

ARROWS

by

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FADE IN:

EXT. BANGKOK - NIGHT

HALF-COMPLETED SKYSCRAPERS litter the horizon. Concrete skeletons left behind after the Asian Market Crash of 97.

EXT. BANGKOK STREETS - CONTINUOUS

A STRETCH LIMO moves past one of these crumbling monoliths and snakes down a jagged, rain-washed street.

INT. LIMO - CONTINUOUS

Employers on one side. The "help" on the other.

EDDIE TOMA, 38, ruggedly handsome, sits between two BURLY THAIS. All wear the same cheap, dark suit. Directly across from them, things are completely different...

MALEE KWANCHAI (21), a gorgeous socialite, sits between her Thai father SAMPOK (60's) and American mother CATHERINE (40's). All wear expensive designer clothes.

SAMPOK

(to Malee)

No incidents tonight, right?

Malee doesn't answer.

CATHERINE

Malee, your father and I would like to enjoy one night out that doesn't end up in the tabloids the next day.

MALEE

Well, it's my birthday, so its not about you, is it Mom?

Malee looks across to Eddie.

MALEE

Besides, Eddie will watch me.

Malee smiles slyly. Eddie turns to the window.

EXT. UPSCALE STEET - MOMENTS LATER

The limo rolls to the curb outside MORAKOP JET, an upscale nightclub. FLASHBULBS pop!

INT. LIMO - CONTINUOUS

Eddie brings his wrist to his mouth.

EDDIE
We clear?

EXT. UPSCALE STEET - CONTINUOUS

TWO MORE BODYGUARDS at the club's front door scan the crowd. The larger one answers.

DOOR BODYGUARD #1
Clear.

INT. LIMO - CONTINUOUS

Eddie turns back to the Kwanchai's.

EDDIE
Standard 2 & 1, my mark. Now.

Eddie moves left and throws open the door. The other two bodyguards move to their right. Sampok and Catherine follow the two burly Thais as Eddie exits out onto the street. Stops. No one behind him. Eddie turns back to the car. Looks inside... Malee smiles. Her hand extended.

EDDIE
Malee.

MALEE
It's my birthday, Eddie.

Eddie stares. Then...gives in. Takes her hand. She exits the car, leans in close, and whispers.

MALEE
(sexy, playful)
Thank you, Edward.

In a flash, she's gone. PHOTOGRAPHERS jockey for position as Malee crosses to the club door. Eddie suppresses a smile as he follows.

INT. MORAKOP JET NIGHTCLUB - LATER

The last DESSERT PLATES are cleared...the party at full rage. All the biggest bank accounts and trust funds represented. Malee and her FRIENDS own the DANCE FLOOR while, in a corner, Sampok holds court with PAK, 50. His younger brother.

PAK
Your sure?

SAMPOK
Why do you ask?

PAK
As your lawyer, I have to ask. And
as your brother... I have to ask.

SAMPOK
I'm sure.

Sampok looks over to Malee as she giggles with friends.

SAMPOK
Believe it or not, she's ready.

PAK
She knows?

SAMPOK
You try keeping a secret from
Malee. She showed me her plans
yesterday. (smiles) Good plans.

Sampok pulls a folded CONTRACT from his pocket.

SAMPOK
Just needs to sign under my name.

PAK
When are you going to do it?

Sampok checks his watch.

SAMPOK
She's not 21 until midnight.

Pak and Sampok both look over to Malee.

PAK
That's one rich little girl.

SAMPOK
She's going to be rich in ways no
one ever imagined. Wait til you
see her plans.

INT. MORAKOP JET NIGHTCLUB, DANCE FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Malee continues to dance. By herself...but not alone.
Across the room, in the hallway leading to the kitchen, Eddie
stands. Trying to take his eyes from Malee's. He can't.
She can't either. Her movements become more and more
suggestive. Her eyes more and more inviting...

EXT. MORAKOP JET NIGHTCLUB, FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

A WIRY THAI TEENAGER stands in front of the bodyguards. Paparazzi long gone. Street empty.

WIRY THAI TEENAGER
(pointing at GUEST LIST)
See, right there.

DOOR BODYGUARD #1
You're Kang?

WIRY THAI TEENAGER
Kang... Yeah...

DOOR BODYGUARD #1
Kang runs the office of tourism.
He's 65.

WIRY THAI TEENAGER
(with a smile)
Okay... Can I try again?

DOOR BODYGUARD #1
Got all night.

WIRY THAI TEENAGER
Alright. Check this out...

The bodyguards barely see a brief metallic glint and lightning-fast SLASH before a DOUBLE-BLADED KNIFE plunges into their throats. They fall. The teenager pushes past the spurting, gurgling mess and into the stairway.

WIRY THAI TEENAGER
(into walkie talkie)
I'm in. 10 seconds. On my count.

He pulls an ASSAULT RIFLE from under his coat, locks the door and starts up the stairs.

INT. MORAKOP JET NIGHTCLUB, DANCE FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Sampok checks his watch again. 30 seconds to midnight. He grabs a bottle of CHAMPAGNE...

Malee continues dancing. Sensual. Sexy. And just for Eddie. He can't take his eyes from hers. Until...

A WHITE-SMOCKED KITCHEN WORKER appears behind Malee at the far wall. Then ANOTHER, ten feet away. ANOTHER. Eddie turns and looks down the hall. The kitchen empty. Turns back to see... a worker pulls a bandana down over his face.

EDDIE
Malee!

Too late. Bullets rip into the ceiling. Glass and sparks rain down!

Eddie reaches for his shoulder arm. An AK 47's barrel lands on his temple!

GUNMAN #1
Drop it! FUCKING DROP IT!!!

Eddie stares at the terrified Malee as his gun slides from his fingers and drops to the floor.

More bullets rip into mirrors and speakers. The music stops as SIX WHITE-SMOCKED GUNMEN appear. One moves to the dance floor.

GUNMAN #2
(to the dancers)
DOWN! ALL YOU BITCHES DOWN!

Eddie watches as OTHER GUNMEN disarm the Thai bodyguards. Malee, now on the floor, shoots Eddie a pleading look. Eddie offers a reassuring hand gesture... "stay calm". The butt end of an rifle cracks into Eddie's jaw! He drops to a knee...

The wiry teenager snaps open a pillowcase as he moves to the center of the dance floor.

WIRY THAI TEENAGER
OK, this can be easy or hard. We'd prefer easy. I want cash, watches, jewelry...

Eddie holds his face in his hand. Feigning pain...

A KNIFE slides down Eddie's sleeve into his palm. Eddie watches as TWO MORE GUNMEN join the wiry teenager. The teen passes his pillowcase to one of them.

WIRY THAI TEENAGER
If anyone's thinking about being a hero, tell me now. (beat) No?

The wiry teen moves off the dance floor as other gunmen continue to rob and terrorize party guests. A nose is broken... A gown shredded... Hair is yanked out by the root... Earrings are snatched...right through the lobes!

A STRING OF PEARLS is torn from Malee's neck. For the first time, Eddie sees tears. He looks away. Sees...

Behind the DJ BOOTH, the wiry teen huddles with a GAP-TOOTHED GUNMAN. The conversation is serious. Tense. The wiry teen makes a small "pointing" motion. Eddie's eyes follow and fall on...Sampok, Catherine and Pak. Shit...

Eddie looks up...the gunman standing over him watches the dance floor. Big mistake. In one quick swipe, the knife cuts through the gunman's boot. And his Achilles Tendon!

The gunman drops. Eddie is behind him before one knee hits the ground...the gunman's throat slit before the second knee hits. Now, Eddie has a gun. And a shield!

EDDIE

Hey!

The gap-toothed gunman turns. Aside from falling, the last move he'll ever make. Bullets rip through his chest and neck.

EDDIE

Sampok! GO!

Sampok, Catherine and Pak dive from their table and crawl across the floor. Gunmen unload in their direction. It's mass panic!

Eddie zips the knife across the room. A gunman's ear slows it down...his brain stops it! Three down...

The gunmen return fire. Eddie upends a BUSBOY CART and dives behind it. Dozens of bullets slam into the steel...

Eddie rolls to one side. Malee still on the floor. He rolls to the other. A gunman approaches her. Eddie squeezes the trigger. Bullets rip through the man's shins. Four gone...

Eddie bolts from the floor, scoops up Malee and runs her to the far wall!

MALEE

No! Door! What are you doing?!

Eddie tosses Malee behind a THICK OAK BAR as bullets shatter wood and plaster all around him! He upends a table and ducks behind it. Looks to the doorway... Sampok, Catherine and Pak push through the door with the rest of the surging crowd.

Bullets erupt into the bar as Malee screams behind it.

MALEE (BEHIND BAR)

Eddie! Get me outta here!

EDDIE

Malee, don't move!

Eddie pops the CLIP from the gun. Just TWO BULLETS left.

EDDIE

Shit.

Just then, HUNDREDS of BULLETS explode all around him!

STAIRWAY

DOZENS of TERRIFIED PEOPLE crush against each other. At the bottom of the stairs, a locked door...

BACK

BULLETS continue to rip into the upended table. Then, Eddie sees...the wiry teen runs towards the stairway, shielding himself behind a CRYING WOMAN. Eddie points his gun. Aims. Doesn't have a shot...

EDDIE

Fuck!

Eddie peeks out from behind the bar towards the two remaining gunmen. Bullets shatter the oak as he draws his head back. No matter... he's seen what he needs to. He yanks an up-ended VASE filled with DRY FLOWERS off the floor...

STAIRWAY

The wiry teen elbows and pushes his way down the stairs. At the bottom, the glass door cracks. Then, shatters. Dread-filled people push through jagged glass and pour out into the streets. Sampok, Catherine and Pak about 15 feet from escape.

BACK

Eddie moves a LIGHTER'S FLAME across the dry flowers.

STAIRWAY

The wiry teen starts shooting people. Much easier to get down the steps that way.

BACK

Eddie hurls the flaming vase! It flies over the gunmen's heads, hits the wall and shatters.

STAIRWAY

Sampok, Catherine and Pak are ten feet from the door. The wiry teen climbs over bodies. Closing in...

BACK

The two gunmen look to the wall behind them, then to the flaming debris on the floor. Chuckle. Just then...

Eddie slides out from behind the bar. Fires one shot. Right into the GAS MAIN! BOOM!!! Five and six...toast!

Eddie leans up over the bar.

EDDIE
Stay here.

MALEE
Eddie, don't leave me!

Eddie sprints to the stairway. Dives... Looks...

The wiry teen has one foot out the door. BAM! Eddie's last bullet meets the back of the teen's head. Back of head meets front of head... Entire sloppy mess meets pavement...

Eddie scrambles across bodies and down the steps. Drops in front of Sampok. Blood pours from his forehead. Dead. Catherine. Blood pours from her chest. Dead. Pak. Blood pours from his neck. De...

PAK
(eyes closed...labored)
Did you get them?

EDDIE
I got them.

Eddie lifts Pak's hand to his wound.

EDDIE
Keep pressure on it.

PAK
Where's Malee?

EDDIE
Upstairs. Don't worry, she's...

MALEE (O.S.)
Oh my God...

Malee stands at the top of the steps. Crushed...

MALEE
Are they...?

Eddie can't look at her. Lowers his head.

MALEE
Eddie! Are they!?! (beat) Oh God...

In a dead panic, Malee turns and runs back into the club.

EDDIE

Malee!

Eddie clambers back up the stairs!

Eyes streaming tears, Malee sprints across the carnage to the BACK EXIT. Eddie closes quickly. She slams through the EMERGENCY EXIT DOOR and out onto the...

FIRE ESCAPE - CONTINUOUS

Malee crashes into the railing. Eddie bursts through behind her. Malee take one look at him and starts crying uncontrollably. He takes the shaking girl in his arms.

EDDIE

I'm sorry Malee. I'm so sorry...

Eddie pulls Malee closer...trying to swallow her sorrow with his entire body. She goes limp. Then...

THREE VEHICLES appear in the dark street below. Two UNMARKED POLICE CARS sandwich a BLACK LAND ROVER. Eddie watches as one of the Land Rover's smoked-glass windows slides down.

EDDIE

Malee. We have to go inside.

MALEE

(panicked)

I'm not going back there!

EDDIE

Malee, we have to go...

MALEE

NO! NO!!!

She pushes away from him and darts towards the ladder. Eddie grabs her wrist, swings her around, and with one right hook, knocks her cold. He scoops her up and turns towards the door. BULLETS SPRAY from the Land Rover's open window. Most slam into metal and brick. Not all. TWO imbed deep in Eddie's flesh. He opens the door, stumbles back inside...

INT. MORAKOP JET NIGHTCLUB - CONTINUOUS

...and yanks it closed. Locks it. Looks around. Sees... His KNIFE...sticking from a bad guy's ear. Eddie pulls it out, grabs the bad guy's GUN, and runs to the front steps. SIRENS are heard. FLASHING LIGHTS. BAM BAM BAM!!! SOMEONE pounds on the back door! Eddie turns. Sees another EXIT SIGN. Sprints through the KITCHEN.

EXT. MORAKOP JET NIGHTCLUB - MOMENTS LATER

A POLICEMAN crosses in front of Eddie as he hides in HIGH WEEDS...Malee still out cold in his arms. Eddie's eyes are locked on the long line of TUK-TUK taxis across the street. The DRIVERS all chatter together... distracted by the police activity. Eddie checks to make sure it's safe and...

He sprints across the street, tosses Malee in the back of a Tuk-Tuk, starts the engine and takes off...

TUK-TUK DRIVER
Hey... HEY!!!

The TUK-TUK'S DRIVER runs after Eddie as he zips across a CANAL BRIDGE and disappears down a tiny alley...

FADE OUT.

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