led development for The Mark Gordon Company as Head of Film where she oversaw a robust slate as well.

Prior to Character 7, Garrett was Founder and Executive Chairman of Kudos, the UK's leading independent producer of TV drama. While running the company, he and his team galvanized British television with popular and acclaimed shows including the BAFTA-winning "Spooks" (based on Garrett's original idea), "Hustle," "Life on Mars," Frank Spotnitz's "Hunted," and ITV's hit "Broadchurch."

## About Lionsgate

The first major new studio in decades, Lionsgate is a global content platform whose films, television series, digital products and linear and over-the-top platforms reach next generation audiences around the world. In addition to its filmed entertainment leadership, Lionsgate content drives a growing presence in interactive and location-based entertainment, gaming, virtual reality and other new entertainment technologies. Lionsgate's content initiatives are backed by a 16,000-title film and television library and delivered through a global licensing infrastructure. The Lionsgate brand is synonymous with original, daring and ground-breaking content created with special emphasis on the evolving patterns and diverse composition of the Company's worldwide consumer base.

## About Starz

Starz (www.starz.com), a Lionsgate company (NYSE: LGF.A, LGF.B), is a leading global media and entertainment company that provides premium subscription video programming on domestic U.S. pay television networks and produces and distributes content for worldwide audiences, including its investment in the STARZ PLAY Arabia OTT service. Starz is home to the flagship STARZ<sup>®</sup> brand and STARZ ENCORE channels and provides high-quality, entertaining premium subscription video programming with 17 premium pay TV channels and associated on-demand and online services, including the STARZ app. Sold through U.S. multichannel video distributors, including cable operators, satellite television providers, telecommunications companies, and other online and digital platforms, Starz offers subscribers more than 5,000 distinct premium television episodes and feature films every year and up to 1,500 every month,

including STARZ Original series, first-run movies and other popular movie and television programming.

#### About Liberty Global

Liberty Global is the world's largest international TV and broadband company, with operations in more than 30 countries across Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean. We invest in the infrastructure that empowers our customers to make the most of the digital revolution. Our scale and commitment to innovation enable us to develop market-leading products delivered through next-generation networks that connect our 25 million customers who subscribe to over 50 million television, broadband internet and telephony services. We also serve over 10 million mobile subscribers and offer WiFi service across 6 million access points.

Liberty Global's businesses are comprised of two stocks: the Liberty Global Group (NASDAQ: LBTYA, LBTYB and LBTYK) for our European operations, and the LiLAC Group (NASDAQ: LILA and LILAK, OTC Link: LILAB), which consists of our operations in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Liberty Global Group operates in 11 European countries under the consumer brands Virgin Media, Unitymedia, Telenet and UPC. The Liberty Global Group also owns 50% of VodafoneZiggo, a Dutch joint venture, which has 4 million customers, 10 million fixed-line subscribers and 5 million mobile subscribers. The LiLAC Group operates in over 20 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean under the consumer brands VTR, Flow, Liberty, Más Móvil and BTC. In addition, the LiLAC Group operates a sub-sea fiber network throughout the region in over 30 markets.

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