

SCRIPT TITLE

Written by

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INT. AIRPORT TRANSFER VAN - DAY

An airport transfer van drives through the busy streets of Kuala Lumpur. In the back of the van sits a clean shaven MATT HOFFMAN (60s), sits with his eyes closed. He clutches his bible as he finishes a prayer.

The DRIVER looks back at MATT in the mirror.

Philip makes a sign of the cross then reopens his eyes.

DRIVER

I hope I can join you on your next mission trip here.

MATT

I think we are scheduled to come back in November to finish construction on the church.

DRIVER

Just in time for the end of the rainy season in Malaysia.

MATT

It is also the ideal time for scuba diving Borneo. It'll be my second time.

DRIVER

Second time?

MATT

I got my certification and went on my first dive.

DRIVER

That's exciting.

MATT

Picked up a commemorative souvenir for my grandkids too.

INT. KUALA LUMPUR AIRPORT - CUSTOMS HALL - DAY

Matt fills out the EXIT DECLARATIONS form. On the form, he skips to the bottom of a list of items that cannot be exported out of Malaysia. He marks an X through a box that reads NO EXPORTS TO DECLARE.

CUSTOMS AGENT COUNTER - MOMENTS LATER

Matt hands the CUSTOMS AGENT his passport and Exit Declarations form. The Customs Agent checks his passport and stamps it.

Matt takes back his passport and continues to the X-Ray machine.

X-RAY MACHINE

Matt lifts his bag and places it on the conveyor belt. He stands by the metal detector and waits for the signal from the SECURITY OFFICER to pass through.

The bag goes through the x-ray machine and stops inside. The X-RAY OFFICER closely examines the screen displaying the contents of Matt's bag.

The X-ray Officer calls over his SUPERVISOR. The Supervisor looks closely at the screen.

SUPERVISOR  
Is this your bag sir?

INT. JAIL - DAY

Several men crowd inside a jail cell. A scruffy faced Matt sits among them.

A GUARD yells at Matt in Malay pointing to a hard bed.

MATT  
I don't understand.

The Guard continues to yell and point. Matt goes and sits on the hard bed. The other inmates laugh at him.

Matt closes his eyes and prays.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

Matt sits alone at a metal table in a cold room lined by poorly painted concrete walls. The sounds of Matt's feet shuffling loudly resonates through the room.

A DETECTIVE comes in and sits on the other side of the table. An OFFICER comes in behind her and stands in front of the door.

The Officer places a clipboard and form in front of Matt. He removes a pen from his pocket and places it in front of Matt.

OFFICER

Sign.

Matt reads the form. The top of it reads, ADMISSION OF GUILT.

MATT

I can't sign this. I don't even know what I'm admitting guilt to.

(beat)

Do either of you speak English?

DETECTIVE

The form is an admission of guilt for your crimes, sir.

MATT

Crimes? What crimes? I did not commit any crimes.

(beat)

I'd like to be connected with the US consulate as soon as possible.

DETECTIVE

The consulate is closed right now.

MATT

Can I get a lawyer? Preferably one that speaks English. I have to have some rights somewhere.

DETECTIVE

A lawyer is not yet permissible in this situation.

MATT

Excuse me but what the heck? I have no idea why I'm here. I'm getting my bag scanned at the airport and suddenly I'm getting arrested.

DETECTIVE

Did you indicate on your exit form that you had nothing to declare upon exit of Malaysia?

MATT

I don't have anything to declare.

DETECTIVE

Sir you have violated Malaysian law by attempting to make an illegal export.

MATT

I had an illegal export in my bag?

DETECTIVE

Yes sir.

MATT

I don't know what could have been  
in there. I'm not a smuggler.  
Unless someone snuck something in  
there.

The Detective looks over her folder.

DETECTIVE

On your entrance form you indicated  
you came to Malaysia as a  
missionary.

MATT

I was helping to build a church in  
a rural province.

DETECTIVE

Did you go anywhere else? Did you  
do anything beyond the missionary  
work.

MATT

I spent a couple of days at a  
resort in Barracuda Point.

DETECTIVE

You spent two nights.

MATT

I spent two nights.

DETECTIVE

What did you do at the resort?

MATT

I mainly spent the day on the beach  
and read books.

DETECTIVE

Is that all?

MATT

That's it.

The Detective hand Matt a copy of a certificate.

DETECTIVE

Are you familiar with this document? It has your name and surname and your signature which matches the signature on your passport.

Matt scans the form.

MATT

It's a scuba certification. I went scuba diving.

DETECTIVE

And you went scuba diving?

MATT

We did a free dive.

The Detective hands Matt a picture.

DETECTIVE

Can you identify the item in this photo?

MATT

That is a piece of coral I found during the dive.

DETECTIVE

Do you claim ownership to the coral?

MATT

All in this world belongs to our Lord and savior.

DETECTIVE

Did you take possession of this piece of coral and put it in your luggage?

Matt realizes what he did wrong.

MATT

I always take a piece of nature with me on all my trips. I didn't think-

DETECTIVE

It is a violation of Malaysian law to export coral.

MATT

I didn't know.

DETECTIVE

It was on the list of prohibited items on the exit declarations form.

MATT

I usually just skip that. Am I going to be stuck in this jail for this? How much longer will I be here?

DETECTIVE

The maximum penalty for this offense is 5 years in prison and a fine of 2500 ringitt.

MATT

Do I have to go to court?

DETECTIVE

You have the option to plead in front of a magistrate or you can sign the admission of guilt and pay the fine.

MATT

I can the pay the fine. I'd like to go home.

DETECTIVE

Sign the form.

Matt signs the form.