BLOOMING IN SHANGHAI

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FADE IN:

EXT. UNDERWATER - DAY

PEING-LA, an Asian woman in a bikini, dives into the water.

There is a net bag by her hip. She uses her flippers with expertise as she swims downwards, towards an oyster bed.

EXT. UNDERWATER. OYSTER BED - DAY

Peing-La uses a knife to loosen some oyster shells. As she does, one oyster shell falls off the bed.

The oyster shell topples to the ground. Then it lands on a small mossy clump. It makes a scrape in the clump, which lets off a GLEAM.

Peing-La puts the oysters into her net bag. Then she looks to her lower right, and sees the gleaming scrape.

She swims down towards it, grabs the clump, and pulls it out of the ground.

The clump is really another oyster shell. It has a lot of moss, but the part that was in the ground is very shiny.

She swims to the surface.

EXT. WATER SURFACE. BEACH - DAY

It is a hot sunny day.

Peing-La SURFACES, and breathes deeply.

EXT. SHORE. BEACH - DAY

She walks up the shore, with her findings.

Peing-La looks to be thirty.

Captions: HAINAN PROVINCE, CHINA. 1977.

EXT. BEACH. PEING-LA'S SPOT - DAY

Peing-La uses her knife to open one of the shells . . . disappointment comes over her face.

Then she picks up the mossy/shiny one.

She sticks her knife into it, opens the shell . . . wonder appears on her face.

A black pearl sits inside it.

INT. BO-GUNN'S OFFICE. DESK - DAY

BO-GUNN sits at his desk. He is a Chinese man in his early forties, who looks very secure in his suit and tie.

He has the black pearl in his hand.

Captions: SHANGHAI CITY, CHINA.

Peing-La is here. She looks good in formal clothes, but not very comfortable.

Bo-Gunn looks at her.

BO-GUNN

This will help us more than you think.

PEING-LA

Why?

BO-GUNN

They've already left me.

PEING-LA

But they gave you two weeks notice!

BO-GUNN

I know.

Pause.

PEING-LA

Do you know any jewellers?

Bo-Gunn nods.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. KITCHEN - DAY

LEE-MIN is a Chinese woman in her mid thirties, who has a rather plain face. She steams dumplings at the stove, and she does not look happy right now.

Bo-Gunn is here.

BO-GUNN

I'll export something else.

LEE-MIN

There's nothing new out there.

BO-GUNN

I'll invent something.

LEE-MIN

You're not an inventor.

BO-GUNN

So I'll talk to people.

LEE-MIN

And they will want credit...
Oh, but get Peing-La to think of something. That will work.

BO-GUNN

She's your cousin-in-law!

LEE-MIN

Who saves your business.

BO-GUNN

I wouldn't have coped without a good wife.

LEE-MIN

That's not what your workmates ever thought.

BO-GUNN

Peing-La doesn't brag.

LEE-MIN

Of course, she's too perfect.

BO-GUNN

She can't cook as well as you.

LEE-MIN

But she can look like Main-Shu's wife.

Pause.

BO-GUNN

He could have heard that!

LEE-MIN

And he would agree with me.

Bo-Gunn looks into another room:

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING ROOM - DAY

In this room is a magnificent painting of a Chinese garden.

It is ancient, but in good condition. Amongst its numerous details: it has a tower in its centre and a waterfall to its side.

There is only one person in the painting. It is an old man wearing expensive clothes, and carrying gardening tools.

INT. PEING-LA'S HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Peing-La, in a skimpy leotard, does martial arts exercises.

Then she finishes, and catches her breath. Sweat trickles down her firm tummy and toned back.

Peing-La picks up a towel and starts to dry herself off.

Then she stops, and looks about the room.

She puts a towelling robe on, sits on the bed, and starts drying her hair . . .

Behind her, the apparition of MAIN-SHU materializes. This ghost resembles a Chinese man in his sixties. He wears the exact same clothes as the gardener in the ancient painting.

Peing-La does not turn around.

PEING-LA

How can you do this?

MAIN-SHU

There is a garden.

PEING-LA

But it's ten acres away.

MAIN-SHU

I can talk for a short while.

Peing-La turns to face him.

Main-Shu bows to her, gracefully.

Peing-La smiles.

PEING-LA

Don't thank me too much.

MAIN-SHU

I won't. We owe you for your courage, but you did not find it.

PEING-LA

Didn't I?

MAIN-SHU

Pearls are out there for the greedy and the adventurous. But the Black Pearl - in China - chooses its finder.

INT. JEWELLER SHOP. FRONT DESK - AFTERNOON

Bo-Gunn shows the black pearl to a JEWELLER.

The jeweller writes something on a piece of paper, and shows it to him.

Bo-Gunn shakes his head and walks to the door.

The jeweller calls out to him, Bo-Gunn stops.

Then the jeweller writes something else, and holds it out.

Bo-Gunn comes back to him, looks at the paper, and grins.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING ROOM - DAY

Captions: TWO MONTHS LATER.

Lee-Minn sits by the table, and looks at the garden painting. She has a sad longing expression in her eyes.

Then she glances at the corner.

There, in the corner, is a big cabinet. It looks just as ancient and well preserved as the painting is.

Bo-Gunn comes in, carrying a magazine.

BO-GUNN

I found one!

He sits down next to Lee-Min.

Then he opens the magazine and points to an advertisement.

BO-GUNN (Cont'd)

I sent her a letter twelve days ago. And she sent me these.

Bo-Gunn takes out some photos. He gives her the first one:

It shows a huge ball of clear glass. And inside the ball is a coloured-glass model, of a beautiful Chinese dragon. The dragon's scales are oak brown, with some streaks of silver. It encircles its long serpentine body around an hourglass.

On the bottom of the picture is the title: "Time Dragon."

BO-GUNN

She has re-invented the dragon.

Lee-Min quickly reads the magazine ad.

LEE-MIN

And she's American?

BO-GUNN

Yes.

Lee-Min looks back at the photograph.

LEE-MIN

But what does it do?

BO-GUNN

It's just an ornament, but it's beautiful.

LEE-MIN

People will copy it.

BO-GUNN

That's what I thought. But look at this.

He gets a magnifying glass and shows her something:

The dragon's colour seeps outwards, neatly. It gently and evenly stains the clear glass surrounding it. This makes it look like the dragon has some sort of aura.

BO-GUNN (Cont'd)

She has a unique formula. No one has been able to copy it.

Bo-Gunn selects another photograph and shows her:

This one is a "Lantern Dragon." Its scales are orange, with a little bit of black. It coils around a vertical display of Chinese lanterns. Like the last one, it gives off this unique hazy aura.

LEE-MIN

How many prototypes?

BO-GUNN

Four, and another four coming.

Bo-Gunn shows her the next picture:

A "Trade Dragon." This one has scales of bright copper, which give off the hazy aura. On either side of him is a Chinese junk ship.

LEE-MIN

She will have to come here.

BO-GUNN

I know.

LEE-MIN

Anyone else?

BO-GUNN

And some relatives.

T.E.E.-MTN

Do you still have plane credits?

BO-GUNN

Yes, and hotel credits.

LEE-MIN

Is it enough?

Bo-Gunn makes a little nervous sigh.

BO-GUNN

It will use up all I have left. But yes, I have enough.

LEE-MIN

So we will be speaking English.

BO-GUNN

You speak it better than me.

LEE-MIN

But not as well as Peing-La.

BO-GUNN

Lee-Min!

Lee-Min just looks at the next photo:

It shows a "Dragon of Fruit." This one has light green scales, and is surrounded by four different types of fruit.

INT. SHANGHAI AIRPORT. SITTING AREA - DAY

On a couch sits GENEVIVE. This is a woman in her late thirties, but can pass as someone younger. Genevive is a gorgeous blond woman with a golden suntan.

ANNALISE sits close by her. She is thirty, but she has a haggard look that makes her seem older. Yet it is clear that she had once been very beautiful. She wears a silver crucifix around her neck.

BO-GUNN (V.O.)

Her sister is a business manager and her brother-in-law is an accountant. I will need them, especially when details get too American.

Annalise picks up a magazine and leafs through it.

Genevive notices this.

GENEVIVE

Do you think you might find you in there?

ANNALISE

I doubt it.

DERRICK comes up to them, with a tray of coffees. He is in his late thirties, and has gentle eyes. Derrick wears a silver crucifix around his neck too. He sits down, next to Annalise.

Genevive picks up her coffee.

GENEVIVE

You know, I will need someone

with me for the interviews.

DERRICK

Aw, you still want to soak up the camera. Don't you?

GENEVIVE

Not for this.

Annalise sips her coffee, and she smiles.

ANNALISE

You remembered to get honey.

DERRICK

So do I get a kiss?

ANNALISE

Not in public.

DERRICK

What?

ANNALISE

In China.

DERRICK

We're married!

Annalise rolls her eyes, and they kiss.

Genevive smirks.

GENEVIVE

Careful, Derrick. That's like eating forbidden fruit: in this country.

TIMELAPSE:

INT. SHANGHAI AIRPORT. MAIN FLOOR - DAY

BRYCE is a huge man with well-proportioned muscles. He has clean-cut facial features, and is in his mid thirties.

BO-GUNN (V.O.)

They want to bring one more person along, to be the spare hands. They'll cover his flight.

Bryce looks a little lost, as he pulls his luggage along. Derrick walks up to him.

DERRICK

There you are.

BRYCE

Hey, I would have found you!

DERRICK

I know. Did you get the mag?

Bryce gives him a car magazine.

BRYCE

The Mercedes is still a much better car.

DERRICK

But the Jaguar is from my childhood.

BRYCE

Yeah. When you weren't grovelling in a pew! Where're my cousins?

Derrick points.

EXT. AIRPORT. NEAR THE EXIT - DAY

Bryce hugs Annalise.

Then Bryce hugs Genevive . . . and it's quite long.

Genevive cringes a little.

Derrick opens the car magazine, on a certain page, and he holds it up.

The page shows a picture of Bryce, posing in an

advertisement for dumbbells.

DERRICK

They will need you again, right?

Bryce stops hugging Genevive.

BRYCE

Of course they will! I'm only here for a temporary job.

DERRICK

It might last longer than you think.

BRYCE

Yeah, well, I'm not learning Chinese.

The four of them head out with their luggage.

Annalise makes sure she is between Bryce and Genevive.

INT. BO-GUNN'S OFFICE. DESK - AFTERNOON

WEING-NEE is a jolly plump Chinese man, in his late twenties. He sits down in front of Bo-Gunn.

WEING-NEE

Have you worked with Americans before?

BO-GUNN

Not as closely as this.

WEING-NEE

Have you seen the way they deal with chopsticks? It can be quite bizarre.

XICHANG-NI comes in. He is a tall Chinese man in his mid forties, and has a bitter sort of presence.

Bo-Gunn stands up.

BO-GUNN

You're earlier than you said.

XICHANG-NI

Because time-wasting makes me sick.

They shake hands.

EXT. SEAFOOD RESTURANT. FRONT DOOR - DUSK

A taxi pulls up outside this restaurant.

The family of Americans all step out of it.

INT. SEAFOOD RESTURAUNT. TABLE - NIGHT

Peing-La, Bo-Gunn, Lee-Min, Genevive, Annalise, Derrick and Bryce: all sit around a table.

They eat off a rotating board in the middle of the table; adorned with various types of seafood.

They are all deep in conversation.

BO-GUNN

What made you become a glass artist?

GENEVIVE

It was from a photo shoot, where I was a witch. And I was surrounded by all these different magic-potion bottles. They were just amazing.

BO-GUNN

Will you model again?

GENEVIVE

Not if these take off.

ANNALISE

Modelling isn't really as glamorous as you might think.

BRYCE

That's your opinion.

ANNALISE

You were lucky!

Annalise scowls, Bryce just shrugs.

Peing-La keeps looking at Genevive's blond hair, with awe.

Genevive notices this, and she smirks a little.

GENEVIVE

Do you think you'd do it?

PEING-LA

Modelling?

Genevive nods.

PEING-LA (Cont'd)

Why do you say that?

GENEVIVE

You're in good shape.

PEING-LA

Thank you.

GENEVIVE

And you know your eye shading.

Peing-La chuckles.

Genevive frowns.

PEING-LA

I don't know how to put makeup on.

GENEVIVE

Who did it?

PEING-LA

Bo-Gunn.

Now Genevive is really confused.

Annalise and Derrick look at Bo-Gunn.

Bryce stifles a laugh.

Bo-Gunn reacts.

BO-GUNN

I run a business! Men wear ties, women wear eye shading.

Genevive looks at Peing-La: amazed.

GENEVIVE

You're thirty, and you've never put makeup on?

PEING-LA

I'm forty.

Genevive blinks.

GENEVIVE

Sorry.

Bo-Gunn addresses Bryce.

BO-GUNN

So you are the lifter?

BRYCE

When things are too heavy, yes.

BO-GUNN

Do you do that in America?

BRYCE

No. I'm the one who hasn't given up on modelling.

ANNALISE

I didn't "Give Up!"

A moment of silence, with tension in the air . . .

Then Derrick fumbles with his chopsticks. He drops some cuttlefish, and it splashes into his cup of green tea.

The Chinese people giggle.

EXT. SEAFOOD RESTURAUNT. FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

They all hail taxis.

Annalise has a word with Derrick. Then she gets into a taxi, by herself.

Bryce gets into one on his own, too.

EXT. SHANGHAI STREETS - NIGHT

The busy streets of Shanghai dominate the night.

INT. GENEVIVE'S APARTMENT. WORKSHOP FLOOR - NIGHT

Genevive and Derrick look around this wide apartment.

GENEVIVE

I sacrificed having a television for a lot of space!

DERRICK

And an even bigger shower. How messy can an artist get?

GENEVIVE

Boy this would have cost him a lot of credits.

Derrick looks at the floor.

DERRICK

How do you get the kiln in here?

GENEVIVE

I will need Bryce.

Genevive makes a nervous little sigh.

GENEVIVE (Cont'd)

Annalise won't . . .

DERRICK

No. She just needs her own space sometimes. She is clean, trust me.

GENEVIVE

Do you think Bryce might?

DERRICK

No. The court case woke him up.

GENEVIVE

You don't know him that well.

DERRICK

I'm sure he's out of it, now.

Pause.

GENEVIVE

Your chopsticks-trick was pretty cute.

DERRICK

I think they saw through it.

GENEVIVE

Not Peing-La. She couldn't keep her eyes off my hair.

Derrick looks around again.

DERRICK

Where do you sleep?

GENEVIVE

I'll set a bed up.

DERRICK

You're really going about it the hard way.

GENEVIVE

I'd better. They probably think I look like a Barbie Doll.

They smile and head out.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Genevive and Derrick come in to this room.

Now everyone who met up in the restaurant is here.

There is a pot of gourmet tea on the table, with seven cups all poured out.

They all look at the garden painting, with the picture of Main-Shu.

BO-GUNN

His name was Main-Shu.

ANNALISE

From how far back?

BO-GUNN

Centuries.

ANNALISE

He looks like a Prince.

BO-GUNN

He was a gardener.

ANNALISE

He must have been wealthy.

Lee-Min cuts in here.

LEE-MIN

He could have been wealthier.

But he turned it down.

Bo-Gunn does not have a problem with his wife suddenly taking over. He just walks to the corner, where the old cabinet is.

LEE-MIN (Cont'd)

All he wanted was food and shelter, and to tend gardens.

Bo-Gunn opens the cabinet.

He takes out a suit of garments. They look like the ones

Main-Shu wears, only a lot older.

He puts the garments on the table.

Then Bo-Gunn takes out a suit of slimmer garments. He puts them on the table, next to the first one.

Genevive looks at the slimmer garments.

GENEVIVE

Whose are they?

LEE-MIN

His wife's.

GENEVIVE

Is she in the painting?

LEE-MIN

No.

Genevive looks into the cabinet.

In the cabinet is a set of ancient gardening tools.

Annalise still looks at the painting.

ANNALISE

His clothes were quite expensive.

LEE-MIN

Because the richest people in China wanted him.

DERRICK

Well, it seems you inherited his work ethic.

Derrick picks up a cup of gourmet tea and raises it to the painting.

DERRICK (Cont'd)

Here's to Main-Shu.

Behind them, Main-Shu quietly appears.

At that moment, Peing-La and Bo-Gunn glance at each other.

EXT. SHANGHAI CITYSCAPE. SQUARE - DAWN

Sunlight envelops some elderly people doing Tai-Chi.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING ROOM - MORNING

The first four dragon ornament prototypes are on the table. The Dragon of Time, of Lanterns, of Trade and of Fruit.

Main-Shu and Bo-Gunn are here.

BO-GUNN

Do you have a problem with the Americans?

MAIN-SHU

No. It's all well and good they adhere to China.

He looks at the glass dragons.

MAIN-SHU (Cont'd)

And I like the priest's respect.

BO-GUNN

He's not actually a priest.

MAIN-SHU

Maybe, but he has that presence.

INT. BO-GUNN'S OFFICE. DESK - AFTERNOON

There are several sheets of coloured drawings, on the table. They are all new dragon-concepts.

Captions: FOUR WEEKS LATER.

Bo-Gunn looks at one of the drawings. It has the title "Dragon of Tea." This one has very-dark brown scales. It coils around a great teapot, and holds a cup in its right claw.

Peing-La is here.

PEING-LA

Hasn't she made it yet?

BO-GUNN

The artist needs time.

PEING-LA

She's had more than that.

BO-GUNN

She's doing her part.

PEING-LA

Your last workmates were "doing their part."

BO-GUNN

But they didn't think like Annalise does.

PEING-LA

So you trust business people more than Chinese people?

BO-GUNN

Yes.

PEING-LA

So why do you trust Genevive? She's not a businessperson at all, and she admits that.

BO-GUNN

Then go to her workshop. See what she's got.

INT. GENEVIVE'S WORKSHOP. MAIN FLOOR - AFTERNOON

The massive glasswork kiln is now here.

A tarnished safety suit lies over a chair.

Some faulty dragon models lie in the corner.

A finished model of the "Tea Dragon" is on a small pedestal. It is not inside its clear-glass ball and there is no teapot, it is only the dragon figurine.

Genevive sits on a couch, looking very relaxed and giddy.

Peing-La comes up to her.

Genevive turns to her, slightly.

GENEVIVE

Oh, hi. How'd you get in?

PEING-LA

There's a spare key, remember?

GENEVIVE

Oh, forgot.

PEING-LA

Didn't you hear me knocking?

GENEVIVE

Sorry, I must have been asleep.

Peing-La looks at the "Tea Dragon" model.

PEING-LA

Do you have any others?

Genevive points to the faulty models in the corner.

Peing-La looks about the place.

To the far left of the couch is a stool, with a skipping rope and a gym water bottle on it.

Peing-La goes to the stool and takes it up to Genevive's couch. Then she sits down in front of her.

PEING-LA

I know an artist needs time but

. . .

Peing-La sniffs the air.

Genevive sniggers.

GENEVIVE

I just took a little bit.

PEING-LA

You take drugs!

GENEVIVE

It's just marijuana.

PEING-LA

You won't get anything done!

Genevive points to the glasswork kiln.

GENEVIVE

Believe me. You don't want me to get stressed with that thing.

PEING-LA

Stressed? You've had four weeks.

GENEVIVE

I spent most of my time in here.

PEING-LA

You've barely finished half of one.

GENEVIVE

Hey, you're not Bo-Gunn!

PEING-LA

And does he know you smoke weed?

GENEVIVE

Yes, and he doesn't have a problem.

PEING-LA

Well I do!

Peing-La quickly looks about Genevive's couch.

Then she swiftly reaches into the slit between the cushion and the arm, and takes out a plastic bag of marijuana.

Then she gets up.

GENEVIVE

You can't do that.

PEING-LA

You can't be lazy.

GENEVIVE

A woman who can't put makeup on thinks I'm lazy?

PEING-LA

My cousin put a lot at risk for you!

Peing-La goes towards the bathroom.

Genevive gets up and follows her.

GENEVIVE

That isn't yours.

She grabs Peing-La's arm.

Peing-La FLIPS her hand off with a martial-arts move, then she keeps going.

GENEVIVE (Cont'd)

Don't you fuckin dare.

Genevive violently reaches for the bag.

The two of them start FIGHTING.

Peing-La is definitely more skilful at this, but she deflects and blocks more than she hits back. And when she does hit back, it is only on Genevive's arm or thigh.

But Genevive starts getting even more aggressive, reaching for the marijuana.

So Peing-La THROWS her off balance.

Then Peing-La holds Genevive on the floor, in a judo grip.

Genevive STRUGGLES.

GENEVIVE

Get off me.

She brings her mouth right up to Peing-La's ear.

GENEVIVE (Cont'd)

Fuckin get off me.

Genevive tries to push her off.

Peing-La shifts her grip: to hold her down more.

Genevive scowls.

Peing-La looks her in the eyes: to stare her down.

Genevive wriggles, angrily.

PEING-LA KISSES GENEVIVE FULL ON THE LIPS.

The struggling stops.

Peing-La brings her head up.

They look at each other, with pure astonishment.

Then Peing-La goes straight back into kissing her again.

Genevive kisses right back.

EXT. SHANGHAI CITYSCAPE - NIGHT

The city is alight with its skyscrapers and car headlights.

EXT. APARTMENT BLOCK. ENTRANCE - EARLY DAWN

Bryce, with sunglasses on, walks up to the apartment block.

He looks a little bit nervous as he discreetly goes inside.

EXT. CHINESE GARDEN. LOTUS AREA - DAY

There are lots of PEOPLE about, most of them Chinese.

Main-Shu walks among them. He looks about, searching.

Nobody notices the ghost.

Then Main-Shu spots something:

A CHINESE CONSTRUCTION WORKER sits beside a bed of lotuses, about to have his lunch. He looks at the layout of the flowers, and has a little smell.

Main-Shu smiles.

MAIN-SHU (V.O.)
A man who is not a gardener, but loves the lotus. You are more than worthy to be my backup.

Main-Shu comes up to him.

Then the ghost waves his hands over the construction-worker's lunch, and watches him eat it.

INT. BRYCE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Bryce has his dumbbells out. He has applied a lot of weight to them.

Then he picks up a clear plastic packet, filled with pills.

He takes out two pills and swallows them.

Then he starts pumping iron.

INT. GENEVIVE'S WORKSHOP. GLASSWORK KILN - DAY

Genevive - wearing her protective gear - is working at the kiln.

Inside the kiln, there is a huge round blob of red-hot glass. Genevive holds the Tea Dragon model in a pair of thick durable tongs. She gently places the model into the blob.

INT. PEING-LA'S HOTEL ROOM - DAY

Peing-La just sits and looks out the window.

Her phone RINGS, and she picks it up.

INT. PEING-LA'S HOTEL ROOM / GENEVIVE'S WORKSHOP - DAY

GENEVIVE

Did you take anything for breakfast?

PEING-LA

All you have is coffee.

GENEVIVE

Oh yeah.

PEING-LA

I do something called sleep.

Genevive smirks.

GENEVIVE

Thanks for not taking my... you know.

PEING-LA

You're welcome. But please-

GENEVIVE

Oh I won't be using it much now.

PEING-LA

I am sorry if I hurt you.

GENEVIVE

It's all right.

Pause.

GENEVIVE (Cont'd)

Have you felt that before? For a woman.

PEING-LA

Yes. But I thought it was just a need for tenderness.

GENEVIVE

Was your father harsh?

PEING-LA

No. But there were so many boys around me when I was growing up.

Pause.

PEING-LA (Cont'd)

Have you?

GENEVIVE

No. I had too much "obligation" to be a man's desire.

PEING-LA

Will your family have a problem?

GENEVIVE

My sister should be fine.

PEING-LA

What about her husband?

GENEVIVE

I don't know.

PEING-LA

You're not close enough?

GENEVIVE

We're too close. I was his first kiss when he was sixteen.

PEING-LA

Oh.

GENEVIVE

What about your family?

PEING-LA

Bo-Gunn loves his work too much.

And Lee-Min hates me anyway.

INT. BO-GUNN'S OFFICE. DESK - LATE AFTERNOON

The first five glass dragon prototypes are displayed out on Bo-Gunn's desk. The Dragon of Time, Lanterns, Trade, Fruit and Tea.

The Dragon of Tea has a very different sort of aura to the others. Instead of a neat radiance around him, it dissipates upwards like steam.

Weing-Nee and Xichang-Ni sit before Bo-Gunn.

Bo-Gunn brings the Dragon of Trade to the centre of the table.

BO-GUNN

Most employees will do the basics: the ball and the model.

He uses a pen to indicate to the seepage "aura."

BO-GUNN (Cont'd)

We will give this formula to the best workers, under a contract.

WEING-NEE

So is this "Trade Dragon" your favourite?

BO-GUNN

Yes, it is.

EXT. BUSINESS OFFICE BUILDING. MAIN DOORS - DUSK

Bo-Gunn, and the other two businessmen, head out. They all shake hands good-bye, and are about to part.

BO-GUNN

Are you sure you don't want to come to Sugar Petals?

XICHANG-NI

I've got a family to go to.

WEING-NEE

Maybe when we know each other a little better.

The businessmen wave good-bye, with a smile, and walk separate ways.

Bo-Gunn stands there looking slightly depressed.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. LOUNGE ROOM - NIGHT

Lee-Min comes in, followed by Genevive.

Genevive has a big box in her hands.

LEE-MIN

Would you like some tea?

GENEVIVE

Thank you.

Genevive puts the box on the table and opens it. Then she takes out the sixth dragon model, in its glass ball.

This dragon has deep blue scales, and is surrounded by Chinese musical instruments. Genevive has turned this one on ear as well: this time the dragon does not have an aura, it's the items that surround it that do.

GENEVIVE

This one was tricky.

Lee-Min approaches Genevive, with a cup of tea.

When Lee-Min gets close to her, she quietly sniffs the air.

GENEVIVE (Cont'd)

I took a big rest afterwards.

Lee-Min quietly sniffs again, and frowns suspiciously.

INT. SUGAR PETALS NIGHTCLUB. NEAR THE STAGE - NIGHT

In this CROWDED nightclub, Bo-Gunn sits by a small table; which is near the stage.

TWO CHINESE DANCING GIRLS perform in front of him. They move erotically, and touch each other sensuously, for all the other MEN to drool over (there are a few western faced men here).

Bo-Gunn watches the dancing girls, but very half-heartedly.

Bryce is also in this nightclub. He looks amused to see Bo-Gunn here.

Their eyes meet, and Bryce approaches him.

BRYCE

Are you feeling guilty?

BO-GUNN

Why do you think that?

BRYCE

You're hardly watching them.

BO-GUNN

Neither are you.

BRYCE

My women need to be blond.

BO-GUNN

Don't you see enough blond women in America?

BRYCE

Yes. But I see enough black haired women there too.

Then Bryce stares off, after he says that.

Bo-Gunn frowns.

BO-GUNN

Do they... get in the way?

Bryce's eye twitches.

BRYCE

My mother had black hair.

His eye twitches again, and he keeps staring off.

Bo-Gunn is clearly confused.

The two dancing girls finish their performance.

There is an applause, and the girls leave. Then NEW CHINESE DANCING GIRLS enter the stage, with different music.

The change in music seems to pull Bryce back to reality.

Bo-Gunn sips some beer and addresses him again.

BO-GUNN

So why are you here, if it's not for the women?

BRYCE

I just needed to see more horizontal-eyed faces.

He points to the other western-faced men here.

BRYCE (Cont'd)

Now why are you here, since it's not for the women?

BO-GUNN

Before I was married, this was the bar I came to with workmates.

BRYCE

What happened to them?

BO-GUNN

A very rich man offered them a job.

BRYCE

So you come here to remember life before you were married?

BO-GUNN

I come here to remember comradeship!

Bo-Gunn suddenly looks very gloomy, and now he stares off.

Bryce just scoffs at him a little bit.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. LOUNGE ROOM - AFTERNOON

Lee-Min sits at the table, with a POLICEMAN.

LEE-MIN

I could smell it, easily.

POLICEMAN

Does your cousin-in-law smoke it too?

LEE-MIN

No, she was just too selfabsorbed to notice it. Let her know that.

INT. GENEVIVE'S WORKSHOP. MAIN FLOOR - AFTERNOON

Genevive has just finished a stage of her glass crafting.

She sits on her couch and takes a breath. Then she looks to the side of the couch, where her marijuana is.

Genevive takes out the bag and looks at it . . .

TRANSITION:

Genevive exercises with her skipping-rope.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING ROOM - DUSK

Lee-Min has taken Main-Shu's ancient gardening tools out of the cabinet.

She has moved things aside, leaving a lot of floor space.

She has the hoe, the spade, the pitchfork and the rake all placed neatly in front of her.

Lee-Min sits in a yoga position, in front of the painting.

She closes her eyes, and waits . . .

The wind-chimes make a gentle sound.

She looks about . . . then she sighs.

INT. MONGOLIAN RESTURAUNT. TABLE - NIGHT

The two families sit at a dinner table again, but in a different restaurant to the last one. They all talk in a haphazard but merry and casual way.

While they all keep talking, Bryce looks at Genevive . . .

Genevive is totally oblivious to him. Her eyes are on someone else.

Bryce glances at who Genevive looks at: which is Peing-La.

Bryce looks back at Genevive, then back at Peing-La again.

Then his face goes suspiciously grim.

EXT. MONGOLIAN RESTURAUNT. JUST OUTSIDE - NIGHT

The Chinese family all get to a single parked car.

Bo-Gunn looks tipsy, and he gives his car keys to Lee-Min.

Peing-La is about to get into the back seat, but she stands and waits for a few seconds . . .

The American family all gather up to the taxis.

Genevive walks up to a taxi and opens its door. Then she turns and looks at Peing-La . . .

The two women gaze into each other's eyes for a moment, then they get into their transports.

EXT. THE BUSY STREETS OF SHANGHAI - LATE NIGHT

Fashion and cosmetic shops stay open during these hours.

INT. GENEVIVE'S BATHROOM. IN THE SHOWER - LATE NIGHT

A showerhead shoots hot water over Genevive's naked body.

Then she turns the water off.

She smears herself with soap, in wide circular motions.

Soon Genevive is covered with a thick bubbly lather.

Then she just stands there, surrounded by fogged-up walls.

The glass door opens, and in comes Peing-La.

CLOSE UP SHOTS:

The two women slowly bring their bodies together.

Genevive's fingers slide down Peing-La's toned waist . . . down to her slim hips . . . and clasp her smooth buttocks.

Peing-La brings her hands up Genevive's back, places them over her shoulder blades, and holds firm.

Then they begin tasting each other's mouth.

INT. GENEVIVE'S BATHROOM. JUST OUTSIDE THE SHOWER - NIGHT Two female bodies can be seen, through the foggy windows. A dark-olive Asian and a gold-tanned American.

EXT. SHANGHAI. GENEVIVE'S APARTMENT BLOCK - DAWN

Morning light beams onto the higher part of this building.

INT. GENEVIVE'S APARTMENT. KITCHEN - DAY

Peing-La - in a towelling robe - opens a packet of green tea. She puts a spoonful into a teapot, and adds hot water.

Genevive comes in, wearing a dressing gown.

Knock-Knock.

Genevive leaves the kitchen, Peing-La stays there.

SERIES OF SHOTS: IN AND OUTSIDE GENEVIVE'S APARTMENT - DAY.

Genevive opens the front door. There stands the Policeman who Lee-Min talked to.

Peing-La stands beside the kitchen doorway, and listens carefully.

The policeman shows Genevive a warrant.

Peing-La rushes to the kitchen window. She opens it, and puts her head out to look outside.

Out on the street, way below Genevive's apartment, is the policeman's car.

The policeman comes into the main floor of Genevive's workshop. He looks about.

Peing-La looks about the kitchen. She sees a fold-up chair and she grabs it.

The policeman walks up to the glasswork kiln.

Genevive glances at the couch, where her marijuana is.

The policeman's car is still out on the street. Then the fold-up chair LANDS on it, and the SIREN goes off.

The policeman runs towards the kitchen.

Peing-La hides in a shaded corner, in the kitchen.

The policeman comes into the kitchen, and sticks his head out its window.

Genevive takes the marijuana stash out from the couch.

Then Genevive runs to a different window, opens it, and drops the marijuana bag out.

The car siren stops, no harm has come to it.

The cop looks annoyed. He CLOSES the kitchen window and

walks back to the apartment's main floor.

Genevive paces the floor, looking preoccupied, when the policeman comes back.

Now the policeman goes about the couch.

Peing-La gets out of the shaded corner. Then she opens the kitchen window again, puts her head out and looks to the side.

The policeman has finished with the couch. He now examines Genevive's coarse bed (which is in a different corner of the main floor).

Peing-La - in her towelling robe - awkwardly gets out through the kitchen window.

Then Peing-La is outside, standing on the ledge and holding still.

Now the policeman goes into the kitchen.

EXT. GENEVIVE'S APARTMENT. LEDGE JUST OUTSIDE KITCHEN - DAY

Peing-La holds herself steadfast, on the ledge.

The policeman looks out the window, but doesn't stick his head out.

POLICEMAN

I closed this.

GENEVIVE (O.S.)

It doesn't close properly.

He closes the window, again.

Peing-La stands there, clinging on with her hands and holding herself up with her tight leg muscles.

SHORT TIMELAPSE:

Genevive opens the window.

GENEVIVE

He's gone.

INT. GENEVIVE'S APARTMENT. KITCHEN - DAY

Peing-La and Genevive sit at the table, over two cups of green tea.

They are both too unnerved to drink it.

GENEVIVE

You do realise that we got rid of the one thing that could calm us down right now!

Peing-La reopens the packet, grabs some loose tea leaves and holds it up to Genevive.

PEING-LA

So smoke this.

They chuckle, and give each other a warm kiss.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Main-Shu is in this room.

Bo-Gunn and Derrick come in.

DERRICK

I would have gone to your office.

BO-GUNN

It's all right.

Derrick puts some accounting documents on the table.

DERRICK

I met your jeweller. That pearl is magnificent.

Suddenly, Derrick looks right in the direction of Main-Shu.

Bo-Gunn looks concerned.

BO-GUNN

He's still got the pearl?

Derrick doesn't answer. He just keeps looking at where the ghost is.

BO-GUNN (Cont'd)

Derrick?

DERRICK

Yes. But there's a lot of bidders.

Derrick looks around the room, then back at where Main-Shu is.

BO-GUNN

Is something wrong?

DERRICK

I thought I heard something.

Then Derrick starts heading out.

DERRICK (Cont'd)

I'd better be off.

Derrick waves briefly, and he leaves.

SHORT TIMELAPSE:

BO-GUNN

Did he know you were here?

MAIN-SHU

...Almost.

Bo-Gunn looks out the window, watching Derrick walk away.

INT. POLICE OFFICE. DESK - DUSK

The Policeman COMPLAINS over the phone.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING ROOM - DUSK

Lee-Min listens to him, over the phone.

She looks ashamed.

INT. KOREAN RESTURAUNT. PRIVATE TABLE - DAY

Peing-La and Genevive sit at a table.

There is a folding-wall around them, giving them privacy.

A WAITER has taken their orders, and he leaves.

Peing-La leans in.

PEING-LA

I could prove this. But for now, I need you to take my word.

GENEVIVE

Okay.

Pause.

PEING-LA

Main-Shu is not just our ancestor. He's also our quardian.

GENEVIVE

How?

PEING-LA

He's a ghost.

Genevive sits back, keeping her eyes on Peing-La.

PEING-LA (Cont'd)

You don't believe me.

GENEVIVE

It's a big ask.

PEING-LA

I know.

Pause.

GENEVIVE

You never said he was murdered.

PEING-LA

He wasn't.

GENEVIVE

So why hasn't he crossed over?

PEING-LA

He loved gardening so much that he made his own afterlife. Which is the painting.

Genevive frowns suspiciously and says:

GENEVIVE

Does he talk to all of you?

PEING-LA

Only to the man of the house.

Genevive huffs at that, but she still looks spooked.

PEING-LA (Cont'd)

But I am the exception.

GENEVIVE

Why's that?

PEING-LA

He says I look like his wife.

Genevive takes a sip of wine as she takes all this in. She looks deeply into Peing-La's face when she asks:

GENEVIVE

He doesn't fancy you, does he?

PEING-LA

His wife visits his garden once a year.

GENEVIVE

I should hope so, for his sake.

PEING-LA
Don't worry. He likes your models.

Genevive takes a breath.

INT. BO-GUNN'S OFFICE. DESK - DAY

On the desk is the seventh glass dragon ornament. His scales are the colour of rosewood. He holds a pair of chopsticks, and is surrounded by different bowls of food. This dragon has a distinctly fat belly.

The first six dragon models are laid out with this one.

Bo-Gunn sits before the two other businessmen.

Weing-Nee writes a number on a sheet of paper.

Bo-Gunn looks at it, and briefly smiles.

BO-GUNN

I will give this some thought.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING ROOM - DAY

Lee-Min sits on the floor again, in a yoga position.

This time the gardening tools are placed evenly around her. And there is a tea set included with them.

She goes into a meditative stasis . . .

There is a GLIMPSE of Main-Shu.

Lee-Min smiles. She opens her eyes and looks about.

Then her smile disappears, she is alone.

INT. GENEVIVE'S APARTMENT. WORKSHOP FLOOR - DAY

Peing-La shows Genevive a hotel brochure.

GENEVIVE

Will they have a problem if two women go there together?

PEING-LA

No. We'll be customers.

Genevive looks at the brochure.

It shows a picture of a heterosexual couple, about to get into a spa bath.

GENEVIVE

We'll have to be careful getting there.

PEING-LA

Why?

GENEVIVE

I think Bryce is suspicious about us.

PEING-LA

He's not a Christian.

GENEVIVE

He's had a crush on me since high school.

PEING-LA

But he's your cousin.

GENEVIVE

I know.

Peing-La cringes.

GENEVIVE (Cont'd)

He'll want to find us, and blame you.

MONTAGE: STREETS OF SHANGHAI - DUSK

• Peing-La and Genevive get out of the apartment block.

- Bryce hiding around a corner observes them.
- Peing-La goes into one taxi.
- Genevive goes into a different taxi.
- Bryce hails a bike-taxi.
- The streets of Shanghai CLUTTER with moving vehicles.
- Genevive's cab pulls up at a noodle stall.
- Peing-La's cab pulls up at a pharmacy.
- Both women have a brochure each, with maps included.
- Bryce is now off the bike-taxi. He has a cheap camera.
- Genevive walks through an alleyway. Then she changes her coat inside out, ties her hair up, and puts sunglasses on.
- Peing-La walks through a dark alleyway. A thug comes up to her. She looks him straight in the eyes, and he backs away.
- Bryce heads towards an alleyway. It is not clear if this is the alley that Genevive or Peing-La went through.
- Genevive arrives at the HOTEL SPA, which is on her brochure. It has a bright golden exterior, with many soft-tone globes illuminating it.
- Peing-La has latched onto the back of a bus. She hops off, and ducks into the shadows of another alley.
- Bryce comes out onto a footpath, and he has his camera ready. He brings it up to his eyes, and presses something . . . and there is no flash. He curses, looks at the camera front-on, and accidentally takes a photo of himself.
- Genevive has a good look at the hotel spa. Then she looks at the street names about her, and then at her map.

- Peing-La has arrived at a lovely ROTUNDA PARK with an English sort of atmosphere.
- Genevive hails a bike-taxi, gives the driver a wad of money, and points in a direction.
- Bryce has recovered from the flash into his eyes. He looks about angrily.
- Genevive, on her bike-taxi, is in the middle of a very busy street. Then she hops off the taxi and walks off.
- Genevive arrives at a different street. There she hails another cab and gets in it.

EXT. ROTUNDA. ENGLISH ATMOSPHERE PARK - LATE DUSK

Peing-La waits patiently, looking at the grounds below her.

Genevive comes up the stairs.

Did you lose him?

GENEVIVE

PEING-LA

He's got no idea where he is.

EXT. BUSY STREET. SHANGHAI - LATE DUSK

Bryce is in the midst of a CLAMOURED street.

A car blows smoke into his face.

EXT. ROTUNDA. ENGLISH ATMOSPHERE PARK - LATE DUSK

The two women take a good look at the park around them.

They cannot see anyone in any of the other rotundas.

And they are alone in this one.

The women both sit down, on a bench.

Although it's late dusk, Genevive takes her jumper off. Her

tight skivvy brings out her curvaceous upper figure.

GENEVIVE

Get there in an hour?

PEING-LA

You sound like you can't wait.

GENEVIVE

Hey, you showed me the brochure.

They look about again. There is no one to be seen in any of the other rotundas.

Then Genevive leans back and stretches her arms out.

Peing-La tickles Genevive on her midriff. They both smile sheepishly.

Then the two women look into each other's eyes . . . bring their faces together . . . their mouths connect . . .

EXT. ROTUNDA #2. ENGLISH ATMOSPHERE PARK - LATE DUSK

In another rotunda, Lee-Min suddenly stands up.

She has a camera ready, and she takes a photo of the two women kissing.

Peing-La stops and looks right into Lee-Min's direction.

EXT. ENGLISH ATMOSPHERE PARK. MAIN GROUNDS - NIGHT

Lee-Min runs off.

The two lovers go after her.

Lee-Min runs as fast as her little legs can carry her.

Peing-La is much faster, and is rapidly getting closer.

EXT. ENGLISH ATMOSPHERE PARK. BORDER - NIGHT

Lee-Min runs up to a car. (This is Bo-Gunn's car. The night

before last, outside the Mongolian restaurant, Bo-Gunn was too tipsy to drive it and he gave the keys to her.)

The car is parked as close as possible to the rotunda that Lee-Min was in.

Lee-Min gets inside it and she DRIVES off, when Peing-La is just inches away from her.

Genevive comes up to Peing-La. They look at each other with sheer horror on their faces.

INT. ANNALISE & DERRICK'S APARTMENT. TABLE - NIGHT

Derrick finishes doing some accounting work.

He closes all the books and sits back.

Then he picks up his bible and looks at its cover.

He just gazes at it, as the moment passes . . .

EXT. SHANGHAI CITYSCAPE - DAWN

The sun rises, bathing the city in gold.

INT. ANNALISE & DERRICK'S APARTMENT. TABLE - DAY

Genevive sits at the table, with Annalise.

Derrick is not here.

Annalise holds onto her crucifix. She doesn't look pleased.

ANNALISE

The pot made you delusional.

GENEVIVE

You smoked it, but this never happened to you.

ANNALISE

All my other drugs interfered.

GENEVIVE

But she doesn't touch marijuana.

ANNALISE

She breathed it, accidentally.

GENEVIVE

I didn't have any burning when she came in.

ANNALISE

How can you know for sure?

GENEVIVE

It wouldn't have been much.

ANNALISE

It would have been enough. Her body's not used to it.

Pause.

GENEVIVE

So you don't resent her?

ANNALISE

It's the marijuana! Drugs in general, yes, but that one especially. I don't blame Peing-La at all.

Genevive has a little sigh of relief.

ANNALISE (Cont'd)

Stay away from the pot, from now on. And be thankful that the two of you haven't made love! That would have been disastrous!

Genevive closes her eyes when her sister says that.

ANNALISE (Cont'd)

My husband might take some convincing. But I'll talk to him.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING TABLE - AFTERNOON

Peing-La stands before Bo-Gunn, who sits at the table.

Bo-Gunn has the developed photo of the two women kissing.

He looks at her, angrily.

But she retaliates.

PEING-LA

You go to nightclubs where women fondle each other!

BO-GUNN

If you want to play with a woman's body, go ahead. But not hers.

PEING-LA

So she's not allowed to have a sex life?

BO-GUNN

Yes, but not one like this!

PEING-LA

Is it too eccentric for your precious business?

BO-GUNN

All of Genevive's eccentricity is for her art. Not for her sex life, just her art.

PEING-LA

If she doesn't have a happy life, she won't do a good job.

BO-GUNN

If an artist can create, then she has a happy life!

Peing-La does not answer back, because something has just caught her attention.

Bo-Gunn turns and sees what it is . . .

The image of a CHINESE DEMON has appeared in the garden painting. It is humanoid and muscular. It has blue skin and its eyes almost bulge out of their sockets. Its mouth has four curving tusks sticking out.

Peing-La and Bo-Gunn both looked disturbed.

INT. BRYCE'S APARTMENT - DUSK

Bryce's packet of pills is on a table, there's five left.

Bryce lifts his weights, obsessively.

BRYCE

Stay away from Genevive you whore!

The sunlight sets, in the background through his window.

EXT. SHANGHAI STREETS - NIGHT

The city, again, becomes a multicoloured mural of lights.

INT. BO-GUNN'S OFFICE. DESK - MORNING

Bo-Gunn sits at his desk and ponders, waiting.

The seven glass theme-dragons are on his desk.

Xichang-Ni and Weing-Nee come in.

TRANSITION:

They all sit at his desk.

BO-GUNN

I met some glass-workers.

XICHANG-NI

That's sudden.

BO-GUNN

One of them is related to me.

WEING-NEE

Are they good?

BO-GUNN

Yes.

WEING-NEE

So recruit them.

BO-GUNN

They're also a couple.

WEING-NEE

Okay.

BO-GUNN

They're both women.

Xichang-Ni and Weing-Nee look at each other.

Then they look back at Bo-Gunn.

XICHANG-NI

No. The Church will attack it.

BO-GUNN

You're not afraid of the Church!

XICHANG-NI

In another part of China, it wouldn't be a problem. But not in Shanghai.

WEING-NEE

Thank you for telling us. But it's really not worth the risk.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING TABLE - DAY

Peing-La is here, by herself, looking glum.

She looks at part of the painting: at a vast lake, with the waterfall. She lightly trails her fingers along the cascading stream and then into the rippling water.

PEING-LA

Main-Shu, we really need to talk.

Then she shifts her eyes to another part of the painting: back onto the blue-skinned demon.

Peing-La frowns and she looks closer . . .

Now the demon holds onto a gardener's hoe (which was not there before). The shaft of the hoe is covered with spikes, and they cut into the demon's hand and make him bleed.

Main-Shu appears behind her.

MAIN-SHU

He's not real. I made him up to scare naughty children.

PEING-LA

What is it?

MAIN-SHU

The story goes: when children fought too much, the border around my garden got weaker. One day it got so weak, that this nasty demon came in and ripped up my rose bed.

PEING-LA

That will make you angry.

MAIN-SHU

So I turned him into a slave. He spends eternity making sure the border doesn't get weak.

PEING-LA

Doesn't that defeat the purpose?

MAIN-SHU

When children argue, he comes to the surface to fix the border. But if the children argue too much, the border gets too weak. And he can break out. PEING-LA

But why does he have this?

She points to the hoe, where the spikes cut into his hand.

Main-Shu continues his storytelling.

MAIN-SHU

It's a personal justice. Those spikes are thorns, because that very hoe comes from all the roses he destroyed.

Peing-La takes a breath.

Then she heads out, and Main-Shu follows her.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. LOUNGE ROOM - DAY

They come into this room. Peing-La sits down on a couch.

PEING-LA

So you know we argued.

MAIN-SHU

I do.

PEING-LA

Do you know what we argued about?

MAIN-SHU

Not yet.

Peing-La looks up to him, a little bit scared.

Main-Shu looks deeply into her eyes, and concludes:

MAIN-SHU

You're attracted to a woman.

Pause.

PEING-LA

You don't sound very surprised.

MAIN-SHU

I always knew you were the type. You just had to find it yourself.

PEING-LA

Do you resent it?

MAIN-SHU

No. My wife was the same.

PEING-LA

And you didn't have a problem?

MAIN-SHU

She had her women, I had my gardens. And we had each other when we needed to.

PEING-LA

So am I a reincarnation?

MAIN-SHU

No. Your body is like an "echo" of hers.

PEING-LA

Do you think this will hurt the business?

MAIN-SHU

The business is invincible, Peing-La. It glorifies Chinese Dragons, and it does this in China! Trust me, you have nothing to worry about.

PEING-LA

Thank you.

Main-Shu smiles warmly.

MAIN-SHU

This woman must be fit to keep up with you.

PEING-LA

Oh Genevive is fitter than she looks.

MAIN-SHU

Genevive?

PEING-LA

Yes.

MAIN-SHU

The American!

PEING-LA

Yes, who makes the dragons.

MAIN-SHU

Of all the gorgeous women in your country, you desire a foreigner?

PEING-LA

Foreigners have been working with us.

MAIN-SHU

But you cannot possibly find one of them attractive!

PEING-LA

Well I do!

MAIN-SHU

You have not made love.

PEING-LA

Actually-

MAIN-SHU

No, if you have made love I would feel the impurity in you right now.

PEING-LA

(shocked) Impurity?

MAIN-SHU

It's disgusting that you've even thought about it.

He hovers up to her.

MAIN-SHU (Cont'd)

But if you ever do such a thing, Peing-La, you will violate your family name!

Main-Shu vanishes.

INT. BO-GUNN'S OFFICE. DESK - AFTERNOON

The eighth glass dragon ornament stands on the centre of the table. This one is multicoloured. His aura spreads out, onto the flags-of-each-continent that surround him. It has the title, "Dragon of Communication."

The other seven prototypes are laid out around this one.

Xichang-Ni and Weing-Nee stand before Bo-Gunn.

XICHANG-NI

So they're all done?

BO-GUNN

Yes, this is the last one.

WEING-NEE

When I got your message, I had the impression that she wasn't as good as you hoped.

BO-GUNN

Oh she is good. She has caused some problems, but she is good at this.

WEING-NEE

I'll say. If I was a millionaire I'd offer you a fortune for this one.

Weing-Nee points to the dragon with bowls of food.

Bo-Gunn smiles at his appreciation.

But then Xichang-Ni gets very serious.

XICHANG-NI

She's caused problems?

BO-GUNN

Basically.

XICHANG-NI

What sort of problems?

BO-GUNN

Nothing I can't handle.

XICHANG-NI

Are you sure? You sounded pretty angry over the phone.

BO-GUNN

I can handle it.

Pause.

XICHANG-NI

Does she have anything to do with those two women you mentioned?

BO-GUNN

Of course not!

The businessmen look suspiciously at him.

INT. ANNALISE & DERRICK'S APARTMENT. DESK - DUSK

Derrick, alone, kneels before a crucifix statuette.

DERRICK

There is something lingering about us. Something not of this realm, and it's not an angel.

Pause.

Genevive never took to The Bible. So she is in danger, where Annalise is safe.

Pause.

This is for the glory of your name, and to save a childhood friend.

Pause.

Amen.

Then he stands up, and looks like he's about to go to war.

INT. GENEVIVE'S APARTMENT. WORKSHOP FLOOR - NIGHT

Genevive has just finished a totally different glass model. She puts it on a pedestal, sits on her couch, and looks at it:

It is a figurine of a Chinese Emperor, sitting on a thick red tablet. The tablet has a statement in bright golden Chinese lettering.

Translation Captions: PRIVACY BY DEMAND.

EXT. SHANGHAI STREETS. FOOD STALLS - DAWN

Hundreds of Chinese people set out reed baskets, all filled with steaming delicacies.

EXT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. FRONT HALLWAY - DAY

Peing-La hangs up the phone.

TRANSITION:

Peing-La is on her way out.

Lee-Min spots her.

LEE-MIN

Where are you going?

PEING-LA

None of your business.

And she walks out.

INT. BO-GUNN'S OFFICE / XICHANG-NI'S OFFICE - NOON

The two men are on their phones.

Bo-Gunn looks angry.

BO-GUNN

I chose you over many others!

XICHANG-NI

And you didn't tell them that you hired lesbians.

BO-GUNN

A businessman doesn't discriminate!

XICHANG-NI

A businessman doesn't withhold vital details.

BO-GUNN

It's a personal detail!

XICHANG-NI

Not when she started kissing your cousin! I had a right to know that.

BO-GUNN

I only just found out. It was a shock!

XICHANG-NI

I've gone to work the day after my father died. If I can do that, you can tell us about sudden oddities. He hangs up, leaving Bo-Gunn fuming.

INT. TAXI. BACK SEAT - DUSK

Genevive shows Peing-La the regal-looking glass tablet, with the command for privacy on it.

GENEVIVE

You told me he had to obey royalty.

Peing-La nods.

Genevive points to the emperor figurine on the tablet.

GENEVIVE (Cont'd)

So can you tell me who this is?

PEING-LA

It's Qin Shi Huang.

GENEVIVE

Do you think Main-Shu will get suspicious?

PEING-LA

He'll just be hurt and recover in a garden somewhere.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING ROOM - DUSK

Main-Shu appears, in front of the painting.

He has a curious frown on his face.

He waves his hands, in a similar way he did to the construction-worker's lunch.

INT. CONSTRUCTION-WORKER'S APARTMENT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The construction worker sits on a couch, watching TV.

Then suddenly he goes into a trance.

He gets up walks out of his apartment.

EXT. SAUNA HOTEL. MAIN ENTRANCE - NIGHT

There are vivid signs on this hotel.

The signs reveal that it has many private saunas, and a vast waiting lounge.

INT. SAUNA HOTEL. PRIVATE SAUNA - NIGHT

Genevive, completely nude, sits on the sauna bench.

Peing-La enters, in a towelling robe, holding a bowl.

She puts the bowl in a corner, takes off her robe, and stands naked in front of Genevive's hungry eyes.

Moisture formulates on Peing-La's dark-olive skin.

Then Genevive stands up and approaches her.

CLOSE UP SHOTS:

Their arms envelop each other as they gently collide.

Peing-La trails her middle finger up Genevive's spine.

Genevive nibbles Peing-La's neck . . .

Some of Peing-La's hair gets caught in Genevive's teeth.

Genevive pulls the strands out, Peing-La chuckles.

TRANSITION:

Peing-La is on the floor, on her back, stretched longways.

Genevive goes to the bowl and gets a big ripe passionfruit.

Peing-La closes her eyes and lifts her chin up.

Genevive kneels beside her and rips the passionfruit open.

CLOSE UP SHOTS:

The fruit pulp falls onto Peing-La's tummy.

Then Genevive's hands begin to smear the moist sticky seeds up and down Peing-La's hard abdomen. It almost looks like two flat knives spreading passionfruit butter over toast.

Genevive licks her lips. She opens her mouth and brings her head down . . .

Peing-La, eyes still closed, giggles with delight.

EXT. SAUNA HOTEL. ENTRANCE - NIGHT

The construction worker walks in a semi-trance.

He comes up to the sauna hotel's entrance.

INT. SAUNA HOTEL WAITING ROOM. LOUNGES - NIGHT

Peing-La and Genevive, both wearing towelling robes, sit at a table over a pot of tea. They also have the glass tablet with the emperor on their table.

There are many other PEOPLE about, in towelling robes, either about to enter a sauna or having come back from one. People from all walks of life: businessmen, tourists, lawyers, and wealthy families. It is a distinctive mixture of Western and Asian faces.

Peing-La and Genevive look into each other's eyes and chat.

The construction worker is also in this vast room. He sits on a lounge, all by himself, still in a semi-trance.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Main-Shu looks frustrated.

MAIN-SHU
I can't see a thing. What's doing that?

Main-Shu brings his hands to his temples, hums to himself.

MAIN-SHU (Cont'd)

But you are in there, somewhere.

His eyes glow red for a split second.

INT. SAUNA HOTEL WAITING ROOM. LOUNGES - NIGHT

Peing-La's eyes glow red for a split second.

PEING-LA

So when did you realize that you couldn't come up with your own ideas?

GENEVIVE

I'm sorry?

PEING-LA

You had to use Chinese mythology to make something original.

GENEVIVE

Well, yes, I had to spring off something.

PEING-LA

So many Western myths are stolen. Even the unicorn was Chinese.

GENEVIVE

I told you that.

PEING-LA

You told me you read it somewhere. But you didn't really believe it.

CUT TO: viewpoint of someone who is seven feet away from Peing-La and Genevive, slowly getting closer to them.

GENEVIVE

What are you doing?

PEING-LA

Once we start manufacturing, you'll be out of here and we'll have the credit. Because China deserves it.

CUT TO: stranger's viewpoint, now five feet away from them.

GENEVIVE

Peing-La, this isn't funny.

PEING-LA

No, what is funny is the way your sister broods about loosing her looks. Which you're going to do soon.

CUT TO: stranger's viewpoint, three feet away from them.

PEING-LA (Cont'd)

Asian women don't need plastic surgeons to keep their skin smooth, because we're not stimulant-whores.

GENEVIVE

We just made love!

PEING-LA

That was an experiment. I can endure a storm at sea, and I can endure you.

A tear runs down Genevive's cheek.

PEING-LA (Cont'd)

You can't even answer back. You're too used to lapping up flattery.

CUT TO: stranger's viewpoint, who is now right up to them.

And he puts his crucifix onto Peing-La's forehead.

GENEVIVE

Derrick?

Derrick indicates "Shh."

Peing-La MOANS, and looks groggy.

GENEVIVE (Cont'd)

Derrick, I'm sorry!

DERRICK

It's okay.

GENEVIVE

No Derrick, we were-

DERRICK

Genevive, I know. And it's okay.

Peing-La recovers.

PEING-LA

What just happened?

EXT. SHANGHAI. BIRD'S EYE VIEW - DAWN

The sun rises over this Global-yet-Asian city.

INT. JEWELLER SHOP. FRONT DESK - DAY

A distinctively RICH CHINESE MAN is here.

The jeweller shows him the black pearl, on a small velvet pillow.

The Rich Man takes out his chequebook . . .

INT. SAUNA HOTEL WAITING ROOM. LOUNGES - DAY

The construction worker still sits at a table.

But now he suddenly breaks out of his trance.

He looks about, with pure shock on his face.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING TABLE - DAY

Everyone in the two families (except Main-Shu) is here.

Derrick stands in front of Main-Shu's painting. He addresses Annalise and Bryce, who both look confused.

DERRICK

I've had a talk with Bo-Gunn. He gives me full permission to do this.

Bo-Gunn nods.

Derrick picks up a large sharp kitchen knife.

DERRICK (Cont'd)

This is the best way I can prove what I am going to tell you.

Then Derrick slashes the painting open.

The cut seals up, and the painting is as good as new.

Annalise and Bryce jump, then look at each other.

TIMELAPSE:

DERRICK

At first, I thought it was a demon.

ANNALISE

Maybe it is a demon.

DERRICK

No.

ANNALISE

Two beautiful women who aren't baptised? What else would do that?

Genevive speaks up.

GENEVIVE

That's not what you said to me.

ANNALISE

Because you didn't go this far.

GENEVIVE

So you don't think it's the pot, now?

ANNALISE

The pot just makes it easier for a demon.

Bryce comes into it.

BRYCE

Bullshit. I've smoked it as much as she has, but I never kissed men.

ANNALISE

Don't you think this is wrong?

BRYCE

I know it's wrong. But it's not a weakness, it's a stupid choice.

GENEVIVE

Bryce!

BRYCE

It's just an insult to everyone who's got testicles.

DERRICK

You don't have a place to say that.

BRYCE

Oooh! Are you my mother all of a sudden?

Derrick and Bryce both glare at each other.

BO-GUNN

Main-Shu won't like this!

DERRICK

From what I've heard, he only communicates through you or Peing-La. Correct?

BO-GUNN

Yes.

Lee-Min looks down.

DERRICK

And you call him when he's needed?

BO-GUNN

Usually.

DERRICK

And you know when he's coming.

BO-GUNN

Yes.

DERRICK

Do you tell him everything you do in your life?

Pause.

DERRICK (Cont'd)

There is no ethical reason why he needs to know. And he doesn't want to know.

Lee-Min points at Peing-La and Genevive.

LEE-MIN

Because of these two, we've already lost a business partner.

BO-GUNN

I'm still with the other one.

LEE-MIN

Just barely.

BO-GUNN

He knows about Genevive and Peing-La, now.

LEE-MIN

I know.

BO-GUNN

And yet he hasn't left us.

Pause as he lets that sink in.

BO-GUNN (Cont'd)

Men have walked out on me before.

GENEVIVE

Because you put eye make-up on them?

Everyone laughs on that cue.

Except Lee-Min, who looks very unsatisfied.

EXT. CHINESE GARDEN. LOTUS AREA - DAY

The construction worker comes back to where he normally has lunch, by the lotus bed.

But he looks cautiously at the lotuses, then he walks away.

INT. BO-GUNN'S OFFICE. DESK - AFTERNOON

Weing-Nee writes something on a piece of paper and gives it to Bo-Gunn.

BO-GUNN

For all of them, right?

WEING-NEE

No, just the Cuisine Dragon. He's really quite amazing.

BO-GUNN

That's a big offer for just one.

WEING-NEE

It's for the rights as well.

Long pause.

BO-GUNN

No, I'm sorry.

TIMELAPSE:

Bo-Gunn is now by himself, and he reaches for his phone.

INT. BO-GUNN'S OFFICE / BO-GUNN'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Bo-Gunn talks to Lee-Min over the phone.

LEE-MIN

So work with someone who's gay.

BO-GUNN

I don't know any.

LEE-MIN

But you do know someone who has gay customers.

Bo-Gunn sits back, flabbergast.

INT. JEWELLER'S STORE. FRONT DESK - DUSK

The store is closed. But the jeweller is still here.

Bo-Gunn comes in.

The jeweller smiles and shows him a business magazine.

BO-GUNN

And are you sure the editor is gay?

JEWELLER

Yes.

Bo-Gunn takes the magazine and leafs through it.

BO-GUNN

You really got to it.

JEWELLER

Oh, I owe you. That pearl sold as if it was magic.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Lee-Min, in a stylish Chinese dressing gown, sits on the floor in a yoga position.

The table has been moved, and she is right in front of the painting of Main-Shu and his garden.

She has the gardening tools laid out like before, and the tea set, in a ceremonious fashion. And she has her eyes closed.

But this time, she speaks.

LEE-MIN

In the centuries that washed over this country, the people adapted to whatever happened. Yet we never lost the tiniest grip on tradition.

Pause.

I am calling out to you, not as an angry woman who wants change: but as a person who steams dumplings, and listens to the bamboo flute.

Pause.

As a person who is worried. Worried for the value that China has to her husband.

MAIN-SHU (OS)

Lee-Min?

She opens her eyes.

There is Main-Shu, in plain sight. He is impressed.

MAIN-SHU

Very good!

LEE-MIN

There's something you need to know about Peing-La.

Main-Shu's smile fades away.

LONG TIMELAPSE:

Main-Shu is quiet, but his fury is unmistakable.

Lee-Min keeps talking.

LEE-MIN

It's because of Peing-La! She just had to be the unusual one.

MAIN-SHU

I need you to give me my garments.

Lee-Min opens the cabinet, and takes his garments out and gives them to him.

Main-Shu puts the old garments on over what he already wears, and they MORPH together.

Now he wears garments that RADIATE with a regal presence.

MAIN-SHU

Lee-Min, you do your family proud.

And the gardener-ghost VANISHES.

INT. PEING-LA'S HOTEL ROOM - LATE NIGHT

Peing-La has the TV on, showing a nature documentary.

Suddenly she turns the TV off and looks about.

Then she RUNS out of the room.

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MONTAGE: STREETS OF SHANGHAI - LATE NIGHT

- Peing-La runs through various crowded streets.
- Main-Shu pursues her, about eight feet behind.
- No one else notices Main-Shu.
- Peing-La moves much faster than him.
- But Main-Shu can appear around ANY nearby corner.
- When she has her back to him, he's right behind her.
- She must keep her eyes on him, while keeping distance.
- But then Peing-La spots something:
- TWO STONE LIONS that stand before a street entrance.
- Peing-La gets closer to this street entrance.
- Then she goes through it.
- Main-Shu comes around the corner, into this street.
- Peing-La keeps looking at him.
- Main-Shu STOPS, as if a gale holds him back.
- Peing-La keeps her eyes on him.
- Main-Shu looks at the stone lions, and he lets out an angry sigh. Then he bows to the statues and mutters something ceremoniously.
- Peing-La gets out of this street, out the other side.
- · She gets to a docking bay, and takes her shoes off.
- Then Peing-La swims across the river.

EXT. SHANGHAI RIVER. SMALL DOCKING BAY - NIGHT.

Peing-La swims to this other dock, then gets up on it.

She looks out over the water, carefully . . .

From behind, Main-Shu's hand lands on her shoulder.

MAIN-SHU

I have tended gardens underwater.

She tries to pull herself free, but she can't.

MAIN-SHU (Cont'd)

Crossing a river won't work on me if it's in China.

Peing-La tries to shout, but she cannot make a sound.

MAIN-SHU (Cont'd)

You need to be purified!

DERRICK (OS)

Let her go, Main-Shu.

Derrick walks up the dock, towards them.

MAIN-SHU

Can you see me?

DERRICK

No, but I can hear you. Now.

MAIN-SHU

Just telling me to let her go doesn't do much.

Derrick holds up his crucifix pendant.

MAIN-SHU (Cont'd)

You need to do better than that.

DERRICK

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.

Main-Shu cringes.

DERRICK (Cont'd)

He makes me to lie down in green

pastures: he leads me beside the still waters.

Main-Shu raises his other hand, at Derrick.

Derrick wavers a little, but holds his ground.

DERRICK (Cont'd)

He restores my soul. He leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Main-Shu takes his hand off Peing-La's shoulder.

MAIN-SHU

I'm not a demon!

DERRICK (Cont'd)

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.

Main-Shu FLINGS both his hands at Derrick.

Derrick staggers back a little bit.

DERRICK (Cont'd)

For thou are with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Main-Shu approaches Derrick.

Then the ghost CLASPS his hands over the crucifix.

But Derrick continues.

DERRICK (Cont'd)

Thou prepares a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.

The two men stand before each other.

Main-Shu looks mentally exhausted.

DERRICK (Cont'd)

Thou anoints my head with oil, my cup runs over.

Main-Shu starts TURNING TRANSPARENT.

MAIN-SHU

This isn't willpower, churchlover. This is reliance!

Then Main-Shu VANISHES.

Derrick turns to Peing-La.

She looks awestruck.

PEING-LA

How did you find him?

DERRICK

Your cousin knew where he was.

He points.

Down at the base of the docking bay is Bo-Gunn, standing by his car. He does not look happy.

INT. RICH CHINESE MAN'S HOUSE. LOUNGE ROOM - LATE NIGHT

The man who purchased the black pearl sits on a couch.

He has the pearl, in a small case, in his hands and he just looks at it.

His face looks deeply troubled.

INT. BO-GUNN'S CAR. BACK SEAT - LATE NIGHT

Bo-Gunn drives the car.

Peing-La and Derrick are in the back.

Peing-La musters up the nerve to ask him something.

PEING-LA

Were your parents Christian?

DERRICK

Yes.

PEING-LA

Did they allow you to...

DERRICK

To kiss Genevive? Yes, they did.

Pause.

DERRICK (Cont'd)

We were a pair. But we didn't get further than high school sweethearts.

He looks right at Peing-La, with a gentle smile.

DERRICK (Cont'd)

Now I know why.

Peing-La smiles back . . . then the car STOPS.

She looks out the window.

PEING-LA

Bo-Gunn. This is a garden!

Bo-Gunn runs out of the car.

Peing-La and Derrick get out.

EXT. SHANGHAI PUBLIC GARDEN. MAIN ENTRANCE - LATE NIGHT.

Main-Shu is here, he looks MUCH more powerful than before.

Derrick holds up his crucifix.

Main-Shu waves his right hand, and Derrick FALLS.

The ghost waves his left hand, and Peing-La is THRUST UP AGAINST THE WALL of the garden.

Derrick gets back on his feet, holds up his crucifix.

Main-Shu waves his right hand again. Derrick falls, but he starts getting up again.

Main-Shu diverts both his hands to Peing-La.

THICK WEEDS sprout from the ground, and they bind around Peing-La's ankles.

Then Main-Shu aims both hands at Derrick.

Derrick stumbles and falls onto all fours. But he starts getting back up again, but slower.

MAIN-SHU

You can't win Church-lover. We are both within the reach of a beautiful Chinese garden.

DERRICK

So now who's being reliant?

Main-Shu scowls, and twirls his hands in an excessive ceremonious fashion. He lets out an angry SHOUT to expel more energy.

Derrick FALLS back onto his hands and knees.

Peing-La DIGS her fingers into the weeds and RIPS them off.

Derrick COLLAPSES.

Main-Shu brings both his hands to Peing-La, again.

Peing-La is FLUNG back up against the wall.

Derrick is on the ground, eyes closed.

Bo-Gunn is nearby.

Main-Shu keeps one hand at Peing-La, while he hovers up to Bo-Gunn.

MAIN-SHU

I talked to your mind, without appearing.

BO-GUNN

I know.

MAIN-SHU

I've never done that before. Can you guess how I did?

BO-GUNN

No.

MAIN-SHU

It's because I asked your wife to give me my garments.

Bo-Gunn looks astonished.

MAIN-SHU (Cont'd)
Because she told me the truth!
She is far more a descendant
than you and Peing-La combined.

Main-Shu VANISHES . . . and so has Peing-La.

Bo-Gunn - looking disappointed - is left there.

With Derrick nearby, lying in a coma.

INT. BRYCE'S APARTMENT - DAWN

Morning sunlight comes through the windows of Bryce's room.

There is one steroid pill left in the packet.

Bryce pumps iron endlessly . . . mindlessly.

Blood seeps from his nostril.

INT. HOSPITAL. DERRICK'S BED - DAY

Derrick lies in a coma.

Annalise sits beside his bed, holding his hand.

Genevive, Bo-Gunn and Lee-Min are also here.

GENEVIVE

Where is Peing-La?

BO-GUNN

In Main-Shu's Heaven.

LEE-MIN

So he's not going to hurt her.

BO-GUNN

Oh he will hurt her. He will hurt her beyond words, and relevel her.

Annalise's face shows that she is in a state of shock.

Bo-Gunn notices this, so he leans in towards her and says.

BO-GUNN (Cont'd)

He's just in a coma. Once this is settled, your husband will wake up.

Bo-Gunn starts heading out.

BO-GUNN (Cont'd)

I better get back to work.

GENEVIVE

After this has happened?

BO-GUNN

I've got a business to run.
Main-Shu will put both our
families back into order. Even
Peing-La will thank him.

Bo-Gunn leaves the room.

Genevive looks at her sister.

Annalise stares off, then suddenly makes a delirious smile.

ANNALISE

Things have already started to improve.

GENEVIVE

What?

ANNALISE

Derrick has too much faith in God for this to be a problem.

GENEVIVE

Annalise!

ANNALISE

If you want to help Peing-La, pray for her.

Lee-Min reacts to that.

LEE-MIN

Main-Shu will interfere.

ANNALISE

Derrick has encountered an angel, not a ghost. And it is an angel that will discipline Peing-La.

GENEVIVE

Why would an angel do this?

ANNALISE

Derrick made an innocent mistake. It has only put him into a coma, where his mind can see God.

Genevive storms out.

Annalise, with a dreamy expression, looks at her husband.

Lee-Min looks miserable with guilt.

INT. BRYCE'S APARTMENT - DAY

Bryce lifts dumbbells: continuously, tirelessly.

Then he throws the weights across the room.

BRYCE

She was perfect!

Bryce puts a jacket on and leaves the room.

INT. GENEVIVE'S APARTMENT. WORKSHOP FLOOR - DAY

Genevive is on the couch. Her face streaked with tears.

She has the glass tablet, with the emperor, in her hands.

She just looks at it, bluntly.

GENEVIVE

What a lot of good you did!

Knock-Knock.

INT. GENEVIVE'S APARTMENT. ENTRANCE DOOR - DAY

Genevive opens the door.

There's Lee-Min, looking very guilty.

INT. BO-GUNN'S OFFICE - DAY

Bo-Gunn has a business magazine open.

There is a pile of other business magazines on his desk.

He makes notes as he leafs through them.

Suddenly he stops, and stares out the window . . .

Then he leaves his office.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING ROOM - DAY

Lee-Min and Genevive come into this room.

Lee-Min opens the cabinet, and holds up the garments of Main-Shu's wife.

LEE-MIN

If you wear this, you can follow them.

Genevive takes the garments and starts putting them on.

LEE-MIN (Cont'd)

You'd better take this too.

Lee-Min holds up a hoe, from the set of gardening tools.

GENEVIVE

What will that do?

LEE-MIN

You can use it as a weapon, because it's a gardener's thing.

GENEVIVE

So will it be like a dream?

LEE-MIN

Yes, but a dream about the garden.

Genevive now wears the garments of Main-Shu's wife.

She takes the hoe from Lee-Min.

GENEVIVE

Thank you.

Then she steps up to the painting, and VANISHES.

Lee-Min sits down, and a few moments pass . . .

The sound of a DOOR BREAKS, then in comes Bryce.

BRYCE

Where the fuckin Hell is Genevive?

LEE-MIN

Well away from you, stupid man.

Lee-Min gets up.

Bryce approaches her and SWINGS his fist.

Lee-Min DODGES it, and KICKS him in the stomach. Then she KICKS him in the head.

Bryce BASHES her, and she FALLS.

Then he grabs her by the neck.

BRYCE

You slanty-eyed bitch, where is she?

LEE-MIN

With Peing-La.

Bryce moans with rage, and brings up his fist . . .

BO-GUNN kicks Bryce from behind.

That just makes the steroid-addict angrier. He turns and LUNGES at the Chinese businessman.

Bo-Gunn KARATE-CHOPS Bryce on the neck, and KICKS him in the stomach.

But Bryce keeps SWINGING his fists at the Chinese businessman, until he finally manages to hit him. And when he does, Bo-Gunn FALLS.

Before Bo-Gunn can get up, Bryce BASHES him again.

BRYCE

Where's Genevive?

BO-GUNN

Get out of my house!

Bryce goes back to Lee-Min.

Bo-Gunn gets up and KICKS Bryce in the centre of his back.

Bryce shouts in anger and LUNGES back onto Bo-Gunn.

Bryce keeps swinging his fists until he hits him.

He sends Bo-Gunn down, then he BASHES HIM REPETITEVLEY.

Now, Bo-Gunn can barely move.

Bryce reapproaches Lee-Min.

BRYCE

Where is she?

LEE-MIN

Go to Hell.

Bryce KICKS her again, but she doesn't talk.

Bryce brings his foot up again -

BO-GUNN

Take the cabinet!

Bryce stops and turns.

BRYCE

Why that?

BO-GUNN

It had the garments in it.

BRYCE

How do I use it?

BO-GUNN

Take it and walk into the painting.

BRYCE

I'll fuckin smash you if this is bullshit.

Bryce picks up the cabinet. Then he walks towards the painting, and VANISHES.

Bo-Gunn painfully crawls towards Lee-Min . . .

EXT. MAIN-SHU'S GARDEN. FOOTPATH CROSSROADS - DAY

This is an incredibly VAST Chinese garden.

But it is also very plain. There are absolutely no flowers, just neat segments of soil. And the trees are all saplings.

Peing-La is in a trance and in a sitting position. Around her are items placed in a ceremonious fashion, just like Lee-Min did to aid her meditation. They consist of a tea set, a small spade, a pitchfork, a rake . . .

and a hoe.

Peing-La awakens from her trance and looks about.

She starts to get up, but then she cringes with pain.

MAIN-SHU (OS)

I would not recommend that.

Main-Shu comes up to her.

MAIN-SHU (Cont'd)

I have connected you to the whole garden.

She looks at the dull place around her.

PEING-LA

This can't be it!

MAIN-SHU

Clean yourself of this impurity, Peing-La! And then this place will regain its splendour.

PEING-LA

And what if I don't?

MAIN-SHU

Then the garden will not be nourished. And you will flake apart like a dying rose.

PEING-LA

You won't let your garden die!

MAIN-SHU

I would save it, after you to wilted away.

EXT. MAIN-SHU'S GARDEN. MAIN-SHU'S PRIVATE HEAVEN - DAY

The garden is surrounded by a massive stone wall.

On this outer area, the terrain is very rocky.

It is surrounded by ocean, as far as the eye can see.

EXT. OUTER WALLS OF MAIN-SHU'S GARDEN. WEST SIDE - DAY

Genevive APPEARS on a coarse footpath, outside the garden.

She is still holding the old garden hoe.

Genevive looks for a way in.

There is an entrance far off to the right. The footpath towards the entrance gets very narrow. But at the actual entrance there is plenty of stable footing.

Genevive gets moving.

EXT. OUTER WALLS OF MAIN-SHU'S GARDEN. SOUTHERN SIDE - DAY

Bryce APPEARS at a different base to Genevive.

He tosses the cabinet aside.

There is an entrance right in front of him!

He goes through the entrance.

Now the clouds start to TURN GREY very quickly.

EXT. MAIN-SHU'S GARDEN. FOOTPATH CROSSROADS - CLOUDY DAY

Main-Shu and Peing-La notice the sudden GREYNESS in the sky. And the sapling trees start to BEND and CREAK.

MAIN-SHU

That woman has found a way here.

He leans in towards Peing-La.

MAIN-SHU (Cont'd)

This is the damage she does to what could be Paradise.

Peing-La tries to get up again, painfully.

MAIN-SHU (Cont'd)

If you leave this position, you will break the stasis I put you in.

PEING-LA

That's what I'm trying to do.

MAIN-SHU

It was to help you meditate.

PEING-LA

I don't want your help.

MAIN-SHU

But if you break out it will make you wilt faster! So even if you did redeem yourself, you could die anyway!

PEING-LA

That isn't a fair trial.

MAIN-SHU

And you have your American lover to blame.

And with that, Main-Shu VANISHES.

The sapling trees start to CRACK.

The sky is now DARK-GREY and it RUMBLES with thunder.

EXT. OUTER WALLS OF MAIN-SHU'S GARDEN. WEST SIDE - DARK DAY

Genevive has made it to the entrance area, where the ground is wide and flat.

She is about to open the entrance door.

The Chinese gardener-ghost APPEARS four feet behind her.

MAIN-SHU

How dare you wear my wife's clothes!

Genevive turns around and holds up the rusty garden hoe.

Main-Shu points at her.

The hoe FLINGS out of her grip.

MAIN-SHU

Was that really all you came with?

Genevive stands there, looking terrified.

EXT. MAIN-SHU'S GARDEN. OUTSIDE THE TOWER - VERY DARK DAY

Peing-La has gotten out of the meditation area.

She runs towards the garden's tower.

INT. GARDEN TOWER. LOOKOUT ROOM - VERY DARK DAY

Peing-La arrives at the top of the tower. She peers over the rails.

The clouds are almost black, winds soar, LIGHTNING strikes.

PEING-LA

Genevive!

No answer. Just a lifeless garden, in a violent storm.

Peing-La slumps onto the railing, and moans.

SHORT TIMELAPSE:

BRYCE (OS)

You slut.

She turns and sees Bryce, now in the tower room with her.

BRYCE (Cont'd)

You turned Genevive into a-

Peing-La KICKS him in the stomach.

He SWINGS his fist, and misses her.

She KICKS him in the head, but he doesn't even stagger.

Bryce tries to PUNCH her, and she dodges it.

Then Peing-La RAMS her elbow into his throat.

He keeps SWINGING his fists madly.

A fight takes place. Bryce just barely manages to hit her once every three times he throws a punch. But every single time Peing-La hits him it only makes him angrier.

After some rounds of combat, Peing-La steps away a little.

She stands there and waits for him to make a move.

Bryce swings a punch, and she THROWS herself back.

She LANDS onto the railing, and leans over it. Then she looks at an area, on the ground, and holds her hand out.

CUT TO: the spot where the tools are ceremoniously laid out. The hoe suddenly FLIES UP in the air.

The shaft of the hoe lands into Peing-La's open hand.

She turns and brandishes it at Bryce.

Bryce GRABS the tool and PULLS it out of her grip.

This grab-and-pull movement THROWS her onto the floor.

Bryce puts his foot onto her knees: pinning her down.

Peing-La looks up at him.

Bryce holds the hoe up.

Peing-La's eyes focus on the tool in his hands . . .

HUGE THORNS SPROUT from the hoe's shaft.

Bryce scowls in pain.

Peing-La gets out from under his foot.

Bryce PULLS his hands free, and BLOOD pours from them.

Peing-La stands up: six feet in front of the entrance.

Bryce RUNS at her.

She falls backwards, puts her foot into his midriff, FLIPS him over and sends him right out through the entrance.

CUT TO: The Spiral Stairway, where Bryce TUMBLES down and eventually SMASHES HIS HEAD against a stone step.

Peing-La gets up and looks over the railing.

PEING-LA

Genevive!

No answer, just the STORMY WINDS.

EXT. MAIN-SHU'S GARDEN. PATH - VERY DARK DAY Peing-La walks, awkwardly.

Then she staggers.

Then she falls onto her hands-and-knees.

She crawls towards the meditation spot.

The WIND HOWLS.

She crawls closer to the where the tools are laid out:

she's eight feet away, six feet away, four feet away.

Then she SLUMPS and rolls onto her back.

Peing-La is only two feet away from the meditation spot.

There's now just a shred of daylight, barely enough to see.

CLOSE UP on the SIDE of Peing-La's face, lying on her back.

Her heavy breathing gets slower . . .

Her heavy breathing starts rasping . . . painfully . . .

And then Genevive kisses her on the lips.

EXT. SAME LOCATION - BRIGHT DAY

The storm has stopped, and sunlight has flooded back.

Peing-La's breathing is back to normal. She sits up.

PEING-LA

Main-Shu!

Genevive reaches into the garments she's wearing. Then she takes out the glass tablet, which has the royal command for privacy on it.

GENEVIVE

I tried using one of his tools, and he said, "Was that really all you came with?" So then I showed him this, and he disappeared.

Pause.

GENEVIVE (Cont'd)
I think it works better here than in the real world.

PEING-LA

So where is he?

GENEVIVE

Beats me.

Peing-La looks around.

There are already some flowers blossoming.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING ROOM - DAY

Main-Shu is here, in front of the garden picture.

He puts his hands onto the dining table. There is the CRACKLING sound of metaphysical energy on hard matter. But his hands do not pass through it.

Then he heads out.

EXT. FRONT DOOR. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE - DAY

Main-Shu gets two feet past the front door, and he stops.

An unseen force holds him back.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. HALLWAY - DAY

Main-Shu comes back inside.

And there stands Bo-Gunn and Lee-Min, bruised and battered.

Main-Shu cannot look at them.

INT. HOSPITAL. DERRICK'S BED - DAY

Derrick, lying in bed, opens his eyes.

Annalise beams.

Derrick turns to her.

DERRICK

Where's Peing-La?

Her smile fades away.

ANNALISE

Haven't you been put to sleep by an angel?

DERRICK

Good grief no!

Disappointment comes over Annalise's face.

INT. RICH CHINESE MAN'S HOUSE. DINING TABLE - DAY

The Rich Chinese Man looks at the black pearl on his table.

He is mystified and baffled.

RICH MAN

I don't remember buying this!

EXT. MAIN-SHU'S HEAVEN-GARDEN. FLAT GRASSY AREA - DAY

In this part of the garden, there is plenty of flat ground.

Genevive and Peing-La have just buried someone.

Peing-La walks away, and leaves Genevive to look at it.

Genevive has an almost sympathetic expression.

Then Genevive follows Peing-La.

BRYCE'S SPIRIT (which is transparent) is here. He sees his beautiful cousin walk up to the Asian woman. Disgust fills his face and he walks away.

He walks THROUGH the surrounding wall.

EXT. MAIN-SHU'S HEAVEN-GARDEN. ROCKY SHORE - DAY

Bryce's spirit cannot get further than the rocky shore.

An unseen force holds him back.

All he can do is look at the ocean.

INT. BO-GUNN'S HOUSE. DINING ROOM - DAY

Captions: ONE MONTH LATER.

On the table is the next edition of the business magazine. Lee-Min is on the cover, with the eight glass dragons.

Main-Shu is in this room. He has a mournful expression as he looks at the painting, which was once the access to his private heaven.

Bo-Gunn walks in.

BO-GUNN

I need to ask you something.

Main-Shu turns to him.

MAIN-SHU

Yes?

BO-GUNN

Does anyone else know how to get to your garden?

MAIN-SHU

Only my wife.

BO-GUNN

Will she still go there?

Long pause.

MAIN-SHU

I don't know.

They both look back at the painting.

The picture of Main-Shu is no longer there.

Now there is a picture of Peing-La and Genevive. They are holding hands and watching the cascading waterfall, in the midst of the immense bountiful garden.

FADE OUT