

TEASER

1 EXT. BANGKOK, THAILAND - STOCK FOOTAGE -- NIGHT (NIGHT 1) 1

Nighttime in BANGKOK, THAILAND. The magnificent PALACES... the SIDE STREETS... the teeming CROWDS... the STREET VENDORS.

2 INT. THAI NIGHTCLUB -- NIGHT 2

In a small nightclub. A small, seedy place.

A magician, the GREAT MERLINI, is seated at a table, performing close-up magic. Merlini is amazing. Intense. Confident. A true artist. He slowly waves his hands. Impossibly, COINS appear... and disappear... and appear again!!

THE GREAT MERLINI  
Are you watching? Don't blink.  
Where did it go? Hello. Two hundred years ago, I'd have been burned as a witch...

WE NOW REVEAL: the nightclub is empty. It's after hours. Dark. Behind Merlini's chairs are stacked on tables.

Merlini is "performing" for four drug dealers: a THAI DRUG LORD and THREE LOCAL MERCENARIES. They glare at Merlini, dead-eyed, grim-faced. They are not amused. A tough crowd.

Merlini indicates the Drug Lord's expensive WRISTWATCH.

THE GREAT MERLINI (CONT'D)  
That's a nice watch. May I see it?

The Drug Lord hesitates... then removes his watch.

THE GREAT MERLINI (CONT'D)  
Very nice. Perhaps you'd like to trade. I'd trade you your watch... for this chicken.

Merlini holds the watch, then, with a small flourish- POOF!- changes it into a live baby chicken!

START →

DRUG LORD  
(angrily)  
Na hui lai!

The FIRST MERCENARY is bilingual. He translates-

(CONTINUED)

"MONK" - FIRST MERCENARY

1/3

2 CONTINUED:

2

FIRST MERCENARY

He says bring it back.

THE GREAT MERLINI

Not a big chicken fan, eh? How about...

Merlini takes the chicken, holds it... and- POOF!- it changes into a small bouquet of flowers.

The Drug Lord is furious! He takes out a gun!

DRUG LORD

Wo ke yi rang zi Dan xiao shi. Wo de shou biao ne?

FIRST MERCENARY

He says he will make this bullet disappear. In your skull. Where is the watch?

THE GREAT MERLINI

Good question. Why don't you ask him?

Merlini indicates the SECOND MERCENARY. The Second Mercenary glances down. Incredibly, the watch is now on his wrist!

The Mercenary anxiously returns the watch to the Drug Lord.

DRUG LORD

Ni liu yi shou dao ming wan shang ba.

FIRST MERCENARY

He says to save your funny tricks for the big show tomorrow night.

The Drug Lord produces a BRIEFCASE. He opens it. It's filled with: BRICKS OF HEROIN.

THE GREAT MERLINI

How much?

FIRST MERCENARY

Seventy kilos. It is the biggest shipment yet. Can you handle it?

THE GREAT MERLINI

Absolutely. No problem.

(CONTINUED)

2/3

1st MERLENNARY

"MR. MONK AND THE MAGICIAN" - Prod/Network Draft - 11/14/08 9.

2 CONTINUED: (2)

2

FIRST MERCENARY

You will be paid, as always, upon  
delivery.

DRUG LORD

Wo zhi xiang kan yi ge ba xi. Rang  
zhe xie dou xiao shi ba, gun dao Jiu  
jin shan qu.

FIRST MERCENARY

He says there is only one magic trick  
he wishes to see. He wants to see  
this heroin disappear from Thailand  
and magically reappear on the streets  
of San Francisco.

DRUG LORD

Dan xiao shi?

FIRST MERCENARY

Is that a trick you can do?

THE GREAT MERLINI

Absolutely.  
(grinning)  
Abracadabra.

// END

END OF TEASER

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