

NUMB3RS

“Trouble in Chinatown”

#513/Ep. 92

Written by

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Directed by

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Production Draft – 11/17/08

Rev. FULL Blue – 11/24/08

Rev. Pink – 11/26/08

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CAST LIST

DON EPPES

CHARLIE EPPES

DAVID SINCLAIR

LARRY FLEINHARDT

AMITA RAMANUJAN

COLBY GRANGER

NIKKI BETANCOURT

SIMON KRAFT

ALICE CHEN

COLIN PANG *

WALTER YOON

MALCOLM BITTICK *

HARVEY YOON *

JIMMY LIM

*

LILLY

KIM HSAIO

ZI-ZI

NI-SHU

WAITER

*

CORONER

STORE OWNER

NUMB3RS

“Trouble in Chinatown”

Ep. #513 – Production Draft: Rev. Pink – 11/26/08

SET LIST

<u>INTERIORS</u>	<u>EXTERIORS</u>
FBI BULLPEN WAR ROOM TECH ROOM AUDIO LAB COMPUTER STATION INTERROGATION ROOM OBSERVATION ROOM INTERVIEW ROOM LOBBY	FBI EPPES HOUSE FRONT PORCH
EPPES HOUSE DINING ROOM LIVING ROOM	CHINATOWN STREET(S) ACCIDENT SITE ALLEY
CORONER'S OFFICE	HOP LOUIE'S SILK DRAGON RESTAURANT
HOP LOUIE'S SILK DRAGON RESTAURANT	FIVE EMPERORS CULTURAL CENTER FUNERARY OVEN ALLEYWAY
SWEATSHOP * BASEMENT BACK CORNER *	HILL OF PEACE CEMETERY
FIVE EMPERORS CULTURAL CENTER WALTER YOON'S OFFICE FOYER *	CHINATOWN DRESS SHOP
DON'S CAR	SETTING SUN CEMETERY
SIMON KRAFT'S APARTMENT	DON'S CAR

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Ep. #513 – Production Draft: Rev. FULL Blue – 11/24/08

TIME SPAN

This episode takes place over 3 days.

<u>DAY/NIGHT</u>	<u>SCENES</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
Night One:	A1-5 *	A1 is new. *
Day Two:	6-17	
Night Two:	18	
Day Three:	19-43 *	
Night Three:	44-45 *	

"Trouble in Chinatown"

TEASER

BLACK BOX OPENING:

2... vans

50... rounds

140... decibels

1... MISSING AGENT

A1 INT. SIMON KRAFT'S APARTMENT - NIGHT A1

CLOSE ON A HAND feverishly sketching multiple images of a dragon. TILT UP to find its artist, SIMON KRAFT, looking dazed, as if channeling the drawing.

1 EXT. CHINATOWN STREET - NIGHT 1

PAN OFF ANOTHER DRAGON AND FIND --

A busy street decorated for the Chinese New Year. People passing by jump as SKATER BOYS shoot past them hurling *firecrackers*. THE SKATER BOYS roll past...

THREE YOUNG ASIAN WOMEN (20s) meandering toward Hop Louie's Silk Dragon Restaurant, looking for someone, something.

A SILVER VAN PULLS UP NEAR THE RESTAURANT and stops. The women speak Mandarin Chinese.

LILY

Noshi wei wo men lai de ma? (You here for us?)

(the driver nods)

Cho yong goi shi hong se de ba?

(Supposed to be a red van?)

The driver indicates get in. The third woman (KIM HSAIO) seems suspicious -- something about the van, the driver.

KIM

Bu, wo goi bian zhu yi le. (No, I changed my mind.)

She starts to walk off.

The other two women see her and hesitate.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

Suddenly the van door slides opens and two Asian men pull the two girls into the vehicle.

Our smart girl, Kim, sees the commotion and starts running. She runs past a wall, unaware of --

THE "MISSING WOMEN" POSTERS stuck to the bricks. (The posters resemble those found around Manhattan after 9/11, hung by families and friends. Except these missing are all Asian.)

SHE CROUCHES BEHIND A PARKED RED FORD FOCUS, takes a small cell phone out of her pocket, and makes an urgent call (Speaks English, American dialect).

Bottle rockets go off in the night sky, firecrackers POP, the noise covering much of what she says.

KIM (cont'd)

Alice, you gotta get over here, this thing's going bad.

She sees the silver van trolling the street, looking for her.

THE FORD FOCUS DRIVER RETURNS; he starts to pull out, threatening to expose her.

Kim scuttles behind the car next to it; a parked Explorer. As the Focus pulls out, it taps the Explorer's bumper, tripping its alarm system.

KIM (cont'd)

I'm in trouble here --

THE EXPLORER'S HEADLIGHTS FLASH. ITS HORN STARTS HONKING.

KIM (cont'd)

Sus --

The rest of her dialogue is covered by *a burst of fireworks and the car alarm*.

The Explorer gets the attention of the silver van, which races at her, blocking her from our sight.

Her muffled scream covered by *a bottle-rocket* as the silver van with her now in it breezes right past --

-- leaving her CELL PHONE lying, smashed, in the gutter.

A BLACK CHARGER --

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: (2) 1

parks in front of the Silk Dragon.

COLBY and DAVID step out of the car, barely noticing the HONKING Explorer, it's one loud street. They head for the only open restaurant, The Silk Dragon.

DAVID
Looks alright.

COLBY
Looks open is what it looks -- I'm starving.

A celebrant runs by waving sparklers and an Ox head banner.

DAVID
Year of the Ox. Chinese New Years makes ours look a little boring.

They enter the restaurant.

2 INT. THE SILK DRAGON - NIGHT 2

The place is busy, not full. As David and Colby enter, HARVEY YOON (50s) approaches them with menus.

COLBY
We're just doing takeout.

HARVEY YOON
Same menu.

They grab a nearby table and look at the menu.

DAVID
What do you think?

COLBY
I'm kinda torn between the Cha Shui Bao, the Kung Pao San Yan, or Ma Poo curd with Leejee. *

DAVID
I know, man, what the hell kinda menu is this, find me an egg roll.

COLBY
(holds up the menu)
A least they give you pictures, just point out what you want. *

(CONTINUED)

2 CONTINUED:

2

DAVID

Flaming pig's intestine? Like I
needed a picture of that.

COLBY

Yeah, that curd's looking a whole lot
better.

TWO ASIAN MEN WALK IN, long hair, furtive looks, bad guys
from the look of them.

The older of them, JIMMY LIM (40s), angrily approaches Harvey
Yoon at the cash register.

JIMMY LIM

*Wo de no ren men ne? Huan goi wo wo
de no ren men!* (Where are my girls?
I want my girls back!)

HARVEY YOON

Wo bu zhodao to men zai nor. (I
don't know about your girls.)

JIMMY LIM

Bie goi wo nei ge! (Don't give me
that!)

The whole room's watching, especially David and Colby.

HARVEY YOON

*Ru guo nobu zou de hua, wo hui zhoo
noma fan!* (I'll give you trouble if
you don't get out of here now!)
(re: the stalemate)
Hoo, wo goi jong cha do dian hua.
(Okay, I'm calling the police.)

Harvey Yoon grabs the phone.

JIMMY LIM looks to the YOUNGER BAD GUY. Both reach into their
jacket, pull out machine pistols and spray the room.

INSTANT CHAOS: HARVEY YOON is blown away. Waiters and
customers, are wounded, the spray of bullets reaching --

DAVID AND COLBY -- pull their table over and duck behind it,
as a burst of bullets strafes their position...

... then leap up and empty their handguns.

THE TWO BAD GUYS go down, dying... make that dead.

3 INT. THE SILK DRAGON - LATER

3

DON enters as Colby questions a wounded Waiter.

COLBY

What were the shooters saying?

WAITER

I don't really speak much Chinese, but it seemed like the leader guy was yelling, 'Where's my girls, I want my girls back.'

The younger bad guy's body is bagged. David briefs Don.

DAVID

6 wounded, 3 dead, counting the shooters. Guns were FN P-90 machine pistols. These guys were planning a massacre.

DON

Weird. My dad used to bring Charlie and me here when we were kids. Real L.A. landmark.

A cop calls Colby over to an older man in the background.

DAVID

Now it'll be a stop on the Death and Scandal tour.

Colby leads in the old man, WALTER YOON, (60s).

COLBY

This is Walter Yoon. Says it's his brother's restaurant

Walter Yoon ID's the dead restaurateur; sadly zen about it.

WALTER YOON

That's my brother, Harvey.

DON

Any idea what might have happened here?

WALTER YOON

It's already all over Chinatown that the Jade Boys did this. Maybe my brother didn't pay his protection money...

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: 3

COLBY

He's not going to pay it now...

ICE agent, ALICE CHEN, 30s flashes her badge and walks briskly over to the group. *

CHEN

Alice Chen, Immigration Control. I've got an emergency on my hands.

DON

You and me both.

CHEN

I think an agent of mine was just grabbed on this street. She was working undercover when she and two other women disappeared tonight --

She notices the shooters' bodies. She crosses to Jimmy Lim.

CHEN (cont'd)

And he's my chief suspect.

4 INT. THE EPPES HOUSE - DINING ROOM - NIGHT 4

CHARLIE and AMITA finish a late dinner.

CHARLIE

It's too quiet with my dad away. Maybe you should drop a spoon or something.

AMITA

So, which reunion is this?

CHARLIE

50th. You didn't hear that from me.

AMITA

Imagine Alan in high-school? Hanging out by the bike racks, snapping towels in the showers.

CHARLIE

Yeah, thanks for that shower image.

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED:

4

The doorbell RINGS. Charlie looks at his watch, it's late. Amita clears the dishes.

Charlie opens the door and finds his old nemesis, Simon Kraft, holding some mail.

SIMON KRAFT

Hello, Professor Eppes. Remember me?

CHARLIE

(nervous; awkward)

Yeah, I do, uh -- what's going on?

SIMON KRAFT

(glancing around the room)

I need to talk to your brother.
Professional reasons.

CHARLIE

My brother doesn't live here, and I
won't be giving you his phone number.
Professional reasons.

SIMON KRAFT

(smiles oddly)

When you do see him, please tell him
to call me.

Charlie nods, shuts the door, but Simon stops it with his foot. Then hands Charlie the envelopes.

SIMON KRAFT (cont'd)

Your mail. 'night now.

Charlie shuts the door and locks it. Amita enters.

AMITA

Who was it?

CHARLIE

Simon Kraft.

AMITA

The police psychic guy?

CHARLIE

(looks out the blinds)

Wannabe psychic. Why's this nutcase
on my porch looking for Don?

(CONTINUED)

4 CONTINUED: (2) 4

AMITA

Maybe he's not such a "wannabe".
How'd he know you live here?

CHARLIE

He's a former CIA spook, could've
gotten our address from his old
contacts, I don't know, ask him.
(closes blinds)
Do I call Don or am I over-reacting?
(beat; picks up phone)
You took too long.

As Charlie opens his phone --

INTERCUT WITH:

5 INT. THE SILK DRAGON - NIGHT 5

Don checks his phone, answers --

DON (ON PHONE)

Gotta get back to you. I've got a
crime scene at that Chinese
restaurant Dad used to take us to.

CHARLIE (ON PHONE)

Okay, I'll make this really fast --

Charlie sorts the mail Simon gave him and sees something --

CHARLIE (ON PHONE) (cont'd)

Wait a sec, what restaurant?

DON (ON PHONE)

The Silk Dragon.

CLOSE ON THE BACK OF AN ENVELOPE:

SIMON'S DRAGON SKETCH.

*

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE**6 INT. FBI - WAR ROOM - DAY****6**

Don, Colby, and NIKKI, are seated as Chen runs the room. She shows an ICE ID photo of Agent Kim Hsaio on the big screen.

CHEN

The agent we're looking for is named Kim Hsaio. She transferred to us from D.O.J. because she's Chinese-fluent and...

(tinge of emotion)

Because I requested her.

She shows two mug shots, the shooters from the Silk Dragon.

CHEN (cont'd)

Last night's shooters: That's Jimmy Lim on the left. He ran the Jade Boys gang with muscle from his cousin.

She shows a slide of a warehouse (the sweatshop.)

CHEN (cont'd)

Kim Hsaio was working undercover in Jimmy's sweatshop on Bernard Street. Till last night anyway.

COLBY

That waiter said Jimmy Lim was demanding his girls back from Harvey Yoon. Was he talking about your missing agent?

CHEN

It's possible.

On different screens she moves through a series of shots showing Agent Hsaio walking with the two "van victims."

CHEN (cont'd)

Department of Transportation cameras caught her all the way to Central Plaza, the restaurant's location. That's where DOT stops.

NIKKI

And security cameras should kick in but on that corner of the plaza the cameras are all disabled.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

DON
Where was her backup?

CHEN
She didn't have any.
(off the others)
We clocked her off at 9:15. Next
thing, I got this call.

From a laptop she plays a RECORDING...

HSAIO'S VOICE
*Alice, you gotta get over here, this
thing's going bad --(fireworks)-- I'm
in trouble here! (Car alarm) Su --
(fireworks)-- ver (metallic sound)
ena (rustling sound) (she
shouts)....(bottle rocket burst)*

CHEN
Maybe you can do something with it.

COLBY
Undercover ops like this, don't your
agents wear beacons?

CHEN
She had a beacon -- and she never
turned it back in, so we're hopeful
that she still has it.
(beat)
Problem is it's only good for a mile
or so.

NIKKI
What kind of beacon's that?

CHEN
We bust sweatshops every day, never
had to fire a shot.
(rueful)
In retrospect, we should've been more
careful. We had a warning flag.

DON
What do you mean 'warning flag'?

CHEN
LAPD says they have five open cases
involving Chinatown women who've
disappeared and whose families came
forward.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED: (2) 6

CHEN (cont'd)
Add missing illegals, sweatshop
labor, it's anybody's guess how many
more there've been.

Chen gets a text message, checks it. Don rises to go --

DON
One missing person at a time. Let's
find your Agent.

CHEN
(reading her text)
Our surveillance truck says the Jade
Boys' warehouse has gone quiet, the
guards disappeared.

DON
(to Colby)
Get David and suit up.

CHEN
(to Don)
Thanks --

They all start to move --

7 INT. FBI - BULLPEN - CONTINUOUS 7

Don, Colby, and Chen heading out of the War Room --

COLBY
So why'd Jimmy Lim hit the restaurant
himself? Asian gangs don't have foot-
soldiers?

CHEN
Sailos, they call them. Maybe Jimmy
didn't trust his own troops, it's a
good question.

THE ELEVATOR OPENS --

-- and Charlie, Amita and LARRY step out. Don peels off to
meet them...

DON
Thanks for coming, guys.

As they cross to the Tech Room --

CHARLIE
Don, this Simon Kraft thing...

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: 7

DON
I can't think about it right now.

CHARLIE
Think about this.

Charlie hands him the Eppes' mail. And the dragon sketch.

CHARLIE (cont'd)
He drew this on our mail.

DON
You said he dropped by at eleven?
Shooting was 10:50. How'd he know?

CHARLIE
His background? Maybe he owns a
Police scanner and heard the words
'Silk Dragon.'

DON
Maybe.

Don leads Charlie, Larry, and Amita into --

8 INT. FBI - TECH ROOM - AUDIO LAB - CONTINUOUS 8

A cadre of FBI techs busy analyzing Hsaio's last message.

DON
We're looking for a missing ICE
agent. Nabbed in Chinatown last
night, somewhere near the shooting.

LARRY
Coincidence or connection?

DON
You tell me. Hsaio tried to call in
help.

SOUND of FIREWORKS, HONKING HORN vibrate the room.

DON (cont'd)
Her voice is under there somewhere.

CHARLIE
That's as clear as it gets?

DON
Till you take a shot.

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED: 8

CHARLIE
(thoughtfully)
We could apply frequency-domain
processors. Larry can help, he worked
with the NSA on noise analysis...

DON
Great. The room's yours. *

Don leads Amita to -- *

9 INT. FBI - TECH ROOM - COMPUTER STATION - DAY 9

Where one computer shows the restaurant's plain password
request page, and another is filled with computer code, which
the FBI has started to decipher.

DON
Amita, that's the restaurant's
computer hard drive...

AMITA
Multi-layer encryption...

DON
Our techs could crack it -- but
you're faster and I don't have a lot
of time.

AMITA
What am I looking for?

DON
Hell if I know...

Across the bullpen, Don sees Simon Kraft being led in by an ND Agent. *

10 INT. SWEATSHOP - BASEMENT - DAY 10

Chen, Colby, David and an ICE agent move stealthily down a staircase, through a maze of moodily lit basement rooms filled with machinery, boxes and excess bolts of cloth.

COLBY

Two floors of sewing machines and nobody here. If this is a sweatshop, where's the labor?

DAVID

Maybe they're all down here taking a smoke break.

Colby kicks something with his foot: SHELL CASINGS

COLBY

FN P90s. Same as the restaurant.

CLOSE ON a pile of large cloth rolls. Colby and David pullback the fabric -- find --

THREE BODIES, MALE ASIANS (20s) beat up and shot up.

CHEN

That one's Cheekay. Low-level Jade Boy.

COLBY

I think we found the missing foot-soldiers.

DAVID

Why would Jimmy Lim exterminate his own men?

They HEAR the SOUND of activity coming from around a corner and see a glow of flame. They rush over and find:

11 INT. SWEATSHOP - BASEMENT - BACK CORNER - CONTINUOUS 11

An arsonist at work. COLIN PANG (20s) has one blaze going and is about to light another. David jumps him as Colby attempts to smother the flames with a piece of carpet, while Chen finds an ancient fire extinguisher, which miraculously still works. They douse the flames.

DAVID

What the hell are you doing --?

David sees that Colin was trying to ignite cloth stuck into:

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: 11

A SMALL DOOR IN A BACK WALL, FORCED SHUT WITH AN IRON PIPE.

DAVID (cont'd)
Colby --

As David handcuffs Colin, he indicates the locked door to Colby, who removes the iron pipe and opens the small door.

(CONTINUED)

11 CONTINUED: (2) 11

They peer into the dank space and see:

A dozen nervous Sweatshop Girls.

CHEN
(to the women)
Bie zhao ji, nohui mei shi de.
(Don't worry, you'll be okay now.)
(calling)
Kim?!

No answer -- Chen doesn't see her agent.

COLBY
She there?

CHEN
(worried)
No.

DON (PRE-LAP)
*What do you know about a kidnap
victim, Kim Hsaio?*

12 INT. FBI - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY 12

Don grills Simon Kraft.

SIMON KRAFT
You get right to it, don't you, Don?
I don't believe you've said hello
yet.

Don shoves the dragon sketch at him.

DON
You handed this to my brother the
night of the Silk Dragon shooting.

SIMON KRAFT
Okay. I'll be business-like, too. The
last time I helped the FBI, we both
scratched each other's back. Well,
I've got another itch.

DON
Let's stick to the sketch.

SIMON KRAFT
Let's not. Unless we settle on the
terms first.

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED: 12

Simon pulls out a DV cam, places it on the table and starts to film himself.

SIMON KRAFT (cont'd)
Here's the deal, Don. I'm pitching an internet reality show. All about a forensic psychic. 'Simon Says.' You like that? Truth is, I've shopped it around and -- knock on wood -- I've got some interest.

DON
Not from me.

INTERCUT WITH:

13 INT. FBI - OBSERVATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS 13

Charlie, with a cup of tea, enters and watches with Colby.

COLBY
You here for the freak show?

CHARLIE
You've all got more patience than me.

SIMON KRAFT
Listen. Let me tag along on this one case, shoot some footage for my show, and I'll help you solve your crime. Might even solve it for you.
(turns camera to face Don)
Want to think about it?

DON
I thought about it. Get outta here.

Simon stands to go, grabs his DV cam.

DON (cont'd)
And leave the camera. Shooting's not permitted here.

SIMON KRAFT
I'll want that back.

DON
It'll be at reception. Minus the memory card.

Simon walks to the mirrored glass, puts his face against it, as if sensing Charlie on the other side.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED: 13

SIMON KRAFT

Charlie giving you a hard time these days? Science vs. the synagogue?

Charlie shakes his head, not impressed.

14 INT. FBI - INTERROGATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS 14

Don gets in Simon's face.

DON

You been following me. Dangerous game, Kraft.

SIMON KRAFT

Geez, Don, people are watching.

DON

Don't let me find you within a block of my family or my house.

Simon walks to the door, then decides to give an inch.

SIMON KRAFT

I didn't know about the restaurant shooting till I heard it on the news.

He hands Don another sketch but this dragon has something in its stomach. Two "kewpie-doll" faces with dead, Asian eyes.

SIMON KRAFT (cont'd)

At first I thought they were Kewpie dolls, then I saw they were little dead girls.

DON

Whatever it is, it's not evidence.

SIMON KRAFT

You've got lots of bodies out there, Don. And lots more to come.

Simon leaves.

15 INT. FBI - TECH ROOM - AUDIO LAB - DAY 15

Charlie hits playback for the millionth time as Larry and Nikki listen to Hsaio's cry for help -- a jumble of noise.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

15

HSAIO'S VOICE

Alice, you gotta get over here, this thing's going bad --(fireworks)-- I'm in trouble here! (Car alarm) Suspect-- (fireworks)-- ver (metallic sound) ena (rustling sound) Licen--

CHARLIE

Got some usable fragments there.

NIKKI

Four hours work for that?

LARRY

It took multiple noise filters to get that. We're stretching forensic audiology to the limit.

CHARLIE

We can't use simple notch filters because of the overlap.

(spins around to Nikki)

Ever seen a computer graphics program?

NIKKI

Yeah, weekends I take a computer painting course, "click by numbers". Right now, I'm coloring in Van Gogh's 'Wheatfield with Crows'.

LARRY

Some say the sound of the crows caused his final madness.

CHARLIE

Imagine sitting at your computer, you've colored in the field --

AUDIENCE VISION

Nikki at her computer. On her screen, a paint-by-the-numbers version of Van Gogh's masterpiece depicting circling crows over a golden field. Mostly finished, Nikki "blacks in" the outlines of several crows.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED: (2)

15

CHARLIE (cont'd)
-- and now you're painting in your
birds and clouds. Make them larger
and more densely packed.

Nikki adds more crows, larger crows.

NIKKI
I can't see my wheatfield.

CHARLIE
The crop is immaterial, we know the
field's there but now it's covered up
by birds and clouds. To put it
another way, your scene has become
visually noisy. How do you push
foreground objects into the
background?

NIKKI
Well, in a graphics program --
(hitting keystrokes)
I'd select the biggest crows, make
them smaller and blurrier, so to the
eye, they'll seem farther away.

The foreground birds diminish into background birds.

NIKKI (cont'd)
And then I'd select the clouds and do
the same thing.

She does, the clouds recede, revealing the golden wheatfield.

CHARLIE
Result: we can better see the field.

END AUDIENCE VISION

CHARLIE (cont'd)
Same in audiology. We shrink sounds
we don't want so the sound we do want
becomes foreground.

LARRY
We use filters to diminish or blur
noise -- identifying each unwanted
sound by its frequency, then
discriminating against it.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED: (3) 15

Charlie stands, as he leaves:

CHARLIE
(to Larry)
You work on the fireworks, I'll do
the car horn.

NIKKI
Huh?

CHARLIE
Fireworks and car alarms emit
different sound waves depending on
manufacturer. To filter them out we
need their single frequencies.

LARRY
Let me get my coat.

Charlie and Larry exit by different doors, leaving Nikki.

16 INT. FBI TECH ROOM - COMPUTER STATION - CONTINUOUS 16

Larry enters to get his jacket. Amita stops him, indicates
THE COMPUTER'S SCREEN SAVER -- A static Mah Jong board.

LARRY
This the dead restaurant owner's
computer?
(she nods)
You haven't gotten past the screen
saver?

AMITA
There's something odd here.

LARRY
(hits random keys to no
effect)
Yeah. He chose a mahjong board for
his screen-saver, but it's passive.

AMITA
And for a game you can't even play
it's eating up a huge amount of
memory. I can't even open it.

LARRY
Like a house without doors or
windows. Where do you knock?

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED: 16

AMITA
And who's inside?

17 INT. FBI - BULLPEN - DAY 17

Don sits watching the tape of Simon Kraft's infamous card-guessing sequence (from "Mind Games"). Charlie passes through on his way out, watches with Don for a beat.

DON
What were Simon's chances of guessing twenty-five cards wrong?

CHARLIE
The chance of that is less than one in a million.
(off Don's look)
Don, I told you, he was reading a reflection.

*
*

DON
He knew I've been going to temple.

CHARLIE
(nods)
I was in the observation room. I heard him.

DON
How did he know you were in there?

CHARLIE
He guessed. He knew I was in there when we filmed his card trick. Don, the guy's a fraud. He handled our mail, he could be following us.

DON
The CIA thought he had something. And his drawings paid off for us last time.

CHARLIE
You'll never convince me he wasn't complicit in every crime he 'helped solve'.

DON
I don't know, man. The rabbi says doubt's a part of life, we're given darkness for a reason.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED: 17

CHARLIE

A reason to invent the light bulb.

Don's PHONE RINGS. He answers --

DON

Eppes..... where?
(writes an address)
I'll send Colby.

18 EXT. ACCIDENT SITE - NIGHT 18

A small stakebed truck has jumped the curb, smashed into a freeway retaining wall, its colorful contents spilled onto the roadbed: festive bunting, Chinese New Year floats, a gaudy cloth dragon (from the Teaser) among them.

The dead driver flops over the steering wheel.

Colby joins Agent Chen talking to LAPD. Then, to Colby:

CHEN

Seems LAPD was trying to pull him over for running a red.... it turned into a high-speed pursuit

COLBY

Driver lost control in the turn.

CHEN

Yeah, snapped his neck.
(walks over to the float)
Come see what the dragon ate.

Chen opens the dragon's belly seam revealing two of the silver van victims from the teaser but now "glammed-up" in makeup and long red dresses. "Call-girls" maybe, corpses certainly.

CHEN (cont'd)

The other two sweatshop girls. No Hsaio.

COLBY

Just like Kraft's drawing.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

19 INT. FBI - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

19

David and Chen question the arsonist, Colin Pang.

DAVID

Two more sweatshop girls dead, Colin.
What do you know about that?

COLIN PANG

Nothing, man, nothing.

CHEN

What about the *sailos*... the foot -
soldiers? How come you're walking
around and they aren't?

COLIN PANG

I didn't kill those guys. They were
my friends -- Jimmy did that!

DAVID

Why would the boss kill his own gang?

COLIN PANG

He was mad because his girls kept
disappearing.

CHEN

'His' girls?

COLIN PANG

He's a snake-head. Smuggles 'em in
from China for thirty grand, then
they pay him back at fifty cents a
shirt. Good business.

DAVID

You're the last of the Jade Boys.
Everybody's dead... except you.

COLIN PANG

The night Jimmy went crazy... three
more girls escaped and Jimmy said
that's the last three. He tortured
all of us. Some of the gang broke
down, admitted what they done.

(off David's look)

They were selling Jimmy's girls to
Harvey Yoon.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

19

DAVID

What's a restaurant owner doing buying up girls?

COLIN PANG

Harvey was selling call girls. Jimmy's girls'd catch a van at the Silk Dragon, head off to Vegas, wherever.

CHEN

So why were you trying to burn down the sweatshop with the girls inside?

Pang thinks; he's got no answer.

DAVID

We've got you on attempted murder and trying to torch evidence -- how much you want to bet we link your gun to the bullets that killed your buddies?

COLIN PANG

(nervous)

Okay -- Jimmy made me shoot some of the guys. To prove I wasn't stealing his girls and working with Yoon.

CHEN

But you were working with Yoon, weren't you? That's why you had to kill the women -- they knew it all.

Colin's guilty face says it all.

DAVID

Double-dipping Harvey Yoon and Jimmy Lim, that's dangerous, man. Anybody in this town you're not working with?

COLIN PANG

Just you, man. But I'm available.

Chen exits to --

20 INT. FBI - BULLPEN - DAY

20

The FBI SWAT team gathers. Don and Colby mark a map of L.A. Chen joins them.

DON

We'll start at the crash site, then spiral out from there.

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED: 20

COLBY
You think Hsaio's beacon's still
working?

CHEN
Yeah. I hope so. I'll meet up with
you later, I want to see Walter Yoon
about his brother.

DON
I'll call you if there's news.

CHEN
Thanks... Don, I want to say I'm
sensitive to your job position but it
is my agent who's missing. I want all
the help I can get, no matter how
unorthodox.

OFF Don's look, she glances toward --

SIMON KRAFT --

stepping off the elevator. Don looks at Chen.

CHEN (cont'd)
Your boss okay'd it.

As Don and Colby pass Simon --

SIMON KRAFT
I call front seat.

Don and Colby keep walking. Without looking at him...

DON
And you'll get the back.

21 EXT. FBI BUILDING - DAY 21

Don, Colby, and Simon approach one car, the Swat team loads
up the follow-car.

SIMON KRAFT
Good guys to the rescue -- where's my
camera when I need it?

Suddenly --

The RAT-A-TAT of "gunfire" all around them. World War III!

The FBI draw weapons and train them on --

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED: 21

A PARKED FORD EXPLORER. Crouched behind it: Charlie and Larry in headphones. Charlie has a portable dat-deck, Larry has a boom mic. They slowly stand with raised hands.

CHARLIE

Sorry, Don, it's just us. We're creating a filter for firecrackers.

LARRY

(to Charlie)

Probably should have said 'fire in the hole.'

22 EXT. FIVE EMPERORS CULTURAL CENTER - FUNERARY OVEN - DAY 22

Chen and Nikki watch as Walter Yoon sets fire to several paper objects -- a tiny house, fake money, a toy car -- all in an outdoor oven with Harvey Yoon's framed picture nearby.

CHEN

(quietly)

In Chinese culture we burn symbolic objects to accompany the soul into the spirit world.

NIKKI

They drive in the spirit world?

CHEN

We try to cover all the bases. Mr. Yoon's the spiritual director here.

Walter stirs the flames and crosses to Chen and Nikki.

WALTER YOON

My brother and I were not close. It's hard to honor someone so... complicated.

NIKKI

Actually, Mr. Yoon, that's what we want to talk about. Were you aware of his involvement in criminal activities, specifically the sex trade?

WALTER YOON

(sadly nods)

I certainly suspected. But for good or ill he was my brother.

(walks with them)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED: 22

WALTER YOON (cont'd)
Harvey was only one face of
Chinatown. Five Emperors Cultural
Center is another. Let me show you
around.

23 INT. FIVE EMPERORS CULTURAL CENTER - CONTINUOUS 23

Inside the facility, (guarded by TWO BEEFY SECURITY GUARDS),
they pass rooms full of YOUNG AND OLD PEOPLE participating in
crafts, Mah Jong, Tai Chi.

WALTER YOON
While the modern world wages its
culture wars, we elders try to pass
ours along. Or what's left of it.
Our Cultural Center offers language
class --
(walking past an old man
stretching gracefully...)
Tai Chi, most ancient of disciplines.
(...and past people
playing --)
Mahjong. Some say the game goes back
to Confucius.

They pause near THE MISSING WOMEN BOARD. Each sad Asian face
captioned with a birthdate and a short physical description
and the words, "Have you seen her?" Nikki notices --

A tragic OLDER COUPLE as they study the missing. The couple
look suspiciously at Nikki before they remove a poster of a
girl. They sorrowfully hand it to Yoon who nods with
understanding. The couple leave, hand in hand.

WALTER YOON (cont'd)
They found her.

NIKKI
Why don't these parents go to the
police?

WALTER YOON
And be arrested? Most are
undocumented.

CHEN
(to Nikki)
As a practical matter, we've got two
million illegal Chinese in California
alone. Hard to track the missing ones
when the police don't even know they
exist.

(CONTINUED)

23 CONTINUED: 23

WALTER YOON

(passionate)

And as a moral matter, many of these girls were charged \$30,000 by a smuggler just to get here. They'd rather be chained to a pimp or a sewing machine than be deported. My own mother was a sweatshop slave.

As they walk past all those missing women...

CHEN

(to Nikki)

Welcome to Chinatown.

24 EXT./INT. DON'S CAR - DAY 24

Don drives, Colby next to him, the beacon locator between them. Simon Kraft sits in the back seat like a bored child.

SIMON KRAFT

Outward spiral search pattern? Why are we wasting our time?

COLBY

Standard FBI search procedure. I'd think a psychic would know that.

SIMON KRAFT

I'd think the FBI would have moved on since J. Edgar Hoover.

Don almost rises to the insult, then backs away.

DON

If we get within a mile of Hsaio we should get a ping off that beacon.

COLBY

Unless we get a ping off our psychic first. When exactly do you start helping out, Kraft?

SIMON KRAFT

Hey, I'm in. Like I told Chen, first body I find you guys is a freebie, after that I want a signed contract.

Don and Colby pass a look. "Simon's one sick ****."

25 INT. FBI - INTERVIEW ROOM - DAY

25

CLOSE ON A PHOTO: the three sweatshop escapees from the teaser.

Reveal Chen interviewing two of the women from the sweatshop basement, ZI-ZI and NI-SHU. Chen and the witnesses speak Chinese.

ZI-ZI

Nohui bao zheng wo men de on quan ma?
(Can you promise we'll be safe?)

CHEN

Hui, hui, wo hui. Dong wo yi xia.
(Yes, yes I can. Hold on a second.)

Nikki arrives late.

NIKKI

What did I miss?

CHEN

They didn't want to talk until I told them two of the women were murdered and the other one's missing.

CLOSE ON PHOTO: the two dead women from the dragon float.

ZI-ZI

So de no ren men quan shi cong wo de loo juo, Fujian lai de. Ling wai na ge no ren to hon on jing. (The dead girls were from my own province, Fujian, the other girl was quiet.)

CHEN

(translating for Nikki)
They knew the women, Hsaio, too.

ZI-ZI

Xong qoer ye won, Colin lai goi wo men Harvey de yi an. To men tong yi le, bu guo wo bu tong yi, tai woi xion.
(Colin came to us with Harvey's proposal. They agreed, but I refused, too dangerous.)

CHEN

The night Hsaio was taken it was Colin who brought them Harvey's deal. This woman didn't go, too risky.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED:

25

ZI-ZI

Ru guo nodo ying to men de moi mai de hua, nozai chou solong gon to men jian mian. Hong cho lai le jiu xing, noqu Vegas yong node mi jue qu zheng qian. (If you took the deal you'd meet by The Silk Dragon. The red van comes you're okay, you go to Vegas and turn tricks for good money.)

CHEN

If a girl accepted Harvey Yoon's offer she went to his restaurant, boarded a red van and joined the sex trade.

NIKKI

Restaurant's delivery van is red.

The second woman, Ni-Shu, timidly offers:

NI-SHU

One night I go for van, see picture of myself on a wall. I have no family here to look for me, so who put it there? I get scared, run away.

NIKKI

Who could have taken your picture?

CHEN

Shei wei nozhao de xiang? (Who took your picture?)

NI-SHU

Colin. Took everyone's picture.

26 INT. FBI - TECH ROOM - AUDIO LAB - DAY

26

A CAR ALARM -- HONK, HONK, HONK. Charlie and Larry upload their new frequencies.

*

CHARLIE

New frequencies, new filters, let's give it a go.

Charlie plays back the tape.

HSAIO'S VOICE

Alice, you gotta get over here, this thing's going bad. I'm in trouble here!

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED:

26

HSAIO'S VOICE (cont'd)
(Suspect's *(blurred sound)*--ver
Toyota Sienna van. Licen-- (*van door
noise, rustling sound.*)

CHARLIE
Getting there. What's the sound
after 'license'?

LARRY
Two distinct noises. Metal followed
by rustling.

CHARLIE
Metal. It's the van door! Great, now
we need a filter for that.

LARRY
Not to mention our rustling sound.

AMITA (O.S.)
Her blouse, maybe?

Amita enters. They consider her theory.

LARRY
Why not? They grabbed her and maybe
her wire slipped down her shirt?

CHARLIE
That's two more filters.

AMITA
Okay, I helped you, you help me. I
discovered Harvey Yoon was passing
his accounting to somebody.

CHARLIE
Some kind of an ad hoc network?

AMITA
Yeah, the problem is whatever he was
sending out was going through a ghost IP.

CHARLIE
You can't run it down?

AMITA
So far it's bounced me from here to
China with stop-offs along the way.
It'll take forever to trace.

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED: (2)

26

CHARLIE

The Mystery of The Secret Penpal.
It's like a Hardy Boys novel.

AMITA

Why not Nancy Drew?

LARRY

I sense this isn't a typical
whodunnit. Or even a how or what
dunnit.

CHARLIE

It's a whydunnit?

LARRY

And the why may give us the who.

27 EXT./INT. DON'S CAR - DAY

27

Still driving. Still no ping. They pass a High school. Simon gets a weird look in his eyes.

SIMON KRAFT

Supposed to be the golden days,
right, high school?

(points out a shed)

The cafeteria manager raped a student-
worker in that shed last night. Poor thing.

COLBY

The police know about this?

SIMON KRAFT

(shrugs)

I just heard a second ago.

Don and Colby pass a look.

DON

I checked you out with your old
employer. The CIA says you were
discharged from the service for
sexual assault.

SIMON KRAFT

What can I say, Don? I'm a hugger.

Suddenly, Simon jerks spasmodically, pressing his face against the window; his eyes wide, vacant. Don and Colby spot the change.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED:

27

SIMON KRAFT (cont'd)
Left turn! Now!

COLBY
What?

SIMON KRAFT
I said make the left!

DON
Call Chen. Tell her Simon may have a hit.

COLBY
(he does; on phone to Chen)
Simon's on to something. Hold on for our location!

SIMON KRAFT
Right turn!

They do. The follow-car tucks in behind them.

SIMON KRAFT (cont'd)
Right turn again!

Simon's getting weirder by the second, like he's paralyzing.

SIMON KRAFT (cont'd)
Left turn!

All of sudden, PING.

COLBY
We're in range of the beacon.

Don's on a straight road; he puts the pedal to the floor.

PING.....PING..... PING....PING. PING!

DON
She's gotta be close!

Don and Colby drive right by a sign: HILL OF PEACE

COLBY
(on phone)
Chen, we're in Monterey Park, Hill of Peace, looks like a cemetery.

28 EXT. HILL OF PEACE CEMETERY - DAY 28

THE PING IS NEAR STEADY. Don and Colby bolt out of the car.

The follow car pulls in. SWAT leaps out.

Simon ambles behind, watching impassively as --

Don fishes around with his beacon locator. Suddenly the locator pulls him in a certain direction.

COLBY

We got something, guys!

The beacon draws them to a certain spot: a new grave with a Chinese inscription. The beacon's sound resolves --

PINNNNNNNGGGGGGGGGGG!

DON

She's here! Get someone from the cemetery with some shovels!

29 EXT. HILL OF PEACE CEMETERY - MOMENTS LATER - TIME CUT 29

Don and the nervous Cemetery Director, MALCOLM BITTICK, watch as Colby and SWAT dig deeper into the pit.

COLBY

Careful, we got something!

A hand, then an arm, then the rest of Agent Hsaio, her body placed on top of the resident casket. Colby feels her pulse.

COLBY (cont'd)

She must have caught an air pocket, she's alive --

They finish pulling her out and notice her facial make-up, coiffed hair, and new red dress.

DON

Get her to the hospital --

Two SWAT guys carry Agent Hsaio away to their car.

COLBY

You see how she's dressed?

DON

Same as the other two. Red gown, all glammed up.

(CONTINUED)

29 CONTINUED:

29

As the follow car rushes off, Colby examines the grave.

COLBY

They laid her out on top of
somebody's coffin. Seems intact.

DON

(to the Cemetery Director)
What the hell's going on here?

MALCOLM BITTICK

(horrified)
I don't know how this happened.

DON

Who's grave is this?

MALCOLM BITTICK

The man was buried Tuesday. We're in
the Chinese section, so obviously
he's Chinese. Or was.

COLBY

And you saw nothing out of the
ordinary, nobody hanging around?

MALCOLM BITTICK

Not at this grave but -- and maybe
the police told you this --

COLBY

Told us what?

Bittick leads them toward another Chinese grave.

MALCOLM BITTICK

I filed a report. My security guy
chased some people away from another
grave a few weeks ago. It was dark,
he couldn't see who they were.

30 EXT. HILL OF PEACE CEMETERY - MOMENTS LATER - DAY

30

Colby and the last SWAT guy dig away the remaining soil --
find another woman sprawled on top of a coffin: AN ASIAN
FEMALE, all glammed up. Deader than most.

COLBY

Just like the others.

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED: 30

SIMON KRAFT

All dressed up, no where to go.

Don glances at Simon: if looks could kill.

DON

We better check out the rest of these graves.

COLBY

One smart psycho -- he buries his victims in a cemetery.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

31 INT. CORONER'S OFFICE - DAY

31

Nikki and Chen with three dead Kewpie-doll women all in a row. Two red dresses are in clear plastic evidence bags. The Coroner finishes cutting off the dress from the last victim.

CORONER

How many women were found like this?

CHEN

Four so far. What are you thinking?

CORONER

Those two were injected with some form of paralyzing agent. I'm good with poisons but I had to send this one out to the lab. Resembles a shellfish toxin. Conotoxin.

Nikki puts on gloves, picks up an evidence bag. The coroner hands the cut dress to Nikki.

NIKKI

Death by shellfish?

CORONER

It's a good guess.

CLOSE ON the eye of one victim, garishly made-up.

CORONER (cont'd)

Look at this -- the mascara was applied thick and fast. See where some got in her eye? Normally, that would cause tearing, the mascara would run. There's no smudge here.

CHEN

Which tells you?

CORONER

The victims were paralyzed or dead when they were made-up.

NIKKI

(examining the dress)

Pretty sick to doll them up like call girls and dump them in a grave. Four victims, four identical dresses --

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED: 31

Nikki finds small Chinese lettering on the cloth of the hem.

NIKKI (cont'd)
It's a weaver's label from the bottom
of the cloth bolt.

CHEN
(translates the tag)
Made locally. I'll check it out.
(off the red dresses) *
I think I've got a picture of my mom
in a dress like this. And she's no
call girl.

32 INT. FBI - BULLPEN - DAY 32

Charlie comes up to Don. They head toward the elevator. *

CHARLIE
We ran another filter on Hsiao's
tape. She said the suspects were in
a silver Toyota Sienna van.

DON *
Okay, but that's pretty common --

CHARLIE
One more pass and I may have the
plate number. I'm off to record a
van door shutting --

DON
Get on it, we need a break.

As Charlie gets on the elevator, Colby and Chen get off. *

COLBY *
We're finding more double-occupancy *
graves. Female victims, Asian, all *
dressed for a party. The coffins
belong to Chinese males, ages 14 to
78.

They head toward Don's desk. *

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED: 32

Don nods, asks Chen -- *

DON
What's the word on Hsaio?

CHEN
They traced the toxin to a type of sea-snail. The syringe struck bone and broke before all the poison went into her. She might wake up.

DON
Not in time to help us. Anything on the data-search?

COLBY *

Nothing like this in the FBI data-base. No similar deaths, no matching MO's.

DON
Try Interpol. While you're at it, try the Chinese.

CHEN
Their Ministry of Public Security. I can help there.

33 INT. FBI - LOBBY - DAY 33

Charlie exits the elevator -- just as Simon walks by, carrying his camera.

SIMON KRAFT
Got my camera back.
(off Charlie)
Why so glum, professor? The failure of higher math to find Hsaio?

CHARLIE
Did it fail, Kraft? Don filled me in on your search pattern.

SIMON KRAFT
What do you mean, professor?

Simon shoots Charlie with his camera.

CHARLIE
Left turn, two right turns, followed by a left? Maybe you went into the Dead Zone for your directions.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED: 33

CHARLIE (cont'd)
Or just maybe you were following a
classic Levy flight path.

SIMON KRAFT
(exiting)
Lucky for Agent Hsaio that I thought
to follow a Levy flight path.
Whatever the hell that is.

34 INT. FBI - TECH ROOM - COMPUTER STATION - DAY 34

Amita and Larry at the computer.

AMITA
You're looking at the restaurant's
accounting program. See what I see?

LARRY
Not being a CPA I have to let my eyes
adjust.

ON THE COMPUTER: lists of expenses, profits, pay-outs.

LARRY (cont'd)
Line items for food buys, utility
bills, salaries.

AMITA
Take a closer look at this column,
for "take-out" food.

ON THE COMPUTER: The "take-out" column lists amounts like
\$134, \$440, \$521.

LARRY
134, 440, 521 -- Each set sums to
eight. Too many for coincidence.

AMITA
Now check out this column for
"wedding catering".

ON THE COMPUTER: The wedding catering column lists amounts
like \$1314, \$3231, \$1800.

LARRY
They all sum to nine. Harvey Yoon,
what were you up to? Some kind of
hidden accounting? Pricing system?

She pulls up the screen saver.

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

34

LARRY (cont'd)
Ah, the mystery of the motionless Mah
Jong board.

AMITA
My intuition tells me there's
something to this graphic, I just
don't know what. Maybe a hidden
pattern in the squares?

LARRY
(intrigued)
Or under the squares.
(tries some keys)
Like a dragon hiding in its lair.
Seems Yoon had a thing for numbers 8
and 9.

AMITA
I've tried every number, and every
combination of number.

She humors him and hits 8 on the keyboard. Nothing happens.

LARRY
How about 'control' 8?

As if humoring a child she hits it... nothing happens.

AMITA
Here's 'option' 8 and 'command' 8.

Nothing. Larry henpecks the 8 key.

AMITA (cont'd)
What are you doing?

LARRY
Call me low-tech, but I'm hitting the
8 key, eight times.

JACKPOT! THE SCREEN SAVER COMES ALIVE: each mahjong tile
flips over like Vanna White's squares revealing--

A BOARD-FULL OF PRETTY ASIAN FACES; numbers under each face:
Numbers like 134, 440, 521; each equals 8!

Larry and Amita stare in astonishment.

AMITA
Harvey Yoon's sex stable?

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED: (2) 34

LARRY
Complete with what looks like their price list.

AMITA
Larry, what do you say we check out the catering column?

LARRY
By all means. I'm guessing we enter by the 9 key.

CLOSE ON THE 9 KEY, which she hits nine times.

ON LARRY AND AMITA, amazed, as they see what we don't.

AMITA
Time to talk to Don.

Larry's preoccupied. They rise and cross through...

35 INT. FBI - BULLPEN - CONTINUOUS 35

LARRY
I have to phone a friend.

AMITA
Who?

LARRY
The librarian at the monastery. He's not only Chinese, he knows numbers.

AMITA
Better than Charlie?

LARRY
I don't think this is about math -- but magic.

Their cross dumps us onto --

COLBY'S CUBICLE - Colby ends a phone call as David approaches with a printout.

COLBY
Nikki was right about the tag from the red dress. It's a local loom. They said that particular weave was discontinued. The remainders were bought up by one dress store. Guess where it is?

(CONTINUED)

35 CONTINUED: 35

DAVID
Gotta go with Chinatown.
(hands Colby a printout)
The Ministry of Public Security sent
us an output from their database.

Colby looks at it -- all written in Chinese characters.

COLBY
Chinese, huh? Greek to me. I'll let
Chen know.

Colby flips one of the pages, reveals ARREST PHOTOS OF three
mean looking Asian men.

DAVID
Mug shots in any language.

36 EXT. A CHINATOWN DRESS SHOP - DAY 36

A window display full of formal dresses, some white, some a
very familiar red.

STORE OWNER
I sell a lot of red dresses.

CHEN
Sold any to a man like him?

She hands the woman a picture of Colin Pang.

STORE OWNER
(nods)
Yeah, I remember him. Kind of stands
out -- young guy buying twelve
dresses. All red.

NIKKI
Thanks.

As they start to leave they notice --

Simon Kraft, wandering the street with his DV cam and a
sketch pad, muttering like a crazed tourist.

CHEN
What does he know that we don't?

NIKKI
And how does he know it?

He sees them, crosses to them, videotaping them.

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED:

36

SIMON KRAFT

Ladies.

NIKKI

What are you doing down here, Kraft?

SIMON KRAFT

Looking for the places in my sketch.

He shows them a drawing -- a statue under a fancy gate.

CHEN

The Sun Yat-sen memorial in Chinatown plaza.

NIKKI

On every tourist map.

SIMON KRAFT

You won't find this on any map.

He shows them the other drawing: A man with a snail-shell in place of a head drags a Kewpie doll-woman toward a van.

SIMON KRAFT (cont'd)

(as he exits...)

And don't try and follow me, girls.
I'm really rather shy.

ON Chen and Nikki watching Simon as he walks off, homing in.

NIKKI

Is that what you call it?

37 INT. FBI - WAR ROOM - DAY

37

The Silk Dragon computer screensaver of the Mah Jong board plays on the big screen. David and Colby watch Larry and Amita's "show and tell". Amita hits the 8 key, eight times.

UP POPS the board full of pretty Asian faces with numbers equalling eight under each picture.

LARRY

He kept his escort service under
'take-out.' Gallows humor, I suppose.

COLBY

What are those numbers?

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED:

37

AMITA

Birthdates here -- maybe these are prices. Higher values for younger ones, the more attractive?

DAVID

Why do the prices all equal eight?

Amita looks to Larry.

LARRY

Very good. This isn't about numerics, but Numerology. Consider when the Beijing Olympics began.

COLBY

August.

LARRY

More precisely, eight seconds past 8:08 on August 8, 2008. The Chinese organizers wanted good fortune for the games and eight is their luckiest, most auspicious number.

AMITA

Larry said it's routine for Chinese couples to marry on August 8 --

LARRY

-- One airline paid a fortune to get an all eight phone number.

DAVID

So Yoon wasn't just pricing his girls, he was wishing them luck?

LARRY

And protecting his investment. By the power of the eight he was seeking to bring good karma to bad deeds.

AMITA

That's not all the restaurant was hiding. Under the line item for "wedding expenses" we found these.

She hits the 9, nine times. And up pops...

A SCREEN FULL OF SAD FACES; among them our dragon-float victims and Agent Hsaio.

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED: (2)

37

LARRY

If eight is their luckiest number
nine is their most magical. It
stretches beyond this life, reaching
to the very heavens. My theory is
Harvey wasn't simply renting out
these particular women, I believe
they were final sales.

DAVID

Except for Hsaio, all homicides?

CHEN (O.S.)

They're called Ghost brides.

Chen and Nikki enter. Nikki holds xeroxed translations of the
data feed from China.

CHEN (cont'd)

I remembered a picture of my mom in a
long, red dress like the victims
wore. I called her and she knew right
away. It was her wedding picture.

NIKKI

We traced one victims's gown to a
shop in Chinatown. The owner sold
twelve red dresses just like it to
Colin Pang. Wedding dresses. I've
had these translated.

Nikki hands out the translations, including the Mug Shots of
the three mean looking Asian men from earlier.

CHEN

It's an arrest sheet. Two years ago
in Sha'anxi Province, a criminal gang
was caught killing girls and selling
their corpses to grieving parents.

NIKKI

Parents whose sons died bachelors.

DAVID

Same as here. All the graves contain
unmarried Chinese males with unmarried
Chinese females placed next to them.

COLBY

So Harvey Yoon takes over the
California franchise?

(CONTINUED)

37 CONTINUED: (3)

37

LARRY
Providing Ghost brides for Ghost
grooms.

AMITA
Not to mention, he was sharing his
accounts with a ghost IP.

DAVID
That's right. Our wedding planner may
be dead but his business partner's
still out there.

David answers his phone.

COLBY
Jimmy Lim's dead, Colin Pang's in
jail, who's left?

DAVID
(re: phone call)
It's Charlie. The tape's clean,
we've got our license plate.

38 EXT. CHINATOWN ALLEY - DAY

38

Simon approaches some parked cars, then notices --

THE SILVER VAN AND TWO ASIAN MEN SHOVING A FEMALE INTO IT.
Simons starts filming it all.

SIMON KRAFT
Gotcha.

HE ZOOMS IN ON THE VICTIM'S FACE --

THEN ZOOMS OUT in time to see the van pull back, straighten
out, gather speed and drive right at him.

Splat. His camera skitters across the ground, landing under a
car where it continues... filming Simon's death.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR**39 INT. FBI - TECH ROOM - AUDIO LAB - DAY****39**

All assembled to HEAR the filtered RECORDING of Hsaio.

HSAIO'S VOICE

Alice, you gotta get over here, this thing's going bad-- I'm in trouble here! Suspect's driving a silver Toyota Sienna van. License plate, two letters, B-A. (Scuffle noise, sound of a van door sliding shut.)

DON

(to David, re: the plate)
You got that?

DAVID

(dialing phone)
Getting it.

CHARLIE

B--A? Somebody's initials.

CHEN

BA's the word for number 8.

AMITA

Lucky 8.

DAVID

(gets his answer)
It's a company car. Five Emperors Cultural Center. Bernard Street.

DON

Get over there --

40 EXT. FIVE EMPERORS CULTURAL CENTER - DAY**40**

David, Colby, Nikki and an ND agent pile out of two cars.

COLBY

(to the ND agent)
We'll check the back --

Colby and the ND agent go around to the alley, as David and Nikki enter the building.

41 INT. FIVE EMPERORS CULTURAL CENTER - FOYER - DAY 41

David and Nikki move through the foyer, past A STARTLED STUDENT --

NIKKI
(to the student)
Where's Walter Yoon?

The student shrugs. The agents rush on...

42 EXT. FIVE EMPERORS CULTURAL CENTER - ALLEYWAY - DAY 42

As Colby finds --

SIMON KRAFT'S BODY.

He checks for a pulse -- none.

COLBY
(to the ND agent)
Call it in.

Colby spots Kraft's camera off to the side, near a dumpster.

43 INT. FIVE EMPERORS CULTURAL CENTER -WALTER YOON'S OFFICE- DAY 43

Empty. David notices the fish tank. No fish inside it. Just snails. A small fish net by it; dripping wet.

DAVID
Walter's been fishing where there
ain't no fish.

NIKKI
No fish, but lots of sea snails.
What's your bet, that's our toxin?

DAVID
So where's Walter?

Nikki eyes his computer, pulls out her phone --

NIKKI
I'll get a warrant for his computer --

ON THE COMPUTER --

The same Mah Jong board screen saver from the Silk Dragon's computer.

COLBY --

43 CONTINUED: 43

enters with Simon's camera.

DAVID
No Yoon.

COLBY
Simon Kraft is dead in the alley.

NIKKI
(hanging up her phone)
What -- how?

COLBY
I think he was run over -- look at
this --

Nikki and David huddle around Simon's camera.

ON THE DV CAM SCREEN we see two Asian men dragging a girl
toward a silver van.

DAVID
The silver van.

SIMON'S CAMERA ZOOMS IN ON THE KIDNAP VICTIM.

NIKKI
Wait a sec -- I know her.

Freeze the video on the kidnap victim.

ON NIKKI

FLASHBACK:

The day she toured the Cultural Center. She remembers --

**The tragic older couple as they study the MISSING WOMEN
BOARD. The couple look suspiciously at Nikki before they
remove a poster of a girl.**

RESUME

NIKKI (cont'd)
(realizes...)
An older couple took down a picture
from the Missing Persons board and
handed it to Walter. I figured their
daughter had been missing and they
found her...

David looks at the MISSING WOMEN BOARD.

(CONTINUED)

43 CONTINUED: (2) 43

PUSH IN ON HIM AS A HORRIBLE THOUGHT FORMS.

DAVID

What if they were shopping for a daughter-in-law?

(to Colby)

Like the pictures at the restaurant, 'Just point at what you want.'

NIKKI

(re: the board)

It's a menu.

BACK TO THE DV CAM SCREEN OF THE KIDNAP VICTIM.

COLBY

They're gonna bury this girl.

DAVID

We got cemeteries all over the city, county and state.

NIKKI

We've got exigent circumstances -- I think we can check his computer without a warrant.

Nikki goes to Walter's computer, which shows the Mah Jong screensaver.

DAVID

Hit the nine key, nine times.

She does, the tiles flip to reveal the girls. She finds the photograph of the kidnap victim.

NIKKI

Here she is -- what do I do?

DAVID

Click it nine times.

Her photograph flips -- reveals the name of her Ghost Groom and his location -- Ma Bao-tan, Setting Sun Cemetery, Curb No. 1617.

44 EXT. SETTING SUN CEMETERY - NIGHT 44

The silver van is parked but idling. THE OLDER COUPLE from the Cultural Center watch as -- A grave digger finishes his spadework, exposing their son's coffin.

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED:

44

Walter drags the kidnap victim in a red dress toward the open grave --

FBI CARS ROLL IN --

Don, Colby, Chen leap out of one car, Nikki and David from another.

DON

FBI!

The digger panics and rushes for the van...

... David intercepts him, taking him down...

... while Nikki gets control of the Older Couple.

NIKKI

Put your hands behind your back --

Meanwhile, Don talks to Walter Yoon who has a syringe pressed against the carotid artery of the terrified girl. Colby and Chen stalk Yoon, looking for a shot.

WALTER YOON

Stay away from me -- stay away --

COLBY

(*sotto* to Chen)

I can't take a shot as long as that needle's on her neck.

Chen nods, eases away from Colby.

DON

Walter -- listen to me -- it's over.

WALTER YOON

Honor must be paid.

DON

Whose honor, Walter?

WALTER YOON

This couple lost their only son. Give them the small solace of knowing he will not spend eternity alone.

DON

What about the girl's family? Don't they matter?

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED: (2)

44

WALTER YOON

Ghost brides are a tradition as old as China, as old as time. We all have our place in that tradition. This is hers. Here with him.

Don plays him gently, buying time, as Colby waits for a moment when the syringe is away from the girl's neck.

DON

I'm alone too, Walter. We all are. But my friends and I are here to stop the killing. That's our tradition.

WALTER YOON

You misunderstand -- this is not a funeral, this is her wedding.

The terrified girl whimpers.

CHEN

Nozhon choro! (Shame on you.)

Walter turns, the syringe pulls away from the girl's neck.

Colby takes the SHOT --

Walter falls. Don controls the syringe, pulls the girl away.

DON

You're okay -- you're okay.
(to David)
Call for an ambulance.

Don walks her toward the cars, as Nikki checks Yoon -- dead.

NIKKI

(to Chen)
What did you say to him?

CHEN

'Shame on you.'

They survey the cemetery, all the graves.

NIKKI

Wonder how many other women the Yoon brothers buried.

Chen picks up a small paper house brought by Walter.

(CONTINUED)

44 CONTINUED: (3)

44

CHEN

Never to be found or even missed.

She sets the house on fire; they watch it burn.

CHEN (cont'd)

This is for them.

45 INT. THE EPPES HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

45

Amita and Charlie finish their take-out and read their fortune cookies to each other. Larry studies a book.

CHARLIE

'Lead with your brain but follow your heart.' Fitting.

AMITA

'Your dreams can't come true unless you wake up.' That's rather profound. Amazing creation, the fortune cookie.

LARRY

Says in my book, it predates the Han dynasty.

AMITA

Fortune cookies?

LARRY

No, minghun. The marriage of the dead. What Walter Yoon did was a perversion of true minghun, where the people are already deceased. Astrologically suitable corpses keep each other company through eternity. There's a certain poetry in it.

CHARLIE

Larry, you realize that sounds a little macabre.

AMITA

I see what he means... in an Eastern sort of way. Total strangers locked in eternal embrace, joined only by their connection to the stars.

LARRY

Like my department at CalSci.

Don enters with a beer.

DON

So what do we think about Simon Kraft?

LARRY

That's a life that ends in a question mark.

(CONTINUED)

45 CONTINUED:

45

CHARLIE

The question being why does the human condition require a Simon Kraft? Watch the news-- Bigfoot, the Loch Ness monster. Nothing on the great apes or blue whales, real marvels.

LARRY

I remind us, remote viewing and psychic warfare was the brainchild of respected researchers at Stanford.

CHARLIE

I will fall on my slide rule if anyone can give me proof of Simon's extra-sensory abilities.

LARRY

What inner power, do you suppose, led Simon to find the killer's van precisely at the moment of kidnap?

CHARLIE

You mean the power that failed to warn him he was going to get run over by the van?

(to Don)

Help me out here...

DON

Sorry... you're going to have to move me into the 'undecided' column on this one.

AMITA

I'm going to read my book in peace.

She leaves, up the stairs, as --

LARRY

Consider -- When Magellan landed on Tierra del Fuego, an isolated island, the villagers greeted him but mostly stared at the horizon. Having no concept of a ship larger than a canoe, they somehow couldn't see five galleons anchored in plain sight. A flotilla of ships were literally invisible to their disbelieving eyes.

(CONTINUED)

45 CONTINUED: (2)

45

CHARLIE

You illustrate my point. The ignorant couldn't see the plain truth in front of them. Or -- maybe an ocean fog concealed the ships.

LARRY

I can see the fog's rolled in alright. Good night, Charles. Don.

Larry exits through the kitchen.

CHARLIE

(regrets his earlier tone)
Good night, Lawrence.

DON

I'm picking Dad up at the airport, want to come?

Charlie nods, grabs his jacket.

CHARLIE

Larry looks up at the universe and asks why. You take your doubts to the temple.

(beat)

I don't know... maybe it's okay, living without all the answers.

DON

I'll let you know... when I get some answers.

The brothers go out the door together.

END OF EPISODE