

Can't Stop Piracy

By

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Based on true events

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EXT. - ENTRANCE OF MALL - DAY

Outside a mall in the Sanlitun area of Beijing, a fashionable place where lots of foreigners do their shopping for cheap clothing and souvenirs, are also all kinds of beggars and street vendors. A shabby looking DVD VENDOR, a Chinese male from the countryside, in his thirties wearing a dirty hat, is selling pirated DVD's outside the entrance of the mall. He's got all the newest flicks: 007, Anna Karenina etc. nicely spread on the ground next to the entrance. Some people pass by to have a look at the assortment.

All of a sudden he hears somebody with a loud voice talking in English, he turns around and about 10 meters from him stands a GUY, he looks Chinese and is in his late twenties, he holds up a whole pile of DVD's.

GUY (IN AMERICAN ENGLISH)
Don't buy these people, they're all
fake! I tried them myself and got
ripped, don't trust these people!

The DVD VENDOR stares at the GUY with a menacing expression, GUY provokingly stares back at him. Even though the DVD VENDOR doesn't speak English, he knows damn well what is happening.

All of a sudden the DVD VENDOR explodes and runs up to the GUY, GUY drops the DVD's on the ground as he sees the VENDOR approaching.

DVD VENDOR (IN CHINESE)
Who the hell do you think you are?

The DVD VENDOR approaches GUY with his fist ready to hit him, the two get physical. GUY is surprised by the over-aggressive reaction of the VENDOR and keeps walking backwards, while the VENDOR follows him, cursing in Chinese. It is clear however that GUY doesn't speak Chinese, as he doesn't react to the insulting remarks.

Frustrated the DVD VENDOR returns to his place where all his DVD's are, but when the DVD VENDOR sees the pile of DVD's that GUY left on the ground he runs over and kicks them with his feet. The DVD's are shattered all over the ground. More and more bystanders start to notice the ongoing conflict. He turns around and notices GUY approaching him.

DVD VENDOR (IN BROKEN ENGLISH)
DVD, me? My money?

Frustrated that he can't make his point clear, he starts in Chinese again.

(CONTINUED)

DVD VENDOR (IN CHINESE)
It wasn't me who sold you those
DVD's, but you're trying to kill my
business, you asshole!

The two stare into each other's eyes with angry expressions. The fight is on the verge of another escalation.

But a bystander comes between the two, he is a Westener in his forties. He makes gestures that suggest the two should stop fighting and pushes GUY away from the DVD VENDOR while whispering something in his ear, the GUY keeps his eyes locked at the VENDOR.

Some steam has been let off and the DVD VENDOR walks back. GUY grabs his bike and is preparing to leave as well. DVD VENDOR notices some of the DVD's on the ground and collects them for return to GUY.

DVD VENDOR (IN CHINESE)
Here are your DVD's, now leave!

While DVD VENDOR turns his back on him, GUY still has a dissatisfied look on his face. He gets off his bike and grabs more DVD's that are still lying on the ground. He walks up to VENDOR again and with pure frustration starts to crumble the DVD packages in front of the VENDOR's face. He throws the DVD's on the ground, in front of the VENDOR's feet.

Angrily, GUY grabs his bike and leaves the scene.

DVD VENDOR looks at how GUY is riding away and starts inspecting the crumbled DVD's lying on the ground. Even though some of the packages are damaged, the discs seem to be in okay condition. A smile appears on his face.

DVD VENDOR (IN CHINESE)
I could still sell these!

He goes into a corner with the DVD's, there's a big black plastic bag full of DVD's. He pulls out a package of plastic covers and starts repackaging the DVD's, one by one.