

JHO LOW

Based on real events.

BLACK

RORO (V.O.)
--basically, one of the bottles got
stuck--

JHO LOW (V.O.)
Which one?

RORO (V.O.)
I can't say exactly which one, but
if just *one* bottle, *any* one bottle
gets stuck, then the entire--

MIN (V.O.)
Jho, Plan B was to--

JHO LOW (V.O.)
There is no Plan B. Either it
works, or it works!

RORO (V.O.)
If it's meant to work, it would
have worked!

JHO LOW (V.O.)
Fuck you, Roro! Fuck you!

FADE IN:

INSERT: **Based on real events.**

EXT. BALCONY AT THE PALAZZO HOTEL - DAY

Note: The screenplay is broken into 3 parts - each showing one of Jho Low's legendary parties that he throws at 3 different phases of his life. We will shadow him in real-time 'walk and talk' style with no breaks. At each party, we plunge straight into Jho Low's world, watching the man navigate the chaotic yet fascinating world of high finance.

Right now, we're in the middle of a conversation between JHO LOW (30, male); MIN (early 50s, female), the mild-mannered personal assistant to Jho Low; and RORO (early 30's, male), a flamboyant party planner.

INSERT: **Palazzo Hotel. Age: 29**

They are looking over towards a swimming pool where a PARTY is being set up.

In the middle of it all: a giant, custom-built CONTRAPTION holding hundreds of glittering BOTTLES OF CRISTAL champagne, hanging upside down from above.

RORO

Well, Mr. Low, even if it works, there's no guarantee that all 800 over bottles of--

JHO LOW

Eight hundred and eighty-eight.

RORO

Eight hundred and eighty-eight bottles of Cristal will be uncorked at the same time.

JHO LOW

I paid \$300,000 to have this custom-built and now you're saying, it won't work.

RORO

I'm not saying it won't work. I'm saying there's a margin of error--

MIN

Well, can at least...90...95% of the bottles--

RORO

I'm not sure you know what he--you are asking for. You want 888 bottles of Cristal, every single one of them...to pop...all at the same time...and then turn upside down...pouring the world's most expensive champagne over--

JHO LOW

Hundreds of the most important people in the world, in an event that will be immortalized as--

Pointing at a banner that says: **Party Of The Century.**

JHO LOW

Yes. I do fucking want that! Do it!

Roro clicks the remote control aggressively. Click! Click! Click! They watch breathlessly as the contraption turns. Whirling sound...before it abruptly stops. Alas, only half the bottles move!

RORO

To be fair, Mr. Low, I did say
there is no guarantee--

JHO LOW

Roro, if you come for dinner at a
Chinese family's home, and there's
one last piece of chicken...do you
take the last piece?

RORO

Depends. If it's General Tso's
chicken, I'd totally fight for--

JHO LOW

Wrong. You should *never* take the
last piece. If you do, you'll leave
the plate empty. Which means, your
Chinese host will have to go to the
kitchen and cook some more chicken.
Just for you.

RORO

Why?

JHO LOW

An empty plate is the ultimate
humiliation. It means the host has
failed to ensure his guest is well
fed. We call it 'miànzi'. Face-
saving.

RORO

I'll remember that when you invite
me over.

JHO LOW

Every. Single. Bottle. Has to turn.

MIN

Well, no one will know if a couple
of bottles didn't--

JHO LOW

I will know if a couple of bottles
didn't.

RORO

Why don't we keep them for next
week's party?

JHO LOW

Next week?
(to MIN)

Tell him, Min. Who's coming tonight?

RORO
I know who's coming tonight.

JHO LOW
Tell him.

RORO
I did the guest list.

Min reads the GUEST LIST.

MIN
Alicia Keys, Swizz Beatz, Jonah Hill...

JHO LOW
Louder!

MIN
Jamie Foxx, Paris Hilton, Leonardo Dicaprio, Benicio Del Toro...

JHO LOW
These guys live to party...

MIN
Tim Leissner from Goldman Sachs Asia. Lindsay Lohan, Megan Fox...

JHO LOW
...they have seen everything!

MIN
Shahrol Azmi, CEO of 1 Malaysia Development Berhad...

JHO LOW
...nothing wows them anymore...

MIN
The Songthaveepol family...

JHO LOW
...we need something that'll make their jaws drop...

MIN
Muhammad Al-Husseiny from Aabar...

JHO LOW
So, now you know why...

MIN

Riza Aziz...

JHO LOW

IT HAS TO FUCKING RAIN CRISTAL!!!

Jho Low storms off. The point is made.

JHO LOW

'Miànzi', Roro! 'Miànzi'!

He slams the door and he's gone.

RORO

One bottle of Cristal costs \$200.

MIN

We got bulk purchase discount.

INT. PALAZZO HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

Jho Low enters. TIM LEISSNER (early 50's male) is helping himself with some whisky. Sleazy corporate banker. The sort who believes success comes from sheer hard work and you're poor because you didn't work hard enough.

JHO LOW

Dr. Tim Leissner. Always first to arrive.

TIM LEISSNER

It's a habit.

JHO LOW

Most people try not to be the first to arrive at a party. It's awkward.

TIM LEISSNER

Unless you've done your homework on the guest list. Drinks?

JHO LOW

What's that saying again--yes, please--that Goldman Sachs mantra? "*Important people like to...*"

TIM LEISSNER

"Important people like to deal with other important people. Are you one?"

JHO LOW

That's so corny.

TIM LEISSNER

So, all the *important people* are here tonight, right? Aabar? lMDB?

JHO LOW

They are here. I need you to close the deal *tonight*.

TIM LEISSNER

Hold on. We're talking about 6.5--I believe it is...*billion* dollars?

JHO LOW

That's why it has to be done tonight.

TIM LEISSNER

We have nothing. Where's the letter from the President's Office?

JHO LOW

If you're going to make money from the sovereign fund of Malaysia, try not to confuse 'Prime Minister' with 'President'. It's 'Prime Minister Najib'.

TIM LEISSNER

Jho, banks have 'Compliance'. The most hated bunch of people who wake up each day with one aim: to make our lives a living hell. There's no way this can be done tonight.

JHO LOW

Every single bank out there is dying to do business with lMDB. Except Goldman Sachs.

TIM LEISSNER

No, we want a slice of the pie.

JHO LOW

The whole fucking pie is yours!

TIM LEISSNER

The way the bond deal is structured is very complicated.

JHO LOW

Precisely! We take the most unsophisticated client and sell him the most sophisticated product.

That, my friend, is how to make money.

TIM LEISSNER

That's not how banks work.

JHO LOW

It's like selling credit card to kids. You tell the kids, "With this magic card, you can buy anything you want at the candy store! Do you want one?".

TIM LEISSNER

Except that these 'kids' are highly sophisticated investors.

JHO LOW

Investors, yes. Sophisticated? I'm not sure.

TIM LEISSNER

We are asking them to lend money to 1MDB, with a promise that they'll get their money back...and more. Now, here's a small problem. No one has ever fucking heard of 1MDB before!

JHO LOW

That's why it's all about the packaging. Sure, no one even knows how to spell 1MDB but when you attach names to the deal--we've got Malaysia, Abu Dhabi, Goldman Sachs--
(referring to Tim)
Heck, we'll even throw a 'Dr. Tim' in. They'd empty the candy store!

TIM LEISSNER

Suppose that can be done, we can't justify taking 10% commission--

JHO LOW

9%.

TIM LEISSNER

What?

JHO LOW

Goldman's cut...600 million...is 9% percent.

TIM LEISSNER

Fine...9%...when the standard practice is 0.5%. That's 20 times--

JHO LOW

(reciting)

"Goldman Sachs has to assume greater risk by taking on the burden of the loan before finding investors..."

TIM LEISSNER

By charging 20 times?

JHO LOW

Where's my damn phone?

(shouts)

Min! My phone!

TIM LEISSNER

If you and I go to dinner and you pay for my share first, you can't charge me 20 times more. 'Compliance' will never approve!

JHO LOW

It's the price for risk.

TIM LEISSNER

This is 600 million dollars of--you know this is tax money from the people of Malaysia--is no one is going to question--

JHO LOW

That's why we have a letter from Prime Minister Najib.

Jho Low whips out an official-looking letter from nowhere, like a magician used to performing this a hundred times. Tim looks at the letter in disbelief.

TIM LEISSNER

How did you make it look so real?

JHO LOW

It *is* real!

Min comes in, carrying seven phones, all of them black except for one red. Jho Low takes one of the black ones (he knows exactly which one). Min goes off.

TIM LEISSNER
I can't keep 600 million dollars of
commission--

JHO LOW
Who said anything about keeping it?

TIM LEISSNER
That's our commission. For
Goldman's role...

JHO LOW
Yes. 0.5%. Standard practice.

TIM LEISSNER
I'm a little confused here.

JHO LOW
You are right. You *don't* get to
charge me 20 times more.
(beat)
I'll tell you where to transfer the
8.5%. Still confused?

TIM LEISSNER
That sounds like something that'll
break a lot of laws.

JHO LOW
We're already breaking a lot of
laws.

TIM LEISSNER
'Compliance', Jho! 'Compliance'!

JHO LOW
One sec. I've got a bigger problem
here.

He steps into the--

EXT. BALCONY AT THE PALAZZO HOTEL - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

--and looks down. Min is on the ground floor below.

JHO LOW
Min! Please tell me Roro fixed it.

She shakes her head sheepishly. Jho Low storms out furiously--

INT. PALAZZO HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

JHO LOW
(to TIM)
Come.

He marches out, with Tim scurrying closely behind, into--

INT. PALAZZO HOTEL SUITE CORRIDOR - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

JHO LOW
How did you meet Kimora?

TIM LEISSNER
Business class from Hong Kong to
Kuala Lumpur. The flight started
with an argument and ended with a
proposal. Why?

JHO LOW
No, I'm just...wondering...

TIM LEISSNER
About what?

JHO LOW
Trophy wife, expat in Hong Kong,
big shot banker.

TIM LEISSNER
Are you trying to say something?

JHO LOW
No, no. Not at all. I'm just
wondering...people like you, do you
ever wake up feeling average?

TIM LEISSNER
OK, I see what you're getting at.

JHO LOW
I'm not--I'm just asking. Do you?

TIM LEISSNER
Listen. When you said this deal is
a package...Malaysia, Abu Dhabi,
Goldman...what do you mean by
"Heck, we'll even throw a *Dr. Tim*
in"?

JHO LOW
It's all about the packaging--

TIM LEISSNER

I have PhD--

JHO LOW

From the University of Somerset, I know.

TIM LEISSNER

I get it. You think I'm--what do they call it these days--*privileged*. But let me read you my resume. I was a rising star at JPMorgan and Lehman Brothers. I executed one of Malaysia's biggest ever corporate takeover. I'm the fucking rainmaker for Goldman Asia and I make billions for my company. So no, I didn't wake up feeling average and I don't feel like I need to apologize for that.

They reach the lift and enter--

INT. PALAZZO HOTEL SUITE LIFT - DAY

JHO LOW

Forget I ever asked.

TIM LEISSNER

I forgive you.

JHO LOW

No. I mean, forget I asked Goldman. I should have known Goldman isn't the right fit.

TIM LEISSNER

Wait. What? No, no, no. We are the right fit for sure.

JHO LOW

You said it cannot be done.

TIM LEISSNER

I didn't say it cannot be done. I said, it cannot be done *tonight*.

JHO LOW

You said 'Compliance'--

TIM LEISSNER

I'm saying...I'm saying it's easier to get a girl into bed than to get 'Compliance' to approve, and you and I know I've gotten a lot of girls...

The lift opens and they march towards--

EXT. PALAZZO HOTEL SWIMMING POOL - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

Roro is there, clicking nervously to get the thing working.

RORO

I can guarantee a *minimum* of 95%--

JHO LOW

I don't want 95%. I want every fucking one of the 888--

MIN

Jho, no one will ever know. It'll just be remembered as 'many bottles of Cristal'.

JHO LOW

Roro, if you give me 95% effort, then I'm paying you 95% of your fees.

RORO

Sir, I gave a thousand percent.

JHO LOW

Have you met Dr. Tim? Dr. Tim is the head of Goldman Sachs Asia, so he knows a thing or two about--

(to Tim)

Tim, what's the significance of the number 888?

TIM LEISSNER

It's the Chinese symbol of wealth and prosperity.

JHO LOW

Listen, I changed my mind. Fix this, I'll pay you double. You screw this up, you're getting zero.

RORO

The party starts in 30 minutes.

JHO LOW
Then do it in 29!

Jho Low stomps off, followed closely by Tim.

RORO
Why is he so obsessed with
this...face thing?

MIN
I've been his assistant since he
was a boy and even I don't get it.

A little further away, the two men stop at their tracks.

TIM LEISSNER
You can't take this deal away from
Goldman. This is our biggest deal
ever. If there's anyone who can--

JHO LOW
What's your horoscope?

TIM LEISSNER
Taurus.

JHO LOW
No, your Chinese horoscope.

TIM LEISSNER
Sheep.

JHO LOW
Mine is rooster. We're compatible.

TIM LEISSNER
We are?

JHO LOW
*'Important people like to deal with
other important people'*. Are we
doing business or what?

After thinking hard:

TIM LEISSNER
Fuck 'Compliance'. Yes, we are.

They shake hands. A deal has been sealed.

JHO LOW
We're going to sell credit cards to
kids. See you at the party, *Dr.
Tim.*

Jho Low walks back to his suite.

INT. PALAZZO HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jho Low enters, startled to see a figure in the room. It's the HOTEL MANAGER, looking at a PAINTING. Waiting for him.

JHO LOW

Do you know how much an average
Basquiat goes for these days?

HOTEL MANAGER

Sir?

JHO LOW

Jean-Michel Basquiat. Thanks for
letting me to put my paintings
here. I didn't like those IKEA
paintings.

HOTEL MANAGER

Sir, at the Palazzo, I assure you
we don't hang IKEA paintings--

JHO LOW

Well, they were ugly.

HOTEL MANAGER

We have two senior art curators--
Sir, I'm here to ask when will we
get a...downpayment...

JHO LOW

A downpayment?

HOTEL MANAGER

We'd like to ensure that your stay
is uninterrupted...

JHO LOW

Ensure I have the means to pay.

HOTEL MANAGER

Every one of our guests, including
the President, has to make a
downpayment--

JHO LOW

You don't trust me.

HOTEL MANAGER

I don't make the rules.

JHO LOW
Can I ask you something?

HOTEL MANAGER
Sure.

JHO LOW
Have you heard of Kanye West,
Alicia Keys?

HOTEL MANAGER
Sort of.

JHO LOW
Drake, Sia, P!nk...

HOTEL MANAGER
They sound familiar.

JHO LOW
Pharrell Williams, Calvin Harris...

HOTEL MANAGER
I'm not really a music kind of
person.

JHO LOW
They're all under the largest music
publisher in the world called EMI.

HOTEL MANAGER
Interesting.

JHO LOW
I just fucking bought EMI! Do you
think I can't pay for this shit-
hole?

Silence.

JHO LOW
And there's a party tonight to
celebrate that and my birthday, so
can we discuss this tomorrow?

He adjusts a Basquiat PAINTING.

HOTEL MANAGER
We might have to stop the party if
we don't get some payment...and you
know we cherish you as our most--

JHO LOW
Half a million.

HOTEL MANAGER

I'm sorry?

JHO LOW

I asked if you knew how much an average Basquiat goes for? Half a million. That's the lower range.

He takes the painting off the wall.

JHO LOW

1982 oil stick drawing...*Untitled* (*Head of Madman*), which I bought for \$8.9 million.

Jho Low SHOVES the painting to the Hotel Manager.

JHO LOW

Collateral. Now, fuck off.

HOTEL MANAGER

Sir, we don't accept paintings--

JHO LOW

Keep this till tomorrow, when I will have money transferred to you.

Min enters, wondering what the confusion is:

MIN

Everything ok?

HOTEL MANAGER

I have strict orders from the CEO not to leave until--

JHO LOW

You tell the CEO I want him here now because I want to discuss your career path.

HOTEL MANAGER

He has personally asked me to stop the party if you don't--

JHO LOW

Oh yeah? Tell him to say it to my fucking face!

Jho Low yanks another Basquiat and shoves it at the Hotel Manager. Min intervenes.

JHO LOW

Untitled (Solanamum). 14 million...

And another:

JHO LOW
Crisis X. 8.5 million...

MIN
 Jho, calm down.

And another:

JHO LOW
Big Sun. 5 million...

Min takes the paintings off the Hotel Manager and ushers him out.

JHO LOW
 Get the fuck out of my room!

The Hotel Manager leaves. Min juggles with the Basquiats like she's juggling grocery bags, putting them back one by one.

MIN
 Actually, *Big Sun* was only 4 million...

JHO LOW
 Get me a pizza. I'm starving. And my vitamins and my caffeine pills.

Jho Low goes to the--

EXT. PALAZZO HOTEL SUITE BALCONY - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

--where he spots Roro frantically ordering WORKERS around.

JHO LOW
 You've 20 minutes!

He catches something disturbing: five MODELS in bikini.

JHO LOW
 Min?

Min is on the PHONE, ordering pizza. The models take their places at the pool, at their respective stations, like props.

JHO LOW
 Min!

Min hurries out.

MIN
 (on the phone)
 ...pineapple, extra large, diet
 Coke...
 (to JHO LOW)
 Yes?

JHO LOW
 What is that?

MIN
 Scantily clad women.
 (to the phone)
 Yes, make it quick.

She ends the call.

JHO LOW
 What are they wearing?

MIN
 Bikinis.

JHO LOW
 I know. What color?

MIN
 Red?

JHO LOW
 It's maroon. I wanted bright red.

MIN
 With some good lighting, they'll
 look bright red.

JHO LOW
 No, they have to be bright red with
 or without lighting.

MIN
 What's your obsession with red?

JHO LOW
 I don't know why you're asking me
 that. You know why.

MIN
 I do. I just don't understand why
everything--

JHO LOW
Everything has to be red.

MIN

Over 200 of the world's elite will be here tonight. To celebrate the birthday of that young boy from Malaysia who just bought the world's biggest music publisher-- and you're worried about the color of some skank's bikini?

JHO LOW

They're Victoria Secret models. Show some respect.

MIN

Come inside. Let Roro handle this. You put on your suit because you have a lot of hands to shake tonight.

JHO LOW

I'm not shaking any hands.

MIN

Don't be rude.

JHO LOW

I'm staying here.

MIN

What do you mean?

JHO LOW

I'm watching the party from here.

MIN

Like, right here?

JHO LOW

Yes.

MIN

Oh, so you're some kind of Asian Gatsby or something?

JHO LOW

What?

MIN

From *The Great Gatsby*. The rich millionaire who threw parties and then watches from his window.

JHO LOW

I'm not a millionaire.

MIN
Yes, you are.

JHO LOW
I'm a billionaire.

MIN
Well, for the rest of us, it's the same thing.

JHO LOW
I'm staying here, with Elva, and we're watching the party from up here. You're welcome to join-- where's my pizza?

MIN
I just ordered it 5 minutes ago.

JHO LOW
The service is getting worse.

MIN
I don't think anyone can get a pizza delivered in 5 minutes.

DING! DONG! The door bell rings.

JHO LOW
Is that my pizza?

Min goes to the--

INT. PALAZZO HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

--and opens the door. It's RIZA AZIZ (late 30's, male), the sort of guy who oozes pedigree lineage, but hides it in case he attracts the wrong crowd for the wrong reason.

MIN
No, it's not your pizza. It's..
(to RIZA)
Hello Riza.

RIZA AZIZ
I can be anything you want me to be.

JHO LOW
Come here and drink with this old man.

Min excuses herself.

JHO LOW
Min, the hotel manager...just fend
him off, OK?

MIN
I'll try.

She leaves. Jho Low pours whisky for Riza. Cheers.

RIZA AZIZ
Happy birthday, old man.

JHO LOW
I'm 30 next Monday. I'm one third
of my life.

RIZA AZIZ
And you're drowning in money. Boo
hoo.

JHO LOW
Ever heard of this actress called
Tatum O'Neal?

RIZA AZIZ
Nope. What movies was she in?

JHO LOW
Paper Moon. 1974. She won *Best
Supporting Actress*. Guess how old
she was then?

Riza looks out and notices the models at the pool.

RIZA AZIZ
Whoa! Who are those girls in red
bikinis?

JHO LOW
They're maroon. I rented them.

RIZA AZIZ
That is so wrong.

JHO LOW
Renting them?

RIZA AZIZ
They're red.

JHO LOW
They're maroon! I wanted bright
red.

Jho Low stares at Riza. Riza stares back: *what?*

JHO LOW

That is what we call our film company. Red something.

RIZA AZIZ

About that--

JHO LOW

It has to have an alliteration. Like *Red Rrrr...*

RIZA AZIZ

You made a press statement to *Hollywood Reporter*--

JHO LOW

Red Pictures...Red Films...

RIZA AZIZ

That you will have a launch party at Cannes--

JHO LOW

Red Productions. What's the word associated with, like...an explosion...a statement...

RIZA AZIZ

--"one of the hottest parties in years"--

JHO LOW

Like, a *Red Bomb* or--*Red Grenade!* That's it! That's it!

RIZA AZIZ

...but we don't even have a name for our company!

JHO LOW

Now we do! *Red Grenade.* We're going to explode into the scene.

RIZA AZIZ

Joey, we discussed this before. I make the press statements.

JHO LOW

Why?

RIZA AZIZ

Because--I'm the CEO and that's how it works?

JHO LOW

I bring in the money.

RIZA AZIZ

What money?

JHO LOW

Dude, I'm the money guy.

RIZA AZIZ

And I'd be very happy to acknowledge that if you actually bring in the goddamn money.

JHO LOW

For that, I want no official title. I just want a full screen credit that says "Thank you, Jho Low". That's all.

RIZA AZIZ

You'll have that, when you keep your end of the bargain.

JHO LOW

I'll bring in the money.

RIZA AZIZ

Money first. Then big plans. Then big announcements. No money, no big dreams. OK?

JHO LOW

You don't sound very confident--

RIZA AZIZ

I've 100% confidence in you. But you know, it's a bit hard to do that when our bank account is empty and you go make press statements about investing in some Hollywood A-Lister's movie.

JHO LOW

Leo DiCaprio isn't just an A-Lister. He's A Plus.

RIZA AZIZ

Leave the operations to me, OK?

JHO LOW

Sure, if you know what you're doing!

RIZA AZIZ

You don't go approach Martin Scorsese to make a movie unless you have the fucking money.

JHO LOW

Martin needs money. Leo wants an Oscar. I want an Oscar. You want an Oscar. This is a perfect team.

RIZA AZIZ

I don't really want an--

JHO LOW

This is going to be a great movie.

RIZA AZIZ

The real-life *Wolf of Wall Street* made millions. That doesn't mean the movie version will.

JHO LOW

Of course it will.

RIZA AZIZ

There's a reason why the studios didn't want to do this.

JHO LOW

The studio system is flawed.

RIZA AZIZ

Oh, man.

JHO LOW

They don't see potential. They're stupid, Riza.

RIZA AZIZ

Offering a hundred million dollars for a movie that's been rejected by major studios? That's stupid.

JHO LOW

"Where studios see trouble, Red Grenade sees opportunities."

RIZA AZIZ

We start small. We make movies that are more manageable.

JHO LOW
We don't win Oscars making
'manageable' movies.

RIZA AZIZ
Get some experience. Get the word
out there.

JHO LOW
We win Oscars by making big moves.

RIZA AZIZ
We're two fucking unknowns from
Malaysia and we'll never win an
Oscar! No one even knows where
Malaysia fucking is!

JHO LOW
The whole world will know about
Malaysia now...because of us.

DING! DONG! Min pops her head in.

MIN
Jho, there are some people--

JHO LOW
One minute!

Jho Low slams the door.

JHO LOW
When you stepped in that door just
now, you said "I can be anything
you want me to be".

RIZA AZIZ
(barely recalling)
No, I said I--it was a joke.

JHO LOW
No, you should say "I can be
anything I want to be".
(beat)
What do people call you?

Riza knows where this is going.

JHO LOW
They call you 'Riza Aziz, stepson
of Najib Razak'. You don't even
have a fucking name without some
fucking qualifier!

RIZA AZIZ

What does this have to do with you
recklessly going around town,
announcing--

JHO LOW

This is the perfect opportunity for
you to prove that you...are your
own man. That you're not just the
'stepson of the Prime Minister of
Malaysia', but you are your own
man. A big Hollywood producer.

DING! DONG! DING! DONG! Min pops in, urgent look on her face.

JHO LOW

One minute!

Jho Low slams the door.

JHO LOW

Ten. Tatum O'Neal was ten when she
won an Oscar.

RIZA

Your point is?

JHO LOW

We're 3 times her age. We should
have 3 Oscars now.

RIZA

I need to see the money.

DING DONG! DING DONG! DING DONG!

RIZA

Shall we open the door?

JHO LOW

(low voice)

You want to see the money? I'll
show you the money. Najib is in the
middle of negotiating a bond deal
with Abu Dhabi. Goldman is doing
the deal. It's a done deal. There's
a guy in Abu Dhabi I know...you'll
meet him too...let's just say, I'm
going to be making him very rich
and he's going to thank me with a
little fee...

RIZA

Go on. What kind of fee?

JHO LOW

For my role in--whatever--in order for this to work, there are some papers that need a very important signature--

DING DONG! DING DONG!

RIZA

We should really open the door.

JHO LOW

(to the door)

One minute!

(to RIZA)

You're the only person the world who can get Najib to sign the bond deal.

RIZA

No, no, no. I've worked hard all my life...so I can step out of his shadow.

JHO LOW

If the deal is done, we're going to have a little bit of money. To fund our movie. We will make *The Wolf Of Wall Street*. That's when you can finally say, "I can be anything I want to be" and actually mean it. That's when you will finally become more than *just* the step-son of Najib Razak.

Riza thinks hard. After an eternity:

RIZA

No.

Jho Low groans in disappointment.

RIZA

No, I'm not literally the only person who can get him to sign..but yes, I will get him to sign.

Jho Low smiles and hugs his old friend.

JHO LOW

Thank you, Cinderella.

RIZA AZIZ

Stop calling me that.

DING DONG! DING DONG!

RIZA
I should get the door.

Riza is about to open the door, but stops short:

RIZA
Hey. *Red Grenade* is a stupid name.
How about *Red Granite*?

JHO LOW
What does it mean?

RIZA
I don't know. It just sounds nice.

JHO LOW
You have the final say. You're the
money guy. See you at the party.

Riza opens the door. It's the Hotel Manager, with the CEO of
the Palazzo, being held back by a flustered Min.

HOTEL MANAGER
This is the CEO. He will now *'say
it to your fucking face'*...as
requested.

CEO
Mr. Low, we've sent multiple--

JHO LOW
Get out of my room.

CEO
I'm sorry. This isn't *your* room,
Sir.

JHO LOW
You'll get a cheque tomorrow. Plus
ten percent interest. Are we good?

CEO
Sir, we will have to insist--

JHO LOW
Come here for a sec. No, come here.

He leads them to the balcony--

EXT. PALAZZO HOTEL SUITE BALCONY - DAY

--and points at the party.

JHO LOW
See this?

CEO
Yes, the eight hundred bottles of--

JHO LOW
Eight hundred and eighty-eight!
(to MIN)
Will no one get this right?

Jho Low spots Roro:

JHO LOW
Roro! Is everything good? There's
only one answer, one word, and it
should be--

RORO
Yes yes yes yes yes yes...

JHO LOW
Good. Let's have a look.

Roro TURNS ON the contraption. It moves slowly. Way too slowly. Something's not right. *Shit...*

Then suddenly, all 888 bottles of Cristal turn upside down.

FINALLY! An applause breaks out among the WORKERS. Jho Low is delighted.

JHO LOW
Cristal was given a perfect 100-
point score. It's basically a
virtually impossible feat for even
the most prestigious wines.

CEO
We're familiar with Cristal.

Jho Low spots AL-HUSSEINY (late 40's, male) coming towards the hotel. Jho Low gestures that he comes up.

JHO LOW
I'm about to pour all this down the
drain! You didn't think I planned
to *not* to pay you, right?

CEO
It's not about whether you *planned*
to pay...

JHO LOW
Say it. Just say it.

CEO
Sir, will we have the payment at
7pm before the party starts?

JHO LOW
You're not saying it.

CEO
You're not answering the question.

JHO LOW
Here's the answer to your question:
I said I'll pay you full plus 10%.
But...I changed my mind. I'm going
to pay you *double*--

CEO
No, just pay what is stated in the
bill, by 7pm today, or else--

JHO LOW
Min, show them the door please.

CEO
We know the doors of our hotel very
well.

They turn leave.

JHO LOW
Or else what?

CEO
The party stops.

They're gone and the door closes.

MIN
Just pay them, Jho.

JHO LOW
Did you hear that?

MIN
You don't need this power play.

JHO LOW

"It's not about whether you planned to pay. It's about whether you can afford to pay".

(beat)

That's what he meant--you know what the problem is? They have never seen an Asian who is crazy rich. They think we're all--where's Elva?

MIN

In her room.

Jho Low goes towards the--

INT. PALAZZO HOTEL SUITE BEDROOM - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

--and knocks on the door. ELVA HSIAO (early 20's, female) opens it, wearing a red bikini with a loose top over it, doing her hair. She's clearly more enthralled by this world of the rich and famous than the portly guy standing in front of her.

JHO LOW

All ready to party?

ELVA

We're getting ready.

Elva's friend JANET (early 20's, female) yells from inside the room, full party-mode on.

JANET (O.S)

Hey Joey, I asked Elva if all your rich, single guy friends are here tonight.

Janet appears, all dolled-up, excited to be unleashed into the Party Of The Century.

JANET

She said she doesn't know. Do you know?

ELVA

Janet, shut up.

JANET

We've never been to a party like this before.

JHO LOW

(to Elva)

Well, you are going to be at the balcony. With me. You can watch the whole party.

ELVA

Just me? What about Janet?

JHO LOW

(sheepishly)

Yeah, just you. If it's ok...

ELVA

Oh, I can't leave Janet alone.

JANET

No, no! You two go. More rich guys for me then! Sorry, babe!

ELVA

Shut up!

JANET

She's here for the rich guys.

ELVA

No, I'm not!

Janet shoots Jho Low a look: *yeah right!* Awkward.

JHO LOW

How's the swimsuit?

ELVA

It's really nice.

JHO LOW

It's a piece from Huishan Zhang. Custom-made. Took three months.

ELVA

It's really nice. Thank you.

JANET

(looking at Elva, jaw dropping)

This is a Huishan Zhang?

Awkward. Diverting attention:

ELVA

I like the maroon color.

JHO LOW
Actually, it's red.

JANET
That's what I told her.

More awkwardness. Min yells from the other side:

MIN (O.S.)
Jho! Al-Husseiny...

JHO LOW
Can I come in?

ELVA
We really need to get ready. I'll see you soon?

JHO LOW
At the balcony. OK?

MIN (O.S.)
Jho!

ELVA
Yeah, sure.

She closes the door. Jho Low hears muffled voices behind the door:

JANET (O.S.)
You caught a whale!

ELVA (O.S.)
Shut up!

Jho Low stares at the door, before snapping out of his daze.

He goes out to the living room and spots an extra large PIZZA on the kitchen bar.

INT. PALAZZO HOTEL SUITE KITCHEN BAR - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

AL-HUSSEINY (late 40's, male), in an ultra luxurious, white THAWB (traditional Arab costume for men), sitting there. He's very at ease rubbing shoulders with the rich and powerful; but if you look closer, you could occasionally catch small glimpses of him being just a little out of place.

AL-HUSSEINY
Fun fact: 350 slices of pizza are eaten every second in the US.

Jho Low offers him a slice:

JHO LOW
Want to make it 351?

AL-HUSSEINY
I hate pizza.

JHO LOW
What? No way!

Jho Low plonks himself on the bar, and starts munching.

JHO LOW
What the hell are you wearing? This
is not costume party.

AL-HUSSEINY
Got to dress the part. Rich Arab
doing big important business
dealings.

JHO LOW
I like that.

Al-Husseiny starts taking off his thawb.

AL-HUSSEINY
When people do business with us,
they always expect us to be
arriving on some camel, wearing
some ridiculous white robe.

JHO LOW
Gives it that Arabian mystic.

AL-HUSSEINY
They think all Arabs print money.

JHO LOW
I don't know about other Arabs, but
I know *this* Arab is going to be
printing a lot of money.

AL-HUSSEINY
Well...

JHO LOW
Listen, forget whatever I told you
before. This is the new plan.

Al-Husseiny is now in torn-jeans and a black T-shirt with
heavy metal motifs. He's ready to party.

AL-HUSSEINY

I hope the new plan is better than the old plan because the old plan really sucked. Listen, 1MDB is raising a US\$6.5 billion bond...

JHO LOW

You sure you don't want some pizza?

AL-HUSSEINY

The bonds are guaranteed--no, yuck--by the International Petroleum Investment Company. We know that.

JHO LOW

How about some whisky?

AL-HUSSEINY

In exchange--whisky's good--in exchange, the subsidiary of the International Petroleum Investment Company will acquire 1MDB's energy assets.

JHO LOW

What's it called?

AL-HUSSEINY

The International Petroleum--

JHO LOW

The subsidiary.

AL-HUSSEINY

Aabar Investments PJS.

JHO LOW

Wrong. *Aabar Investments PJS Limited.*

AL-HUSSEINY

I'm sorry?

JHO LOW

The subsidiary's name is *Aabar Investments PJS...*

(spells)

L-i-m-i-t-e-d.

AL-HUSSEINY

It has one extra word '*Limited*'-and?

JHO LOW
Exactly! Give me your glass.

Al-Husseiny passes him his glass.

AL-HUSSEINY
I'm not following this--
(pointing to his glass)
--just a little.

Jho Low tilts the bottle to pour whisky...

JHO LOW
We divert the money. From 1MDB..
(using the whisky bottle
to represent 1MDB)
...to what is supposed to be Aabar
Investments PJS...

...but whips out ANOTHER GLASS out of nowhere.

JHO LOW
...instead it goes to Aabar
Investments PJS Limited, a company
in the British Virgin Islands.

AL-HUSSEINY
Like, a shell company?

JHO LOW
No, like a fake company.

He tilts the bottle to pour whisky into this new glass. Up to the brim: *that's a lot of whisky*.

JHO LOW
The two companies have very similar names.
(pointing to the empty glass)
Aabar Investments PJS.
(pointing to the full glass)
Aabar Investments PJS Limited.

AL-HUSSEINY
This is a crazy plan.

JHO LOW
This is fucking crazy plan. Which is why no one will ever suspect. Compliance, AMLA--

AL-HUSSEINY

And who owns this *Aabar Investments PJS Limited*?

Jho Low pushes the NEW GLASS (whisky to the brim) to Al-Husseiny.

JHO LOW

You do. Cheers.

Jho Low lifts his glass. Al-Husseiny does to, in a daze, spilling whisky all over.

JHO LOW

Now, you're a rich Arab printing money.

They knock glasses.

JHO LOW

Nice doing business with you.

Al-Husseiny slowly lets this all sink in.

AL-HUSSEINY

How much are we talking about?

JHO LOW

You Arabs use your white robe to do business. We Chinese use '*guanxi*'. Personal connections. It goes beyond what Western people call 'connections' or 'relationships'. Think of it as a walled community. Those inside, we help each other. Those on the outside, they can't get in. Unless...they have '*guanxi*' with someone on the inside.

AL-HUSSEINY

You didn't answer me.

JHO LOW

One billion US dollars.

Al-Husseiny starts to laugh. It's sinking in: wow!

AL-HUSSEINY

So you want me to bring you inside.

JHO LOW

Once I'm inside, I take the money out. And put some into your account. We'll split the money.

Min comes in and walks past them.

MIN

The guests are arriving.

She goes to the balcony, running around sorting out things.

JHO LOW

Ready to party?

AL-HUSSEINY

One question.

JHO LOW

I have a question for you too. You first.

AL-HUSSEINY

How big is your slice for all this?

JHO LOW

I don't know yet.

AL-HUSSEINY

What's your question?

JHO LOW

What are you going to do with all the money?

AL-HUSSEINY

I don't know yet.

JHO LOW

Do you want to invest in a Hollywood movie?

Al-Husseiny laughs and shrugs. He leaves.

JHO LOW

Think about it. It's starring Leonardo DiCaprio...

Jho Low goes to--

INT. PALAZZO HOTEL SUITE BEDROOM - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

--Elva's room and knocks. No answer. He opens the door. No one is there.

JHO LOW

Min, where Elva?

MIN

She's at the party. They're all waiting for you.

Jho Low goes to the--

EXT. PALAZZO HOTEL SUITE BALCONY - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

--and looks down.

EXT. PALAZZO HOTEL SWIMMING POOL - NIGHT

The party is in full swing. Celebrities, VIPs, models etc. It's the *Party Of The Century*. Roro is anxiously staring at the contraption.

EXT. PALAZZO HOTEL SUITE BALCONY - NIGHT

Jho Low is pleased. He spots Roro and mock shoots him. Roro signals 'OK', assuring Jho Low the contraption will work.

A couple of PARTY GOERS spot Jho Low. They point at him and begin clapping. Then all at once, everyone starts to clap for *The Man* himself. Jho Low waves at them, like the Pope at his balcony.

MIN

You have to go down and say hi to everyone.

JHO LOW

I'm good up here. It's a nice--is that Elva?

He spots Elva. In the pool. In her new red Huishan Zhang swimsuit, partying with a few HUNKS. *Fucking hell.*

MIN

She's having a good time...

Min notices Jho Low is upset.

MIN

...which is what people do at parties.

JHO LOW

Tell Roro to turn the Cristals.

MIN

I thought we do it at the end?

JHO LOW
I want it now!

Min signals to Roro. Roro is confused: *Now?*

Min nods. Roro clicks the REMOTE CONTROL. The contraption begins to move, unbeknownst to the party-goers below, uncorking the 888 bottles of Cristal when--

--suddenly, all the LIGHTS GO OFF.

JHO LOW
What's happening? Min?

Total darkness, except for a few dim light bulbs here and there. The music has stopped too.

MIN
That's not part of the plan.

Min rings Roro. Down below, chaos begins to build up.

MIN
Roro, what's happening?
(to Jho Low)
He says there's no electricity.

JHO LOW
What? The Palazzo?
(looking around)
There's electricity here. There's
electricity in the next room.
There's--god damn fucking--

It dawns upon him.

JHO LOW
They fucking stopped the party!
They fucking--they...

MIN
I'll call the concierge--

Jho Low runs into the--

INT. PALAZZO HOTEL SUITE LIVING ROOM - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

--and starts TRASHING things angrily. Furniture, paintings, the fridge, the TV, glasses, pizza. Everything. Nothing is spared. Not even the Basquiats.

Min tries to calm him down, while talking on the phone with the concierge.

Down below, a sense of confusion as they hear loud noises of things crashing from the suite high up above; a figure raging at the premature end of the *Party Of The Century*.

A Basquiat flies out and splashes into the pool.

HARD CUT TO:

BLACK.

--the final chorus of '*Sejahtera Malaysia*' (*Peaceful Malaysia*) is heard as we soar through the headlines.

FADE IN:

Headlines from the SARAWAK REPORT (whistle blower website) flash:

INSERT: Goldman Sachs' US\$200million Charge For 1MDB Bond Issue!

INSERT: Wall Street Greed / Malaysian Money - EXPOSED!

INSERT: How 1MDB Bankrolled Jho Low's Private Equity Splash! FURTHER EXCLUSIVE

INSERT: More Links - Jho Low's Spending And Malaysia's Development Money EXCLUSIVE

INSERT: Foreign Collaborators - Jho Low's Key Supporters and The Money They Made

INSERT: Jho Low's People - A Life In The Day

IMSSERT: Mixing Business With A Great Deal Of Pleasure - How Jho Low Flaunts His Billions

EXT. THE PERSIAN GULF - DAY

The waters are calm and the sun is bright. Over the horizon, a HELICOPTER appears.

INSERT: The Persian Gulf. Age: 35

INT. HELICOPTER - DAY

Jho Low and Riza are crammed inside the helicopter at the back. Min is in front, with the PILOT.

JHO LOW
I have two predictions today.

RIZA AZIZ

What?

JHO LOW

Wolf of Wall Street is going to get nominated for the Oscars. And Najib will win the election.

RIZA AZIZ

That's going to be tough.

JHO LOW

Which one?

RIZA AZIZ

Najib.

JHO LOW

What are you talking about? It's a foregone conclusion. Every single poll--

RIZA AZIZ

Polls are like Oscar speculations. They're never accurate.

JHO LOW

Najib's party has never lost a single election since independence-- why am I even explaining this to you?

RIZA AZIZ

That doesn't mean they'll never lose.

JHO LOW

We have to win.

RIZA AZIZ

Which one?

JHO LOW

Both.

RIZA AZIZ

I think we've a better shot with the Oscar.

JHO LOW

Najib has to win, so we can keep making movies.

RIZA AZIZ
 We're not making any more movies.
Red Granite is being investigated.

JHO LOW
 For what?

Riza whips out his phone and shows Jho Low an article.

RIZA AZIZ
The Hollywood Reporter called *Red Granite* 'Top Company To Watch, a company that came out of nowhere'--

JHO LOW
 That's true.

RIZA AZIZ
 Everyone is asking, "Who the hell are these two guys and where are they getting their money from?"

JHO LOW
 Financing has always come from crazy places. This is Hollywood.

RIZA AZIZ
 But how did we raise so much money in such a short period of time?

JHO LOW
 'Low profile investors'. Haven't we been saying that?
 (chuckles)
 Get it? Low profile investors...

RIZA AZIZ
 We should stay low-key.

JHO LOW
 No, we should ride on the wave. When Najib wins, we're doubling our efforts.

RIZA AZIZ
 No, we're not. We're running out of cash, and we cannot rely on events that are happening thousands of miles away for money.

JHO LOW
 Who is the richest president in history?

RIZA AZIZ
We don't have a president.

JHO LOW
US president. Who is the richest US president to have ever lived?

RIZA AZIZ
I don't know.

JHO LOW
George Washington. His salary was 2% of the total US federal budget.

RIZA AZIZ
Great.

JHO LOW
Which US President had to borrow money to attend his own inauguration?

RIZA AZIZ
I don't know.

JHO LOW
Also George Washington. He was rich, but he was always broke. He had to borrow £100 at 6% interest to attend his own inauguration.

RIZA AZIZ
So you're saying we need to borrow money?

JHO LOW
I'm saying we're making a movie about George Washington.

RIZA AZIZ
What?

JHO LOW
I offered Martin to direct. Leo will star.

RIZA AZIZ
Hold on a sec--we're under investigation.

JHO LOW
There's nothing to investigate!

RIZA AZIZ

We can't keep dipping our hands
into LMDB--listen, we're assuming
Najib wins!

JHO LOW

You have very little confidence.

RIZA AZIZ

Let me say this again: we're
assuming Najib wins!

JHO LOW

Two years ago, you were '*Riza Aziz,
stepson of Najib Razak*'. You were
like Cinderella, the step child who
was always passed over. But today,
you're '*Riza Aziz, p.g.a!*'! Doesn't
it have a nice ring to it? You're
going for big, lavish balls now.

RIZA AZIZ

Well, I got to say, it's been a
good ride.

JHO LOW

And we're going to keep doing it.
Najib wins tonight, we rinse and
repeat--hey, look!

He points out the window. Down below: the EQUANIMITY, a SUPER-
YACHT of immense beauty.

JHO LOW

The *Equanimity*. There's a jacuzzi
on the deck, sauna, helicopter
landing pad, swimming pool, beach
club, beauty salon, zero-speed
stabilizers--what's a zero-speed
stabilizer, Min?

MIN

No clue.

JHO LOW

...gym, spa, elevator, movie
theatre, garage, swimming platform,
air conditioning, steam room,
Turkish bath, beauty room,
underwater lights, kitchen, study
room...

RIZA AZIZ

You can just live there.

JHO LOW
No, the internet is pretty bad.

On the decks of the *Equanimity* down below, a PARTY is being set-up. The helicopter lands.

EXT. EQUANIMITY HELIPAD - DAY

Roro runs towards the helicopter to greet them. The propellor shuts down. They hop off.

RIZA AZIZ
Jho, this George Washington film--

JHO LOW
(to RORO)
Is that the screen?

He points at a giant SCREEN on the UPPER BRIDGE.

RORO
Yes, that's the screen.

JHO LOW
Why is it blank?

RORO
There's no reception.

JHO LOW
We just bought a new satellite dish.

RORO
There's no internet here.

JHO LOW
(to RIZA AZIZ)
Told you.

RORO
The captain is still trying to navigate to a place to get some signal.

JHO LOW
Well, he better hurry up.

MIN
We must have the screen working.

RORO

This area...the Persian Gulf...is a little congested. Too many people. But, yes...

JHO LOW

And turn on the speakers, damn it!

Roro runs off.

JHO LOW

Why are we hiring Roro again?

MIN

He's the only party planner in town who accepts jobs from you.

JHO LOW

He can't even get a screen working!

MIN

We don't need the screen. It's a foregone conclusion.

JHO LOW

But I want to hear the sweet words: 'Najib wins 111 seats!' BOOM!

From behind:

TIM LEISSNER

I sure hope to hear those words too.

JHO LOW

You will, Tim. Wait for a few hours. All your worries will be over.

Min goes off with Riza. Jho Low and Tim go towards the cockpit.

TIM LEISSNER

I haven't slept for a week.

JHO LOW

Why?

TIM LEISSNER

Why? You know why! I've sent you ten emails and left god-knows-how-many voice messages...

They reach--

INT. EQUANIMITY COCK PIT - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

--a tiny place, with a small WINDOW, that barely fits two adults.

JHO LOW

I've been busy.

TIM LEISSNER

Busy with what? Really. I'm actually interested in hearing the answer.

JHO LOW

I have been very busy helping Goldman Sachs make a ton of money so you can earn a gigantic bonus and be a rich, fat, expat banker with money to throw around. That's what I've been busy with.

TIM LEISSNER

I'm not fat and I have news for you. 'Compliance' is getting suspicious. They're asking a lot questions. They're asking about all the off-shore transactions. They're asking why is money going into Najib's account. More importantly, they're asking who the fuck you are.

JHO LOW

I thought I made it clear. I have no role in all this. I'm just facilitating meetings--

TIM LEISSNER

But you're everywhere, playing gatekeeper. That's what the problem is. 'Compliance' doesn't want you to have a role in all this.

JHO LOW

I found Goldman Sachs a goldmine.

TIM LEISSNER

There's no finder's fees.

JHO LOW

There should be though.

TIM LEISSNER

Listen. That 6.5 billion Goldman raised...I've pushed some of that into a Swiss bank account, half of the money went offshore, and a lot went into Najib's account--

JHO LOW

Thank you.

TIM LEISSNER

--and the only reason I can get away with this is because 1MDB is a government-owned fund run by the prime minister.

JHO LOW

That's not the only reason.

TIM LEISSNER

What do you mean?

JHO LOW

The bank could largely rely on your word that the money was being used properly...because *Dr. Tim PhD* says so.

TIM LEISSNER

That's not true.

JHO LOW

As long as Najib's in power, we're safe.

TIM LEISSNER

Do you know what the U.S. Bank Secrecy Act is?

JHO LOW

No, tell me.

TIM LEISSNER

Banks need to report suspicious transactions to regulators--

JHO LOW

Of course I know what the U.S. Bank Secrecy Act is. I can fucking recite it backwards! How do you think I game the system?

TIM LEISSNER

Then you'll know we're *obliged* to report suspicious fund transfers.

JHO LOW

What's so suspicious about 1MDB moving funds around?

TIM LEISSNER

Just *failing* to report will land us in jail.

JHO LOW

1MDB is different.

TIM LEISSNER

You took money from a sovereign fund--

JHO LOW

--for my role in facilitating--

TIM LEISSNER

--there's no finder's fees! They want you out of the picture.

JHO LOW

I feel really appreciated.

TIM LEISSNER

GS isn't exactly very popular right now. Everyone's mad at us for the 2008 crash. That's why 'Compliance' is a little extra strict.

JHO LOW

They're way too strict.

TIM LEISSNER

I'm going to have to do a proper declaration. Your name is going to be on the record.

Min pops her head in. There's someone outside.

MIN

Jho, you're needed.

JHO LOW

Not now.

A PROFESSIONAL BIDDER (40, male) pops his head in.

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER

The auction is starting soon. Give me a ceiling.

JHO LOW

40 million. Not a single cent more.

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER

OK. As always, the 'Compliance'--

JHO LOW

Compliance! Compliance!

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER

Christie's Compliance with the Anti Money Laundering--

JHO LOW

If I hear this word one more--tell them I'll send them the paper work.

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER

They need the paper work *before* the auction.

JHO LOW

This isn't the first time I'm bidding with fucking Christie's. Don't they have my details?

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER

They want to do further background checks--

JHO LOW

Min!

MIN

Yes?

JHO LOW

Christie's wants some paper work.

MIN

OK. I'll email them right now.

JHO LOW

And can I have my phone?

Taking seven phones (6 black, 1 red) out:

MIN

Which one?

He takes a black one. To the Professional Bidder:

JHO LOW
What are we bidding for?

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER
Diamond Dustheads. 1982. A painting
of two drug addicts.

JHO LOW
Show it to me.

The Professional Bidder whips out his iPad and presents Basquiat's famous *Diamond Dustheads*.

JHO LOW
(to TIM LEISSNER)
Beautiful.

TIM LEISSNER
Nice.

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER
It is an ambitious piece, even by
Basquiat's standards. Almost seven
feet high.

TIM LEISSNER
Great.

The Professional Bidder reads the description. Jho Low is enthralled by this piece of Basquiat, listening to it like it's music.

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER
"The piece shows two stick-like
figures against a black
background..."

TIM LEISSNER
(to JHO LOW)
This is interesting--

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER
"One figure dominates the picture,
painted in bright red, waving his
hands and arms above his head..."

TIM LEISSNER
(to JHO LOW)
Buddy, we have a situation here--

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER
 "The use of vivid colors, bold
 brushstrokes, confusing lines..."

TIM LEISSNER
 (to JHO LOW)
 I don't know if you realize...

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER
 "...give the painting a sense of
 chaos, urgency and movement."

TIM LEISSNER
 (to JHO LOW)
 LOW TAEK JHO, CAN I GET YOUR
 FUCKING ATTENTION PLEASE?!!!

Silence.

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER
 I'll be outside.

JHO LOW
 Maximum 40 million. Not a single
 cent more.

The Professional Bidder and Min leave.

TIM LEISSNER
 I cannot hide the money trail
 anymore. I got to cover my ass.

JHO LOW
 All I did was bring important
 people together. LMDB and Goldman
 Sachs. You tell them that.

TIM LEISSNER
 I authorized to send money into a
 Swiss bank account, as you
 instructed. Red flag.

Professional Bidder knocks on the WINDOW from outside and
 makes a '20' SIGN: "Are you ok?". Jho Low okays it.

TIM LEISSNER
 I authorized to send money into
 Najib's bank account. I authorized
 to send money to many, many, many
 off-shore accounts. Red flag, red
 flag, red flag!

JHO LOW
 You know how Basquiat got famous?

TIM LEISSNER
I don't really care...

JHO LOW
He created this graffiti called
'SAMO'. S-A-M-O.

TIM LEISSNER
...because we could go to jail for
this.

The Professional Bidder makes a '25' SIGN. Jho Low okays it.

JHO LOW
'SAMO' stands for 'same old shit'.
It's the same old shit, Tim.
'Compliance' asks for details. We
give them what they want to hear.
They keep quiet. The world goes on
and on. No one gives a shit.

TIM LEISSNER
I've just been summoned to
Headquarters to explain myself.
What do I say?

The Professional Bidder knocks on the window and makes a '30'
SIGN. Jho Low groans in frustration, but okays it.

JHO LOW
How many people have been jailed
during the 2008 crisis?

Silence.

JHO LOW
Zero! No one person. That's the
real world, my friend.

TIM LEISSNER
Of course there were people jailed!
You're making up your own facts!

The Professional Bidder opens the door this time: *this is serious*. Makes a '35' sign.

JHO LOW
What? Who the fuck--

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER
Someone really likes this piece.

JHO LOW
Well, I like it more!

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER
I'll do my best.

JHO LOW
Your best is when I win it!

The Professional Bidder closes the door.

TIM LEISSNER
Just curious. How many Basquiats
one can buy with 100 million?

JHO LOW
Depends.

TIM LEISSNER
I'll find out. I want 100 million
in my bank account end of business.

JHO LOW
No.

TIM LEISSNER
Trust me, you'd want to say yes to
this.

JHO LOW
You think you deserve 100? I think
you're at the 50 plus range.

TIM LEISSNER
50 is for average guys and I didn't
wake up this morning feeling
average. I'm the fucking rainmaker.
You know that.

JHO LOW
OK. 100 then.

The Professional Bidder knocks on the window and makes a '40'
SIGN. Jho Low hesitates for a second and makes a '45' SIGN.

JHO LOW
What's your horoscope again?

TIM LEISSNER
Sheep. But I'm no sheep. End of
business. I want to see the money
first.

JHO LOW
(yells)
Min!

The Professional Bidder makes '48' sign.

JHO LOW
Alright, alright. Go for '50'.

Min appears.

JHO LOW
I want you to transfer 100 million
into the account of Mr. Tim
Leissner here by today.

MIN
(incredulous gasp)
OK.

TIM LEISSNER
Money well spent. It's just a
couple of Basquiats.

JHO LOW
Now go tear those red flags down,
Dr. Tim.

Tim leaves, pleased he has gotten his share of the spoils.

MIN
Did I hear you right? 100 million?

JHO LOW
Yes.

MIN
It's not within my job scope to be
asking you questions, but I think
things are getting out of hand.

JHO LOW
No, Najib will make sure
everything's ok.

MIN
I'm talking about you.

JHO LOW
What?

MIN
I've been working for you since day
one, when Jho Low was a chubby boy
from Penang. When 100 million
wasn't just a 1 with a bunch of 0's
attached to it.

JHO LOW
Min, not now.

MIN
I'm not going to lecture you.

JHO LOW
Thank you.

MIN
But I'd be failing in my duties if
I didn't remind you--

The Professional Bidder pops in again.

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER
They need more documentations
before you can bid further.

MIN
I already sent them everything.

JHO LOW
Why?

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER
Christie's is pretty strict
with...source of money. They want
to do more background checks.

JHO LOW
I've bought enough art pieces from
Christie's to sink this ship...

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER
That's exactly why they want to do
more due diligence. They want to
know how a--

JHO LOW
--how a fucking immigrant who's
supposed to be working in a
convenience store can have money to--
-you tell them I'm going to buy ten
Basquaits and then burn them all
just to--fucking hell, Min, are you
hearing this?

MIN
Can they not make an exception?

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER
There's a red flag--

JHO LOW
Oh my god.

MIN
Tell them Mr. Low will provide all
the documentation after the bid.

JHO LOW
No. Screw this. Stop the bid.

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER
Stop?

JHO LOW
Yes, stop!

PROFESSIONAL BIDDER
But this piece is one of the most
sought-after--

JHO LOW
I said stop!!!

End of story. The Professional Bidder nods and leaves.

EXT. EQUANIMITY HELIPAD - DAY

A HELICOPTER has just landed and a couple of CELEBRITIES are
hopping off.

INT. EQUANIMITY COCK PIT - DAY

A knock on the door. It's Roro.

MIN
Not now.

JHO LOW
Tell me the screen is working.

RORO
It's somewhat working.

JHO LOW
Either it is working or it is not
working. Show it to me.

They hurry towards the-

EXT. EQUANIMITY UPPER BRIDGE - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

--where the giant SCREEN is. The visuals are grainy and the sound is barely audible.

JHO LOW
Didn't we just buy these new speakers? Why is the sound--

RORO
The speakers are working fine. It's the reception.

JHO LOW
Then get it fixed!

RORO
I've installed a new antenna--

JHO LOW
But?

RORO
(pointing up to the sky)
--and it transmits the signal from here to the satellite up there. Which then sends the signal back down to this antenna. But because the yacht is moving--

JHO LOW
Then, don't move!

RORO
We can't moor here. It's illegal.

JHO LOW
It's illegal to not move?

RORO
We can still make it happen, if you don't mind having *just* the audio.

JHO LOW
Just the audio? I don't want to just hear the results. I want to see the results too.

RORO
You can have visuals, but you'll need to compromise on the sound.

Roro turns the KNOBS and demonstrates. The AUDIO gets clearer but the VISUAL deteriorates.

RORO

See?

MIN

We'll get updates from our phones.
Let's just have some fun at the
party, OK?

JHO LOW

Najib is the reason for this party.

Roro turns the KNOBS again. Buzzing sound and the AUDIO
deteriorates. Grainy screen turns clearer and the VISUAL
shows: **PH: 25 (red) | BN: 34 (blue)**

RORO

Are we going for blue or red?

JHO LOW

Blue. Blue needs 111 seats to win.
Blue wins, and you get to continue
organizing parties. Blue loses,
you'll be working in Starbucks.

RORO

I do have other clients.

JHO LOW

No one pays like I do.

RORO

That's true.

A HELICOPTER appears. Al-Husseiny gets off and waves at Jho
Low. But something else catches Jho Low's attention.

JHO LOW

Get this fixed. Both the screen and
the speaker.

Jho Low heads towards--

EXT. EQUANIMITY PLUNGE POOL - DAY

--where Elva is, swimming around in the pool (more like an
elevated aquarium).

ELVA

Finally, I get to say hello.

JHO LOW

I'm sorting some stuff out.

ELVA

I almost thought I would have to line up to meet you like the rest of them.

JHO LOW

You don't have to line up...

ELVA

They say some even have to wait for days just to have 5 minutes with--

JHO LOW

You're not like the rest of them.

Jho Low tries to kiss her. She avoids his lips, and turns her cheek to him.

ELVA

Well, lucky me.

JHO LOW

(heartbroken)

Yup.

Awkward silence.

JHO LOW

I didn't know if you like the color...

Jho Low whips out a diamond pendant, the most luxurious she, or anyone, has ever seen.

JHO LOW

It's from Lorraine Schwartz.

ELVA

This looks really expensive.

JHO LOW

It's--

ELVA

Let me guess. 8.88 carat.

JHO LOW

Yeah, I wanted it to be exactly--

ELVA

You and your fascination with '8'...yes, I know.

Admiring the piece, overwhelmed:

ELVA
It's too expensive. I can't--

JHO LOW
It was going for 4 mil. I didn't
like the number 4, so I paid--

ELVA
3?

JHO LOW
5. But did you know Lorraine
Schwartz has fans like Beyoncé,
Blake Lively...

Roro shouts from--

EXT. EQUANIMITY UPPER BRIDGE - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

RORO
Sir, we got visuals.

EXT. EQUANIMITY PLUNGE POOL - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

JHO LOW
(to ELVA)
One sec.

He rushes to RORO.

EXT. EQUANIMITY UPPER BRIDGE - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

Grainy screen shows: **PH: 50 (red) | BN: 55 (blue)**

JHO LOW
What happened?

RORO
The Captain has slowed the yacht a
little so the signal--

JHO LOW
I mean, what the happened to the
numbers?

Al-Husseiny appears, in Western suit.

AL-HUSSEINY
Najib needs to win.

JHO LOW

Well, we won't be able to *hear* the announcement unless Roro--

(to RORO)

--gets this sorted! What are you standing here for?

Roro runs off, panicking.

AL-HUSSEINY

Can we have a word?

JHO LOW

No, I got to sort this out.

AL-HUSSEINY

Who's Eric Tan?

Beat.

JHO LOW

Let's go for a walk.

They walk along the Equanimity. The party is about to start. Balloons, confetti etc, and of course, Cristal champagnes. The scene is generally blue (the color of BN), with a giant banner of Najib's face. The day has turned to night. They reach the--

EXT. EQUANIMITY CABIN - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

--where Jho Low shuts the door.

AL-HUSSEINY

I diverted 1.1 billion dollars from Aabar to an overseas investment fund company called Blackstone. As you instructed. Then I found out... it's owned by one Eric Tan.

JHO LOW

Good.

AL-HUSSEINY

And now, you want me to transfer 700 million dollars from Blackstone into the Najib's *personal* account. 'Personal' being the key word here.

JHO LOW

Yes.

AL-HUSSEINY

What fairy tale explanation could I conjure up to explain this?

JHO LOW

You worry too much.

AL-HUSSEINY

Are you aware authorities all over the world are investigating this? Very *actively* investigating this? The US, Australia, Hong Kong, the UK, Indonesia, UAE, Luxembourg, Singapore, Seychelles, Switzerland--

JHO LOW

Where's your white robe?

AL-HUSSEINY

Me, you, Goldman, we're all exposed--sorry, what?

JHO LOW

Your white robe.

AL-HUSSEINY

I don't walk around wearing a white robe.

Jho Low opens the cupboard and whips out a KEFFIYE (Arab head dress).

JHO LOW

Look! I bought a keffiye.

AL-HUSSEINY

So you want to be a rich Arab now?

He hands Al-Husseiny a pen and paper.

JHO LOW

Write this down.

Al-Husseiny does not get it, but goes along.

JHO LOW

(dictates)

"I hereby grant you an additional sum of up to USD 700,000,000 Only ("Gift")..."

AL-HUSSEINY

What's all this about?

JHO LOW
We're writing a letter to Najib.

AL-HUSSEINY
We are what?

JHO LOW
Trust me. Just do it.
(dictates)
*"...which shall be remitted to you
in such manner as I deem fit from
Blackstone Asia Real Estate
Partners Limited."*

AL-HUSSEINY
OK, I get what you're doing here.

JHO LOW
(dictates)
*"The Gift should not in any event
be construed as an act of
corruption since this is against
the practice of Islam..."*

AL-HUSSEINY
'Practice of Islam'. I like that.

JHO LOW
(dictates)
*"...and I personally do not
encourage such practices in any
manner whatsoever."*

AL-HUSSEINY
OK.

JHO LOW
(dictates)
*"Signed...Prince Saud Abdulaziz al-
Saud."*
(end dictation)
Now, put that money into Najib's
account.

AL-HUSSEINY
But who is this Prince Saud--?

Jho Low puts on the keffiye on this head.

JHO LOW
Assalamualaikum.

AL-HUSSEINY
This is ridiculous.

JHO LOW
 You asked what fairy tale
 explanation could you conjure up to
 explain this money from Blackstone
 to Najib? Problem solved.

Roro pops his head in.

RORO
 Sir, the Captain wants to move
 closer to the shore...

JHO LOW
 Why?

RORO
 For better reception. Also, your
 blue party...

Jho Low rushes out, followed by Roro and Al-Husseiny, to the--

EXT. EQUANIMITY UPPER BRIDGE - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

Grainy screen shows: **PH: 87 (red) | BN: 62 (blue)**

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
 This is unprecedented...against all
 odds...Mahathir's party is leading
 what is seen as a miracle...

Jho Low stares at the screen in disbelief.

JHO LOW
 Min! My phone.

Min brings out the usual seven phones (6 black, 1 red). Jho
 Low takes a black phone.

RORO
 Sir, the speakers--

JHO LOW
 Fuck the speakers!

He throws a glass at the screen, making a hole.

The GUESTS begin whispering. The gravity of the situation is
 starting to dawn on them.

Al-Husseiny grabs a piece of pizza and starts munching
 nervously. Angst and anxiety begin sweeping over the two men,
 as they watch the grainy screen show: **PH: 92 (red) | BN: 62
 (blue)**

AL-HUSSEINY

Fun fact: the day with the highest
pizza consumption is actually the
World Cup.

JHO LOW

How do you know so much about
pizza?

AL-HUSSEINY

I was once a pizza delivery boy.

Jho Low is stunned.

QUICK CUT:

INT. RESTAURANT - FLASHBACK

An ultra expensive restaurant in Abu Dhabi, where some of the
world's richest moguls dine. Jho Low and Al-Husseiny are in
an intense negotiation.

INSERT: **Abu Dhabi. Age: 28**

JHO LOW

The sovereign fund of Malaysia and
the sovereign fund of Abu Dhabi...
two sovereign wealth funds working
together. One plus one equals an
economic miracle. Think of what
this can do to the global economy,
the millions of jobs that will be
generated, the social and
economical development, the long
term capital growth, the wealth
that will be created for future
generations. All because two men
sat in a restaurant one day and
said yes to each other.

A waiter appears.

WAITER

Mr. Al-Husseiny. The usual? Extra
meat?

AL-HUSSEINY

Extra meat.

WAITER

(to JHO LOW)

Would you like to have the *harees* too? We serve the best *harees* in the whole of Abu Dhabi.

JHO LOW

I'm a pizza kind of guy.

AL-HUSSEINY

Pizza? No, no, no. You need to order the *harees*.

JHO LOW

And if I do, will you say *yes*?

Al-Husseiny ponders. The waiter waits, watching the two men. After a dramatic pause:

AL-HUSSEINY

Two *harees*, please.

The waiter nods and leaves. Jho Low and Al-Husseiny shake hands. A massive deal has just been sealed.

JHO LOW

What exactly is it?

AL-HUSSEINY

Harees is made of porridge and meat. It's food for...wealthy people. Like you.

CUT BACK TO:

EXT. EQUANIMITY UPPER BRIDGE - SAME

AL-HUSSEINY

Not every Arab is born rich. Some of us were born so poor we eat *harees without meat*.

QUICK CUT:

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

JHO LOW

To good times.

AL-HUSSEINY
May we do what our wealth fund
mandates...and more!

CUT BACK TO:

EXT. EQUANIMITY UPPER BRIDGE - SAME

AL-HUSSEINY
Long before I was running a
sovereign fund worth billions of
dollars...

QUICK CUT:

EXT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

It's the same restaurant but from the outside. A young boy on
a bicycle stops and looks at it in awe.

AL-HUSSEINY
...I was running around delivering
pizza.

It's Al-Husseiny at the age of 10, watching rich people eat
harees. With meat. A spark has been lit.

QUICK CUT:

EXT. EQUANIMITY UPPER BRIDGE - SAME

JHO LOW
Well, my friend, good times don't
last. We're about to get fucked.

Grainy screen shows: **PH: 95 (red) | BN: 64 (blue)**

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Najib Razak's administration was
rocked by allegations that he is
involved in the scandal-plagued
state investment fund IMDB, slammed
by the US as "kleptocracy at its
worst"...

To Roro:

JHO LOW
I need the TV fixed and the numbers
reversed!

RORO

I will work on the first one.

Jho Low leaves the crowd, digesting all this. Alone, for the first time, we see him genuinely concerned. He spots Elva again, wearing the diamond pendant, swimming around in the--

EXT. EQUANIMITY PLUNGE POOL - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

He walks towards her.

ELVA

It's kinda heavy. Please continue...

JHO LOW

Conti--oh...

ELVA

Beyoncé, Blake Lively...

She listens to him rattle off names, enthralled:

JHO LOW

...Kim Kardashian, Angelina Jolie,
Kelly Rowland, Jennifer Lopez,
Cate Blanchett, Kimora Lee Simmons,
Meghan Duchess of--

Suddenly, she pulls him in, shoves her tongue down his throat, and begin sucking his face.

Min pops in, half turning away.

MIN

Jho, sorry. You might want to see this.

Jho Low leaves Elva abruptly, running with Min towards--

EXT. EQUANIMITY UPPER BRIDGE - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

Grainy screen shows: **PH: 104 (red) | BN: 67 (blue)**

ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Analysts and polls had widely predicted that Najib would win a landslide...

He joins Riza, who is frantically texting.

JHO LOW
What the hell is happening?

RIZA AZIZ
PH needs 7...no, 4 more seats to
form a simple majority. Fuck! Is
this for real?

Grainy screen shows: **PH: 107 (red) | BN: 67 (blue)**

JHO LOW
I don't know! Is this the right
channel?

RORO
It's a live update.

Grainy screen shows: **PH: 108 (red) | BN: 67 (blue)**

Jho Low, Tim Leissner, Riza Aziz, Al-Husseiny stare at the
screen, like 4 men on a firing line. The Equanimity has
turned dark and the music has stopped. It's surreal.

Jho Low walks away from the crowd, unable to take this. Min
chases after him.

Deafening ROAR from the TV: the electrifying sound of VOTERS
chanting: *Hidup Rakyat! Hidup Rakyat! (Long Live The People!)*

MIN
Who's Eric Tan?

JHO LOW
Fuck, fuck, fuck, fuck, fuck.

MIN
You heard me.

Pointing to the yacht, the party, everything:

JHO LOW
Najib's signature, just a stroke of
his pen, is what gives all of this.

MIN
Jho, who's Eric Tan?

An eternity passes.

JHO LOW
My business partner.

The faint CACOPHONY of jubilation from the TV and angst from
the upper deck permeate the air.

MIN
I have failed in my duty.

JHO LOW
No, you've not.

MIN
I let that little boy from Penang
under my care--how much, Jho?

JHO LOW
How much what?

MIN
You know what I'm talking about.

JHO LOW
4 point 5...

MIN
4 point 5...

JHO LOW
That's 500 million short of what I
wanted. I hate the number 4.

MIN
This is incredible. How long have
you been planning this...

JHO LOW
I didn't plan it. I just...
stumbled upon it.

MIN
You stumbled upon millions of
dollars...

JHO LOW
Billions.

MIN
Help me understand something. You
were born into a family that by any
stretch of imagination, would be
considered rich. Your father was a
millionaire. You went to Wharton,
lived a life, that by anyone's
standards, would be considered...
opulent! You even came out in the
university newsletter--some Asian
guy who bought 50 bottles of
Cristal while his college mates
were working in Starbucks!

(beat)
How much money is enough?

Grainy screen shows: **PH: 109 (red) | BN: 67 (blue)**

Tim Leissner, Riza Aziz, Al-Husseiny are now shaking, looking like they're being marched on a plank: *it's all over!*

Tim Leissner begins to hyperventilate. Riza Aziz drinks a whole pint. Al-Husseiny stares out into the darkness.

The stars are out and the sea is calm.

MIN
How did you--I can't even steal a dollar from a convenience store, but you can--is 'steal' too harsh?

JHO LOW
I didn't steal a single dollar.

MIN
I don't want to argue semantics.

JHO LOW
I made a lot of people rich.

MIN
So they keep their mouth shut!

JHO LOW
Without me, there would be no deals. I put people together. I put one and one together and created miracles! I am a master concierge who gets people things they would otherwise never get!

MIN
You cannot put people together, and then take a cut from all these deals. Without them knowing!

JHO LOW
Of course they know. They choose to pretend not to know! *'You scratch my back, I scratch yours'*.

MIN
If my friend want to give me ten dollars, and she does it through you, and I end up getting only two dollars, that's stealing.

JHO LOW
 But you would never gotten a single
 cent if it weren't for me!

Silence.

MIN
 How did you pull all this off?

JHO LOW
 Silos.

MIN
 What?

JHO LOW
 You keep people in silos. You don't
 let them talk with each other, but
 only to you.

MIN
 Go on...

JHO LOW
 It's like a director, with the full
 script. He knows the full story.
But not the actors. The actors just
 come in and say their lines. That's
 it. They say what they're asked to
 say. But only I know the full
 story.

Riza calls from afar, in tears:

RIZA AZIZ
 Joey!

Jho Low and Min rush towards the screen. They stare at the
 grainy visuals, with sound barely audible.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)
 In a stunning election upset, the
 incumbent Najib Razak has been
 defeated...

JHO LOW
 Where the fuck is Roro?

MIN
 Roro!

Tim Leissner, Riza Aziz, Al-Husseiny and Jho Low stare at the
 screen, paralyzed...

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

...this is the end of the ruling coalition's six-decade-long monopoly, paving the way for the country's first transition of power since independence more than half a century ago...

Roro appears, with tools in his hands.

ANNOUNCER (O.S.)

...voters in the capital Kuala Lumpur have already begun rejoicing. A crowd of hundreds of thousands are out in the streets, cheering and singing...

JHO LOW

You have one job! One fucking job!
Is it so hard to do one fucking...

Jho Low trashes the upper deck like a mad man, hauling things and throwing them into the sea. The TV...splash! The SCREEN...splash! The SPEAKERS...splash!

The GUESTS watch as one man's world comes crumbling down.

HARD CUT TO:

BLACK.

--a dignified *Negaraku* (national anthem of Malaysia) blares, as we're transported to--

KUALA LUMPUR

--where we race through scenes of:

MONTAGE:

1. The new government being installed at the palace...
2. People of Malaysia, out in the streets, crying tears of joy. Freedom from kleptocracy at last...
3. Police raiding Najib Razak's apartments carrying out Birkin bags, jewelry, cash by the truckloads...
4. Najib Razak arrested, handcuffed...camera flashing... smiling at the camera...

Headlines from SARAWAK REPORT (whistle blower website) flash:

INSERT: Why The 1MDB Scandal Is Set To Get BIGGER STILL

INSERT: **The Dots Join Up - Irish Angle on 1MDB Confirms Jho Low Link To Goldman Sachs**

INSERT: **IPIC Alleges a "MASSIVE GLOBAL CONSPIRACY" By Goldman Sachs!**

INSERT: **More Brazen Lies....**

INSERT: **Mohamed Badawy Al-Husseiny Was The Signatory Of Bogus Aabar Company - EXCLUSIVE!**

INSERT: **Najib - 'Over RM100 Billion' Stashed In Foreign Bank Accounts**

INSERT: **Power Without Responsibility - Najib's 'Get Out'**

FADE IN:

EXT. THE BUND SIDE WALK - DAY

Shanghai. Glittering metropolis. Colonial-era buildings and skyscrapers stand side by side.

INSERT: **The Bund, Shanghai. Age: 38**

EXT. THE BUND SIDE WALK - DAY

At a pedestrian street. Jho Low is in a trench coat, slightly in disguise, walking with his LAWYER (40, female), trailed by Min. The lawyer reads a statement:

LAWYER

"For Malaysia to act while there are pending court requests in the US would be an affront to the international rule of law..."

JHO LOW

Too soft. Too polite. Say, "For Malaysia to act *unilaterally* while there are pending..."

LAWYER

Technically, it's not unilateral. There's a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty between Indonesia, the United States and Malaysia.

JHO LOW

You're saying it's ok for Indonesia to send a bunch of pirates--

MIN

--the Navy.

JHO LOW

Pirates! To storm my beloved
Equanimity, and to seize it and to
send it to Malaysia--

LAWYER

I'm not saying it's right.

JHO LOW

This is a crime! They took my
yacht!

LAWYER

I'm saying the treaty requires
countries to assist each other--

JHO LOW

I'm a fugitive who lives on a yacht
and now I have lost that yacht.

LAWYER

Understood.

(continues)

"Due to the Malaysian government's
actions, the yacht is running 24
hours a day, 7 days a week on
generator power..."

JHO LOW

No, no, no. Too polite. "Due to the
Malaysian government's *misguided*
actions..."

MIN

How about "...*ill-conceived* and
misguided actions..."

JHO LOW

One more word. It has to be three
words. For dramatic effect.

LAWYER

"Due to the Malaysian government's
dangerous, ill-conceived, and
misguided actions..."

JHO LOW

No, no, I need a big word.
Thesaurus!

The Lawyer whips out his phone. Jho Low points to the Shanghai skyscrapers across the river:

JHO LOW

Min, is Roro working on the fireworks?

MIN

Oh, Roro was saying, it's not possible to have fireworks--

JHO LOW

Why are we hiring Roro again?

MIN

He's the only party planner in the entire world who would take a job from you.

JHO LOW

I'm the only one who cares about standards.

LAWYER

Precipitous.

JHO LOW

Nice!

LAWYER

"Due to the Malaysian government's *precipitous, ill-conceived, and misguided* actions..."

JHO LOW

Nice.

They reach a building. It's the Waldorf Astoria Shanghai, where the elites and important people gather.

INT. WALDORF ASTORIA SHANGHAI LOBBY - DAY

A DOORMAN opens the door. They march towards the elevator, passing all the magnificence of The Waldorf Astoria.

LAWYER

"To move for a sale of the mega yacht would be a remarkable violation of due process..."

Roro rushes out to greet Jho Low.

RORO
 Sir, I'm working on the
 fireworks...

JHO LOW
 But?

The group marches towards--

INT. WALDORF ASTORIA SHANGHAI LIFT - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

RORO
 But the Chinese authorities don't
 randomly let people light up half a
 tonne of fireworks, just so that--

JHO LOW
Just so that? This is the biggest
 day of my life!
 (beat)
 I realise you never actually gave
 me anything I asked for. The 888
 bottles of Cristal, the screen, the
 speakers...

RORO
 It's not for me to give. It's the
 law.

JHO LOW
 The law is just a suggestion.

RORO
 Help me out here, Min.

JHO LOW
 When I get down on my knees, and
 Elva says no, I want you to know
 that you're 100% responsible--

RORO
 Sir, I'm just a party planner. Not
 Cupid.

The elevator opens.

INT. WALDORF ASTORIA SHANGHAI CORRIDOR - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

JHO LOW
 You go tell the Chinese authorities
 that Low Taek Jho, a good friend to
 China, will donate 500,000 yuan.

RORO

Donate?

JHO LOW

(to MIN)

Do I have to explain everything?

MIN

(whispers to RORO)

Bribe.

LAWYER

I didn't hear that.

Jho Low and Min step out.

JHO LOW

(to RORO)

Give me my fireworks!

The elevator door closes, with Roro and the lawyer inside.
Jho Low and Min march down the corridor to the suite.

MIN

You sure you want to do this today?
The DOJ announcement is happening
soon.

JHO LOW

Give me my phone.

Min produces seven as usual. Jho Low takes the RED one (he's been taking black ones all this while). He starts typing.

MIN

I know you keep people in silos.
But I'd like to think I'm not those
people. I know everything about
you. Your love life, your finances,
even how many vitamins you pop at
night--and you're popping way too
many and you should get more sleep--
I know everything about the son of
Mr. Low Hock Peng. But for the past
many months, when I go through the
papers, a lot of things don't match
up. I'm not being informed about
these things. I see numbers, with a
lot of zeroes, moving around.
Companies with similar sounding
names. Strange emails with secret
codes. Letterheads from banks and
companies and people.

Letters that have been typed out,
waiting for a signature. I've not
asked a single question but you
must let me ask you this one
question at least: how the hell are
you getting out this?

JHO LOW

I don't keep you in a silo.

MIN

Was that all you got from my
monologue?

JHO LOW

I don't keep you in a silo.
Anything else?

MIN

Tim's here.

JHO LOW

Leissner? How did he--you let him
in?

MIN

He has been calling the entire
world trying to find you. He called
me at 2am last night--

JHO LOW

Min, I'm not sure if you're aware
I'm kind of keeping a low profile.

MIN

Just give him 2 minutes. Then I'll
ask him to leave.

JHO LOW

What does he want?

MIN

His freedom.

They open the door into--

INT. WALDORF ASTORIA SHANGHAI LIVING ROOM - DAY

There are a few GUESTS. All waiting for the big moment.
Anticipation, excitement. Riza comes up to him.

JHO LOW

Thank you all for coming. Elva will
be here soon. Just act normal, OK?

The guests clap and smile and toast Jho Low.

RIZA AZIZ
Nervous?

JHO LOW
Nah. By the way, change of plans--

RIZA AZIZ
Joey, I know this is your big day--

JHO LOW
I'm going to propose *before* the fireworks. Not *after*.

RIZA AZIZ
I need to speak to you. In private.

JHO LOW
What? We're speaking now.

RIZA AZIZ
No, I want to speak to you--

Tim Leissner appears behind Jho Low:

TIM LEISSNER
Goldman Sachs Kuala Lumpur was
raided today.

JHO LOW
And?

TIM LEISSNER
And I'm being investigated with a
real possibility of a conviction.

JHO LOW
And?

TIM LEISSNER
And you're a piece of shit.

JHO LOW
At least 30 people at Goldman
reviewed the 1MDB deal. Yet, none
of you found anything wrong.

TIM LEISSNER
Because we--you told us...

The guests begin to look sideways, poker faces, listening to
a quarrel that is about to get ugly.

MIN

Everyone! Champagnes! Next room!

JHO LOW

No, stay, I want everyone to hear this. I told you what, Tim?

TIM LEISSNER

You told us that...alright fine. The money was there and we took it--

JHO LOW

Exactly. All of you had financial incentives for keeping quiet. You even got bumper bonuses. You knowingly and willfully deceived 'Compliance'--

TIM LEISSNER

At your instructions!

Trying to give them some privacy:

MIN

Everyone, champagne!

JHO LOW

No! Stay. I want everyone to see how this stinking immigrant comes to Asia and thinks he can rob us with impunity and get away with it.

TIM LEISSNER

I worked really hard to get to where I am. I am the rainmaker.

JHO LOW

Is that how a 100 million dollars got in your bank account?

Tim's been cornered.

TIM LEISSNER

You need to testify that we went into the deal based on your reassurance that the deal was legal.

JHO LOW

Why do you call yourself *Dr. Tim*?

TIM LEISSNER

I have a PhD--

JHO LOW
From the University Of Somerset.

TIM LEISSNER
Yes and what's the--

JHO LOW
Last I check, that's a degree mill.

Tim looks he's been shot:

JHO LOW
Why do you walk around with a fake
Phd?
(beat)
It's all about the packaging, isn't
it? Then you'd understand why I put
together Malaysia, Abu Dhabi,
Goldman, a fancy banker with a PhD.
Don't you get it?

TIM LEISSNER
You tricked me.

JHO LOW
What's your horoscope again?

TIM LEISSNER
Taur--Sheep! How many fucking times
do you have to ask?

Jho Low goes to the FROSTY WINDOW and writes the Chinese
character for 'Sheep' on it.

JHO LOW
The Chinese word 'yáng' refers to
both sheep and goat...

It dawns upon Tim:

TIM LEISSNER
I'm a fucking scapegoat.

JHO LOW
*'Important people like to deal with
other important people.'* Guys like
you are easy. All we have to do is
to make you feel important.

TIM LEISSNER
Why would you do this to me?

JHO LOW

The question is, why wouldn't I? If you and I were to go ask for billions of dollar, who would they give it to? You say you work hard. I work hard too. But they'd give it to you! Not me! You know how this makes me feel?

TIM LEISSNER

It's not my fault you feel like this.

JHO LOW

Take this as some kind of...social correction.

TIM LEISSNER

I'm being hauled back to America... to prison!

JHO LOW

At least it's not to a prison in Asia. Some might call this 'privilege'.

TIM LEISSNER

Fuck you!

JHO LOW

Get the fuck out.

Tim Leissner turns to leave, seething.

JHO LOW

When you woke up this morning, Mr. Rainmaker, has it ever occurred to you that you were merely...average?

TIM LEISSNER

You know what? For the first time in a very long time, I did wake up this morning feeling like I'm average.

JHO LOW

That's how I feel every morning, next to guys like you.

TIM LEISSNER

It's not my fault you feel like that.

Tim Leissner storms off, with the heavy sense of injustice.
The guests act like nothing happened.

JHO LOW
Party on! Min, Cristal for
everyone!

Jho Low walk into--

INT. WALDORF ASTORIA SHANGHAI KITCHEN - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

Riza is there, waiting.

RIZA AZIZ
I've two bad news.

JHO LOW
You didn't lose the ring, did you?

RIZA AZIZ
It's worse than that. Your name was
struck off the Oscar nomination.

JHO LOW
What the--?

RIZA AZIZ
The Academy didn't allow your name
to be nominated for Producer.

Min pops in.

MIN
Elva's reaching in 10 mins and you
need to suit up.

She leaves.

JHO LOW
We got nominated for Best Film.
Wolf Of Wall Street...Best Film!

RIZA AZIZ
They have decided to remove both
our names from the nominations.

JHO LOW
Because?

RIZA AZIZ

The Producers Guild of America
don't like people to just write a
cheque and call themselves
'producers'.

JHO LOW

I didn't just write a cheque.

RIZA AZIZ

I know this is a dream you've been
chasing for years--

JHO LOW

It's a dream I've been chasing all
my life. What's the second bad
news?

RIZA AZIZ

I'm going for settlement.

JHO LOW

No, no, no, no...

RIZA AZIZ

I don't think I have a choice.

Silence. Jho Low is seething.

JHO LOW

Riza, everything you
have..everything you own...your
Park Laurel condo...

RIZA AZIZ

My lawyer advised me to go with the
'innocent owner' line of defense.

JHO LOW

...your Beverly Hills mansion...

RIZA AZIZ

...that I didn't know the source of
the fund...

JHO LOW

...the Belgravia town house...

QUICK CUT TO:

INT. STUDENT DORM - DAY (1997)

In a dorm at a boarding school for boys at Harrow School, London. A younger Riza Aziz is reading, when the door bursts open, with a younger Jho Low lugging his stuff in. The two meet for the first time.

INSERT: **London. Age: 20**

JHO LOW

I flew 6,500 miles to get away from Malaysians, and they had to put me in the same room with...a Malaysian. Fantastic!
(realizing Riza is silent)
I'm just kidding. Joey.

RIZA AZIZ

Riza--

JHO LOW

Riza Aziz. I know. Funny story. The Student Affairs Department guys told me you're the son of Najib Razak but I told them that's impossible because if you were, you'd be *Riza Razak* instead. I mean, you'd think after colonizing us for a century, they'd know our name structure--

RIZA AZIZ

Step-son.

JHO LOW

(suddenly interested)
Oh, so you are the...step son of...

CUT BACK TO:

INT. WALDORF ASTORIA SHANGHAI KITCHEN - SAME TIME

RIZA AZIZ

The Department of Justice is going to have a press conference on this in 5 minutes.

JHO LOW

...the New York penthouse...

RIZA AZIZ

I am returning 60 million in this asset seizure...

JHO LOW
...profits from *Red Granite*...

RIZA
If I cooperate, I get a 'discharge
not amounting to acquittal'.

JHO LOW
...your damn Marlon Brando Oscar
statuette...

RIZA AZIZ
I am fucking scared! OK? I'm
fucking scared!

QUICK CUT TO:

INT. STUDENT DORM - SAME TIME

JHO LOW
There's a party tonight and we're
going.

RIZA AZIZ
I need to study.

JHO LOW
Classes haven't even started.

RIZA AZIZ
Parties are not my thing.

JHO LOW
Cool.

Jho Low begin unpacking.

JHO LOW
Are you always so hardworking?

RIZA AZIZ
Because of *that*!

JHO LOW
What?

RIZA AZIZ

Because the entire Malaysia knows me only as the '*step son of Najib Razak*' and after flying 6,500 miles so I can stop hearing that, they had to put me in the same room with...a Malaysian!

CUT BACK TO:

INT. WALDORF ASTORIA SHANGHAI KITCHEN - SAME TIME

JHO LOW

You know that *Metropolis* movie poster hanging in your bedroom...

RIZA AZIZ

Yes...

JHO LOW

The movie was about how the rich didn't become rich by exploiting the poor. The poor became poor simply because they weren't brave enough to do what it takes to be rich...

(unleashing)

Actually, that's not my point. What I'm really trying to say is...that fucking poster was sold for \$357,750 to a spoiled son of an elite whose only skill is being born! I made you '*Riza Aziz p.g.a*', you piece of shit!

Silence. Riza gives Jho Low his ring:

RIZA

I'm walking away from all this. From the whole 1DMB mess. All of this.

QUICK CUT TO:

INT. STUDENT DORM - SAME TIME

JHO LOW

You know, Cinderella too was adopted--

RIZA AZIZ

I wasn't adopted. My mum remarried.

JHO LOW

And Cinderella was constantly passed over. Her two stepsisters were lording over the household and Cinderella had to do all the cleaning. She was a nobody. She was even barred from going to the prince's party!

RIZA AZIZ

Thanks for the fairy tale but I got to--

JHO LOW

But unlike Cinderella, you are going to the party. With me. Tonight.

RIZA AZIZ

No.

Jho Low takes Riza's pencil and pretends it's a wand. He rummages through Riza's clothes.

JHO LOW

I'm going to be your fairy godmother and I'm going to dress you with the finest clothes, so you too can go to the ball. Come on!

Riza hesitates. But there's something about this new roommate.

JHO LOW

Come on!

RIZA AZIZ

OK.

JHO LOW

I have a feeling we're going to be best friends.

CUT BACK TO:

INT. WALDORF ASTORIA SHANGHAI KITCHEN - SAME TIME

JHO LOW

You're walking away from the most important day of my life?

RIZA
I'm walking away from you, my
friend.

Min pops in again.

JHO LOW
Elva's here?

MIN
No, but the press conference has
started and you have to suit up.

Riza turns and goes.

JHO LOW
You and I had big Hollywood dreams.
The things we could have done
together.

RIZA
It's not that bad being *Cinderella*.
Parties are not my thing.

Riza walks out of the room...and the friendship forever.

Jho Low goes with Min to the--

INT. WALDORF ASTORIA SHANGHAI BEDROOM - DAY (CONTINUOUS)

The TV is on. It is *the* press conference. US Attorney General LORETTA LYNCH, Assistant Attorney General CALDWELL, U.S. Attorney DECKER, Deputy Director McCABE and Chief WEBER speak one by one.

LORETTA LYNCH (O.S)
"...the Department of Justice will
not allow the American financial
system to be used as a conduit for
corruption...we are seeking to
forfeit and recover funds..."

JHO LOW
Where's my suit?

Min bring Jho Low his suit and helps him put it on. He's
looking like a nervous boy now.

MIN
Jho, they're on you...

LORETTA LYNCH (O.S.)
 ...Instead, they were stolen,
 laundered through American
 financial institutions and used to
 enrich..."

JHO LOW
 Min, did Roro manage to get the
 fireworks approved?

MIN
 He's working on it.
 (eyeing the TV)
 Jho, are you listening to this?

JHO LOW
 It's funny how Roro never gets
 anything done according to plan.

Min helps Jho Low with a bow-tie.

CALDWELL (O.S.)
 "...this is a case where life
 imitated art. Corrupt LMDB
 officials used illicit proceeds to
 fund *The Wolf of Wall Street*, a
 movie about a corrupt stockbroker
 who tried to hide his own illicit
 profits in a foreign safe haven..."

Jho Low looks into the mirror.

JHO LOW
 No, lose the bow-tie. It's ugly.

MIN
 I agree.

Min takes off the bow-tie.

CALDWELL (O.S.)
 "...but whether corrupt officials
 try to hide stolen assets across
 international borders - or behind
 the silver screen - the Department
 of Justice is committed to ensuring
 that there is no safe haven..."

JHO LOW
 Have you sorted out dinner?

MIN
 It's ready. Jho, you're under
 investigation--

JHO LOW
What about the fireworks?

MIN
Roro's working on it and you just asked me that.

DECKER (V.O.)
"...stolen money that is subsequently used to purchase interests in music companies, artwork or high-end real estate is subject to forfeiture under U.S. law..."

Jho Low holds two pairs of SHOES: black and brown.

MIN
Black.

JHO LOW
Really? I think she's a 'brown' kind of girl.

MIN
Never wear a black tux with brown shoes.

JHO LOW
Rules are just a suggestion. But OK...

Min continues eyeing the TV.

DECKER (O.S.)
"...we will not allow the United States to become a playground for the corrupt, a place to hide and invest stolen riches..."

JHO LOW
How do I look?

MIN
She'd be a fool to say no.

McCABE (O.S.)
"...corruption, no matter where it occurs, is a threat to a fair and competitive global economy..."

MIN
I'm worried about you.

JHO LOW
I've been practicing this.

MIN
I don't mean the proposal. I
mean...all this.

McCABE (O.S.)
"...committed to working with our
foreign and domestic partners to
identify and return these stolen
assets to their legitimate owners,
the Malaysian people..."

MIN
You sure you want to do this?
Tonight?

JHO LOW
It's now or never.

MIN
You have some issues here.

JHO LOW
It'll sort itself out.

WEBER
"...today's announcement
underscores the breadth of the
alleged corruption and money
laundering related to the 1MDB..."

JHO LOW
Where is she?

Min checks her phone.

MIN
3 minutes.

JHO LOW
Remember, proposal, *then*
fireworks...

MIN
Go get the girl.

Jho Low goes out to the--

INT. WALDORF ASTORIA SHANGHAI LIVING ROOM - NIGHT
(CONTINUOUS)

--and addresses the GUESTS, all waiting gleefully in anticipation. Day has turned night.

Jho Low walks towards the balcony before Al-Husseiny intercepts him.

JHO LOW
Perfect timing.

AL-HUSSEINY
Not possible, Jho.

JHO LOW
You said you'll help.

AL-HUSSEINY
Abu Dhabi is not happy. My boss has been arrested. The Swiss are investigating--

JHO LOW
You said you'll help.

AL-HUSSEINY
IPIC wants the money that it never received--

JHO LOW
We need to immediately bail out 1MDB. Otherwise it'll go bankrupt. All you need to do is to make Aabar put up more money....

AL-HUSSEINY
I have no more access to any money.

JHO LOW
...so we can manage 1MDB's outstanding debts.

AL-HUSSEINY
You want me to tell IPIC: *"Hey, the money that's mean for Aabar? We took the money. Now, YOU got to put up more money to REPLACE THAT MONEY!"*

JHO LOW
You're the CEO of Aabar. You give that order.

AL-HUSSEINY

You're asking for US\$3.5 billion to cover the hole. It's like pouring sand into the ocean.

JHO LOW

Will you do it or not?

AL-HUSSEINY

You're too calm for someone the entire world is trying to find.

JHO LOW

Yes, I just heard the DOJ press conference. Thank you very much. Will you do it or not?

Jho Low goes to the--

EXT. WALDORF ASTORIA SHANGHAI BALCONY - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

--and Al-Husseiny follows him, exasperated. The Shanghai skyline is lit.

A romantic dinner is laid. Flowers, jewelry, cutleries. A VIOLINIST is standing by. Hundreds of CANDLES form a big heart shape.

JHO LOW

Min?

Min rushes in.

JHO LOW

Please tell me the fireworks--

Min's phone beeps.

MIN

She's here.

Min hurries off. Two men at the balcony.

AL-HUSSEINY

No, I will not do it.

JHO LOW

You said you'll help.

AL-HUSSEINY

It was meant to be a one-off thing.

JHO LOW

I made you very rich.

AL-HUSSEINY

And I thank you for this, but you're asking me to cover a crime with more crimes.

JHO LOW

I am asking you do to what's in your power to temporarily sort out LMDB's debts for just one year, till we figure out what we--

AL-HUSSEINY

We're supposed to make one big move, get filthy rich, and never do this again.

JHO LOW

Well, things have changed. If you cover LMDB's debt, this will be yesterday's headline. But if you don't, then you're damn sure you will be in tomorrow's headline.

AL-HUSSEINY

Let me list down the charges. "Embezzlement. Fraud. Criminal mismanagement. Misconduct in public office..."

JHO LOW

Get Aabar to carry the debts...

AL-HUSSEINY

"Forgery of a document, bribery of foreign public officials, money laundering..."

JHO LOW

...keep it afloat. Let the storm pass...

AL-HUSSEINY

You're delusional!

Silence.

AL-HUSSEINY

Do you know why I agreed to do this?

JHO LOW
Everybody loves money. You don't
have to justify.

AL-HUSSEINY
I did it because...that's the only
way to change my destiny. That's
the only way a poor pizza delivery
boy from Abu Dhabi can eat some
fucking harees with some fucking
meat in it! Get it?!

Silence.

JHO LOW
Cover 1MDB's debt--

AL-HUSSEINY
For fuck's sake, I've an warrant of
arrest waiting for me.

JHO LOW
And I have a marriage proposal
waiting for me.

Ordering the violinist:

JHO LOW
Start playing.

AL-HUSSEINY
People aren't supposed to go to
jail for wanting a better life.

Al-Husseiny walks off slowly; his eyes welling with tears.

INT. WALDORF ASTORIA SHANGHAI LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The door opens. Elva enters, accompanied by Min. She's unsure
what's happening but she senses it. A woman's instinct. Min
escorts Elva to the balcony.

MIN
Come in! This way.

Min and Elva go towards the--

EXT. WALDORF ASTORIA SHANGHAI BALCONY - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

--and the guests gather behind the glass door in
anticipation.

ELVA
What's happening?

Jho Low helps her sit down. Both look nervous.

JHO LOW
Sit. Please.

ELVA
Jho, something's happening?

Jho Low pours a drink for her - Cristal (of course). The violinist is now playing passionately.

Suddenly, TWO MEN PARACHUTE down from the sky. They land on the balcony and march towards Elva to present her with a Chopard PENDANT-AND-NECKLACE, the kind we work our entire lives to afford.

Jho Low KNEELS down and whips out a RING. The crowd gasps from behind the glass door.

ELVA
What are you doing?

JHO LOW
Trying to propose.

ELVA
Wow, this is little too sudden.

Jho Low looks at her, hopeful: *so is this a yes?*

ELVA
Come on, don't do this. Don't be silly.

JHO LOW
Sorry, is it too weird?

Everyone's staring at her, in anticipation. She feels trapped.

ELVA
I don't know what to say. This is all very elaborate and very nice and very fancy but...I'm sorry, let's talk tomorrow?

She gets up and runs off.

JHO LOW
OK, I sort of expected a yes.

Elva stops on her track: *this has to end now.*

ELVA

So did I.

(summoning courage)

Janet used to tease me, that I look for 3 things in a man: money, money, money. But I don't want to say yes because marrying you is a good financial plan. Money isn't everything.

JHO LOW

But everything is money.

ELVA

Listen, I don't know where all this money comes from and I'm not going to ask you to explain anything. But I do have one question - you never worked for all this, did you?

JHO LOW

Of course I did.

ELVA

You stole all this.

JHO LOW

That's a harsh word.

ELVA

Do you really want us to spend the rest of our lives running? Hiding?

JHO LOW

That's two questions and no, we're not going to run or hide. We're going to get married and live in Shanghai and have bird's nest soup for breakfast, Peking duck for lunch, abalone for dinner--

ELVA

I'm sorry. This is not my world.

She kisses him and hurries away towards the--

INT. WALDORF ASTORIA SHANGHAI LIVING ROOM - NIGHT
(CONTINUOUS)

--and pushes her way through the guests. The guests are aghast! Min tries to save Jho Low the embarrassment.

MIN
Champagnes at the kitchen!

The guests know what to do and start to leave. Min thanks them for coming.

After they have left, Min spots Jho Low standing alone, expressionless, still holding the ring. She hurries to the--

EXT. WALDORF ASTORIA SHANGHAI BALCONY - NIGHT (CONTINUOUS)

MIN
Maybe she was too embarrassed.

JHO LOW
It's me.

MIN
No, no, no, no. It's not you.

JHO LOW
Eric Tan. Eric Tan is me.

Min's jaw drops.

JHO LOW
All those money going into Eric Tan's account. They're my accounts.

MIN
So you pretended to be Eric Tan...

JHO LOW
You know the story about the night I bought 50 bottles of Cristal--

MIN
While your college mates were working at Starbucks? Yes.

JHO LOW
The real story started the night before. I met this guy in a club. He had 5 bottles of Cristal. He invited me to his table. What I saw changed my life.

MIN
You know, I've never actually tasted Cristal before.

Jho Low pours her a glass.

JHO LOW

Try it.

Min takes a sip.

JHO LOW

So the next night, I ordered 50 bottles. It was a beautiful sight. They came with fireworks and all. Every pair of eyes were on me. You see, it's not about the Cristal. It's about the man who can buy 50 of them. That night, there was a line leading to my table. People wanted to be at my table. People wanted to meet other people at my table. And I was the gatekeeper. I was introducing important people to other important people.

(beat)

That guy? His name was Eric Tan. A random stranger I met once and never again.

MIN

So you took on this name--

JHO LOW

Because Eric Tan is everything I wasn't. I mean, look at this face. What a forgettable face. Oh, but to be an Eric Tan...

Jho Low stands up.

JHO LOW

I should go.

MIN

What do you mean?

JHO LOW

The DOJ announcement, the extradition request from Malaysia, the Interpol, the Chinese police... they're coming for me.

MIN

What do you mean?

JHO LOW

At the height of all this, I had more cash than any one in history. Someone's gonna take notice.

MIN
What's your plan?

A smile appears on his face:

JHO LOW
They can try catch me if they can.

MIN
I don't get it.

JHO LOW
There are 1.4 billion people in
China. Thank God I have a
forgettable face.

MIN
I still don't get it.

JHO LOW
I'm done with being Eric Tan. It's
time I find another name.

MIN
(dawning on her)
You're running away.

JHO LOW
I wouldn't say 'run'.

MIN
You should negotiate--

JHO LOW
780 years. That's how long I'll be
behind bars. So...nah...

Min begins to cry, trying to make sense of all this.

JHO LOW
Don't worry, I know people. They'll
take care of me.

A realization:

MIN
Today, you took the red phone. For
the very first time.

JHO LOW
You noticed.

MIN
Why?

JHO LOW
 Red is my lucky color. Help is
 coming.

He turns and walks away. She watches him take a couple of things, and then walk out the door.

Min looks out towards the quiet Huangpu River, digesting all this, wrestling with so much sadness and confusion.

EXT. THE BUND SIDE WALK - DAY

From the balcony above, Min sees Jho Low down below, walking out of the hotel. Suddenly, she shouts at him, bitterly:

MIN
 You kept me in a silo! I'm just an
 actor and I'm just here to say my
 lines!

JHO LOW
 And I'm the director and I know how
 the story ends. It will have a
 happy ending. I promise you.

Suddenly, BOOM BOOM BOOM BOOM! FIREWORKS begin exploding.

JHO LOW
 (yelling into the horizon)
 You're too late, Roro!
 (to Min)
 We're not paying him, OK?

They take in the view for a few seconds; Jho Low down below at the streets, and Min at the balcony above. It's a beautiful sight. Then, he turns to her.

JHO LOW
 See you soon, Min.
 (suddenly remembering)
 Hey. How did you like the Cristal?

MIN
 Well, for the most expensive
 champagne in the world...it
 was...meh...

Jho Low chuckles and disappears into the CROWD, as fireworks continue to light up the Shanghai sky.

END.