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## **THE CHINESE ANGLE**

Crime, Dark Comedy

### **LOGLINE**

When an ordinary accountant discovers his sister was killed by the Italian mob, he joins the mafia to get his revenge but his timing couldn't be worse—the killer is on vacation and a war between an Italian and Chinese mob family has been waged with a paper origami.

### **SUMMARY**

NICK COMO is being interrogated by the police. He was the only one left after a shootout at a warehouse. He's telling everything he knows because his loyalty was never to the mob family he joined—it's to his sister who was killed by one of its gangsters. Why? Because Knuckles ain't too bright.

Dim-witted FRANKIE 'KNUCKLES' CARSTAZZI and his cousin MACHINE GUN EDDIE were given a simple task by Knuckles' mob boss brother, IRON FACE TONY—to kill the man that dared tried to swindle him. Knuckles and Eddie kill him but have a slight oversight. They forget to clean up.

Knuckles' attention is on a map he found leading to jewels. When he gets to the map's end and realizes there are no jewels, just a woman and her cat, his anger leaves her dead and his frustration distracts him from getting rid of the body--again.

The murders point to the Carstazzi family forcing Iron Face to cover up his brother's mess. He kills a cop, stages the murder and pays people to forget about it. If Knuckles and Eddie weren't his blood, he'd kill them too but instead he sends them on an all-inclusive trip down south to keep them out of his sight and out of trouble.

Of course, Knuckles instigates trouble before he leaves—that's what he does best. He's envious of his brother's position as boss and wants his place. He baits Iron Face's ego by discreetly helping him to realize the Chinese mob has more power and is more feared than the Italian mob. A notion Iron Face can't swallow. His unruly ego must prove this ludicrous rumor wrong and he does so by sending a message to the Chinese. All the Chinese have to do is bow down to him and he will let it go. But, the Chinese don't bow to lesser power. They send a message back and a war is waged with a paper origami.

None of this Nick, an ordinary accountant, knew when he joins the mafia. All he wants is to take justice into his own hands when the cops close his sister's case. Little does he know, the gangster he's after is lying on a beach while he's sucked into the war and terror of the Italian mob that's no match for the Chinese.

### **STORY NOTES**

The Chinese Angle, which is a dark comedy, mafia crime film in the vein of Goodfellas done in a Guy Richie style. It can be set any time before Miranda rights (1984) but more accurately before those taken in custody had rights. Currently the lingo is 40s - 50s because the mob seemed so much more interesting in those times but it doesn't have to be. Also, before the 80s/90s the Italian mafia prided themselves on not being a part of the drug world (although they were discreetly) and were known to kill members who were caught dabbling in it (as slightly touched on in Goodfellas). In The Chinese Angle, this fact is part of the story.