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The Gambler's Will

Part 2: The Sam Murphy Saga

by

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1972. Sydney. Kings Cross,

Two plain clothes, drug squad police officers are sitting in an unmarked police car parked in a quiet back street in Kings Cross, the red light district in Sydney. NEIL, the younger of the two, appears more anxious than the older veteran, CARL, who is in the driver's seat. Both are looking at a street corner some distance away where a young Chinese man is pacing nervously with hands in his jacket.

CARL

For Christ's sake Neil, relax. And be ready when we take him down.

NEIL

(With a big breath out)

I don't want to stuff this up.

At the corner, a young white Aussie man approaches the Chinese suspect. A transaction takes place. Money is exchanged for a small satchel of Heroin. The young man walks away quickly with his goods while the Chinese man starts to walk in the opposite direction, luckily for the police, towards them.

CARL

Look. He making it easier for us.

NEIL

Let's go.

Carl starts the car and speeds towards the suspect, who immediately sees the approaching car. The suspect turns and runs back to the corner. But the car reaches the corner at the same time he does. Neil dashes out of the car and tackles him to the ground.

NEIL

(To the suspect)

Police. You're under arrest for selling a prohibited substance. Whatever you say may be used in a court of law. You understand that?

CHINESE DRUG DEALER

You got nothing on me, pig.

Neil handcuffs the suspect and searches his jacket. A number of Heroin packets are found.

NEIL

What's this then? Fucking lollies?

CHINESE DRUG DEALER

That's not mine. You planted that on me.

NEIL
Count yourself lucky we didn't
shoot you. You shit.

Neil drags the suspect to the car and pushes him against the side of the car. Carl is on the car radio calling for support. He gets out and hands Neil a large evidence envelope.

CARL
(To Neil)
The paddy van is a couple of blocks
away.

NEIL
(To Carl)
You ever see this Heroin stuff?

Neil starts to place the packets in a large evidence envelope.

CARL
No. But the crims are talking about
it a lot. They reckon that this
Heroin is going to be big business.

2 **INT. NEWS ROOM, SYDNEY MORNING HERALD. DAY.**

2

The senior editor, HOWARD, is reading a copy of the article reporting the first arrest in Kings Cross of a suspect selling the new drug Heroin. (Howard is the journalist who assisted Sam Murphy in breaking the Chinese spy ring in the previous story, the Soldier's Letter.)

He gets out of his chair and walks to chat to the young journalist, EDDIE, who is already writing another article on his IBM electric typewriter.

HOWARD
Hey Eddie. Nice piece, but you need
to use the correct term. It's
"Heroin", spelt H-E-R-O-I-N, not
Morphine. Just make sure you add a
line saying that Heroin is a new
form of Morphine.

EDDIE
Oh yeah. I thought maybe the word
"Morphine" was a more acceptable
word for our readers.

HOWARD
Start using the word "Heroin". I
think our readers will get use to
it. We now know that a lot of the
US soldiers fighting in the Vietnam
War brought the stuff here when
they were on shore leave.

EDDIE

Was it OK that I mentioned the suspect was a Chinese man?

HOWARD

Yeah. I'll leave it in. I got a feeling that we are going to hear a lot more about these Chinese criminal gangs called the Triads.

EDDIE

I just heard about that stuff from a police contact last week. They're like the Mafia, right?

HOWARD

Well, when we get more migrants from Asia coming in, we're going to get more of these bad apples. And where there are opportunities to profit from illegal activities, you can bet some criminals will organise themselves to exploit them. Just another form of free market capitalism.

3 **EXT. DARWIN - SAM MURPHY'S HOME. DUSK.**

3

Two weeks later.

SAM is sitting in a reclining chair on the deck of his family home. The house has a beach view. Darwin is known for its specular beach sunsets. He has just opened his beer when the phone rings. Sam doesn't move while his wife BETTY picks up the call. KERRY, a relative of Ka-Ming and Lung, is calling.

BETTY

Hello. Betty speaking. (Pauses, as the caller talks). Yes, he's here. Please hold. (To Sam) Sam dear. A call from Sydney for you.

SAM

Who is it?

BETTY

A woman named Kerry Tang.

SAM

OK. Coming.

Sam leaves his beer and walks inside.

SAM

Hello. Sam speaking.

KERRY

Mr Murphy. My name is Kerry Tang.
We have never met but I am a
distant relative of Ka-Ming.

SAM

Yes. He mentioned you many times
when I was in Sydney, oh, back in
the 60s.

KERRY

I have to tell you some bad news.
Ka-Ming passed away in hospital
last night. He fell sick a month
ago and never recovered.

SAM

Oh no. (Long pause)

KERRY

Mr Murphy?

SAM

Yes, I'm here. Sorry. This is such
a shock.

KERRY

I wish I had called you earlier,
when he first checked into
hospital. I didn't expect him to go
downhill so quickly.

SAM

It's OK. (Pauses) When is the
funeral?

KERRY

I've decided the date already. It's
next Monday. Can you make it?

SAM

No problem. I would never miss it.
He was such a father figure to me.
It would be my honour to attend.

KERRY

I do have one favour to ask.

SAM

Yes. Is there anything I can do?

KERRY

Could you deliver the service?
We're expecting a mix of Chinese
and English speaking friends and
family. I know you can speak both
languages.

SAM

Done. Where will it be?

KERRY

At the crematorium at Rookwood. Do you know where it is?

SAM

Sadly I do. My mother is buried at Rookwood Cemetery.

KERRY

Oh. I'm so sorry,

SAM

No apologies needed. My mother passed away when I was a baby. (Pauses) Well, I will see you in five days time.

KERRY

Thank you, Mr Murphy.

SAM

Kerry. Please call me Sam.

KERRY

OK. See you soon.

Sam hangs up. Betty, who is standing close to Sam, looks at him and gives him a long, warm hug.

BETTY

Oh Sam. It's such sad news.

SAM

Can you re-arrange my appointments in the office tomorrow? I going to take a week off in Sydney. You OK with that?

BETTY

I couldn't stop you even if I wanted to. (Looks into Sam's eyes) That's why I love you.

Sam and Betty embrace again. Scene fades as Sam stares through the window at the final setting of the sun. A few tears start to roll down his face.

4

EXT. SYDNEY CHINATOWN MAIN STREET. DAY.

4

Sunday. Sam is walking slowly along the main street in Chinatown as he looks around. Sam feels a sense of nostalgia as he recognise some of the businesses. He is also fascinated by some new businesses. He walks pass a group of elderly, retired Chinese men, who gather daily to share their free time with each other. One of them approaches Sam.

OLD MAN
(In English)
Excuse me. Excuse me.

Sam turns and looks at the man with some puzzlement.

OLD MAN
Are you Sam Murphy?

SAM
Yes. How do you know me?

OLD MAN
My name is Kwong See-Yip. I use to own the Chinese grocery store down on the corner. (He points to the location) You got me into the Kowloon Club over twenty years ago.

SAM
Oh yeah. You became a regular at the Club. Use to come in almost every Saturday night and spend fifty dollars, win or lose.

OLD MAN
Goodness me. Those were the days. I use to go to the Club and relax after a long, hard week. I'm retired now and gave up gambling many years ago. You know the Kowloon Club is still in business?

SAM
Yeah. I know. But I've heard that it is not the same place as it was in the 1950s.

OLD MAN
What are you doing back in Sydney?

SAM
You remember Ka-Ming? The owner of the Kowloon Club when I was working there?

OLD MAN
Of course I do. I heard he passed away quietly in hospital.

SAM
I'm back for his funeral. You want to come and pay your respects?

OLD MAN
Sorry. Being my age, they remind me that my own will be coming on soon. (Pauses) But please, please pass on
(MORE)

OLD MAN (cont'd)
my condolences to his friends and family.

SAM
Sure. I can do that.

OLD MAN
Have you heard about the murder of Lung? The owner who bought out Ka-Ming. It's a shame that his death was a violent one.

SAM
Yes. It even made the news in Darwin. The newspaper made it look like that Lung was some nasty gangster who deserved it.

OLD MAN
Well. Everyone in Chinatown knows that the Club is still a Triad gang business. It's not the same as when Ka-Ming was running it.

SAM
Ka-Ming was a gentleman.

OLD MAN
So true. (Pauses) Looks like you were trying to pick a restaurant. If you want the best Crispy Skin Chicken in Chinatown, try the new Empress Garden. (He points to a restaurant on the other side of the road) Well. It's been my lucky day to catch up with you Sam.

SAM
How did you know about my favourite dish?

OLD MAN
Ha ha. You don't remember? We met in a restaurant and you started talking in Chinese about your favourite dish. I'll never forget that night.

SAM
Oh yeah. So nice to see you again.

The two men shake hands. Sam walks into the Empress Garden restaurant with anticipation.

5 **EXT. ROOKWOOD CEMETERY. MORNING.**

5

Monday. It is a beautiful crisp morning. Sam is laying flowers on his mother's grave. After paying his respect, he

walks to the crematorium. No one has arrived, so he wanders quietly around the site reading some of the inscriptions. He sees a young, beautiful Chinese woman, KERRY, walking towards the Crematorium.

SAM
(Sam approaches her)
Kerry?

KERRY
Yes. Sam?

SAM
Nice to meet you. (They shake hands) I thought you would be coming with the funeral car.

KERRY
Wai and my uncle Phillip are with the coffin. I wanted to make sure all was ready here.

SAM
You've done a great job in organising everything.

KERRY
Thank you. It was the least I could do for my grand-uncle.

SAM
It that's how you're related to Ka-Ming?

KERRY
Kind of complicated. He's my grandfather's cousin. I met up with Ka-Ming through my uncle Lung.

SAM
And you became close to Ka-Ming when he bought his house in Bendigo?

KERRY
That's right. He was like my grandfather. He let me stay in one of the rooms. He didn't want any rent so we agreed that I would take care of things while he was in Sydney. (Pauses as she sees mourners arriving) Excuse me.

Slowly, more people start to arrive at the Crematorium. Sam recognises an old friend and former lover, YEE, as she approaches. Yee pauses as she sees Sam and slowly smiles as she walks towards him.

YEE

Hello Sam.

SAM

Yee. It's been a long time.

She hesitates, but then gently leans towards Sam and kisses him on the cheek.

YEE

Why didn't you come and see me when you were in Sydney?

SAM

When I heard you had married Lung, I didn't want to stir things and become a problem between you two. Did Lung know about our past?

YEE

Yes he did. I told him everything.

SAM

Also, he and I got off on the wrong foot when we first met. (Pauses) I am so sorry about what happened to him.

YEE

Let's talk later.

They turn to see the funeral car arrive at the entrance. The other mourners start approaching the entrance. Sam nods to WAI as he and the other pall-bearers carry the coffin into the Crematorium.

Wai was the doorman of the Kowloon Club who allowed Sam to enter it on the first, fateful night.

6 **INT. ROOKWOOD CREMATORIUM. DAY.**

6

The mourners settle and the service begins. Near the end of the service, Sam steps up to deliver the eulogy.

SAM

Mick Ka-Ming Tang was born 14th January 1905 in Bendigo, Victoria. His family had come to Australia from China to seek a better life. He was given an English name because his family believed in a future in this country. He was a precocious child who loved games, but he became restless as a teenager. He ran away from home, wanting adventure and to seek his fortune. When I met him in the 1950s, he was a more reflective,
(MORE)

SAM (cont'd)
 older and wiser man. He was my boss
 for over two years and we worked
 together almost every day of that
 time. He was my father-figure,
 teacher and friend. I know he was
 the same for others here today. I
 will miss him.

Sam continues in Chinese, repeating his eulogy.

7 **EXT. ROOKWOOD CREMATORIUM. DAY.**

7

As the coffin is taken away for cremation, the mourners slowly leave the building. LYDIA, a elderly woman, who was Ka-Ming's childhood friend of English descent, approaches Sam.

LYDIA
 Hello Sam, my name is Lydia. Mick
 use to talk about you any chance he
 could.

The pair shake hands.

SAM
 Nice to meet you. It is strange to
 hear you call him Mick. He would
 not let anyone else use his English
 name.

LYDIA
 Oh, I didn't know that. (Pauses)
 You know that when you started your
 family it brought a lot of joy for
 him?

SAM
 Yes. He mentioned that to me when I
 brought my family to see him years
 ago. The kids were younger then. He
 loved them like they were his
 grandchildren. Are you coming to
 the wake?

LYDIA
 No. Please thank Kerry for the
 invite.

SAM
 Well, I am so glad to finally to
 meet you. I would love to talk more
 about Ka-Ming, sorry, Mick, at
 another time.

LYDIA
 Thank you. I would love that, Sam.

Lydia leaves. Kerry approaches.

KERRY

Sam, do you need a ride to Yee's house for the wake?

SAM

Yes. I almost forgot to ask you.

As Sam walks to the car, he is drawn to a man sitting in an unmarked police car. Neil is alone, observing people and taking notes as people leave.

SAM (CONT'D)

(To Kerry)

Do you know that police officer over there?

KERRY

Yeah. That's Detective Neil Thorton from the drug squad. How did you know he was a cop?

SAM

Years of experience. How do you know him?

KERRY

Since Lung's murder, he has been around several times promising to do something about that. Somehow he knows a history of the Kowloon Club. So be careful Sam.

SAM

How much do you know about the Club?

KERRY

More than you think.

8 INT. YEE'S HOUSE IN INNER CITY SYDNEY. DAY.

8

There is a somber mood in the house. Yee is preparing food in her modest kitchen. Sam walks in.

SAM

Were you and Lung happy together?

YEE

Yes. We loved each other deeply. It wasn't love at first sight. When we first met, I was pregnant with Nathan. You know about Ah-Leung, Nathan's father?

SAM

Ka-Ming told me about him.

YEE

Well, after you left the Club. I wanted to leave the seedy life behind. I loved you then.

SAM

I'm sorry. My mind and soul was in the wrong place. When I left, I felt this truth somehow.

YEE

I met this young man, Ah-Leung. He was a handsome playboy. I thought my future was made. Then he dumped me, even after he found out I was pregnant.

SAM

How did you meet Lung?

YEE

It was through Ka-Ming. Did you know that Ka-Ming and Ah-Leung were part a Triad gang?

SAM

I knew that Ka-Ming was. I assumed Ah-Leung was too.

YEE

Anyhow, Lung at first wanted to help me. We fell in love. He loved Nathan too. We tried to have children together but it never happened.

SAM

I'm sorry to hear that.

YEE

I miss Lung. But you know the thing that hurts the most.

SAM

What's that?

YEE

I know who killed Lung. Yet I can't get any justice for him.

SAM

Who do you think did it?

YEE

Ah-Leung.

SAM
(Pauses)
Was there some bad blood between
them?

YEE
After so long, he turned up a year
before Lung's murder, demanding to
see Nathan. We couldn't stop him.

SAM
That's when it turned bad?

YEE
Yes. It got worse. Nathan ran away
just before Lung's murder. I know
he's running with Ah-Leung's gang.
Why do young men think being part
of a gang is so exciting?

SAM
I wish it was different, Yee.

YEE
Can you help me find Nathan?

SAM
I will do my best for you.

YEE
Please Sam. Nathan is everything to
me.

There is a silence. Wai, the former doorman at the Kowloon
Club, walks into the kitchen.

WAI
Ah Sam. Here you are. How are you?

SAM
Good to see you again, Wai

The two men hug.

YEE
(To both men)
I better take some food out.

Yee walks out with a plate of food.

WAI
(To Sam)
I forgot to mention to Kerry that
you could have stayed in Ka-Ming's
apartment.

SAM

That's OK. I staying at the Holiday Travel Hotel just outside of Chinatown. Is Kerry staying with you at the apartment?

WAI

Yes. Ka-Ming always let her use the apartment whenever she was in Sydney.

SAM

How long have been you living in Ka-Ming's apartment?

WAI

For the last 4 years. I was between jobs and he asked me to move in. He was always there if I needed help.

SAM

I wonder what will happen with the apartment?

WAI

We'll find out tomorrow.

9 **INT. CHINATOWN SOLICITOR'S OFFICE. DAY.**

9

Tuesday. The group assembles in a solicitor's office - Sam, Kerry, Wai and Yee.

CHINESE SOLICITOR

Thank you ladies and gentlemen for being here. Before I start, my condolences to you all. Unless there's an objection, I will skip the formalities and jump to the reasons why you are all here, the main items in Ka-Ming's Will.

The solicitor scans through the document until he reaches the main items. He starts to quote the document.

CHINESE SOLICITOR (CONT'D)

For the property in Bendigo, I bequeath it in full to my relative Ms Kerry Tang. For my apartment in Surry Hills, I bequeath in full to my dear friend Chen Wai. For the amount of \$20,000 cash, I bequeath this to Soong Yee-Lim. The remaining liquidated assets will be donated to a local Chinese charity. Finally, I bequeath to Sam Murphy a collection of documents and belongings stored in my Bendigo garage. (Pauses) Any questions before I continue?

General nods as the group look at each other. Jump ahead, as the solicitor wraps up the meeting.

CHINESE SOLICITOR (CONT'D)

Mr Murphy, regarding the material Ka-Ming left you, I have a key to the cabinet here. I have no idea what is in the cabinet.

The solicitor hands over the key.

SAM

That's OK. Ka-Ming was always working on something secret.

10 **EXT. COFFEE SHOP. DAY.**

10

Kerry and Sam are having lunch.

KERRY

Do you think there is something about Lung's murder in that cabinet?

SAM

I don't know. Ka-Ming always worked on things privately.

KERRY

I know. He use to write in Chinese knowing I couldn't read it.

SAM

You can't read Chinese?

KERRY

Yeah. My spoken Chinese is also hopeless.

SAM

My adult children are the same. I'm lucky that I do a lot of work for the Chinese community in Darwin and I use my language skills a lot.

KERRY

Look, I'm flying back to Bendigo on Thursday morning. Why don't you come with me. I very keen to see what is in that cabinet myself.

SAM

Great idea. One favour. After Bendigo, whatever I find, I want to return to Sydney to look for Nathan. Can I stay in the apartment?

KERRY
Of course, but on one condition.

SAM
What's that?

KERRY
That you let me help you. I'll come back with you because I also want to find Nathan.

SAM
That's a deal.

11 **INT. SUBURBAN HOUSE, THE FONG FAMILY. NIGHT.**

11

May and Andrew Fong are the adopted sister and brother-in-law of Sam. They are sitting around the dining table after their meal.

MAY
(To Sam)
Was Betty was OK with you taking another week off?

SAM
Yeah, I told her about going to Bendigo to pick up whatever Ka-Ming has left me. I wonder what is so important that he locked the stuff and left the key with his lawyer.

ANDREW
Something illegal perhaps?

SAM
I'm sure it's a secret he wanted me to know. Do you want to know something I found out about myself recently?

MAY
What?

SAM
Before Martin, my guardian, passed away, he told me the reason why he let Mom and Dad adopt me.

MAY
I use to wonder about that too.

SAM
Well, Martin told me that my real father, Colin, was involved in some shady activities which forced him to leave Sydney. You remember Terry, the local police sargent?

MAY

Yeah. He was a local institution.

SAM

Through his police contacts in Sydney and Melbourne, Terry worked out that Colin was wanted by a Sydney criminal gang. He told Martin and they kept it secret, even after Colin's death, to protect me. It was Martin's brilliant idea to let me be adopted by a Chinese family. No-one would look for a white child with Chinese parents.

MAY

So Mom and Dad never knew about Colin's troubles?

SAM

They didn't know. That's why Martin wanted to tell me the truth before he died.

12 **EXT. HOLIDAY TRAVEL HOTEL. DAY.**

12

Wednesday. Sam is returning to the hotel after a busy day doing various tasks, including booking the flight to Bendigo. As he walks past a side street, Neil approaches him.

NEIL

Excuse me, Mr Murphy.

Sam turns and recognises the officer.

SAM

What do you want?

NEIL

Just to talk.

SAM

Come on, you better charge me with something because I have no reason to even look at you.

NEIL

Just gathering intelligence. I know you worked at the Kowloon Club. I heard rumours you even had a confrontation with one of the previous owners, namely Lung.

SAM

Oh, I get it. So you think I have something to do with his murder. You fucking make me sick.

NEIL

I can take you in for questioning on probable cause if I want to.

SAM

Ha ha. Let me tell you something about gathering intelligence. Did you know I was an intelligence officer during the 1950s? Of course you don't because that is still classified information. Did you know we ran an operation involving some of Chinatown's underworld identities, including Lung, to break a Chinese Communist spy ring. No. And if you did say anything about this you would be visited by ASIO officers who will believe you are acting against the interest of this country. (Pauses) I'm not saying I'm above the law. Hell, real spies work without laws.

NEIL

(After a long pause)

I still believe in justice. Do you want me to get Lung's killer?

SAM

(Looks at Neil with sympathy)

Now we're talking. Yes, I do.

NEIL

So who do you think killed him?

SAM

Ah-Leung. (Pauses) I assume you have spoken with his ex-lover, Yee. Apparently, there were bad feelings between the two men over her and her son Nathan.

NEIL

I know he's our main suspect but I can't do anything about it.

SAM

Oh shit. Are you telling me that Ah-Leung is being protected?

NEIL

Well, that appears to be the case. Most of the senior detectives don't want to question this Ah-Leung.

SAM

Look, mate. If the law can't touch him then we've lost.

NEIL

I know. Thanks for talking to me.

Neil turns to leave. Sam steps up to him and grabs him by the arm.

SAM

I promise, if I get anything that helps, I will contact you.

13 INT. KUNG FU SCHOOL. NIGHT.

13

Sam visit Wai's Kung Fu school. The class is being led by a number of senior students. Sam approaches Wai, who is watching the class from a quiet corner.

SAM

Looks like business is booming.

WAI

I can't take credit for that.
Everyone wants to be Bruce Lee in six months.

SAM

(Smiles)

Reminds me of old times when you taught me a few moves.

WAI

Come with me. Let me introduce you to my two best students.

They approach two young men in Kung Fu uniforms. One is of Chinese background, DONALD, and the other, FRANK, an Anglo.

WAI (CONT'D)

Sam, this is Donald. And this is Frank.

Sam shakes their hands. Note: "Sifu" is the Chinese word for teacher.

SAM

How is your sifu treating you?

DONALD

Sifu is a wise master.

FRANK

We have many things still to learn from him.

SAM

I hear he is also very modest.

General laughter.

WAI
(To Sam)
Let's go to my office. These guys
can run the show.

14 **INT. KUNG FU SCHOOL - BACK OFFICE. NIGHT.**

14

Sam and Wai sit down in a small room. The doors are closed.

SAM
I remember you stayed on when Lung
took over the Kowloon Club.

WAI
Yeah. But Lung sold it back to the
gang in 1964. Even then, Ka-Ming
wanted their family relationship
kept quiet. Although in the few
years before Lung's death, everyone
knew.

SAM
Including Ah-Leung?

WAI
I guess so.

SAM
What do you know about Ah-Leung?

WAI
He came to Australia just after you
left the Club. He was sent out here
to get experience. That's when his
relationship with Yee started. Then
he got sent back to Hong Kong to
run smuggling jobs. That's his
speciality. He returned to
Australia in 1965, I think. The
drug market was taking off and he
was made gang leader. I am also
certain that he had Lung killed.

SAM
But how can we prove it?

WAI
No way possible. I'm sure he's paid
off the cops big time.

15 **INT. AIRCRAFT CABIN - EN ROUTE TO BENDIGO. DAY.**

15

Thursday. Sam and Kerry are flying to Melbourne Airport,
which is an hour drive from Bendigo.

KERRY
If it wasn't for Ka-Ming and my
Uncle Lung I would be running wild.
(MORE)

KERRY (cont'd)

They talked me out of my misguided ideas about thrills and glamour.

SAM

Is that why you want to find Nathan and help him?

KERRY

When Uncle Lung married Yee, Nathan became my little cousin. He was more like my little brother. He deserves more.

SAM

I feel the same. And I've been lucky. I've had many people, including strangers, who have guided me through dark times.

KERRY

Wai found out that Nathan got himself a drug addict girlfriend. It's going to be hard for him to break away.

16 **EXT. BENDIGO HOUSE. DAY.**

16

Kerry and Sam arrive by car to the house that Ka-Ming has bequeathed to Kerry. It is located in a quiet suburb, surrounded by trees. The garage is a detached fibro building.

SAM

Wow. I understand why Ka-Ming wanted this place.

KERRY

The house has the best view of the sunset in Bendigo. Come on, let me show you the garage.

17 **INT. BENDIGO GARAGE. DAY.**

17

Kerry unlocks and opens the garage doors. On the left side, are English and Chinese language books, on the right side, an assortment of boxes. At the back corner is the locked, three drawer, metal filing cabinet.

KERRY

Ka-Ming tried to organise himself but he was always easily distracted.

SAM

(Pointing to the cabinet)
My pot of gold.

KERRY

You don't mind if I look with you.
Ka-Ming never let me see him file
stuff into that thing.

SAM

Sure.

They walk over to the cabinet. Sam inserts the key and unlocks it. He opens the top drawer.

SAM (CONT'D)

Just as I thought. Files and
paperwork. Look, he left his diary
for me.

He closes the top drawer and opens the middle drawer. He is mildly surprised. Inside is an assortment of Sam's personal belongings dating back to 1950.

SAM (CONT'D)

Whoa. Ha ha.

KERRY

What's funny?

SAM

This is all my garbage that I left
behind in 1950.

KERRY

Why would Ka-Ming keep it?

SAM

When I left the Club I was in a
hurry. I only took my important
documents and enough to fit into a
bag. Ka-Ming must have cleaned out
my apartment. This is it.

He opens the bottom drawer and it contains more of Sam's belongings.

SAM (CONT'D)

I had money back then and I
definitely spent it well.

He picks up his expensive, old Swiss watch.

KERRY

Want to leave all this for
tomorrow? I need to get dinner
ready.

SAM

Good idea.

18 **EXT. BENDIGO HOUSE - BACK DECK. DUSK.**

18

Sam is sitting on the back deck while Kerry is making dinner. He stares at the clouds rolling across the horizon.

KERRY

(Shouts from the kitchen)

Sam. Sam? Dinner's ready.

Kerry walks out to the deck to find Sam in a silent stare. Kerry slowly sits beside him and looks up at the sky. After a few minutes, Sam breaks his concentration and looks at Kerry.

SAM

Sorry Kerry. I know I looked weird.

KERRY

You belong to a meditation group?

SAM

It's not really meditation. Well, how can I explain it. (Pauses) It started when I was about twelve. I was waiting for friends in a park and they were late. I just laid on the grass and watched the clouds move across the sky. I use to get sad thinking about my life, my deceased parents and loneliness. But that afternoon I felt a sense of comfort that's very hard to describe.

KERRY

Contentment? Happiness?

SAM

Four years ago, I heard this poem on the radio. There were two lines that came close to describing my experience. (Pauses) "You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here."

KERRY

I know that poem. It's called the Desiderata. Some years ago, some cheesy actor put that poem to music.

SAM

Wow. Thanks for giving me the name. (Pauses) Anyway, there's only been a number of times when I had this deep feeling. I had it when I was captured as a prisoner in the Korean War. And just now.

KERRY

(Smiles)

Sam, don't go mystical on me. I have too many friends who sometimes talk just like that. But that because they had smoked too much dope.

General laughter.

19 **INT. BENDIGO HOUSE. NIGHT.**

19

The pair is having dinner.

KERRY

You're welcome to stay in Ka-Ming's bedroom.

SAM

No thanks. Call me superstitious but it's not right to sleep in a dead man's bed so soon. The couch is fine for me.

20 **INT. BENDIGO GARAGE. DAY.**

20

Friday. Kerry and Sam are in the garage sorting through the material. Sam scans the files from the top drawer. Kerry looks at them with him.

SAM

Whoa, this file contains names and addresses of the 44K Gang in Australia.

KERRY

There's multiple identity papers for each gangster.

SAM

Definitely fake ones. Only their passports are genuine. Looks like Ka-Ming kept copies of them here.

KERRY

Ha ha. Ka-Ming discovered the Xerox photocopier in the local library. He drove those poor librarians crazy.

Sam picks up another file, which contains immigration forms. Some are copies, while other are originals.

KERRY (CONT'D)

Ka-Ming helped a lot of people fill in their immigration forms, both in Sydney and here in Bendigo. Probably handled all of the forms for the gang as well.

They see the forms at the top of the file are original, signed forms.

KERRY (CONT'D)

In the last few months, He was forgetful. Looks like those forms haven't been sent yet. I can take care of them later.

SAM

There's certainly a lot of information here for the police to check. I'll take them with us when we go back to Sydney tomorrow.

21 **INT. BENDIGO HOUSE. NIGHT.**

21

The pair is having dinner, which Sam has cooked. They are also drinking red wine with their meal.

KERRY

Nice pasta Sam.

SAM

Got the recipe from my Italian neighbour.

KERRY

Do you think we have enough on the gang?

SAM

Hard to say. We have excellent information about who the gang are and where they live and work. But I don't think the police can arrest them just because their names are on a list.

The pair finish their meal and are washing the dishes in the kitchen. Sam's hand accidentally brushed against Kerry's and they look into each other's eyes. Kerry embraces Sam and they kiss.

For a minute, Sam lets himself go with the passion. But something is triggered and he gently pulls out from the embrace.

SAM (CONT'D)

I'm sorry. I shouldn't be doing this.

Kerry also pushes away and runs to her bedroom. She closes the door. Sam follows and knocks on her door.

SAM (CONT'D)

Kerry. Kerry. Let's talk.

After a few minutes of silence, Sam walks back to the lounge room.

22 **INT. BENDIGO HOUSE - LOUNGE ROOM. NIGHT.**

22

Sam sits on the couch and picks up Ka-Ming's diary. He starts to read.

KA-MING (VO)

Dear Sam. It has been a joy seeing you every time you come back to Sydney. I can see your family has brought out the best in you, something that I had expected. For me, there is another person who has given me some comfort in what has been a troubled life. Lydia. By the time you read this, I hope you and Lydia have met in person.

23 **EXT. BENDIGO CREEK. DAY.**

23

1913. Local creek in bush land. Ka-Ming is 8 years old and Lydia is 7 years old.

KA-MING (VO)

The day I first met her is still a vivid memory.

Ka-Ming is skipping stones on the creek's surface.

LYDIA

I can make it skip three times.

Ka-Ming turns to see the stranger.

KA-MING

I wasn't even trying. Five times is my best.

LYDIA

Want a competition?

KA-MING

Sure. Best out of three tries.

The pair finishes their game.

LYDIA

Isn't your dad a market farmer?

KA-MING

Yes. How do you know?

LYDIA

He delivers vegetables to my dad's pub.

KA-MING

Oh. Your dad owns the local pub.
What's your name?

LYDIA

Lydia. And yours.

KA-MING

Mick. But I also have a Chinese
name.

LYDIA

How cute.

They smile at each other.

24 **EXT. BENDIGO BUSHLAND. DAY.**

24

Various scenes showing the two children talking and playing.

KA-MING (VO)

From that day, we met regularly to
play and talk. She was my
soul-mate. We didn't tell our
parents about us because we knew
people would not accept our
friendship.

25 **EXT. BENDIGO CREEK. DAY.**

25

Same location where the pair first met, 8 years later.

KA-MING (VO)

Then it all changed. I was 16 years
old and had finished my schooling.

Tense moments between the two teenagers.

LYDIA

Mick. We can't see each other any
more. I'm going to a finishing
school in Melbourne and when I get
back, my parents have plans for me
to join high society.

KA-MING

It is because I'm a Chinaman? Is
that it?

LYDIA

You know the rules. I'm sorry.

KA-MING

This is so unfair. (Pauses) Go. I
never want to see you again too.

KA-MING (VO)

That day was a turning point for me. I decided to live a life of excitement and money. I ran away to Melbourne and joined a Triad gang. I saw my future as a gang boss and gambling king in Australia.

26 INT. FLOWER MARKET SYDNEY. DAY.

26

1947. Ka-Ming is now 42. Lydia is 41.

KA-MING (VO)

As you know, in 1947 I had decided to buy out the Kowloon Club in Sydney. The day I closed the deal, I treated myself with a walk in the flower market.

Lydia is haggling with a Chinese woman selling flowers.

LYDIA

(To the vendor)

No, I wanted the white carnations over there.

The Chinese woman is confused, having only limited English.

KA-MING

(In Chinese to the vendor)

Madam, the lady wants the nice white carnations in the corner.

The Chinese woman smiles and give Lydia what she wants. Lydia still doesn't recognise Ka-Ming.

LYDIA

(To Ka-Ming)

Thank you.

KA-MING

Lydia. Don't you remember me? It's Mick.

Lydia looks at him, searching for her memories.

LYDIA

Oh, my god. Mick.

KA-MING

What are you doing in Sydney?

LYDIA

I live here with my family.

KA-MING

I remember seeing you in the Melbourne society pages. You married an wealthy banker, didn't you?

LYDIA

Yes. But our relationship is complicated.

KA-MING

You want to go to a cafe?

LYDIA

Yes, I would love that. Thank you.

27 **INT. CAFE. DAY.**

27

Ka-Ming and Lydia relax with tea and scones.

LYDIA

You look so smart in your suit.

KA-MING

In my business looks are everything.

LYDIA

What do you do?

KA-MING

Well, it's a long story. Perhaps another time. You have children?

LYDIA

A boy and a girl. Both are adults now.

KA-MING

You said you have - what were your words - a complicated relationship.

LYDIA

Yes. My husband's got a young lover and has had one for many years. I could have left him but he was open about it so we stayed together for the sake of the children. Also, in society, being seen as a responsible father and husband is very important. I let him keep his reputation and I get to do my own thing.

KA-MING

That's make sense. (Pauses) Can I see you again soon?

LYDIA

Yes, but only on one condition.

KA-MING

What's that?

LYDIA

We keep all this secret.

KA-MING

Ha ha. Deal.

28 **EXT. CHINATOWN SIDE STREET. NIGHT.**

28

Ka-Ming leaves the Kowloon Club via the back door where the business below takes deliveries. As he walks down the dark street, Lung is waiting to catch him from another doorway. Lung's English name is George.

LUNG

Mick. Over here.

Ka-Ming, being surprised, pulls out his handgun, a Colt 38 also known as a Snub-nosed revolver, and points it at Lung.

KA-MING

Who the hell are you?

LUNG

It's George. David's son. David Tang, your cousin.

KA-MING

If you are George, the last time I saw you was when you were five years old. (Pauses, while still pointing his gun) OK. What's the name of your family dog when you were five?

LUNG

Lucky.

KA-MING

What was the name of the family dog before that? And the one before that?

LUNG

Lucky. They were all named Lucky. Dad was very superstitious with dogs' names.

Ka-Ming relaxes and lower his gun.

KA-MING

Ha ha. Yeh I know. Sorry about the gun. In my business, if a stranger
(MORE)

KA-MING (cont'd)
calls out your name in a dark
alley, it may be the last time you
hear it. What are you doing here?

LUNG
I wanted to see you about joining
the gambling business.

KA-MING
OK. (Pauses) This is not the best
place to talk about that. Let's go
to my apartment.

LUNG
Like you, Mick, the family back in
Bendigo don't want anything to do
with me.

KA-MING
One thing if you want to do this.
My name is Ka-Ming now. If you use
Mick again, you can forget this.

LUNG
OK.

KA-MING
And another thing. Lose you English
name. Wasn't your Chinese name
Siu-Lung, Little Dragon? Let's call
you Lung. Dragon. Sounds more like
you mean business.

LUNG
Lung. Yeh. I like it already.

29 **INT. KA-MING'S APARTMENT. NIGHT.**

29

Ka-Ming and Lung are having drinks in the small lounge room
in Ka-Ming apartment. Against one wall is a bookshelf with
books in Chinese and English.

KA-MING
How did you find me?

LUNG
One day I saw you at the Phoenix
Club in Melbourne. My contacts told
me that you were running the Club.
Then I heard that you started a
club here in Sydney. I thought you
might need an assistant manager.

KA-MING
What have you been doing with
yourself?

LUNG

Lots of stuff, but mostly small crime. I've done some time in Pentridge Jail. I tried to go straight and started a restaurant, but it lost money.

KA-MING

Well, I can tell you that running a club is just like running a restaurant.

LUNG

Ka-Ming. Just give me a go. I need someone like you to teach me something useful.

KA-MING

OK. But you have to do this on my terms.

LUNG

Thanks.

KA-MING

First, I'm going to write you a letter of introduction to the owner of the Phoenix Club, Master Li. He will take you in and teach you everything about this business.

LUNG

What wrong with me working with you?

KA-MING

Master Li is a great teacher because he taught me everything. Get your experience with him, and you will be ready. Also, this is not a good time for me here in Sydney. I've got problems with greedy, corrupt police on one hand and rival gangs on the other. (Pauses) You want the big time?

LUNG

Of course. I'll do whatever it takes to join this business and work with you.

KA-MING

OK, but a couple of rules. Don't ever tell anyone that you're related to me. Also, don't ever come to the Kowloon Club or to this apartment again until we're ready. OK?

LUNG

OK. But why hide my relationship with you?

KA-MING

Well, I have been thinking about my future. I will let you know about it when you're ready.

30 **INT. CAFE. DAY.**

30

Some months later. Lydia and Ka-Ming are again relaxing in their favourite cafe.

KA-MING

There's one thing I need to tell you.

LYDIA

Let me guess. Your business?

KA-MING

Yes. I know I haven't been forthcoming about it.

LYDIA

I already know.

KA-MING

What?

LYDIA

You run the Kowloon Club.

Ka-Ming is shocked.

LYDIA (CONT'D)

I should apologise. I had a private detective check you out. My banker husband has many enemies so I just needed to be sure.

KA-MING

Ha ha. You know something.

LYDIA

What?

KA-MING

We're both alike. I also contacted my friends in the business world. Did you know your husband's lover is a man.

LYDIA

(With a smile)

Yes. I know.

KA-MING (VO)

From that day, Lydia and I met regularly, whenever we could find free time in our busy lives. You know my love for Lydia was the key that changed my life.

31 **INT. SMALL WAREHOUSE IN CHINATOWN. NIGHT.**

31

Two years later. Lung enters the secret meeting place organised by Ka-Ming. Lung is dressed in a smart suit. His looks reflect a man with serious intent.

KA-MING

Did you check if anyone was following you?

LUNG

Yeh. All clear.

KA-MING

Look at you. Two years with Master Li and you are already a different man. How is the Master?

LUNG

He is getting on. He told me about the gang stuff and how you don't like the 44K Gang anymore.

KA-MING

Have you joined up?

LUNG

No. Why do I need to? (Pauses) So what's your secret plan?

KA-MING

I want to leave the gambling business. Not tomorrow, but in six months time.

LUNG

Shit. Where does that leave me?

KA-MING

In a good place because I want you to take over the Kowloon Club. But, you will have to be in partnership with my assistant, Sam Murphy. You run the office, and he'll bring in the punters.

LUNG

I've heard that this Sam guy is good. If I am going to run the Club like you, I want this Sam as part of the team.

KA-MING

There is a slight problem.

LUNG

The police?

KA-MING

No. They are the solution.

LUNG

What?

KA-MING

If I sell, the gang is going to want a big cut from it, or they will deliver a bullet to my head. I rather not give them anything. So I have to make them think that I had no choice.

LUNG

I get it now. Get a paid-up police officer as a partner and the gang will back off. This means this is a three-way partnership here - me, Sam and a bent cop. Shit. If your gang finds out about this trickery, you're dead.

KA-MING

Lung. You have truly come a long way.

LUNG

So what's the first step?

KA-MING

Get in contact with a detective here in Sydney named Hugh Johnson. In six months time, you walk into the Club and pretend to be a greedy asshole. There's a spy from another gang in the Club, so make it realistic.

LUNG

You're a cunning bastard.

KA-MING

With Johnson, dangle a gambling empire in front of him and he will treat you like a genius.

LUNG

I have a problem with the plan.

KA-MING

What's that?

LUNG

I don't have the money to pay you out.

KA-MING

Ha ha. That's OK. Pay me back over the next ten years. That's our secret.

LUNG

Thanks.

32 **INT. KOWLOON CLUB BACK OFFICE. NIGHT.**

32

Ka-Ming sits in the back office. As he thinks, the intensity on his face reflects the moment he makes a fateful decision.

KA-MING (VO)

On the night you left the Club, I sat in the office thinking. My mind was spinning with the choices I had to make. Things had not gone to plan. But I knew I had to remain calm. I had decided to confront the spy who was working at the Club.

Ka-Ming pulls out the top drawer of his desk and takes out his Colt 38 revolver. He checks and loads the bullets.

KA-MING (VO)

For the first time in my life, I was ready to use the gun to kill.

33 **INT. BENDIGO HOUSE. NIGHT.**

33

Fade back to 1972. Sam is still reading Ka-Ming's diary. He set aside the diary and falls asleep on the couch.

34 **INT. BENDIGO HOUSE. MORNING.**

34

Saturday. Sam is awoken by Kerry, who appears to have accepted Sam's rejection with grace.

KERRY

Sam, do you want a coffee?

SAM

(Confused)

OK? (Pauses) How are you feeling?

KERRY

Let's forget about last night. We have work to do.

Kerry walks to the kitchen, followed by Sam.

SAM

Look, if it's easier, you can call me big brother.

KERRY
 (Turns to face Sam)
 That is the most ridiculous thing
 I've ever heard. No, I'll call you
 dickhead.

SAM
 (With a cheeky smile)
 I can accept that.

The two laugh and make their coffees together.

35 **INT. BENDIGO GARAGE. DAY.**

35

Kerry and Sam are back in the garage.

SAM
 I think I've got enough to work on
 for the next few days. Could you
 send the rest of my stuff to
 Darwin?

KERRY
 Sure Sam.

36 **INT. KA-MING'S APARTMENT. NIGHT.**

36

Kerry and Sam return to Sydney and Sam moves into the
 apartment for a few days.

KERRY
 You want to stay in Ka-Ming's room?

SAM
 No thanks. The couch here is fine
 with me. But I will have a look in
 his room. He may have left
 something that links to the stuff I
 have here.

37 **INT. KA-MING'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM. NIGHT.**

37

Alone, Sam searches the wardrobe and drawers. In one drawer
 he finds Ka-Ming's Colt 38 revolver.

38 **INT. KA-MING'S APARTMENT. NIGHT.**

38

Later Wai arrives home. Kerry and Sam are having dinner.

WAI
 (To both)
 Did you guys find anything in the
 garage?

SAM
 Quite a lot. But nothing that will
 put bring Ah-Leung to justice.

KERRY

We've decided to see Ah-Leung on Monday. We have his business address.

WAI

That's risky. Why do you want to do that?

SAM

I'm sure Ka-Ming wanted me to do something with the stuff we found in Bendigo. I just can't put my finger on it. So, if we confront Ah-Leung, maybe something will surface.

WAI

Just make sure you don't piss him off. He's an evil bastard.

39 **INT. SYDNEY CAFE. DAY.**

39

Sunday. Sam meets with Howard. Sam shows him some of the files taken from Ka-Ming's garage.

HOWARD

I understand what you want to do, Sam. But the Press is limited in what we can publish.

SAM

I thought this information might be useful, one way or another.

HOWARD

The problem is that any public references to individual gangsters will trigger defamation cases against the paper. This stuff is for the police.

SAM

I understand.

HOWARD

Look, if it's any comfort, these gangs are their own worst enemies. I remember a story from Hong Kong about two guys from rival gangs who just happen to meet on the same footpath.

SAM

I think I heard about this. They started shooting each other in broad daylight.

HOWARD

They showed no concern for anyone else on that busy street. The police were forced to act because the public was totally outraged. Then things started to happen. One day, the tide will turn against these gangs and their corrupt police associates.

40 **INT. OFFICE BUILDING NEAR CHINATOWN. DAY.**

40

Monday. Sam and Kerry are waiting for a lift in the office building where Ah-Leung runs a front company for the gang's illicit activities.

SAM

Remember, let me do the talking. Stay a safe distance in case anyone wants to get physical. Alright?

KERRY

Let's get it over with.

41 **INT. GANG BUSINESS OFFICE. DAY.**

41

The pair walks into an standard office on an upper level. The reception is occupied by a young woman receptionist. AL-LEUNG walks out to greet the pair, after being buzzed by the receptionist. He recognises Kerry. Dialogue in English.

AL-LEUNG

(To Sam)

Can I help you?

SAM

My name is Sam Murphy and Ka-Ming was a friend of mine.

AL-LEUNG

(Pauses)

Ah. So you're the great white hope.

SAM

Excuse me?

AL-LEUNG

Let's not waste time. Are you here to take revenge over your friend Lung?

SAM

Not immediately. But in time, I will prevail.

AL-LEUNG

What bullshit. Get out of my office. If you want violence, I am
(MORE)

AL-LEUNG (cont'd)
happy to call the police. Or do you
have something to hide?

SAM
No need. I've seen enough.

AL-LEUNG
One warning, Mister Murphy. I hope
your family knows what you're doing
because one day they may wonder why
nasty people are asking them
questions.

Kerry grabs Sam to quickly drag him away, sensing Sam's
growing anger.

42 **EXT. OFFICE BUILDING NEAR CHINATOWN. DAY.**

42

Kerry and Sam are back downstairs, leaving the building.

KERRY
(Being ironic)
That worked out well.

SAM
Shit. I was stupid to think that
would achieve anything. I'm so
sorry.

KERRY
Let's take time off.

SAM
Great idea. I have a reunion with
my army buddies. I'll see you back
at the apartment tonight.

The pair separate.

43 **INT. KINGS CROSS PUB. NIGHT.**

43

Sam is joined at the pub by JOHN, a Maths lecturer, and BOB,
a public servant with the Department of Immigration. John
and Bob are army buddies who served with Sam in the
Australian military intelligence unit in the Korean War. Sam
brings the beers to their table, which is in a quiet corner
of the pub, and sits down. The men pause as they sip their
beers.

SAM
Sorry about changing the day, guys.
Something came up and I had to go
to Bendigo for a few days.

BOB
No problems mate. I couldn't wait
to get out of house and away from
the wife.

JOHN

Like Bob, any excuse to get away from marking student Maths papers is enough for me.

SAM

Here's to surviving the Korean War.

The men clink their glasses together.

JOHN

Guess who I saw six months ago?

BOB

Who?

JOHN

Captain Gordon Lawson. I saw him when I was down at Monash University. He's a lecturer in Asian Studies now.

BOB

He was one of best fucking commanding officers in the Australian Army.

SAM

Second that. Here's to Captain Lawson.

The men clink their glasses again.

JOHN

(To Sam)

How's the family and your business?

SAM

Good. Except the longer I'm away the more likely my wife will drive my project manager to resign. Betty is tough, but my project manager has been a loyal employee.

BOB

Yeh. Tough working for a small business. Not like working for the Commonwealth Government. Just hide the dead wood employees because you can't get rid of them.

SAM

So you enjoying being a public servant?

BOB

Yeh. At least the Immigration Department is constantly

(MORE)

BOB (cont'd)
changing.(Pauses) Oh, you guys know
the latest historic change in
immigration policies?

JOHN
No. What?

BOB
The White Australia Policy is
finally no more. Hey John, know
what that means?

JOHN
What?

BOB
There's this mail-order bride
service. These Filipinos women
advertise that they want to marry
Aussie men. All you have to do is
send them love letters. (Pauses)
Look I know there a lot of fucking
dodgy women who just want to use
poor, lonely Aussie blokes to
migrate here. But I'm telling ya,
there a good number of these
relationships that work out.

JOHN
Why are you always trying to marry
me off? (To Sam) You know he keeps
trying to match me up with women.

BOB
Hey. Don't knock these Filipino
women. If I was single, I would
give them a go. But one thing. If
you get one and it turns bad, don't
come to me to do anything about it.
Bloody hell. When these men find
out that their lovely, obedient
wife runs off with another bloke,
they come to the Department to
demand that their wife's
citizenship be revoked. Like, too
fucking late mate, is what I like
to tell them. You can't send them
back. And that's it.

SAM
Wow. I heard about this mail-order
bride stuff.

JOHN
Seriously. How many of these
Filipino women do you think would
like Astronomy and science fiction?
(MORE)

JOHN (cont'd)
(Pause) Talking about science fiction. I saw this great movie the other day, "2001: A Space Odyssey". Have you guys seen it? There this computer with a funny name.

BOB
Is this one of your code breaking puzzles?

JOHN
The evil computer is named HAL, H-A-L. Know why it's funny?

BOB
Come on John. Why?

JOHN
If you shift each letter up one, you get IBM. Get it? (General smiles)

SAM
Here's mine. Why did John Lennon get in trouble for his song, Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds?

BOB
That's fucking easy. It spells LSD. (In a John Lennon accent) Yeh man. (Pauses) OK jokers here's mine. Are you an ID ten T?

JOHN
Ah. ID ten T spells Idiot. Easy. (Pauses) You guys had all the excitement back in Korea, being face-to-face with the enemy. You language specialists worked as a team.

BOB
Yeh, but it was tedious sometimes. How many Chinese conscripts can you interrogate before you hear the same meaningless shit. Sam, on the other hand, always had an agenda. (To John) You remember his Chinese letter? Always want to know if anyone knew a particular soldier. (To Sam) If Lawson knew about it, he would've transferred you out.

SAM
Nah. It was his idea.

BOB

No shit. How come you didn't tell me this in Korea?

SAM

It was something Lawson wanted to keep quiet. He said it was a excellent reference point. And he was right. (To John) But mate, you were the smart one who pieced it together with your decoded signals. Once I knew which village the dead soldier came from, I sent that letter to his family when I got back to Sydney.

BOB

Time for another drink. Same again?

Nods from Sam and John. As Bob leaves the table, Sam is in deep thought. John is about to say something, but checks himself as he sees Sam is looking distracted. As Bob returns, Sam smiles.

SAM

Thanks guys. You've just helped me solve a puzzle.

44 **EXT. GANG SAFE HOUSE. NIGHT.**

44

Kerry drives down a quiet residential street in Parramatta, a suburb west of Sydney City, looking for a particular address for the gang's safe house. The street is a cul-de-sac. She spots a car she recognises as Nathan's. After parking near the intersection, she walks to the car and looks inside. After satisfying herself that it is Nathan's car, she slowly walks pass the safe house and notices movement and voices. She is convinced that there is only three people inside the house. She returns to her car and drives away.

Just as her car passes out of view from the intersection, another car containing two gang members approaches from the opposite direction. Both gang members are armed with handguns.

45 **EXT. EMPRESS GARDEN RESTAURANT. NIGHT.**

45

The group has finished a Chinese meal in Sam's new favourite restaurant. John leaves the group. Sam and Bob are about to go separate ways.

SAM

Bob, I got a big favour to ask.

BOB

What is it?

SAM

I've stumbled upon a network of Chinese criminals who are illegally in the country.

BOB

Whoa. Have you got the evidence?

SAM

Well, their citizens papers were not submitted, which means their visitor visas expired years ago.

BOB

(Pauses)

So you're thinking we can deport them.

SAM

Exactly. Especially when I also have evidence that they have been using numerous fake identity papers ever since.

BOB

Look, I can't guarantee anything but if you have it, we can certainly act.

SAM

Can we do it tomorrow?

BOB

Shit. You certainly don't muck about.

SAM

Look Bob. They'll know something is up because I saw the gang leader today. If it helps, I have all their real names and addresses.

BOB

OK Sam. You need to bring the evidence to my office tomorrow morning. You're lucky. We planned a raid in Chinatown for next week. I just have to convince my manager to move it.

SAM

Count on it. I will be there tomorrow morning.

BOB

(With a smile)

Fuck. It'll be like old times. You and me facing the bad guys.

46 **INT. KA-MING'S APARTMENT. NIGHT.**

46

Sam returns to the apartment to break the good news. Kerry is drinking a cup of tea in the lounge room.

SAM

Hey. I got great news. I solved the mystery why Ka-Ming kept all that immigration paperwork.

KERRY

I thought you were having a relaxing drink with your friends.

SAM

My friends helped me solve it. (Pauses) Ka-Ming was smart. He kept pretending to be loyal to his gang when in fact he was archiving the evidence to stuff them up. Those signed, original immigration forms were not forgotten. They were held back. Which means that all of the gang are illegally in Australia.

KERRY

So what do we do now?

SAM

I have already taken the next step.

KERRY

What's that?

SAM

Luckily I have a friend, an old army mate, who works for the Immigration Department. Just spoke to him tonight. If he finds that the forms we have are authentic then they will capture and deport the gang. We can do it tomorrow.

KERRY

Wow. You think we can finally get some justice?

SAM

Sort of. Ah-Leung will not go to jail but deportation is better than nothing. How was your afternoon?

KERRY

I solved a mystery too. I know where Nathan is staying.

SAM

Where?

KERRY

I checked a house in Parramatta. It was listed in Ka-Ming's files. I walked passed it and saw Nathan's car parked close by.

SAM

And you're sure that it's his car.

KERRY

Absolutely. I saw his favourite jacket in the back seat.

SAM

I think we should leave it Kerry. Once the authorities start to roll up the gang, Nathan will be pushed out in the open. We can get to him then.

KERRY

You think Nathan will be OK?

SAM

If it's any comfort, Nathan will not be hurt by the gang. His father is their leader.

47 **INT. IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT. MORNING.**

47

Tuesday. Sam is waiting patiently in the visitors reception area. Bob comes out of his office with the documents found in Ka-Ming garage and approaches Sam.

BOB

Bloody hell. How did you get this stuff? A few guys here who are on the Interpol's watch list.

SAM

It's a long story.

BOB

It doesn't matter anyway. You said you know who the gang leader is, right?

SAM

His name is Koh Al-Leung. He runs an importing business near Chinatown, but that is just a front for the gang businesses.

BOB

OK. That's who we target first. I still need a couple of hours to pull the team together and to get the police to ride shotgun. You can come along as an observer.

SAM

There is one more favour. I want a drug squad officer I know to join the raid.

BOB

Cool. More firepower equals success.

48 **INT. KA-MING'S APARTMENT. DAY.**

48

Kerry and Wai are talking in the lounge room.

KERRY

I need your help Wai. I want to go and talk to Nathan today. I think the house I checked yesterday is a gang safe house.

WAI

We need to be careful. We're dealing with a bunch of violent and heartless criminals, even if it is a safe hiding place.

KERRY

I can't stand here and do nothing. I'm sure only Nathan, his drug addict girlfriend and one gang member is in the house.

WAI

What if that gang member is armed?

KERRY

When my family is threatened, I take risks.

WAI

I will help but you've got to follow me if we get into a tight situation. OK?

KERRY

OK. I don't care about the gang because that's police business. So no violence. And definitely no guns.

WAI

Agreed. No guns, but if anyone wants a go at me, I'm not going to hold back.

49 **INT. OFFICE BUILDING NEAR CHINATOWN. DAY.**

49

The raiding party, which includes Immigration officials, uniformed police officers, Bob, Neil and Sam, is assembling in the building's ground floor lobby.

BOB

Neil, did you get a search warrant?

NEIL

Of course.

BOB

Sorry Sam. You'll have to wait down here.

SAM

That's OK. Good luck gentlemen.

BOB

Let's fucking rumble.

Sam paces around the lobby, waiting for some news, as the minutes tick away. Suddenly the sound signalling the arrival of one of the lifts alerts Sam. But a young woman, obviously an office worker, steps out. She looks at Sam with a startled expression.

SAM

Oh. Sorry. I was waiting..

The young woman walks away quickly. The lift next to it arrives and Bob steps out, closely followed by Ah-Leung, who is handcuffed and flanked by two police officers. Bob gives Sam a wink. Ah-Leung catches Sam eyes and smiles as they approach each other.

SAM (CONT'D)

Excuse me officer. Can I speak to your suspect?

POLICE OFFICER

He claims he has no English.

SAM

That's OK. I can speak his language.

The officer looks at Bob, seeking approval. Bob gives a nod.

Note

Dialogue in Cantonese, unless noted.

AH-LEUNG

So it's you again. You never give up, do you?

SAM

(With a smile)

Looks like we have you now.

AH-LEUNG

Ha ha. You are a slow learner. I'll have my lawyer by my side within the hour. By midnight, I will be
(MORE)

AH-LEUNG (cont'd)
back out and then I will wipe that
smile from your face, white trash.

SAM
I don't think so. You see, you're
not going to the police station.

Pauses as Sam steps up to Ah-Leung's face. He points to Bob.

SAM (CONT'D)
My friend over there is an officer
from the Immigration Department.
You will be detained and then
deported from this country.
Surprised? Well you should be. I
have the pleasure to tell you that
Ka-Ming planned this surprise many
years ago. You thought he had taken
care of your paperwork like a loyal
gang member. But he was smarter
than that. He held them knowing
that one day someone, like my
friend, will kick your fucking evil
ass.

AH-LEUNG
I can still get you, you shit.

SAM
OK, being kicked out of this
country is not too bad. You can go
somewhere else. No. You are in deep
shit. My friend is going to deport
your whole gang. Your big boss in
Hong Kong is going to wonder, who
fucked up here? I think you know
what will happen when he finds out
that it's you. I hope he shows you
mercy and ends your life quickly,
you low-life.

Ah-Leung realises his dire situation. His shoulders slump.

SAM (CONT'D)
Oh, one more thing. My friend from
Immigration over there has heard
everything we said. He understands
and speaks your language.

Bob smiles and gives a mock salute.

SAM (CONT'D)
(In English)
Take him away, officer.

Ah-Leung is escorted to the waiting police car.

Note

Dialogue in English.

BOB

Don't worry Sam. I will round up
the rest of this gang with ease.
But I want to thank you.

SAM

No Bob. I think I owe you big time.

BOB

No. I mean, I want to thank you for
the privilege of hearing you speak
so eloquently. I love it when you
swear in Chinese. Man, it's music
to my ears.

SAM

(With a smile)

And I meant every fucking word.
Thanks Bob. I better let you get
back to work.

BOB

Ha ha. It's been my pleasure. Let
me know ASAP the next time you're
back in Sydney.

The two friends shake hands. Sam leaves.

50 **EXT. GANG SAFE HOUSE. NIGHT.**

50

Kerry and Wai are standing at the front door to the gang's
safe house, with Wai standing off to one side, out of sight
from the inside. Kerry knocks on the door.

KERRY

Nathan. Nathan. It's me, Kerry. I
know you're in there. Please, I
just want to talk.

GANGSTER 1

(Opens the door slightly)

Nathan doesn't want to talk.

Wai pushes the door in and rushes in. He punches the
gangster and, just as he turns to look around, there are
sounds of two handguns being cocked. GANGSTER 2 and GANGSTER
3 are armed.

GANGSTER 2

Don't even think about it.

GANGSTER 1

You outside. Get in, or your friend
will never see daylight again.

51 **INT. GANG SAFE HOUSE. NIGHT.**

51

Kerry sheepishly walks in. Both are tied to chairs in the
dining room. Nathan walks in from one of the bedrooms.

NATHAN

You guys must be crazy. Did you think I could just walk away?

KERRY

Please Nathan. Think about your future...

NATHAN

No. Shut up. You guys have made everything complicated.

GANGSTER 1

(To Gangster 3)

Gag them. (To Nathan) How is your girlfriend?

NATHAN

She needs Heroin. She needs it now.

GANGSTER 1

No. You know the rules. No drugs in the safe house.

NATHAN

That's stupid. The rule is also no guns. But look around you.

GANGSTER 1

The guys are here waiting for instructions from your dad. Then there're gone.

52 **INT. KA-MING'S APARTMENT. NIGHT.**

52

Sam arrives back at the apartment. He sees a handwritten note on the dinner table. As he reads it, the concern is shown on his face.

SAM

(To himself)

Bloody hell. Dumb, dumb, bloody dumb.

He picks the phone and dials the number.

SAM (CONT'D)

Come on.

NEIL

(Picks up call)

Detective Thorton.

SAM

Neil. We have a problem. Kerry and Wai are on their way to one of the gang's hideout.

NEIL
Shit. Which one.

SAM
It's their safe house in
Parramatta.

NEIL
I know that one. I going to call
for backup.

SAM
I'll meet you there.

NEIL
Just stay a safe distance away,
Sam.

Sam hangs up and runs to Ka-Ming's bedroom. He pull out the drawer containing the Colt 38 revolver, looks at it, and decides against using it.

53 **INT. KUNG FU SCHOOL. NIGHT.**

53

Sam runs into the class, just before it starts. He meets up with the senior students, Donald and Frank.

SAM
Hey guys. Your sifu is in deep
trouble. I need your help.

DONALD
What can we do?

SAM
You have cars right?

FRANK
I drive.

SAM
OK. I need a ride to a house in
Parramatta.

FRANK
You're lucky. I live in Parramatta.

SAM
OK. Let's go.

The three men dash out, with the two students still wearing their Kung Fu uniforms.

54 **INT. CAR EN-ROUTE TO PARRAMATTA. NIGHT.**

54

The students are in the front seats with Sam in the back seat.

FRANK
Mr Murphy, I know that street you
want to go to. It's a cul-de-sac.

SAM
Is that important?

FRANK
Well, from the houses at the end,
you can see any cars coming down
the road from the front windows.

SAM
I get it.

DONALD
What are you going to do?

SAM
The cops will be there soon. Let's
see when we get there.

DONALD
(To Frank)
Should we go for close quarters
fighting? You know, rush in, no
kicking, and use elbows and knees.

FRANK
(To Donald)
Yeah, but go for their weak spots.

SAM
Whoa guys. These gangsters will
shoot you from 20 metre away. Just
hang back. I don't want to face
your mothers if you are lying on a
metal slab. OK?

The students look at each other.

DONALD
No problem, Mr Murphy.

55 **INT. GANG SAFE HOUSE. NIGHT.**

55

The phone rings and Gangster 1 picks it up. Without saying
anything, he listens and then hangs up.

GANGSTER 1
(To the gang)
The police just picked up Ah-Leung.
I think this time it's serious.

GANGSTER 2
Fuck. What are we going to do?

GANGSTER 1

We got to leave, but I got to think about this.

NATHAN

My girlfriend is in trouble. Let's take her with us.

GANGSTER 1

Fuck you, Nathan. (To Gangster 2)
Give me that.

Gangster 1 grabs a gun from Gangster 2 and walks into the bedroom where Nathan's girlfriend is sleeping. A shot is fired. Nathan is shocked. Gangster 1 walks back. He pistol whips Nathan, who falls to the ground unconscious. He tosses the gun back to the owner. Gangster 2 ties up Nathan.

As Gangster 1 walks across the front windows, he sees police vehicles outside.

GANGSTER 1 (CONT'D)

Shit. The police. How the fuck?

56 **EXT. GANG SAFE HOUSE. NIGHT.**

56

The police, who arrived several minutes before the gunshot, are shaken by it. Neil is with them but another senior detective takes over temporary command. Police starts to block off streets as more uniform officers rush to the scene. Sam and his friends arrive at the intersection behind police lines just in time to see Neil grabbing his revolver from his car.

SAM

(To Neil)

Did that gunshot come from the safe house?

NEIL

Yeah. You better stay behind the police line.

FRANK

(Who pulls Sam aside)

Mr Murphy, there is a creek behind that house. And on the other side of the creek is a dead-end street. I know a quick way to get there from here.

SAM

OK. Wait here.

Sam walks to Neil and whispers into Neil's ear. The two men approach Frank.

NEIL
(To Frank)
How long does it take to get there?

FRANK
About 2 minutes by car.

NEIL
(To the group)
Let's go in my car. When we get there, you all stay put.

57 **EXT. DEAD END STREET. NIGHT.**

57

The car with the four men stop next to bush land. Faint lights from the safe house on the other side of the creek can be seen through the trees . Neil reports his location on the police radio.

SAM
I'm coming with you. You'll need support.

NEIL
If there's a gun fight, just stay down.

SAM
Hey. You're talking to a Korean War vet. Just make sure you shoot straight.

The two men start their bush bash to and across the creek. The safe house has no back fence and the backyard lawn merges with the bush on the edge of the creek.

As they crawl closer to the back door, Sam stumbles across a large shovel leaning against a tin shed. He grabs the shovel.

58 **EXT. GANG SAFE HOUSE. NIGHT.**

58

From behind the secure police line, the police commander takes a loud hailer.

POLICE COMMANDER
To anyone inside, this is the police. Lay down your arms and no-one will be hurt. If you want to negotiate, call the triple 0 number and you will be patched through to my police car radio.

59 **EXT. BACKYARD - GANG SAFE HOUSE. NIGHT.**

59

Sam and Neil talk in whispers as they hide behind the tin shed. In the background, the police commander repeats the request for the gang to give themselves up.

NEIL
What's your plan?

SAM
Sorry? I thought you had a plan.

NEIL
I don't know what the fuck I'm doing.

There is a tense silence.

SAM
OK. I've got it. Be ready when they come out of the back door.

NEIL
How are you going to do that? Ask them out?

SAM
That's exactly what I'm going to do.

NEIL
What? Are you fucking mad?

SAM
Trust me. Just make sure you're ready. You take the first man out, the next one is mine. The next yours. OK?

NEIL
OK. OK.

SAM
Follow me to the door.

They crawl to the back door. Sam stands next to the door, with his back to the wall. Neil takes the other side.

Note

Note: Dialogue in Chinese, unless otherwise noted.

SAM (CONT'D)
(Loudly)
Brothers. Brothers. It's Brother Wang from Melbourne. I've got a car waiting on the other side of the creek.

GANGSTER 1
Brother Wang? What's going on?

SAM
I was suppose to meet with Brother Ah-Leung tonight, but we have been compromised. We have a spy in our gang. Quick, we've got to go.

GANGSTER 1
 (To the gang in English)
 Come on, guys. Back door. Go. Go.

Gangster 3 rushes to the door. As he steps out, Neil pistol whips him unconscious and quickly drags him aside. Unarmed Gangster 1 opens the door and sees the fallen colleague but just as he is about to yell a warning, Sam's shovel smashes into his face. Gangster 2 hears and sees the commotion and raises his gun at Sam. Neil fires his gun and hits the last gangster in the shoulder. Sam rushes in and kicks the gangster's fallen gun across the kitchen.

60 INT. GANG SAFE HOUSE. NIGHT.

60

Sam slowly walks to the dining table where Kerry and Wai are still tied up.

Note

Note: Dialogue in English.

SAM
 (To Kerry and Wai)
 Is there any more gangsters?

They shake their heads.

61 EXT. GANG SAFE HOUSE. NIGHT.

61

The scene is being secured by numerous police officers. The gangsters and the others are checked by the ambulance officers. The two slightly hurt gangsters are hand-cuffed and taken away. The last shot gangster is wheeled into an ambulance. Sam, Neil, Kerry and Wai are talking among themselves in a group.

WAI
 Who's brother Wang?

SAM
 I remembered looking at the immigration forms and his was the last application Ka-Ming held back. It was dated only a year ago.

NEIL
 So you impersonated him?

SAM
 It was a gamble. The gang probably knew of him but I doubt if they had met him yet. (Pauses) Well it worked, didn't it?

NEIL
 Your two young friends will be here soon.

SAM
 You mean Donald and Frank?

WAI

Shit Sam. You shouldn't have put them at risk.

SAM

I know. I'm sorry. But Frank did show us the back way to the safe house. He helped us save you.

Neil turns to see that an ambulance officer has cleared Nathan.

NEIL

(To Nathan)

I'm glad you're OK, but I will still have to charge you.

Nathan turns and dashes away down the street. Just as he reaches the corner, Frank dives at him, rugby style, and pins him down. Donald and other police officers reaches him. Nathan is hand-cuffed and taken away.

DONALD

(To Frank)

Man, that was so cool.

FRANK

(To Donald)

I knew rugby training would be handy one day.

62 **INT. POLICE STATION. NIGHT.**

62

Wednesday 3am. The group is waiting as each of them is processed for witness statements. They see Yee and a lawyer walk towards them. She greets each one with a hug.

YEE

Just saw Nathan. I think he has learnt his lesson. The police said he was cooperative. He will make sure the gang will pay for killing his girlfriend. (Pauses) Thank you.

She proceed to thank each of the group individually.

63 **EXT. KA-MING'S APARTMENT BALCONY. DAY.**

63

Wednesday, early afternoon. As Sam steps out to the balcony with a cup of tea, Wai is sitting on a chair, staring out.

SAM

You sure you don't want a cup of tea.

WAI

(Surprised)

No. No thank you Sam.

SAM

Are you OK?

WAI

I'm just trying to re-focus. It's been a long few days. Kerry seems tired.

SAM

Yeah. She hit the sack as soon as we got back.

Sam looks around to check if there are any neighbours who can hear them. He sits down next to Wai.

SAM (CONT'D)

I know you are a member of the Ko Sing Gang. I read Ka-Ming's diary.

WAI

I'm surprised he didn't tell you a long time ago.

SAM

I remember when I first started at the Club, he told me about his gang history. And when I started to talk about it when you were around, he would look at me like I had just farted. I got the message, but I thought you didn't know about his gang history.

WAI

Ka-Ming wanted to keep you away from this gang business. Now you know, you need to know how we became friends despite our gangs being enemies.

64 INT. KOWLOON CLUB BACK OFFICE. NIGHT.

64

1950. This scene is a follow-on from the scene where Ka-Ming has checked and loaded his Colt 38 Revolver. In that scene, Ka-Ming has decided to confront the spy in the Club.

WAI (VO)

The night you left the Club, it was my duty to drop the night's takings to the back office. Ka-Ming was waiting for me.

Wai knocks on the door. Inside, Ka-Ming places his Colt 38 Revolver back in the drawer and quietly closes it.

KA-MING

Come in.

WAI

Good business tonight boss.

KA-MING

Wai, sit down. I have something to ask you.

Wai places the money on the desk and sits down. The two men are now face-to-face with the desk between them.

WAI

Anything wrong boss?

Ka-Ming takes out the Colt 38 revolver from the drawer and points it at Wai.

KA-MING

Why did you join the gang?

WAI

(With surprise)

Excuse me, boss?

KA-MING

Don't bullshit me. Why did you join the gang? And which one are you from?

There is a tense silence as the two men stare at each other.

WAI

How did you find out?

KA-MING

Master Li in Melbourne warned me that the rival gangs in Hong Kong already knew about me taking over this club, even before I moved here. I figured that only two people knew at that time, you and Master Chou, the last owner of this club. It wasn't Master Chou because, as you know, he is one of us, the 44K Gang. Simple. So which gang do you belong to?

WAI

The Ko Sing Gang.

KA-MING

OK. You still haven't answered my first question. Why did you join?

WAI

What difference does that make? You are going use that gun anyway.

KA-MING

I need to know because I am able to betray my own gang. I can't force you to do that to your gang, but I need to know if you can keep a secret from them, even join me in doing some things our way.

WAI

I was just young and stupid. But you know, you just can't leave the gang unless it's in a box.

Ka-Ming places the Colt 38 revolver on the desk, closer to Wai.

KA-MING

I need you to make a decision.

Wai looks at the gun. He looks back at Ka-Ming.

WAI

Now I'm confused.

KA-MING

This is a simple game. You can pick up that gun and shoot me, or you can leave it and join me. We can use the gangs like they have used us. You see, I've made a bet with myself. You shoot, I lose. You leave it then I win. I've made my bet, now you make your decision.

There is a tense silence.

WAI

Ha ha. You are one crazy gambler Ka-Ming. It's your lucky day.

Wai slides the revolver back to Ka-Ming's side of the desk. Smiles break out between the two men.

KA-MING

I am leaving this gambling business so I will be no threat to you after I leave.

WAI

Who is taking over this club?

KA-MING

That is what you have to keep secret. He's my second cousin. The 44K Gang can ask me to do anything they want but I want this club, my club, controlled by my family and friends.

65 **EXT. KA-MING'S APARTMENT BALCONY. DAY.**

65

Fade back to Sydney 1972. Sam and Wai are still talking on the balcony.

WAI

That was the best decision I ever made. He always told me what to keep secret from the Ko Sing Gang. But I kept a secret from him.

SAM

What do you mean?

WAI

The night Lung was killed I was there. I followed him and saw it all. I told Ka-Ming what happened after but I didn't him tell everything.

Wai leans forward and places his head in his hands.

WAI (CONT'D)

Oh God. It's all my fault. I could have saved him.

Sam gently puts his hand on Wai's shoulder.

SAM

It's OK brother. Tell me what happened.

66 **INT . KA-MING'S APARTMENT. NIGHT.**

66

Fade back to 1969.

WAI (VO)

Ka-Ming was in Bendigo then. Lung had come to the apartment to ask for the gun. He said he had set up a meeting with Nathan.

Lung and Wai are in the apartment lounge room.

LUNG

You know where Ka-Ming's gun is?

WAI

Why do you want it? I thought you said you were going to meet up with Nathan.

LUNG

I want to keep my options. He wants to meet me down in a back street near Chinatown.

WAI

Shit Lung. I smell a trap. Let me come with you.

LUNG

No. If something happens to you and I live, I couldn't cope with that. No.

WAI

So you think a gun will make a difference?

LUNG

This is a family problem. Even if it is a trap, I want to fix it. So I need that gun.

67 **EXT. CHINATOWN BACK STREET. NIGHT.**

67

WAI (VO)

I gave it to him. When he left, he didn't see me follow him. When he got to that back street, Ah-Leung and his gang were waiting for him. It was a trap. By then, I was hiding behind a doorway up the street. But without a gun I was useless.

Lung is surrounded by Ah-Leung and two gang members. One of the gang is standing behind Lung, pointing a gun to Lung's head.

AH-LEUNG

(To the second gang member)

Search him for any weapons.

The second gang member finds Ka-Ming's Colt 38 revolver in one of the pockets and hands it to Ah-Leung.

LUNG

Where's Nathan?

AH-LEUNG

Why is it your business?

LUNG

I don't want him to be someone like you. If you were a better father I would stay out of your family.

AH-LEUNG

It ends here tonight, asshole.

LUNG

I don't care what you do to me. But I beg you, let Nathan go. Give him a chance for a better life. Is that why you want me dead? Because I can give him a better life?

AH-LEUNG

You really are an arrogant shit. You think I care about Nathan? This has nothing to do with my family.

LUNG

What?

AH-LEUNG

The gang has ordered me to eliminate any threats to its plans and you are on top of the list.

LUNG

I have nothing to do with any Triad gang.

AH-LEUNG

Now you're lying, you fuck. We know someone from the Ko Sing gang has been giving the police the plans for our drug network. We know it's you. We know you're related to Ka-Ming. He may be a 44K Gang veteran but he's too old and soft to realise you are using him. Am I right?

LUNG

(Looking puzzled)

You got to believe me. I have nothing to do with the gangs.

AH-LEUNG

Enough of this lying.

Ah-Leung points the Colt 38 at Lung's heart and pulls the trigger.

AH-LEUNG (CONT'D)

Your blood belongs in the gutter with the rest of the shit.

Wai watches as Ah-Leung wipes the gun and drops it in the street. The gang departs.

WAI (VO)

When Ah-Leung and the gang left I had to grab that gun. If Ka-Ming found out that it was his gun that killed Lung, it would have broken his heart.

68 **EXT. KA-MING'S APARTMENT BALCONY. DAY.**

68

Fade back to Sydney 1972. Sam and Wai are still talking on the balcony.

WAI

Ah-Leung was right. Someone from the Ko Sing gang was giving information to the police. That was me.

Wai eyes become teary as he looks up to the sky.

SAM

So last week, it was you who told Neil which hotel I was staying in.

WAI

I just wanted someone to watch over you. Neil wasn't going to pull a gun on you.

SAM

Did Ka-Ming know you were a police informant?

WAI

Of course he did. He wanted it. It was his way to get back at his own gang. For me, I would be seen as useful to my gang. (Pauses) I shouldn't have given that gun to Lung. Ah-Leung should have killed me.

SAM

No-one's to blame here except Ah-Leung. Lung decided his fate a long time ago when he joined this gambling business.

WAI

It's more than gambling now Sam. This drugs business will bring trouble, a lot of trouble.

SAM

There's one thing I'm going to do, if it's OK with you.

WAI

What?

SAM

I'm going to get rid of that damn gun.

69 **INT. KA-MING'S APARTMENT. NIGHT.**

69

Early evening. Kerry wakes up and finds Sam reading a book in the lounge room.

SAM

Good rest?

KERRY

Where's Wai?

SAM

He's back at the Kung Fu School. He wanted to get back to his routine straight away. You hungry?

KERRY

Sure am.

SAM

I know this place in Chinatown that serves the best Crispy Skin Chicken. It's my last night in Sydney so let's go out for dinner.

KERRY

(With a cheeky smile)

Is this a date Sam? Do I need to dress up in my dinner gown?

SAM

Nah. The waiters in this place have probably never seen someone as beautiful as you.

KERRY

Ah jeez. Now you're making me blush.

70 **EXT. SYDNEY HARBOUR. NIGHT.**

70

Sam and Kerry are walking hand-in-hand down a quiet street where abandoned warehouses still stand next to the harbour.

KERRY

Thanks for the lovely evening.
(Pauses) I'll miss you Sam.

SAM

I'll never forget our time together. Thank you Kerry.

They stop where there is a gap next to the water.

SAM

Can you keep a small secret?

KERRY

Depends. Is it illegal?

SAM
Well, you can work that out
yourself.

He looks around to see if there is anyone else around. The street is clear. Sam takes Ka-Ming's Colt 38 revolver from his jacket pocket and tosses it into the harbour.

KERRY
I understand.

71 **INT. SYDNEY AIRPORT. MORNING.**

71

Thursday. Sam is about to enter the boarding area. Kerry is there to see him off.

KERRY
Enjoy your trip home. When will I
see you again?

SAM
I don't know. Soon I hope.

KERRY
Goodbye Sam.

Sam embraces Kerry. They share a brief kiss.

SAM
Goodbye Kerry.

72 **INT. AIRCRAFT CABIN - EN ROUTE TO DARWIN. DAY.**

72

Sam accepts a drink from a stewardess and takes out Ka-Ming's diary. He starts reading from where he left it. Some time passes and he closes it after finishing. He picks up an envelope. Inside he finds an old photo showing two young couples. One couple, a Chinese woman and a Anglo man, is standing next to a second couple, an Anglo woman and man. He instantly recognise that the second couple as young images of his mother and father. With the photo is a single page containing handwritten notes from Ka-Ming.

Sam starts to read the notes.

KA-MING (VO)
Dear Sam. One day in 1969, while I
was staying in Bendigo, I visited a
childhood friend, Jin-Yi, who was a
close friend of my older sister.
Jin-Yi is the Chinese woman in the
photo of the two couples. My sister
passed away in 1963 and so I wanted
to see Jin-Yi to share memories and
stories about my sister. We enjoyed
a long conversation. But it became
interesting when she started to
talk about her life as a nurse's
(MORE)

KA-MING (VO) (cont'd)
 assistant in Sydney. She mentioned
 that she shared a house with a
 couple named Murphy. She recalled
 that the wife became ill after
 giving birth to a baby boy. I
 believe that boy was you.

Sam continues to read the notes as tears begin to roll down
 his face. A few hours after Sam finishes reading the notes,
 the plane starts to descend. Sam looks out of the window and
 gazes into the clouds the plane is flying through.

SAM (VO)
 As I lost vision of the sky, my
 thoughts returned to a line in my
 favourite poem, the Desiderata. It
 was not my favourite line but I
 understand it now. "And whether or
 not it is clear to you, no doubt
 the universe is unfolding as it
 should".

73 **INT. DARWIN AIRPORT. DAY.**

73

Sam walks out of the arrivals gate and spots Betty, who is
 waiting for him. They kiss and embrace warmly.

BETTY
 Welcome home dear. How was the
 trip?

SAM
 I find flying boring. But I found
 something else.

BETTY
 I'm sure you will tell me in good
 time. Let's go. They charge for
 parking now.

74 **INT. FAMILY CAR. DAY.**

74

Betty is driving while the pair is talking about Sam's time
 in Sydney. Betty pulls into the family's driveway and
 switches the engine off.

SAM
 My friend Ka-Ming reconnected with
 an elderly Chinese woman in Bendigo
 who knew my parents. She passed
 away a year after their meeting.
 (Pauses) She also knew me as a baby
 boy.

BETTY
 Wow. What are the chances of that
 happening, finding someone who
 remembers you as a baby?

SAM

Anyway. From talking to her Ka-Ming found that I have a half-sister. I remember my father talked about a relationship my mother had before he met her. He never told me that my mother had another child before me.

Betty looks at Sam, stunned. FADE OUT.

THE END.