

Resident

By

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FADE IN:

A pair of CHILDS HANDS reach through iron bars, they grip the bars and pull them tight. The child GRUNTS and MOANS. It looks as though the hands are reaching out through a PRISON CELL.

KUN  
(In Mandarin)  
Help!

The hands frantically reach through the bars to an arms length.

KUN  
(In Manadarin)  
Shaozu! Help me. I can't open it.

Another pair of hands grip the iron bars. They both pull hard.

ANGLE ON IRON BARS: We rotate from the profile of the iron bars, tracking backwards to reveal...

EXT. UPPER CLASS NEIGHBORHOOD, ROAD SIDE - AFTERNOON

Two Chinese brothers, SHAOZU (19) and KUN (6) lean over a STORMWATER DRAIN, their hands reaching through the grating.

SHAOZU  
(In Mandarin)  
What's in there?

KUN  
(In Mandarin)  
My pendant. It fell.

CLOSE ON CHINESE GOLD PENDANT

Shaozu pulls with all his might, the grating doesn't budge.

SHAOZU  
(In Mandarin. Pulling on the  
grating)  
It wont move...It's stuck.

Shaozu brings his arms out and gazes at the surroundings, they're in a wealthy neighbourhood. Walking BYSTANDERS look on with distasteful eyes.

SHAOZU (CONT'D)  
(In Mandarin)  
We gotta go.

Shaozu takes Kun by the arm and makes a hasty exit.

(CONTINUED)

KUN  
(In Mandarin)  
But I can't leave it, it's from  
China!

SHAOZU  
(In Mandarin)  
Come.

INT. APARTMENT - AFTERNOON

Shaozu leads Kun inside a small, musty apartment - It's a bare place that hasn't been touched since the early 90's.

Kun dumps his school bag in a corner.

KUN  
(In Mandarin. Grouchy)  
Will Dad be mad about losing the  
pendant?

SHAOZU  
(In Mandarin)  
He's always mad.

Kun follows Shaozu through to the opposite door of the lounge, opening up to...

INT. GOLDEN TIGER TAKEAWAYS - CONTINUOUS

A simple takeaway shop attached to the apartment. A single bench-top separates the kitchen and where customers order. Steel bars line against the window. This is a family run shop.

Shaozu SPARKS the frying vats next to the grill.

KUN  
(In Mandarin)  
He said we can't speak English at  
home anymore.

SHAOZU  
(Switches to English)  
This is America Kun, you  
have to speak english.

Shaozu studies a PAPER-NOTE on the counter.

ANGLE ON THE PAPER NOTE: It reads in Chinese characters:  
"Working late shift tonight. Don't forget to count money  
in till and teach Kun Cantonese! Dad"

SHAOZU (CONT'D)  
But don't worry. He's not coming  
home.

Shaozu passes the note to Kun to read.

INT. MANNEQUIN FACTORY - AFTERNOON

The blank face of a MANNEQUIN stares directly into the eyes of ZHOU (40s), a tired man with leathered hands. He starts to sand the mannequin's face with a wobbly ANGLE GRINDER, smoothing the fibre glass shell.

INT. MANNEQUIN FACTORY, SPRAY PAINT BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

He moves the mannequin to a spray-paint booth, spraying the pale-coloured body into a bronze hue.

INT. MANNEQUIN FACTORY, DRYING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Zhou places the mannequin in a drying room amongst a orgy of more mannequins.

EXT. MANNEQUIN FACTORY - DUSK

Zhou crouches down puffing on a cigarette with a colleague, LIU (30s). Zhou scratches a two dollar lottery ticket and YAWNS.

LIU  
(In Mandarin)  
You look tired...Seen your kids lately?

Zhou scratches to the end of the lottery ticket, he hasn't won. He THROWS it away.

ZHOU  
(In Mandarin)  
They can look after themselves.

Zhou eyes Liu with question. Their boss STEVE (40s), comes past the two.

STEVE  
Zhou, can I have a word?

Zhou looks on as though he can't understand.

INT. STEVE'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Zhou sits down clamped against his chair with Steve sitting opposite and Liu standing as translator.

STEVE  
What we're saying is in this review process, we have to make some redundancies. It would help us if he's been to university, high school, english language courses or anything like that...Can you ask him?

(CONTINUED)

Liu relays this in Mandarin to Zhou. Zhou shakes his head and gives a lengthy and aggressive answer.

LIU

(Awkwardly relays this, not saying telling Steve the full truth)

No...but he's worked all trades...He knows how to do electrical, welding, building and plumbing...He say's he doesn't need school. He is a worker.

Steve leans back in his chair, studying Zhou.

INT. MANNEQUIN FACTORY - DUSK

The fibre glass cast of a mannequin mold CRACKS, Zhou and Liu take the figure out and lay it down on a bench

ZHOU

(In Mandarin)

I don't trust any of them...You'll be next...They hate Chinese

ZHOU'S POV: A handful of Caucasian and Mexican workers glance at Zhou.

LIU

(In Mandarin)

You're paranoid...Here, help me.

They CRACK another fibre class cast open.

ZHOU

(In Mandarin)

I hate them all.

INT GOLDEN TIGER TAKEAWAYS - NIGHT

A trio of drunk teenagers play an arcade game while drinking beer and feeding. Shaozu pours vegetables and noodles from a wok into a plastic container and gives it to one of them. Kun tugs on Shaozu's shoulder.

KUN

(In Mandarin)

You shouldn't let them drink here...It's trouble.

SHAOZU

(In Mandarin. Embarrassed speaking Mandarin in front of the teenagers)

Get out of here...I'll tell them to leave if they do

(CONTINUED)

KUN  
(In Mandarin)  
You won't...You never do.

SHAOZU  
(In Mandarin)  
Just get out. Go, now.

Kun growls at his brother and stamps back into the apartment. Shaozu leans on the counter, looking at social media pages on his phone.

ANGLE OF PHONE: His fingers flip through photos of a Chinese couple posing by a pool and a sea-view balcony. He ZOOMS in on their clothes, jewellery and haircuts.

The teenagers start WHISPERING to each other, conspiring and GIGGLING. One of the teenagers half-eaten chow-mein meal is SHOVED back on the counter.

TEENAGER #2  
I'm not paying for this

SHAOZU  
Huh? What's wrong with it?

TEENAGER #2  
The meat, it's bad.

Shaozu looks at it - there's no problem.

SHAOZU  
It's fresh. I just made it.

The teenagers all look at each-other in anticipation. TEENAGER #2 FLIPS the chow-mein on it's head, splattering it on the counter. They run out in HYSTERICS.

TEENAGER #2  
Taste's like dog gook boy!

Stunned, Shaozu doesn't follow them, he YANKS a mop out. Kun walks out to see the mess.

EXT. GOLDEN TIGER TAKEAWAYS - LATER

Shaozu throws rubbish bags into a large bin as a late-model European car pulls next to him. A trio of WEALTHY CHINESE (20s) exit the car. One of them eyes Shaozu and GIGGLES.

CHINESE GIRL  
(laughing)  
Nice apron.

Shaozu shadows them as they enter the Yum-Cha restaurant over the road, he gazes inside.

SHOAZU'S POV SLOW MO: A party of well-dressed Chinese (early 20s) drink and gorge on a plethora of food and alcohol in glee. Shaozu watches on in awe of the seemingly glitter and wealth of them, fascinated by it.

His concentration is interrupted by...

FAN (O.S.)

Holy shit, is that you Shaozu?

Shaozu spins to see an approaching FAN (20). It would seem he is a successful executive in the tailored outfit, except for a TATTO of a DRAGON HEAD on his neck.

SHAOZU

Fan?

Fan shakes hands and presses himself against Shaozu.

FAN

That's right man. I haven't seen you since school...How the heck you been?

SHAOZU

Alright. Still here.

FAN

Shit...You're a smart guy, thought you were doing the whole uni thing. Be a model Chinese migrant. Become an accountant, or lawyer.

SHAOZU

Nah. Nothing like that...What brings you back these ways?

FAN

Im working. I've gotta see some people next door.

SHAOZU

Doing what?

FAN

Delivery work...It's for some people I hooked up with...Rich people.

SHAOZU

Seems to be a lot of that these days...Good for some.

FAN

Not bad for a drop-out huh...What gives man? I thought this place was bulldozed.

SHAOZU

Nup, still a dump. Dad left it up to me and Kun to run now.

FAN

Asshole. You need to get outta here.

SHAOZU

Yeah...I know.

FAN

Hey look, what are you doing tonight? I can show you what I do, maybe even make a bit of cash for yourself.

SHAOZU

Me? What would I do?

FAN

Ride with me. We make a few stops. I could use the company...It's easy.

SHAOZU

I don't know, I'm meant to be here, looking after the store...What do we do?

FAN

It's a delivery service.

SHAOZU

Drugs? I'm not sure.

FAN

Yeah, I get it...You want my honest advice? Fuck that place...You're not going to get anywhere working there...Of course, unless you like slaving over a deep fryer...Everyone else is making a buck, you can too.

Fan gets a text message on his phone. Shaozu is in deep thought.

FAN (CONT'D)

I gotta get inside, people are waiting. If you change your mind, I'll be cruising off soon.

Fan waltzes into the Yum-Cha restaurant.

INT. GOLDEN TIGER TAKEAWAYS - NIGHT

The deep fryers SIZZLES. Shoazu opens the till to count the amount of money for the night - it's less than fifty dollars. He turns the frying vat off and unties his apron.

ANGLE ON TAKEAWAY DOOR BEING CLOSED SHUT.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Fully changed into an evening outfit, Shaozu puts his shoes on in a hurry.

KUN

What time are you coming home?

SHAOZU

Does it matter? Just don't open the door for anyone tonight, we're closed.

Shaozu heads to the door.

KUN

So no Cantonese tonight?

SHAOZU

Kun...It's pointless.

Shaozu exits.

EXT. GOLDEN TIGER TAKEAWAYS - NIGHT

Fan reverses in his black SUV, Shaozu runs and KNOCKS on the window, Fan winds it down.

FAN

You change your mind?

SHAOZU

Yeah. Screw it. I'll come out. See what this is all about.

FAN

Get in.

Fan gets in. They drive off into the still night.

INT. MANNEQUIN FACTORY - NIGHT

Wobbling the sand paper onto the angle grinder, Zhou twists the grind wheel tight, but it still remains loose. He gives it to an APPRENTICE (19) pointing to the danger of the loose grind wheel.

Zhou sits on a bench stool, watching the apprentice sand mannequins. He rubs his eyes and YAWNS. His eyes close shut.

EXT. MOTORWAY UNDERPASS - NIGHT

Underneath the concrete pillars of a motorway, Fan's car idles.

INT. FAN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Fan passes a small DUFFEL BAG to Shaozu.

FAN

When they turn up, get in their car, give them the bag and he'll give you one in return...Do it quick and don't panic, otherwise they'll panic. Got it?

SHAOZU

Okay, be quick and don't panic.

FAN

You'll be fine. Just be casual about it.

EXT. MOTORWAY UNDERPASS - CONTINUOUS

Shaozu gets out of the car holding the bag, a BLACK SEDAN drives along them and stops ten metres away. Shaozu apprehensively approaches and gets in the passenger door.

INT. FAN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Fan watches with focus.

Another RED SEDAN arrives and circles the stationary cars. It stops, headlights aimed at the two cars.

FAN

(concerned with the red sedan)

Shit.

The Red Sedan idles for a moment before leaving.

EXT. MOTORWAY UNDERPASS - CONTINUOUS

Shaozu gets out of the Black Sedan and jogs back to Fan's car.

INT. FAN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Shaozu gets in BREATHING hard, giving the duffel bag to Fan.

SHAOZU

(Excited)

I thought that was the cops.

(CONTINUED)

Fan skims his hand through the wad of cash, amounting several thousand dollars.

SHAOZU (CONT'D)

Did I do alright?

FAN

Bro. You did perfect...And here's your fee.

Fan hands over two hundred dollars to Shaozu. A tiny margin of his profit.

SHAOZU

Holy shit. That was easy. That was damn easy. Is it always like this?

FAN

America, land of opportunity.

They both LAUGH. Fan drives them out onto the main road, he POPS two beers for them.

FAN

You know, you could make this full time if you wanted? I'd just have to speak to a few people.

SHAOZU

Yeah. Heck yeah I can get used to this...Fuck the Golden Tiger.

They drink their beers.

INT. APARTMENT - NIGHT

Kun sits at the dining table, writing Chinese characters and speaking them aloud in both Mandarin then Cantonese. A BANGING interrupts him.

INT. GOLDEN TIGER TAKEAWAYS - CONTINUOUS

Kun comes through the apartment door, a MAD MAN (50s) lingers out the front, SLAPPING his hands on the glass door to be let in.

MAD MAN

Aloha! Or bonjuor? Oh please.

INT. KARAOKE BAR - CONTINUOUS

The Karaoke bar PULSES with crowds. Fan leads Shaozu to a private booth guarded by two Chinese bouncers, they are stopped.

(CONTINUED)

BOUNCER  
 (points at Shaozu)  
 Who's that?

FAN  
 He's with me...He's one of us,  
 alright?

The bouncers study Shaozu and let them both in. Fan shuffles Shaozu to sit in a booth with a group of seemingly exclusive CHINESE GUYS (20s - 30s) and YOUNG THAI GIRLS (19).

FAN  
 This is Shaozu, old friend of  
 mine.

They greet Fan, but barely look at Shaozu - he's just an acquaintance tonight.

FAN  
 (Yelling over the music)  
 Don't worry, they'll warm up to  
 you...All the drinks are free  
 here, so go for it.

Fan signals for one of the THAI GIRLS to sit next to Shaozu. She complies, bending over Shaozu to get a drink and clutching his thigh. She WINKS at him.

THAI GIRL  
 You're a new face.

A BALD CHINESE MAN (50s) approaches the booth, Fan stands immediately, shaking his hand respectfully. This is a man of importance. Fan follows the Bald Man into a back-room.

INT. MANNEQUIN FACTORY - NIGHT

Sleeping on the stool, a violent SCREECH wakes Zhou.

ZHOU'S POV: The angle grinder lay on the floor, it's grind wheel covered in blood. The Apprentice lay with a deep gash in his arm. Liu and the workers rush to him in aid.

LIU  
 (In Mandarin. Suspiciously)  
 Did you do this?

ZHOU  
 (In Mandarin. Uncertain of  
 what to do)  
 It was his fault, I showed him  
 the grind wheel was broken, he's  
 stupid.

STEVE

What the heck happened? Liu, you were watching him?

The apprentice is lifted and taking away by workers.

LIU

Zhou was. He says the angle grinder was broken.

Steve picks the faulty angle grinder up.

STEVE

Jesus. You're meant to report this.

(Holds the angle grinder close to Zhou)

You meant to report this. Bad job. Not good. Understand? Bad.

Zhou SHOVES Steve into a pile of standing mannequins. He falls hard, knocking them over.

The workers see this, Zhou steps back and runs out of the factory.

INT. GOLDEN TIGER TAKEAWAYS - MIDNIGHT

Kun looks around the counter, the Drunk Man still wanders outside. The phone RINGS, Kun answers.

EXT. BUS-STOP - CONTINUOUS

Zhou steps onto a bus as he speaks on his cell-phone.

We intercut with Zhou at a bus-stop and Kun at the takeaways.

ZHOU

(In Mandarin)

Kun what are you doing up?  
Where's Shaozu?

KUN

(In Mandarin)

He left. He closed the shop.

ZHOU

(In Mandarin. Frustrated)

What do you mean he closed the shop? Where is he now?

KUN

(In Mandarin)

I don't know, he said he will be home later. He shut the door earlier.

(CONTINUED)

ZHOU  
(In Mandarin)  
Shit! Okay...Open the shop right  
now. I'm on my way home.  
Understand?

KUN  
(In Mandarin)  
It's midnight though.

ZHOU  
(In Mandarin)  
I don't care. Open the damn shop!  
We need to customers.

KUN  
(In Mandarin)  
Okay, okay.

INT. GOLDEN TIGER TAKEAWAYS - CONTINUOUS

ANGLE ON TAKEAWAY DOOR BEING UNLOCKED

The Mad Man enters.

INT. BUS - CONTINUOUS

Zhou YAWNS. He calls Shaozu on his cell phone.

ZHOU  
(In Mandarin)  
Bastard.

INT. KARAOKE BAR - LATER

In their own booth, the Thai Girl kisses and grinds on-top  
of Shaozu. His phone vibrates, he stops kissing. He sees  
it's his Dad phoning on the display.

THAI GIRL  
Do you need to answer it?

He turns the phone off, pocketing it.

SHAOZU  
Nah...Just some old man.

He leaps back into the rhythm of kissing.

INT. BUS - CONTINUOUS

Zhou puts his phone down, he rubs his eyes.

INT. KARAOKE BAR BACKROOM - NIGHT

The BALD CHINESE MAN (50s) counts the money in the duffel bag with Fan watching.

FAN  
(In Mandarin)  
I got a friend who wants to work  
for you...He's smart.

The Bald Man SLAPS Fan in the face, dropping him to his knees.

BALD MAN  
(In Mandarin)  
You piece-of-shit! Don't bring  
your friends here...And you still  
owe me interest. This isn't  
enough!

He KICKS Fan on the ground, and takes the money from the duffel bag, shoving it in his pocket as he leaves.

BALD MAN  
(In Mandarin)  
If I see you or your friend in  
here again without my money, I'll  
cut both your fingers  
off...Fucking gambling junkie.

Fan wipes blood from his lip and slowly stands.

INT. KARAOKE BAR - CONTINUOUS

Fan interrupts Shaozu and the Thai girl, grabbing him by the collar

FAN  
(Yelling above the music)  
We gotta go.

SHAOZU  
But...

FAN  
We'll come back. Let's go.

They leave the bar through the back exit.

INT. GOLDEN TIGER TAKEAWAYS - LATER

The till lay open, all money taken out. Food is scattered on the counter, Kun steps backward as the Drunk Man advances, shirtless.

(CONTINUED)

MAD MAN

I was once a god with many  
friends. Believe me...

Kun begins to step backward, the Mad Man gets closer.

MAD MAN

Do you talk soft in sleep?

Kun runs away into the apartment.

INT. APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Kun LOCKS the door. He holds his back against the thin  
wood. He grabs the phone, dialling a number.

The drunk man THUMPS the door.

INT. BUS - CONTINUOUS

Zhou sleeps on the bus as the phone rings on the seat.

EXT. GOLDEN TIGER TAKEAWAYS - CONTINUOUS

The bus doesn't stop, going past the open Golden Tiger  
takeaways.

INT. APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

Kun drops the phone, beginning to weep. He keeps his back  
pressed against the door against a volley of heaves and  
maddening SCREECHES from the Mad Man.

INT. FAN'S CAR - LATER

Focusing on the stairs of a University dormitory, Fan  
keeps his eyes fixed.

SHAOZU

What are we doing?

FAN

Working.

They see a solo CHINESE STUDENT (20s) walking out the  
University dorm. Fan gets a STEEL PIPE from underneath his  
seat and steps out.

EXT. UNIVERSITY DORMITORY - NIGHT

Fan runs behind the CHINESE STUDENT and WHACKS him from  
behind. The Student stumbles as Fan wrestles him into the  
car.

INT. FAN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Shaozu watches in horror as Fan gets in. Fan holds the GROANING student down.

FAN  
Go. Drive!

Shaozu freezes.

FAN (CONT'D)  
Get going! Now!

Shaozu gets into the drivers seat and speeds off.

EXT. WATERFRONT - PRE DAWN

The city lights glitter in the harbour reflection. Fan's car sits in an empty car-park. The shadows of violence move in the backseat.

INT. FAN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Fan takes his shirt off revealing the stretching DRAGON TATTOO around his arms, shoulders and neck. The Student bleeds from his nose and mouth.

STUDENT  
I get an allowance. One hundred  
and twenty a week. I swear.

FAN  
If you don't have money, your  
parents do...Call them in China.

Fan passes his phone over. The Student hesitates, Fan WHACKS him to comply. The student dials the number, it answers.

STUDENT  
(In Cantonese)  
Pa? I need help. I've been  
kidnapped.

Fan rips the phone away from him, giving it to Shaozu.

FAN  
Shit! I don't speak Cantonese. Do  
you?

SHAOZU  
Yeah.

FAN  
Tell him we're going to hurt him  
if we don't get five  
thousand...Take the phone!

(CONTINUED)

SHAOZU

What? I can't do this.

FAN

Take it!

Shaozu's hands shake as he picks the phone up.

STUDENT'S FATHER

(In Cantonese)

Son, what's happening? Are you alright?

SHAOZU

(In Cantonese. Trembling while talking)

We have your son...We're going to...We're going to hurt him...We want five thousand dollars.

STUDENT'S FATHER

(In Cantonese)

Is this a joke? I don't have any money. Where's my son?

STUDENT

They're poor. They farm chickens.

Fan WHACKS the Student in the face.

FAN

Shut up! Here take a photo of him.

Shaozu hesitantly snaps a photo, sending it to the Father.

SHAOZU

(In Cantonese)

We have him. We've kidnapped him...Send us money and we'll let him go.

STUDENT'S FATHER

(In Cantonese. Weeping.)

Oh dear god, my son. Please don't hurt my boy...He's a good boy...We have no money but please have mercy.

SHAOZU

They say they don't have anything. I believe them.

FAN

Tell him we're going to kill him.

Shaozu stops. He can't carry on.

(CONTINUED)

FAN (CONT'D)

What are you doing? Tell him!

SHAOZU

I think I'm going to be sick.

Fan takes the phone and puts it to the Student's mouth while twisting his ear. The Student SCREAMS. Fan PUNCHES him in a volley.

SHAOZU

Stop. Stop it.

Shaozu grabs Fan's arm and holds him back with strength, collaring Fan with his fist, saving the Student.

SHAOZU (CONT'D)

You're crazy! Stop it!

FAN

What are you doing?

SHAOZU

He doesn't have anything.

Shaozu keeps him away from the student and takes the phone.

STUDENT'S FATHER

(In Cantonese. Crying)

Oh no, don't kill him...He's my only child. I love him. I beg you.

Shaozu hangs the phone up and opens the door. The Student stumbles out of Fan's grip, running out of the car.

INT. BUS - DAWN

Zhou sleeps in peace on the empty bus, the driver taps him with his cell-phone. They're at the depot.

DRIVER

Hey. Is this yours?

Zhou slowly wakes, taking the phone, he looks around in shock.

DRIVER (CONT'D)

You slept all the way through.

Zhou runs out of the bus.

EXT. GOLDEN TIGER TAKEAWAYS - MORNING

Zhou runs at breakneck speed to the Golden Tiger, the door is wide open. The inside is TRASHED; the till has been ripped open, food littered the bench and floor, utensils are scattered in the kitchen.

ZHOU

Kun.

Zhou runs to the joining door to the apartment. He struggles to open it.

INT. APARTMENT - CONTINUOUS

A book-shelf is placed behind the door, Zhou pushes it away. He scampers around the apartment looking for Kun. He finds him in a small closet, sleeping.

Zhou collapses in relief.

EXT. RURAL ROAD - DAWN

Fan washes the blood from his knuckles with a water bottle, Shaozu sits in the passenger seat with the door open, he slowly puffs on a cigarette.

Shaozu pulls out a hundred dollar bill from earlier, he crumples it his hands, lost in a trance.

FAN

We gotta get going. The cops will be looking for us now...Shaozu?

SHAOZU

What have we done?

FAN

Snap out of it. It's what we do. You're too soft, he was bluffing...

SHAOZU

I can't do it...Not to our people.

FAN

When did you ever start to give a shit about our people? We're all the same in this country; Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Thai! We're just looking for a better life. Make money...You know that!

SHAOZU

Are we?

(CONTINUED)

FAN

You don't have no rich parents,  
no education...This is a way for  
us to get forward. Don't you want  
that? Fuck everything else, fuck  
our people. We're on our own  
here.

Shaozu drops the money on the ground, squashed and insignificant. He walks off.

FAN

Where you going?

Silence.

FAN (CONT'D)

Oh okay, piss off then! You're an  
easy replacement!

Fan scoops the dropped cash, pocketing it. He gets in the car and speeds away.

EXT. MARKET - MORNING

Shaozu walks through a street market. He hears the faint sound of an ERHU playing. He makes his way forward surrounded by Indian, Hungarian, Korean, Chinese and Turkish people setting their stalls up.

The Erhu is played by an elderly BLIND CHINESE MAN (60s). Shaozu walks past, gazing at his delicate method.

INT. GOLDEN TIGER TAKEAWAYS - MORNING

Zhou closes the empty till, his hands grip the bench as he stands deep in thought. Kun watches on. The RATTLE of a pot interrupts their thought.

SHAOZU (O.S.)

(In Mandarin)

What happened?

Shaozu stands in the door way, viewing the mess that lay below. Zhou locks eyes with Shaozu, he slowly approaches. Shaozu CLENCHES his fist, ready to defend himself.

ZHOU

(In Mandarin)

We weren't here.

Neither of them flinch.

SHAOZU

(In Mandarin)

Is that all you have to say?

(CONTINUED)

Zhou GRABS Shaozu by the shoulders, gripping him tightly. He stares deep into his sons eyes, searching for something.

ZHOU  
You look older...Son

Kun's eyes widen, he's never heard his father speak english.

SHAOZU  
I am older.

Zhou slowly takes his hands off Shaozu. They all stand there undecided with that to do.

Kun picks up a bowl and places it underneath a cupboard, Zhou moves back behind the counter and picks up plastic containers.

Shaozu stays still watching them clean. He eventually joins in.

EXT. STORMWATER DRAIN - DAY

PROFILE ON: The Iron Bars of the stormwater grating, a shadow appears, lifting the grating open with a METAL PIPE.

ANGLE ON THE GOLD PENDANT: Shaozu's hand picks the pendant into the his fingers, taking it out.

FADE TO BLACK.