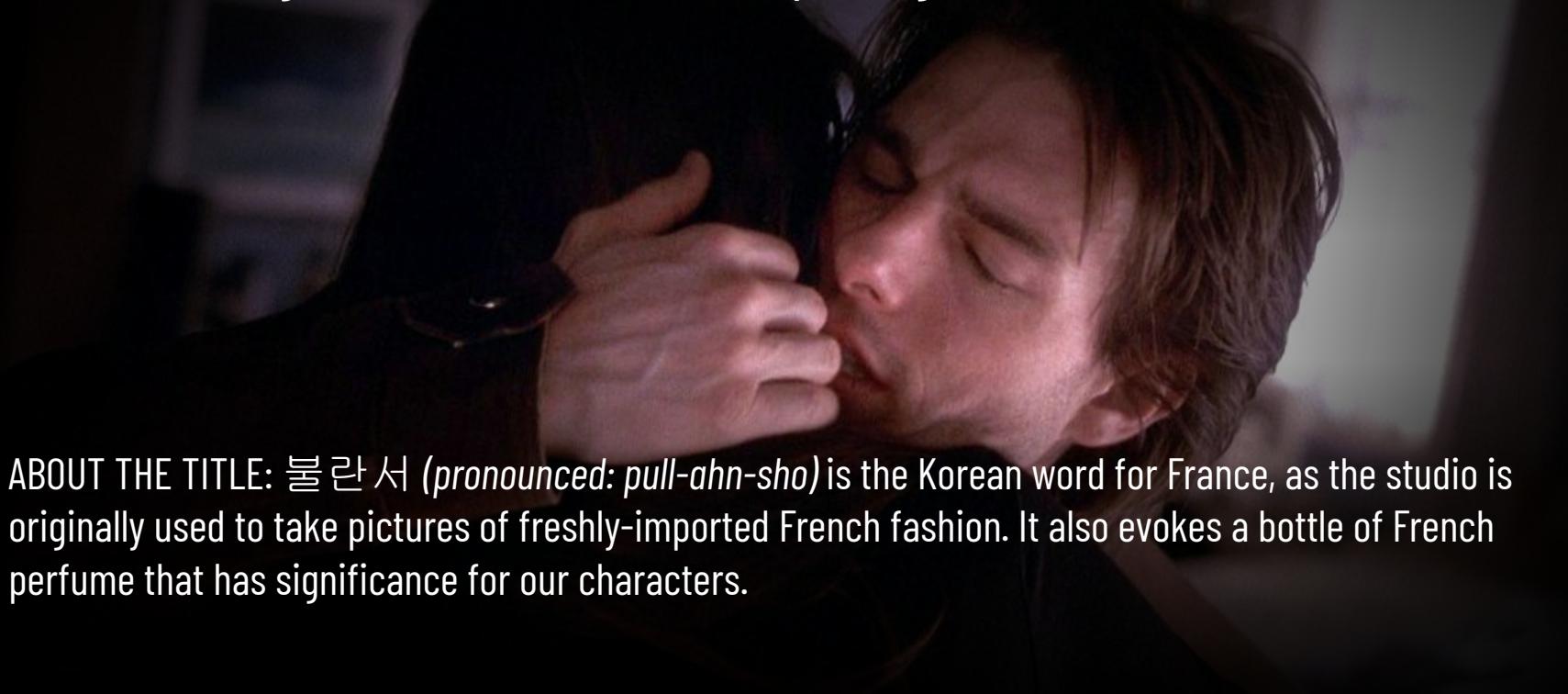


The French Photo Studio

AKA <Bullanseo [불란서] Photo Studio>



Bullanseo Photo Studio is a contemporary soapy thriller that crashes into a gothic romance, while exploring the idea of soul mates.



ABOUT THE TITLE: 불란서 (pronounced: pull-ahn-sho) is the Korean word for France, as the studio is originally used to take pictures of freshly-imported French fashion. It also evokes a bottle of French perfume that has significance for our characters.



Bullanseo Photo Studio

STORY: Shim Yoonseo, Seogac ART: 909

- *A romantic thriller about a destined love that transcends time*

A tragic love that transcends reality.

Photographer Seokyeong becomes a shadow of who she used to be after a break-up. She meets a man who should have died 80 years ago. Is this tied to the "haunted house" she hoped to use as her studio? Are they ghosts? What is happening to Seokyeong, and why is she with this man?

GENRE:
THRILLER

COMPLETED
COMIC

40
CHAPTERS

PERFECT FOR A:
FEATURE FILM

TONE:
SUSPENSEFUL

ADULTS
18-34

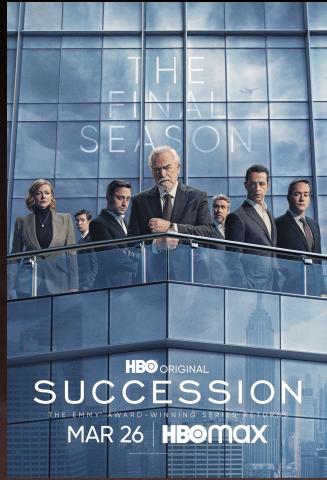
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STATS: ~1M Views

COMPS
Time After Time, Past Lives, Outlander



Imagine the intrigue and depravity of a wealthy family at war with itself (such as in the darkest moments of *SUCCESSION*)...

...combined with a star-crossed romance in the past, set against global turmoil, with echoes of *CASABLANCA*...

...lovers reunited across the ages, like in *OUTLANDER*...

...contemplating past lives shaping a destined love, as in *PAST LIVES*...



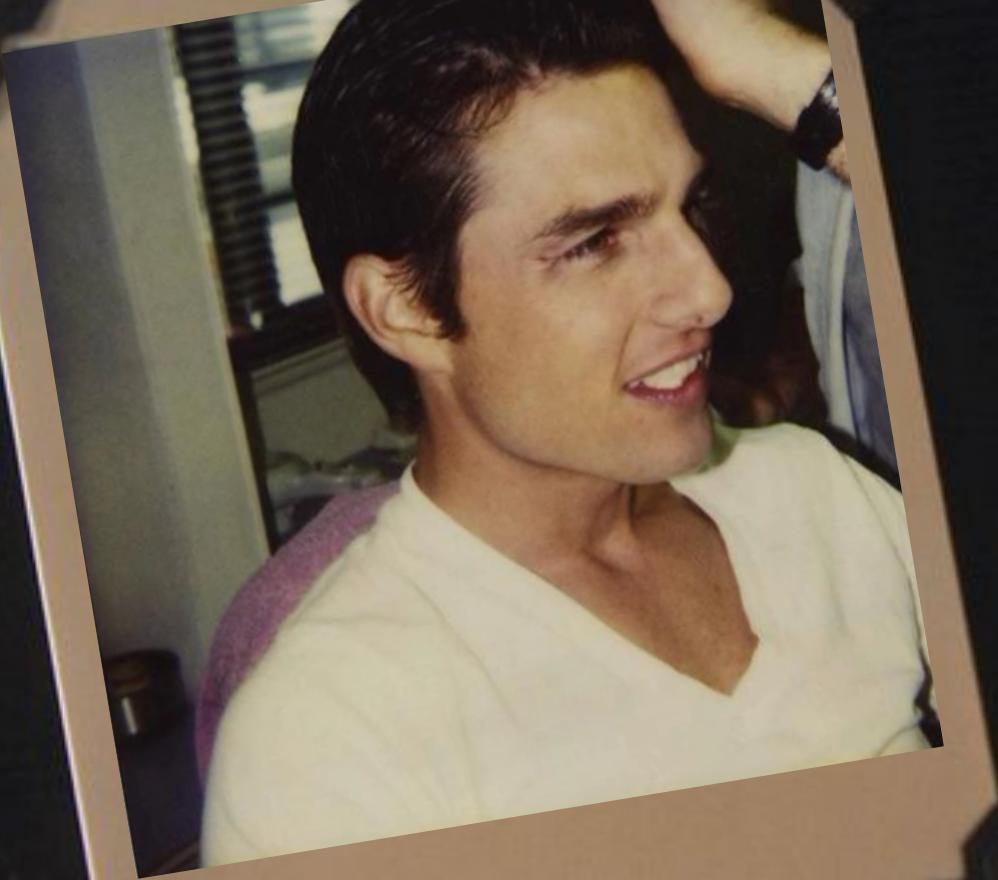


Seokyeong

Seokyeong is a photographer reeling from a nasty breakup with her partner in life and business - leaving her to rebuild. She buys a dilapidated building that was last used as a photography studio in the 1930's. But if she hopes to make it a functional studio again, she's got a *lot* of work ahead of her.



The house is a metaphor for her own soul – neglected, in need of care and attention. After being with a domineering narcissist, Seokyeong is on a mission to repair her own heart, just like this building. She's living that old adage that you can't find love until you learn to love yourself. In revitalizing this structure, she can do the same for her business (now under her own name), her friendships and familial relationships, her self-esteem and, eventually, take another swing at a healthier romantic life.



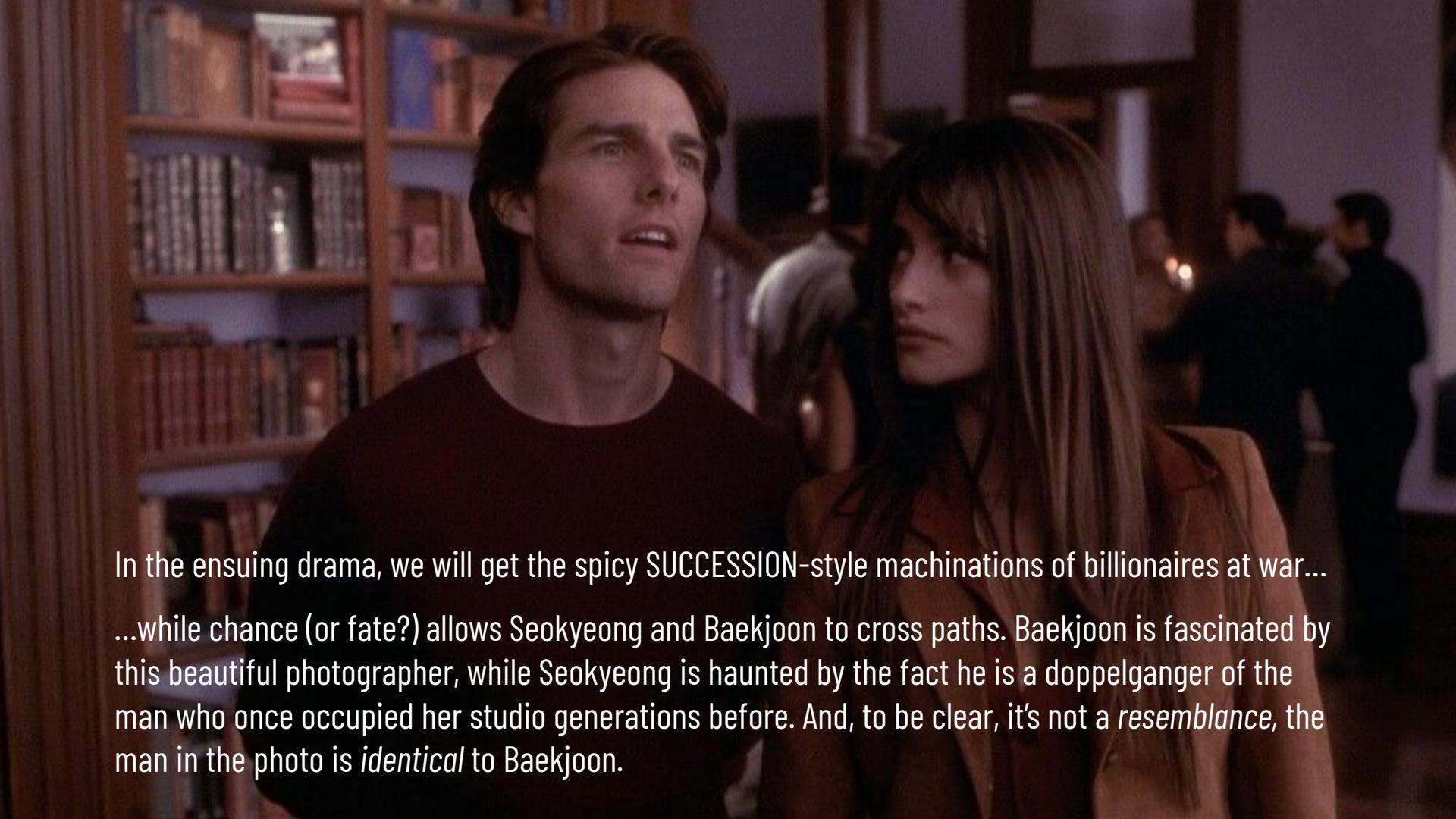
Cleaning out the attic, she finds a box of photos, and is arrested by the vision of a man in the photo. He looks just like the famous scion of a billionaire currently in the news.

That man is Baekjoon. The general public envies his wealth, good looks, and life of privilege. Little do they know the cost of those blessings. His father and uncle are in an eternal war to control a Fortune 500 company, and his role as the heir apparent has made him a pawn in their conflict.

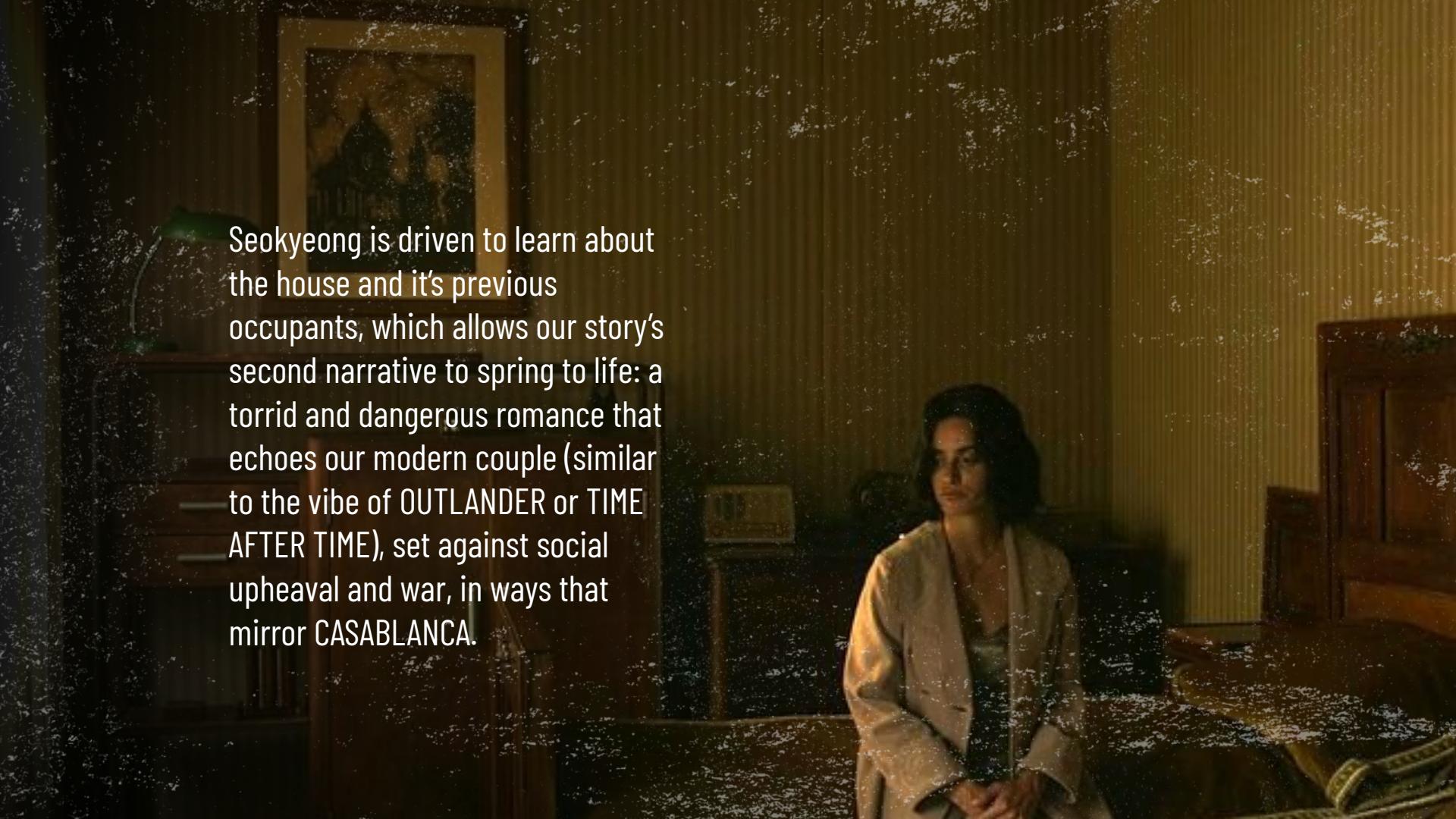
He's been kidnapped as a boy. Even when rescued, he was targeted for murder, leading to a hemmed-in life of constant surveillance. No freedom, no autonomy and no chance to form his own relationships on his own terms - a prisoner in a gilded cage, forced to constantly look over their shoulder.



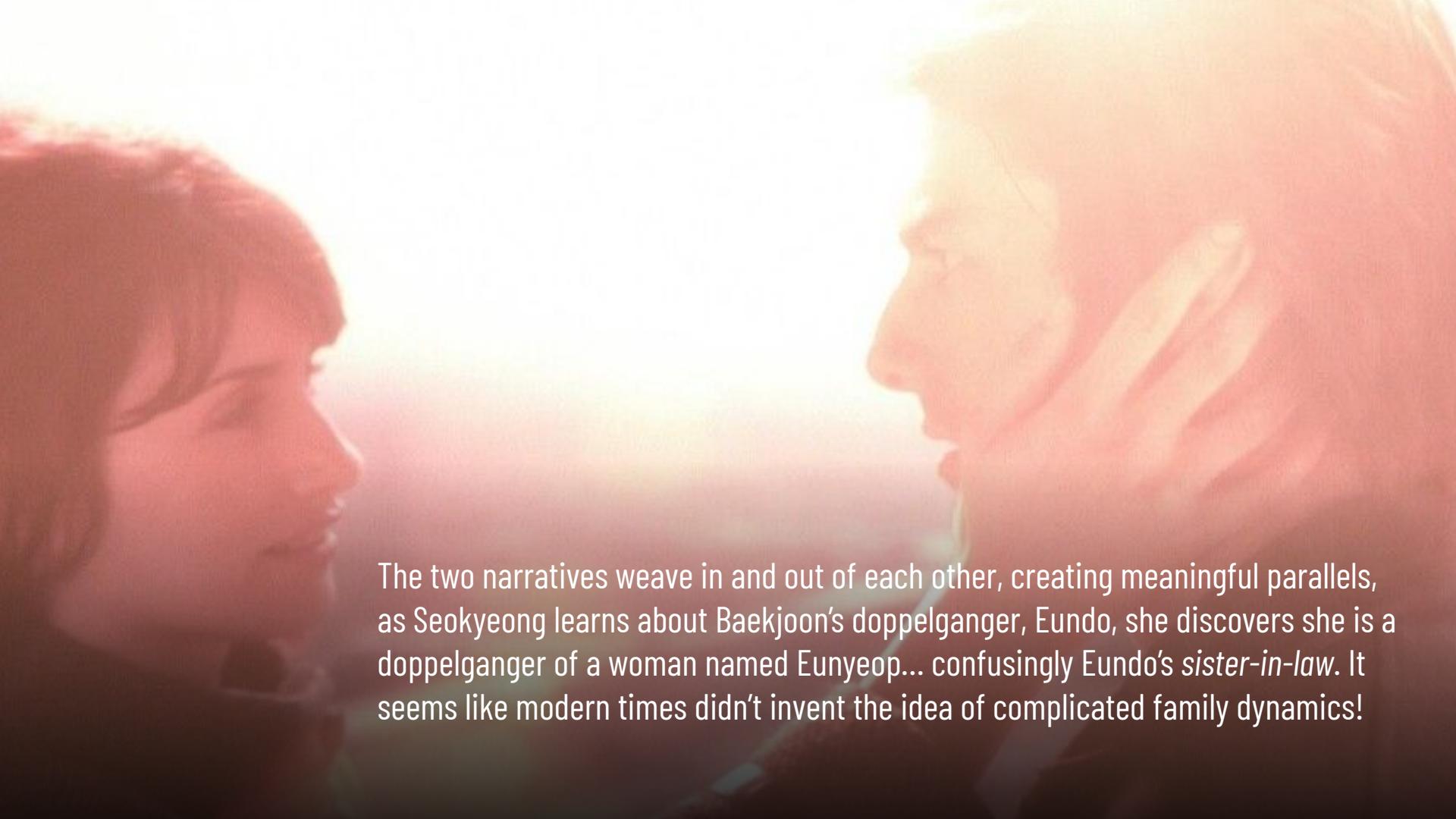
Baekjoon



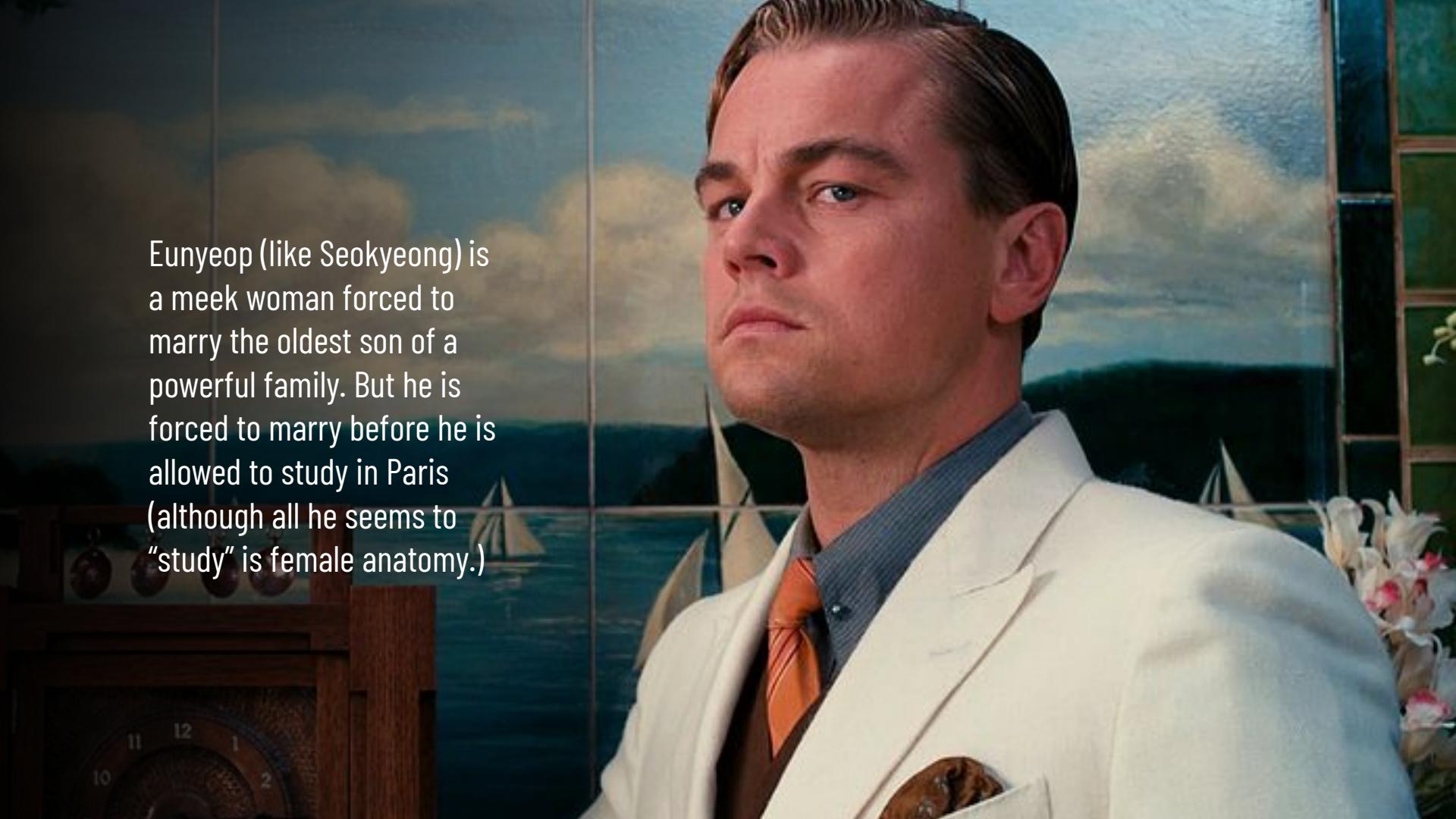
In the ensuing drama, we will get the spicy *SUCCESSION*-style machinations of billionaires at war...
...while chance (or fate?) allows Seokyeong and Baekjoon to cross paths. Baekjoon is fascinated by this beautiful photographer, while Seokyeong is haunted by the fact he is a doppelganger of the man who once occupied her studio generations before. And, to be clear, it's not a *resemblance*, the man in the photo is *identical* to Baekjoon.

A woman with long dark hair is sitting in a dimly lit room, looking down at an open book she is holding in her hands. The book emits a bright, warm glow that illuminates her face and the immediate surroundings. She is wearing a light-colored, possibly white, long-sleeved garment. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting a historical or mysterious setting.

Seokyeong is driven to learn about the house and its previous occupants, which allows our story's second narrative to spring to life: a torrid and dangerous romance that echoes our modern couple (similar to the vibe of *OUTLANDER* or *TIME AFTER TIME*), set against social upheaval and war, in ways that mirror *CASABLANCA*.

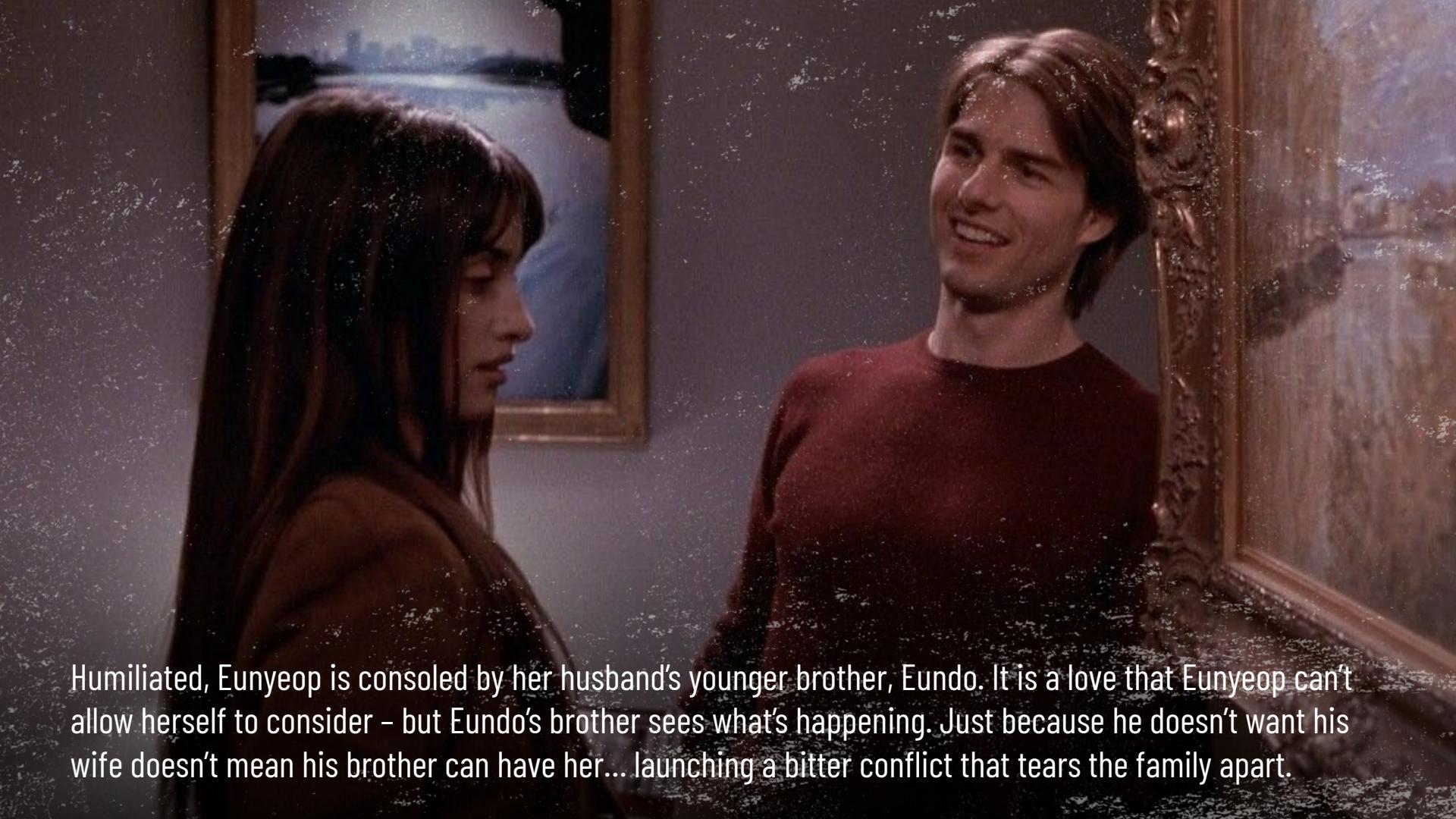


The two narratives weave in and out of each other, creating meaningful parallels, as Seokyeong learns about Baekjoon's doppelganger, Eundo, she discovers she is a doppelganger of a woman named Eunyeop... confusingly Eundo's *sister-in-law*. It seems like modern times didn't invent the idea of complicated family dynamics!

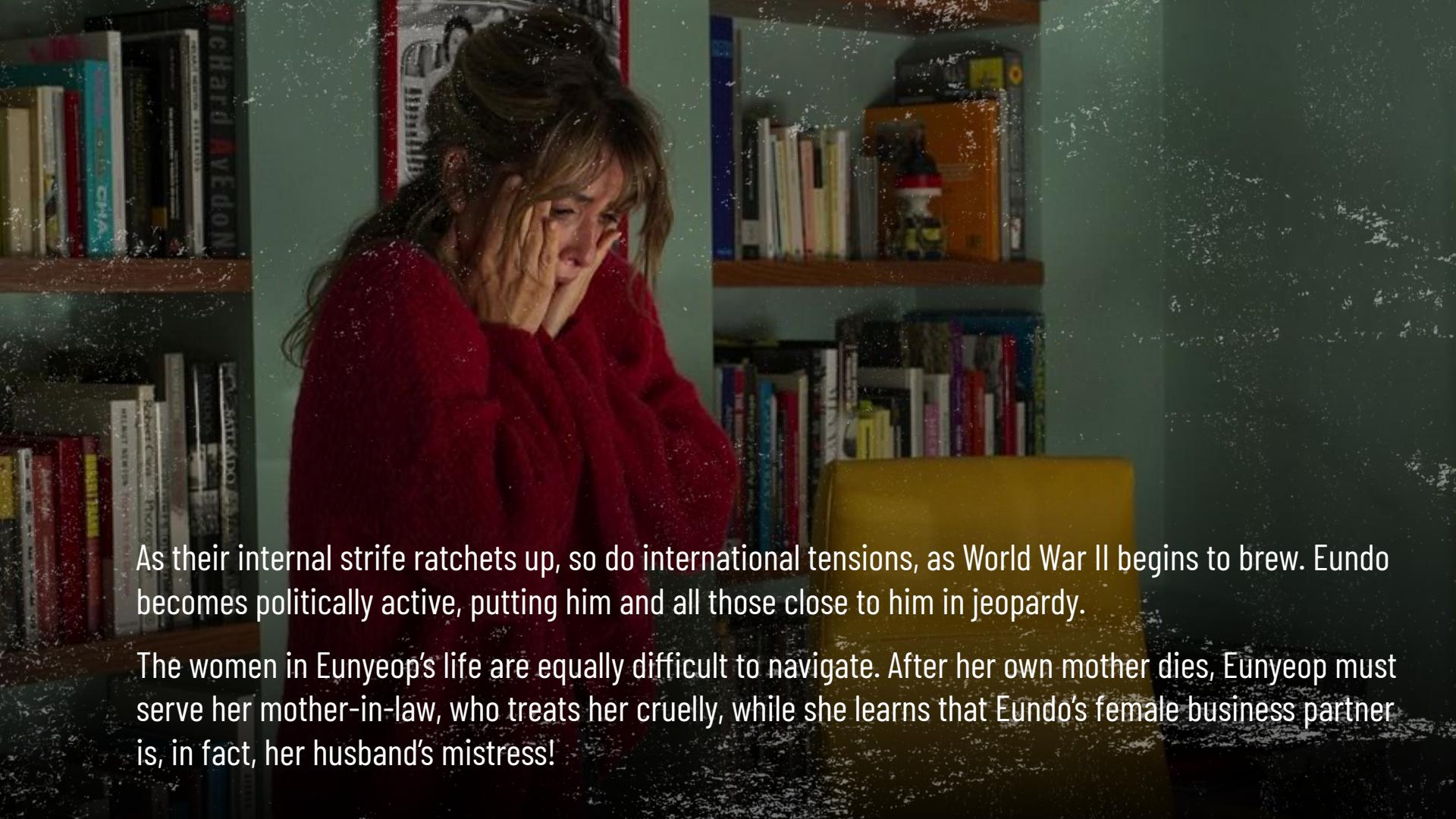


Eunyeop (like Seokyeong) is a meek woman forced to marry the oldest son of a powerful family. But he is forced to marry before he is allowed to study in Paris (although all he seems to "study" is female anatomy.)





Humiliated, Eunyeop is consoled by her husband's younger brother, Eundo. It is a love that Eunyeop can't allow herself to consider – but Eundo's brother sees what's happening. Just because he doesn't want his wife doesn't mean his brother can have her... launching a bitter conflict that tears the family apart.



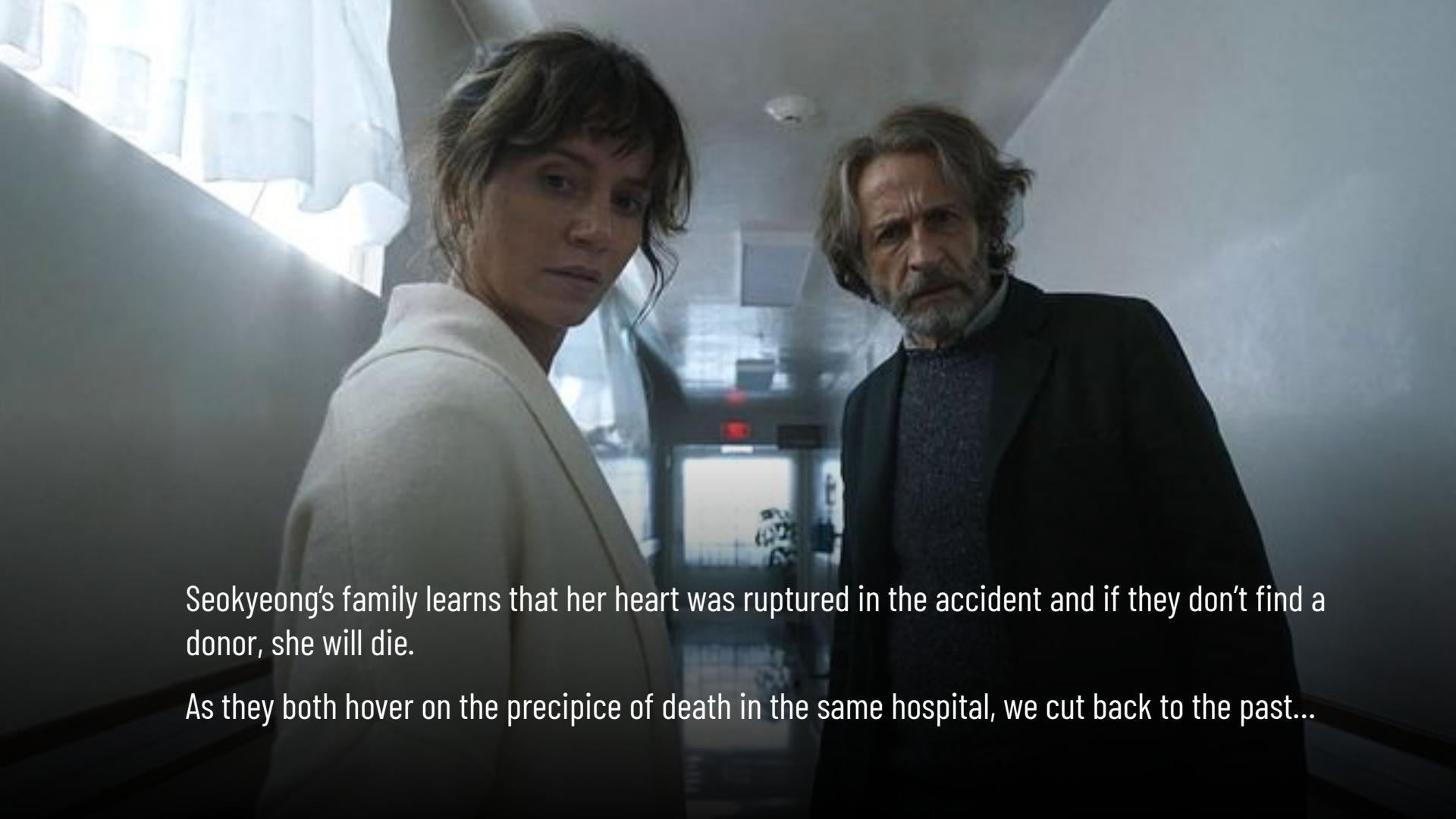
As their internal strife ratchets up, so do international tensions, as World War II begins to brew. Eundo becomes politically active, putting him and all those close to him in jeopardy.

The women in Eunyeop's life are equally difficult to navigate. After her own mother dies, Eunyeop must serve her mother-in-law, who treats her cruelly, while she learns that Eundo's female business partner is, in fact, her husband's mistress!



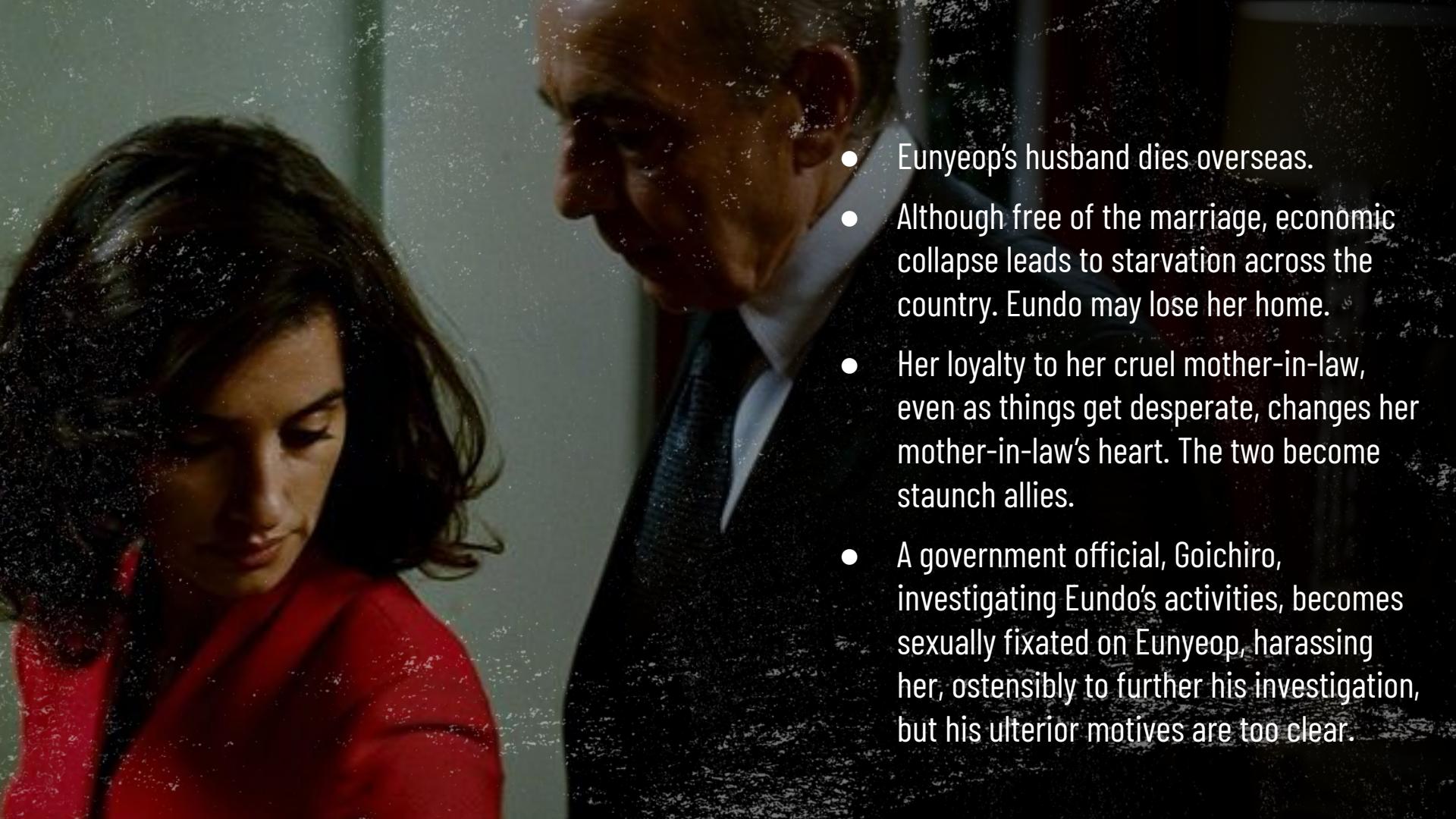
Things aren't going any better in the present, as the family/corporate intrigue boils over into an attempt to murder Baekjoon in a carefully orchestrated traffic accident.

Seokyeong, still trying to understand the connection between Baekjoon and Eundo, is nearby and becomes an unintended casualty.



Seokyeong's family learns that her heart was ruptured in the accident and if they don't find a donor, she will die.

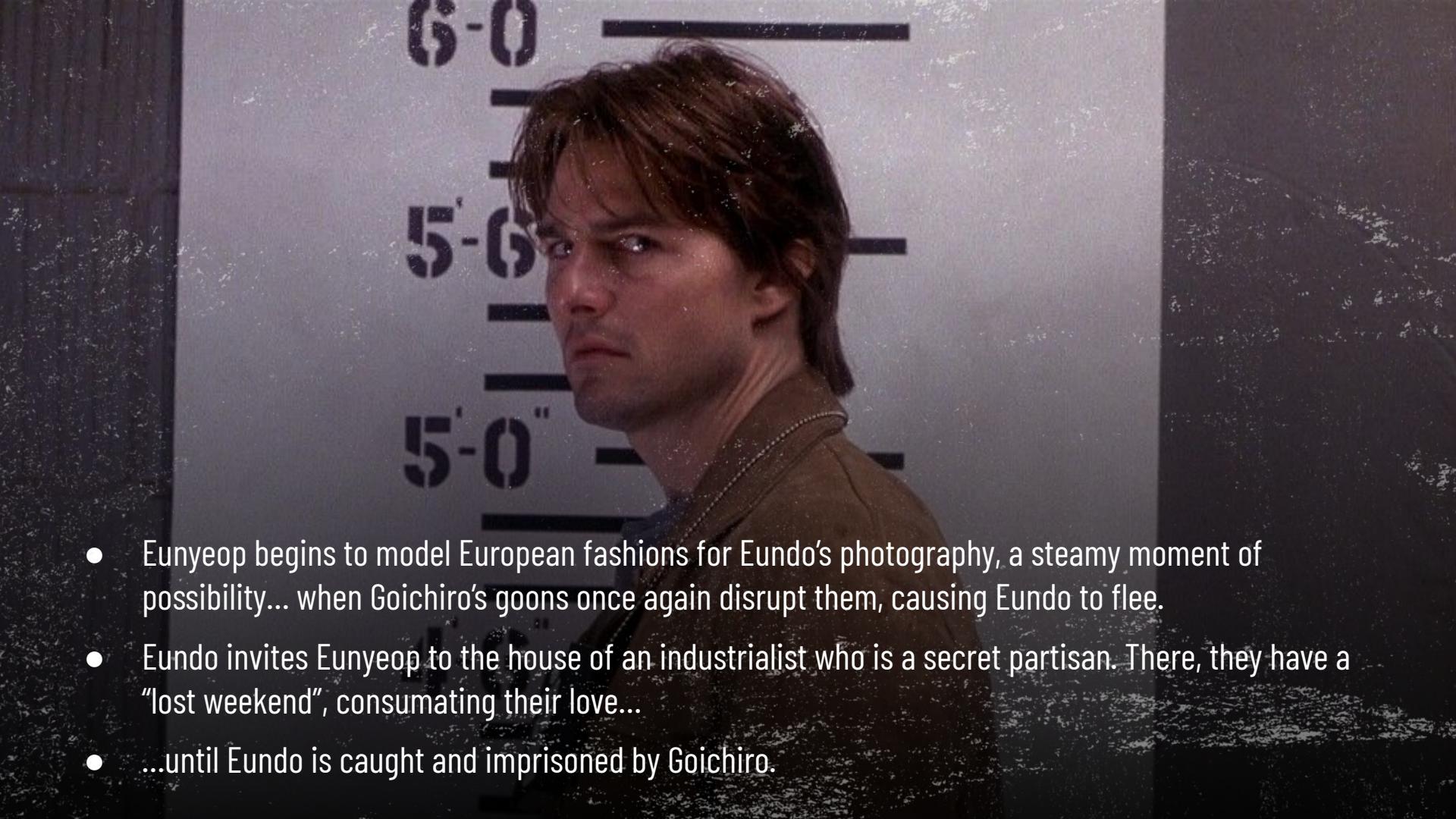
As they both hover on the precipice of death in the same hospital, we cut back to the past...

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- Eunyeop's husband dies overseas.
 - Although free of the marriage, economic collapse leads to starvation across the country. Eundo may lose her home.
 - Her loyalty to her cruel mother-in-law, even as things get desperate, changes her mother-in-law's heart. The two become staunch allies.
 - A government official, Goichiro, investigating Eundo's activities, becomes sexually fixated on Eunyeop, harassing her, ostensibly to further his investigation, but his ulterior motives are too clear.

- Eundo disappears for a few years as the world tilts towards war.
- He returns just as mysteriously, bringing with him French perfume as a gift for Eunyeop.
- Eundo buys the photo studio, taking portraits of social elites, while working with rebels under the cover of darkness, using his studio as a meetingplace and his import/export business to supply partisans.

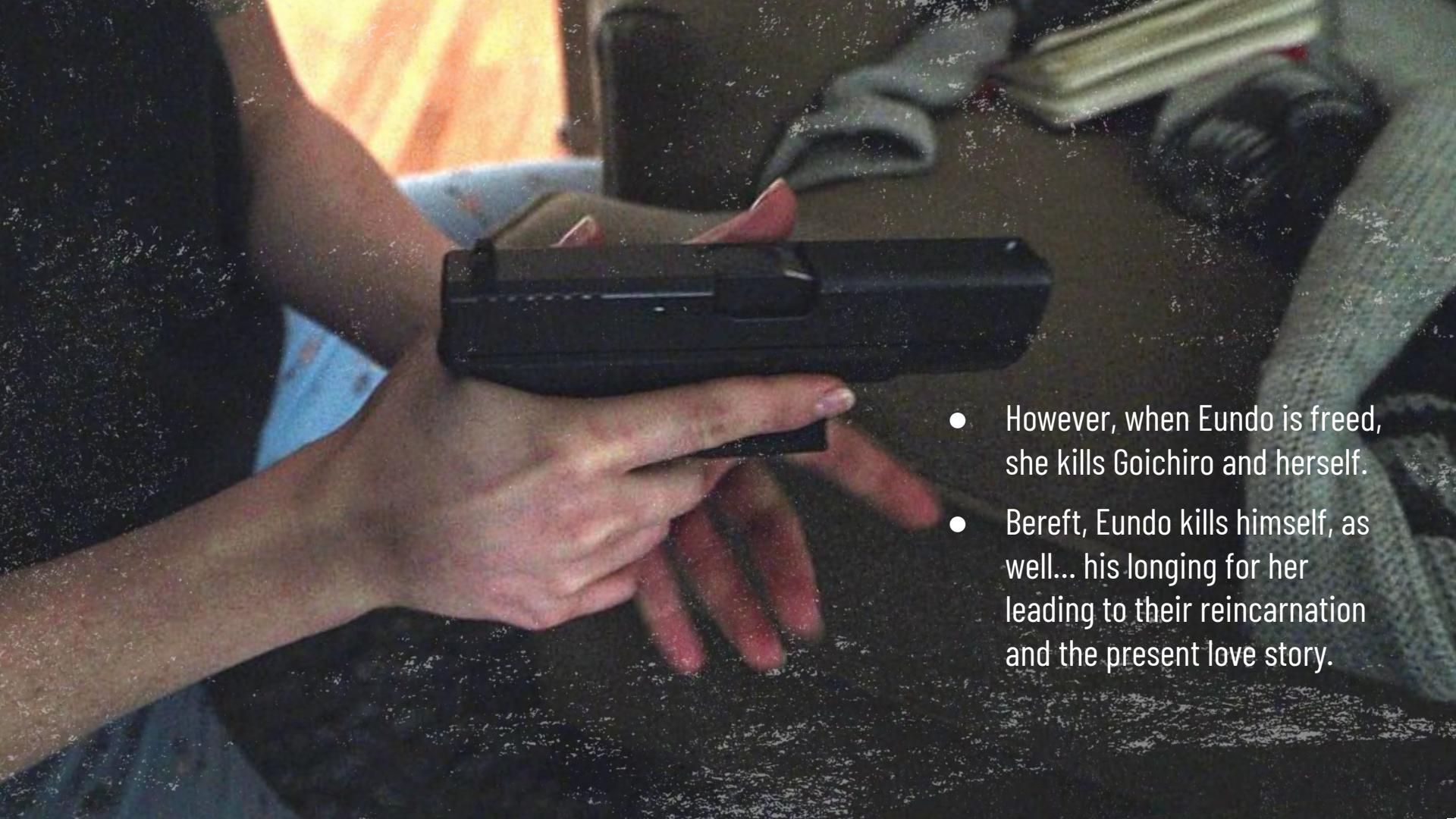


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- Goichiro continues to harass Eunyeop and Eundo.
 - Eunyeop and Eundo give into their mutual attraction while hiding from one of Goichiro's raids, trapped in close quarters.

- 
- Eunyeop begins to model European fashions for Eundo's photography, a steamy moment of possibility... when Goichiro's goons once again disrupt them, causing Eundo to flee.
 - Eundo invites Eunyeop to the house of an industrialist who is a secret partisan. There, they have a "lost weekend", consummating their love...
 - ...until Eundo is caught and imprisoned by Goichiro.



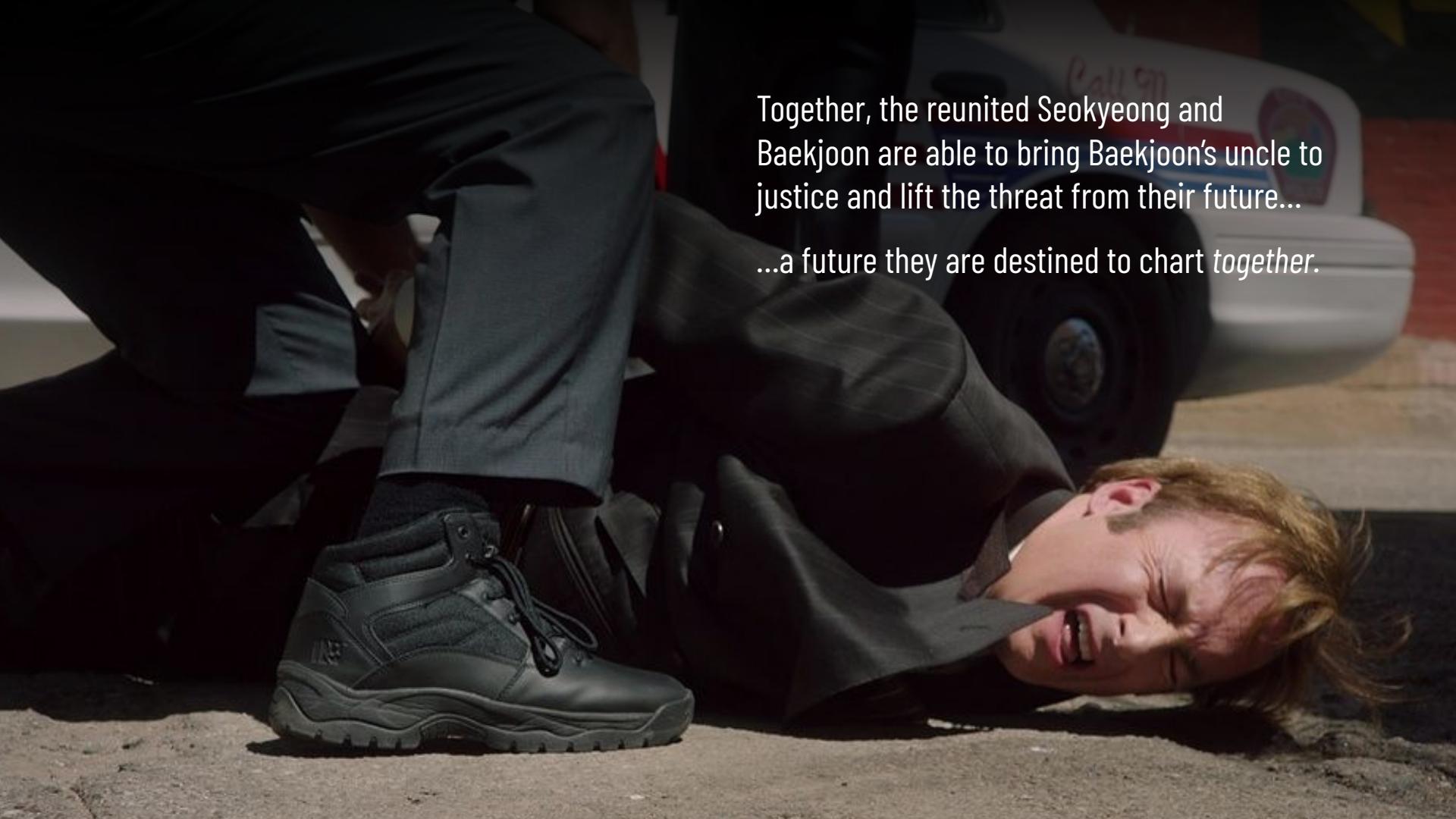
- Eunyeop makes a horrific deal with Goichiro – she will marry him if Eundo is freed.

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- However, when Eundo is freed, she kills Goichiro and herself.
 - Bereft, Eundo kills himself, as well... his longing for her leading to their reincarnation and the present love story.



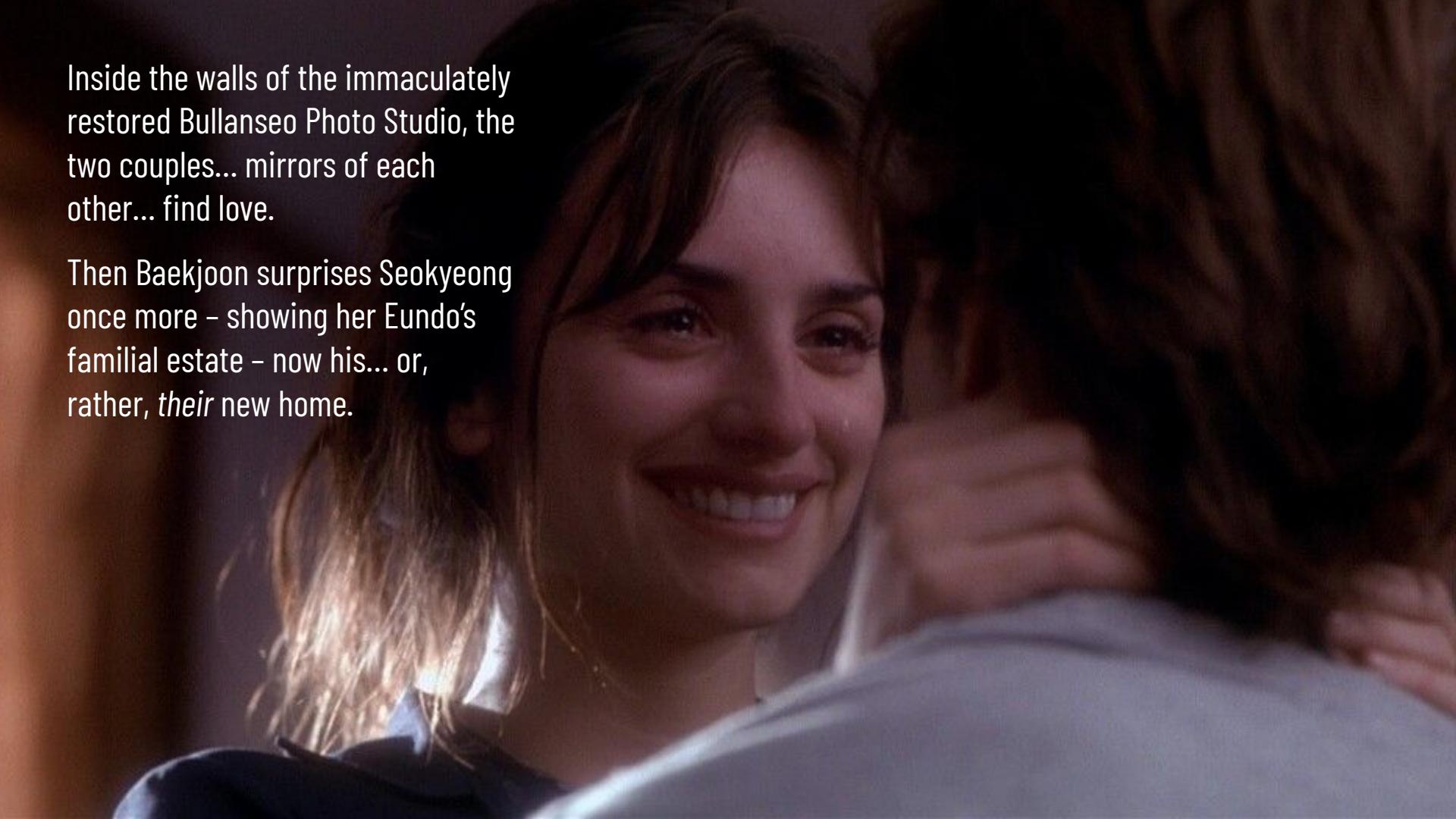
Back in the present, Seokyeong wakes from a coma, under the impression that not only is Baekjoon dead, but that it is *his* heart that beats in her chest.

Through a series of miraculous events, she discovers Seokyeong is alive, but he, too, tapped into their past life together while fighting to recover from the “accident”. He reveals his driver and best friend, died of his injuries – and it is that man’s heart that gave new life to Seokyeong.



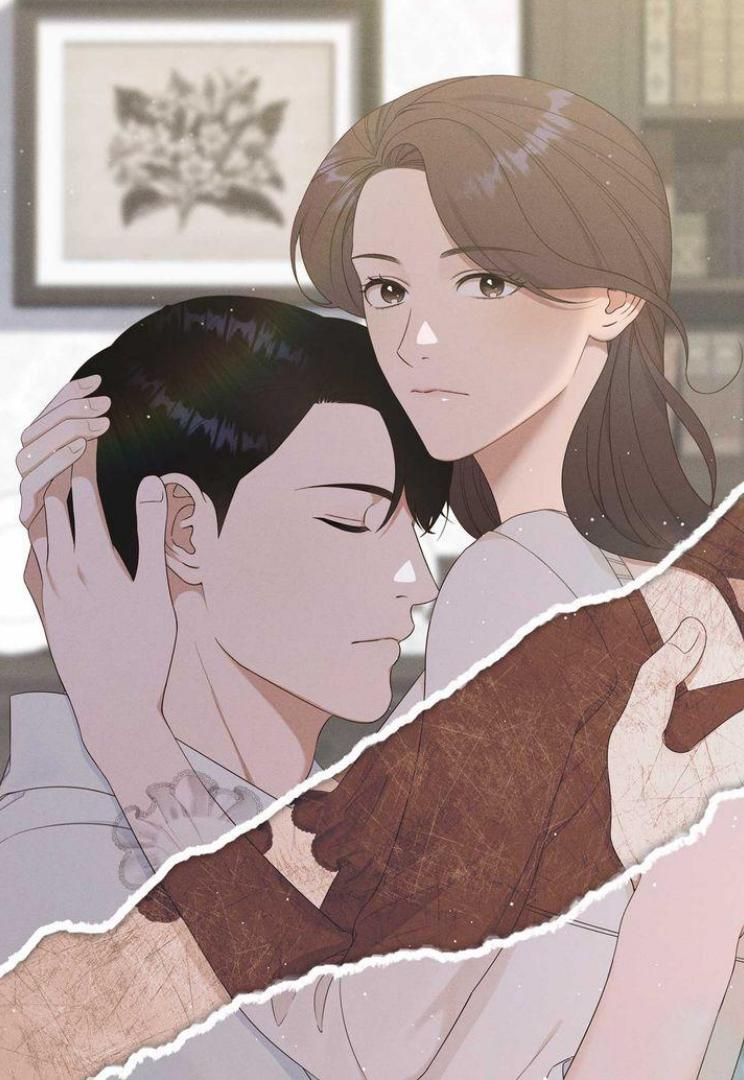
Together, the reunited Seokyeong and Baekjoon are able to bring Baekjoon's uncle to justice and lift the threat from their future...

...a future they are destined to chart *together*.



Inside the walls of the immaculately restored Bullanseo Photo Studio, the two couples... mirrors of each other... find love.

Then Baekjoon surprises Seokyeong once more – showing her Eundo's familial estate – now his... or, rather, *their* new home.



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