

THE GOLDEN COAST

Pilot

Written by

Lewis Liu

Created by

Andrew Hu & Lewis Liu

Caihong Productions
742 S Westlake Ave, Suite 304
Los Angeles, CA 90057
+1(323)393-5901
zhaolewisliu@gmail.com

VT: SERIES OF SWEEPING SHOTS OF SAN FRANCISCO

All the busy landmarks of the bay area -- Golden Gate Bridge, Fisherman's Wharf, the vintage market streetcar.

YU (V.O.)

Welcome to my house! Wait, can we do that again? I want it to sound cool.

The shots take us to Silicon Valley and the legendary tech campuses of Apple, Google, Facebook, and Tesla.

YU (V.O.)

Welcome, welcome to my home. Hold on, I said *welcome* twice, can you cut one out of the documentary? Let's just do it one more time, I have a new idea.

INT. YU'S HOUSE - DAY

YU (24, Chinese), boyish in a silk robe with baby panda prints, opens the door for two documentary cameramen whose POVs we stay in.

YU

Welcome to my house!

The doorway is lined with posters for every *Transformers* movie, an autographed photo of Yu with Jeremy Lin, and a really dry houseplant.

YU

Come in! Hey, guess who this is?

The comfortable living room is filled with hip furniture and a massive TV with every video game imaginable.

Yu stands next to an Andy Warhol style diptych painting -- of himself.

YU

It's me, in all of them!

TALKING HEAD - YU

YU

My dad wants me to take over our family business one day, so he sent me to America for college.

(MORE)

YU (CONT'D)

I've learned so much these last six years in Palo Alto, I feel like I could be a visionary, too! I don't have any ideas, but I do have a garage. My dad says I've been in school longer than the American average, but I always believe the more the better, right! And who says you can't have fun while you're studying?

We reveal a basketball in Yu's hand. He no-look tosses it behind his shoulder at a full-size hoop -- it misses wide and breaks a glass.

YU

Maybe that should be outside.

EXT. YU'S POOL - DAY

Outside the sliding glass doors is a yard, barbecue pit, and a large pool. Sitting poolside is WEI WEI (24, Chinese), who's in a swimsuit and clearly camera ready.

WEI WEI

(feigns)

Oh, hi! Does your documentary start today, I completely forgot.

Yu pecks Wei Wei who can't help but pose. Yu plays along and they are a couple made for Instagram/Weibo.

YU

This is my girlfriend Wei Wei. We met here in San Francisco when I hit her with my car.

WEI WEI

It was my fault too. I was on my Weibo when all of a sudden, BAM! Isn't life crazy?

YU

I drive down that road all the time! You just appeared out of nowhere, like an angel.

Wei Wei hides a guilty look from the camera -- she totally set that up.

WEI WEI

You know what they say. One day you're live streaming and crossing the street, and the next thing you know the man of your dreams hits you with his McLaren 570S!

YU

That's the start of every great love story.

WEI WEI

You're so romantic.
(at camera)
Follow me on Weibo at
"WeiWeiInUSA."

YU

And me at Yuuuuuuuuu. That's eight U's.

WEI WEI

Because eight is lucky.

YU

And the other seven Yu's were already taken.

We hear the front door open and a dog yapping.

YU

Ben!

INT. YU'S HOUSE - DAY

BEN (23, Caucasian) sweats with a mountain of 99 Ranch grocery bags in his hands and a man bag around his shoulder. Maomao, a Pomeranian, barks and runs wild. Yu puts an arm around Ben's shoulder.

YU

This is my best friend, Ben, and if you can't tell, he's white, haha. He lives in my guest house but we first met in school. Ben had to graduate in four years like some overachiever. Get this, Ben speaks amazing Mandarin. Say something!

BEN

(eerily perfect Mandarin)
These bags are heavy.

YU
Isn't that incredible!

Yu plays with Maomao and Wei Wei.

YU
Maomao, you look so pretty after
your haircut!

Ben tries to smile for the camera.

TALKING HEAD - BEN

BEN
I've loved Chinese culture my whole
life. I taught myself Mandarin when
I was six so I can read Jin Yong's
wuxia novels. I can even recite
Confucius backwards.

(backwards)

*Humility is the solid foundation of
all virtues.*

(then)

Yu and I are like Chinese brothers.
Sure, I do a lot of things to help
him out like drive him everywhere,
buy food for him, cook the food for
him, but I'm not like his servant
because he doesn't pay me.

INT. YU'S GARAGE - DAY

Yu shows off his four-car-garage with a yellow Camaro, red
Mclaren, Range Rover, and an Optimus Prime replica truck.

YU
See, more of everything! I wanted
to have one car for every day of
the week, but my Dad can be really
stingy. One of you guys should get
a close-up [of the truck]. I know
what you're thinking, is this the
real Optimus Prime?

Yu listens to the truck like it's whispering.

YU
Don't worry, I won't tell them your
secret, *Optimus*.
(at camera)
Just kidding guys, it's not the
real thing. Or is it... Kidding!
(MORE)

YU (CONT'D)

It's not.

(sighs)

You can't have everything in life.

Yu's phone rings with a WeChat video call from his parents, ZHANG (60s) and CHUNHUA (60s).

YU

Hey look, it's my parents!

Yu answers and shows the camera his phone screen/parents.

YU

Say hello!

ZHANG & CHUNHUA

(on phone)

Yu, why is there a camera? Are you making a terrible music video again?

YU

(feigns)

What music video?

ZHANG & CHUNHUA

(on phone)

The one you spent \$50,000 on and danced like that Korean on a horse. What did you call the video, Yu *Love My Style*?

Yu turns around for some privacy but we can still hear.

YU

Dad, you're embarrassing me. The documentary is filming right now.

ZHANG & CHUNHUA

(on phone)

Who told you to do that? They want to see Chinese people in Silicon Valley they need to follow the real big shots like Tony Hsieh, and that Chinese woman who married Mark Zuckerberg. She's smart, she owns half of Facebook just like that!

YU

Dad, they want to follow me. I have ideas, too.

ZHANG

(on phone)

What ideas? You take a few computer classes and all of a sudden you think you're Chinese Steve Jobs?

CHUNHUA

(on phone)

Son, when are you going to graduate? Stop fooling around, it's time for you to come home and accept your responsibilities.

YU

I don't want to talk about that right now.

ZHANG

I can't believe this, our only son can't even find time to talk to his own parents. What are you learning in--

YU

Oh no, I'm entering a tunnel and losing you!

ZHANG

We can see your garage--

Yu hangs up and smiles at the camera.

YU

I love my parents.

INT. YU'S KITCHEN - DAY

Ben stir-fries over an open flame like a real Chinese chef, Wei Wei feeds Maomao organic canned dog food, and Yu looks on his iPad.

INSERT: iPad screen for *University of Palo Alto - Registrar* and Yu's academic record, including a GPA of 2.1 and 115 out of 180 required credits.

YU

Maybe I should go to class this week...

WEI WEI

Guess what today is?

YU
It's not my birthday.

WEI WEI
You're close. It's Maomao's
birthday and our one year
anniversary!

YU
Wow! Happy anniversary!
(kisses Wei Wei)
And happy birthday Maomao!
(kisses Maomao)
I'm such a lucky guy. We have to
celebrate. Ben, call the club that
opened downtown and book it for
tonight.

BEN
How many tables do you want?

YU
No, silly, the whole club. We need
room for everybody!

WEI WEI
You're so sweet!

BEN
Got it, boss.
(sees camera)
I mean, Yu.

Ben somehow shoulders his phone while flames leap at him.

BEN
(into phone)
Do you speak Mandarin?

Ben hears "no" and shakes his head.

BEN
(into phone)
We want to book the club tonight.
Yes, the whole club.

Yu gives Ben a thumbs up.

BEN
(to Yu)
All they have is a VIP booth.

Yu raises one finger at Ben, who nods.

BEN
 (into phone)
 We'll give you \$10,000.

Ben shakes his head at Yu, who then raises two fingers and shows off for Wei Wei and the camera.

BEN
 How about \$20,000?

Ben shakes his head again. Yu, frustrated, flashes fingers at Ben who struggles to decipher it.

BEN
 (into phone)
 We'll give you five...hundred
 thousand...

Yu shakes his head and points lower.

BEN
 Yuan?
 (to Yu)
 All we can get is the last VIP
 booth.

Yu nods and tries to save face for the camera.

YU
 See that? VIP booth, for VIPs.

WEI WEI
 What about Maomao?

YU
 We'll bring her, of course!

WEI WEI
 You're the best! I can't wait to
 live stream this to my fans.

TALKING HEAD - WEI WEI

WEI WEI
 Social media is my life. When I
 came to America to study at
 Stanford, I could barely survive. I
 even thought about going back home
 to Sichuan, but then I started
 sharing my story on Weibo and
 people actually cared!

Wei Wei shows us her early posts.

WEI WEI

When Yu crashed into me, I went viral. I never thought I could be a star in America, but I dropped out of Stanford and now I earn a living with my Weibo. I can even send money back home! My followers are like my family, see?

Wei Wei shows us the top of her feed and the newest follower post: *More bikini photos.*

INT. MOVING MCLAREN - DAY

We're in the passenger seat and Yu drives into a parking lot for *University of Palo Alto*. It's a sunny day at the small college for Stanford rejects.

YU

I love school, I really do. These past years have been the best years of my life. I met Wei Wei, I met Ben, I finally beat Ninja Gaiden on Xbox, college has been amazing.

Yu pulls into the spot a little crooked.

YU

People in America have stereotypes of Chinese drivers so I always make sure I park straight.

Yu backs up obliviously and gets honked at. He pulls back in crooked and tries it again -- another honk. He's crooked, tries it again, and finally gets it straight.

YU

See, that's what I call good Chinese driving.

We look out the window at an angry line of cars.

INT./EXT. UPA CLASSROOM - DAY

Yu enters a computer science class and everybody turns to look at him, including MARCY (22, Chinese American), a rebel from head to toe who we'll see again later.

PROFESSOR

Can I help you?

YU
Just coming to class.

PROFESSOR
Are you a student?

YU
Of course, I'm Yu Kaigang.

PROFESSOR
Is your first name Yu or Kaigang?

YU
Yu.

PROFESSOR
OK, there's a seat there.

Yu takes the only open seat -- next to Marcy. He takes out his textbook, still in its original wrapper.

MARCY
Seriously?

Yu looks at Marcy's textbook, which is covered in notes. He tries to glance at the notes but she moves it away.

PROFESSOR
(continues)
Synchronization issues and their solutions can often be thought of as a puzzle. Here's a classic one. Five philosophers sit around a circular table. In front of each is a large plate of rice, and the philosophers alternate their time between eating and pondering. There is one single chopstick between each philosopher, to their right and left. In order to eat, a philosopher needs to use both chopsticks. How can you ensure all the philosophers eat without starving to death?

Marcy thinks to herself and writes furiously in her notebook. Yu notices the sleeve tattoo on her arm.

YU
Cool tattoo.

MARCY
Shut up, I'm thinking

Marcy's hand shoots up first. The Professor rolls his eyes and looks at the other students in the room, all males.

PROFESSOR
Come on guys, any ideas?

Yu raises his hand.

MARCY
(mutters at Professor)
Asshole.

PROFESSOR
Yes, our mystery student.

YU
I would buy more chopsticks. Maybe
forks, too.

People laugh.

PROFESSOR
You can't do that, Yu.

Marcy raises her hand again and is ignored again.

YU
Why not?

PROFESSOR
Because that's the rules.

YU
What rules? I thought we have to
break rules to invent things like
Mark Zuckerberg did in *The Social
Network*.

More laughter and Marcy can't take it anymore.

MARCY
(at Yu)
What the hell are you talking
about? The answer is to assign a
partial order to the resources and
establish the convention that all
resources will be requested in
order.

YU
Right... What she said.

PROFESSOR

That is correct.

(at Yu)

Are you sure you're in the right class?

(checks computer)

There you are. Looks like you haven't attended class all quarter so you were automatically dropped.

YU

I'm here now. Can I get half credit?

Marcy shoots Yu a *WTF* look.

PROFESSOR

Yu need to go the registrar. Get it? Yu?

YU

Ha, I get it.

An awkward beat.

PROFESSOR

I meant now.

Yu plays it cool and ducks out of there.

INT. REGISTRAR OFFICE - DAY

Yu sits with a hip COUNSELOR (30s).

YU

There has to be a mistake.

COUNSELOR

Nope, no mistake. I've never seen a student with so few credits after six years. That's gotta be a record!

The Counselor takes a photo of his computer screen.

COUNSELOR

Don't worry, your name's not in the picture.

YU

Thanks?

(then)

(MORE)

YU (CONT'D)

Are there any 65 credit classes I
can take?

COUNSELOR

Not unless numbers work differently
in China.

YU

They don't.

COUNSELOR

Then nope, you are S.O.L.

(off phone)

Look, 2 likes already!

Yu pauses uncomfortably.

YU

I didn't want to say this on
camera, but my father donated a lot
of money to this school.

COUNSELOR

And we appreciate it very much.
That's why we changed our mascot to
the Palo Alto Nine Phoenixes.

The Counselor shows a nine-headed stuffed animal with a
little UPA shirt on.

COUNSELOR

And renamed our bookstore.

We look out the window at the bookstore and its sign: *The
Great Wall -- Of Books.*

COUNSELOR

But we have limits. We're not just
a school for people who couldn't
get into Stanford. There are also
people here who couldn't get into
CalTech.

(check computer again)

And actually, as of the end of this
quarter, you are officially
expelled.

Yu covers his face.

COUNSELOR

There-there, it'll be OK. The most important thing to know...is that your parents can't get their donations back. They know that, right?

TALKING HEAD - YU

YU

Who knew you were supposed to have classes every quarter? Nobody ever told me that! After everything my father did for this school.

The school mascot walks by in the Nine Phoenix costume with the gigantic heads in his hands.

MASCOT

I have neck problems now, jackass.

YU

The Nine Phoenix wasn't my idea.

The mascot puts on his heavy phoenix heads and immediately crashes into people. Yu shrugs guiltily at the camera.

YU

It was my idea.

EXT. YU'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Ben pulls the Range Rover out of the garage. Yu opens the door for Wei Wei, who's in pink, and Maomao, who also has a pink dog dress and tiara on.

WEI WEI

(at camera)

We have matching pink dresses because we love each other. It's good feng shui. Yu doesn't believe in it.

YU

(distracted)

Huh?

WEI WEI

See? Wake up, my live stream is scheduled to start, soon.

YU
I need a drink.

Ben notices Yu's face.

BEN
Are you alright?

YU
Yeah, I'm fine. Let's party!

Off Ben's worried look.

INT. MOVING RANGE ROVER - NIGHT

The car pulls up to a long valet line outside a club.

YU
Why are we stopped?

Ben looks out the window.

BEN
There's a line for the valet.

YU
We're VIP, the V is for *valet*!

Ben looks at the camera and keeps quiet. Yu reaches over and honks the horn, and other cars honk back.

YU
Move, we're VIPs!

BEN
I think we need to wait.

WEI WEI
(whines)
But my live stream is starting soon.

YU
There's the valet guy. Turn off the car.

Ben shuts the car off and Yu takes the keys.

EXT. VALET LINE/CLUB - NIGHT

Yu leads Wei Wei, Maomao, and Ben to the entrance. A shaggy homeless man, FO (40s, Chinese), sits on the ground and panhandles for change.

Yu throws the keys at a startled guy in a tux, JIN KWAN (30s, Chinese), who reflexively catches them.

YU
It's the Range Rover.

JIN
What the...

Yu gets a twenty-dollar-bill but Jin slaps it away.

JIN
Do I look like the valet?

We pull back and see Jin standing next to the valet sign in his tux.

YU
Yes.

FO
(laughs)
He's right, you do!

Yu gives Fo the twenty dollars instead.

YU
Thank you!

FO
(Buddha quote)
Being generous is the best good luck.

Fo, with an iPhone surprisingly, leaves.

YU
(to Jin)
Are you parking my car or not?

JIN
I'm not the damn valet!

YU
Why did you catch my keys?

BEN
Yu, that's--

JIN
You threw them at me!

Jin throws the keys back to Yu who catches them.

JIN
See, does that make you the valet?

YU
No, they're my keys!

WEI WEI
Yu, it's cold.

The actual VALET returns and Yu gives him the keys.

JIN
I was here first!

YU
Ranger Rover in the back.
(whispers)
And I think this guy is pretending
to be you. He might be a car thief.

Yu, Wei Wei, and Ben get in through the VIP line, leaving Jin bewildered. Another key hits Jin in the chest.

INT. CLUB - NIGHT

Low lights, chatter, and a packed dance floor but not much dancing for this geekier than usual tech crowd.

At a VIP BOOTH, empty glasses litter the table. Yu and Wei Wei take shots with a group of Chinese rich kids. Ben sips on his own baijiu from home.

YU
Who needs school?! We have shots!

CHEERS and Yu downs a double. He's wasted.

BEN
(to Yu)
Want some water?

YU
Water doesn't have alcohol.

BEN
Good point. What happened at school?

YU
 Stop thinking about school, you're
 so Chinese.

That's all Ben ever wanted to hear. Wei Wei talks to her
 phone/live stream.

WEI WEI
 (at phone)
 Happy one year anniversary to the
 best boyfriend ever!

YU
 One year... That's my longest
 relationship since elementary
 school.

WEI WEI
 (at phone)
 Isn't he such a sweetheart?

YU
 Happy one month anniversary!

WEI WEI
 One year, honey, one year!

Yu mashes Wei Wei with a drunken kiss and she hides her
 embarrassment. Maomao barks at all the commotion around her
 and Ben tries to corral her.

BEN
 Maybe we should move to a quieter
 spot, I think Maomao is getting
 anxious.

YU
 No, she's happy-barking! Here comes
 her cake!

A HOST brings a birthday cake with Maomao's face painted in
 the frosting. Everybody sings *Happy Birthday* to Maomao.

HOST
 Who's Maomao?

YU
 She is!

WEI WEI
 Dogs love cake, right?!

Yu and Wei Wei give Maomao kisses. The Host rolls his eyes.

WEI WEI
Blow out the candles Maomao.

Maomao whines at the candles.

BEN
I don't think dogs like fire or
cake.

WEI WEI
Come on Maomao, do it for Mommy and
her fans!

Wei Wei puts Maomao on the table and Maomao instantly takes
off. Yu leaps for Maomao and misses.

WEI WEI
Maomao!

YU
Get her, Ben!

HOST
FML.
(into earpiece)
Security.

BEN
I got her!

Ben chases Maomao across the VIP section and Yu stumbles
after him.

Maomao ducks under the VIP table of an oblivious Jin and his
date, and Ben crawls under the table.

BEN
Come here you bad girl!

Jin's date feels something on her leg and Ben's head pops up
in her crotch. She screams and spills her drink on Jin.

JIN
What the hell?!

Yu catches Maomao.

YU
You're such a troublemaker!

JIN
You again!

BEN
I'm so sorry.

Ben crawls out from under the table and tries to wipe the drink off Jin, who shoves him away.

YU
Don't shove my brother from another racial mother.

JIN
That's it, you guys are out of here!

Wei Wei takes Maomao and keeps live streaming.

JIN
Do you have any idea who you're messing with?

YU
Are you security, too?

Jin throws his drink in Yu's face. Yu licks the alcohol off his own cheeks.

YU
Ooh, an apple martini.
(then)
Do you work here or not?

JIN
No, you drunken idiot! I'm Jin Kwan, I'm a Silicon Valley legend!

A beat. Yu looks at Ben for a clue.

BEN
(whispers)
This guy is really famous in Palo Alto.

YU
(to Jin)
Never heard of you. But let me ask you a question.

Yu fumbles to his booth and grabs the birthday cake.

BEN
Yu, what are you doing?

Yu ignores Ben and brings the cake back to Jin's table.

YU
 (to Jin)
 What's your birthday?

JIN
 May fifteenth, why?

YU
 Err, wrong, your birthday is today.

Yu launches the cake! Jin ducks and the cake hits Marcy in the face. Frosting drips down her *SECURITY* t-shirt.

JIN
 You assaulted my girlfriend!

DATE
 I thought I was your girlfriend.

JIN
 You're both my girlfriends.

Jin tries to wipe the cake off Marcy's chest and she shoves his head away.

MARCY
 For the last time Jin, I'm not your girlfriend. I'm security.
 (at Yu)
 And I'm kicking your dog party out!

YU
 Do I know you? Have I thrown a cake at you before?

MARCY
 Hello? I was in the CS class this morning, the one you never go to?

YU
 And you're a female bouncer? That's so sexy!

Jealousy on Wei Wei's face. Marcy easily twists Yu's arm behind his back.

MARCY
 Maybe now you'll take me seriously.

YU
 You're so strong!

JIN
 Get him out of here, babe!

Marcy glares at Jin who backs off, a little frightened and turned on. A couple other bouncers follow Marcy who leads Yu out of the club. People point and laugh.

YU
I have VIP rights!

EXT. CLUB - NIGHT

Marcy lets Yu go. He tumbles to the curb, ready to pass out.

YU
I didn't do it Dad, I promise...

Yu passes out and Marcy almost feels sorry for him.

MARCY
Get him home safe.

TALKING HEAD - MARCY

MARCY
I had a summer job at Jin's old app company and I programmed circles around all the guys. But nobody took me seriously, especially after Jin took me on a fake coffee date. It's hard being a woman in the tech industry, but I like proving people wrong. Come on, there has to be better people for a Silicon Valley documentary than that guy. This place is full of geniuses. They're all assholes, but him, seriously?

Behind her, Yu throws up on the curb.

EXT. CLUB - NIGHT

The valet brings the Range Rover and Ben grabs Yu.

WEI WEI
Yu, get up! This is so gross.

BEN
Stop live streaming and help me.

Wei Wei blows a kiss at her phone.

WEI WEI
OK, party's over, night-night!

Ben and Wei Wei hoist a snoring Yu into the car.

INT. YU'S HOUSE - DAY

Yu wakes up on the couch, a hungover mess. He rubs his head and hears cooking in the kitchen.

YU
Wei Wei?

INT. YU'S KITCHEN - DAY

Ben fries you-tiao and Yu takes a seat. Ben brings him a bowl of freshly squeezed soy milk soup.

YU
What happened last night?

BEN
You got drunk, fought a
billionaire, passed out.

YU
That's all?

BEN
You seemed upset about school.

YU
Ugh, I almost drank enough to
forget that.

BEN
Forget what?

YU
I'm getting expelled.

BEN
(feigns)
No way.

YU
What will I tell my parents? They
thought I would have my Ph.D. by
now.

Ben accidentally laughs.

BEN
Sorry. Are you going to tell your
parents?

Yu finds his phone in his pocket and sees 5 missed calls from his dad. Wei Wei enters, glued to her iPad.

WEI WEI
We made the news!

YU
What?

WEI WEI
My Weibo is exploding.

Yu and Ben look at her iPad.

INSERT: On the iPad, Chinese News Report video with footage from Wei Wei's live stream at the club.

CHINESE REPORTER
(on iPad)
...Son of the Chinese businessman Zhang Kaigang was caught live on Weibo attacking renowned tech entrepreneur, Jin Kwan, after Yu's American servant sexually harassed Mr. Kwan's date at a nightclub.

BEN
Why do people keep thinking I'm your servant?

Ben wipes a dribble of soy milk off Yu's mouth.

CHINESE REPORTER
(on iPad)
Chinese netizens are outraged by Yu's spoiled behavior and have called on his girlfriend who recorded the incident, Weibo celebrity WeiWeiInUSA to dump him.

INT. YU'S KITCHEN - DAY

WEI WEI
They used my name!

YU
Why did you live stream that?

WEI WEI
I thought you were going to win the fight.

On the iPad video, we see Wei Wei's last shot of Yu passed out on the curb.

YU
I look terrible!

WEI WEI
Don't worry. There's no such thing as bad publicity. These days, bad news is good news.

YU
Then what's good news?

TALKING HEADS - WEI WEI

WEI WEI
Good news is boring. You always have to give people what they want, and people want drama. Real or fake, it doesn't matter. I learned it all from this book.

She holds a copy of Donald Trump's book, *Art of the Deal*, translated into Mandarin.

WEI WEI
I don't think he wrote the book himself, but that's the point.

INT. YU'S KITCHEN - DAY

Wei Wei sees a Weibo poll on her iPad.

WEI WEI
Wow, people are voting on whether or not we should stay together. 83% say we should break up.

YU
Out of 200%?

WEI WEI
No, 100%.

YU
That's ridiculous.

Yu's phone buzzes with a WeChat message from his Dad. Yu instantly closes it.

YU
I can't look at it. I need some
real food, let's go somewhere.

WEI WEI
Sorry, honey, I have some emails I
need to read...

Concern grows on Wei Wei's face as she scrolls through her
iPad and exits.

YU
Ben?

BEN
Sure, real food.

Yu heads for the door and Ben scrapes the you-taio sadly into
the trash.

INT. UMAMI BURGER - DAY

Yu looks like a disheveled bum in the upscale, overpriced
burger joint. Yu and Ben get to the CASHIER (20s).

YU
I want the truffle burger, Korean
BBQ burger, the ahi burger, the
maple bacon fries, thin fries,
sweet potato fries, ooh the cheesy
fries, and the pickle plate.

CASHIER
Sorry, this isn't Costco, we don't
sell samples.

YU
I want the whole burgers.

CASHIER
Is this to go?

YU
We'll eat here. Oh wait, Ben, what
do you want?

The Cashier and Ben look at each other.

BEN
I'll just have some of yours.

YU
No, I want to try everything and
eat my feelings.

BEN
They don't really have anything
Chinese. I'll get a *Japanese* style
wings if I have to.

CASHIER
Whatever. That'll be \$128.96.

Yu hands over his AMEX Black Card.

CASHIER
Damn, no wonder! You want to order
me something?

YU
Why?

CASHIER
Never mind.
(swipes card)
Aww, looks like your card got
declined.

YU
That's impossible, there's no limit
on that thing.

The Cashier swipes it again -- rejected.

CASHIER
Sorry Asian Richie Rich, you brokie
broke.

YU
It's never been... Oh no.

Yu looks at his dad's WeChat message: *I turned off your black
card. Call us back now!*

YU
Ben, do you have any money?

Ben scours his wallet.

BEN
I have three dollars.

YU
How am I supposed to eat my
feelings for three dollars?

EXT. 7-11 - DAY

Yu and Ben sit on the parking lot curb with two stale hot dogs. Ben takes a bite.

BEN
This is gross.

YU
Perfect.

Yu inhales his hot dog.

YU
Oh yeah.
(chokes it down)
I feel worse already. How do people eat this stuff?

BEN
Not everybody has everything like you do.

YU
What a lousy world. What am I going to do? My parents never cut me off before. What do you do when your parents are mad?

BEN
(Confucius quote)
The superior man, while his parents are alive, reverently nourishes them.

YU
Sometimes I think my parents would be happier if you were their son.

BEN
Adult adoption is legal in California...

YU
My parents, my dad, they just don't understand. What if I don't want to take over the family business? What if I want to do something else?

Yu throws the hot dog stick away.

YU (CONT'D)

Not everybody has the same exact path like his generation. Not everybody wants the same life.

Yu stands, emboldened, and a few bystanders stop and listen.

YU (CONT'D)

There are mysteries to the universe we were never meant to solve. But who we are and why we are here are not among them. Those answers, we carry inside.

A beat.

BEN

Transformers?

YU

Age of Extinction, the best one.

The bystanders shake their heads and walk away.

BEN

You can get a job.

YU

(laughs)

I'm not supposed to have a job, I want to be a visionary! Do you know what Mark Zuckerberg does all day at Facebook?

BEN

No?

YU

Exactly, nobody does. That's because he doesn't have a job at Facebook, he has visions, all day.

BEN

What kind of visions do you have?

YU

Why do you always have to be such a downer, Ben?

TALKING HEAD - BEN

BEN

I'm not a visionary like Yu. Sure, I have ideas sometimes, like the time I thought of a way for people to drive their own cars like taxis, or when I was a kid and made up a fake digital currency called *Bigcoin*. I usually share them on my blog and there's always somebody out there with the exact same idea...a few months later. Collective consciousness, right?

EXT. 7-11 - DAY

YU

I don't know what I'll do, but I know one special person will always stick by me no matter what.

Ben blushes.

YU

I couldn't survive without them. They mean everything to me, and they're so damn sexy.

Ben coughs.

YU

As long as I have Wei Wei, everything will be OK.

BEN

Right, Wei Wei.

YU

Love conquers all. I'm going to propose to her.

BEN

Yu, I don't think that's a good idea right now.

YU

It's perfect. That will make her fans love me again, and my parents will be happy because I can give them a grandchild besides Maomao.

INT. TIFFANY & CO - DAY

Yu looks in a glass case full of gigantic diamond rings with eye-popping price tags: \$15,000, \$32,000, \$78,000. Yu waves at a young SALESWOMAN (20s).

BEN
(whispers)
You don't have any money.

YU
Don't worry, I have a plan.

SALESWOMAN
Have you made a decision?

YU
Yes, I will take that big diamond ring, right there.

Yu points at the \$78,000 one.

SALESWOMAN
Oh wow, whoever this is for is a lucky lady.

Yu nudges Ben.

SALESWOMAN
I'll get a special box. How would you like to pay for this?

YU
With a trade.

Ben facepalms.

SALESWOMAN
Excuse me?

YU
I will trade you my new Range Rover out there for this diamond ring. It's fully loaded and worth almost a hundred thousand dollars. I have three other cars, I can afford to give one up.

SALESWOMAN
I'm sorry, we don't do trades.

YU
I get it, you're trying to negotiate.

(MORE)

YU (CONT'D)

OK, I'll also post a picture of us on Weibo together. I have over a million followers, right Ben?

BEN

He's very popular.

SALESWOMAN

Let me get my manager.

The Saleswoman gets away and talks with her MANAGER (40s), who makes a call on the store phone.

YU

Americans are tough negotiators.

BEN

I think we should leave.

YU

Why? I'm sure he's calling his boss for approval.

The Manager comes over nervously.

MANAGER

Hello, sir, I just called our corporate office and I'm sure we'll have an answer in just a few minutes. Is there anything I can get you gentlemen while you wait?

Yu looks at Ben like *I told you so*.

YU

Do you have any Cristal?

INT. TIFFANY & CO - DAY

Yu and Ben sit on the couches and are watched from a distance by the Manager and the store's employees. Yu sips his bottled water, grossed out.

YU

What kind of jewelry store doesn't have any champagne or hors d'oeuvres?

BEN

All of them?

TWO PALO ALTO POLICE OFFICERS (30s, male and female) enter and the Manager points right at Yu and Ben.

OFFICER #1
Can we see your IDs please?

YU
Great, are you here to make the
trade official?

OFFICER #1
Sir, your ID.

YU
Ben?

Ben unzips the man bag filled with items for Yu: one chapstick, one organic condom, three mango Hi-Chews, his own Ray-Ban 3D movie glasses, a Boba Time punch card, and Yu's Chinese passport, which Ben hands over.

OFFICER #2
You too.

Ben hands over his driver's license.

OFFICER #1
Wait here.

The Officers step away and enter Yu and Ben's IDs into a handheld computer.

YU
Do you think they'll throw in a
watch with the ring?

Ben shakes his head. The Officers return and hand Yu his passport back.

OFFICER #1
We apologize sir, you matched the
description of a suspect in a
jewelry theft ring so we had to
verify your identity.

YU
Exciting. What was the description,
handsome?

Officer #1 checks his notes.

OFFICER #1
Asian.

Officer #2 slaps handcuffs on Ben.

BEN
What's going on?

OFFICER #2
You're under arrest.

YU
Ben! Are you an underground
criminal?

OFFICER #2
A complaint has been filed by a Jin
Kwan over an alleged assault last
evening.

BEN
Yu, help me!

OFFICER #2
You have the right to remain
silent...

YU
You don't understand, Ben didn't do
anything! I'm the reason why he
ended up in that woman's crotch.

EXT. TIFFANY & CO - DAY

The Officers ignore Yu and put Ben in the patrol car.

YU
Officers, Ben would never hurt
anybody, he's a Buddhist!

BEN
I can't go to jail, that's even
worse than getting a tattoo! I'll
never marry into a nice Chinese
family now!

The door shuts on Ben.

YU
Don't worry, I'll get you out, I
promise!

The patrol car drives off. Yu notices the Saleswoman watching
from the store window.

YU
Can we trade now?

INT. YU'S HOUSE - DAY

Yu rushes in and finds Wei Wei at the door.

YU
Wei Wei, you won't believe what
just happened.
(beat)
Where are you going?

Wei Wei has her suitcase and Maomao in her hands.

WEI WEI
Yu--

YU
It doesn't matter, I have something
to say and I want to share it with
all our fans.

Yu opens Weibo on his phone and starts a live stream.

YU
Hey everyone, I'm here with Wei
Wei, the love of my life, and I
wanted to share this very special
moment with all of you.

Yu gets down on one knee.

WEI WEI
Oh my God...

YU
Wei Wei, you are the Dolce to my
Gabbana, the Bumblebee to my
Optimus Prime. I want to grow old
with you. Not actually old because
that's gross, but at least into our
thirties. Wei Wei, will you marry
me and make me the happiest man
alive?

Yu takes her hand and Wei Wei waits.

WEI WEI
Where's the ring?

YU
Oh, my parents cut me off so I'm
totally broke and I probably have
to go back to China. That doesn't
matter, right? You love me for me?

Wei Wei looks at Yu's phone/live stream.

YU

Can you say *yes*, my phone's low on battery.

WEI WEI

No.

YU

OK, you can just nod.

Wei Wei takes Yu's phone and shuts off the live stream.

WEI WEI

I'm sorry Yu, I think we should break up.

YU

Why?!

WEI WEI

Yu, it's not you. And it's not me.

YU

(gasps)

There's someone else?

WEI WEI

Yes, my fans. Their opinions of us are simply too strong.

Wei Wei shows Yu the completed poll on her iPad: 86% voted for Wei Wei to break up with Yu.

YU

But 14% think we should stay together.

WEI WEI

14 is very unlucky.

YU

Please, you can't leave me, I love you, I need you right now! Don't you love me more than your fans?

WEI WEI

Last night really changed people's opinions of us. Well, mostly you, and if we stay together people will think I'm not an independent woman. I can't have that, I can't lose everything I built!

YU
What about us?

WEI WEI
Let's face it, we never had much in
common. I don't even like
Transformers.

That cuts Yu the deepest. Wei Wei opens the door.

YU
Don't take Maomao, too.

WEI WEI
She wants to be with her mother.

YU
How do you know that?

WEI WEI
I told you a thousand times, it's
feng shui.

Wei Wei puts Maomao down.

WEI WEI
Maomao, do you want to go with
Mommy or Daddy?

Maomao jumps into Wei Wei's arms.

YU
That was luck.

Wei Wei puts Maomao down again.

YU
Maomao--

Maomao jumps into Wei Wei's arms again.

WEI WEI
See?

YU
I'm a horrible father...

An Uber arrives outside and Wei Wei leaves with Maomao.

WEI WEI
Yu, I care about you, I really do.
I hope you find yourself and your
really big idea one day.

Yu closes the door and tries to keep a brave face.

YU
Man proposes, God disposes, am I
right?

Yu hides against a wall. He bangs his head softly on a
Transformers poster.

YU
(whispers)
I wish I could be a robot in
disguise.

Yu keeps banging his head.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Yu walks and looks at different people: a couple jogging
together, kids playing on a swing set, a group doing yoga on
the grass.

He sees a father teaching his young son how to play catch,
encouraging the boy and giving him a hug. Yu sighs and takes
a seat under a tree.

FO (O.S.)
Young man!

Yu turns and sees Fo, the homeless man outside the club,
around the tree with a bottle of vodka.

YU
Oh, it's you.

FO
What a beautiful day.

YU
Yeah, it's the worst day of my
life.

FO
How can that be? We have sunshine,
and soft grass to sleep on, what
else do we need?

YU
Nothing, because that's what I got!
I've lost everything!

FO
How have you lost everything?

YU

I lost my girlfriend. I lost my money. I lost my best friend to prison. What else is there to lose?

Fo comes to Yu and in the daytime resembles a hipster Buddha with a beer belly and a beard. Fo hands Yu his vodka, and Yu takes a swig.

FO

If you've lost everything, how can we be sharing this moment?

YU

Vodka?

FO

Yes, and you paid for it! To vodka!

Yu chokes more vodka down.

TALKING HEAD - FO

Yu, drunk, climbs a tree branch in the background.

FO

I was like this young man once. I was rich and I thought I had the world in my palms. But one day, I realized all the money, the power, all the sex, it all poisoned my soul. I gave it all away and it was the best decision I ever made. Except for the sex. Dating is a lot harder when you're homeless.

Yu falls off the branch.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Yu and Fo drain the vodka.

FO

You have more to lose!

YU

I have more to lose!

FO

Give it all away!

Yu takes off running like a crazy drunk and Fo follows him, waving and screaming, and we follow them.

INT. FROGURT - DAY

We catch up to Yu who gives his Rolex to a cashier. The cashier checks out the Rolex, then nods. Yu and Fo suck on a couple spigots and gorge themselves silly on frozen yogurt.

EXT. SKATE PARK - DAY

Fo keeps watch as Yu trades his Gucci wallet and his shoes to a couple teenagers. They high-five him and give him their skateboards and their pre-rolled weed.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - DAY

Yu and Fo skateboard barefooted up and down the block like we're in a Richard Linklater movie.

They trade a joint back and forth. Yu giggles like a schoolboy and skateboards SMACK into a car. Fo laughs his ass off and crashes to the ground.

INT. TACO SHOP - NIGHT

Yu and Fo, high and drunk, pick up a huge plate of carne asada street tacos and a bucket of Coronas.

Yu gives the Mexican cooks in the back a thumbs up, and the cooks smile and give a thumbs up back with Yu's Range Rover keys. Yu and Fo sit and laugh at a table.

FO

See what I mean? Who needs fancy cars or shoes?

YU

Not me!

FO

You're not a college man, you're a wild man!

YU

Why can't everybody live like this?

FO

They can if they know the secret.

YU

What's the secret? I have to know!

FO

Yu, you've been living the secret all day!

YU

The secret is being drunk all the time?

FO

No, here, let help me help you expand your mind.

Fo takes a little pill out of his pocket, splits it, and puts a half in each of their Coronas. The Mexican cooks laugh in the back.

MEXICAN COOK #1

Loco chinos.

The pills fizzle and dissolve in the beer.

YU

Ooh...candy.

Fo toasts Yu and they chug their Coronas.

NEARBY TABLE

Chug, chug, chug, chug!

Yu and Fo finish and people cheer. Yu's eyes instantly widen and his head sways back and forth.

FO

This is the secret: you can never lose it all if you share everything.

YU

Share... Everything...

Yu face plants into his tacos. Fo keeps eating.

EXT. BUS BENCH - DAY

Yu wakes up shirtless and shoeless. An old Asian couple walks by and shakes their heads.

YU

Holy fuck, was that real?

Yu feels his pockets. He finds his phone, which is dead, and a photo booth strip of him and Fo kissing a rooster.

YU

Jesus.

Yu picks out a piece of carne asada from his hair. He sees something written on his hand: share everything.

YU

That's it... Ben, that's it! Ben?

Yu realizes Ben's not around.

YU

Oh shit.

INT. POLICE STATION - JAIL - DAY

Yu hurries to the FRONT DESK OFFICER (40s).

FRONT DESK

Homeless Services is down the block.

YU

I'm not homeless. I'm a...*sharer*.

FRONT DESK

Can you share with me what you're doing here?

YU

I need to get my friend out of jail. Ben Brownstein.

FRONT DESK

The Jew who thinks he's Chinese?

INT. JAIL CELLS - DAY

An officer leads Yu to Ben's cell where he practices tai chi.

YU

Ben! Are you OK?

BEN

Yeah. What happened to you?

YU

The most incredible thing: I got a vision.

BEN

Did you go on a tea ceremony?

YU

No, well kind of but it mostly involved alcohol and some kind of pill. The point is, I have an idea, a big one, and I need your help. How do we get you out of jail?

BEN

Do you have \$50,000 for bail?

YU

I don't even have shoes anymore.

BEN

Here, take my shoes and shirt.

Ben takes them off and hands them to Yu through the jail cell bars. Yu is touched.

YU

We really are brothers.

Ben nods.

YU

What else can I do?

BEN

There's one way I can get out of jail.

INT. TASTE OF J'S - DAY

Yu walks into a tacky fusion restaurant, mostly empty. A portrait of Jin Kwan in a white chef apron hangs above the entrance like he's Wolfgang Puck.

The HOSTESS (18) looks at Yu carefully.

HOSTESS

I'm sorry, we don't allow dumpster diving.

YU

I'm looking for the owner, is he in today?

HOSTESS

Chef J? Who are you?

YU

Tell him Yu Kaigang, the valet guy,
needs to see him.

HOSTESS

OK... Don't steal anything while
I'm gone.

The Hostess goes into the kitchen. Yu straightens his shirt and smells his breath. Jin comes out in a white apron, just like his portrait, and looks at Yu with a satisfied smile.

YU

Mr. Kwan.

JIN

Mister? So, now you know who I am?

YU

Not really.

JIN

Then why did you show up?! You look
like shit.

YU

Can we talk?

Jin eyes Yu suspiciously.

INT. TASTE OF J'S - KITCHEN - DAY

Jin walks Yu into the back where Jin's crew of Chinese and Mexican cooks and busboys surround Yu like a gang. Jin lights an incense stick like an Asian crime boss and honors his...menu, sitting in a bowl of rice.

JIN

See this, this is what creativity
and hard work looks like, something
a spoiled kid like you knows
nothing about.

Jin takes the menu out of the rice bowl and his crew bows reverently. He shows Yu the first page and we see some of *J's Signature Fusion Dishes: Orange Chicken Pho, Sweet & Sour Pad Thai, Mongolian Beef-Bimbap.*

JIN

I invented these! Just like I
invented my first app, FaceSpace. I
sold that app for a hundred million
dollars.

YU

Why did you become a chef?

JIN

Because that's what you can do when you're rich, anything you want! One day, there will be a Taste of J's in every city and every mall in America.

YU

Like Panda Express?

The crew GASPS and is ready to beat Yu up. Jin puts up a hand and stops them.

JIN

No, not like Panda Express! Why are you here?

YU

I want you to drop the charges against my friend, Ben.

JIN

Oh yeah, I thought that would get your attention. You know why I pressed charges against your friend and not you?

YU

Because I'm Chinese?

JIN

No, I'm not racist. I wanted to teach you a lesson for humiliating me. Now you know what it feels like to be powerless because there's nothing you can do to get your friend out of jail.

YU

Please, he's like a brother to me, I'll do anything.

JIN

Sorry, poor Ben's life is ruined because of you.

YU

No, I'm so sorry, I'll do anything you want.

Jin raises his eyebrows.

JIN
Anything, you say?

YU
Yes.

JIN
He means that much to you?

YU
I have a vision for us.

JIN
OK, not sure what that means but
good for you two. I'll drop the
charges against Ben if you walk
between my legs.

Jin squats and spreads his leg open like a tunnel.

TALKING HEAD - JIN

JIN
I'm not a petty man, just one with
imagination. You have to teach
these rich Chinese kids a lesson
sometimes, it's for their own good.
I came to America with nothing and
I had to do some pretty hard things
to fund my first company. I won't
tell you what it was, but let's
just say taping iPhones to your
body is not fun.

INT. TASTE OF J'S - KITCHEN - DAY

Jin waits and the kitchen crew murmurs. Yu hesitates.

JIN
Come on, don't you want to save
your little friend?

YU
If I do this, you'll drop the
charges against Ben?

JIN
Yes. Too bad your cameras are here.
I wasn't even going to live stream
this, figured you can just live
with the humiliation on your own.

Yu glances at the camera.

YU
OK.

Yu takes a deep breath, closes his eyes, gets down on his hands and knees, and bursts forward.

JIN
Taste the J--

Yu's head rams right into J's balls. J's face wrenches in pain and a cook faints. J falls forward and Yu goes through his legs.

YU
Did I make it?

Jin bowls over in pain.

JIN
You...

YU
I can do it again.

JIN
No!
(still in pain)
I hope you know...to never...make
me mad again. Go get your friend,
idiot.

The kitchen crew surrounds Yu who quickly escapes.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Yu exits with a freed Ben who kisses the ground.

BEN
I am never going to laugh at *Orange Is the New Black* again. I'm so
sorry about Wei Wei.

YU
How did you know about that?

BEN
One of the prisoners had a secret
phone.

YU

Really? Did he hide it in his armpit?

BEN

Yes...his armpit. Where's your car?

YU

I traded the Range Rover for a plate of tacos, but that's not important. Ben, I have an idea for an app, I have a vision. We just need one more person to get started.

INT. CLUB - NIGHT

Yu and Ben, showered and in a fresh change of clothes, find Marcy working security.

MARCY

Oh hell no, get out.

YU

I don't want any trouble.

MARCY

That's what Jackie Chan always says before he starts trouble.

YU

I have a proposition for you.

MARCY

Are you trying to get your ass kicked again?

YU

No, not like that, I don't even have the money for that anymore.

BEN

What Yu's trying to say is he has a business idea and he'd like to hire you.

MARCY

What's the idea?

BEN

I don't know, he hasn't told me what it is either.

YU
It's an app, a good one, and I need
a programmer.

MARCY
Why me?

YU
Because I don't know anybody else.

MARCY
No thanks.

Marcy walks away to the dance floor. Yu follows her and they
dance through the crowd as they talk.

YU
The app is important.

MARCY
Not interested.

YU
I'll have Ben cook for you every
day.

MARCY
I can feed myself.

Yu and Marcy dance with each other and there's the faintest
spark of opposites attracting. He knows what she wants.

YU
I promise I'll take you seriously.

Marcy stops dancing.

MARCY
OK. Let's go.

YU
Don't you have to finish work?

Marcy strips off her *SECURITY* t-shirt to her tank-top
underneath. She tosses her shirt aside like a badass.

MARCY
Fuck this, I didn't come to Palo
Alto to be a bouncer. Let's go hear
your big idea.

Ben looks like he's in love.

TALKING HEAD - BEN

BEN

...

INT. YU'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Ben shows Marcy around. She's vaguely impressed.

MARCY

Nice place. Yu really loves
Transformers.

BEN

We watch them together all the
time.

MARCY

They're alright.

BEN

Yeah, they're OK, I just watch them
because Yu does.

INT. YU'S GARAGE - NIGHT

Yu talks to his parents on a WeChat video call.

ZHANG & CHUNHUA

(on phone)

Expelled? What else are you going
to tell us? Did you join a gang?
Are you using cocaine? Have you
murdered anybody we don't know
about? That's it Son, you are
coming home to Beijing, now!

YU

I can't come home yet, I have a
vision and I'm going to follow it.

CHUNHUA

He is on drugs!

ZHANG

Is that why you're wearing that
stupid turtleneck?

Pull back and reveal Yu in a black Steve Job-esque
turtleneck.

YU
No, it's cold.

ZHANG
Come home, stop fooling around in America, you've had your fun but now it's time for you think about your future.

YU
I am thinking about my future. I'm *thinking different*. I have a presentation, I gotta go.

Yu ends the call. He takes a deep breath and puts a hand on his yellow Camaro.

YU
I can do this. I can transform, just like you.

INT. YU'S HOUSE - DAY

Marcy and Ben sit on the couch with a couple beers and wait for Yu.

BEN
Can I get you anything else? I can make some fresh wontons for us to nibble on.

MARCY
No thanks. I'm good with beer.

BEN
Me too, I love baijiu.

MARCY
What's baijiu?

BEN
I don't know, haha.

The lights dim.

BEN
Ooh, mood lighting.

Marcy keeps one eye on Ben's hand. Yu's voice comes over the house speakers.

YU (O.S.)
 Since the beginning of time,
 humankind has always wanted more.

The lights flash and Marcy rolls her eyes.

YU (O.S.)
 More food. More cars. More clothes.
 More dogs. More houses. More video
 games. More Harry Potters. More--

MARCY
 We get the idea. Turn the lights
 on, damn it.

The lights come on.

YU (O.S.)
 But what humankind needs today is
 not more...

Yu walks dramatically into the living room with a flashlight
 pointed at his face.

YU
 Can I turn off the lights again?
 The flashlight is a lot cooler if
 the lights are off.

MARCY
 You don't need the flashlight. I
 can see your face just fine.

YU
 (continues)
 What humankind needs today is
 to....*SHARE*.

Yu pauses dramatically.

MARCY
 What?

YU
 Why have just Uber for cars and
 Airbnb for houses? Why not have an
 app that lets anybody, anywhere,
 share?

MARCY
 Share what?

YU
 Everything!

Marcy and Ben force enthusiastic smiles.

TALKING HEAD - MARCY

MARCY

That's the worst idea I've ever
fucking heard.

TALKING HEAD - BEN

BEN

Does Marcy love it? If she does,
then I totally love it. If not, it
sounds insane.

TALKING HEAD - YU

YU

Nobody's ever thought of this idea
before, to share everything. I'm a
visionary!

FADE OUT.

END OF EPISODE