

I AM

Preface

Welcome to the captivating chronicles of my formative years in Bulgaria, a narrative brimming with intrigue and resilience that laid the foundation for my journey to the United States. As I pen down these memories for my beloved children and for my own self-reflection, I invite you to embark on an exhilarating odyssey through the labyrinth of my adolescence.

Imagine a young version of myself, navigating the turbulent waters of high school without the luxury of caped crusaders or wise mentors. Instead, my days were filled with daunting encounters with my formidable mother, whose stern demeanor often resembled that of a drill sergeant.

Living under her roof felt akin to participating in a relentless survival challenge, where each day brought a new obstacle to overcome. Yet, amidst the chaos, I found solace in the pages of my secret notebook, where I chronicled my trials and triumphs.

But my story is not merely one of adversity; it is a testament to resilience and fortitude in the face of adversity. While my peers were preoccupied with the trivialities of adolescence, I assumed the role of a young adult, shouldering the burdens of work and familial responsibilities.

In this memoir, you'll witness the unconventional education I received in the school of life, where I learned to navigate the complexities of adulthood long before my peers. And though my journey was fraught with challenges, it was also marked by moments of profound growth and self-discovery.

So, prepare to be captivated by a tale unlike any other – a narrative that transcends the boundaries of traditional drama to explore themes of survival, perseverance, and the relentless pursuit of heroism, however unconventional it may be.