

A movie poster for 'The Dead Ringer'. The central image is a woman's face, split vertically by a mirror. The left side of her face is in shadow and appears to be crying, while the right side is brightly lit and has a more composed expression. She is wearing a traditional Chinese garment with a gold collar. The background is a dark, rainy street at night, reflected in the mirror. A neon sign on the street reads 'WU SHING WU 龍城 賭' and 'DRAGON GAMBLING'. In the foreground, on the left, is a small table with a glass of whiskey, a cigar, and a green ring. On the right, a hand is visible holding a knife. The overall mood is noir and suspenseful.

THE DEAD RINGER

ACTION / THRILLER FEATURE
BY SUZANNE LUTAS

COMPARABLES

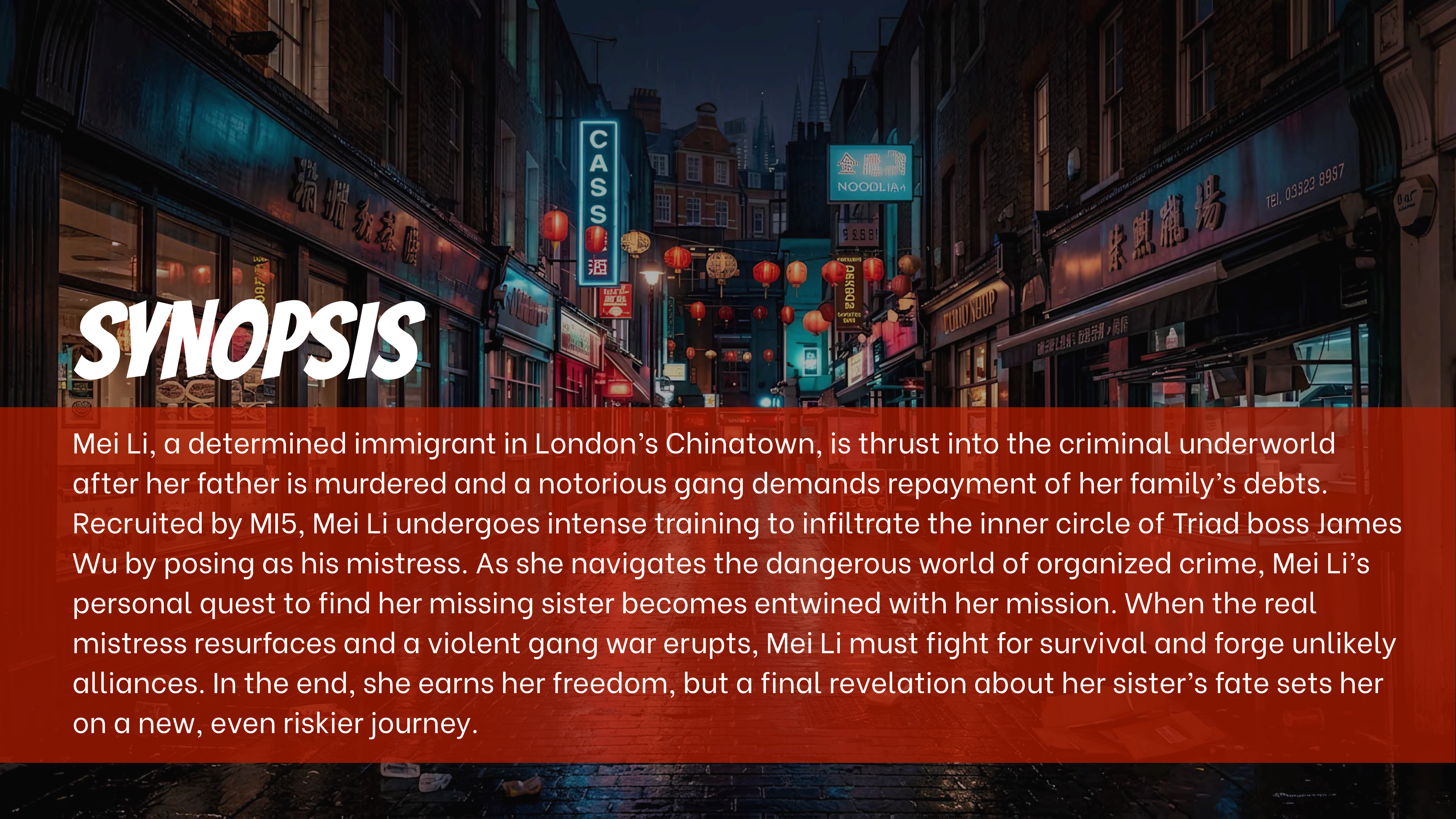
The Dead Ringer combines the intricate, identity-blurring tension of *Infernal Affairs* with the brutal, character-driven transformation of *Red Sparrow*.



A woman's face is split vertically down the middle. The left side of her face is in a dark, rainy street at night, with neon signs for 'GOLDEN LOTUS' and 'GAMBLING' visible in the background. She has a pained expression with tears on her face. The right side of her face is in a modern, brightly lit apartment with a city skyline (including the Shard) visible through a window. She has a calm, determined expression. She is wearing a dark blue traditional Chinese garment with gold dragon embroidery.

LOGLINE

Because she bears an uncanny resemblance to the mistress of a London-based Chinese Triad boss, an illegal immigrant is trained by MI5 to infiltrate the gang and bring them down.



SYNOPSIS

Mei Li, a determined immigrant in London's Chinatown, is thrust into the criminal underworld after her father is murdered and a notorious gang demands repayment of her family's debts. Recruited by MI5, Mei Li undergoes intense training to infiltrate the inner circle of Triad boss James Wu by posing as his mistress. As she navigates the dangerous world of organized crime, Mei Li's personal quest to find her missing sister becomes entwined with her mission. When the real mistress resurfaces and a violent gang war erupts, Mei Li must fight for survival and forge unlikely alliances. In the end, she earns her freedom, but a final revelation about her sister's fate sets her on a new, even riskier journey.



Tension peaks when the real Anna escapes captivity and bursts into the living room,
bringing the two identical women face-to-face before a baffled Mr. Wu

MEI LI SUN

ANNA HUANG

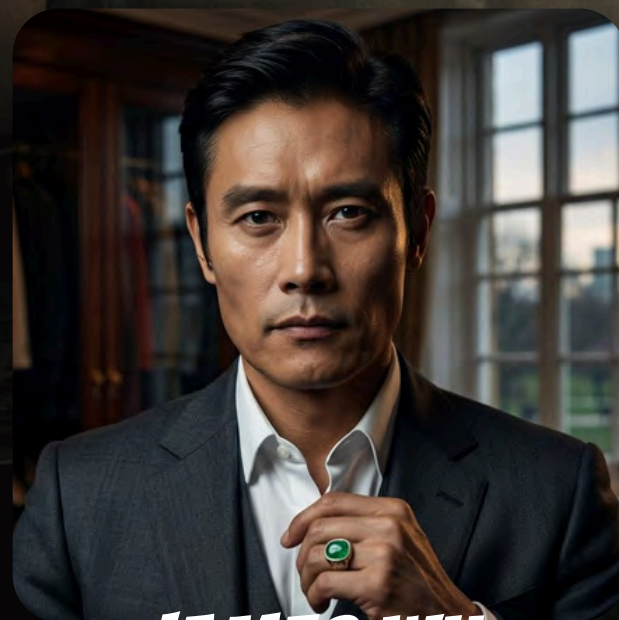
THE CAST



MEI LI SUN



ANNA HUANG



JAMES WU



ALEX RHYS



MR. FENG

The following references are intended to convey performance tone, screen presence, and character energy – not casting attachments.

A young woman with dark hair tied in a ponytail, wearing a denim jacket over a white t-shirt, is shown in a close-up, looking down with a pained expression. She is holding a small, rectangular wooden box. Her face is marked with tears. The background is a traditional Chinese temple with ornate red roofs and pillars, featuring dragon sculptures and red lanterns. The scene is set outdoors during the day.

Mei LI SUN (25) has a quiet strength and natural beauty. Mei Li's sister vanished in a flow of illegals when her family boarded a ship for England. More recently, her father lost his life by the hand of the Snakehead gang. Sick with worry for her sister and deprived of her father's love and nurturing presence, Mei Li is left vulnerable. Tragedy drives her to become an undercover MI5 agent, aiming to stop child trafficking by a powerful Chinese Triad and avenge her father.

MEI LI SUN

A man with dark hair and a beard, wearing a grey suit, white shirt, and blue tie, sits on a dark wooden bench in a museum gallery. He is looking towards a large painting on the wall. The painting depicts a woman in a white dress and a red cloak, with her hands clasped. The gallery has white walls, arched windows, and other paintings hanging on the walls. Two people are visible in the background near a large arched window.

ALEX RHYS (36) embodies the intensity and presence of a Gerard Butler archetype. A brilliant MI5 Chief Section Officer, he's dedicated to his job and has had no personal life since he lost his fiancée in a Triad war. Behind his apparent coldness and self-assurance, he's intuitive, tender, lonely and therefore not immune to Mei Li's charm. Yet his steely, opposing side is unveiled towards Anna, the woman Mei Li must impersonate, drawing intrigue toward the true colors of his character.

ALEX RHYS

A man in a dark suit and tie sits in the driver's seat of a car at night. He is looking out the window with a thoughtful expression, his hand resting on his chin. A large, ornate green ring is visible on his finger. The car window is covered in raindrops, and the background shows a blurred city street with neon signs, including one that says "NEON" and another that says "PITCH".

JAMES WU (50s) recalls the magnetic, commanding aura of Lee Byun Hun. Mr. Wu is the “Dragon Head,” the powerful boss of London’s Chinese Triad gang, the Wo Shing Wo. Both pleasant and unforgiving, he combines the qualities of a scholar and those of a stony, affluent businessman. Always dressed to the nines, he’s so painfully polite and elegant that it unsettles anyone wondering about his deepest thoughts and feelings. Still, his mistress, Anna, represents his Achilles’ heel.

JAMES WU

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a black double-breasted coat over a light-colored dress, black high-heeled boots, and a watch, is walking on a city sidewalk at night. She is carrying a brown Louis Vuitton bag and several shopping bags, including a green Harrods bag and a white Calvin Klein bag. The background shows a busy street with yellow taxis, black cabs, and pedestrians. Buildings with green awnings and warm lights are visible in the background.

ANNA HUANG (30s) is James Wu's mistress, his female counterpart, and his perfect soul mate. She's contemptuous and callous yet equally graceful and sophisticated. Out of love, she follows Mr. Wu without question, doing whatever tawdry business he asks. She is used to being around powerful men, since her father is a commanding Triad 'Dragon Head' named on Asiaweek's list of the 50 most influential people.

ANNA HUANG

A cinematic action scene featuring a man in a black leather jacket, Mr. Feng, in the foreground. He has a red scar on his forehead and is holding a long, straight blade. He is surrounded by mahjong tiles on a green table. In the background, riot police in black armor and helmets are firing flashlights, creating a hazy, smoke-filled atmosphere. Civilians are seen running in the distance.

MR. FENG (40s) emanates a quiet and menacing authority. He is a tax collector for the Snakehead gang, a criminal group struggling to break free from the Wo Shing Wo. He slits Mei Li's father's throat during a racketeering operation, demonstrating his rapacious cruelty. However, the only thing he can't control is his irrational fear of the supernatural, which is why he loses his senses when he is led to believe that Mei Li can be in two places simultaneously.

MR. FENG

LOCATIONS



CHINATOWN



KNIGHTSBRIDGE



MI5 QUARTERS

London's Chinatown: The gritty center of the Chinese Triad gangs' operations is a hive of activity filled with dive bars, brothels, and gambling joints where Triads run protection rackets.

Knightsbridge: this exclusive and wealthy district is home to Triad boss James Wu's luxurious residence, where much of Mei Li's undercover mission as his mistress takes place.

MI5 Quarters: The secure facilities, tech rooms, and training catwalks of British Secret Intelligence, where Mei Li undergoes her intense physical and behavioral conditioning.



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