

# RAPIST WEINSTEIN LED TO JAIL IN CUFFS

Movie mogul  
faces 29 years  
in prison for  
sex attacks on  
two women

From **Daniel Bates** and  
**Tom Leonard** in New York

HARVEY Weinstein was taken to prison in handcuffs last night, facing up to 29 years behind bars.

The movie mogul, 67, was convicted of sex attacks on two women, including the rape of an aspiring actress.

A New York jury cleared him of the most serious charges of predatory sexual assault, for which he could have served life.

As Weinstein became prisoner number 06581138Z at notorious Rikers Island:

- It can be revealed he expected to be cleared and was planning for the future;
- His conviction was heralded as a watershed moment for the MeToo movement;
- Downing Street faced calls to strip Weinstein of an honorary CBE awarded in 2004;
- Weinstein's days in court are not over because he faces another sex trial.

Sources said Weinstein spent his last days as a free man with his children and making plans for a charitable trust he hoped would restore his tarnished image.

Only last week he told a friend in a text message: 'Praying the tides are turning.' And while waiting for the verdict he read over a new film script.

His lawyer, Arthur Aidala, said that after the verdict Weinstein who was once one of the most powerful players in Hollywood, kept repeating: 'I'm innocent, I'm innocent.'

He also said: 'I didn't rape anyone' and

**'Humiliate and silence his victims'**

wondered out loud: 'How could this happen in America?', according to the New York Daily News.

But last night he was labelled a 'vicious, serial sexual predator who used his power to threaten, rape, assault and trick, humiliate and silence his victims'.

Manhattan district attorney Cyrus Vance Jr added: 'This is the new landscape for survivors of sexual assault in America, I believe, and it is a new day. It is a new day because Harvey Weinstein has finally been held accountable for crimes he committed.'

'These survivors weren't just brave, they were heroic. Words can't describe the sacrifices they made.'

The Silence Breakers, a group of women who came together to accuse Weinstein and others, said: 'He will now forever be known as a convicted serial predator.'

Italian actress Asia Argento, an early accuser of the former Miramax boss, wrote on Instagram: 'Harvey Weinstein is now a convicted rapist. Two survivors cry and celebrate. Thank you God.'

Gloria Allred, a lawyer for the victims, said: 'It's no longer business as usual in the United States. This is the age of empowerment of women. And you cannot intimidate them any more. Women will not be silenced.'

The guilty verdict on two of the five charges Weinstein faced were seen as a vindication for the MeToo and Time's Up movements, which

saw women come forward in their droves to tell of their abuse at the hands of powerful men.

More than 100 women have made accusations against Weinstein and he faces up to 25 years behind bars after being convicted of sexually assaulting a production assistant,

forcing himself upon Mimi Haley in 2006. He could face up to another four years for the rape of aspiring actress Jessica Mann, with whom he had been in a 'degrading' on-off relationship.

The jury of seven men and five women took almost 27 hours to

convict the producer of the Oscar-winning film Shakespeare in Love. They sat through three weeks of evidence that shone a light into Hollywood's darkest corners.

The foreman's hand trembled as he read out the verdict. A court clerk made each member of the

jury say out loud that they agreed with the verdict as Weinstein stared impassively ahead. Within minutes his legal team sent a lawyer to the appeal court.

Donna Rotunno, seen as Weinstein's 'Rottweiler', said on the steps of the court: 'We'll absolutely

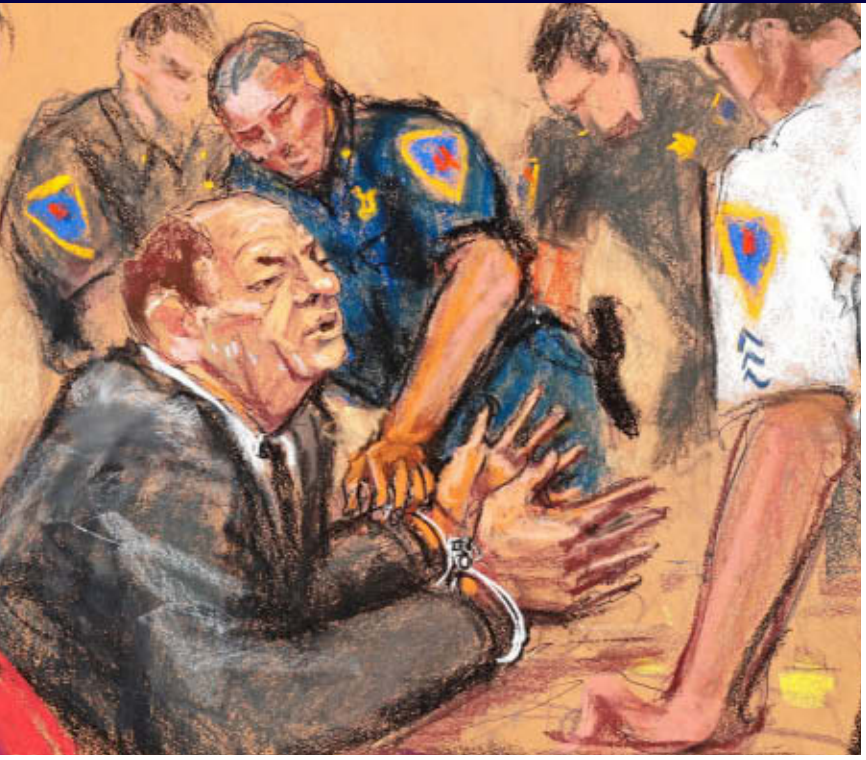
be appealing. The fight is not over.'

She had asked that her client, who hobbled into court every day using a walking frame, be allowed bail until the sentencing hearing next month.

Judge James Burke denied her request, saying he would request Weinstein be put in the prison infirmary. A bid to have

Weinstein released on bail, ahead of the appeal, was launched last night. Mr Vance said he was 'not dissatisfied' with the verdict even though Weinstein was found not guilty on the two most serious charges of predatory sexual assault.

The shamed mogul also faces court in LA on rape and sexual assault charges.



Cuffed: A court sketch of Weinstein before he was taken away yesterday

## Now Queen could strip him of CBE

HARVEY Weinstein faces being stripped of his CBE by the Queen. He was made an honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 2004 for services to the film industry (right).



But MPs from all parties last night demanded it be revoked. Dawn Butler, Labour's equalities spokesman, said: 'Weinstein should have been stripped of his honours a long time ago, but now he's been found guilty there's no excuse.'

Tory former minister George Freeman said: 'Let us take this moment to send a clear message that this sort of behaviour will not be condoned or tolerated any more in this country.'

Honours can be forfeited when a person is considered to have brought the system into disrepute. A recommendation is made by the Honours and Appointments Secretariat to the Forfeiture Committee – made up of senior civil servants. The final decision must be approved by the Queen.

Weinstein has already been kicked out of industry bodies including the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which runs the Oscars, and the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, which organises the Baftas.



Guilty: Harvey Weinstein uses a walking frame to get to court yesterday

## 3 WOMEN WHO BROUGHT HIM DOWN



Tears: Mimi Haley says Weinstein forced himself on her

### Assistant who was pestered for sex

MIMI Haley, a 42-year-old producer whose credits include Shoot Me! 2 and The Last Impresario, accused Weinstein of forcibly performing a sex act on her during a meeting at his New York home.

She was trying to make a career in film and TV when she met Weinstein in 2004 at a London premiere.

Two years later, she approached him for a job in New York and he offered her work as a production assistant on the reality TV series Project Runway. Fin-

land-born Miss Haley says she rebuffed his relentless advances, once telling him: 'I hear you have a terrible reputation with women.'

However, in 2006, she says she went to see him at his flat in Manhattan and, despite her protests, he forced himself on her.

The court heard that, two weeks later, she accepted his invitation to his hotel room, where he pulled her into bed for sex. The trial was told she kept exchanging warm messages with him, pitching ideas.



Aspiring actress: Jessica Mann

### Victim feared he'd ruin her acting career

JESSICA Mann, 35, claimed she was repeatedly raped by Weinstein even as they conducted a consensual sexual relationship.

She fled an abusive home aged 16 and moved to Los Angeles when she was 25 to become an actress.

In LA, she fell on hard times but managed to get small film roles. She met Weinstein at a party and he later invited her and another woman to his hotel suite and performed a sex act on her, even as she protested.

In March 2013, she was in New York when he raped her in a hotel room. Prosecutors say she continued a relationship with him for years because she was scared of him and wanted to protect her career.



Emmy nominee: Annabella Sciorra

### Sopranos star who told jury of rape ordeal

ANNABELLA Sciorra claimed Weinstein forced his way into her apartment in New York in the early 1990s and raped her.

The 59-year-old actress, who was Emmy-nominated for her role in mob drama The Sopranos, said Weinstein gave her a lift home after a dinner in Manhattan.

After she got changed into her nightgown – a family heirloom – she heard a knock at the door, the jury heard. Weinstein then pushed past her, she said, before holding her down on a bed and performing a sex act on her.

Her claims were too old to be the subject of charges but she was brought into the case by prosecutors seeking to prove Weinstein had a pattern of behaviour. After the verdict, Miss Sciorra said: 'I spoke for myself and with the strength of the 80-plus victims of Harvey Weinstein in my heart.'