HELLO AMERICA!—After so many years after James Dean’s death, his fans have increased by the millions throughout the world. I was informed about a few young film writers who are meeting weekly to create a miniseries based on their idols’ life. Since I met Jimmy in 1952, I managed to get to know him pretty well; I was interested in interpretive dancing as was Eartha Kitt and Marilyn Monroe, and taking classes together was challenging as well as unforgettable. Dean was determined to prove that he was more proficient in Afro American dancing than any of us. However, he was warm, charming, and earned artistic support from all of us because of his obvious determination.

In my book, “Hollywood Through the Back Door,” I described one of my experiences involving a young musician from the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra that revealed a side of Dean, the world at that time would have been shocked, mainly because it was the early 1950s a time in Hollywood when it didn’t take much to shock the world. As a young USC student, at the time, I confess it didn’t take much to affect me, as well.

Dean was born February 8, 1931, in Marion, Indiana, to Mildred Marie (Wilson) and Winton A. Dean, a farmer turned dental technician. His mother died when he moved to New York to pursue his dream of acting. He received rave reviews for his work as the blackmailing Arab boy in the New York production of Gide’s “The Immoralist,” good enough to earn him a trip to Hollywood.

His early film efforts were strictly small roles: a sailor in Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis overly frantic musical comedy “Sailor Beware” (1952); a GI in Samuel Fuller’s moody study of a platoon in the Korean War, “Fixed Bayonets!” (1951) and youth in the Piper Laurie-Rock Hudson comedy “Has Anybody Seen My Gal?” (1952). Dean did not enjoy working with Hudson; he believed the actor was fearful of proving he had a soul.

He had major roles in only three movies. In the Elia Kazan production of John Steinbeck’s “East of Eden” (1955) he played Cal Trask, the bad brother who could not force affection from his stiff-necked father. His true starring role, the one which fixed his image forever in American culture, was that of the brooding red-jacketed teenager Jim Stark in Nicholas Ray’s “Rebel Without a Cause” (1955).

George Stevens’ filming of Edna Ferber’s “ Giant” (1956), in which he played the non-conforming cowhand Jett Rink who strikes it rich when he discovers oil, was just coming to a close when Dean, driving his Porsche Spyder race car, collided with another car while on the road near Cholame, California on September 30, 1955. He had received a speeding ticket just two hours before. At age 24, James Dean was killed almost immediately from the impact of a broken neck. His very brief career, violent death, and highly publicized funeral transformed him into a cult object of apparently timeless fascination.

Being an actor is probably the loneliest profession in the world. You are all alone with your concentration and imagination, and that’s all you have.

On the funnier side of life, I came across one of the funniest shows I’ve seen in a while. Produced by Segment Film Productions, “The Time Vault” brings back the comedy of the 50s and 60s, which I find hilarious. Perfect timing for a show like this. It can be viewed on “The Boomer Channel” on ROKU, or at https://www.segmentfilmproductions.com/.

HOLLYWOOD—What can I say about Netflix. It’s one of those rare companies that has benefited from the global pandemic, which kept billions of people at home with nothing to do but stream. Since April, it has added an estimated 15 million subscribers, more than ever. Netflix had enough original content in the pipeline to survive during the lockdown. One of the most interesting series is Netflix’s “Emily in Paris.” So, in case you never heard of it, the series is a comedy, romantic drama about, as you guessed it, a woman called Emily who moves to Paris. Emily played by Lily Collins is in her 20s and makes the move from Chicago to the French capital for a job in marketing. The show’s been heavily criticized for its idealized view of the city, according to its creator Darren Star.

The first episodes are targeted at the young audience. They talk about places to eat a croissant in Paris or tips to take the perfect selfie. Instagram works in the protagonist’s career in social media, this series is definitely the dream of each other. This can be done by polling your stories as asking them to leave a comment.

The Instagram algorithm allows you to create content that makes users stay in the app as long as possible. Having great photos, interesting descriptions, including the location of the photo and constantly uploading stories are some of the things you can do to grow your profile little by little.

So how do you go from 50 followers to 10,000 in less than a year? Interesting, question. You have to have been in an Oscar-nominated movie or have a life that is extraordinary for this to happen, or be someone like that. And not even ensures that your profile grows in this way. The other is to invest a lot of money. Take advantage of all the platform’s tools such as Instagram TV or Reels. In this way, you can generate more impressions which can be reflected in a greater number of followers. Encourage the community to interact with you and each other. This can be done by polling your stories asking them to leave a comment on your posts. Don’t over-post. The series is a great example of what we can make a wonderful publication of everyday moments. Definitely, entertaining series!

EMILY IN PARIS!  
By Rose Quintiliano

"Emily in Paris" is a hit on Netflix.

"Emily in Paris" is a hit on Netflix. Cosmopolitan Parisian life and culminating in the protagonist’s career in social media, this series is definitely the dream of many. At the start of the series, we see Emily’s account has just under 50 followers. As she uploads very casual photos accompanied by hashtags that don’t really tell us much, she then proceeds to become an influencer within months and is even invited to exclusive events.

The Instagram algorithm allows you to locate all types of publications only with hashtags. These must be as accurate as possible and must be directly related to your content. In the series we only see Emily putting any type of hashtag. There is no consistency between posts, therefore, you wouldn’t have as many impressions in real life. Let’s be real. Would a selfie of someone you don’t know eating a croissant have a lot of relevance on your feed?

If the answer is no, I think the point was made, however, one thing is for sure. We love to see what other people are doing, especially if it’s in romantic Paris. So if you are looking to grow on a social network platform like Instagram, it is important that you take your content planning seriously: what topic do you want to talk about? What topic do you want to be related to?

Another perspective is, if the photo description presented Emily, in the best places to eat a croissant in Paris or tips to take the perfect selfie. Instagram works with an algorithm, for that matter so does YouTube and this benefits those who create content that makes users stay in the app as long as possible. Having great photos, interesting descriptions, including the location of the photo and constantly uploading stories are some of the things you can do to grow your profile little by little.

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