

**K-Town P.I.**

by  
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(Based on a concept by Chil Kong)

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EXT. STREETS OF K-TOWN - DAY

A handsome Asian Man is walking down the street with a '40s-style suit and a fedora. He is SAM SONG, Koreatown's only Chinese detective. He carries himself old-school, like a flatfoot with a dream of something more.

SAM (V.O.)

Hell-ay, the boyfriend that beats you and you keep coming back for more. The place holds more secrets than the Vatican and more fake boobs than Hefner's Grotto. And nowhere can you find more dregs of the American dream than in K-Town. Ah, K-town, an-yang-ha-say-oh to anything you can pay for, and who am I in all this?

He walks into a gritty '40s-looking brownstone-style office building.

CUT TO:

INT. OUTSIDE HIS OFFICE - DAY

His name etched on the door in a classic '40s noir font. Think Maltese Falcon. It reads "Sammy Song, P.I."

SAM (V.O.)

Yeah, that's me, Sammy Song - Sam Song to you.

Sam enters his office without looking left or right and...

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Save the jokes. I've heard them all. I'm a private Dick with a heart of gold... well, that's the legend. In the classic American fashion, I ran away from home, joined the Army, got burned, joined the "Force", burned again, and ran home. If I was a movie, I'd be a sequel.

...walks past a stunning blonde wearing a Veronica Lake-style hairdo. He slams the door closed. It rattles.

The blonde spins her chair around, grabs the mail, and saunters into the office.

She's KITTY, executive assistant to Sam Song. Mid-20s, sexy, curvy, every man's fantasy, smart as a whip, and devastating with her repartee.

INT. SAM'S INTERIOR OFFICE - DAY

SAM  
Still here?

KITTY  
Still broke?

SAM  
You knew the deal when you walked in the door.

KITTY  
I own the door. You want your messages?

SAM  
Knock yourself out.

KITTY  
The light bill's late and so is Miss Flo. Reverend Kim called, he hopes you don't take this the wrong way, but could you please stop calling yourself a Chinese Dick when you take your Mom to church? It's scaring the ah-gi-mahs. I broke a nail and I'm going to take a two-hour lunch.

SAM  
All right Doll-face, I'll get to the bills. Don't ever leave me. You're the best Girl Friday I've ever had.

KITTY  
Executive assistant Song, executive assistant. I'll leave your Chinese ass in a Hong Kong minute if the right part comes my way. It's all in the packaging.

Kitty exits. Sam takes his jacket off, tosses his hat, and begins to work, shuffling papers on the desk.

SAM (V.O.)  
And what a package it is. That Kitty, she's a pistol. She keeps me on the straight and narrow, pays the bills on time, even when I'm broke. She's got a bod for sin and her daddy's bank account. Working for me is just good old-fashioned rebellion. I never hired her, she just walked in one day and sat at the front desk. How could I argue? Her pops owns the building.

INT. SAM'S INTERIOR OFFICE - LATER THAT DAY

SAM (V.O.)

It was a slow morning that led into a slower afternoon. After a while, even Kitty couldn't pretend we had any business.

Kitty opens the door.

KITTY

That's it Song, I'm leaving you.

SAM

Gone forever?

KITTY

Count on it.

SAM

See you tomorrow.

Kitty closes the door. Sam goes back to work.

INT. SAM'S INNER OFFICE - LATER THAT DAY

SAM (V.O.)

That was our game, the Kitten and I. Every night she swears she's never coming back, and every morning like clockwork she's at the desk sucking back frappuccinos like she owns stock in the company, and maybe she does. I typed some invoices, surfed my favorite porn sites, and was about to call it a day when she walked in.

Sam looks up to find:

A mysterious beautifully dressed Asian woman, KIM (think Anna May Wong), opens the door. She is wearing dark glasses. Her coloring looks Asian - dark hair, fair skin. There is no reason to think she isn't fully Asian.

KIM

You Song?

SAM

That's my cousin. I'm Sam. Sam Song.

KIM

I don't have time for jokes Mr. Song.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM  
I'll take my watch off then, Miss?

KIM  
You can call me Kim.

SAM  
Korean?

KIM  
No.

SAM  
Ah.

KIM  
So?

Kim motions to the chair in front of the desk, Sam gives her the beady eye, they share a moment - a challenge.

SAM (V.O.)  
A non-Korean seeking out the only Chinese Dick in K-Town means one of two things, and both of them smell worse than last month's kimchi after a thaw. I had her take a seat, so I could hear the story. A dame like that always had a story.

SAM (CONT'D)  
Take a seat Kim.

She sits.

KIM  
Mr. Song, my sister has gone missing, and I'm afraid she might be dead.

SAM  
When did you last see her?

KIM  
Last week. We're not close, she was born in K-Town, to my father's first wife. She died, and Dad married again - a Caucasian.

Kim takes off her sunglasses and looks up at Song. He does a double-take at her large eyes. You can see that people might not take her for Asian at all. She could, in fact, "pass".

SAM  
Big eyes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KIM

Yes, dammit, they're big. Let it go. My parents divorced soon after I was born. Mother took me back to Beverly Hills. I never knew I had a sister 'til Father died.

SAM

Your old man kept his lips pretty tight.

KIM

I only saw him twice a year, on my birthdays and for lunch on Lunar New Year. He brought me moon-cakes and a handful of firecrackers.

SAM

When your sister showed at the reading of the will, was she hostile?

KIM

No. She kept staring at my eyes, and then, when we found out he divided his estate equally between the two of us, we started meeting for lunch - once a week.

SAM

Your old man, he leave a lot of money? Have enemies?

KIM

My father was Caleb Shang Kong.

Close-up on Sam's eyes. This is a surprise.

INT. MONTAGE OF CALEB SHANG KONG - DAY/NIGHT

An attractive Asian Man, CALEB SHANG KONG, aging 20s through 40s. A very handsome Chinese man, he looks like a movie star, he has star quality. His montage follows Sam's voiceover.

SAM (V.O.)

Caleb Shang Kong had been the largest land owner in K-Town. He started off as a dancing chorus boy in San Francisco's Chinatown at hot spot, The Forbidden City. While there, rumor had it he got in good with the local Tongs and ran the numbers racket. After his lieutenant got killed in a gang rivalry, he decided to go the straight and narrow. He gave up the numbers and moved to LA, bought his first piece of K-Town, a mini mall on Olympic. From there he kept buying.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

He was into real estate, hotels, booking clubs, restaurants - all legal with enough dirty bits to keep the cops on his payroll and the broads panting for attention. Caleb Shang Kong... now this was getting good.

BACK TO:

INT. SONG'S OFFICE - DAY

SAM

Sister?

KIM

Paris Kong.

Song reels a bit at this information.

CUT TO:

INT. MONTAGE OF PARIS KONG - NIGHT

PARIS KONG is a gorgeous, party-going socialite in the confines of K-Town. She's at every benefit, every fundraiser, every club. She's getting out of limos, throwing drinks on paparazzi, typical celebutante behavior.

BACK TO:

INT. SONG'S OFFICE - DAY

There is a old newspaper next to Sam's desk. We see a photo of Paris Kong cutting a ribbon at an opening.

KIM

Look, I know it sounds ridiculous, but I never knew. I used mother's last name. Dad never mentioned what he did for a living, and there were never any gifts except right before he died. He gave me this.

She holds out a jade necklace with a phoenix chasing a dragon.

KIM (CONT'D)

There's a riddle with it too. It was in his will. I didn't know about Paris. And now she's gone. I found your card in her apartment. I had to come. She's my sister.

She breaks down. Song hands her a tissue.

INT. KOREAN NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT - FLASHBACK - TWO YEARS AGO

We see a flashback with Paris and Sam. She is arguing with a man. The man attempts to slap her face. Sam steps in front of the man's fist and twists it. There is a small fight. The other man loses after getting in one good punch.

SAM (V.O.)

What I didn't want to tell her was that I had spent one memorable night in Paris - after I stepped in the middle of her last boyfriend's fist. We'd lost touch, but I remembered her. Who could forget?

CUT TO:

INT. PARIS' APARTMENT - NIGHT - LATER - SAME FLASHBACK - TWO YEARS AGO

Paris Kong is pouring Sam a drink while he holds a towel with ice on his lip. She walks to him, her dress is low-cut, and we see she is wearing a necklace with a dragon chasing a phoenix.

PARIS

He wouldn't have hit me, really.

SAM

You want to take that chance, with such a beautiful face?

PARIS

If he'd done some damage, I would just go to the doctor, get some work done.

SAM

You're perfect.

PARIS

No boobs.

Sam pulls her closer and they kiss.

SAM

You are perfect, but I'd better check those boobs, just to make sure.

FADE TO:

INT. SONG'S OFFICE - PRESENT

SAM (V.O.)

Just the memory was enough to make me smell her perfume.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Chanel Number 5 - and not the knockoffs you buy on Olympic. Paris was the real deal. I blinked and I was back in the room with her weeping sister.

Sam grabs a box of tissues and thrusts them at Kim Kong.

SAM (CONT'D)

Listen Kim, you seem like a nice kid. You shouldn't be running around in K-Town after dark. You want me to take your case, it'll cost you. Not me, you understand. I won't take a fee unless I find her, but there are expenses. I have bills...

Kim stops crying, rises, and takes an envelope out of her bag and tosses it on the desk. Sam picks it up and thumbs through it.

KIM

I'm a rich woman, Mr. Song, and I know the drill. This should cover your expenses. You find her, there's a bonus. If you have to do anything illegal... don't tell me about it. When you find her, I want you to text me right away. My number is on the front.

CUT TO:

EXT. RESTAURANT ALLEYWAY IN K-TOWN - NIGHT

Sam is walking down a deserted alley behind a restaurant. He stops at the back door.

SAM (V.O.)

And then she was gone. After the waterworks she was as cold as a dish of neng-myun. The envelope held twenty G's. I decided that there was no time like the present, so I went to my usual sources. People think K-Town is run by Koreans, but if you want to get the skinny, there's only one place to go.

The door opens and LOUIS, a Filipino busboy, exits carrying a crate full of slops. He throws it on the ground, missing Song's shoes by inches.

SAM (CONT'D)

Louis, I just had these cleaned.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LOUIS

Jesus Song, BUKIT why are you in my alley, hey?

SAM

I need some information.

LOUIS

It's gonna cost you. I got bills.

SAM

Have I ever stiffed you?

LOUIS

The Big Boss is looking for you, and any of us that sees you, has to bring you in.

SAM

BUKIT why?

LOUIS

BUKIT because! I don't know. You don't wanna mess with the Velvet Mafia, man. I'm telling you!

SAM

We're not in We Ho, Louis.

LOUIS

Huh! You Chinese know nothing but vases and walls! Velvet fabric covers this town man. They got it divided into sections - No Ho, We Ho, Santa Monica, Beverly Hills...

SAM

I hear what you're saying.

LOUIS

Mid-Wilshire, San Louis Ibizbo, Little Tokyo, K-Town... wait? How many was that? There should be 12 - like Buddha.

(like a child's rhyme)

You know there's No Ho and We Ho...

SAM

Louis, get a grip. I need some information.

Louis gets a text message.

LOUIS

Damn!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

He grabs Song's arm...

LOUIS (CONT'D)

He knows you're here, Song. We're going in.

...and punches Song in the face - hard. Song blacks out.

BLACK OUT:

INT. VELVET MAFIA HEADQUARTERS - K-TOWN DIVISION - NIGHT

A darkened room, Velvet Mafia Headquarters - K-Town division. There is elaborate Asian Art on the walls, columns, everything is spectacular. ALEC MAPA, a very attractive, openly gay television star, is seated in an elevated chair with two flawlessly attractive men fanning him with palm fronds. Song is standing there with a blindfold, which Louis removes. Song is a bit beat up, but he shakes it off. Song's hands are loosely tied together.

ALEC MAPA

I have a bone to pick with you Song.

SAM

Funny, I didn't think it was that kind of meeting.

ALEC MAPA

Snappy. I like that. We're not here to cite you for fashion violations, though god knows you need the help. A winter-weight suit? What's going on there?

SAM

I used a Korean dry cleaner.

ALEC MAPA

First mistake.

SAM

Don't be a hater.

ALEC MAPA

They shrunk the linen though, right?

SAM

Maybe.

ALEC MAPA

No one likes a Chinese Dick in K-Town.

Louis coughs as in, "Yes, I like Chinese Dick."

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEC MAPA (CONT'D)  
Really Louis? I had no idea.

Alec motions to one of the minions, an ASSISTANT, who whips out an iPhone.

ALEC MAPA (CONT'D)  
Write that down.  
(back to Song)  
Song, you interested in Paris?

SAM  
City of a thousand lights, why not? Got a ticket for me, Mapa?

Alec motions to Louis who steps forward and SLAPS Song's face.

ALEC MAPA  
Cut the crap Song. We know you're looking for Paris Kong. Kim Kong got her nails done on 8th and Olympic. One of her expensive Beverly Hills tips came off. We had the whole story before you put on that sorry fedora and walked your ass into my web.

SAM  
Women.

ALEC MAPA  
You said it.  
(before Sam can say anything)  
I want you to find Paris Sam, and I want you to find her yesterday.

SAM  
You sound like you have a vested interest, Mapa.

ALEC MAPA  
She's a gay icon, we can't keep losing them. After Shelly Winters died, they started dropping like flies.  
(to the minion with a clip board)  
What's the death watch on Liza?

ASSISTANT  
June, 2017. Should I look up Madonna?

Alec motions to Louis. Louis goes to the assistant and slaps him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ALEC MAPA

(to the assistant)

Another crack like that and you wind up  
in a time share with Firestein. In drag.

(back to Song)

Like I said Song, we need her. She's not  
as crazy as Bai and not as bitchy as  
Lucy. She's rich and badly behaved. Our  
own angry little Asian girl. The only one  
we've got.

SAM

What about the sister?

Alec crosses to Sam. Alec looks Song up and down.

ALEC MAPA

High Rice? The Beverly Hills boys have  
her ownership papers. If Geffen wants her  
and the Tilly sisters, so be it. I'll  
take Paris Kong any day. She owns this  
building you know, gives it to us rent  
free. She's got style that one.

Alec crosses back to his throne and snaps his fingers at the  
minions who have stopped fanning him.

ALEC MAPA (CONT'D)

PALM FRONDS! Jesus!

(back to Song)

Sam, she was last seen leaving Kar Nac.  
She was brought in for a Charity  
"Booking" event, and no one remembers her  
leaving. I checked with my people.

SAM

Thanks, Mapa.

ALEC MAPA

Caleb Shang Kong was a big player. He  
slapped us all around and we loved him  
for it. He was our Tony Soprano. He had  
cajones.

One of the minions sighs out loud. Alec motions to Louis, who  
slaps him.

ALEC MAPA (CONT'D)

Yeah, he had class. And once, long ago,  
on a dark night, he stepped between me  
and a bullet. Quid pro quo, Song. I still  
hear the lambs...

(snaps back on track)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ALEC MAPA (CONT'D)

I want her drunk and dancing on tables  
and I want it yesterday. I bet her sister  
would make us pay rent. You know how they  
are - white people.

Everyone does a "MMM-HHHMMMM."

ALEC MAPA (CONT'D)

Now get out of here Song.

SAM

You're finished with me then?

ALEC MAPA

Project Runway is on in five minutes.  
We're done.

Louis taps Sam on the shoulder, Sam turns, and Louis punches  
him - hard. Sam blacks out.

EXT. AN ALLEYWAY - NIGHT - LATER

A bucket of water wakes up Sam. We are back in an alleyway.  
Louis is now dressed in a pin-striped suit, with his own  
fedora. He looks immaculate.

SAM

Jesus Louis!

LOUIS

We gotta go Sam. Tick tock.

SAM

You've changed.

LOUIS

You think I'm the same innocent boy you  
met in the Philippines, climbing trees  
and picking coconuts for rich women for  
pennies? I've grown Song. I have dreams,  
I have ambitions. I am going to run this  
town one day.

SAM

I meant the suit.

LOUIS

Oh. I'm gay. You can't expect me to run  
around in that old thing.

SAM

Quite right. Help me up. What the hell  
did you hit me with?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LOUIS

My fist.

SAM

Just your fist?

LOUIS

Maybe I still have a coconut or two up my sleeve.

SAM

Explains the fit of that suit. Okay, let's go find us an heiress.

CUT TO:

EXT. MONTAGE OF K-TOWN - NIGHT - ONGOING

Whizzing lights, young girls walking in shoes way too high, young men fighting, older couples walking around in track suits and visors.

SAM (V.O.)

Louis and I spent the rest of the night combing the streets for that broad. I didn't mind him tagging along. We go back. I was stationed in the Philippines and about to get shanked in an alley. Louis saw the whole thing from the top of a palm tree and knocked the guy out with a coconut. I helped him get his papers. You know what they say - you're no one 'til somebody loves you. I've got Louis, so I'm no one adjacent.

Louis and Sam are riding around in the car. Louis is texting furiously.

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

He texted every busboy from Vermont to Western, 'til we wound up outside BCD on Wilshire. They were closed for cleaning. We grabbed ourselves some boba and headed down Western.

The bright colors of their drinks are at odds with the seriousness of their faces.

SAM (CONT'D)

Anything?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LOUIS

Nothing. No one has seen that dame since she left the booking club, but Madame Shang Kai Shek's place has a receipt from one of her credit cards, and it's got a time on it. 4 A.M.

SAM

Why would a society dame be at a well-known brothel?

LOUIS

Maybe she wanted to make another DVD? That first one sold out.

SAM

Or maybe whomever took her wanted to treat himself to a night after Paris.

LOUIS

That's what she should call her next one.

Louis quickly types on his iPhone. Sam stares.

LOUIS (CONT'D)

Every time I get a good idea, I write it down so I don't forget. I got plans.

SAM

Plans have a way of changing Louis, quicker than a Windows upgrade.

LOUIS

I hate that. Download the program, restart the computer. What a waste of time. BUKIT, why do they do that Song?

SAM

BUKIT, because.

LOUIS

Yeah, BUKIT because.

They share a moment.

LOUIS (CONT'D)

Sam, something's not right. My crucifix has been burning all night. Should I call for backup?

SAM

We'll check out the Madame first, see what she's got.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

The car stops. They are in front of the brothel/day spa.

SAM (CONT'D)

Don't touch anything. You might get the  
clap.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE MADAME SHANG KAI SHEK'S BROTHEL/DAY SPA - NIGHT -  
CONTINUOUS

Sam and Louis gets out and approach the door of a K-Town nail  
salon. A very large DOORMAN cuts them off.

DOORMAN

Password?

SAM

Red square.

Doorman waits for an answer from his ear piece.

DOORMAN

C'mon in Song.

CUT TO:

INT. MADAME SHANG KAI SHEK'S ROOM SALON - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

There are typical-looking Asian gangster types with girls  
sitting on their laps. Some businessmen with young men  
sitting on their laps. One drunk businessman singing karaoke -  
MY WAY - on a small stage. And a sprinkling of Caucasians  
that no one is talking to.

MADAME SHANG KAI SHEK, a classy Chinese woman in her 60s,  
wearing a velvet track suit with a visor and elaborate  
jewelry, enters.

MADAME

A Chinese Dick, why am I not surprised?

LOUIS

Be careful lady, I got Filipino balls and  
I know how to use them.

MADAME

Watch yourself, Dark Meat. I was talking  
to Sam. Been a long time.

SAM

Nice to see you too...

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MADAME

I thought you were dead.

SAM

Why?

MADAME

A good son calls his mother. You are a good son. No calls, you must be dead. Unless...

(looking meaningful at Louis)  
are you a GAY?

LOUIS

Please, I like back!

SAM

Louis and I are associates, Ma. Business associates. Be nice, he saved my ass with a coconut.

MADAME

You sure you're not gay?

SAM

I'm here because Paris Kong's credit card was charged here *after* she went missing.

MADAME

My office.

Sam, Louis, and Madame walk through the room, past all the people having fun. The karaoke singer manages to hit every wrong note, Madame grimaces then shrugs past.

CUT TO:

INT. WALK THROUGH ROOM SALON HALLWAY - NIGHT

MADAME

That guy is a big tipper. Never uses any of our services, except for the karaoke. Just Crown, Coke, and karaoke. He likes to look.

SAM

What's his deal?

MADAME

Catholic priest.

(CONTINUED)



CONTINUED:

SAM

If I ever met him, that would be easier.  
(to Louis) My stepfather was Korean.

LOUIS

Damn Song, that was cold.

MADAME

As a thousand year old egg.

Madame ruffles through her desk and picks up the receipt. Smiles at Sam. He's not her favorite, but he's tough. She likes that.

MADAME (CONT'D)

Good boy. It's signed P. Kong. How was I supposed to know the P was for Paris?

Madame hands receipt to Sam, who examines it.

SAM

Who signed Louis, can you tell?

LOUIS

Take it to Old Wang Chung, the calligrapher. He can name that signature in three strokes.

MADAME

Dogeaters know everything.

LOUIS

It's the BAILOT.

SAM

Who served him?

MADAME

Yvette, hold on.

Madame goes to a hidden microphone and talks into it.

MADAME (CONT'D)

Yvette, my office.

We see one of the girls on the security monitor get up and cross off screen.

YVETTE enters. She is a very attractive Asian-American woman, late 20s to early 30s.

YVETTE

You rang?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MADAME

The full body massage with herbal wrap,  
facial and protein peel - last night.  
What did he look like?

SAM

(off protein peel)  
What the hell is that?

MADAME

It's 500 bucks. We're a *legitimate* day  
spa.

YVETTE

He said his last name was Lee.

LOUIS

Lee? We might as well start looking for a  
guy with black hair and almond eyes. It's  
like finding a needle in a haystack.

MADAME

A sober Irishman.

LOUIS

A white nurse.

SAM

Can it you two. Yvette, throw me a bone  
here.

YVETTE

He had his eyes tattooed, like, with  
permanent makeup. So they look bigger. He  
was a talker, said he was eventually  
going to get them "done". His name began  
with a B.

SAM

He say anything else?

YVETTE

He said lots of things, I don't always  
listen, you know? A lot of, "Yeah, Baby,"  
and, "less teeth". Classic maladjustment  
of the super ego, which can be a  
manifestation of inferiority from a  
traumatizing event as a child.

MADAME

She's getting her masters in psychology.  
This is just her night job.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

YVETTE

It's a prototypical rebellion of a nice girl that went too far. The Madame is helping me out with school and stuff. I'm getting back on track, just, you know, on my back.

MADAME

Sam, she's gonna be a *doctor!*

SAM

We gotta go. You know where Joon is?

MADAME

I can text him.

SAM

Never mind. Louis, we're hitting the road. 'Night, mother.

MADAME

Watch your ass, kid.

Yvette watches as Sam and Louis exit, Madame goes about cleaning her desk.

YVETTE

I could watch it for him, for a reasonable fee of course.

MADAME

Get back on the floor, before I lose money.

YVETTE

(tongue-in-cheek)  
Okey dokey boss lady san.

CUT TO:

EXT. KOREAN NIGHT CLUB ALLEYWAY - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Louis is on the lookout. From his vantage point, he can see the entrance to the club. In front of the club, there are Korean women dressed in club wear, Korean men smoking, and a fist fight involving five young Korean men.

TWO COPS appear and walk right past the fight, not saying a word, and stop at a DRUNK GUY lying on the sidewalk. He is passed out in front of an apartment complex next to the club. The cops stand over him and kick him in the ass.

COP ONE

C'mon Shim - not again.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

COP TWO

Yah ee shek ya!

DRUNK SHIM

Okay, okay! I live right here!

LOUIS (V.O.)

Sam was busy peeing in the alley, so I took over some of the surveillance and all of the voiceover. We were on our way to visit the Boss of Bosses, and it wasn't going to be pretty. Family drama runs the gamut, and Sam's was joker's wild. His half-brother, Joon. If it was illegal, Joon had a hand in it, a hand on it, and fingers where none were meant to go.

Sam approaches Louis from deeper in the alley. Louis gestures to the cops. We see Sam exit the alley and go and greet them. They stop to talk, the fight behind the cops is getting more elaborate, with drunken attempts at martial arts, but everyone is ignoring it. When the cops leave, Sam slips them cash to "keep an eye out". The cops wave at Sam, he nods.

LOUIS (V.O.) (CONT'D)

It was hard for Sam to ask his brother for a favor. Joon had spent a night or three in Paris. It was his fist Sam had stepped in front of. Joon was bad news, as is all news that is slanted.

Sam and Louis turn and walk down the alley. Three Filipino busboys appear out of the darkness to talk. JUAN, KENNEDY, and ALDEN - all mid- to late 20s, able to handle themselves in a fight or a musical. They move well and look like they might have a knife up a sleeve.

They nod at Louis. They are at the back door of the club, by the kitchen.

SAM

Why so many?

LOUIS

In case a musical breaks out.

(off Sam's look)

Juan, Kennedy, what you got?

KENNEDY

I rolled in a few cases of Soju and I don't expect anyone out there for a long time.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SAM  
Big drinkers?

KENNEDY  
New karaoke machine. X5000. It's sweet.

LOUIS  
Got Britney?

JUAN  
Christina, Mariah, and Gaga.

SAM  
Thanks boys. Stick around, we may need  
backup.

All the busboys high five. They all turn and...

CUT TO:

INT. KOREAN NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

...walk slowly into the night club through the back door. Pounding music, men in tight striped shirts, a fist fight in the corner that no one is paying any attention to, a dance floor that's filled with hot Asians with one white guy who can't take his eyes off the Asian girls. The white guy is dressed all in black, rosary beads in his hand, and the camera pans briefly to find it.

Sam, Louis, and the Filipinos make their way, gangsta style, through the club to the back room. They pause at the entrance to see a very handsome Korean man, laughing, half-sitting, on the center table.

This is JOON SONG, late 30s, handsome, sexy, dangerous-looking, with ripped abs. Joon has a hot temper and threatens everyone he meets, except Sam. He is Sam's younger half-brother.

Joon's minions are all around him - burly looking Korean men in dark pants and button-down tight dress shirts.

There is an elaborate and exaggerated plate of fruit on the table. It looks like a dragon chasing a phoenix. Joon is running his tongue down a piece of watermelon, stroking it in a very provocative manner. Not unlike the watermelon scene in The Joy Luck Club.

SAM  
Joon.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOON  
 (to his posse)  
 Ga. (in Korean, "Leave")

His Korean posse leaves with menacing looks. Louis and his Filipinos stay with Sam. Tension mounts.

JOON (CONT'D)  
 Hyung. Surprise, surprise. How's Paris?

SAM  
 I was coming to ask you.

JOON  
 Please, sit. Fruit?

LOUIS  
 Flatterer.

SAM  
 You knew we were coming?

JOON  
 Ma sent a text.

SAM  
 Cut the crap. Paris Kong is missing. The last place she was seen was your club. She did a charity "booking" party. Four hours later her credit card was used at the Shang Kai Sheck brothel.

LOUIS  
 Day spa.

SAM  
 Brothel.

LOUIS  
 It's a brothel AND a day spa. Look at my skin: Glycolic peel.

JOON  
 I had a manicure this afternoon, you could eat off these cuticles.  
 (to Louis)  
 Down boy.  
 (back to Sam)  
 Look Sam, if I knew where Paris was, don't you think I'd tell you, my older brother? My Hyung?

SAM  
 You might Rabbit, you might.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JOON

Would I come to my own club, knowing this is the first place you'd look, and stash her on the premises?

SAM

You might Rabbit, you might.

JOON

But would I allow you to walk into my club unmolested, if I was the one that grabbed the dame?

SAM

Do me a favor. Throw a lit match in the stove and blow yourself up. Dammit Joon, this is not about you, it's about Paris, and it's about her sister, Kim.

JOON

I didn't know she had a sister. (a pause)  
*Kim Kong?*

SAM

French mom.

JOON

*White people.* Look, if something went down on Paris, and not the other way around, and it was my crew, I would know about it. Nothing goes on without my approval. I could have had her violated eight different ways before she was out the door, but I didn't. I loved her, once, in my way. Hyung, give me an hour, I'll have something for you.

SAM

Name of the guy that used her card was Lee. That's what he told Yvette.

JOON

Chinese or Korean Lee?

SAM

I'm hoping you can tell me. And quick. I got a Mapa on my back.

JOON

We all need her. She's, good for business, for K-Town. The celebrities are all coming down to get a piece of the action. I had Dean Cain in last week.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SAM

For what?

JOON

At the booking party for Project  
Angelfood. Him, Mark Paul Gosselar, Tilly  
sisters, Ellen Barkin, Kristin Kruek,  
China Chow, a lot of Hapas.

SAM

Strange.

JOON

They pay their money they can show up.  
When Maddox turns 18 where you think he's  
going to be?

SAM

If you find anything...

JOON

I'll text. Goodbye Sam.

Sam, Louis and the Filipinos turn to leave. Sam takes a  
moment to look back and catches Joon's eye. A moment.

CUT TO:

EXT. BACK IN THE ALLEY - NIGHT - MOS

Louis and Sam give the crew instructions. The Filipinos  
rapidly pull out PDAs and text, Sam and Louis walk to the  
car.

CUT TO:

INT. SAM'S CAR DRIVING THE STEETS OF K-TOWN - NIGHT -  
CONTINUOUS

SAM

I don't like that all the Hapas showed up  
at the same event that Paris went  
missing, and her sister happens to be a  
Beverly Hills minx. I don't like it  
Louis. Smells rotten. Like a Cool Breeze.

LOUIS

Please Sam, not the Hapas. Their eyes are  
so big, they miss nothing!

Text arrives on Sam's phone.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM

(looking at the text message)  
Baby brother is fast. He says the card  
was used by a kid named Byron Lee. He  
hangs out at Dance Hall Days.

LOUIS

Old Wang Chung hangs out at Dance Hall  
Days. You have the receipt?

SAM

Yeah, I got it. Let's see if Old Wang  
Chung will give up the kid. Keep a tight  
lid, kid - a tight lid.

Sam stops the car and does a U-turn.

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

We turned the car around and headed off  
to Dance Hall Days. The place had changed  
hands several times.

They pull up to Dance Hall Days, a shabby looking bar. They  
get out and walk to the entrance.

CUT TO:

INT. DANCE HALL DAYS NIGHT CLUB

Sam and Louis enter.

SAM (V.O.)

It was a run-down excuse for a night  
club. They didn't ask questions, the old  
men sat in front for hours playing chess  
and drinking tea. The back room was where  
the action was - pool tables, cheap  
massages of any kind, and a curiously  
young crowd of hipsters who couldn't  
afford a grand for a bottle of Crown  
Royal and a plate of fruit.

Sam stops at one of the old men.

SAM (CONT'D)

Wang Chung?

The man points to the back of the bar where an old man is  
doing calligraphy on a table near the wall. It's OLD MAN WANG  
CHUNG, mid-60s or so, Chinese. He needs nothing from his  
environment, just a place for his work. There are other older  
men around him who are occupied with reading the paper and  
talking.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Sam and Louis approach Old Man Wang Chung.

SAM (CONT'D)  
Everybody have fun tonight?

OLD MAN WANG CHUNG  
(without looking up, tiredly)  
Everybody wang chung tonight.  
(he looks up)  
I hate that song. Oh, Song - it's you.  
Why you come to bother an old man?

SAM  
Small case, forged credit card. Louis  
says you'd be able to tell.

Sam hands the receipt to Wang, who doesn't really look at it. He hands it right back to Sam, obviously trying to pretend he doesn't know the signature.

OLD MAN WANG CHUNG  
P. Kong. P is of course, a boy.

LOUIS  
Girl.

OLD MAN WANG CHUNG  
Paris Kong?

SAM  
Quick, Wang. Why did you think it was  
Paris Kong?

OLD MAN WANG CHUNG  
Lucky guess?

Wang tries to get up, Sam and Louis hold him down.

OLD MAN WANG CHUNG (CONT'D)  
Okay, okay. You hear things in here. I  
don't have to look at that signature, I  
know the strokes.

SAM  
Give it to me Wang.

OLD MAN WANG CHUNG  
My grandson, Byron Lee. He took it. I saw  
him texting his friend. He thinks I don't  
read English so good. I read English real  
good. I just prefer calligraphy.  
Calligraphy is art, subtle lines, poetry.  
Texting! Ha! No art in text, just  
information, doesn't say anything!  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

OLD MAN WANG CHUNG (CONT'D)

I knew someone would come around asking.  
My English is okay. I read fine.

SAM

He here tonight?

OLD MAN WANG CHUNG

He used to be a good boy. Went to church.  
Helped in the store, then he started  
hanging out with Paris. She used to make  
fun of him, said he has small eyes.

LOUIS

So what?

OLD MAN WANG CHUNG

Eyes are the windows of the soul. Small  
window, small soul. Small soul, not hot.  
He follow her around like puppy dog that  
isn't worth eating.

SAM

Listen Wang, I like you, I do. And I'm  
sure the kid never set out to be a burden  
to you, but he forged a credit card  
signature at a Chinese brothel.

OLD MAN WANG CHUNG

Aiya! He used to go to church! I never  
liked his father! Never work out, Chinese  
girl marry Korean, never work out.

Sam and Louis exchange looks. Sam's mother married a Korean.

LOUIS

At least he wasn't out banging white  
girls.

OLD MAN WANG CHUNG

True. He is dead to me now. You go in the  
back room, they all hang out there. His  
friends, they call themselves the Props.

LOUIS

What's a prop?

OLD MAN WANG CHUNG

I don't know. Maybe something to do with  
texting. Bah! Texting!

SAM

Thanks Wang Chung.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

OLD MAN WANG CHUNG  
Have fun tonight.

Sam and Louis cross to the back room.

CUT TO:

INT. DANCE HALL DAYS BACK ROOM - NIGHT

Inside are Asian kids of various ages. They call themselves the PROPS, but it's really shortened name for PRE-OPS. They all consider themselves as pre-op for plastic surgery. If they are going to have their eyes done, then they wear heavy eye make up to represent the surgeons "guide lines", etc. Boob jobs mean shirts with black circles over the breasts. If seen separately, it would not make a difference. Seen here, it is startling. Camera finds:

BYRON LEE, early 20s, of Chinese and Korean descent, one of the leaders of the group. Byron is athletic and wiry. He is standing talking to one of the girls, trying to score a bit more than time with her.

SAM  
Byron Lee! We need to talk to you.

BYRON  
You a cop?

SAM  
No.

BYRON  
Then, later.

Byron jumps up and runs to the back door. His path is blocked by a line of busboys. He turns back only to see that Sam has cut off his exit.

Byron motions to a group of the bigger PROPS boys. Sam and his Filipinos take them on. The Filipinos take the kids out quickly using West Side Story choreography. During the confusion, Byron makes it out to the alley where Sam and Louis catch up to him.

Byron is a bad fighter but he's determined to escape. Sam and Louis take turns as the fight waxes and wanes. After a few tense moments, Sam and Louis win, as the busboys enter the alley and hold Byron down. Sam is starting to look worse for wear now - having been slugged a few times, his temper is short.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM

Now that we have your attention, I'd like to ask you about Paris Kong.

BYRON

Never heard of the bitch.

Sam nods at Louis, who slaps Byron in the face dramatically.

BYRON (CONT'D)

Oh, that Paris. I haven't seen her in a few weeks.

Sam nods, Louis slaps him again.

BYRON (CONT'D)

I mean, last Thursday at the fundraiser, but I didn't talk to her... I was too busy.

SAM

Doing what?

BYRON

Trying to get Kristen Kreuk's phone number.

Louis slaps Byron without Sam's okay.

BYRON (CONT'D)

Oww! What was that for?

LOUIS

I hated the last season of Smallville.

BYRON

Me too.

Louis slaps him again.

BYRON (CONT'D)

Ow!

LOUIS

Don't suck up.

SAM

Louis, please. Let's observe the Marquis of Queensbury rules. After all, we're not criminals... not like Byron here.

Sam kneels in front of Byron and smears the eyeliner around his eyes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SAM (CONT'D)

You wear a lot of makeup for a straight boy.

BYRON

It's not makeup.

LOUIS

Well, it's not *Chanel*...

BYRON

Shut up.

SAM

Your grandfather told us you used to hang around with Paris Kong, and she made fun of your small eyes.

BYRON

They're not as small as your dick, Chinaman.

Sam slaps Byron. Sam is becoming more menacing.

BYRON (CONT'D)

I want to get some work done. It's not a crime. This is LA for Christ's sake. Surgery is a religion.

LOUIS

See, that's the church boy coming out there.

SAM

Your gang is the Pre-Ops then, not the Props, like your grandfather seems to think.

BYRON

This is white America baby. I didn't make the rules, but the bigger eyes you got, the better you do.

LOUIS

Bullshit. Churchill was so fat, you couldn't even see his eyes. Back me up Sam.

SAM

Hitler.

LOUIS

Mao.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SAM  
 (snapping his finger)  
 Elvis.

They all bow their heads.

SAM (CONT'D)  
 Elvis had small eyes, and he was the  
 King.

LOUIS  
 Sometimes, if I look real quick, I think  
 Elvis is Korean.

SAM  
 Self-esteem runs both ways, like a  
 bisexual at a beauty pageant. You'll  
 never outrun yourself, kid. Never. Now  
 where is Paris Kong?

Suddenly, Byron breaks away from the Filipinos. They chase  
 him into...

CUT TO:

EXT. BACK ALLEY OF DANCE HALL DAYS - NIGHT

...another part of the alley. Sam and Louis get caught up as  
 Byron tosses a garbage can and disappears into the night  
 tripping and bumping into things along the way.

SAM (V.O.)  
 He tripped over a few things in the  
 alley, maybe he did need to get his eyes  
 done.

Sam and Louis turn back into the club.

SAM (CONT'D)  
 What are you thinking?

LOUIS  
 I wish I had a coconut.

BACK TO:

INT. DANCE HALL DAYS NIGHT CLUB - NIGHT

SAM (V.O.)  
 We went back in the club and rounded up  
 the rest of the Props, but none of them  
 would give Byron up, and Wang Chung?  
 Well, he was gone too.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Maybe it had all been a ruse so he could help his grandson, but that was for another time.

CUT TO:

INT. SAM'S OFFICE - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Sam shoots a look at the office clock, it's 5:30 A.M.

SAM (V.O.)

Everyone had to sleep sometime, so I dropped Louis and headed back to the office to the embrace of my lumpy sofa.

FADE TO:

INT. SAM'S OFFICE - NEXT MORNING - DAY TWO

Sam is asleep on the couch. His secretary, Kitty, comes in and throws keys loudly on the desk. She is reading The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown, only the title is in Chinese.

FADE TO:

INT SONG'S OFFICE - LATE MORNING

Time passes. Kitty's had enough. She goes to the water cooler and gets a glass of water. Then turns back to Sam and pours water on him.

SAM

Hey!

KITTY

(handing him coffee)

Ni how mah. Here's some coffee. Shall I go through the messages?

SAM

If there were any.

KITTY

I took the liberty of downloading all your text from last night and reading the ones from today.

SAM

You took a lot of liberties.

KITTY

I also take long walks on the beach and talk about relationships. You working for Kim Dagobert?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM

Who?

KITTY

She calls herself Kim Kong these days,  
for her poor dead father, but when we  
went to boarding school, it was Dagobert.  
French, old money.

SAM

How do you know so much about it?

KITTY

Boarding school. Kim Kong was my first.

Sam takes that image in and lets it sit for a moment.

SAM

Her sister is missing and she hired me to  
find her. Said she found my card in  
Paris' apartment.

KITTY

Sam, I haven't printed cards for you in  
three years. When was your night in  
Paris?

SAM

Two years ago.

KITTY

Well you could have had one in your  
wallet, like an old condom that sadly  
wears its outline in the leather. Or...

SAM

Or Kim Kong was lying.  
(tosses Kitty his PDA)  
Text your old girlfriend and tell her to  
get down here, time I met Kim Dagobert.

Kitty texts away.

EXT. LA CITY HALL - AFTERNOON - LATER

Sam and Louis walk up the stairs and enter the building. We  
see them walk until they hit:

INT. DEPT OF WILLS & ESTATES

SAM (V.O.)

After sweet-talking Marge in the front, Louis and I were able to get back to old file cabinets and look up the will of Caleb Shang Kong. A guy like that had a method to his madness, and in case the riddle was the key, I wanted in. The Chinese made the first keys on record, saw that on the History Channel.

We see Sam and Louis going through file after file.

SAM (CONT'D)

Find the money, find the motive.

LOUIS

Find the motive, find the madness. Hoy! Sam! I found it - Shang Kong's will.

SAM

Nice work, Louis. Hmmmm, according to this, Kong played favorites. He left everything to Paris, except an old Vineyard in Napa that was once a Monastery.

LOUIS

Catholics make the best wine.

SAM

They need to. When she was in my office, Kim Kong said Daddy Caleb divided the estate equally. It's why she started meeting Paris for lunch.

LOUIS

A woman who lies. Film at eleven.

SAM

Grab her mother's will. Dagobert, Christiane.

Louis goes through more files, he finds it.

SAM (CONT'D)

What's in it?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LOUIS

Dammit Sam, I'm a busboy not a lawyer. Hoy, says here the mother left Kim everything - the mansion in BH, the money, and a lot of real estate... grapes... up in Napa.

SAM

Louis, they make champagne at that Vineyard?

LOUIS

*Talaga!* Sam, you know it's only sparkling wine here. It's called the Priory Vineyard.

SAM

French Monks settled in Napa, some of the first settlers. Saw the countryside and wanted to grow their most profitable crop since altar boys.

LOUIS

You mean?

SAM

Someone's got a lot of 'splaining to do.

CUT TO:

INT. SONG'S OFFICE - LATE AFTERNOON

Kitty is seated at the front desk applying bright red lipstick. Sam enters from his office. The front door swings open and they both snap their heads in a choreographed style.

SAM (V.O.)

I don't know what Kitty said in that text, but Kim Dagobert Kong was in my office exactly on time. I had a bad feeling. Asians are never on time, unless they are from Beijing.

Kim enters the office, again decked out like a '40s movie star with sunglasses.

KIM

Nice lipstick.

KITTY

You had your chance.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KIM

A girl can dream. Song, you wanted to see me?

SAM

My office. Now.

Sam and Kim move to the inner office.

KIM

You always order the clients around like that?

SAM

Can it Kong, or should I call you Dagobert?

Kim looks pensive, she does not know where to begin. Paces.

SAM (CONT'D)

Kitty hasn't printed my cards in years. You are lying to me Kong. I won't dance, don't ask me.

KIM

Paris mentioned a Chinese Dick in K-Town, said if she was ever in a jam, to find you. You'd fix it. She trusted you Mr. Song, so I'm trusting you.

SAM

I'm touched, Princess, but I'm not buying what you're selling. Before you try and spin another tale, I looked up your father's will. That's a lie too - he didn't divide equally, all you got was an old building in Napa to go with your mother's grapes.

Sam throws the envelope that held the cash back at her.

SAM (CONT'D)

I took some out for expenses and band-aids used on your behalf. I don't care what you tell anyone else, but you don't lie to your own Dick. Get out and keep walking.

KIM

There's nothing I can say to change your mind?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SAM

No. I suspect your sisterly concern is to throw people off accusing you of murder. The door is behind you, don't let Kitty kick you on the way out.

Kim turns to the window and takes a deep breath. She turns back dramatically.

KIM

Okay. Cards on the table, I respect that. Quid Pro Quo Song. Have you heard of the Theory of the Magdelene?

SAM

Read the book, saw the movie. Wasn't crazy about the casting.

KIM

Then you might have recognized my name - I mean my legal name, Dagobert.

SAM

Dagobert was the first Merovingian King, rumored to be the bloodline of Christ. Don't be impressed, I Google.

He yells to Kitty in the outer office.

SAM (CONT'D)

Kitty?

KITTY

(enters reading from a print-out)

The Merovingian kingdom was in an almost constant state of war. After the reign of the powerful Dagobert I, the line disappeared.

KIM

Kill a man, and you kill one man. Kill a woman and you destroy a family.

SAM

What's this got to do with Paris?

KIM

In 1417, the Chinese emperor, Young Le, sent hundreds of ships across the world. They were supposed to bring back great treasures for the glory of the emperor. His admiral was Zheng He, a great navigator.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

KITTY

Impossible.

KIM

Fact.

SAM

Girls, You're both pretty. Continue.

KIM

In 1444, Emperor Le died. His son ordered the ships home. When the fleet returned, it was burned. China was closed to foreigners.

KITTY

You sank my battleship.

SAM

You're telling me that Zhang He brought the bloodline to China, and to protect it, the new emperor closed the country? Unlikely.

KITTY

Sam, in China, the emperor is divine. To combine bloodlines would be...

SAM

Where does Paris Kong fit in? Don't tell me.

KIM

They began with the emperor's concubines and wives. The first children of those unions were Eurasian.

SAM

I asked you not to tell me.

KIM

It is how fair skin first started to be desired. It proved that you were divine, that you held the bloodline of Eastern and Western gods. When Mao marched through, the bloodline had to leave China. Caleb Shang Kong was a descendant. As is Paris. As am I, on both sides.

SAM

That's quite a bill of goods you are selling me, sister.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

KIM

(holding out her necklace)  
China and Europe believe in dragons, the dragon is the bloodline. The phoenix is the bird who will carry the dreams of the dragon and it will rise again.

SAM

The pellet with the poison's in the vessel with the pessel, but the flagon with the dragon has the brew that is true.

KIM

I can't have children, it happens to some of us. Paris can. There is a planned child. Don't look at me that way, it's not like Katie Holmes.

Kim throws the envelope back on the table. Kim takes a beat, looks at Song, and leaves. Kitty shrugs and goes back to her desk. Sam looks out the window and sees Kim get into her car. A man in a black cassock walks by, we do not see his face. Sam goes thoughtfully back to his desk and sits, playing with a pencil.

SAM (V.O.)

And she was gone.

INT. SONG'S CAR DRIVING THROUGH K-TOWN - NIGHT

SAM (V.O.)

I texted Louis to meet me at my office and we set out again. I wasn't sure if Kim had all her marbles. But Paris was missing.

Sam swerves, a horn blares.

LOUIS

Sam, you are driving crazy. *TALAGA!* You almost hit that guy!

SAM

Sorry Louis. My mind is... I'm worried about Byron Lee. He should have shown by now.

LOUIS

Wang Chung is back at Dance Hall Days, and he's not talking. Kennedy texted me.

SAM

Can't they find a way of making him talk?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LOUIS

Sam, we are gay Filipinos. What we gonna do, feed him fried food and sing show tunes 'til he pukes?

SAM

Get Kennedy on the text, tell him to stay at Dance Hall Days. Round up all the girls. I want him and the others to put them in a room and tell them how pretty they are 'til we get there.

LOUIS

Sam, have you seen some of those girls?

SAM

With the low esteem they've got going, a couple of sweet talking men is just what the doctor ordered.

(tosses Louis his PDA)

Here, get my brother on the text and tell him I need a few of the better lookers he's got to get over there and help them out. I need straight backup.

LOUIS

You think those girls will sing?

SAM

Like an ah-gee-mah at nohreh-bang Louis,  
Like an ah-gee-mah at a nohreh-bang.

CUT TO:

INT. DANCE HALL DAYS BACKROOM - NIGHT DAY TWO - LATER

EMMY, Asian, late teens to early 20s, a Prop with her "tats" of Sharpie-like makeup around her eyes, breasts, cheekbones, and nose sits across from Sam smiling. There is a hot-looking GANGSTA BOY 1, Asian, buff, trying to sweet-talk her.

LOUIS (V.O.)

Sam was right, it was a little girl named Emmy who sang the tune we wanted to hear.

EMMY

Byron said he was working for this doctor out of BH. Said that he was going to come and consult for us for free because the doc knew how hard we had it.

GANGSTA BOY 1

Baby, there ain't nothing wrong with you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM

Enough. Go ahead Emmy. Did the Doc come by?

EMMY

Said it was a white, white world, and that appearances are important. Pointed out how many mixed marriages there are, now we've got to compete against kids born with big eyes, great hair, and boobs. How is a pureblood to compete?

SAM

What did the surgeon "suggest" you have done?

EMMY

Just my breasts, nose, eyes, and cheekbones, and - oh yeah - some skin lightening, and lipo.

Sam and Louis exchange looks.

SAM

What advice did everyone else get?

EMMY

Well, a few of the girls wanted to get the leg lengthening surgery, but didn't want to go back to Korea to get it, then it was the boobs, the eyes, cheekbones, butt lifts?

LOUIS

Butt lift?

EMMY

Asians got no back.

(turns around)

Look. Flat. No shape. No brothas are going to look at you if you can't have J. Lo's ass, Jen Garner's dimples, Cameron Diaz's smile. I mean, getting a man, it's as competitive as getting into Harvard now.

SAM

Emmy, did the Doc ever give you his name?

EMMY

He made a joke about doing more chins than a Chinese phone book. Other than that, I can't help you.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Sam pulls Louis aside.

SAM

Louis, get the Beverly Hills busboys on the phone. I'm talking restaurants like Crustacean, clubs like Teddy's, Les Deux. Anything associated with Ashton Kutcher. I want the name in an hour. Only a few people specialize in Asian plastic surgery.

LOUIS

You got it.

Louis starts texting as Sam gets a text.

LOUIS (CONT'D)

(while texting)

What now?

SAM

We're going downtown. Apparently Byron has a sister.

Sam and Louis exit the club. We see Emmy making the sign for "call me" to Gangsta Boy 1, but she gets no response from him. She looks sadly down at her chest.

CUT TO:

EXT. DRIVING THROUGH LA - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

SAM (V.O.)

Downtown LA was cleaning up. Business people by day, artists at night. And by late night, the rest of the trash. Bryon's sister Coco owned a joint near the Standard Hotel, got a lot of runoff traffic. A good old-fashioned speakeasy, to keep the riffraff out. Coco specialized in live entertainment, called the place Yellow Box. Coco would have run the hell out of the Cotton Club if she'd been around Harlem in the '20s.

EXT. OUTSIDE YELLOW BOX SPEAKEASY IN DOWNTOWN LA - NIGHT - DAY TWO - CONTINUOUS

Sam and Louis exit the car and walk into a seedy downtown alley. A back door opens and Sam whispers a password as he passes a few bucks to the bouncer.

INT. YELLOW BOX SPEAKEASY IN DOWNTOWN LA - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Sam and Louis walk down a dark staircase to a dimly-lit bar filled with eclectic clientele. All races, preferences are on display, but subdued. It's all artists, musicians, a few burn-outs that sit quietly and drink. The club is very dark, with a few neon art deco touches. There is a sad looking piano player accompanying a torch singer.

COCO LEE, Korean-American, early 30s, is behind the bar. It's relatively slow. She is a good looking woman with an edge, a no-bullshit kind of lady with a razor sense of humor.

COCO

What can I get you?

SAM

Byron Lee. I'm Song.

COCO

Grandpa said you might be by.

SAM

Where's your baby brother?

COCO

He knows better than to come here if he's in trouble. We don't get along. He thinks life should be easy. Doesn't want to work, just wants to hang out and dream of plastic surgery. I started busing tables, two years later I owned the joint.

SAM

Nice.

COCO

It's a work in progress. I got protection, but the busboys have been giving me a hard time.

Coco gives Louis a hard stare.

LOUIS

I never promised you a rose garden.

COCO

If I knew where he was, you would know where he was. There's no love lost between us. I tried to help him out by hooking him up with Joon.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LOUIS

You thought you were helping him by hooking him up with a gangster? And I thought my sister hated me for stealing her shoes.

COCO

He dropped out of high school, there's not a lot of options. I thought... I don't know what I was thinking. I wanted him gone. I wanted him to be someone else's problem. I thought he'd find brotherhood.

(composes herself)

I'm going to have to ask you to leave. You're disturbing the customers.

SAM

I don't see anyone complaining.

COCO

Me. I'm complaining.

SAM

I'll leave when I'm finished Ms. Lee. Where's Byron now?

COCO

You gonna bust my ass, or you gonna buy a drink? You're not buying, you're leaving.

Coco snaps her fingers. A BOUNCER, heavysset, late 30s, appears from nowhere and taps Sam on the shoulder. Sam turns and the bouncer hits him in the face.

COCO (CONT'D)

Oops, I think you're leaving. Don't come back without a warrant.

SAM

(scribbling on a napkin)

Here's my number, you hear anything...

COCO

I'll text you. Now get out, I got customers.

Coco motions to the door. Bouncer looks menacing. Sam tips his hat to Coco and he leaves with Louis.

Coco goes to the end of the bar, pours herself a shot and downs it. She whips out her iPhone.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

COCO (CONT'D)  
He's gone.

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS OF DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Sam and Louis exit the speakeasy and walk the streets.

SAM (V.O.)  
She wanted the kid to find brotherhood.  
He found my brother, who turned him into  
a hood. Irony. I still had a missing  
girl, a missing guy, and 20 G's eating a  
hole in my wallet.

Louis lights up a cigarette.

SAM (CONT'D)  
Those things will kill you.

LOUIS  
So will fried food, but I'm still  
Filipino.

SAM  
Cute.

LOUIS  
WMD's, global warming...

SAM  
Yeah, yeah. Louis, if you were Paris,  
would you allow yourself to get snatched,  
or would you disappear?

LOUIS  
Who wants Paris? Other than the obvious.

SAM  
I don't know, the Church?

LOUIS  
I know Catholics. Whores we get rid of  
pretty fast. We send them to pageants,  
they marry dictators and bankrupt the  
country. That's how we know they are bad  
women.

SAM  
Okay, well all we've got is Paris and  
Byron - both gone. Find one, find the  
other.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

                  LOUIS  
The only thing they've got in common is  
Joon.

                  SAM  
And the brothel.

                  LOUIS  
Day spa.

                  SAM  
Let's take a ride.

CUT TO:

INT. SONG'S CAR DRIVING THROUGH K-TOWN - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

                  LOUIS (V.O.)  
Sam seemed preoccupied, not a word out of  
him the whole way over to Joon's condo.  
It was paradise. I had a few texts from  
Mapa, the Gays were getting restless. If  
we didn't replace the icon soon, well...  
I didn't want to think about it. I kept  
trying to hold them off with random  
replies, but mostly...

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE A K-TOWN CONDO BUILDING - NIGHT

Louis and Sam get out of the car and head into the condo.

                  LOUIS (V.O.)  
I was relying on Bravo to keep them  
occupied while we searched for the kid  
who was a foreskin away from being able  
to see and Paris.

CUT TO:

INT. JOON'S K-TOWN CONDO - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

They walk through the door only to find two gangsters holding  
rifles at their faces. They stop. Then Sam takes a swing at  
one of the gangsters. There is a brief struggle until an army  
of them pour out of different rooms. Sam and Louis are  
outnumbered. Sam staggers to his feet, Joon appears in the  
doorway.

                  JOON  
This is why you should call ahead.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM  
You lied to me.

JOON  
Which time?

SAM  
Byron Lee, he works for you.

JOON  
Used to work for me. Sin of omission.

SAM  
The Doc with Byron?

JOON  
They call him The Butcher of Beverly Hills.

LOUIS  
Sam, he got kicked off Dr. 90210 for making Kenny Rogers look Asian.

There is a standoff. We see Sam, Louis and Joon have a muted verbal standoff as...

SAM (V.O.)  
I kept pushing Joon to give up Byron, but he kept telling me that he'd given Byron the heave-ho.

Sam sends a text message.

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
There was only one person who could make a Joon bird sing. I called in a favor.

Joon's front door swings open dramatically. It's Madame Shang Kai Shek. Mother. Mom.

She steps into the room, the gangsters attack, but are deflected with a wave of her hand. She has powerful chi. The gangsters fall away. She stops in front of Joon, and slaps his face.

JOON  
Umna!

MADAME  
You tell your brother where the Paris is.

JOON  
I don't know.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

She slaps him again.

MADAME

I was right in the middle of a protein peel.

JOON

(thinking it's sexual)  
Ma!

SAM

(thinking it's sexual)  
Ma!

She slaps Joon and third time.

MADAME (CONT'D)

We're a legit day spa!

CUT TO:

EXT. STREETS OF K-TOWN - NIGHT - LATER

Sam's aimlessly walking.

SAM (V.O.)

I went for a walk after that, to clear my head. Louis and I would rendezvous in a few hours. Joon confessed that he had heard from Byron, he was in Beverly Hills. Joon didn't know if Paris was with Byron, but he knew Byron was obsessed with her. We also knew that there was no way Paris would have given anyone her black Amex card.

Sam reaches to his car and opens the door.

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

My thoughts were she was either dead, or worse.

CUT TO:

INT. SONG'S CAR -NIGHT

Sam pulls out his phone.

SAM (V.O.)

And yeah, it's possible to be worse than dead. I called Mapa.

ALEC MAPA (V.O.)

You find her?

SAM

We're close.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ALEC MAPA (V.O.)

Close as in no cigar? Or close as in, she scantily dressed and heading to Les Deux to dance on a table top?

SAM

I didn't know you smoked.

ALEC MAPA (V.O.)

I'm Asian, of course I smoke. Song, the Capi Tutti Capi wants to see you. Get your cute Chinese ass to the Mid-Wilshire district. I'll text you the address. You've got 20 minutes.

SAM

I need 30.

ALEC MAPA

Now you have 19.

CUT TO:

INT. SAM'S CAR DRIVING DOWN WILSHIRE - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Sam's driving really, really fast.

SAM (V.O.)

I was lucky, no cops. I raced down Wilshire to a mansion with a large driveway filled with parked cars of the hybrid variety.

He reaches the mansion and pulls into the driveway.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAPI TUTTI CAPI'S DRIVEWAY - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Sam gets out and gets to the door. The door opens, it's Louis.

SAM (V.O.)

Louis answered the door, which showed me it was serious - serious as a dead girl maybe?

CUT TO:

INT. CAPI TUTTI CAPI'S MANSION - NIGHT DAY TWO - CONTINUOUS

Sam enters the mansion and is led to a formal dining room. It's the headquarters of the Velvet (AKA Gay) Mafia that runs Hollywood.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Large photos of Rock Hudson, Elton John, Liberace, Cary Grant, and Barbara Stanwyck are on the walls, signifying past presidents.

Seated around the table are the 12 men who represent the different branches of the group. They are all well-known, openly gay men and women. At the head is CAPI DI TUTTI CAPI (think Lance Bass or another famous gay man). His CONSIGLIERI, and PEREZ HILTON. Alec Mapa is sitting closest to the end of the table, closest to Sam and Louis.

CAPI DI TUTTI CAPI  
You know why you're here?

SAM  
I sank your battleship?

Capi nods to Consiglieri, who nods to Alec, who nods to Louis, who slaps Sam. Louis shrugs as if sorry.

CAPI DI TUTTI CAPI  
We just got word today that Lindsey almost bought it during a routine face lift. Kardashian is going to Vegas to dance on a pole. Miley is a mess, and Jessica fired Ken Paves. If we don't move soon, we're going to lose all of the young ones.

CONSIGLIERI  
All Angelina wants to do is save the world. No more vials of blood. No more crazy sex in the back of a limo. Adopting children and having babies, that's hot, but we miss the Tomb Raider.

PEREZ HILTON  
They are rioting in the streets, I can't even get Federline on the phone anymore.

The group shudders. They all hate Kevin Federline.

CAPI DI TUTTI CAPI  
Song, we've called you here today to tell you that you have 24 hours. The GLAAD Awards are in 48 hours. That gives you exactly a day to find her and a day for us to repair whatever damage has been done.

LOUIS  
What if she's fat?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Another group shudder. Capi nods to Consiglieri, who nods to Alec, who slaps Louis. It's almost indiscernible, the nods. Very subtle.

ALEC MAPA  
We don't get fat.

CONSIGLIERI  
We've got Jackie Warner on standby. And Sally Hershberger's waiting for my text. We'll get through this crisis.

LOUIS  
What about Ken Paves?

Capi nods to Consiglieri, who nods to Alec, who slaps Louis.

ALEC MAPA  
(almost hysterical)  
Jessica fired him! He's out! *Jesus!*

SAM  
What if I can't find her?

CONSIGLIERI  
You don't want to know.

LOUIS  
(quietly to Alec)  
I do.

Alec slaps him again.

LOUIS (CONT'D)  
Ow! Why'd you do that?

ALEC MAPA  
I'm under a lot of pressure right now!

CAPI DI TUTTI CAPI  
Song, you have 24 hours.

SAM  
I need more time.

CAPI DI TUTTI CAPI  
Now you have 23 hours and 59 minutes.  
Tick tock Song, tick tock.

CUT TO:

INT: SAM'S CAR - NIGHT DAY TWO - LATER

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Sam is driving back from the Velvet Mafia meeting, Louis is in the car with him, sucking down a boba drink.

Sam's phone rings. He picks it up.

SAM  
Song.

PARIS (V.O.)  
Sam?

SAM  
Paris?

PARIS (V.O.)  
Sam? Oh god... SAM!

A gun shot.

The line goes dead. Sam's expression gets colder. Sam hangs up his phone.

SAM  
That was Paris.

LOUIS  
She's okay?

SAM  
I was right Louis. There's worse things than dead.

Sam calls Kim Kong.

KIM (V.O.)  
Hello.

SAM  
Paris was alive two minutes ago.

KIM (V.O.)  
Was?

SAM  
We got cut off. By a gunshot.

KIM (V.O.)  
Text me as soon as you find out anything Sam. I mean anything.

SAM  
Wait by the phone.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

Sam hangs up the phone. He looks tense. Louis is texting like mad.

LOUIS  
I'm on it Sam. Every busboy, nail tech,  
and nanny has their eyes open for her.

INT. SAM'S CAR DRIVING ON THE STEETS OF K-TOWN - NIGHT -  
MOMENTS LATER

Sam's driving with Louis who is holding uncooked meat on his face.

LOUIS (V.O.)  
We stopped by the all-night market on  
Western to get some kalbe for my face.  
The pain in my ass, there was nothing  
for, except to find Paris Kong.

Sam pulls out his phone and dials.

SAM  
Kitty, get me a list of all the plastic  
surgeons in Beverly Hills, and find out  
if any of them are known for being overly  
fond of Asians.

KITTY (V.O.)  
Dr. Snipes. William Snipes.

SAM  
You're quick.

KITTY (V.O.)  
He got a bad rap making white folks look  
Asian. Now he only works on Asians.

SAM  
Where's the office?

KITTY (V.O.)  
BH. I'll text you the address when I'm  
done.

SAM  
Where are you now?

KITTY (V.O.)  
Everyone's favorite legitimate day spa.  
Did you know a protein peel is only 500  
bucks?

Sam hangs up and drives to Beverly Hills.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM (V.O.)

I set my sights toward Beverly Hills.  
From Mid-Wilshire it was minutes away.

He pulls up to a Beverly Hills office building.

CUT TO:

INT. BEVERLY HILLS MEDICAL OFFICE BUILDING - NIGHT -  
CONTINUOUS

Sam and Louis walk in, a guard stops them.

SAM (V.O.)

We greased the guard.

They give him money and he nods them in the right direction,  
they head into the elevator.

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Louis and I made our way to the Doc's  
office. If he wasn't in when we got  
there, even better. He might not like us  
looking through his records. People are  
funny that way. We approached the office,  
the door was open and the place was a  
mess. I had Louis put on gloves, I did  
the same, and we went in.

CUT TO:

INT. DR. SNIPES OFFICE - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

LOUIS

Sam, I don't like this.

SAM

Just poke around and see if you can find  
anything that will tell us where Byron  
Lee is. An address, a business card,  
anything.

Louis kicks a file on the floor and a photo of Paris Kong  
falls out, it's from a magazine.

LOUIS

Over here, look Sam. Paris. It's notes  
from a consultation.

SAM

What was she interested in getting done?

LOUIS

Her eyes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM

Wrong Paris. Our Paris liked her eyes.

LOUIS

How do you know that?

SAM

Paris and I were "acquainted".

(off Louis' look)

Just once. We talked a lot that night,  
the only thing worrying her was being  
flat-chested.

LOUIS

I guess she decided bigger eyes would  
make her boobs grow, because this consult  
was on eyes.

SAM

Let me see that.

(taking the file)

This doesn't make sense. Where was this  
file? If someone broke in before us  
looking for Paris, why didn't they take  
it? Because it was hidden in plain sight.

LOUIS

What's hidden?

SAM

The file.

LOUIS

Where?

SAM

In plain sight.

LOUIS

You're telling me the file was hidden,  
but you could see it?

SAM

Right.

LOUIS

Bukit it was hidden in plain sight.

SAM

Exactly.

LOUIS

And where is Paris?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SAM  
I don't know.

LOUIS  
Third base.

CUT TO:

INT. SAM'S CAR DRIVING ON THE STEETS OF K-TOWN - NIGHT - DAY  
TWO - CONTINUOUS

Sam is driving silently, Louis is texting. Lights whiz by.

SAM (V.O.)  
We were down the rabbit hole without a smiling cat. The file said that Paris came in for an eye job consult. Byron was obsessed with both Paris and an eye job. There was a listing for the Doc in a rental building off Rodeo, but when we got there, he'd been evicted. Manager said the Doc had a lot of movement late at night. I needed a rabbi, and I needed one now. I dropped Louis at his boyfriend's and kept driving. I was missing something, it was staring me in the face like a two year old with a wet diaper, and it would stink just as bad when I found it.

EXT: AN ALLEY - NIGHT - DAY TWO - LATER

Sam drops Louis at a corner, where he is greeted by busboys.

Sam pulls away and picks up his phone. He calls Kim.

INT. KIM KONG'S BEVERLY HILLS MANSION/INT. SAM'S CAR -  
INTERCUT

Camera finds whoever is talking.

KIM  
Yes Sam, did you find her?

SAM  
Not yet. Did you ever hear that Paris wanted to get some surgery?

KIM  
What kind?

SAM  
Eyelid.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

KIM

She joked about us looking more alike, but Paris was a confident woman. She knew men liked the way she looked. She would only change for a man. I'm just a sister, and a half-sister at that.

SAM

Poor little Hapa girl, out in the cold?

KIM

Something like that. Do you ever get lonely Sam?

SAM

Sure kid, who doesn't?

KIM

Well, I wouldn't mind Sam, if some night, some night when you were lonely, you stopped by. Just for a drink or something.

SAM

Or something.

KIM

Yeah, something.

SAM

Sure kid, sure. Is it a big empty house?

KIM

With a big empty bed.

SAM

Poor little Hapa girl...

KIM

Out in the cold. Sam, you never mix business with pleasure?

SAM

Kid, I don't even mix soba with stir fry.

KIM

I understand.

SAM

I'll call when I find her.

KIM

Bye, Sam.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Kim hangs up the phone, walks to the bar, pours herself a drink, and then pushes all the glassware off the bar. She has a look in her eyes that is hard to define.

CUT TO:

INT. SAM'S CAR/SHANK KAI SHEK BROTHEL - LATER - INTERCUT

Sam continues to drive home. He gets a call, it's his mother.

MADAME

You still my number-one son?

SAM

You only have two.

MADAME

Hmph. Okay. Your brother, he remembered something, he doesn't want to tell you in case you kick his ass.

SAM

Ma - the last time I saw Joon, he set his goons on me.

MADAME

He's always been sensitive.

SAM

Like a lump of coal.

MADAME

What did I do to deserve such an ungrateful son?

SAM

You had another one. Spill.

MADAME

He wouldn't tell me. He thinks it's too much for my virgin ears.

SAM

That would be the only part left then. Your second son doesn't know you at all. That make you sad?

MADAME

It's a load off. I'll have one true mourner at my funeral. Now, call your brother or I'll kick your ass. And make sure you're here to take me to church on Sunday.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM (V.O.)

She hung up. I had no choice but to call my baby brother at 3 A.M. He'd be up - he was basically a vampire. Maybe I was too harsh on him - maybe he's just being Korean. I wouldn't know, I'm Chinese through and through. When Ma married the second time, her Korean husband adopted me, it's how I got the name Song. A damn shame - I don't even like karaoke.

CLOSE UP: Sam's hand dialing.

INT: SAM'S CAR/JOON'S OFFICE AT KAR NAC - INTERCUT

SAM

Joon.

JOON

Oppa.

SAM

You have something for me?

JOON

You never call me Dong Sang.

SAM

You don't sing me love songs. We're even. The information.

JOON

I lied.

SAM

News at eleven.

JOON

I did see Paris at Kar Nac that night.

SAM

And?

CUT TO:

INT. FLASHBACK - BACK ROOM AT KAR NAC, JOON'S OFFICE

Joon is seated at his desk, crunching numbers. This is a far cry from the playboy image that he cultivates. On the desk is a bottle of Johnnie Walker Blue. The door opens suddenly, it's Paris Kong in a slinky dress. She oozes sexuality.

PARIS

We need to talk.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JOON  
We have nothing to say.

PARIS  
I'm in trouble.

JOON  
You're breathing.

PARIS  
Joon-bug, don't be a pain in the ass. I need you.

JOON  
Really?

PARIS  
I need protection. It's the same thing.

JOON  
Stop playing with me Paris, I'm not a Trojan.

PARIS  
No. You're a knight, in slightly tarnished armor. I need a place to hide.

JOON  
You own half of K-Town.

PARIS  
I've got to go where no one can find me.

JOON  
Poughkeepsie. I heard of it once in a movie.

PARIS  
Be serious. I need someplace with room service. And indoor plumbing. Never mind the room service, I can get takeout. But the plumbing is a must.

JOON  
I can't help you.

PARIS  
Please?

Paris approaches Joon and plants a searing kiss on him. They grapple on the desk, and finally Paris pulls away. There is an intense moment where they stare into one another's eyes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

PARIS (CONT'D)

Please?

Joon is breathing hot and heavy. He jerks away and slams his hand on the desk, a buzzer sounds. The door opens, in the doorway is Byron Lee.

BYRON

Yeah, boss?

JOON

Take this bitch wherever she wants to go.

PARIS

Thanks Baby.

JOON

Byron...

BYRON

Yeah?

JOON

Don't let her out of your sight.

BYRON

No problem boss. No problem at all.

JOON

Paris?

PARIS

Boss?

JOON

I don't want to see you again.  
Understood?

Paris says nothing. She stands for a moment and looks at him, reflective. Byron grabs her arm. They exit.

Joon goes to the desk, pours himself a shot of the Johnnie Blue, downs it, and throws the shot glass against the wall. A moment. He grabs the bottle and exits the room violently.

FADE TO:

INT. SAM'S CAR - NIGHT/JOON'S OFFICE - INTERCUT - CONTINUOUS

SAM

And that was the last time you saw her?

JOON

Right.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM

And you all but gave her to Byron Lee,  
who subsequently stole her black Amex and  
was the last person to see her breathing?

JOON

Hyung, you think she's dead?

SAM

Answer the question.

JOON

Yes. I never meant to... Sam, look - I  
can't go down for accessory, that's my  
third strike! You've got to help me,  
we're blood.

SAM

Yes, I'd heard.

JOON

I know that we haven't been close in the  
past - it's my fault, I was jealous - you  
were the number-one son, you were  
perfect, nothing I did was good enough.

SAM

Can it Joon, I failed math, you got a  
perfect score on the MCATS and then  
became a criminal. You weren't competing  
with me, you were competing with destiny.  
Your mom's a whore and your dad was a  
thug. The only similarity between us is a  
deep sense of self-preservation. But...  
blood is blood. If I can keep you out of  
it, I will.

JOON

Thanks Sam. I owe you. If I find out  
anything else, anything, I'll let you  
know.

SAM

You do that... Dong Sang.

EXT. SAM'S CAR DRIVING ON THE STEETS OF K-TOWN - CONTINUOUS

Sam pulls up at a ramshackle Craftsman house. The light is  
out over the porch.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM (V.O.)

I kept driving, had stuff to think about.  
The kind of day I've had, a blown bulb is  
not going to help or hurt me - unless  
it's not a blown bulb.

INT. SAM'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Sam walks into the living room, gun drawn. He goes from room  
to room, nothing there. When he makes his way back into the  
living room, he flicks on the light.

On his table is a bullet with a note on it.

CLOSE UP: On the note.

It reads: I'll be seeing you...

Sam scoffs a bit, goes to grab the bullet. Thinks better of  
it, and grabs a plastic baggie to put it in, careful not to  
put prints on it.

He walks to the back door, opens it and yells.

SAM

Louis!

EXT. SAM'S GUEST HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

From over the garage a light goes on. A window pops open.

LOUIS

TALAGA! It's four in the morning Sam!

SAM

Get down here, you burden to society.

CUT TO:

INT. SAM'S KITCHEN - EARLY MORNING ON DAY THREE - MOMENTS  
LATER

LOUIS

That's no joke. A bullet. With a note.

SAM

A killer with a calling card.

LOUIS

We still on the case?

SAM

Oh yeah, we're still on the case.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Sam holds up the note, in the baggie and flips it around. The back of the card reads DANCE HALL DAYS.

LOUIS

Oh shit.

EXT. A GARBAGE DUMPSTER - DAY THREE - BACK ALLEY IN BEVERLY HILLS

SAM (V.O.)

I needed to get some dirt. Louis was getting carpal tunnel from all the texting and he was blurry from the four am wake-up. I took pity on him. He needed his beauty sleep. I got back to work. Byron Lee had come calling - or one of his known associates. I checked with Dance Hall Days, they hadn't printed cards in the last ten years, had to be one Byron swiped from his grandad, unless Old Wang Chung was much more agile than he appeared. He owed me an energy efficient light bulb and bags under my eyes. I decided to turn to a reliable source, a newspaper man. Yeah, that's right, newspaper. Because not everyone surfs the web.

A Hapa tabloid Reporter, O'BANNION MCNIFF, a paparazzi reporter, late 30s, slightly dissipated-looking, is inside the dumpster going through the trash.

Sam pulls up his car and gets out. Louis is not with him.

SAM (CONT'D)

O'Bannion McNiff, Paparazzi Scumbag.

O'BANNION MCNIFF

Sam Song, Private Dick. What are you doing in the BH?

SAM

I need a rabbi. Madonna was busy, I picked you. What are you doing in the dumpster?

O'BANNION MCNIFF

Checking for DNA. I found some of Suri's diapers, but that's it so far. Whaddaya need? As you can see, I'm swamped.

SAM

Your expert opinion.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

O'BANNION MCNIFF

My big eyes. Okay, I'll bite - I heard you're looking for Paris Kong. You here to find out if she's been on the *downlow* with Aniston?

SAM

Paris? You wish. Not even close. I need to find a habitual "plus one". Name's Byron Lee.

O'BANNION MCNIFF

Coco's brother? I haven't seen him around. No, I take that back. I did see him grabbing a cup of joe yesterday when he stopped at The Bean on Sunset. I was there to check in - see if I can spot Britney spiking her blended again.

SAM

The way you make a living...

O'BANNION MCNIFF

People in glass houses Song. Tell you what I'm gonna do for you - I'll sit on the Paris story and make your life easier, for now. I want the exclusive. I got scooped on the Jamie Lynn bun, and I've never recovered.

SAM

Deal.

O'BANNION MCNIFF

You couldn't get this dirt from just anyone, but Byron is a big fan of Korean Pop stars. Guess who has backstage passes to the next CJ Concert?

O'Bannion produces the tickets from the inside of his coat and hands them to Sam, who takes them like they have feces on them, and maybe they do.

O'BANNION MCNIFF (CONT'D)

Now, get out of here. I have a rep to protect. Shalom.

INT. SAM'S OFFICE - DAY THREE - LATER

CLOSE UP on the wall clock: 2 P.M.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Sam is seated at his desk, playing a simple child's game (possibly Cat's Cradle). He is stumped and tired. Louis is passed out on the couch.

Kitty walks in without knocking, pushing DR. WILLIAM SNIPES, 50s, Caucasian, seedy-looking, in front of her. He looks beat up.

SAM  
Look what the Cat dragged in. Louis, get up.

LOUIS  
Talaga?

KITTY  
I caught him trying to pitch a botox party at a friend's house.

DOC  
I want my lawyer.

Louis slaps the doctor.

LOUIS  
You don't have rights in K-Town, white man.

SAM  
Byron Lee, Doc. I want his location. He has Paris Kong.

DOC  
I know nothing.

Louis slaps him again.

SAM  
You're lucky I'm letting Louis do it. If I let Kitty, you'd be spitting out a mouth of dental work.

Kitty steps forward, grinning, and flexing her hand.

DOC  
All right, all right. These are new caps!

Kitty stops, pouts. Makes a gesture that says, "I've got my eyes on you", and retreats to a corner.

DOC (CONT'D)  
Byron paid for both surgeries ahead of time, in cash.  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DOC (CONT'D)

He brought Paris with him, told me she wanted a small operation - no publicity, someplace she could heal quietly. I get it all the time when I deal with celebrities.

Louis slaps Doc.

LOUIS

You're a hack.

SAM

Paris never needed surgery.

DOC

She wanted her eyes done. They're way too small, everyone knew it. Someone gave her my number, I was highly recommended.

Louis slaps Doc.

LOUIS

No one even lets you embroider a handkerchief.

SAM

There were no close photos in that file, only stuff you could have pulled from magazines. Paris Kong never consulted with you about an eye job. Fess up.

DOC

I'm a legit surgeon! She came to my house! I swear.

LOUIS

Paris was kidnapped by Byron and brought to your house so you could operate on her. Why?

DOC

No. No, it's not true!

SAM

I got a call from Paris that ended with a gunshot. You want to explain that Doc?

The doctor is silent. Sam leans in, as does Louis and Kitty. Doc gives up.

SAM (CONT'D)

Where's the house?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

DOC

High up, over Mullholland. You're too late - they're gone now. I don't know anything about a gun, I got hit on the head and I blacked out.

SAM

Any idea where Lee's headed?

DOC

Well, he won't be hard to spot.

SAM

Because of the makeup?

DOC

Because of the swelling. I did his eyes yesterday. They look great.

Louis slaps Doc again.

DOC (CONT'D)

Okay, okay, okay, they will look great after the swelling goes down. He knows, I told him. He didn't seem to understand, thought he would look like Brad Pitt right away.

LOUIS

Brad Pitt adopts us, he don't look like us! Now, tell me my eyes are pretty.

Louis hits Doc, who faints.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSIDE SAM'S BUILDING IN K-TOWN - LATER

SAM (V.O.)

We couldn't get anything else out of Doc, so we cut him loose after telling his loan shark where to find him. Karma's a bitch.

We see the Doc being beaten up and left lying over some garbage cans in an alley by a few thugs. Kitty stands and watches the whole thing. She tips her hat to the Doc's attackers and heads back inside, sucking on a frappuccino.

Sam and Louis cross the street and wait by the car as they watch the Doc getting beaten up. Satisfied, they get into the car.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Sam pulls the tickets from the inside of his coat, he had forgotten them for a second. He pulls them out, turns to Louis and says:

INT. SAM'S CAR - LATE AFTERNOON DAY THREE.

SAM

Louis, where would an Asian guy with very swollen eyes go where no one will notice?

EXT. KOREAN ROCK CONCERT AT THE HOLLYWOOD BOWL - EARLY EVENING

Close up on HUH SO, late 20s, a chubby rock star, a Korean-American man wearing a bright blue outfit, sans sleeves. There are white "frog" clasps on the front of the outfit, a Batman-esque mask made of spray makeup that hides his eyes (a la the Korean pop star PSI). He's over the top, with lots of jumping and shouting - and his Korean-American audience loves it, tons of them wearing the same face "tribute" makeup.

He is in the middle of a number with backup dancers, fireworks, and general concert mayhem. The crowd is going bananas. Sam and Louis watch from the back of the stadium.

LOUIS

BUKIT why?

SAM

BUKIT because.

LOUIS

Sam, there's no point in even trying.

SAM

Let's talk to the pop tart.

CUT TO:

INT. DRESSING ROOM OF THE KOREAN POP STAR, HUH SO - CONTINUOUS

SAM

Louis, meet Huh So.

LOUIS

Who, what?

HUH SO

I hear you're looking for Paris Kong.

SAM

Who told you?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HUH SO

My makeup guy is Filipino. Paris and I,  
we have a thing going.

LOUIS

Seriously?

SAM

(to Louis)

I'll do the questioning here Louis.

(back to Huh So)

Seriously?

HUH SO

We're getting married. I was going to  
pull her on stage tonight and ask her in  
front of the crowd. She never showed.  
What can I say? I'm a romantic.

LOUIS

(dismissively)

Koreans.

SAM

So, you knew Paris was missing? When?

HUH SO

I was back and forth from Korea. It's not  
unusual for us to miss a few days here  
and there. I texted her as soon as I  
arrived, didn't get an answer. That's  
never happened.

LOUIS

Hey, how come you don't have an accent?

HUH SO

Dude, I'm from the O.C.

SAM

So, So - have you heard of a kid named  
Byron Lee?

HUH SO

He's the president of my K-Town Fan Club.  
He'll be in the greenroom, with the other  
fans.

SAM

The last time I saw Paris, or the last  
time anyone saw Paris, she was leaving  
Kar Nac with Byron Lee. Then he took her  
credit card to a brothel and charged up  
quite a package.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

HUH SO  
The black Amex?

SAM  
Yes.

HUH SO  
The only way Paris would be separated  
from that card would be if it was pried  
from her cold, dead hand.

Sam and Louis exchange looks.

SAM  
(to Huh So)  
Tell Byron you want to give him something  
special from Korea, but you left it here  
in the dressing room.

Huh So leaves.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. DRESSING ROOM OF THE KOREAN POP STAR, HUH SO - MOMENTS  
LATER

Byron is seated on a chair, eyes really swollen and wearing  
"tribute" makeup similar to Huh So's, which only makes it  
look worse. Sam places the bullet in the baggie in front of  
Byron. Byron can't take his eyes off it, Louis jerks Byron's  
head so that he's looking at Sam. Sam hovers over him.

LOUIS  
You look like crap.

BYRON  
Shut up.

SAM  
Don't you know you're not supposed to put  
makeup on after you've had eyelid  
surgery? You're infected, kid.

BYRON  
Chinese Dick!

SAM  
Your penchant for the obvious is  
endearing. Where is Paris Kong? You had  
her black Amex.

Silence. Huh So steps in with the ultimate punishment.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HUH SO

I'm kicking you out of the fan club, and you can't come to any more concerts.

BYRON

(without missing a beat)  
She's at the Doc's house!

SAM

Did you take her there after Joon called you in to be her bodyguard?

BYRON

Bodyguard?

SAM

Joon said Paris came to him to hide her.

BYRON

He'll kill me.

Louis produces a coconut from nowhere.

LOUIS

I'll kill you first. Talk.

BYRON

Paris came to the party. She was there dancing on the table, Joon lost it. Had me bring her to the back room.

INT. FLASHBACK - JOON'S OFFICE - BYRON'S VERSION

The scene is exactly as Joon had described to Sam, an office. A bottle of Johnnie Walker Blue on the desk. Joon opens the door - he's drunk. He pulls Paris through the door by her arm. The door doesn't close, Byron is seen outside. Paris seems scared. She keeps looking back at Byron as if asking for help.

PARIS

We need to talk.

JOON

We have nothing to say.

PARIS

(to Byron)  
I'm in trouble.

JOON

You're breathing.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

PARIS

We're over. Deal with it.

JOON

We'll never be over Paris. You come to my club, MY club, and you bring another man? You shame me? You embarrass me in front of all my friends, my crew? At my own goddamn club!

He drags her to the desk, and pours himself a shot. He offers Paris a shot, she refuses. He throws the shot glass at the wall, it shatters.

PARIS

(to Byron at the door)

Hide me. Please.

JOON

Where you gonna go Paris? You own half of K-Town, I run the rest of it. Where you gonna go?

PARIS

I don't know. Someplace where they don't know me. Someplace with running water, I don't care.

JOON

Try Poughkeepsie. I heard about it in a movie once. Now... get your ass over here.

PARIS

Please.

Joon is enraged. He grabs the door and slams it, but it bounces back open. He grabs Paris and starts kissing her. It's violent, he is all over her. She pulls away.

PARIS (CONT'D)

Please!

Joon goes to kiss her again, but something stops him. He hits the buzzer, but the door was already open.

JOON

Please? (a pause) Byron!

BYRON

Yeah, boss?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JOON

Get this bitch out of here. And keep an eye on her! I'll text you where to take her.

BYRON

Yeah, okay, I'll keep an eye on her, sure.

PARIS

Joon!

Byron is dragging her away. He motions to Paris to calm down, he's on her side.

JOON

I never want to see you again.  
Understood?

They start to leave through the door. Byron pauses for a moment while Paris adjusts her dress, he looks through the crack in the door and sees Joon pick up his phone. Byron motions to Paris to be quiet, and he takes a step closer to the door and hears Joon say into the phone...

JOON (CONT'D)

It's done.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. DRESSING ROOM OF THE KOREAN POP STAR, HUH SO

SAM

She dead?

BYRON

I don't know. Joon told me to take her to the Doc's house, I did. He kept her medicated for a few days, but I guess he forgot when he did my surgery, cuz she walked in and freaked.

SAM

What did she look like when you left?

BYRON

She was bleeding on the floor. Bullet wound. I couldn't really see. There was screaming, a gun went off. I was on the table, post-op. I just got the hell out.

LOUIS

But first you searched her pockets for her black Amex.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

BYRON

No, it was in my pocket. I took it the first night after the Doc knocked her out. I just ran. I was pretty blind. Look man, there was blood everywhere. I kept falling. The Doc, he went kind of crazy. He wanted to do her eyes, make her look more like her sister.

SAM

To look like her sister?

BYRON

I panicked, didn't know what to do, but I thought Joon would kill me, so I let Cool Breeze know where to find her. He and Paris were tight. I got the hell outta Dodge.

Huh So hits Byron, who passes out. Sam and Louis exchange looks, Louis pulls Sam aside.

LOUIS

Sam! Cool Breeze... this is not good.

SAM

Okay, let him go, So. Louis, if the Hapas have her, we have to broker a deal or the Gays will riot. We have less than 12 hours, we have to call Cool Breeze.

LOUIS

I'm on it, I have a Hawaiian cousin...

CUT TO:

INT. SONG'S CAR - NIGHT DAY THREE - LATER

Sam is driving. Louis looks pensive.

SAM (V.O.)

Most don't realize what drives the different Asian Communities. Sure, we all want our kids to be doctors and play piano, but there's something else. We don't want them to marry white people. Then along came Hawaii. Asians and whites mixing, causing mass panic amongst our different factions. War and GI uniforms, and sweet-talking Irishmen felled the Great Wall of China, and now we have a new breed, the Hapas.

Sam drives up a windy road.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

One foot in both worlds, with their newfound height, good hair, big eyes, the numbers were swelling. Getting so you couldn't throw a stick on a movie set without hitting one. And yeah, most are on the *downlow*. Too afraid of being marginalized. I could empathize, a Chinese Dick in K-Town is not a moral majority. Still, if the Hapas had her, they had to give her up. They couldn't protect her like the Gays. By now I felt responsible, knowing one of Joon's goons had steered her wrong.

He pulls up to a dark mansion, very Gothic, with large gates that are open. Sam and Louis get out of the car, check their weapons, nod at each other, and approach the house.

As they approach the door, it suddenly opens.

BUTLER

We've been expecting you. Please come in.

CUT TO:

INT. HAPA MANSION - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

They are taken into a very imposing foyer. The BUTLER stops and motions for them to follow. They pass rooms of Hapas who are playing pool, playing cards, reading. There is tension in the air. The Hapa men are large Eurasians, some look more Asian, some look less, but there is a Keanu Reeves quality to all of them, exceptionally good looking.

The butler approaches two large doors and opens them to reveal a comfortable study with a fireplace. It's empty.

BUTLER

Wait here.

SAM

Fancy.

LOUIS

Creepy. I still say, they see too much with their big eyes.

COOL BREEZE (V.O.)

We have exceptional hearing as well.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

A chair that previously looked empty turns to reveal COOL BREEZE, late 30s, Eurasian, in amazing shape. We sense danger from him, and a stillness.

LOUIS

Dammit! Cool Breeze!

COOL BREEZE

In the flesh. I heard you were coming, I took the liberty of opening a Johnny Walker Blue, if you'd like a drink.

SAM

Don't mind if I do. This is quite an operation you've got.

COOL BREEZE

Yes, she was here Song, she's gone now, ask your questions. Don't waste my time.

LOUIS

(whispering to Sam)  
Big eyes.

SAM

How bad was she hurt?

COOL BREEZE

It's a surface wound, but it bled a lot. The bullet ricocheted off the operating table and grazed her scalp. It was bad enough to make her pass out. She'll be able to cover it with extensions, although it's healing freakishly fast.

SAM

Why'd the Doc shoot her?

INT. MONTAGE OF PARIS' LAST NIGHT IN DR. SNIPES' HOUSE - NIGHT

COOL BREEZE (V.O.)

We don't know. Paris never needed surgery, she never wanted surgery. Well, maybe her boobs. Doc kept her drugged while Bryon ran out and got a "facial" using her black Amex. He outran you, returned to the Doc's, had his eyes done, and Paris woke up, wandered in, saw him on the table.

CUT TO:

INT. PARIS' POV - SAME NIGHT

A montage of Paris' experience. The dizzy wake-up, seeing Byron on the table with bloody eyes, getting off the table, the Doc struggling with her, a gun.

SAM (V.O.)

She tries to leave. Byron can't help restrain her. He'd just had surgery, so the Doc pulls a gun. They struggle. It goes off. Ricochet. Blood. Byron panics, takes the purse and leaves. Why did he call you?

CUT TO:

INT. FLASHBACK MONTAGE WITH BYRON CALLING FOR HELP - SAME NIGHT

He's running out the door, stops, and calls Cool Breeze. He mouths, "She's shot, I don't know how bad!" Action is all MOS under V.O.'s

COOL BREEZE (V.O.)

Byron, he'd been hanging around. He knew Paris and I were...friends. I'd do anything for her - she's family. She was supposed to come here after the Angelfood event. I sent my people in to cover her exit, but they got sidetracked by the karaoke. I kept waiting to hear from her, but there was nothing. I knew you were looking. I waited.

CUT TO:

INT. FLASHBACK - THE DOCTOR'S HOUSE

A Eurasian version of Harvey Keitel - older, tough, enters the house with a gun, dressed in all black. The Doc looks up from the table, about to take the first "cut", he freaks - throws the scalpel and runs out a back door that is unnoticeable.

COOL BREEZE (V.O.)

I got the call. I sent in a Cleaner.

He directs his "cleaning crew", grabs Paris off the operating table. They clean everything, destroying any evidence that Paris was there.

CUT TO:

INT. BACK AT THE MANSION - SAME NIGHT

Paris is stretched out on a bed in a room, with a patch on her head.

COOL BREEZE (V.O.)  
Paris came here.

She is awake. Then sadly turns her head to the side.

BACK TO:

INT. HAPA MANSION - NIGHT DAY THREE - BACK TO PRESENT

COOL BREEZE  
We had our doctor look at her, patch her up. She asked me to tell her sister. I went to make the call. When I came back, she was gone.

SAM  
That's some security system you've got there.

LOUIS  
No one saw her leave?

COOL BREEZE  
I didn't say that. One of my men lent her his car. We got a call an hour later to pick it up at the Regent Beverly Wilshire and that was it. Sam, you know our... history?

SAM  
Got it in spades. Can I see the room where she was?

COOL BREEZE  
Jeffrey will show you. Song, safest place to hide out is in the open. If you're dancing on tables, it's hard to get a clean shot.

SAM  
You're a knight in shining armor.

Cool Breeze acknowledges the Templar reference with a raise of his eyebrows. Jeffrey, a guard, guides Sam to the door.

COOL BREEZE  
Touché.

CUT TO:

INT. HAPA MANSION HALLWAY - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Jeffrey leads Sam and Louis up the stairs and to a bedroom.

SAM (V.O.)

We went up to the room.

CUT TO:

INT. A BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

They enter. The room looks religious in its severity, similar to a monk's cell in an abbey. One small bed, one bookshelf filled with books like Holy Blood, Holy Grail, The Last Templar, The Secret Gospels of Mary, the Secret Gospels of Judas, I'm Okay You're Okay, and Calvin and Hobbes Anniversary Collection.

SAM (V.O.)

Next to the bed was a vase with a rose, and copies of some popular books that espoused a lot of Ecclesiastical theories. I took it for what it's worth - all about the Benjamins in my opinion. One thing was for certain, she knew we were on her tail, she left a note, it read...

LOUIS

(reading)

"For Sam."

(to Sam)

Jeez, Sam, she know you were coming?

SAM

Let's just say we had a pact.

(reading)

"Sam. I'm home. Stop looking for me. You'll always have... Paris."

LOUIS

Sam?

SAM

Louis, get in the car. I know where she is.

CUT TO:

INT. SONG'S CAR DRIVING UP TO BEVERLY HILLS - NIGHT - LATER

SAM (V.O.)

The drive was long and took us back to the city, high in the Hills of Beverly.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Louis was nervous, I could tell, but he kept it to himself like a teenage boy's virginity.

They pull up to an enormous mansion in Beverly Hills.

CUT TO:

INT. KIM KONG'S BEVERLY HILLS MANSION - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Sam and Louis are escorted through a majestic hallway, and into a giant living room. Kim Kong is pouring wine.

KIM

Song and sidekick. Interesting. Drink?

SAM

This is Louis. Sure, why not?

Sam takes a glass from Kim.

LOUIS

I'm Filipino.

Louis takes the sign of the cross and kisses a crucifix around his neck.

LOUIS (CONT'D)

For protection.

KIM

This may get a little sticky for you then Louis. What did you find out?

SAM

Why don't you ask your sister?

Without turning Sam gestures and we finally see Paris Kong as she enters the room. She is slightly bedraggled, but lovely nonetheless. Kim fades slightly.

SAM (CONT'D)

You played me Paris, but then you were always good at that.

PARIS

Sam, don't be grumpy. It wasn't a bed of roses. I was kidnapped, knocked out, and I dated your brother - I've had it rough. C'mon baby, let's go get a drink and you can tell me all about it. Did you look for me very hard?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM

Listen Paris, you and me? Never gonna work. I won't drop everything, every time you get into trouble.

PARIS

Yes you will.

SAM

Yes, I will. Grab yourself a drink and get in the car, the Gays need 24 hours to patch you up and get you to the GLAAD Awards.

PARIS

I'll get my things. Thanks Kim, you've been a doll.

KIM

(suddenly)

She's not going. It's too risky. It's all been arranged, Paris is leaving tonight. We're going to keep her in hiding until she's delivered a healthy child.

PARIS

Kim, I told you. I don't have the wardrobe. Let's talk about it at brunch next week.

KIM

You have to stay 'til there's a child.

SAM

And then what? Keep them both in hiding 'til the child of that child is delivered, and then what?

KIM

If our line dies, the church wins.

Kim produces a gun. She points it at Sam, calmly. We suddenly see that Kim Kong is a maniacal idealist who would kill for what she believes in.

KIM (CONT'D)

I have to protect her.

SAM

She was kidnapped, not by the church, by a crazy plastic surgeon. Could happen to anyone, right Kim? She could have died on that table.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

PARIS

Or been disfigured. Which would be worse.

LOUIS

Paree - don't help.

Kim turns the gun on Paris.

KIM

The slut stays.

Suddenly, Byron Lee appears, gun in hand, and grabs Paris from behind.

KIM (CONT'D)

I always wanted a sister. And a baby. I have an empty house. What was it you called me? Poor little Hapa girl, out in the cold.

Kim nods to Byron, he drags Paris towards the door.

PARIS

Song!

LOUIS

Song!

Sam produces a gun, Byron stops. There is a three-gun standoff.

SAM

It was you all along. You hired Byron to get Paris. Why Kim? Was the pressure getting too much for you? Or did you want to make your sister a target, like you've always been? That was it, wasn't it? The old double-cross. Paris has surgery, maybe not enough to be identical, but good enough from a distance. You get someone to take out Paris next. After she has a kid. That way, you're off the hook. No one is going to look for you, they'll think that Paris is you. Then you get to raise the kid with all the money - everyone wins, right? Everyone but Paris.

KIM

It's not like that. I can't trust her. She's dancing on tables, she's making sex tapes, she's out of control. Byron was supposed to take care of it - get her disfigured so she wouldn't want to go out anymore.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

KIM (CONT'D)

She'd be impregnated by a donor from another branch of the family. I hired you to find her. You did. Now walk away.

PARIS

Kim! You can't do this. Dad wouldn't want you to do this!

KIM

Dad? No, I don't have a dad. I have a riddle! You remember Paris, right?

Singsong, like a child, she recites

KIM (CONT'D)

*If bird of flame, does but rise, you will see the truth in dragon's eyes.* A riddle, from a will - that's all. I never had a father.

PARIS

Yes you do! He left your mother to protect you. To protect all of us, for god's sake!

KIM

Yes, for god's sake! You are a member of the Holy Bloodline!

PARIS

Am not!

KIM

Are too!

LOUIS

Inside voices!

PARIS

Am not to infinity!

KIM

I hate you!

PARIS

She's always taking my stuff.

LOUIS

Argh! Enough!

Louis pulls out a gun and shoots the ceiling. There are now four guns out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

LOUIS (CONT'D)

Look Sam, now we're even-steven.

Suddenly the front door bursts open and an army of Korean gangsters burst in, lead by Joon.

SAM

(to Louis)

You've got to stop talking!

(back to Joon)

Joon, nice of you to join.

JOON

I was invited.

(pointing at no one)

By her.

SAM

Kim?

PARIS

I told you she always takes my stuff.

KIM

Joon and I have an understanding.

JOON

We both hate our siblings.

SAM

Hate is such a strong word. I should have known Byron wasn't acting alone. Now, Joon-Bug, Louis and I are taking Paris and we're leaving. You and Kim can have this party all to yourselves.

JOON

I don't think so Sam. You see, Kim and I have more than sibling rivalry, we have a business deal here. Kim takes you out, and I take out Paris.

PARIS

We've done that already, didn't work out so well.

JOON

Shut up.

PARIS

Nice work, little sister. Did he tell you he can't get it up?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

JOON

Shut up Paris, or I'll shoot you right now, I swear it.

SAM

Really?

PARIS

It happens to a lot of men.

SAM

Louis?

LOUIS

Actually, it doesn't. Sorry Joon.

Joon fires a shot at Louis, it hits just before his feet.

LOUIS (CONT'D)

Shit!

SAM

That's enough! Joon, it happens to a lot of men - I read about it in Newsweek.

JOON

Ever happen to you?

SAM

Well...

JOON

We end this, now!

The door suddenly bursts open again. It's the Hapas lead by Cool Breeze and his CLEANER, and a gang of 20. They all have guns. Now the room is full of people and guns pointing at each other, it's ridiculous. But serious.

COOL BREEZE

Not so fast. Joon "Bug", was it?

LOUIS

Damn, it's on!

COOL BREEZE

Figured you could use some help Sam. I had a homing device installed on your car.

SAM

Thanks. Take Paris out of here, and get her to the Gays.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

Joon fires a shot at Paris' feet.

JOON

No one is moving.

SAM

Well Little Brother, I would say we're at a standstill, unless...

JOON

Unless what?

SAM

We could come to an understanding.

KIM

Joon, don't listen to him. You hate him remember? You hate Paris for walking out on you. They embarrassed you. You couldn't get it up! They'll tell everyone... remember what I said, the money I promised. We'll make Paris have the kid and then we'll get ride of her and raise it as our own. Just think - you'll have it all, money, prestige, big house in Beverly Hills... It's the American Dream.

SAM

That's what I smelled in the air.

LOUIS

The American Dream?

SAM

**Bullshit.** Joon, you don't want to do this. Cool Breeze and his crew will take yours out in a New York minute - and they're on East Coast time. Sure, you hate me, but better to save it for another day. We'll arm wrestle, or go spear fishing. I'll let you spike me in shark infested waters, but don't kill Paris, she's an icon.

KIM

She's not! She's not an icon! She's a Madonna!

A shot rings out, Kim slumps to the floor!

It's Alec Mapa who appears out of nowhere, with a smoking pink gun.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

ALEC MAPA

There's only *one* Madonna, Bitch.

SAM

Mapa, what are you doing here?

ALEC MAPA

I told you we had a deadline. I don't screw around with deadlines. Now, all you straight boys, clean this crap up. Paris, you've given us quite the ride, any final words?

PARIS

I'm told there's madness in a branch of the family.

ALEC MAPA

I didn't know you were Japanese. There's a car waiting outside, get in it. The rest of you, work it out.

Paris turns to walk out of the room, but not before she runs to Sam and plants him a big french kiss. This sends Joon into a rage and he goes for Sam. The Koreans and the Hapas start to fight. There is an elaborate gun battle with martial arts thrown in.

Alec and Louis make their way to the bar at one point during the fight and sip martinis, casually watching the fight and rolling their eyes at the straight boy shenanigans.

Louis sees a display of coconuts on the bar, and begins throwing them, taking a few men out with his deadly aim.

Alec has finally had enough, and pulls out his iPhone and sends a text.

An instant later, Madame Shang Kai Sheck and her death squad of ass-kicking women from the day spa burst into the room. Madame grabs the two closest gangsters to her and smashes their heads together with rhythm. It is musical. Alec and Louis start dancing to the rhythm. She grabs two more, and two more until the fighting has all but stopped in her area.

The women, meanwhile, have been systematically outfighting Joon's men with martial arts. The Hapas, once they realize what is going on, step aside, lending hands only when brute force is necessary. Definitively though, the women win.

Once Madame Shang Kai Sheck has dropped the last two, she goes over, slaps Joon across the face, and grabs him by the ear, leading him outside - kicking him as she goes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (8)

Sam and Cool Breeze dust themselves off. The women give come hither smiles to the Hapas, who smile back.

SAM (V.O.)  
And just like that, it was over.

CUT TO:

INT. KIM KONG'S BEVERLY HILLS MANSION - MOMENTS LATER

The Hapas are cleaning up.

SAM (V.O.)  
The Hapas and their crew made the mansion look like nothing had ever happened there, and left me with a healthy fear of the best of both races.

When it's done, it looks like Kim Kong shot herself over her inability to have children. Next to her body is a letter bearing the test results from the doctor. The Cleaner wipes the gun and places it in Kim's dead hand, after unloading the remaining bullets.

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
Joon and I came to an understanding...

CUT TO:

INT. MADAME SHANG KAI SHEK'S ROOM SALON - NIGHT - LATER

Momma Song is smacking Joon's and Sam's heads together, smacking them silly.

SAM (V.O.)  
...you can't kill your brother without your mom getting upset, so we operated under a tense cease fire.

The hookers place bets on who's going to cry first. One hooker points to Joon and does the "limp" finger to another hooker. They giggle at the idea that Joon can't get it up.

CUT TO:

EXT. BEVERLY HILLS FUNERAL HOME - ONE WEEK LATER - DAY

A coffin is being lowered into the grave.

SAM (V.O.)  
Kim Kong had a quiet funeral that was only attended by Paris.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Paris is wearing all white and carrying a small white dog. She nods to a priest who pushes a button and lowers the casket. The dog has very large eyes.

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I'm told, she lined the coffin with lead and a padlock, just in case. She went back to being Paris. If she kept moving, they couldn't hit her. She came to see me the night after the GLAAD Awards.

INT. SAM'S APT - LATER THAT NIGHT

Paris knocking on the door, he opens it, she enters. There is a brief MOS conversation, and then she kisses him passionately. He takes her to the couch and they are all over one another. We see a glimpse of a shoulder, fabric sliding off, a bare leg, Paris' eyes, Sam's eyes, Paris' pendant.

INT. SAM'S BEDROOM - NEXT MORNING

We see Paris dressed, sitting on the bed. She is putting on her jade necklace. Sam is still sleeping. She pulls the door shut, his eyes snap open. Sam turns to the door, she is gone.

SAM (V.O.)

It's complicated. I threw myself back into work, which meant throwing about half of Joon's goons into the slammer. He was as pissed as he had ever been at me - I wasn't going home for Thanksgiving.

CUT TO:

INT. SONG'S OFFICE - THREE MONTHS LATER - DAY

There's a calendar on his desk. It's November.

SAM (V.O.)

Just as well, East Coast holidays in a warm climate go down like room temperature beer, bitter and flat.

Kitty enters.

KITTY

Sam, I'm going for lunch.

SAM

Okay Kitten.

KITTY

Can I bring you anything?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM  
World peace?

KITTY  
I was thinking frappuccino. Venti?

SAM  
Grande. I'm watching my figure.

KITTY  
That makes one of us. Okay, see you in a few.

Sam leans back on his chair.

SAM (V.O.)  
Dames. I thought about contacting her,  
and then I thought again. When you get  
Paris in your blood, it burns like a case  
of the clap.

Someone knocks on his door. He halfheartedly turns to the door.

SAM (CONT'D)  
Forgot your purse?

It's Paris Kong. She looks breathtaking, glowing.

PARIS  
Hello Sam.

SAM  
As I live and breathe.

PARIS  
For a long time I hope. You been well?

She crosses to the chair at Sam's desk and sits.

SAM  
Well is an operative word Paris. What do  
you want?

PARIS  
Do I need to want something? Or do I want  
to need something?

SAM  
Touché.

PARIS  
En garde.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

SAM

I've run our of French phrases Paris.  
Have a seat. You look good.

PARIS

You look like hell. I came to thank you  
Song.

SAM

And you have a problem.

PARIS

And I have a problem. To put it frankly  
Mr. Song, my sister is missing and I'm  
afraid she might not be dead.

SAM

I'd like to help you out, but you  
understand I have... bills.

Paris throws him an envelope full of cash.

PARIS

That's twenty grand Song. It should be  
enough to get you started.

SAM

You've never needed help to get me  
started Paris. How long's she been  
missing?

PARIS

Why do you think I put a lock on her  
casket?

SAM

Touché.

PARIS

En garde.

She gets up. Hands him a card.

PARIS (CONT'D)

Here is the mortuary where the body was,  
before it wasn't. Sam, with our bloodline  
and the new DNA testing... well, it's  
important we get her back. And cremate  
her. I need you Song. You know where to  
find me?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

SAM

The hottest night club in town, dancing  
on top of the table, right out in the  
open where no one can miss you.

PARIS

That's right Sam, that's right. And Sam?  
I didn't marry Huh So. I wanted you to  
know. Ashes to ashes.

SAM

And dust to dust. I'll text when I find  
her.

Paris turns and walks out the door. Sam watches her and turns  
back to the window.

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

The broad cuts into my chest with the  
precision of a scalpel and chews on the  
organs like crunchy chicken feet.

He gets up and we see Paris getting into a waiting car.

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

This time though, it will be different.  
This time, it's all about the Benjamins.  
At least, I hope so.

The car peels out and she is gone.

Kitty enters with the drinks, Sam swings around in his chair  
and starts firing off orders. He's on the case.

SAM (CONT'D)

Kitty, text Louis right away, tell him to  
get over to a Beverly Hills funeral  
parlor named Fairchild and Son's. I need  
you to pull up everything we've got about  
Kim Kong.

KITTY

Kim Kong? But she's...

SAM

Just do it. And Kitty?

KITTY

Yes Sam?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

SAM

Pull up everything you can on the un-dead, start with Lazarus and work your way forward. And ask Louis to lend me a crucifix. This could get tricky.

CUT TO:

INT. SONG'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Kitty is frantically working on the new case, making phone calls and texting.

SAM (V.O.)

Los Angeles, City of Brotherly Love. Or is that Philly?

Louis bursts into the office talking miles a minute.

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

An incestuous combination of crime and compassion, but in the end it's all about the children...

INT. PARIS' LIMO ON STREETS OF K-TOWN

Paris is in a Prius Limo, we realize her driver is the mysterious priest that has been walking around everywhere with the rosary beads in his pocket.

SAM (V.O.)

Whatever that means.

As they drive, Paris is gazing out the window, clutching her necklace. She feels hot, she takes out a small bottle of liquid, pours it into a handkerchief and dabs herself with it. It is Holy Water. Her driver asks her if she needs anything, she shakes her head.

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

My love affair with the dirty side of it will one day be the end of me...

Paris opens her purse, takes out an EPT test in a small zip-lock bag, it reads positive. She puts it back in her bag and touches her necklace.

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)

...but it won't be tomorrow or the day after that.

We see both Sam and Paris looking out their windows.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SAM (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
And even if it is, I'll always  
have...well, you know.

Camera flies through the skyline of K-Town. Music Swells.

FADE TO BLACK.

END.