

PITCH DECK

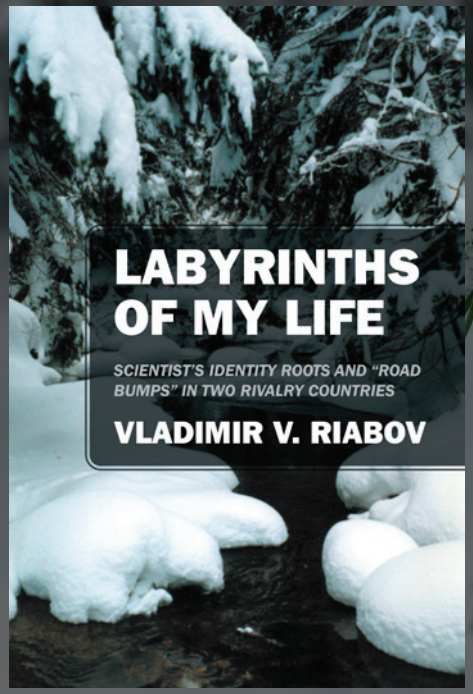
Labyrinths of My Life

by Vladimir V. Riabov

LABYRINTHS OF MY LIFE

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A sweeping autobiographical drama about identity, science, exile, survival, intellectual challenges, and cultural barriers across two rival superpowers.





A gifted Soviet aerospace scientist rises through the elite scientific institutions of the USSR, only to face political upheaval, personal tragedy, and exile as he searches for meaning and identity between Russia and America.

Series or Film Concept

Format Suggestions

- Limited Series (6–8 episodes)
- Prestige Feature Film

Genre

- Historical Drama / Biographical Drama
- Political/Scientific Thriller
- Immigration Story

Themes

- Survival under ideology
- The cost of genius
- Family legacy
- Scientific obsession
- East vs. West identity conflict
- Sacrifice for intellectual freedom

WHY THIS STORY NOW?

Key Talking Points

- Renewed global interest in Cold War narratives
- Strong audience appetite for:
  - *true stories*
  - *intellectual dramas*
  - *immigrant journeys*
  - *morally complex protagonists*
- Timely geopolitical relevance
- Rare inside perspective on:
  - *Soviet scientific culture*
  - *academic politics*
  - *aerospace innovation*
  - *Soviet collapse*

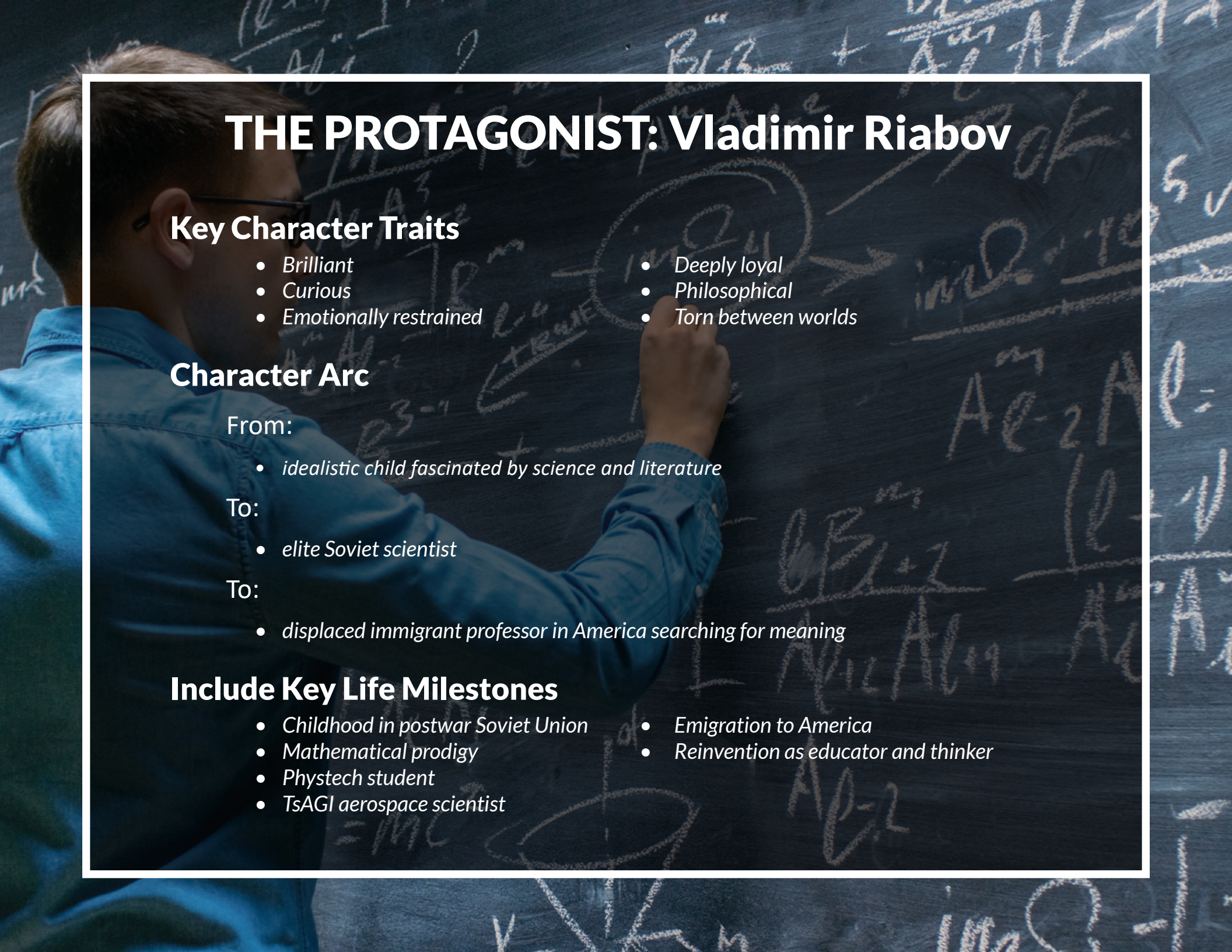
Highlight

The memoir combines:

- *emotional intimacy*
- *political tension*
- *scientific ambition*
- *historical authenticity*

Visual Recommendations

- Timeline imagery:
  - *Soviet Union collapse*
  - *Buran spacecraft*
  - *Soviet scientific institutes*
  - *immigration paperwork*
- News headline montage aesthetic



THE PROTAGONIST: Vladimir Riabov

Key Character Traits

- *Brilliant*
- *Curious*
- *Emotionally restrained*
- *Deeply loyal*
- *Philosophical*
- *Torn between worlds*

Character Arc

From:

- *idealistic child fascinated by science and literature*

To:

- *elite Soviet scientist*

To:

- *displaced immigrant professor in America searching for meaning*

Include Key Life Milestones

- *Childhood in postwar Soviet Union*
- *Mathematical prodigy*
- *Phystech student*
- *TsAGI aerospace scientist*
- *Emigration to America*
- *Reinvention as educator and thinker*

WORLD OF THE STORY

Postwar Soviet Childhood:

scarcity, communal struggle, literary culture, family trauma

Elite Soviet Academia:

Phystech, TsAGI, scientific competition, intellectual pressure

The Cold War Machine:

aerospace research, restricted cities, surveillance atmosphere

America in Transition:

academic reinvention, immigrant loneliness,
cultural dislocation, freedom vs. isolation

EMOTIONAL CORE & RELATIONSHIPS

Central Relationships

- *Father → mentor and emotional anchor*
- *Mother → sacrifice and resilience*
- *Tanya → tragic first love and family struggle*
- *Colleagues/scientists → intellectual brotherhood*
- *Students → legacy and redemption*

Emotional High Points

- *Childhood hardship*
- *Loss of first child*
- *Professional betrayal*
- *Leaving homeland*
- *Rebuilding identity in America*

Key Emotional Tone

This is not simply a science story —it is a deeply human story about:

- *grief*
- *belonging*
- *memory*
- *perseverance*

Visual Recommendations

- *Intimate domestic moments*
- *Letters/photos*
- *Train stations*
- *Empty laboratories*
- *Hospital corridor imagery*

CINEMATIC SET PIECES

- Major Visual Sequences
- Childhood in Soviet Russia
- Mathematical Boarding School
- TsAGI Aerospace Research
- Collapse of USSR
- Arrival in America
- Visual Recommendations
  - *Sweeping aerials*
  - *Stark Soviet architecture*
  - *Analog technology*
  - *Scientific visualization overlays*
  - *Period-authentic environments*

COMPARABLE FILMS & AUDIENCE

Audience:

- *Prestige streaming audiences*
- *Historical drama viewers*
- *STEM/science audiences*
- *International viewers*
- *Awards-focused demographic*

Comparable IPs:

- *Chernobyl*
- *A Beautiful Mind*
- *Oppenheimer*
- *The Imitation Game*
- *Tetris*
- *The Americans*
- *First Man*

Market Position:

- *Cold War authenticity*
- *emotional biography*
- *scientific discovery*
- *immigrant reinvention story*

EPISODE OR FEATURE STRUCTURE



Option A — Limited Series Structure

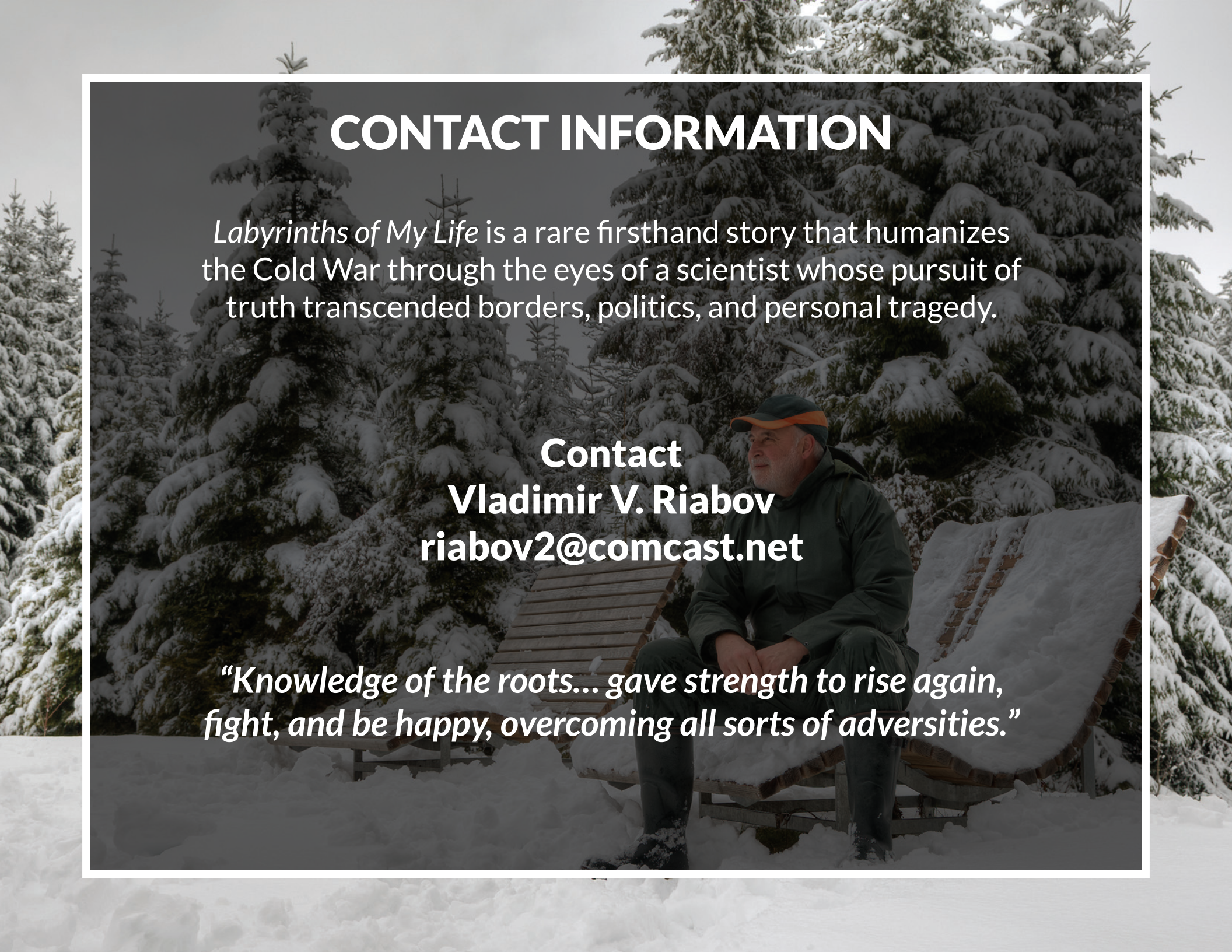
- *Episode 1:*
  - *Roots and Childhood*
- *Episode 2:*
  - *Phystech and Scientific Awakening*
- *Episode 3:*
  - *TsAGI and the Soviet System*
- *Episode 4:*
  - *Love, Family, and Loss*
- *Episode 5:*
  - *Collapse of the USSR*
- *Episode 6:*
  - *America and Reinvention*
- *Episode 7:*
  - *Legacy and Reflection*

Option B — Feature Structure

- *Act I → Soviet childhood/genius emergence*
- *Act II → scientific career/loss/disillusionment*
- *Act III → exile and reinvention in America*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Labyrinths of My Life is a rare firsthand story that humanizes the Cold War through the eyes of a scientist whose pursuit of truth transcended borders, politics, and personal tragedy.



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"Knowledge of the roots… gave strength to rise again, fight, and be happy, overcoming all sorts of adversities."