

About 'Bank Under Siege'

- Spanish political miniseries
 - premiered Nov. 8
 - directed by Daniel Calparsoro
 - produced by Brutal Media
- plot:
 - Spain, May 1981
 - during a bank heist, 11 masked men took over the headquarters of Barcelona's Central Bank, holding 200 people hostage
 - follows Miader, a passionate reporter who races against time and risks her life to uncover the robber's truth

The True Story of the 1981 Barcelona Central Bank Heist

- Netflix miniseries gives a unique look at one of the "most tumultuous times in Spanish political history"
 - "The story and characters depicted in the show are mostly based on real events and people. However, creative liberties have been taken to make the narrative more crisp and compelling."
- per [Sportskeeda](#), the events on-screen are based on the Central Bank hostage crisis in Barcelona on May 23, 1981
 - this was three months after an attempted coup by the Civil Guard and members of the military (known as the 23-F coup)
 - it was organized as a "political move to free the mastermind of the coup, Colonel Tejero, and three other prisoners"; their main goal wasn't even robbing the bank
- the event began around 9am and lasted 37 hours
 - eleven hooded men carrying rifles entered the Central Bank and identified themselves using numbers to conceal their identities
 - while capturing 200 hostages, they fired gunshots in the air and injured an employee in the knee
 - the shots were a dual message – for the hostages to stop their resistance efforts, and a threat to the government if they failed to meet robbers' demands
 - police surrounded the bank, giving the robbers a chance to reveal their demands
 - the release of General Luis Torres Rojas and three other lieutenant colonels: Antonio Tejero Molina, Jose Ignacio San Martin and Pedro Mas Oliver
 - all were previously arrested for their involvement in the failed February 1981 coup
 - robbers gave police 72 hours to free the general and colonels and put them on a plane to Argentina
 - they also demanded a separate plane so they could safely escape after their mission

- Spain's political instability was exposed worldwide as people eagerly tuned in to learn what would happen with the hostages
 - the government tried to negotiate with the robbers, but they weren't interested, instead threatening to start eliminating hostages
 - they placed explosives in the building ahead of time, per [Soap Central](#), making it clear that innocent people's lives were at stake
- while their main motives were political, the robbers attempted to loot the bank during the heist
- in the end, one of the robbers lost his life
 - nine were taken down by authorities and one managed to escape
 - those who were caught were later identified as members of the Civil Guard who were involved with Rojas as the other colonels

How Does Netflix's 'Bank Under Siege' End?

- on-screen, Mainer is discouraged from pursuing the heist story by her boss, Isabel, but decides to pursue the investigation anyway
 - she visits Francisco López, who shares every detail he learned from Jose while warning Mainer of potential troubles ahead
- those who helped him pressure Jose to change the story he's told authorities, suggesting he claim he performed the robbery in exchange for his family's safety
 - Mainer was reluctant to trust Jose, and spoke with people close to him in search of the truth
- in the finale, Mainer learns from López that Gil Sanchez Valiente was with Teero during the February coup, allegedly leaving with crucial documents at the time
 - Mainer was warned to stop her investigation and urged her to write a book on the election instead, but this didn't stop her
 - after some digging, she and López find out the aforementioned document contained names to key coup figures that Manglano intended to use for his CESID position
 - on their quest for the truth, Mainer and her colleagues' car explodes, proving that earlier warnings about danger ahead were on point
- in 1983, López tells Mainer that Jose's involvement in the heist was strictly for financial gain
 - after 38 years in prison, he escaped and immediately retrieved the money he hid in the bank's basement
- Manglano quit his job in 1995 after the wiretapping scandal, although him and Manuel's involvement in the heist are unclear
 - Mainer and López eventually stop chasing the truth as the dangers against them become more intense